

Community report

Newcastle (C)

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

AREA

Newcastle (C)

COMPARISON

Regional NSW

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

26 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Religion

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.

Religion

Newcastle (C) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Newcastle (C), accounting for 44.8% (75,597 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (37.4%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 24,591 people and 12 percentage points.

About this topic

Religion records a person's stated religious affiliation, including no religion and not stated responses. It is a measure of cultural identity and belief rather than practice or participation.

This topic helps show the religious diversity of an area and can support planning for community facilities, faith-based services, and inclusive engagement. It is best interpreted with ancestry, birthplace, and language, which together provide a broader picture of cultural composition.

Interpretation notes

- This records stated religious affiliation, not attendance or level of religious practice.
- No religion and not stated are part of the overall picture, so interpretation should consider both affiliation and non-response.

Religion - Ranked by size

Newcastle (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	738	0.4%	0.4%	903	0.6%	0.4%	-165	-0.2
Buddhism	1,830	1.1%	0.8%	1,873	1.2%	0.8%	-43	-0.1
Christianity, nfd	4,285	2.5%	2.2%	3,984	2.6%	2.2%	+301	-0.1
Anglican Church of Australia	20,847	12.3%	17.0%	26,349	17.0%	21.9%	-5,502	-4.7
Anglican Catholic Church	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Anglican, nec	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Baptist	2,315	1.4%	1.2%	2,661	1.7%	1.3%	-346	-0.3
Brethren	56	0.0%	0.1%	53	0.0%	0.1%	+3	0.0
Catholic, nfd	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Western Catholic	31,764	18.8%	21.0%	34,429	22.2%	23.8%	-2,665	-3.4
Maronite Catholic	18	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	0.0%	+9	0.0
Melkite Catholic	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Ukrainian Catholic	32	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	145	0.1%	0.0%	102	0.1%	
Catholic, nec	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	71	0.0%	0.1%	100	0.1%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	299	0.2%	0.4%	289	0.2%	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	186	0.1%	0.1%	201	0.1%	
Community of Christ	8	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Lutheran	220	0.1%	0.3%	254	0.2%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian Apostolic	–	–	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Coptic Orthodox Church	56	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	28	0.0%	0.0%	37	0.0%	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	9	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Oriental Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Church of the East	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ancient Church of the East	–	–	–	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Antiochian Orthodox	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Greek Orthodox	1,472	0.9%	0.4%	1,451	0.9%	
Macedonian Orthodox	894	0.5%	0.3%	868	0.6%	
Romanian Orthodox	7	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Russian Orthodox	93	0.1%	0.0%	97	0.1%	
Serbian Orthodox	203	0.1%	0.1%	190	0.1%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian	2,897	1.7%	2.6%	3,812	2.5%	
Reformed	28	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Free Reformed	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Salvation Army	427	0.3%	0.2%	592	0.4%	
Seventh-day Adventist	443	0.3%	0.4%	433	0.3%	
Uniting Church	4,833	2.9%	3.3%	6,516	4.2%	
Pentecostal, nfd	1,365	0.8%	0.7%	1,393	0.9%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	65	0.0%	0.0%	83	0.1%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	7	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	43	0.0%	0.1%	41	0.0%	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Revival Centres	12	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acts 2 Alliance	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Church in Australia	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Pentecostal, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Other Protestant, nfd	268	0.2%	0.1%	301	0.2%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Born Again Christian	19	0.0%	0.0%	43	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congregational	29	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	13	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Independent Evangelical Churches	406	0.2%	0.1%	139	0.1%	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	4	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	17	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Methodist, so described	272	0.2%	0.1%	271	0.2%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christadelphians	60	0.0%	0.0%	73	0.0%	
Christian Science	9	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Gnostic Christians	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ratana (Maori)	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	23	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	22	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Hinduism	1,839	1.1%	0.7%	1,068	0.7%	
Islam	2,830	1.7%	0.7%	1,878	1.2%	
Judaism	148	0.1%	0.1%	88	0.1%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	40	0.0%	0.0%	53	0.0%	
Baha'i	35	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Confucianism	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	32	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shinto	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Animism	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Druidism	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Paganism	133	0.1%	0.1%	112	0.1%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	54	0.0%	0.0%	62	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	32	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Sikhism	326	0.2%	0.3%	182	0.1%	
Spiritualism	83	0.0%	0.0%	79	0.1%	
Mandaeen	4	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Yezidi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of Scientology	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Eckankar	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Rastafari	5	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Satanism	53	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Theosophy	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Jainism	17	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Zoroastrianism	8	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Religious Groups, nec	12	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
No Religion, so described	75,597	44.8%	37.4%	51,006	32.8%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	376	0.2%	0.1%	303	0.2%	
Atheism	379	0.2%	0.1%	381	0.2%	
Humanism	17	0.0%	0.0%	64	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Rationalism	7	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	9	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Multi Faith	19	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
New Age	9	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	223	0.1%	0.1%	206	0.1%	
Theism	48	0.0%	0.0%	36	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	38	0.0%	0.0%	53	0.0%	
Not stated	9,535	5.6%	7.7%	11,689	7.5%	
Total	168,868	100.0%	100.0%	155,408	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.