

Community report

Toowoomba (R)

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

AREA

Toowoomba (R)

COMPARISON

Regional Qld

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

2 April 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

Toowoomba (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 Toowoomba (R), accounting for 85.6% (148,153 people). This share was higher than Regional Qld (83.7%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 8,616 people, while its share fell by 1.2 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

Toowoomba (R) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	239	0.1%	0.1%	55	0.0%	0.0%	+184	+0.1
Non-verbal, so described	109	0.1%	0.0%	142	0.1%	0.1%	-33	0.0
Swiss, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Creole, nfd	16	0.0%	0.1%	8	0.0%	0.1%	+8	0.0
French Creole, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Spanish Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	62	0.0%	0.0%	53	0.0%	0.0%	+9	0.0
Celtic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	—	—	0.0%	7	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Irish	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	+3	0.0
Welsh	13	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	0.0%	+9	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Celtic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
English	148,153	85.6%	83.7%	139,537	86.8%	83.7%
German and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
German	241	0.1%	0.3%	291	0.2%	
Letzeburgish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yiddish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dutch	154	0.1%	0.1%	149	0.1%	
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Afrikaans	524	0.3%	0.3%	445	0.3%	
Danish	39	0.0%	0.0%	48	0.0%	
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Norwegian	15	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Swedish	36	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Scandinavian, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Estonian	6	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Finnish	27	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
French	194	0.1%	0.2%	199	0.1%	
Greek	72	0.0%	0.1%	61	0.0%	
Iberian Romance, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Catalan	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Portuguese	320	0.2%	0.3%	282	0.2%	
Spanish	326	0.2%	0.4%	252	0.2%	
Italian	163	0.1%	0.3%	189	0.1%	
Maltese	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Basque	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latin	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Latvian	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Lithuanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hungarian	43	0.0%	0.1%	32	0.0%	
Belorussian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	66	0.0%	0.1%	73	0.0%	
Ukrainian	23	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Bosnian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bulgarian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Croatian	42	0.0%	0.1%	38	0.0%	
Macedonian	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Serbian	39	0.0%	0.1%	28	0.0%	
Slovene	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	9	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Czech	5	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Polish	45	0.0%	0.1%	39	0.0%	
Slovak	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Czechoslovakian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Albanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Romanian	20	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Romany	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Iranic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Kurdish	1,957	1.1%	0.1%	36	0.0%	
Pashto	35	0.0%	0.0%	57	0.0%	
Balochi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dari	70	0.0%	0.0%	158	0.1%	
Persian (excluding Dari)	176	0.1%	0.1%	140	0.1%	
Hazaraghi	56	0.0%	0.0%	57	0.0%	
Middle Eastern Semitic Languages, nfd	–	–	–	5	0.0%	
Arabic	883	0.5%	0.2%	886	0.6%	
Hebrew	9	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	–	–	–	
Turkic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Turkish	24	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Azeri	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Turkmen	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Uygur	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Uzbek	9	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Armenian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Georgian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	16	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Kannada	27	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Malayalam	516	0.3%	0.2%	268	0.2%	
Tamil	177	0.1%	0.1%	126	0.1%	
Telugu	222	0.1%	0.1%	217	0.1%	
Tulu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dravidian, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bengali	157	0.1%	0.0%	141	0.1%	
Gujarati	320	0.2%	0.1%	156	0.1%	
Hindi	345	0.2%	0.2%	258	0.2%	
Konkani	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Marathi	33	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Nepali	760	0.4%	0.2%	295	0.2%	
Punjabi	702	0.4%	0.3%	310	0.2%	
Sindhi	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Sinhalese	366	0.2%	0.1%	246	0.2%	
Urdu	151	0.1%	0.1%	88	0.1%	
Assamese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhivehi	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Kashmiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oriya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian Hindustani	11	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Other Southern Asian Languages	9	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Southeast Asian Languages, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Burmese	15	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Chin Haka	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Karen	29	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	
Rohingya	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Zomi	—	—	—	—	—	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Hmong	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Khmer	20	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Vietnamese	194	0.1%	0.2%	113	0.1%	
Mon-Khmer, nec	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Lao	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Thai	158	0.1%	0.2%	108	0.1%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Bisaya	45	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Cebuano	51	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Ilokano	5	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Indonesian	65	0.0%	0.1%	50	0.0%	
Malay	42	0.0%	0.0%	43	0.0%	
Tetum	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Timorese	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Tagalog	632	0.4%	0.3%	486	0.3%	
Filipino	579	0.3%	0.3%	410	0.3%	
Balinese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bikol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iban	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Javanese	–	–	–	–	–	
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Other Southeast Asian Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Chinese, nfd	26	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Cantonese	233	0.1%	0.2%	197	0.1%	
Hakka	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Mandarin	1,195	0.7%	0.7%	932	0.6%	
Wu	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Min Nan	19	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Chinese, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese	142	0.1%	0.4%	145	0.1%	
Korean	264	0.2%	0.3%	205	0.1%	
Tibetan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mongolian	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	68	0.0%	0.0%	26	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	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Yanyuwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Marridan (Maridan)	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Burarra	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Arnhem Land and Daly River Region Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Djambarrpuyngu	–	–	–	–	–	
Cape York Peninsula Languages, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Kuku Yalanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Guugu Yimidhirr	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuuku-Ya'u	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wik Mungkan	–	–	0.0%	3	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%	3	0.0%	–
Meriam Mir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	7	0.0%	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 Qld %
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	37	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	–
Githabul	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Gumbaynggir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kayardild	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Lardil	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Muruwari	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Narungga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Paakantyi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wiradjuri	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Yorta Yorta	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gudjal	–	–	–	–	–	
Yugambeh	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Aboriginal English, so described	3	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	28	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Acholi	23	0.0%	0.0%	35	0.0%	
Akan	8	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Mauritian Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shona	81	0.0%	0.0%	77	0.0%	
Somali	3	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Swahili	352	0.2%	0.0%	244	0.2%	
Yoruba	18	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Zulu	6	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Amharic	11	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Bemba	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Dinka	466	0.3%	0.0%	471	0.3%	
Ewe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Igbo	12	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Kikuyu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krio	16	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Luganda	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Luo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	8	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Nuer	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	7	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Tigrinya	18	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Tswana	4	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Xhosa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Seychelles Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anuak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	24	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Fulfulde	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	55	0.0%	0.0%	39	0.0%	
Kirundi (Rundi)	16	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
Kpelle	–	–	–	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	–	5	0.0%	
Loma (Lorma)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Madi	7	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Mandinka	–	–	–	–	–	
Mann	–	–	–	–	–	
Moro (Nuba Moro)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Themne	–	–	–	–	–	
Lingala	–	–	0.0%	12	0.0%	
African Languages, nec	20	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Fijian	53	0.0%	0.0%	43	0.0%	
Gilbertese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (Cook Island)	25	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Maori (New Zealand)	52	0.0%	0.1%	27	0.0%	
Nauruan	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Samoan	42	0.0%	0.1%	36	0.0%	
Tongan	57	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Rotuman	11	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tuvaluan	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bislama	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Norf'k–Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Solomon Islands Pijin	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Kiwai	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Motu (HiriMotu)	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	33	0.0%	0.0%	54	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Invented Languages	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Sign Languages, nfd	21	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Auslan	164	0.1%	0.1%	83	0.1%	
Key Word Sign Australia	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	9,465	5.5%	7.4%	10,774	6.7%	
Total	173,163	100.0%	100.0%	160,754	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.