

Community report

Torres Strait Island (R)

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

AREA

Torres Strait Island (R)

COMPARISON

Regional Qld

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

1 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

SECTION

01

Torres Strait Island (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole) was the most common language used at home among residents in Torres Strait Island (R), accounting for 71% (2,922 people). This share was higher than Regional Qld (0.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd, which decreased by 544 people and 12 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

Torres Strait Island (R) – Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	3	0.1%	0.1%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Non-verbal, so described	4	0.1%	0.0%	7	0.2%	0.1%	-3	-0.1
Swiss, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Creole, nfd	89	2.2%	0.1%	83	1.8%	0.1%	+6	+0.4
French Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Spanish Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Celtic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Irish	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Welsh	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Celtic, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
English	262	6.4%	83.7%	240	5.3%	83.7%
German and Related Languages, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	—
German	—	—	0.3%	3	0.1%	—
Letzeburgish	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Yiddish	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Dutch	—	—	0.1%	5	0.1%	—
Frisian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Afrikaans	—	—	0.3%	—	—	—
Danish	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Icelandic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Norwegian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Swedish	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Scandinavian, nec	—	—	—	—	—	—
Estonian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Finnish	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
French	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Greek	5	0.1%	0.1%	—	—	—
Iberian Romance, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Catalan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Portuguese	—	—	0.3%	—	—	—
Spanish	—	—	0.4%	—	—	—
Italian	—	—	0.3%	—	—	—
Maltese	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Basque	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Latin	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Southern European Languages, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Eastern European Languages, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	—
Latvian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Lithuanian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Hungarian	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Belorussian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Russian	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Ukrainian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Bosnian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Bulgarian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Croatian	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Macedonian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Serbian	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Slovene	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Czech	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Polish	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Slovak	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Czechoslovakian, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Albanian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Romanian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Romany	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iranic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Kurdish	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Pashto	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Balochi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Dari	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Persian (excluding Dari)	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Hazaraghi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Middle Eastern Semitic Languages, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arabic	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Hebrew	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Mandaean (Mandaic)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turkic, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turkish	—	—	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 Qld %
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Kannada	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Malayalam	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Tamil	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Telugu	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Tulu	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Dravidian, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Indo-Aryan, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Bengali	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Gujarati	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Hindi	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Konkani	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Marathi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Nepali	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Punjabi	—	—	0.3%	—	—	—
Sindhi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Sinhalese	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Urdu	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
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 Qld %
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	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Mon-Khmer, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Lao	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Thai	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Bisaya	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Cebuano	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Ilokano	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Indonesian	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Malay	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Tetum	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Timorese	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Tagalog	—	—	0.3%	—	—	—
Filipino	—	—	0.3%	—	—	—
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%	—	—	—
Cantonese	—	—	0.2%	—	—	—
Hakka	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Mandarin	—	—	0.7%	—	—	—
Wu	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Min Nan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Chinese, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Japanese	—	—	0.4%	—	—	—
Korean	—	—	0.3%	—	—	—
Tibetan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Mongolian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	39	0.9%	0.0%	583	12.9%	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 Qld %
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	6	0.1%	0.0%	8	0.2%	—
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	383	9.3%	0.0%	502	11.1%	—
Meriam Mir	60	1.5%	0.0%	121	2.7%	—
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	2,922	71.0%	0.3%	2,531	56.2%	—
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	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Githabul	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Gumbaynggir	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Kayardild	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Kriol	4	0.1%	0.0%	4	0.1%	—
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	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yugambeh	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Aboriginal English, so described	21	0.5%	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	—	—	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 Qld %
Themne	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lingala	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
African Languages, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Fijian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Gilbertese	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Maori (Cook Island)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Maori (New Zealand)	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Nauruan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Niue	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Samoan	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Tongan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Rotuman	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Tokelauan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Tuvaluan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bislama	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Norfolk-Pitcairn	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Solomon Islands Pijin	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	4	0.1%	0.0%	20	0.4%	—
Kiwai	5	0.1%	0.0%	18	0.4%	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Motu (HiriMotu)	—	—	0.0%	8	0.2%	—
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Invented Languages	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Sign Languages, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Auslan	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—
Key Word Sign Australia	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Sign Languages, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Not stated	310	7.5%	7.4%	372	8.3%	—
Total	4,117	100.0%	100.0%	4,505	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.