

# Community report

## Sydney (C)

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

AREA

**Sydney (C)**

COMPARISON

**Greater Sydney**

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

Sydney (C) | Greater Sydney comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Sydney (C), accounting for 58% (122,723 people). This share was higher than Greater Sydney (57.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 15,431 people and 6.5 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

Sydney (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	139	0.1%	0.1%	142	0.1%	0.0%	-3	0.0
Non-verbal, so described	211	0.1%	0.1%	237	0.1%	0.2%	-26	0.0
Swiss, so described	5	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	0.0%	-2	0.0
Cypriot, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Creole, nfd	23	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
French Creole, nfd	12	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	0.0%	-1	0.0
Spanish Creole, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–	–	–
Portuguese Creole, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Pidgin, nfd	9	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%	+4	0.0
Celtic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Gaelic (Scotland)	14	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	0.0%	-1	0.0
Irish	54	0.0%	0.0%	79	0.0%	0.0%	-25	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Welsh	37	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Celtic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
English	122,723	58.0%	57.3%	107,292	51.5%	
German	1,074	0.5%	0.3%	1,244	0.6%	
Letzeburgish	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Yiddish	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Dutch	390	0.2%	0.1%	448	0.2%	
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Afrikaans	204	0.1%	0.1%	141	0.1%	
Scandinavian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Danish	79	0.0%	0.0%	106	0.1%	
Icelandic	10	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Norwegian	71	0.0%	0.0%	91	0.0%	
Swedish	232	0.1%	0.1%	310	0.1%	
Scandinavian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Finnish and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Estonian	55	0.0%	0.0%	44	0.0%	
Finnish	60	0.0%	0.0%	81	0.0%	
Southern European Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
French	2,086	1.0%	0.4%	2,528	1.2%	
Greek	1,867	0.9%	1.4%	1,927	0.9%	
Iberian Romance, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Catalan	40	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Portuguese	2,203	1.0%	0.5%	1,734	0.8%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Spanish	5,054	2.4%	1.2%	3,636	1.7%	
Iberian Romance, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Italian	1,898	0.9%	1.0%	2,200	1.1%	
Maltese	58	0.0%	0.2%	88	0.0%	
Basque	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Latin	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Baltic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Latvian	35	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Lithuanian	66	0.0%	0.0%	84	0.0%	
Hungarian	182	0.1%	0.1%	218	0.1%	
Belorussian	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	1,855	0.9%	0.4%	1,884	0.9%	
Ukrainian	91	0.0%	0.0%	81	0.0%	
South Slavic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bosnian	61	0.0%	0.1%	73	0.0%	
Bulgarian	45	0.0%	0.0%	65	0.0%	
Croatian	245	0.1%	0.3%	262	0.1%	
Macedonian	237	0.1%	0.4%	207	0.1%	
Serbian	477	0.2%	0.4%	442	0.2%	
Slovene	11	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	49	0.0%	0.0%	61	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Czech	154	0.1%	0.1%	216	0.1%	
Polish	603	0.3%	0.2%	543	0.3%	
Slovak	144	0.1%	0.0%	173	0.1%	
Czechoslovakian, so described	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Albanian	26	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Aromunian (Macedo-Romanian)	–	–	–	–	–	
Romanian	106	0.1%	0.0%	109	0.1%	
Romany	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Southwest and Central Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Iranic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Kurdish	29	0.0%	0.1%	16	0.0%	
Pashto	40	0.0%	0.1%	5	0.0%	
Balochi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dari	24	0.0%	0.2%	15	0.0%	
Persian (excluding Dari)	810	0.4%	0.5%	610	0.3%	
Hazaraghi	4	0.0%	0.1%	3	0.0%	
Iranic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Middle Eastern Semitic Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arabic	1,393	0.7%	4.2%	1,409	0.7%	
Hebrew	203	0.1%	0.1%	164	0.1%	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	70	0.0%	0.5%	52	0.0%	
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	8	0.0%	0.2%	7	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Middle Eastern Semitic Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Turkish	664	0.3%	0.4%	505	0.2%	–
Azeri	19	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	–
Tatar	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Turkmen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Uygur	21	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	–
Uzbek	14	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	–
Turkic, nec	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Armenian	58	0.0%	0.2%	64	0.0%	–
Georgian	19	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	–
Other Southwest and Central Asian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	31	0.0%	0.0%	47	0.0%	–
Kannada	83	0.0%	0.1%	42	0.0%	–
Malayalam	287	0.1%	0.3%	211	0.1%	–
Tamil	371	0.2%	0.7%	304	0.1%	–
Telugu	166	0.1%	0.4%	126	0.1%	–
Tulu	6	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Dravidian, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Indo-Aryan, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Bengali	425	0.2%	0.7%	350	0.2%	–
Gujarati	192	0.1%	0.5%	134	0.1%	–
Hindi	1,600	0.8%	1.5%	1,249	0.6%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Konkani	19	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Marathi	209	0.1%	0.2%	119	0.1%	
Nepali	368	0.2%	1.2%	290	0.1%	
Punjabi	236	0.1%	0.8%	129	0.1%	
Sindhi	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Sinhalese	200	0.1%	0.2%	145	0.1%	
Urdu	309	0.1%	0.8%	193	0.1%	
Assamese	3	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Dhivehi	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Kashmiri	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Oriya	12	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Fijian Hindustani	27	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern Asian Languages	10	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese	188	0.1%	0.1%	149	0.1%	
Chin Haka	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Karen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rohingya	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Hmong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	114	0.1%	0.2%	63	0.0%	
Vietnamese	2,511	1.2%	2.2%	2,224	1.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Mon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mon–Khmer, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Tai, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Lao	102	0.0%	0.1%	87	0.0%	
Thai	5,916	2.8%	0.4%	6,592	3.2%	
Tai, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	549	0.3%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Bisaya	23	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Cebuano	19	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Ilokano	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Indonesian	4,376	2.1%	0.6%	4,531	2.2%	
Malay	218	0.1%	0.1%	237	0.1%	
Tetum	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tagalog	781	0.4%	0.9%	634	0.3%	
Filipino	607	0.3%	0.5%	438	0.2%	
Acehnese	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Balinese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bikol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iban	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Javanese	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Southeast Asian Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Chinese, nfd	333	0.2%	0.1%	1,207	0.6%	–
Cantonese	6,006	2.8%	2.8%	6,075	2.9%	–
Hakka	78	0.0%	0.0%	83	0.0%	–
Mandarin	18,213	8.6%	5.0%	20,636	9.9%	–
Wu	150	0.1%	0.1%	85	0.0%	–
Min Nan	335	0.2%	0.1%	296	0.1%	–
Chinese, nec	–	–	–	3	0.0%	–
Japanese	1,549	0.7%	0.3%	1,752	0.8%	–
Korean	2,167	1.0%	1.1%	3,265	1.6%	–
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tibetan	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Mongolian	346	0.2%	0.1%	303	0.1%	–
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	–
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	22	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	–
Tiwi	–	–	–	–	–	–
Jawoyn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yolngu Matha, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Kuku Yalanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Guugu Yimidhirr	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wik Mungkan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Djabugay	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yidiny	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Meriam Mir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	4	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Gurindji	–	–	–	–	–	
Warlpiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warumungu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anmatyerr, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrente, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrente, nec	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Pitjantjatjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wangkatha	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bardi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yawuru	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Adnymathanha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bandjalang	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Batjala	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhanggatti	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Gamilaraay	11	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Gumbaynggir	12	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Kaurna	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mangala	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Muruwari	–	–	–	–	–	
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyamal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyungar	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Paakantyi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wiradjuri	21	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Yorta Yorta	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dharawal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yugambah	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Aboriginal English, so described	9	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	9	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	
African Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Acholi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	13	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Mauritian Creole	12	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shona	25	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Somali	15	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Swahili	63	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	
Yoruba	10	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Zulu	5	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Amharic	16	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Bemba	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Dinka	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ewe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Harari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Igbo	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Kikuyu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krio	3	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Luganda	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Luo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Nuer	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Shilluk	–	–	–	–	–	
Tigre	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tigrinya	9	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Tswana	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Xhosa	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Seychelles Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Anuak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bassa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dan (Gio-Dan)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fulfulde	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Kirundi (Rundi)	8	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Kpelle	–	–	–	–	–	
Krahn	–	–	–	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Madi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandinka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mann	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Moro (Nuba Moro)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Themne	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lingala	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nec	11	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian	79	0.0%	0.1%	94	0.0%	
Gilbertese	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (Cook Island)	5	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Maori (New Zealand)	57	0.0%	0.0%	57	0.0%	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	9	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Samoaan	62	0.0%	0.3%	67	0.0%	
Tongan	126	0.1%	0.2%	94	0.0%	
Rotuman	9	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tuvaluan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yapese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Bislama	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Norfolk-Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Solomon Islands Pijin	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	28	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Invented Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Auslan	54	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Key Word Sign Australia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	15,192	7.2%	5.3%	25,698	12.3%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,618</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>208,378</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.