

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

31 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

Sydney (C) | Greater Sydney comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Sydney (C), accounting for 51% (108,023 people). This share was higher than Greater Sydney (30.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 18,007 people and 7.8 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

Sydney (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	1,016	0.5%	0.3%	1,292	0.6%	0.4%	-276	-0.1
Buddhism	13,819	6.5%	3.8%	14,672	7.0%	3.9%	-853	-0.5
Christianity, nfd	3,854	1.8%	2.5%	3,291	1.6%	2.2%	+563	+0.2
Anglican Church of Australia	10,305	4.9%	9.2%	12,098	5.8%	12.0%	-1,793	-0.9
Anglican Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Anglican, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Baptist	1,168	0.6%	1.2%	1,168	0.6%	1.2%	0	0.0
Brethren	3	0.0%	0.1%	4	0.0%	0.1%	-1	0.0
Catholic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Western Catholic	31,886	15.1%	22.1%	31,896	15.3%	24.2%	-10	-0.2
Maronite Catholic	183	0.1%	0.8%	149	0.1%	0.7%	+34	0.0
Melkite Catholic	20	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%	+15	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Ukrainian Catholic	17	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Chaldean Catholic	3	0.0%	0.2%	3	0.0%	
Syro Malabar Catholic	—	—	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Catholic, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Churches of Christ, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	27	0.0%	0.1%	23	0.0%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
International Church of Christ	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Jehovah's Witnesses	144	0.1%	0.2%	153	0.1%	
Latter-day Saints, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	98	0.0%	0.2%	136	0.1%	
Community of Christ	—	—	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Lutheran	351	0.2%	0.2%	409	0.2%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Armenian Apostolic	42	0.0%	0.1%	49	0.0%	
Coptic Orthodox Church	113	0.1%	0.4%	97	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	34	0.0%	0.1%	22	0.0%	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	8	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Oriental Orthodox, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Assyrian Church of the East	20	0.0%	0.2%	12	0.0%	
Ancient Church of the East	8	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Assyrian Apostolic, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	13	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Albanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	73	0.0%	0.2%	77	0.0%	
Greek Orthodox	3,174	1.5%	2.3%	3,017	1.4%	
Macedonian Orthodox	178	0.1%	0.3%	157	0.1%	
Romanian Orthodox	34	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Russian Orthodox	405	0.2%	0.2%	408	0.2%	
Serbian Orthodox	423	0.2%	0.4%	328	0.2%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	37	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	16	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian	1,864	0.9%	1.5%	2,283	1.1%	
Reformed	24	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Salvation Army	67	0.0%	0.1%	62	0.0%	
Seventh-day Adventist	181	0.1%	0.2%	149	0.1%	
Uniting Church	1,667	0.8%	1.5%	2,018	1.0%	
Pentecostal, nfd	998	0.5%	0.8%	1,478	0.7%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	52	0.0%	0.1%	67	0.0%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	11	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Revival Centres	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Rhema Family Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	–
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Revival Fellowship	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Victory Worship Centre	–	–	–	–	–	–
Worship Centre Network	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Pentecostal, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Protestant, nfd	442	0.2%	0.2%	376	0.2%	–
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Born Again Christian	32	0.0%	0.1%	33	0.0%	–
Christian and Missionary Alliance	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Congregational	9	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	–
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	19	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	–
Independent Evangelical Churches	9	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Wesleyan Methodist Church	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Christian Community Churches of Australia	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Methodist, so described	140	0.1%	0.1%	169	0.1%	–
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Protestant, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Other Christian, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Apostolic Church of Queensland	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Christadelphians	13	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	—
Christian Science	15	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	—
Gnostic Christians	14	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	—
Liberal Catholic Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
New Apostolic Church	14	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	—
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	—
Ratana (Maori)	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	—
Religious Science	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	24	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	—
Temple Society	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Christian, nec	27	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	—
Hinduism	3,738	1.8%	4.8%	2,880	1.4%	—
Islam	3,483	1.6%	6.3%	2,861	1.4%	—
Judaism	2,265	1.1%	0.7%	1,991	1.0%	—
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	48	0.0%	0.0%	65	0.0%	—
Baha'i	114	0.1%	0.1%	81	0.0%	—
Ancestor Veneration	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Confucianism	16	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	—
Taoism	119	0.1%	0.0%	107	0.1%	—
Chinese Religions, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Druse	14	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Shinto	40	0.0%	0.0%	35	0.0%	
Sukyo Mahikari	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Tenrikyo	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Japanese Religions, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Nature Religions, nfd	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Animism	14	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Druidism	9	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Paganism	88	0.0%	0.0%	66	0.0%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	66	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	28	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Sikhism	250	0.1%	0.7%	190	0.1%	
Spiritualism	91	0.0%	0.0%	67	0.0%	
Mandaeen	10	0.0%	0.2%	—	—	
Yezidi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Caodaism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Church of Scientology	31	0.0%	0.0%	64	0.0%	
Eckankar	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Rastafari	5	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Satanism	55	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Theosophy	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Jainism	77	0.0%	0.0%	39	0.0%	
Zoroastrianism	34	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Religious Groups, nec	32	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
No Religion, so described	108,023	51.0%	30.3%	90,016	43.2%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Agnosticism	687	0.3%	0.1%	531	0.3%	
Atheism	695	0.3%	0.1%	501	0.2%	
Humanism	43	0.0%	0.0%	89	0.0%	
Rationalism	6	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	10	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	20	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Multi Faith	46	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
New Age	9	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	401	0.2%	0.1%	230	0.1%	
Theism	78	0.0%	0.0%	68	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	10	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	75	0.0%	0.0%	69	0.0%	
Not stated	17,732	8.4%	6.2%	31,700	15.2%	
Total	211,637	100.0%	100.0%	208,340	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.