

Community report

Lake Macquarie (C)

Prepared from Community Explorer topic selections for briefing, planning and reporting use.

AREA

Lake Macquarie (C)

COMPARISON

Regional NSW

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Language used at home

Sources and method

- Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 and, where available, 2016 comparison data.
- Percentages are calculated from the denominator supplied for each topic. Change (pp) is the 2021 percentage minus the 2016 percentage when the topic is comparable across years.
- Usual residence topics describe where people usually live, rather than where they were counted on Census night.

Language used at home

Lake Macquarie (C) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Lake Macquarie (C), accounting for 90.9% (194,306 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (86.8%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 14,203 people, while its share fell by 0.3 percentage points.

About this topic

Language used at home shows which languages people speak in their home life and whether English or another language is used most often. It is a key indicator of cultural diversity and language retention within communities.

This topic is useful for planning communication, multicultural services, and local engagement. It should be analysed together with proficiency in English and birthplace, because language alone does not show migration history or support needs.

Interpretation notes

- The Census records the language used most often at home, so it does not capture every language a person can speak.
- Language used at home is not a measure of English proficiency, literacy, or migration history on its own.

Language used at home - Ranked by size

Lake Macquarie (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	91	0.0%	0.1%	81	0.0%	0.0%	+10	0.0
Non-verbal, so described	141	0.1%	0.1%	166	0.1%	0.1%	-25	0.0
Swiss, so described	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
French Creole, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%	+3	0.0
Spanish Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Celtic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	7	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%	+2	0.0
Irish	3	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	0.0%	-7	0.0
Welsh	12	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	0.0%	+2	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Celtic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
English	194,306	90.9%	86.8%	180,103	91.2%	86.8%
German and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
German	474	0.2%	0.2%	443	0.2%	0.2%
Yiddish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Dutch	181	0.1%	0.1%	221	0.1%	0.1%
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%
Afrikaans	363	0.2%	0.1%	180	0.1%	0.1%
Danish	38	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	0.0%
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Norwegian	19	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	0.0%
Swedish	83	0.0%	0.0%	50	0.0%	0.0%
Scandinavian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Estonian	14	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	0.0%
Finnish	29	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	0.0%
Finnish and Related Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	–
French	250	0.1%	0.1%	216	0.1%	0.1%
Greek	327	0.2%	0.2%	313	0.2%	0.2%
Catalan	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Portuguese	168	0.1%	0.1%	80	0.0%	0.0%
Spanish	514	0.2%	0.3%	396	0.2%	0.2%
Italian	471	0.2%	0.4%	550	0.3%	0.3%
Maltese	53	0.0%	0.0%	44	0.0%	0.0%
Basque	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Latin	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latvian	18	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Lithuanian	17	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Hungarian	36	0.0%	0.0%	62	0.0%	
Belorussian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	148	0.1%	0.1%	103	0.1%	
Ukrainian	41	0.0%	0.0%	65	0.0%	
Bosnian	29	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Bulgarian	11	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Croatian	113	0.1%	0.1%	130	0.1%	
Macedonian	477	0.2%	0.3%	515	0.3%	
Serbian	123	0.1%	0.1%	113	0.1%	
Slovene	4	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	15	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Czech	50	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Polish	239	0.1%	0.1%	259	0.1%	
Slovak	30	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Czechoslovakian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Albanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Romanian	33	0.0%	0.0%	44	0.0%	
Romany	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iranic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kurdish	12	0.0%	0.1%	4	0.0%	
Pashto	18	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Dari	19	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Persian (excluding Dari)	112	0.1%	0.0%	55	0.0%	
Hazaraghi	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Arabic	299	0.1%	0.3%	205	0.1%	
Hebrew	17	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	–	–	–	
Turkish	39	0.0%	0.1%	24	0.0%	
Azeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkmen	–	–	–	–	–	
Uygur	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Uzbek	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian	11	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Georgian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Kannada	22	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Malayalam	194	0.1%	0.2%	107	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Tamil	148	0.1%	0.1%	131	0.1%	
Telugu	67	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	
Tulu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dravidian, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bengali	122	0.1%	0.1%	91	0.0%	
Gujarati	138	0.1%	0.1%	64	0.0%	
Hindi	280	0.1%	0.1%	236	0.1%	
Konkani	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Marathi	32	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Nepali	245	0.1%	0.2%	33	0.0%	
Punjabi	268	0.1%	0.3%	106	0.1%	
Sindhi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sinhalese	95	0.0%	0.1%	88	0.0%	
Urdu	161	0.1%	0.1%	99	0.1%	
Assamese	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Dhivehi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kashmiri	–	–	–	–	–	
Oriya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian Hindustani	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern Asian Languages	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Burmese	28	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Chin Haka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Karen	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Rohingya	–	–	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Zomi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Hmong	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	83	0.0%	0.0%	48	0.0%	
Vietnamese	250	0.1%	0.2%	152	0.1%	
Mon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mon-Khmer, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Lao	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Thai	377	0.2%	0.2%	272	0.1%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	15	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bisaya	30	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Cebuano	24	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Ilokano	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indonesian	136	0.1%	0.1%	109	0.1%	
Malay	34	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Tetum	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	–	–	–	–	–	
Tagalog	299	0.1%	0.2%	260	0.1%	
Filipino	223	0.1%	0.1%	143	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Acehnese	–	–	–	–	–	
Balinese	6	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Bikol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iban	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	10	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Javanese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southeast Asian Languages	–	–	–	–	–	
Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Chinese, nfd	9	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Cantonese	416	0.2%	0.2%	385	0.2%	
Hakka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandarin	725	0.3%	0.4%	571	0.3%	
Wu	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Min Nan	58	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	
Japanese	154	0.1%	0.1%	118	0.1%	
Korean	233	0.1%	0.1%	177	0.1%	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Tibetan	28	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Mongolian	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	18	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Anindilyakwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tiwi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gudanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Murrinh Patha	–	–	–	–	–	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuku Yalanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuuku–Ya'u	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Jaru	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warlpiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warumungu	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Anmatyerr, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrernte, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luritja	–	–	–	–	–	
Pitjantjatjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wangkatha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yankunytjatjara	–	–	–	–	–	
Bardi	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bandjalang	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Dhanggatti	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Diyari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gamilaraay	53	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Githabul	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gumbaynggir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kanai	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Muruwari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Paakantyi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wiradjuri	33	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Yindjibarndi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yorta Yorta	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dharawal	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Aboriginal English, so described	8	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	36	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Acholi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	9	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Mauritian Creole	5	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Shona	44	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
Somali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swahili	53	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Yoruba	25	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Zulu	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Amharic	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Bemba	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Dinka	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ewe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Harari	–	–	–	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Igbo	23	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Kikuyu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krio	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Luganda	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	21	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Nuer	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tigrinya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tswana	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Xhosa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Seychelles Creole	–	–	–	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Anuak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bassa	–	–	–	–	–	
Dan (Gio-Dan)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fulfulde	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	9	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Kirundi (Rundi)	5	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Krahn	–	–	–	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Madi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandinka	–	–	–	–	–	
Mann	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Moro (Nuba Moro)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Themne	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lingala	–	–	–	–	–	
African Languages, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Fijian	60	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Gilbertese	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Maori (Cook Island)	5	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Maori (New Zealand)	75	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	6	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Samoaan	239	0.1%	0.0%	234	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Tongan	124	0.1%	0.0%	62	0.0%	
Rotuman	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tuvaluan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bislama	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Norfolk-Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Solomon Islands Pijin	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	6	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Invented Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	11	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Auslan	180	0.1%	0.1%	97	0.0%	
Key Word Sign Australia	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	8,278	3.9%	6.6%	8,521	4.3%	
Total	213,847	100.0%	100.0%	197,386	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.