

# Community report

## Whittlesea (C)

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

AREA

**Whittlesea (C)**

COMPARISON

**Greater Melbourne**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**30 March 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

Whittlesea (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Whittlesea (C), accounting for 50.2% (115,115 people). This share was lower than Greater Melbourne (61.1%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 14,120 people, while its share fell by 0.9 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

Whittlesea (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	191	0.1%	0.1%	139	0.1%	0.1%	+52	0.0
Non-verbal, so described	367	0.2%	0.1%	482	0.2%	0.2%	-115	0.0
Swiss, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	11	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0
Creole, nfd	106	0.0%	0.0%	36	0.0%	0.0%	+70	0.0
French Creole, nfd	64	0.0%	0.0%	55	0.0%	0.0%	+9	0.0
Spanish Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Portuguese Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	0.0%	-12	0.0
Celtic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	+1	0.0
Irish	10	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	0.0%	+1	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Welsh	8	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Celtic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
English	115,115	50.2%	61.1%	100,995	51.1%	
German	221	0.1%	0.3%	234	0.1%	
Letzeburgish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yiddish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dutch	83	0.0%	0.1%	73	0.0%	
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Afrikaans	169	0.1%	0.1%	164	0.1%	
Scandinavian, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Danish	13	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Norwegian	14	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Swedish	25	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Estonian	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Finnish	14	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
French	365	0.2%	0.3%	299	0.2%	
Greek	7,216	3.1%	2.1%	7,298	3.7%	
Iberian Romance, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Catalan	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Portuguese	461	0.2%	0.2%	379	0.2%	
Spanish	1,135	0.5%	0.8%	908	0.5%	
Iberian Romance, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Italian	8,320	3.6%	1.7%	9,820	5.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Maltese	718	0.3%	0.3%	905	0.5%	
Basque	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latvian	8	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Lithuanian	7	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Hungarian	67	0.0%	0.1%	92	0.0%	
East Slavic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Belorussian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	199	0.1%	0.4%	192	0.1%	
Ukrainian	46	0.0%	0.0%	55	0.0%	
South Slavic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bosnian	202	0.1%	0.1%	195	0.1%	
Bulgarian	48	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
Croatian	790	0.3%	0.3%	837	0.4%	
Macedonian	9,913	4.3%	0.6%	10,119	5.1%	
Serbian	848	0.4%	0.3%	783	0.4%	
Slovene	38	0.0%	0.0%	60	0.0%	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	55	0.0%	0.0%	83	0.0%	
Czech	20	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Polish	238	0.1%	0.3%	248	0.1%	
Slovak	15	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Czechoslovakian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Albanian	783	0.3%	0.1%	650	0.3%	–
Aromunian (Macedo-Romanian)	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	–
Romanian	54	0.0%	0.1%	61	0.0%	–
Romany	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	–
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Iranic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	14	0.0%	–
Kurdish	666	0.3%	0.0%	513	0.3%	–
Pashto	356	0.2%	0.1%	255	0.1%	–
Balochi	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Dari	126	0.1%	0.2%	129	0.1%	–
Persian (excluding Dari)	2,112	0.9%	0.4%	1,361	0.7%	–
Hazaraghi	83	0.0%	0.4%	31	0.0%	–
Iranic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Arabic	11,908	5.2%	1.8%	9,907	5.0%	–
Hebrew	–	–	0.1%	6	0.0%	–
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	473	0.2%	0.2%	345	0.2%	–
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	692	0.3%	0.2%	543	0.3%	–
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Middle Eastern Semitic Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Turkish	1,817	0.8%	0.7%	1,754	0.9%	–
Azeri	19	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	–
Tatar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Turkmen	6	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Uygur	16	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Uzbek	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Turkic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian	37	0.0%	0.0%	35	0.0%	
Georgian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	103	0.0%	0.0%	184	0.1%	
Kannada	150	0.1%	0.1%	84	0.0%	
Malayalam	2,779	1.2%	0.4%	1,565	0.8%	
Tamil	2,536	1.1%	0.7%	2,158	1.1%	
Telugu	974	0.4%	0.5%	349	0.2%	
Tulu	9	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Dravidian, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	12	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Bengali	645	0.3%	0.3%	391	0.2%	
Gujarati	1,423	0.6%	0.5%	791	0.4%	
Hindi	4,684	2.0%	1.3%	3,497	1.8%	
Konkani	77	0.0%	0.0%	36	0.0%	
Marathi	283	0.1%	0.1%	138	0.1%	
Nepali	2,198	1.0%	0.4%	544	0.3%	
Punjabi	9,898	4.3%	2.0%	6,373	3.2%	
Sindhi	73	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
Sinhalese	2,617	1.1%	1.0%	1,964	1.0%	
Urdu	2,223	1.0%	0.7%	1,166	0.6%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Assamese	7	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Dhivehi	9	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Kashmiri	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Oriya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian Hindustani	103	0.0%	0.0%	49	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	27	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Other Southern Asian Languages	23	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Southeast Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese	45	0.0%	0.1%	27	0.0%	
Chin Haka	15	0.0%	0.1%	9	0.0%	
Karen	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Rohingya	13	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Zomi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	4	0.0%	0.1%	10	0.0%	
Hmong	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	448	0.2%	0.3%	440	0.2%	
Vietnamese	5,274	2.3%	2.3%	4,687	2.4%	
Mon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mon-Khmer, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lao	47	0.0%	0.0%	37	0.0%	
Thai	418	0.2%	0.3%	309	0.2%	
Tai, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	26	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Bisaya	75	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	—
Cebuano	94	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	—
Ilokano	7	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	—
Indonesian	519	0.2%	0.3%	403	0.2%	—
Malay	316	0.1%	0.1%	219	0.1%	—
Tetum	10	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	—
Timorese	18	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	—
Tagalog	1,380	0.6%	0.5%	1,081	0.5%	—
Filipino	1,205	0.5%	0.4%	898	0.5%	—
Acehnese	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Balinese	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Bikol	9	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Iban	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	12	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	—
Javanese	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Pampangan	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Southeast Asian Languages	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Chinese, nfd	78	0.0%	0.1%	159	0.1%	—
Cantonese	1,751	0.8%	1.6%	1,589	0.8%	—
Hakka	429	0.2%	0.1%	426	0.2%	—
Mandarin	5,097	2.2%	4.3%	4,572	2.3%	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Wu	34	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Min Nan	124	0.1%	0.1%	110	0.1%	
Chinese, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese	198	0.1%	0.2%	172	0.1%	
Korean	356	0.2%	0.3%	239	0.1%	
Tibetan	29	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Mongolian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	22	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Maung	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tiwi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jawoyn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Murrinh Patha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Na-kara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Garrwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mayali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burarra	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Djambarrpuyngu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Guugu Yimidhirr	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Cape York Peninsula Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Meriam Mir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Warlpiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Anmatyerr, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Arrernte, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Arrernte, nec	–	–	–	–	–	–
Manyjilyjarra	–	–	–	–	–	–
Pitjantjatjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Bardi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Bunuba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yawuru	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Adnymathanha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Bandjalang	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Banyjima	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Batjala	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Bidjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Dhanggatti	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Gamilaraay	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kanai	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Karajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Narungga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wiradjuri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yorta Yorta	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Djabwurrung	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wergaia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yugambah	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Aboriginal English, so described	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
African Languages, nfd	16	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	–
Acholi	3	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Akan	103	0.0%	0.0%	69	0.0%	–
Mauritian Creole	76	0.0%	0.0%	120	0.1%	–
Oromo	32	0.0%	0.1%	4	0.0%	–
Shona	376	0.2%	0.1%	303	0.2%	–
Somali	753	0.3%	0.2%	520	0.3%	–
Swahili	182	0.1%	0.1%	124	0.1%	–
Yoruba	80	0.0%	0.0%	49	0.0%	–
Zulu	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Amharic	16	0.0%	0.1%	7	0.0%	–
Bemba	15	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Dinka	51	0.0%	0.1%	50	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Ewe	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Ga	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Harari	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Hausa	7	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Igbo	109	0.0%	0.0%	52	0.0%	
Kikuyu	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Krio	23	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Luganda	16	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Luo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	43	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Nuer	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Shilluk	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tigre	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tigrinya	16	0.0%	0.1%	12	0.0%	
Tswana	11	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Xhosa	6	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Seychelles Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anuak	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bassa	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Dan (Gio-Dan)	13	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Fulfulde	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	10	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Kirundi (Rundi)	3	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Kpelle	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krahn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Loma (Lorma)	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Madi	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Mandinka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mann	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Moro (Nuba Moro)	7	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Themne	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lingala	6	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
African Languages, nec	42	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian	38	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Gilbertese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (Cook Island)	58	0.0%	0.0%	43	0.0%	
Maori (New Zealand)	73	0.0%	0.0%	71	0.0%	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Niue	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Samoan	857	0.4%	0.3%	824	0.4%	
Tongan	79	0.0%	0.1%	84	0.0%	
Rotuman	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tuvaluan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Yapese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
Bislama	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Norfolk-Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Solomon Islands Pijin	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Invented Languages	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Sign Languages, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	–
Auslan	113	0.0%	0.1%	91	0.0%	–
Key Word Sign Australia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Not stated	10,833	4.7%	4.8%	9,523	4.8%	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>229,361</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>197,467</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.