

Community report

Surf Coast (S)

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

AREA

Surf Coast (S)

COMPARISON

Regional Vic.

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

8 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Ancestry

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.

Ancestry

Surf Coast (S) | Regional Vic. comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

SECTION

01

Key takeaway

In 2021, the largest ancestry groups among residents in Surf Coast (S) were English, Australian and Irish.

About this topic

Ancestry describes a person's cultural association and ethnic background, and Census respondents can report more than one ancestry. It is a broader cultural measure than country of birth because it can reflect family heritage across generations.

This topic helps show the size and diversity of cultural groups in an area, including groups whose members were born in Australia. Because multiple ancestries can be reported, ancestry totals can exceed the total population, so it is best read with birthplace, language used at home, and religion.

Interpretation notes

- People can report up to two ancestries, so category counts represent responses rather than a single unduplicated person count, while percentages are shown against the total population.
- ABS advises that ancestry is best used with birthplace and language, because ancestry alone is a broad measure of ethnicity and cultural background.
- The 2021 form added separate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mark boxes, so those categories need caution in over-time comparison.

Ancestry - Ranked by size

Surf Coast (S) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	61	0.2%	0.2%	55	0.2%	0.2%	+6	0.0
Eurasian, so described	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Asian, so described	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	-2	0.0
African, so described	20	0.1%	0.1%	16	0.1%	0.1%	+4	0.0
European, so described	42	0.1%	0.1%	21	0.1%	0.0%	+21	0.0
Caucasian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Creole, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Oceanian, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Australian Peoples, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Australian	14,476	38.4%	39.2%	11,635	39.6%	40.0%	+2,841	-1.2
Australian Aboriginal	235	0.6%	1.9%	31	0.1%	0.2%	+204	+0.5
Australian South Sea Islander	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Torres Strait Islander	15	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Norfolk Islander	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Zealand Peoples, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori	80	0.2%	0.3%	58	0.2%	
New Zealander	289	0.8%	0.5%	188	0.6%	
Melanesian and Papuan, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Caledonian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ni-Vanuatu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinean	17	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Solomon Islander	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Melanesian and Papuan, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Micronesian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
I-Kiribati	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Micronesian, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Polynesian, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Cook Islander	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian	30	0.1%	0.1%	20	0.1%	
Niuean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Samoan	17	0.0%	0.1%	9	0.0%	
Tongan	5	0.0%	0.1%	4	0.0%	
Hawaiian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tahitian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Tuvaluan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Polynesian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
North-West European, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
British, nfd	9	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
English	16,262	43.1%	40.6%	12,473	42.4%	4
Scottish	5,179	13.7%	11.7%	3,862	13.1%	1
Welsh	272	0.7%	0.6%	199	0.7%	
Channel Islander	11	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Manx	9	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
British, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Irish	6,001	15.9%	12.9%	4,566	15.5%	1
Western European, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Austrian	120	0.3%	0.2%	97	0.3%	
Dutch	905	2.4%	2.3%	695	2.4%	
Flemish	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
French	294	0.8%	0.4%	169	0.6%	
German	1,796	4.8%	4.6%	1,361	4.6%	
Swiss	102	0.3%	0.2%	64	0.2%	
Belgian	33	0.1%	0.0%	19	0.1%	
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luxembourg	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Western European, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Northern European, nfd	18	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Danish	119	0.3%	0.2%	93	0.3%	
Finnish	35	0.1%	0.1%	23	0.1%	
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Norwegian	81	0.2%	0.1%	35	0.1%	
Swedish	116	0.3%	0.2%	76	0.3%	
Northern European, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern and Eastern European, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern European, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Basque	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Catalan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Italian	1,463	3.9%	3.9%	980	3.3%	
Maltese	347	0.9%	0.7%	198	0.7%	
Portuguese	61	0.2%	0.1%	52	0.2%	
Spanish	123	0.3%	0.3%	81	0.3%	
Gibraltarian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
South Eastern European, nfd	24	0.1%	0.1%	21	0.1%	
Albanian	18	0.0%	0.1%	12	0.0%	
Bosnian	11	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bulgarian	10	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Croatian	183	0.5%	0.6%	122	0.4%	
Greek	296	0.8%	0.6%	220	0.7%	
Macedonian	73	0.2%	0.2%	53	0.2%	
Moldovan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Montenegrin	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Romanian	20	0.1%	0.1%	9	0.0%	
Roma Gypsy	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Serbian	61	0.2%	0.2%	33	0.1%	
Slovene	64	0.2%	0.1%	36	0.1%	
Cypriot	31	0.1%	0.1%	20	0.1%	
Vlach	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European, nfd	22	0.1%	0.0%	15	0.1%	
Belarusan	7	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Czech	41	0.1%	0.1%	27	0.1%	
Estonian	22	0.1%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Hungarian	121	0.3%	0.3%	67	0.2%	
Latvian	64	0.2%	0.1%	32	0.1%	
Lithuanian	32	0.1%	0.1%	39	0.1%	
Polish	392	1.0%	0.6%	250	0.9%	
Russian	89	0.2%	0.2%	62	0.2%	
Slovak	11	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Ukrainian	82	0.2%	0.2%	65	0.2%	
Sorb/Wend	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
North African and Middle Eastern, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arab, nfd	10	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Algerian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Egyptian	35	0.1%	0.1%	20	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Iraqi	3	0.0%	0.1%	5	0.0%	
Jordanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuwaiti	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lebanese	61	0.2%	0.1%	37	0.1%	
Libyan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Moroccan	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Palestinian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Saudi Arabian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syrian	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Tunisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yemeni	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Emirati	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Omani	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arab, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jewish	27	0.1%	0.0%	16	0.1%	
Peoples of the Sudan, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Darfur	–	–	–	–	–	
Dinka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nuer	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
South Sudanese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sudanese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Peoples of the Sudan, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other North African and Middle Eastern, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Berber	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Coptic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iranian	14	0.0%	0.1%	18	0.1%	
Kurdish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkish	20	0.1%	0.1%	10	0.0%	
Assyrian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chaldean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandaean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nubian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other North African and Middle Eastern, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
South-East Asian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anglo-Burmese	–	–	–	–	–	
Burmese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hmong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer (Cambodian)	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Lao	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Thai	44	0.1%	0.2%	21	0.1%	
Vietnamese	36	0.1%	0.2%	15	0.1%	
Karen	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
Mon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rohingya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mainland South-East Asian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Filipino	116	0.3%	0.8%	79	0.3%	
Indonesian	59	0.2%	0.1%	33	0.1%	
Javanese	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Malay	38	0.1%	0.1%	13	0.0%	
Sundanese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acehnese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Balinese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bruneian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kadazan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Singaporean	9	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Maritime South–East Asian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chinese	308	0.8%	1.1%	184	0.6%	
Taiwanese	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Chinese Asian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese	68	0.2%	0.1%	46	0.2%	
Korean	22	0.1%	0.1%	16	0.1%	
Mongolian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tibetan	9	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Southern Asian, nfd	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Anglo–Indian	10	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Bengali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burgher	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Gujarati	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Indian	138	0.4%	1.0%	88	0.3%	
Malayali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nepalese	5	0.0%	0.1%	6	0.0%	
Pakistani	–	–	0.1%	6	0.0%	
Punjabi	19	0.1%	0.2%	6	0.0%	
Sikh	11	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Sinhalese	17	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Maldivian	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Bangladeshi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bhutanese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian Indian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kashmiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sindhi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sri Lankan	67	0.2%	0.1%	38	0.1%	
Sri Lankan Tamil	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indian Tamil	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tamil, nfd	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Telugu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern Asian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Afghan	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Armenian	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Georgian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kazakh	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pathan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Uzbek	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Azeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hazara	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Tajik	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tatar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkmen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Uighur	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kyrgyz	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Central Asian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Peoples of the Americas, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
North American, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
African American	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
American	146	0.4%	0.2%	97	0.3%	
Canadian	113	0.3%	0.1%	63	0.2%	
French Canadian	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Hispanic North American	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Native North American Indian	5	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Bermudan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
North American, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
South American, nfd	14	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Argentinian	30	0.1%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Bolivian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Brazilian	51	0.1%	0.0%	25	0.1%	
Chilean	42	0.1%	0.0%	16	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Colombian	10	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Ecuadorian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Guyanese	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Peruvian	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Uruguayan	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Venezuelan	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Paraguayan	—	—	—	—	—	
South American, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Central American, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Mexican	11	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Nicaraguan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Salvadoran	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Costa Rican	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Guatemalan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Mayan	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Central American, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Caribbean Islander, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Cuban	—	—	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Jamaican	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Trinidadian Tobagonian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Barbadian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Puerto Rican	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Caribbean Islander, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Sub-Saharan African, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Central and West African, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ghanaian	10	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Nigerian	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Yoruba	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ivorean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Liberian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sierra Leonean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acholi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Cameroonian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congolese	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Igbo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Senegalese	–	–	–	–	–	
Themne	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Togolese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Central and West African, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern and East African, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Afrikaner	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Angolan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eritrean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ethiopian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kenyan	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Malawian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mauritian	31	0.1%	0.1%	25	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Mozambican	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Namibian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Seychellois	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Somali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
South African	175	0.5%	0.2%	118	0.4%	
Tanzanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ugandan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zambian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zimbabwean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Amhara	–	–	–	–	–	
Batswana	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Masai	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zulu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burundian	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Madi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rwandan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shona	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swahili	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swazilander	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern and East African, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Excludes ancestries with fewer than 10 responses (multi-response).

Data basis: usual residence.