

Community report

Western Downs (R)

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

AREA

Western Downs (R)

COMPARISON

Regional Qld

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

30 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

Western Downs (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Western Downs (R), accounting for 30.3% (10,264 people). This share was lower than Regional Qld (40.1%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 4,533 people and 13.2 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

Western Downs (R) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	95	0.3%	0.4%	83	0.2%	0.4%	+12	+0.1
Buddhism	103	0.3%	1.0%	131	0.4%	1.1%	-28	-0.1
Christianity, nfd	1,153	3.4%	3.0%	1,031	3.1%	3.0%	+122	+0.3
Anglican Church of Australia	5,438	16.1%	12.8%	6,943	20.7%	17.1%	-1,505	-4.6
Anglican Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Anglican, nec	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Baptist	639	1.9%	1.4%	686	2.1%	1.6%	-47	-0.2
Brethren	3	0.0%	0.1%	11	0.0%	0.1%	-8	0.0
Catholic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Western Catholic	6,561	19.4%	18.7%	7,534	22.5%	22.0%	-973	-3.1
Maronite Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Melkite Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Ukrainian Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Catholic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ, nfd	20	0.1%	0.0%	17	0.1%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	156	0.5%	0.1%	181	0.5%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	162	0.5%	0.5%	203	0.6%	
Latter-day Saints, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	40	0.1%	0.3%	53	0.2%	
Community of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lutheran	925	2.7%	1.1%	1,119	3.3%	
Armenian Apostolic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Coptic Orthodox Church	–	–	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	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %
Greek Orthodox	21	0.1%	0.3%	20	0.1%	0.3%
Macedonian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Romanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Russian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%
Serbian Orthodox	5	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	0.0%
Ukrainian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
Presbyterian	1,767	5.2%	2.3%	2,289	6.8%	2.3%
Reformed	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%
Free Reformed	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Salvation Army	72	0.2%	0.2%	87	0.3%	0.2%
Seventh-day Adventist	102	0.3%	0.3%	93	0.3%	0.3%
Uniting Church	1,488	4.4%	4.0%	1,923	5.7%	4.0%
Pentecostal, nfd	463	1.4%	1.1%	474	1.4%	1.1%
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	50	0.1%	0.1%	100	0.3%	0.1%
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	50	0.1%	0.1%	22	0.1%	0.1%
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Revival Centres	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rhema Family Church	–	–	–	–	–	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Church in Australia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal City Life Church	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Victory Life Centre	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Worship Centre Network	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal, nec	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Other Protestant, nfd	24	0.1%	0.1%	31	0.1%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Born Again Christian	16	0.0%	0.1%	11	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congregational	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Independent Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Methodist, so described	40	0.1%	0.1%	35	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christadelphians	3	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Christian Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gnostic Christians	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	6	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ratana (Maori)	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Temple Society	–	–	–	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	13	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Hinduism	103	0.3%	0.7%	123	0.4%	
Islam	80	0.2%	0.5%	64	0.2%	
Judaism	6	0.0%	0.1%	10	0.0%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Baha'i	6	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ancestor Veneration	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Japanese Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Shinto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Tenrikyo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Japanese Religions, nec	–	–	–	–	–	–
Nature Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Animism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Druidism	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Paganism	29	0.1%	0.1%	26	0.1%	–
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	17	0.1%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Nature Religions, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Sikhism	37	0.1%	0.3%	64	0.2%	–
Spiritualism	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Mandaean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yezidi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	–
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Church of Scientology	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Rastafari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Satanism	10	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Theosophy	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Jainism	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Zoroastrianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Religious Groups, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
No Religion, so described	10,264	30.3%	40.1%	5,731	17.1%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	11	0.0%	0.1%	10	0.0%	
Atheism	29	0.1%	0.1%	45	0.1%	
Humanism	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Rationalism	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Multi Faith	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
New Age	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	39	0.1%	0.1%	15	0.0%	
Theism	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	3,720	11.0%	8.8%	4,133	12.4%	
Total	33,831	100.0%	100.0%	33,463	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.