

Community report

Upper Hunter Shire (A)

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

AREA

Upper Hunter Shire (A)

COMPARISON

Regional NSW

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

1 April 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

Upper Hunter Shire (A) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, Anglican Church of Australia was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Upper Hunter Shire (A), accounting for 30% (4,255 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (17%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 1,738 people and 12.1 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

Upper Hunter Shire (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	32	0.2%	0.4%	21	0.1%	0.4%	+11	+0.1
Buddhism	64	0.5%	0.8%	71	0.5%	0.8%	-7	0.0
Christianity, nfd	164	1.2%	2.2%	160	1.1%	2.2%	+4	+0.1
Anglican Church of Australia	4,255	30.0%	17.0%	4,946	35.0%	21.9%	-691	-5.0
Anglican Catholic Church	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Anglican, nec	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Baptist	113	0.8%	1.2%	110	0.8%	1.3%	+3	0.0
Brethren	-	-	0.1%	-	-	0.1%	-	-
Catholic, nfd	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Western Catholic	3,246	22.8%	21.0%	3,646	25.8%	23.8%	-400	-3.0
Maronite Catholic	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Melkite Catholic	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Ukrainian Catholic	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	–	–	0.0%	8	0.1%	
Catholic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	–	–	0.1%	4	0.0%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	21	0.1%	0.4%	51	0.4%	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	22	0.2%	0.1%	8	0.1%	
Community of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lutheran	11	0.1%	0.3%	18	0.1%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian Apostolic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Coptic Orthodox Church	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Syrian Orthodox Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oriental Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Church of the East	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ancient Church of the East	–	–	–	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Greek Orthodox	10	0.1%	0.4%	7	0.0%	
Macedonian Orthodox	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Romanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Serbian Orthodox	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Ukrainian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian	309	2.2%	2.6%	394	2.8%	
Reformed	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Free Reformed	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Salvation Army	20	0.1%	0.2%	36	0.3%	
Seventh-day Adventist	32	0.2%	0.4%	20	0.1%	
Uniting Church	521	3.7%	3.3%	625	4.4%	
Pentecostal, nfd	23	0.2%	0.7%	11	0.1%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Revival Centres	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Church in Australia	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nfd	16	0.1%	0.1%	4	0.0%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Born Again Christian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congregational	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Independent Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Methodist, so described	14	0.1%	0.1%	11	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christadelphians	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Gnostic Christians	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ratana (Maori)	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hinduism	61	0.4%	0.7%	38	0.3%	
Islam	42	0.3%	0.7%	44	0.3%	
Judaism	6	0.0%	0.1%	9	0.1%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Baha'i	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shinto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Animism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Druidism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Paganism	11	0.1%	0.1%	5	0.0%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	11	0.1%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Sikhism	3	0.0%	0.3%	6	0.0%	
Spiritualism	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Mandaeen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yezidi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of Scientology	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rastafari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Satanism	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Theosophy	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jainism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zoroastrianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Groups, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
No Religion, so described	4,092	28.8%	37.4%	2,354	16.7%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	10	0.1%	0.1%	7	0.0%	
Atheism	16	0.1%	0.1%	20	0.1%	
Humanism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Rationalism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Multi Faith	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
New Age	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	14	0.1%	0.1%	4	0.0%	
Theism	7	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	1,038	7.3%	7.7%	1,447	10.2%	
Total	14,206	100.0%	100.0%	14,130	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.