

# Community report

## Wollongong (C)

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

AREA

**Wollongong (C)**

COMPARISON

**Regional NSW**

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

Wollongong (C) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Wollongong (C), accounting for 79.8% (171,184 people). This share was lower than Regional NSW (86.8%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 11,898 people and 1.6 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

Wollongong (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	124	0.1%	0.1%	90	0.0%	0.0%	+34	+0.1
Non-verbal, so described	138	0.1%	0.1%	224	0.1%	0.1%	-86	0.0
Swiss, so described	—	—	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	10	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	0.0%	+1	0.0
Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
French Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Spanish Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	+5	0.0
Celtic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	8	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	+2	0.0
Irish	14	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	+8	0.0
Welsh	11	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	0.0%	-5	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Celtic, nec	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
English	171,184	79.8%	86.8%	159,286	78.2%	8
German and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
German	542	0.3%	0.2%	716	0.4%	
Yiddish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dutch	269	0.1%	0.1%	331	0.2%	
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Afrikaans	161	0.1%	0.1%	126	0.1%	
Danish	26	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Norwegian	28	0.0%	0.0%	51	0.0%	
Swedish	92	0.0%	0.0%	75	0.0%	
Scandinavian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Estonian	10	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Finnish	86	0.0%	0.0%	80	0.0%	
Finnish and Related Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
French	362	0.2%	0.1%	345	0.2%	
Greek	1,541	0.7%	0.2%	1,711	0.8%	
Catalan	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Portuguese	1,003	0.5%	0.1%	994	0.5%	
Spanish	1,674	0.8%	0.3%	1,585	0.8%	
Italian	2,898	1.4%	0.4%	3,677	1.8%	
Maltese	268	0.1%	0.0%	304	0.1%	
Basque	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Latin	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latvian	29	0.0%	0.0%	47	0.0%	
Lithuanian	10	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Hungarian	93	0.0%	0.0%	125	0.1%	
Belorussian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	214	0.1%	0.1%	180	0.1%	
Ukrainian	43	0.0%	0.0%	70	0.0%	
Bosnian	86	0.0%	0.0%	82	0.0%	
Bulgarian	12	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Croatian	670	0.3%	0.1%	745	0.4%	
Macedonian	4,535	2.1%	0.3%	4,764	2.3%	
Serbian	1,533	0.7%	0.1%	1,422	0.7%	
Slovene	65	0.0%	0.0%	66	0.0%	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	90	0.0%	0.0%	133	0.1%	
Czech	62	0.0%	0.0%	55	0.0%	
Polish	335	0.2%	0.1%	390	0.2%	
Slovak	57	0.0%	0.0%	47	0.0%	
Czechoslovakian, so described	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Albanian	198	0.1%	0.0%	129	0.1%	
Romanian	36	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Romany	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iranic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kurdish	57	0.0%	0.1%	37	0.0%	
Pashto	35	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Dari	11	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Persian (excluding Dari)	307	0.1%	0.0%	421	0.2%	
Hazaraghi	40	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Arabic	2,968	1.4%	0.3%	2,874	1.4%	
Hebrew	24	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	115	0.1%	0.0%	88	0.0%	
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	17	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	–	–	–	
Turkish	948	0.4%	0.1%	915	0.4%	
Azeri	8	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Turkmen	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Uygur	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Uzbek	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian	23	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Georgian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
Kannada	65	0.0%	0.0%	39	0.0%	
Malayalam	784	0.4%	0.2%	528	0.3%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Tamil	215	0.1%	0.1%	185	0.1%	
Telugu	173	0.1%	0.0%	86	0.0%	
Tulu	9	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Dravidian, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Bengali	283	0.1%	0.1%	160	0.1%	
Gujarati	108	0.1%	0.1%	95	0.0%	
Hindi	529	0.2%	0.1%	412	0.2%	
Konkani	25	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Marathi	94	0.0%	0.0%	53	0.0%	
Nepali	333	0.2%	0.2%	83	0.0%	
Punjabi	296	0.1%	0.3%	101	0.0%	
Sindhi	13	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Sinhalese	224	0.1%	0.1%	191	0.1%	
Urdu	555	0.3%	0.1%	264	0.1%	
Assamese	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Dhivehi	8	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Kashmiri	—	—	—	—	—	
Oriya	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Fijian Hindustani	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	—	—	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Other Southern Asian Languages	7	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	24	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Burmese	84	0.0%	0.0%	100	0.0%	
Chin Haka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Karen	254	0.1%	0.0%	159	0.1%	
Rohingya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zomi	39	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Hmong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	37	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Vietnamese	1,115	0.5%	0.2%	1,131	0.6%	
Mon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mon-Khmer, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Lao	35	0.0%	0.0%	39	0.0%	
Thai	588	0.3%	0.2%	490	0.2%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	15	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bisaya	33	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	
Cebuano	23	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Ilokano	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Indonesian	236	0.1%	0.1%	293	0.1%	
Malay	32	0.0%	0.0%	108	0.1%	
Tetum	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	–	–	–	–	–	
Tagalog	537	0.3%	0.2%	460	0.2%	
Filipino	321	0.1%	0.1%	234	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Acehnese	–	–	–	5	0.0%	
Balinese	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Bikol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iban	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Javanese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southeast Asian Languages	–	–	–	–	–	
Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Chinese, nfd	65	0.0%	0.0%	334	0.2%	
Cantonese	540	0.3%	0.2%	648	0.3%	
Hakka	7	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Mandarin	2,313	1.1%	0.4%	3,050	1.5%	
Wu	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Min Nan	26	0.0%	0.0%	44	0.0%	
Japanese	262	0.1%	0.1%	228	0.1%	
Korean	305	0.1%	0.1%	320	0.2%	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Tibetan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mongolian	12	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	12	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Anindilyakwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tiwi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gudanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Murrinh Patha	–	–	–	–	–	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuku Yalanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuuku–Ya'u	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jaru	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Warlpiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warumungu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anmatyerr, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrernte, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luritja	–	–	–	–	–	
Pitjantjatjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wangkatha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yankunytjatjara	–	–	–	–	–	
Bardi	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bandjalang	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Dhanggatti	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Diyari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gamilaraay	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Githabul	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gumbaynggir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kanai	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Muruwari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Paakantyi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wiradjuri	12	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Yindjibarndi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yorta Yorta	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dharawal	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Aboriginal English, so described	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	14	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nfd	18	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Acholi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	9	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Mauritian Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oromo	16	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Shona	52	0.0%	0.0%	40	0.0%	
Somali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swahili	168	0.1%	0.0%	135	0.1%	
Yoruba	28	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Zulu	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Amharic	36	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Bemba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dinka	13	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Ewe	24	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Ga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Harari	–	–	–	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Igbo	7	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Kikuyu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krio	7	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Luganda	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Luo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	18	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Nuer	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tigrinya	35	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Tswana	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Xhosa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Seychelles Creole	–	–	–	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Anuak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Bassa	–	–	–	6	0.0%	
Dan (Gio-Dan)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fulfulde	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	47	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Kirundi (Rundi)	56	0.0%	0.0%	39	0.0%	
Krahn	–	–	–	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Madi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandinka	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Mann	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Moro (Nuba Moro)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Themne	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lingala	–	–	–	–	–	
African Languages, nec	17	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Fijian	75	0.0%	0.0%	57	0.0%	
Gilbertese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (Cook Island)	67	0.0%	0.0%	89	0.0%	
Maori (New Zealand)	81	0.0%	0.0%	85	0.0%	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Samoan	90	0.0%	0.0%	63	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Tongan	166	0.1%	0.0%	163	0.1%	
Rotuman	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tuvaluan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bislama	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Norf'k–Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Solomon Islands Pijin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	–	–	0.0%	32	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Invented Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	16	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Auslan	111	0.1%	0.1%	72	0.0%	
Key Word Sign Australia	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	9,520	4.4%	6.6%	10,047	4.9%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>214,524</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>203,639</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.