

Community report

Southern Downs (R)

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

AREA

Southern Downs (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

Southern Downs (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 Southern Downs (R), accounting for 88.1% (31,954 people). This share was higher than Regional Qld (83.7%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 528 people, while its share fell by 1.5 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

Southern Downs (R) - Total persons (Usual residence)

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | | Change | |
|--------------------------|-------|------|----------------|-------|------|----------------|--------|------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | pp |
| Inadequately described | 19 | 0.1% | 0.1% | 11 | 0.0% | 0.0% | +8 | +0.1 |
| Non-verbal, so described | 10 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 13 | 0.0% | 0.1% | -3 | 0.0 |
| Swiss, so described | 4 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 8 | 0.0% | 0.0% | -4 | 0.0 |
| Cypriot, so described | – | – | – | – | – | 0.0% | – | – |
| Creole, nfd | – | – | 0.1% | – | – | 0.1% | – | – |
| French Creole, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | 0.0% | – | – |
| Spanish Creole, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | 0.0% | – | – |
| Pidgin, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | 5 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – |
| Celtic, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – | – | – |
| Gaelic (Scotland) | 4 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 8 | 0.0% | 0.0% | -4 | 0.0 |
| Irish | – | – | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – |
| Welsh | 6 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | 0.0% | – | – |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|----------------|--------|-------|----------------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional Qld % |
| Celtic, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| English | 31,954 | 88.1% | 83.7% | 31,426 | 89.6% | 83.7% |
| German and Related Languages, nfd | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| German | 86 | 0.2% | 0.3% | 105 | 0.3% | 0.3% |
| Letzeburgish | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Yiddish | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Dutch | 26 | 0.1% | 0.1% | 46 | 0.1% | 0.1% |
| Frisian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Afrikaans | 42 | 0.1% | 0.3% | 46 | 0.1% | 0.3% |
| Danish | 4 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Icelandic | – | – | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Norwegian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Swedish | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Scandinavian, nec | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Estonian | 6 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Finnish | 18 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 11 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| French | 37 | 0.1% | 0.2% | 43 | 0.1% | 0.2% |
| Greek | 10 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 16 | 0.0% | 0.1% |
| Iberian Romance, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Catalan | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Portuguese | 57 | 0.2% | 0.3% | 36 | 0.1% | 0.3% |
| Spanish | 60 | 0.2% | 0.4% | 56 | 0.2% | 0.4% |
| Italian | 252 | 0.7% | 0.3% | 359 | 1.0% | 0.3% |
| Maltese | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |

| 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 | 5 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | |
| Lithuanian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Hungarian | 5 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 7 | 0.0% | |
| Belorussian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Russian | 23 | 0.1% | 0.1% | 15 | 0.0% | |
| Ukrainian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Bosnian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Bulgarian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Croatian | 25 | 0.1% | 0.1% | 37 | 0.1% | |
| Macedonian | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 7 | 0.0% | |
| Serbian | 16 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 21 | 0.1% | |
| Slovene | 7 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | |
| Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described | 4 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Czech | 11 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 4 | 0.0% | |
| Polish | 12 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 23 | 0.1% | |
| Slovak | – | – | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | |
| Czechoslovakian, so described | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Albanian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Romanian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------|----------------|-------|------|----------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional |
| Romany | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Other Eastern European Languages, nec | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Iranic, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kurdish | – | – | 0.1% | – | – | |
| Pashto | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Balochi | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Dari | 4 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 6 | 0.0% | |
| Persian (excluding Dari) | 4 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 4 | 0.0% | |
| Hazaraghi | – | – | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | |
| Middle Eastern Semitic Languages, nfd | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Arabic | 15 | 0.0% | 0.2% | 12 | 0.0% | |
| Hebrew | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Assyrian Neo-Aramaic | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Chaldean Neo-Aramaic | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Mandaean (Mandaic) | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Turkic, nfd | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Turkish | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 9 | 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 | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kannada | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Malayalam | 19 | 0.1% | 0.2% | 20 | 0.1% | |
| Tamil | 4 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 5 | 0.0% | |
| Telugu | 8 | 0.0% | 0.1% | – | – | |
| Tulu | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Dravidian, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Indo-Aryan, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Bengali | – | – | 0.0% | 6 | 0.0% | |
| Gujarati | 9 | 0.0% | 0.1% | – | – | |
| Hindi | 42 | 0.1% | 0.2% | 33 | 0.1% | |
| Konkani | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Marathi | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Nepali | 15 | 0.0% | 0.2% | 15 | 0.0% | |
| Punjabi | 43 | 0.1% | 0.3% | 15 | 0.0% | |
| Sindhi | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Sinhalese | 8 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 4 | 0.0% | |
| Urdu | 12 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 7 | 0.0% | |
| Assamese | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Dhivehi | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kashmiri | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Oriya | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Fijian Hindustani | – | – | 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 | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Chin Haka | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Karen | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Rohingya | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Zomi | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Burmese and Related Languages, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Hmong | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Khmer | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Vietnamese | 28 | 0.1% | 0.2% | 17 | 0.0% | |
| Mon-Khmer, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Lao | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Thai | 33 | 0.1% | 0.2% | 22 | 0.1% | |
| Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd | 5 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Bisaya | 17 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 12 | 0.0% | |
| Cebuano | 4 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 8 | 0.0% | |
| Ilokano | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Indonesian | 10 | 0.0% | 0.1% | – | – | |
| Malay | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Tetum | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Timorese | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|---|-------|------|----------------|-------|------|----------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional |
| Tagalog | 72 | 0.2% | 0.3% | 66 | 0.2% | |
| Filipino | 92 | 0.3% | 0.3% | 53 | 0.2% | |
| Balinese | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Bikol | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Iban | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Ilonggo (Hiligaynon) | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Javanese | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Pampangan | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Other Southeast Asian Languages | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Eastern Asian Languages, nfd | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Chinese, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | 3 | 0.0% | |
| Cantonese | 20 | 0.1% | 0.2% | 20 | 0.1% | |
| Hakka | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Mandarin | 124 | 0.3% | 0.7% | 122 | 0.3% | |
| Wu | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Min Nan | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Chinese, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Japanese | 31 | 0.1% | 0.4% | 24 | 0.1% | |
| Korean | 60 | 0.2% | 0.3% | 80 | 0.2% | |
| Tibetan | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Mongolian | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|--|-------|------|----------------|-------|---|----------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional |
| Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd | 6 | 0.0% | 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 | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Djambarrpuyngu | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Cape York Peninsula Languages, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kuku Yalanji | – | – | 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 | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Koko-Bera | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kuuk Thayorre | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Yidiny | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Cape York Peninsula Languages, nec | – | – | 0.1% | – | – | |
| Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Meriam Mir | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole) | – | – | 0.3% | – | – | |
| Gurindji | – | – | 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 | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|--|-------|------|----------------|-------|---|----------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional |
| 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 | 6 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Githabul | 3 | 0.0% | 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% | – | – | |
| Paakantyi | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Wajarri | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Wiradjuri | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|--|-------|------|----------------|-------|------|----------------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional Qld % |
| Yorta Yorta | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Gudjal | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Yugambah | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Aboriginal English, so described | – | – | 0.0% | 5 | 0.0% | – |
| Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec | 8 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Other Languages, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| American Languages | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| African Languages, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Acholi | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Akan | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Mauritian Creole | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Oromo | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Shona | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Somali | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Swahili | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Yoruba | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Zulu | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Amharic | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Bemba | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Dinka | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Ewe | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Ga | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |
| Hausa | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | – |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|---|----------------|-------|---|----------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional |
| Igbo | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kikuyu | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Krio | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Luganda | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Luo | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Ndebele | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Nuer | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Nyanja (Chichewa) | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Tigrinya | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Tswana | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Xhosa | – | – | 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 | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Fijian | – | – | 0.0% | 7 | 0.0% | |
| Gilbertese | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Maori (Cook Island) | 7 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 4 | 0.0% | |
| Maori (New Zealand) | 6 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 15 | 0.0% | |
| Nauruan | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Niue | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Samoan | – | – | 0.1% | 3 | 0.0% | |
| Tongan | 17 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 5 | 0.0% | |
| Rotuman | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Tokelauan | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Tuvaluan | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd | – | – | – | – | – | |
| Bislama | 7 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Norf'k–Pitcairn | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Solomon Islands Pijin | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Kiwai | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |

| Category | 2021 | | | 2016 | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Count | % | Regional Qld % | Count | % | Regional |
| Motu (HiriMotu) | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian) | 38 | 0.1% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Papua New Guinea Languages, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Invented Languages | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Sign Languages, nfd | 3 | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Auslan | 11 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 8 | 0.0% | |
| Key Word Sign Australia | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Sign Languages, nec | – | – | 0.0% | – | – | |
| Not stated | 2,752 | 7.6% | 7.4% | 2,154 | 6.1% | |
| Total | 36,264 | 100.0% | 100.0% | 35,091 | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.