

# Community report

## Port Macquarie-Hastings (A)

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

AREA

**Port Macquarie-Hastings (A)**

COMPARISON

**Regional NSW**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**4 April 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

Port Macquarie–Hastings (A) | 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 Port Macquarie–Hastings (A), accounting for 37.7% (32,683 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (37.4%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 12,571 people and 12.1 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

Port Macquarie-Hastings (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	351	0.4%	0.4%	300	0.4%	0.4%	+51	0.0
Buddhism	602	0.7%	0.8%	542	0.7%	0.8%	+60	0.0
Christianity, nfd	2,169	2.5%	2.2%	2,032	2.6%	2.2%	+137	-0.1
Anglican Church of Australia	17,013	19.6%	17.0%	19,328	24.6%	21.9%	-2,315	-5.0
Anglican Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Anglican, nec	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Baptist	880	1.0%	1.2%	915	1.2%	1.3%	-35	-0.2
Brethren	7	0.0%	0.1%	4	0.0%	0.1%	+3	0.0
Catholic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Western Catholic	17,722	20.4%	21.0%	18,099	23.0%	23.8%	-377	-2.6
Maronite Catholic	10	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Melkite Catholic	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Ukrainian Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Catholic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	41	0.0%	0.1%	55	0.1%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	370	0.4%	0.4%	345	0.4%	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	62	0.1%	0.1%	84	0.1%	
Community of Christ	18	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	
Lutheran	208	0.2%	0.3%	230	0.3%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian Apostolic	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Coptic Orthodox Church	38	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oriental Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Church of the East	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Ancient Church of the East	–	–	–	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Greek Orthodox	174	0.2%	0.4%	155	0.2%	
Macedonian Orthodox	4	0.0%	0.3%	4	0.0%	
Romanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian Orthodox	32	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Serbian Orthodox	18	0.0%	0.1%	10	0.0%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Presbyterian	2,423	2.8%	2.6%	2,833	3.6%	
Reformed	17	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Free Reformed	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Salvation Army	262	0.3%	0.2%	335	0.4%	
Seventh-day Adventist	457	0.5%	0.4%	523	0.7%	
Uniting Church	3,084	3.6%	3.3%	3,761	4.8%	
Pentecostal, nfd	639	0.7%	0.7%	661	0.8%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	23	0.0%	0.0%	41	0.1%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	35	0.0%	0.1%	13	0.0%	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Revival Centres	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Church in Australia	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal, nec	–	–	0.0%	108	0.1%	
Other Protestant, nfd	136	0.2%	0.1%	88	0.1%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Born Again Christian	48	0.1%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congregational	6	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Independent Evangelical Churches	341	0.4%	0.1%	26	0.0%	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Methodist, so described	126	0.1%	0.1%	150	0.2%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christadelphians	12	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Christian Science	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Gnostic Christians	8	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ratana (Maori)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	15	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Hinduism	392	0.5%	0.7%	202	0.3%	
Islam	207	0.2%	0.7%	80	0.1%	
Judaism	61	0.1%	0.1%	57	0.1%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	12	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Baha'i	16	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	8	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shinto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Animism	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Druidism	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Paganism	93	0.1%	0.1%	57	0.1%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	36	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	15	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Sikhism	82	0.1%	0.3%	32	0.0%	
Spiritualism	44	0.1%	0.0%	44	0.1%	
Mandaeen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yezidi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of Scientology	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rastafari	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Satanism	22	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Theosophy	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Jainism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zoroastrianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Groups, nec	9	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
No Religion, so described	32,683	37.7%	37.4%	20,112	25.6%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	88	0.1%	0.1%	59	0.1%	
Atheism	138	0.2%	0.1%	87	0.1%	
Humanism	5	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Rationalism	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs, nec	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Multi Faith	15	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
New Age	11	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	105	0.1%	0.1%	74	0.1%	
Theism	16	0.0%	0.0%	35	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	17	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Not stated	5,233	6.0%	7.7%	6,614	8.4%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>86,733</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>78,529</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.