

Community report

Mackay (R)

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

AREA

Mackay (R)

COMPARISON

Regional Qld

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

30 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

Mackay (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Mackay (R), accounting for 85% (103,403 people). This share was higher than Regional Qld (83.7%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 3,780 people, while its share fell by 1.7 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

Mackay (R) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	73	0.1%	0.1%	62	0.1%	0.0%	+11	0.0
Non-verbal, so described	61	0.1%	0.0%	70	0.1%	0.1%	-9	0.0
Swiss, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Creole, nfd	88	0.1%	0.1%	56	0.0%	0.1%	+32	+0.1
French Creole, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	0.0%	+1	0.0
Spanish Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	10	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	0.0%	-1	0.0
Celtic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Irish	—	—	0.0%	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Welsh	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	+1	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Celtic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
English	103,403	85.0%	83.7%	99,623	86.7%	8
German and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
German	217	0.2%	0.3%	239	0.2%	
Letzeburgish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yiddish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dutch	89	0.1%	0.1%	126	0.1%	
Frisian	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Afrikaans	653	0.5%	0.3%	591	0.5%	
Danish	25	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Norwegian	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Swedish	21	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Scandinavian, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Estonian	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Finnish	24	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
French	108	0.1%	0.2%	108	0.1%	
Greek	34	0.0%	0.1%	33	0.0%	
Iberian Romance, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Catalan	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Portuguese	105	0.1%	0.3%	80	0.1%	
Spanish	173	0.1%	0.4%	144	0.1%	
Italian	187	0.2%	0.3%	215	0.2%	
Maltese	244	0.2%	0.0%	313	0.3%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Basque	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Latvian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lithuanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hungarian	29	0.0%	0.1%	22	0.0%	
Belorussian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	62	0.1%	0.1%	50	0.0%	
Ukrainian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bosnian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bulgarian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Croatian	21	0.0%	0.1%	25	0.0%	
Macedonian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Serbian	19	0.0%	0.1%	25	0.0%	
Slovene	12	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	7	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Czech	20	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Polish	44	0.0%	0.1%	43	0.0%	
Slovak	11	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Czechoslovakian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Albanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Romanian	3	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Romany	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Iranic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kurdish	4	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Pashto	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Balochi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Persian (excluding Dari)	40	0.0%	0.1%	22	0.0%	
Hazaraghi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Middle Eastern Semitic Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Arabic	82	0.1%	0.2%	32	0.0%	
Hebrew	9	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	5	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	–	–	–	
Turkic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Turkish	7	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Azeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkmen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Uygur	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Uzbek	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Georgian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	13	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Kannada	13	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Malayalam	195	0.2%	0.2%	148	0.1%	
Tamil	74	0.1%	0.1%	53	0.0%	
Telugu	63	0.1%	0.1%	45	0.0%	
Tulu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dravidian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bengali	93	0.1%	0.0%	76	0.1%	
Gujarati	99	0.1%	0.1%	65	0.1%	
Hindi	187	0.2%	0.2%	184	0.2%	
Konkani	13	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Marathi	20	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Nepali	97	0.1%	0.2%	54	0.0%	
Punjabi	211	0.2%	0.3%	150	0.1%	
Sindhi	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Sinhalese	99	0.1%	0.1%	85	0.1%	
Urdu	54	0.0%	0.1%	55	0.0%	
Assamese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhivehi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kashmiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oriya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian Hindustani	9	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Other Southern Asian Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese	29	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Chin Haka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Karen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rohingya	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Zomi	–	–	–	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hmong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	9	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Vietnamese	104	0.1%	0.2%	78	0.1%	
Mon-Khmer, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lao	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Thai	230	0.2%	0.2%	176	0.2%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	10	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bisaya	28	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Cebuano	24	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Ilokano	5	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Indonesian	50	0.0%	0.1%	62	0.1%	
Malay	22	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Tetum	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Tagalog	938	0.8%	0.3%	820	0.7%	
Filipino	586	0.5%	0.3%	542	0.5%	
Balinese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bikol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iban	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	12	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Javanese	–	–	–	–	–	
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Other Southeast Asian Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Chinese, nfd	10	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Cantonese	126	0.1%	0.2%	90	0.1%	
Hakka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandarin	389	0.3%	0.7%	313	0.3%	
Wu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Min Nan	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Chinese, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese	73	0.1%	0.4%	63	0.1%	
Korean	55	0.0%	0.3%	26	0.0%	
Tibetan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mongolian	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	34	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Anindilyakwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maung	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tiwi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gudanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Larrakiya	–	–	–	–	–	
Marrithiyel	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Murrinh Patha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Garrwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Waanyi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yanyuwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Marridan (Maridan)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burarra	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arnhem Land and Daly River Region Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Djambarrpuyngu	–	–	–	–	–	
Cape York Peninsula Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuku Yalanji	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Guugu Yimidhirr	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuuku-Ya'u	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wik Mungkan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Djabugay	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dyirbal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Girramay	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Koko-Bera	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuuk Thayorre	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yidiny	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Cape York Peninsula Languages, nec	5	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	23	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Meriam Mir	16	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	64	0.1%	0.3%	26	0.0%	
Gurindji	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Warlpiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warumungu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Alyawarr	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kaytetye	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anmatyerr, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrernte, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Arrernte	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Western Arrarnta	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrernte, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Kukatha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pitjantjatjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wangkatha	–	–	–	–	–	
Bardi	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Gooniyandi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Worla	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kija	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
Adnymathanha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Bandjalang	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Batjala	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Bidjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Dhanggatti	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Diyari	–	–	–	–	–	–
Gamilaraay	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Githabul	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Gumbaynggir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kayardild	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Lardil	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Muruwari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Narungga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Paakantyi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wiradjuri	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Yorta Yorta	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gudjal	–	–	–	–	–	
Yugambeh	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Aboriginal English, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nfd	11	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Acholi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Mauritian Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shona	111	0.1%	0.0%	92	0.1%	
Somali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swahili	13	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Yoruba	11	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Zulu	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Amharic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bemba	6	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Dinka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ewe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Igbo	6	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Kikuyu	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Krio	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Luganda	5	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Luo	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Ndebele	6	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Nuer	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Tigrinya	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Tswana	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Xhosa	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Seychelles Creole	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Anuak	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Bari	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Fulfulde	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Kirundi (Rundi)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Kpelle	—	—	—	—	—	
Liberian (Liberian English)	—	—	—	—	—	
Loma (Lorma)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Madi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Mandinka	—	—	—	—	—	
Mann	—	—	—	—	—	
Moro (Nuba Moro)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Themne	–	–	–	–	–	
Lingala	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian	37	0.0%	0.0%	42	0.0%	
Gilbertese	16	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Maori (Cook Island)	25	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Maori (New Zealand)	91	0.1%	0.1%	48	0.0%	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Samoan	50	0.0%	0.1%	57	0.0%	
Tongan	27	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Rotuman	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Tuvaluan	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bislama	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Norf'k–Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Solomon Islands Pijin	5	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Kiwai	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Motu (HiriMotu)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	25	0.0%	0.0%	35	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Invented Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	16	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Auslan	88	0.1%	0.1%	68	0.1%	
Key Word Sign Australia	–	–	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	11,055	9.1%	7.4%	9,040	7.9%	
Total	121,698	100.0%	100.0%	114,941	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.