



PARISH SOCIAL PROFILE

Based on the 2021 Australian Census

Essendon Parish
Archdiocese of Melbourne

Census ID: 122077



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AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research

December 2023

Dear readers,

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is pleased to make available to you this profile of the Catholic population of your parish.

I hope that you will find it to be a valuable tool for your parish's pastoral planning by helping you understand the local Catholic community and assess its needs. Parish pastoral councils, in particular, will find it a useful resource.

The data in this profile have been sourced from the Australian Census, which is carried out every five years by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Most of the data comes from the 2021 Census, but some comparisons are provided with 2016 and earlier years.

It is important to remember that most of the data in this profile applies to all those people living within the boundaries of your parish who identified themselves as Catholic in the Census. Census data inform us about a population's demographic characteristics, but not about their religious practice.

This social profile, produced for every Catholic parish in Australia, is an outcome of the National Catholic Census Project established by the Bishops Conference at the time of the 1991 Census. This project is managed by the ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research. The Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research is most grateful to the Centre's staff for the work that they do in providing demographic resources for parishes and dioceses, including this social profile.

This profile is provided to you free of charge by the Bishops Conference as part of its commitment to the support of parish life. I trust that you find it informative, useful and thought-provoking.

Yours sincerely,

(Professor) Gabrielle McMullen AM

Chair, Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research

Your Parish Social Profile

At a Glance (pages 2 and 3)

Provides a brief glance at some key demographic indicators for your parish.

Parish Overview (pages 4-7)

Provides a clear overview of the Catholic community of your parish and how it is changing – a useful tool for pastoral planning.

Parish Details (pages 9-25)

Provides much more detail about the Catholics of your parish, allowing for deeper analysis of the nature of the Catholic community as you plan in particular areas of ministry.

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Your Parish Community

Pastoral planning is the process of a Catholic community organising itself to carry out the mission of the Church in its own locality. It is a process built upon a parish's knowledge in three areas:

- Knowing its vision—its aspiration for itself.
- Knowing what sort of people make up the Catholic community and the general community.
- Knowing the resources (strengths, gifts and circumstances) available to the parish to realise the vision.

This Parish Social Profile has been developed as a resource for pastoral planning, and it focuses on the second two of these three areas of knowledge.

The Church strongly encourages pastoral planning. As Pope John Paul II said:

"I earnestly exhort the Pastors of the particular Churches, with the help of all sectors of God's People, confidently to plan the stages of the journey ahead, harmonising the choices of each diocesan community with those of neighbouring Churches and of the universal Church ... It is not a matter of inventing a 'new program'. The program already exists: it is the plan found in the Gospel and in the living Tradition." Novo Millennio Ineunte #29

Pope Francis reminds that all renewal must be grounded in:

"... a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation." Evangelii Gaudium #27

By giving a clear picture of the parish's demographic reality, this profile helps the parish leaders name its strengths and shortcomings and better understand how it might use the resources it has to pursue the mission of the Church.

A SNAPSHOT OF YOUR PARISH (2021)

Total Population: 15,065

Catholic Population: 5,503

Catholics make up 36.5 per cent of the total population

Median age of Catholics is 44 years

Total Catholic families: 1,876

680 Catholics live alone

1,129 Catholics were born overseas

103 Catholics do not speak English well

330 Catholics need assistance with core activities

1,867 Catholics have changed address since 2016



What has changed in your parish since 2016?

This chart will help you identify at a glance changes in some of the key indicators for Catholics in the parish between 2016 and 2021, and may alert you to possible trends that are occurring. The 2016 and 2021 figures are drawn from the Parish Overview tables on pages 4-7. All figures in this table refer to Catholics only. The term 'Catholic' in this report refers to all persons who identified themselves as Catholics in the Census, not only those who have some form of active association with the Church.

	Parish in 2016	Parish in 2021
Catholic population	5,731	5,503
Catholics aged 0-14 (%)	18.2	15.3
Catholics aged 65+ (%)	15.4	18.3
Catholics born in NES ¹ (%)	17.1	17.0
Catholics not proficient in English (%)	2.4	1.7
Catholic families	1,810	1,876
Catholics living alone	629	680
Catholic students attending Catholic schools ² (%)	73.1	73.1
Catholics with university degree (%)	31.8	34.5
Catholic males in labour force (%)	73.1	73.2
Catholic females in labour force (%)	63.5	65.9
Catholic households owning or purchasing dwelling (%)	69.6	73.0

Notes:

1. NES¹ = Non-English-Speaking Country as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
2. The percentage of all students who are Catholic attending Catholic schools.

NOTE ON COMPARABILITY WITH 2016 FIGURES:

The boundaries of some parishes changed between 2016 and 2021. These boundary changes mean that, in these parishes, figures for 2016 and 2021 may not be comparable. Where parishes have been amalgamated between 2016 and 2021, the 2021 figures in this profile refer to the overall figures for the parishes involved. Prior to 2021, persons living on Australian Defence Force bases were excluded from the Parish Social Profiles figures and were counted within the Military Ordinariate of Australia figures. For 2021, such persons have been included in the geographical parish in which the military base is located. The overall result of inclusion in 2021 figures is negligible.



Parish Overview

Table 1: Population (for more details on Population and Religion see page 9).

The Parish Profile begins by looking at the total population living within the parish boundaries, and the percentage who identified as Catholic. The rest of the figures in this overview refer only to these Catholics, except where otherwise indicated.

How has the make-up of the parish population changed over the last five years? Of the changes identified here, which do you think have been particularly significant for the life of the parish?

Table 1: Population ¹	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group ²	Australian Group ²
Total population ³	15,065	14,607	4,962,398	25,422,788	4	3
Catholic population	5,503	5,731	1,038,276	5,075,910	2	2
Per cent Catholic	36.5	39.2	20.9	20.0	1	1
At same address since previous Census (%)	66.1	62.6	62.4	59.4	2	2
Median age ⁴ (years)	44	41	43	43	3	3
Aged 0-14 (%)	15.3	18.2	16.8	17.9	3	4
Aged 65+ (%)	18.3	15.4	20.1	19.9	4	4
Males per 100 females	88.1	84.8	89.1	89.1	3	4

Table 2: Disability (for more details on Disability and Carers see page 12).

Table 2 shows the percentage of Catholics living with a disability to the extent that they require assistance for some core activities (i.e. they need help or assistance with self-care, communication or mobility). It also shows the percentage of Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to a person living with some form of disability.

In what particular ways does the parish support people living with disabilities and their carers?

Table 2: Disability	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Need assistance with core activities (%)	6.0	5.2	7.4	6.7	4	3
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability ⁵ (% of Catholics aged 15+)	17.2	14.2	14.9	13.5	1	1

Notes:

1. All figures in this report refer to Catholics only, except for Total Population and certain other clearly indicated figures.
2. A Diocesan (or Australian) Group value of 1 signifies that the parish is in the 20% of parishes with the highest value for this item in the diocese (or in Australia); a value of 5 signifies that the parish is in the 20% of parishes with the lowest value for this item in the diocese (or in Australia).
3. The population figures for the parish, diocese and Australia do not include overseas visitors.
4. Median Age: Half the Catholic population are above this age, half are below it. A Diocesan (or Australian) Group value of 1 signifies that the parish is in the 20% of parishes with the highest median age.
5. The Census asked whether a person had provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability in the two weeks prior to the Census.



Parish Overview

Table 3: Employment (for more details on Occupation and Employment see pages 23-25).

The extent to which people are involved in the labour force, and the type of work they are doing, influences and shapes many aspects of the community's life.

How might the changes in the employment status of Catholics over the last five years have affected your parish?

Table 3: Employment	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Managers and Professionals ¹ (% of those recording an occupation)	46.6	45.4	38.5	37.1	2	2
Workers in 'blue collar' occupations ² (% of those recording an occupation)	18.2	17.0	26.6	28.1	4	5
Men, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	73.0	73.1	67.6	66.5	1	1
Women, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	65.4	63.5	59.6	59.7	1	2
Unemployed at time of Census ⁴ (%)	3.8	4.2	4.5	4.2	4	3
Youth unemployed at time of Census ⁵ (%)	9.7	7.6	10.3	8.9	3	2

Table 4: Birthplace and Language (for more details on Birthplace and Language see pages 17-19).

This table begins to explore the ethnic balance of the parish's Catholic community, which may highlight greater needs related to communication and inclusiveness.

Is there a need for the parish to review the way it addresses the needs of recently arrived Catholic migrants? How does the cultural mix of the parish compare to that of the rest of the diocese and of Australia as a whole?

Table 4: Birthplace, Indigenous Status & Language	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Born overseas in English-speaking country ⁶ (%)	3.1	3.1	4.3	5.5	4	4
Born overseas in non-English-speaking country (%)	17.0	17.1	27.6	21.4	4	3
Immigrants from non-English-speaking countries arriving in Census year or previous 3 years	59	94	23,189	97,457	3	3
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	8	8	5,285	135,686	4	5
Speak language other than English at home (%)	20.3	23.4	28.3	21.5	4	2
Not proficient in English ⁷ (%)	1.7	2.4	3.9	2.7	4	3

Notes:

1. This group includes, for example, farmers and farm managers, sales, marketing and production managers, education and health service managers, retail managers, school principals and school teachers, medical practitioners, nurses, scientists, arts and media professionals, accountants, engineers and IT professionals.
2. This group includes, for example, toolmakers, technicians, electricians, carpenters, plumbers, bakers and chefs, veterinary nurses, hairdressers, machinery operators, drivers, cleaners and labourers.
3. The percentage of Catholics aged 15+ who are in the labour force (i.e. employed or seeking employment).
4. The percentage of Catholics aged 15+ who are in the labour force and were unemployed at the time of the Census.
5. The percentage of Catholics aged 15-24 who are in the labour force and were unemployed at the time of the Census.
6. New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland, United States, Canada and South Africa.
7. Percentage of all Catholics who reported that they spoke English not well, or not at all.



Parish Overview

Table 5: Education (for more details on Education and Qualifications see pages 20-22).

Knowing the proportions of students in your parish and the type of educational institution they are attending can be important even if your parish does not have its own school, for these figures are relevant to the exercise of planning deeper connections with young people and their families. It is also important to be aware of the educational retention rates of your young Catholic adults (aged 15-24).

Has anything changed in these areas over the last five years?

Why do you think this is so?

How does your parish compare to the rest of the diocese?

Table 5: Education ¹	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Catholics aged 15+ with bachelor degree or higher qualification (%)	34.5	31.8	27.6	24.6	2	1
Catholics attending an educational institution (% of all Catholics in each age group)						
Aged 15-17	98.3	99.0	97.1	94.9	3	2
Aged 18-19	84.5	84.7	77.0	67.2	2	1
Aged 20-24	56.0	56.5	50.5	43.4	2	1
Catholic primary students attending Catholic schools (%)	78.5	78.5	62.3	55.5	1	1
Catholic primary students attending Government schools (%)	10.2	10.4	32.7	38.4	5	5
Catholic secondary students attending Catholic schools (%)	68.4	67.8	58.5	55.3	1	1
Catholic secondary students attending Government schools (%)	13.0	13.3	30.4	33.4	5	5
Primary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ² (%)	10.8	7.8	29.8	36.6	5	5
Secondary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ² (%)	12.9	10.0	35.0	41.3	5	5

Notes:

1. The data in this table relates to the students who live in your parish and not necessarily to the schools in your parish. Students may be attending schools outside your parish.
2. 'Students ... who are not Catholic' includes a small proportion whose religion was not stated in the Census. Some of these may be Catholic.



Parish Overview

Tables 6, 7 and 8: Marital Status, Families and Households (for more details see pages 13-16).

In 2021, 84 per cent of Australia's Catholics lived in a family setting, with a further ten per cent living alone. The most common type of Catholic family was a couple family with children (44 per cent of all families where at least one person was a Catholic), followed by couple families without children (38%) and one-parent families (parent Catholic, 11%).

What areas below show significant change over the last five years? What might this mean?

In what areas is the parish quite distinctive compared to the rest of the diocese? The rest of Australia?

What possible opportunities or concerns for the parish do you see here?

	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Never married (%)	36.2	36.2	33.8	32.9	2	2
Married (%)	48.2	49.6	49.1	49.3	3	4
Divorced or Separated (%)	9.3	8.3	10.8	11.7	4	5
Widowed (%)	6.3	5.9	6.3	6.1	3	3

	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Families	1,876	1,810	391,626	1,995,658	2	2
One-parent families	191	167	45,151	225,180	2	2
One-parent families (% of all families)	10.2	9.2	11.5	11.3	3	3
Couples of mixed religions ² (%)	45.8	40.3	52.6	58.1	4	5
De facto couples ³ (%)	13.9	12.7	17.1	17.7	4	4
Median annual family income ⁴ (\$)	163,833	132,495	125,195	120,943	1	1

	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Households	2,583	2,520	510,989	2,567,362	2	2
Persons living alone (aged under 35)	112	106	11,882	51,145	1	1
Persons living alone (aged 35+)	568	523	92,102	442,080	2	1
Persons living alone (total)	680	629	103,984	493,225	2	1
Persons living alone (% of all persons)	12.4	11.0	10.0	9.7	2	2
Dwellings owned or being purchased (%)	73.0	69.6	75.1	73.0	4	4
Median monthly housing loan repayment ⁶ (\$)	2,463	2,153	1,996	1,948	2	1

Notes:

1. A family is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. Family members who live elsewhere are not included in the Census definition.
2. Married or de facto couples where only one partner is Catholic as a percentage of all couples where at least one partner is Catholic.
3. De facto couples as a percentage of all married couples.
4. Fifty per cent of families have a higher income, fifty per cent a lower income. Family income is the sum of the incomes of all family members aged 15 and over.
5. A household can consist of one or more families, non-family groups or persons living alone.
6. Fifty per cent of households with a housing loan pay a higher repayment, fifty per cent a lower figure.



Parish Details

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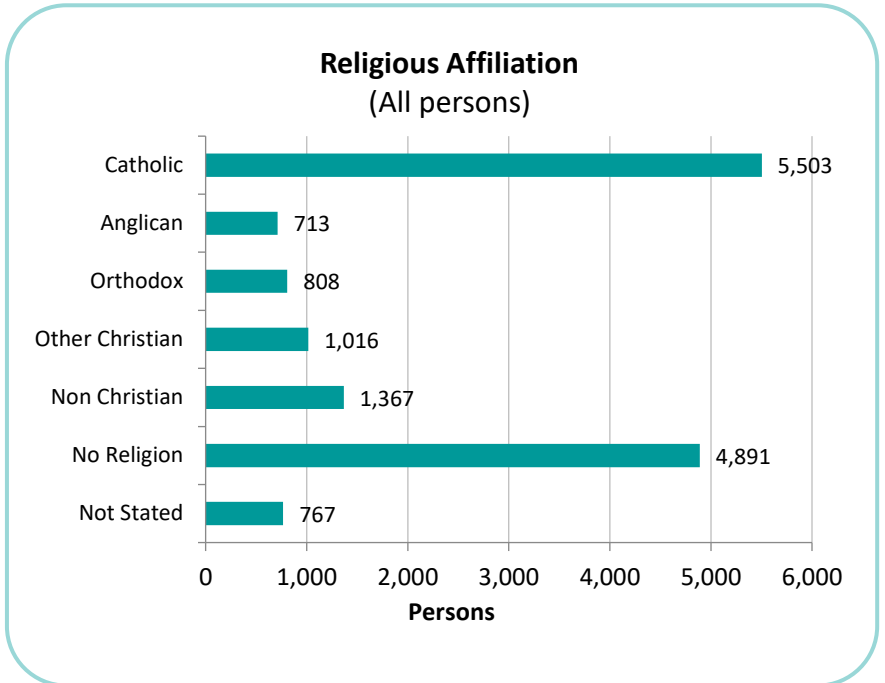
Religious Affiliation

The Census question about religion is optional, and just under seven per cent of people across Australia chose not to answer it. Note that the question is about religious identification rather than religious practice or belief. For the 2016 Census, the ABS moved the 'No Religion' response category to be the first response category in the religion question. Prior to 2016, it was the last response category.

How does the number of Catholics in the 0-9 age group compare with the number of children baptised in the parish in the period 2012-2021?

What are the largest non-Catholic religious groups? What involvement does the parish have in ecumenical and interfaith activities and programs?

What challenges to the parish are associated with the increase in the number of people who report that they have no religion?



Notes: No Religion also includes Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation

Not Stated also includes Inadequately Described.

Table 9: Religious affiliation by age

	0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+	Total
Western (Latin Rite) Catholic	486	765	668	554	684	919	655	390	311	5,432
Maronite Catholic	5	8	7	4	6	8	5	8	6	57
Melkite Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukrainian Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	3	-	11
Chaldean Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syro-Malabar Catholic	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Total Catholic	494	773	675	558	690	931	664	401	317	5,503
<i>Per cent Catholic (of total population in age group)</i>	36.9	45.2	28.6	25.1	34.1	45.3	39.2	40.5	47.3	36.5
Anglican	16	50	42	55	90	127	129	110	94	713
Orthodox	64	125	93	90	134	155	67	44	36	808
Other Christian	64	59	115	110	127	127	183	128	103	1,016
Non-Christian	170	137	315	337	232	79	57	30	10	1,367
No Religion	465	501	982	950	661	530	499	233	70	4,891
Not Stated	65	65	138	126	89	104	96	44	40	767
Total Population	1,338	1,710	2,360	2,226	2,023	2,053	1,695	990	670	15,065

Note: Since the 1996 Census, following consultation with the Eastern Catholic Bishops, Eastern Catholics have been counted separately from Western (or Latin Rite) Catholics. Catholics belonging to the Chaldean, Maronite, Melkite, Syro-Malabar or Ukrainian Catholic Churches have been requested by their Bishops NOT to tick the box marked 'Catholic' on the Census form, but rather to write, for example, 'Maronite Catholic' in the space provided. Those Eastern Catholics who were unaware of this request and who ticked the 'Catholic' box are counted as Western Catholics.



Age and Sex

**Table 10:
Age by sex**

Age (years)	Males 2021	Females 2021	Total 2021	Total 2016
0	10	16	26	44
1	24	15	39	33
2	21	20	41	43
3	21	30	51	42
4	25	23	48	65
5	22	29	51	72
6	29	23	52	60
7	29	23	52	68
8	24	30	54	66
9	38	26	64	88
10	39	31	70	86
11	20	31	51	93
12	43	40	83	84
13	21	32	53	103
14	42	49	91	97
15	41	37	78	107
16	48	38	86	90
17	45	28	73	92
18	43	52	95	82
19	48	43	91	78
20-24	186	195	381	398
25-29	142	144	286	314
30-34	128	140	268	335
35-39	134	160	294	287
40-44	137	166	303	412
45-49	186	211	397	508
50-54	221	278	499	429
55-59	202	228	430	364
60-64	166	194	360	312
65-69	135	163	298	254
70-74	111	130	241	156
75-79	68	91	159	159
80+	113	203	316	314
Total	2,562	2,919	5,481	5,735

NOTE REGARDING THE RANDOMISATION OF CENSUS DATA:

The Catholic population of the parish may be slightly different in different tables in this profile as a result of the randomisation procedure used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in carrying out its statutory obligation to protect the confidentiality of individuals. This variation in figures does not impair the value of Census data as the Census is intended to be an instrument that paints a broad picture rather than a precise measurement of a particular locality. Care should be taken in interpreting small counts in tables. Note that figures below three are not reported.

The table on this page shows the number of Catholics in this parish in 2021, by age and sex, and compares the total number of Catholics in each age group with the figure in 2016.

In 1996, the median age of Catholics in Australia was 33 years; by 2021, this had risen to 43 years.

The age profile of parishioners is important information for parishes to take into account as it plans its activities. It is also important to keep an eye on how the age profile is changing over time—is the parish becoming older, younger or staying about the same? Each of these possibilities may require different pastoral responses.

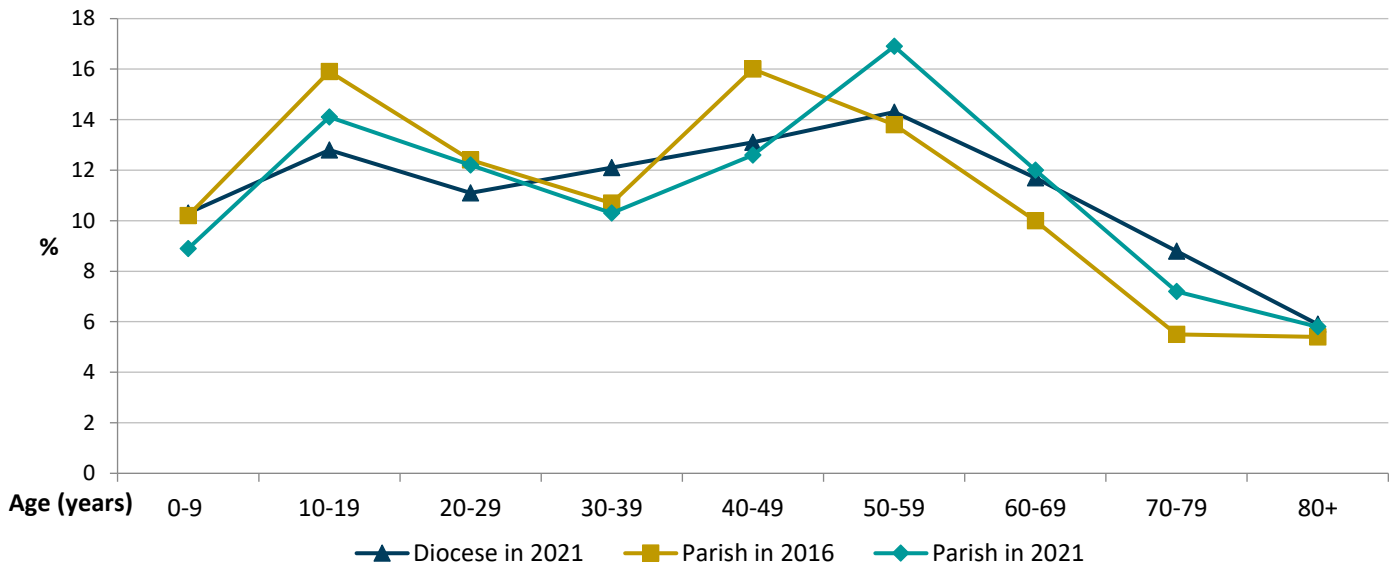
In 2021, among Australian Catholics as a whole, 53 per cent were female and 47 per cent were male. But it is not always like this. Among Catholics aged under 20, males slightly outnumbered females, whereas females accounted for 58 per cent of Catholics aged 75 or more. There are also local factors, such as the presence of particular industries or the different rates of movement to the cities by young men and women, that can affect the proportion of men and women in the Catholic population of the parish. These variations also raise pastoral issues.

Take time to study the table. Are there any surprises in it? Is there anything that calls for a new or modified response from the parish? What are the major changes since 2016? Can you get a sense from the table of what the parish age profile might look like in 2026, the year of the next Census?

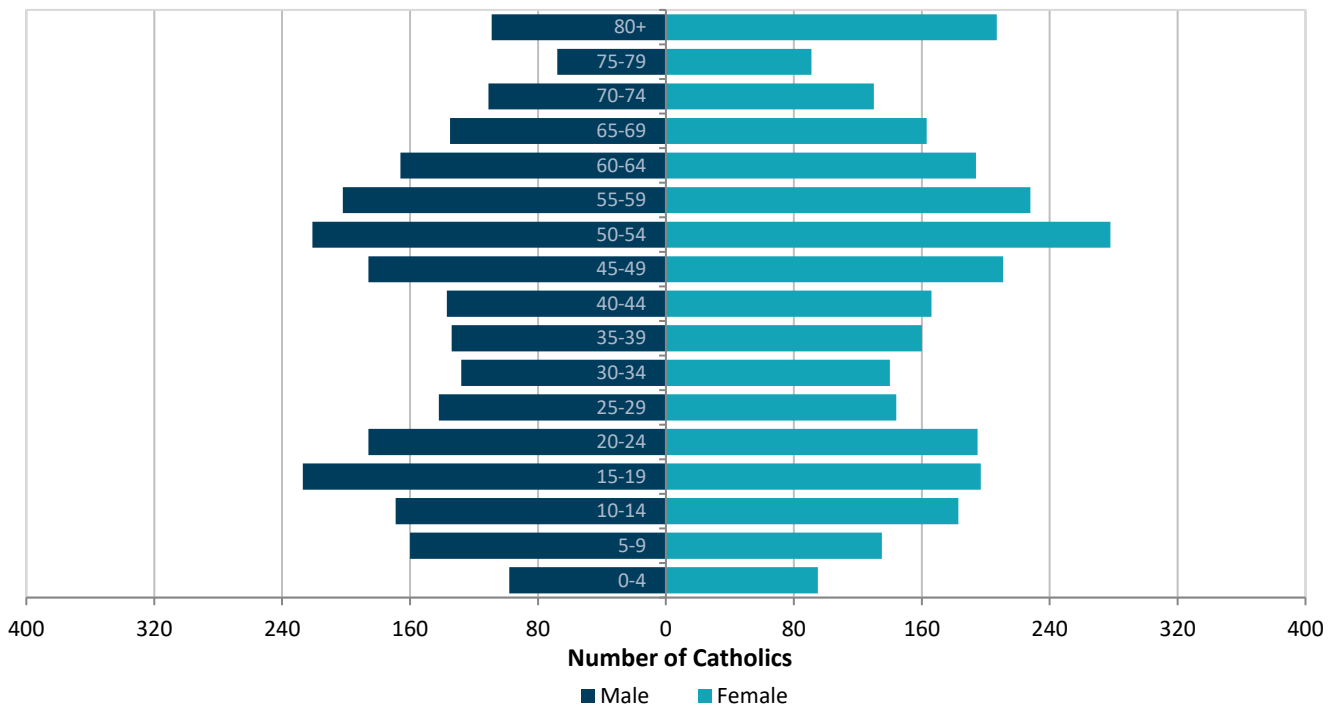


Age and Sex

Age profile of the Catholic population, 2016 & 2021



Age-sex profile of the Catholic population, 2021



Disability

The 2006 Census was the first to include the variable Core Activity Need for Assistance. The variable was developed to measure the number of people living with a profound or severe disability. The ABS defines this population as: “those people needing help or assistance in one or more of the three core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication, because of a long-term health condition (lasting six months or more), a disability (lasting six months or more), or old age”.¹ Most people who need assistance with core activities live either in a family or in a place such as a nursing home, where the care they need is provided. But many live alone. Often people with a disability report have fewer opportunities for social interaction.²

How many Catholics in your parish require assistance with core activities? How many of these live alone? How many are in the younger age groups? How many of your parishioners provide unpaid assistance to people living with a disability?

How might the parish respond pastorally to this information?

Table 11a: Need for assistance with core activities by age

	0-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over	Total
Catholics who have need for assistance with core activities							
Family members:							
Males	8	21	11	15	16	27	98
Females	5	8	10	27	34	25	109
Lone Persons:							
Males	-	-	-	5	-	5	10
Females	-	4	4	-	22	29	59
Other non-family members or persons not present in a household on Census night³							
Males	-	5	7	-	10	3	25
Females	-	-	-	5	3	30	38
Total							
Males	8	26	18	20	26	35	133
Females	5	12	14	32	59	84	206

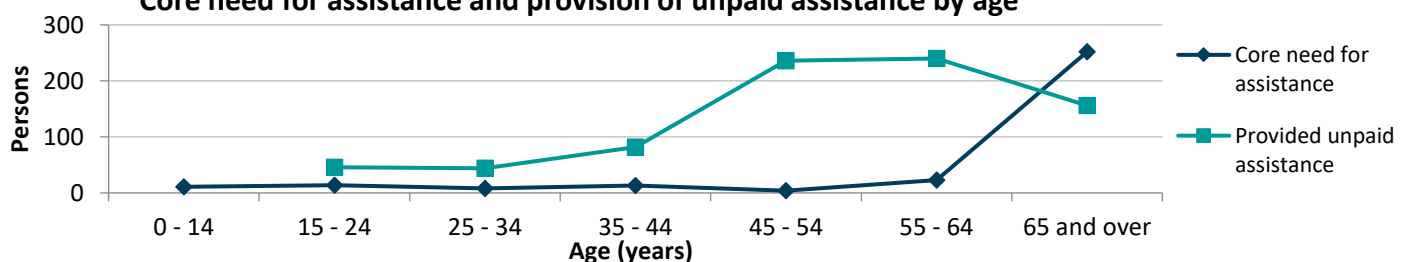
Table 11b: Provision of unpaid assistance by age

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to a person with a disability⁴							
Males	15	15	21	76	83	61	271
Females	30	30	58	162	154	92	526

Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021. *Census of Population and Housing: Census Dictionary*.
2. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2022. *People with disability in Australia /Social Inclusion*. <https://www.aihw.gov.au>
3. Among people aged 75 and over, being in hospital or a nursing home is a major reason for not being in a household on Census night.
4. The Census question asked whether the respondent had provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability in the two weeks prior to the Census. The question is not applicable to persons aged 0-14.

Core need for assistance and provision of unpaid assistance by age



Marital Status

The marital status patterns of Australian Catholics have changed noticeably over the last two decades. At the time of the 1991 Census, 31 per cent of Australian Catholics aged 15 and over had never been married, 55 per cent were married, seven per cent were separated or divorced and six per cent were widowed. By the 2021 Census, these figures were respectively 33 per cent, 49 per cent, 12 per cent and six per cent. Since 1991, there has been a decline in the percentage of married Catholics and a rise in the percentage of those never married and those separated or divorced.

How might changes in marital status patterns affect the life of the Church in this parish? Do they result in the need for new pastoral services and programs?

The graph below shows, for each marital status, the percentage of Catholic men and women aged 15 years and older who lived in the parish at the time of the 2021 Census and who had changed address in the previous five years. Across Australia in 2021, 35 per cent of Catholics aged 15 and over had changed address since the previous Census.

Table 12: Registered marital status by sex and age

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15 and over								
Males								
Never married	411	207	74	60	34	35	11	832
Married	3	63	168	303	274	170	120	1,101
Separated or Divorced	-	4	23	53	54	30	16	180
Widowed	-	-	-	-	4	13	34	51
Total	414	274	265	416	366	248	181	2,164
Females								
Never married	397	204	84	60	53	31	30	859
Married	5	82	205	336	269	179	76	1,152
Separated or Divorced	-	9	24	74	80	48	20	255
Widowed	-	-	3	11	18	41	172	245
Total	402	295	316	481	420	299	298	2,511

Change of address since 2016 by marital status (Catholics aged 15+)

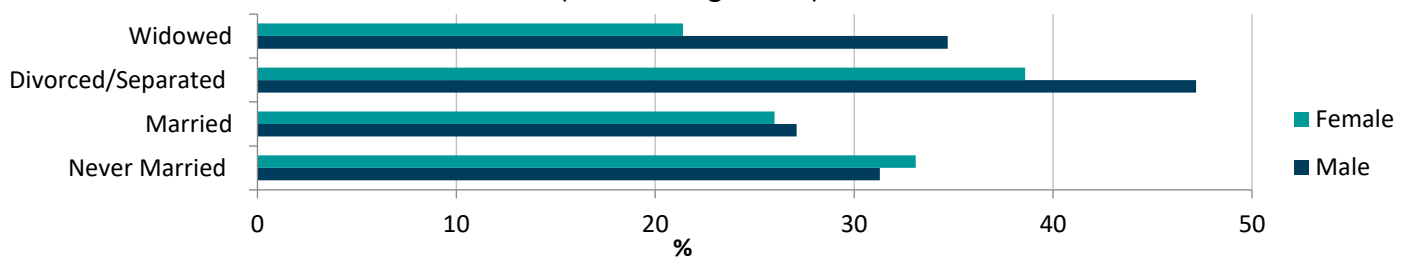


Table 13: Religious affiliation of couple by social marital status

	In a registered marriage	In a de facto marriage	Total couples	% couples in de facto marriages
Both persons Catholic	794	64	858	7.5
One person Catholic, the other non-Catholic Christian	293	34	327	10.4
One Catholic, the other not Christian, not stated or temporarily absent	295	125	420	29.8
Total	1,382	223	1,605	13.9



Families

The table on this page shows family composition by weekly family income, with the median weekly family income for each type of family shown in the last column. Couple families are divided into three categories: both partners Catholic, Catholics with non-Catholic Christian partners, and Catholics with partners identifying with other religious traditions or none. The table includes partners in registered and de facto marriages.

Couples without children include those who have never had children as well as those whose children no longer live at home.

Take time to study the table. Does it suggest that Catholic families in the parish are mostly well off, OK or struggling financially?

How do the incomes of families with children living at home compare with those with no children living at home? How well does the parish connect with one-parent families? Note that the income of one-parent families is likely to be much lower than that of two-parent families.

Are families with both parents Catholic a majority or a minority of Catholic families in your parish? What implications might this have for the way the parish connects to families?

Table 14: Family composition ¹ by weekly family income	Less than \$500	\$500 - \$799	\$800 - \$1,249	\$1,250 - \$1,999	\$2,000 - \$2,999	\$3,000 - \$3,999	\$4,000 or more	Income not fully stated	Total families	Median Weekly Family Income ² (\$)
Two-parent families with children at home:										
Both parents Catholic	3	5	13	26	80	128	262	22	539	4,013
One parent Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	-	-	8	10	40	30	99	17	204	4,055
One parent Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	-	-	4	14	40	40	117	7	222	4,081
Couple with no children living at home:										
Both partners Catholic	22	37	45	51	63	42	49	5	314	1,992
One partner Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	9	10	20	21	28	15	24	3	130	2,125
One partner Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	3	15	10	32	46	40	27	4	177	2,576
One-parent families:										
Parent is Catholic	4	20	35	42	38	19	14	19	191	1,732
Other families where at least one person is Catholic										
Other: Reference person Catholic but spouse temporarily absent ³	-	5	9	21	14	8	21	6	84	2,285
Total	41	92	144	217	349	322	613	98	1,876	3,142

Notes:

1. A family is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. Family members who live elsewhere are not included in the Census definition. For Census purposes, a Catholic family is defined as a family in which at least one person is Catholic.
2. Median weekly family income: fifty percent of families have a higher income, fifty percent a lower income. Family income is the sum of the incomes of all family members aged 15 and over.
3. The religious affiliation of a temporarily absent spouse is not recorded, hence families in this category could belong to any one of the first six categories above.



Families

Table 15: Weekly family income by number of dependent children

	0 dependent children	1 dependent child	2 dependent children	3 dependent children	4 or more	Total
Less than \$500	42	-	3	-	-	45
\$500-\$799	66	8	5	-	-	79
\$800-\$1,249	111	26	5	-	-	142
\$1,250-\$1,999	131	36	27	10	-	204
\$2,000-\$2,999	203	51	67	6	3	330
\$3,000-\$3,999	150	77	77	20	-	324
\$4,000 or more	197	118	192	95	4	606
Income not fully stated	43	18	29	4	-	94
Total Families	943	334	405	135	7	1,824
Median Weekly Family Income (\$)	2,492	3,480	4,020	4,310	4,125	3,142

Note: Table population is Catholic families. Dependent children include all children aged 0-14 and dependent students aged 15-24. Some figures may differ from figures in other similar tables (i.e. Table 14) due to the randomisation process used by the ABS – see note at the bottom of page 10.

**Weekly Family Income
(Catholic families)**

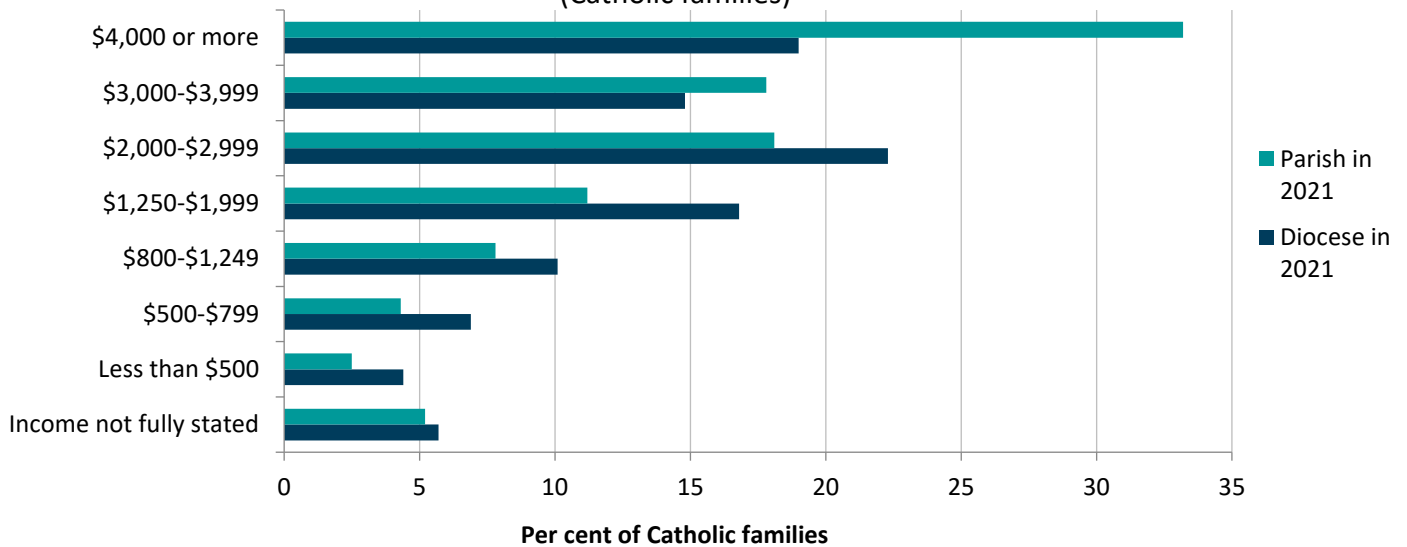


Table 16: Social marital status by number of dependent children

	0 dependent children	1 dependent child	2 dependent children	3 dependent children	4 or more	Total
Family Composition:						
Married couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	654	231	353	120	16	1,374
De facto couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	171	26	26	7	-	230
One parent family, parent Catholic	84	58	33	6	-	181
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	45	11	6	8	-	70
Total families	954	326	418	141	16	1,855



Households

The Australian Bureau of Statistics defines a household as one or more persons, at least one of whom is at least 15 years of age, usually resident in the same private dwelling.¹ Non-private dwellings such as motels, guest houses, prisons, religious institutions and nursing homes are not included in household statistics. A household can consist of one or more families, non-family groups or persons living alone.

The figures on this page refer to households in which at least one person is Catholic.²

There were 9,808,428 households in Australia in 2021. At least one Catholic person lived in 2,567,352 households, or 26 per cent of all households. Seventy-seven per cent of these Catholic households were family households and, of the Catholic family households, 77 per cent were occupied dwellings that were owned or being purchased.

What is the current housing situation in this parish? For example, is there a sufficient stock of rental properties available? Are there areas with large numbers of new houses? Are families under stress to pay rent or meet mortgage repayments? What aspects of the parish's pastoral strategies relate to housing issues?

	Fully owned or being purchased	Rented from State or Territory Housing Authority	Rented from other landlord, or landlord not stated	Other households	Total households	Per cent owned or being purchased
Family households	1,488	3	346	26	1,863	79.9
Lone person aged under 35 years	46	-	66	-	112	41.1
Lone person aged 35 years or over	345	12	188	23	568	60.7
Group households	6	-	31	3	40	15.0
Total households	1,885	15	631	52	2,583	73.0

	\$1-\$599	\$600-\$999	\$1,000-1,599	\$1,600-\$2,199	\$2,200-\$2,799	\$2,800 or more	Median monthly household loan repayment (\$)
Family households	36	37	75	116	87	316	2,679
Lone person aged under 35 years	-	3	12	14	4	3	1,728
Lone person aged 35 years or over	11	5	20	22	-	21	1,695
Group households	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total households	47	45	107	152	91	340	2,463

Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021. *Census of Population and Housing: Census Dictionary*.
2. For Census purposes, a Catholic household is any household in which at least one person is Catholic.



Birthplace

Catholics born overseas, especially those born in non-English-speaking countries, are likely to have different approaches to faith and spirituality, and different experiences and expectations of Church life, from those of Catholics born in Australia.

What are the major groups of overseas-born Catholics in your parish?

What difference does their presence make to the parish?

How might the parish better connect with those who have only recently arrived?

Table 19: Birthplace

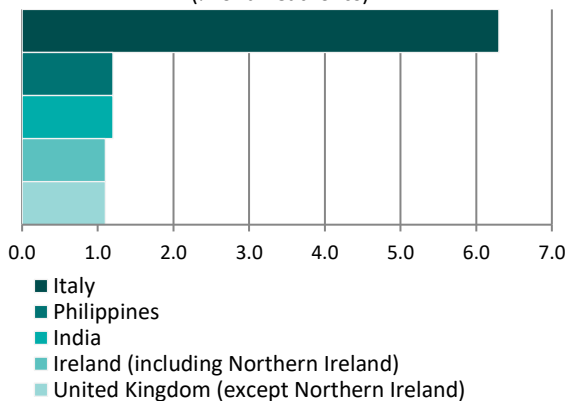
	All Catholics	% of Catholics	% recent arrivals ¹
Australia	4,382	79.3	-
New Zealand	32	0.6	-
Other Oceania	5	0.1	-
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	59	1.1	-
Ireland (including Northern Ireland)	62	1.1	6.8
Italy	350	6.3	1.1
Malta	51	0.9	-
Spain and Portugal	16	0.3	-
France	11	0.2	-
Netherlands	5	0.1	-
Germany	14	0.3	-
Austria	8	0.1	-
Croatia and other Former Yugoslavia	35	0.6	-
Poland	21	0.4	-
Hungary	10	0.2	-
Other Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Baltic States	12	0.2	-
Other Europe NEC	11	0.2	-
Vietnam	29	0.5	-
Philippines	69	1.2	23.2
Indonesia	7	0.1	-
Malaysia	10	0.2	-
Singapore	-	-	-
South East Asia NEC	5	0.1	-
India	65	1.2	24.2
Sri Lanka	32	0.6	12.1
China (except Hong Kong and Taiwan)	4	0.1	-
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	8	0.1	-
Korea, Republic of (South)	5	0.1	-
Egypt	16	0.3	-
Lebanon	26	0.5	-
Iraq	3	0.1	-
Sudan (including South Sudan)	-	-	-
Middle East and North Africa NEC	12	0.2	-
South Africa	9	0.2	100.0
Mauritius	9	0.2	-
United States of America	10	0.2	-
Canada	-	-	-
Argentina	13	0.2	-
Brazil	14	0.3	34.8
Colombia	34	0.6	41.4
Chile	10	0.2	-
Central America and South America NEC	20	0.4	20.8
Other countries	17	0.3	-
Inadequately described/Not stated	17	0.3	-
Total	5,528	100.0	1.1

Notes:

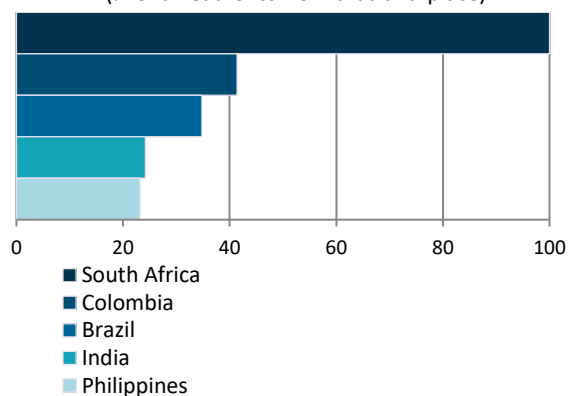
1. % recent arrivals = the percentage of Catholics who were born in the named country and who arrived in Australia between 2018 and 2021 inclusive.

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified

Top 5 birthplaces of Catholics born overseas
(% of all Catholics)



Top 5 birthplaces with highest proportions of recent arrivals
(% of all Catholics from that birthplace)



Language

In 2021, around 22 per cent of Australia's Catholics spoke a language other than English at home, and three per cent were not proficient in English. People who do not speak English well can face practical problems in education, employment and access to services. On the other hand, it is important to many people from a non-English-speaking background to maintain and promote, for reasons of cultural continuity and identity, the use of their home language.¹

How many Catholics in this parish speak a language other than English at home? How many have difficulty with English? Difficulty in speaking English can affect how well a person can participate in parish life.

Does this parish need to review the pastoral support it offers to parishioners who do not speak English well in relation to, for example, prayer and liturgy, inclusiveness in parish events, translation of written material, and access to priests and other pastoral ministers who speak their language?

Table 20: Language spoken at home by religious affiliation

	Catholic	Not Catholic (or not stated)	All persons	% Catholics among speakers ²
English only	4,364	6,568	10,932	39.9
Italian	582	74	656	88.7
Maltese	35	5	40	87.5
Spanish	96	69	165	58.2
Croatian	54	5	59	91.5
Polish	21	-	21	100.0
Dutch	-	3	3	-
French	15	21	36	41.7
German	3	38	41	7.3
Portuguese	18	14	32	56.3
Hungarian	7	5	12	58.3
Ukrainian	22	6	28	78.6
Vietnamese	56	156	212	26.4
Filipino languages	61	20	81	75.3
Chinese languages	22	350	372	5.9
Malayalam	9	31	40	22.5
Sinhalese	15	68	83	18.1
Korean	7	23	30	23.3
Indonesian and Malay	3	23	26	11.5
Arabic	41	143	184	22.3
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	18	18	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	-	5	5	-
Australian Indigenous languages	-	-	-	-
Other European languages NEC	19	461	480	4.0
Other Asian languages NEC	23	716	739	3.1
Other languages NEC	9	209	218	4.1
Inadequately described/Non-Verbal/Not stated	23	541	564	4.1
Total	5,505	9,572	15,077	36.5

Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. *Australian Social Trends 1999. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.11.*

2. *The percentage of Catholics among the speakers of these languages in Australia.*

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Language

Why does the proportion of people not speaking English well vary for different languages spoken at home? Part of the explanation lies in differences in average period of residence of the various language groups. Another factor is 'cultural distance': the more people from a particular culture share the customs, beliefs and lifestyles with the majority Australian culture, the easier it will be for them to overcome language barriers. A third factor is the size of the language group and the pattern of settlement. The concentration of large numbers of speakers in a region tends to reinforce the use of that language.¹

What are the most commonly spoken languages other than English among the Catholics of this parish? Are speakers of some languages more likely than others to have difficulty with English? Can you see the influence of the three factors outlined above reflected in the figures on this page?

Table 21: Language spoken at home by age

	0-4	5-11	12-19	20-29	30-49	50-64	65 and over	Total	% who do not speak English well
English	175	365	607	589	948	1,014	671	4,369	-
Italian	9	12	15	30	100	190	235	591	11.4
Maltese	-	-	-	-	8	5	22	35	12.1
Spanish	-	7	-	15	44	10	11	87	12.0
Croatian	-	-	8	5	14	13	11	51	-
Polish	-	-	-	-	-	9	16	25	-
Dutch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
French	-	-	-	3	4	7	3	17	-
German	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portuguese	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	16	-
Hungarian	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-
Ukrainian	-	-	-	-	8	3	6	17	-
Vietnamese	6	9	8	7	24	3	-	57	8.8
Filipino languages	3	8	3	10	32	8	-	64	-
Chinese languages	-	6	3	5	7	-	-	21	-
Malayalam	4	-	-	-	9	-	-	13	-
Sinhalese	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	-
Korean	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-
Indonesian and Malay	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	6	-
Arabic	-	4	-	3	18	5	13	43	7.1
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australian Indigenous Languages	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other European languages NEC	-	4	3	-	3	5	-	15	-
Other Asian languages NEC	-	6	-	-	9	9	-	24	-
Other languages NEC	-	-	3	-	4	-	-	7	30.0
Inadequately described/Non-Verbal/Not stated	4	-	-	-	4	5	9	22	16.0
Total	201	421	650	667	1,265	1,286	1,001	5,491	1.7

Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. Australian Social Trends 1999. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.12-13.

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Essendon Parish, Archdiocese of Melbourne, Census ID: 122077

National Catholic Census Project 1991-2021 – a project of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2021 Census of Population and Housing

Attendance at Educational Institutions

According to the 2021 Census, more than 767,800 Australians attended Catholic schools, accounting for almost 21 per cent of all school students in Australia. In 2021, there were 847,500 Catholic students—almost one in six of all Catholics—attending Government, Catholic, and other non-Government schools. A further 326,700 Catholics were involved in some form of post-secondary education. The Church of today, not just of tomorrow, is being shaped by the attitudes, beliefs and lifestyles of these young people.

The pie-chart below shows the language background of all primary and secondary school students in your parish, both Catholic and non-Catholic, attending Catholic schools. Nationally, around 17 per cent of all students in Catholic schools speak a language other than English at home. The adjacent bar-chart shows the educational participation rate of Catholic males and females in each of the three age groups.

How does the parish connect with Catholic students at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, especially those not attending Catholic schools?

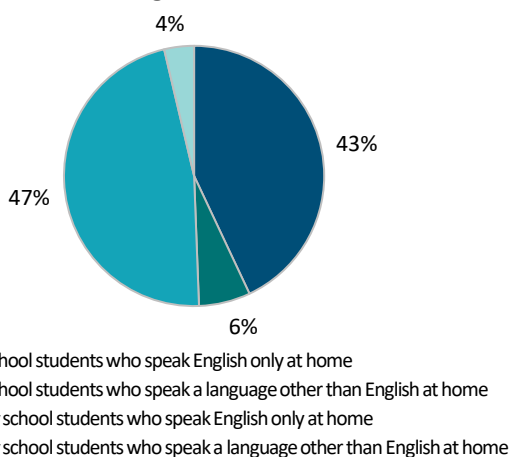
Table 22: Type of educational institution attending by religious affiliation

	Catholic	Not Catholic or not stated	All persons	% Catholic
Infants/Primary – Government	43	440	483	8.9
Infants/Primary – Catholic	332	40	372	89.2
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	48	114	162	29.6
Secondary – Government	63	287	350	18.0
Secondary – Catholic	331	49	380	87.1
Secondary – Other Non-Government	90	185	275	32.7
Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)	96	212	308	31.2
University or other Tertiary Institutions	352	685	1,037	33.9
Other (including pre-school)	134	255	389	34.4
Not stated/Not applicable ¹	4,018	7,308	11,326	35.5
Total	5,507	9,575	15,082	36.5

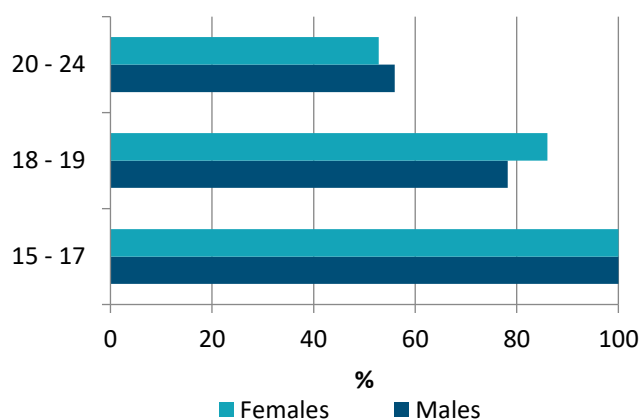
Note:

- This table includes the total population of the parish and so there are high numbers for categories where the question about type of educational institutions being attended is not applicable.

Language background of all students attending Catholic schools



Education participation rate (Catholics aged 15-24)



Attendance at Educational Institutions

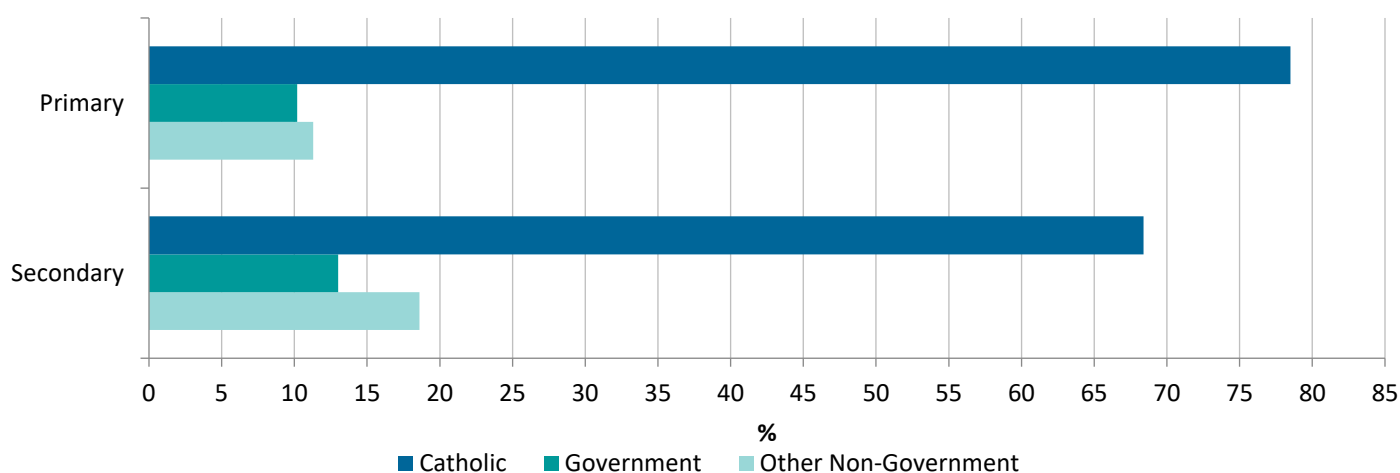
Table 23: Type of educational institution attending by weekly income of student's family¹

	Less than \$500	\$500 - \$799	\$800 - \$1,249	\$1,250 - \$1,999	\$2,000 - \$2,999	\$3,000 - \$3,999	\$4,000 or more	Total ²	Median annual family income ³ (\$)
Infants/Primary - Government	-	3	3	5	11	3	9	38	132,704
Infants/Primary – Catholic	-	6	11	27	48	67	159	324	208,571
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	-	-	-	-	3	5	39	47	229,272
Secondary – Government	-	4	5	13	13	8	14	57	130,357
Secondary – Catholic	7	-	11	31	36	69	164	338	210,136
Secondary – Other Non-Government	4	-	-	4	5	6	64	87	226,874
TAFE, University or other tertiary institution	-	-	5	15	27	40	137	232	218,061
Other (including pre-school)	-	-	-	-	3	4	6	13	202,054
Not stated/Not applicable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11	13	35	95	146	202	592	1,136	212,534

Notes:

1. Because the population of this table is dependent children aged 5-14 and dependent students aged 15-24, the figures in the table refer to individuals, not families. The table shows, for example, the number of Catholic students attending Catholic primary schools whose families have a weekly income in the range \$1,250-\$1,999. A brother and sister at the same school would account for TWO of the cases in this category.
2. A column of figures for "Family income not fully stated, or not stated at all" has been omitted from the table, but the missing figures are included in the Total column.
3. Family income is the sum of the incomes of all family members aged 15 and over (refer to the definition of family on page 7).

Type of school being attended by Catholic students



Educational Qualifications

Both the percentage of Catholics with university degrees and the gender balance of Catholics with degrees have changed dramatically in recent decades due to the upsurge in young people, especially women, undertaking tertiary study and the upgrading of courses such as nursing to degree status. In 1991, less than seven per cent of Australian Catholics aged 15 or over had a degree; by 2021, that figure had reached 25 per cent. Among Catholics aged 15 to 34 years in 2021, 30 per cent of women had a degree compared to 19 per cent of men. In contrast, among Catholics aged 55 and over, just under 17 per cent of both men and women had degrees.

To what extent has participation in higher education in theology and related fields kept pace in this parish with participation in higher education in general? What new challenges and opportunities are presented to the parish as a result of the increase in the number of Catholics with a university education?

The increased level of participation in higher education by women is a reflection of significant changes in women's roles and responsibilities in society.¹ How have women's roles and responsibilities in the parish changed in the last two decades?

Table 24: Highest qualification attained by age and sex

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+							
Males							
Postgraduate degree	-	27	21	24	25	25	122
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	44	122	110	120	100	53	549
Advanced diploma or diploma level	10	25	30	53	44	35	197
Certificate level	29	52	62	98	99	98	438
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	325	50	52	110	100	209	846
Total	408	276	275	405	368	420	2,152
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>54.0</i>	<i>47.6</i>	<i>35.6</i>	<i>34.0</i>	<i>18.6</i>	<i>31.2</i>
Females							
Postgraduate degree	-	33	34	41	28	17	153
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	72	152	147	192	138	83	784
Advanced diploma or diploma level	14	29	47	69	54	47	260
Certificate level	19	37	38	64	57	37	252
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	284	40	57	127	150	406	1,064
Total	389	291	323	493	427	590	2,513
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>18.5</i>	<i>63.6</i>	<i>56.0</i>	<i>47.3</i>	<i>38.9</i>	<i>16.9</i>	<i>37.3</i>
All Catholics							
Postgraduate degree	-	60	55	65	53	42	275
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	116	274	257	312	238	136	1,333
Advanced diploma or diploma level	24	54	77	122	98	82	457
Certificate level	48	89	100	162	156	135	690
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	609	90	109	237	250	615	1,910
Total	797	567	598	898	795	1,010	4,665
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>58.9</i>	<i>52.2</i>	<i>42.0</i>	<i>36.6</i>	<i>17.6</i>	<i>34.5</i>

Note:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. *Australian Social Trends 1999. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.83.*



Employment

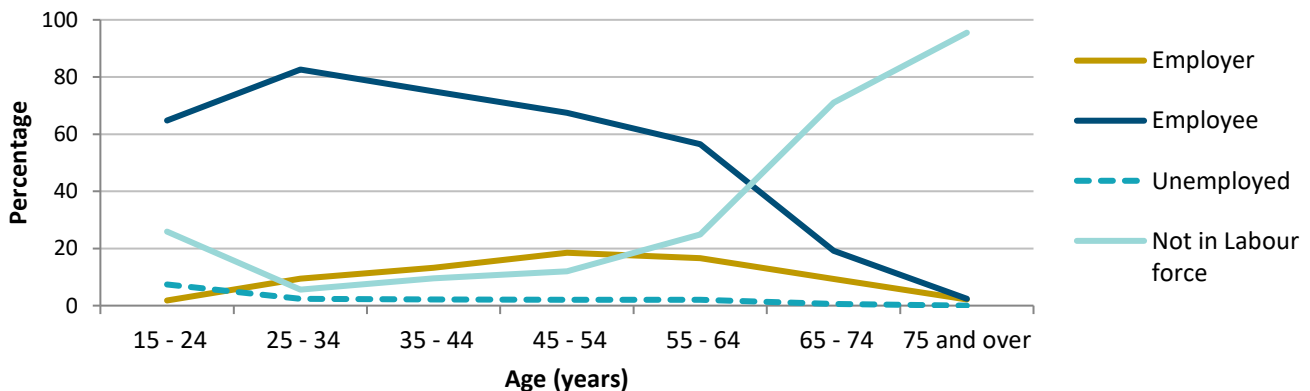
In recent years there have been many changes in society and the workplace that have affected Australian workers. One major change has been the increase in the percentages of workers, especially young people and women, in part-time jobs. Another has been the rise in participation in the labour force by women. A third major change has been the rise in participation in the labour force by older workers, following the removal of incentives to early retirement and resulting in the continuing availability of their skills, experience and maturity in the workplace.¹ Changes in labour force participation also influence the availability and size of the volunteer workforce, and can both reduce and change the pattern of workers' leisure time.

Have any of the changes described above had a noticeable impact on Catholic life in this parish?

Table 25: Labour force status by age and sex

	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+					
Males					
Employer	5	80	208	48	341
Employee	251	413	443	54	1,161
Unemployed	34	17	16	3	70
Not in the labour force	123	29	101	311	564
Other/Not stated/Not applicable	-	3	4	9	16
Total	413	542	772	425	2,152
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	70.2	94.1	86.4	24.7	73.0
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	11.7	3.3	2.4	2.9	4.5
Females					
Employer	8	45	82	14	149
Employee	278	488	612	59	1,437
Unemployed	24	12	13	4	53
Not in the labour force	88	64	190	512	854
Other/Not stated/Not applicable	-	4	-	9	13
Total	398	613	897	598	2,506
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	77.9	88.9	78.8	12.9	65.4
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	7.7	2.2	1.8	5.2	3.2

Labour force status by age (percentage of all Catholics aged 15+)



Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. *Australian Social Trends 2004. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.115.*
2. *The percentage of Catholics in each age group who are in the labour force (i.e. employed or seeking employment).*
3. *The percentage of Catholics in each age group who were in the labour force and were unemployed at the time of the Census.*



Occupation

Catholic women are more likely to be employed as managers or professionals; 39 per cent of Catholic women and 35 per cent of Catholic men aged 15 and over who reported their occupation in the 2021 Census worked as managers or professionals. But men were much more likely than women—45 per cent compared to 12 per cent—to have a ‘blue collar’ occupation. The largest occupational category for Catholic men in Australia is Technicians and Trades Workers. For women, it is Professionals.

Table 26: Occupation by age and sex

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+							
Males							
Managers	7	30	75	138	76	24	350
Professionals	38	89	62	66	69	38	362
Technicians & Trade Workers	49	52	46	65	43	10	265
Community & Personal Service Workers	23	17	11	14	16	5	86
Clerical & Administrative Workers	21	24	18	32	23	11	129
Sales Workers	56	12	10	25	14	-	117
Machinery operators & Drivers	16	12	12	14	16	7	77
Labourers	46	19	9	18	14	10	116
ID / NS / NA ¹	157	31	28	48	89	324	677
Total	413	286	271	420	360	429	2,179
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	<i>17.6</i>	<i>46.7</i>	<i>56.4</i>	<i>54.8</i>	<i>53.5</i>	<i>59.0</i>	<i>47.4</i>
<i>Per cent 'blue collar workers'²</i>	<i>43.4</i>	<i>32.5</i>	<i>27.6</i>	<i>26.1</i>	<i>26.9</i>	<i>25.7</i>	<i>30.5</i>
Females							
Managers	10	21	53	73	41	5	203
Professionals	50	119	98	134	101	22	524
Technicians & Trade Workers	4	11	5	9	8	-	37
Community & Personal Service Workers	47	29	17	36	26	4	159
Clerical & Administrative Workers	43	49	75	112	85	29	393
Sales Workers	105	20	13	29	23	9	199
Machinery operators & Drivers	3	4	-	6	-	4	17
Labourers	19	10	7	3	12	-	51
ID / NS / NA ¹	118	32	59	85	129	520	943
Total	399	295	327	487	425	593	2,526
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	<i>21.4</i>	<i>53.2</i>	<i>56.3</i>	<i>51.5</i>	<i>48.0</i>	<i>37.0</i>	<i>45.9</i>
<i>Per cent 'blue collar workers'²</i>	<i>9.3</i>	<i>9.5</i>	<i>4.5</i>	<i>4.5</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>6.6</i>
All Catholics							
Managers	17	51	128	211	117	29	553
Professionals	88	208	160	200	170	60	886
Technicians & Trade Workers	53	63	51	74	51	10	302
Community & Personal Service Workers	70	46	28	50	42	9	245
Clerical & Administrative Workers	64	73	93	144	108	40	522
Sales Workers	161	32	23	54	37	9	316
Machinery operators & Drivers	19	16	12	20	16	11	94
Labourers	65	29	16	21	26	10	167
ID / NS / NA ¹	275	63	87	133	218	844	1,620
Total	812	581	598	907	785	1,022	4,705
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	<i>19.6</i>	<i>50.0</i>	<i>56.4</i>	<i>53.1</i>	<i>50.6</i>	<i>50.0</i>	<i>46.6</i>
<i>Per cent 'blue collar workers'²</i>	<i>25.5</i>	<i>20.8</i>	<i>15.5</i>	<i>14.9</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>17.4</i>	<i>18.2</i>

Notes:

1. ID = Inadequately described; NS = Not stated; NA = Not applicable.
2. See Notes 1 and 2 on page 5 for the type of occupations covered by the terms ‘Managers & Professionals’ and ‘blue collar’.



Occupation

Occupation, like qualifications, is an indicator of socioeconomic status. It can also indicate the types of skills and interests that parishioners have.

What are the major occupations for male and female Catholics in this parish? What do you think accounts for differences in occupation between the sexes?

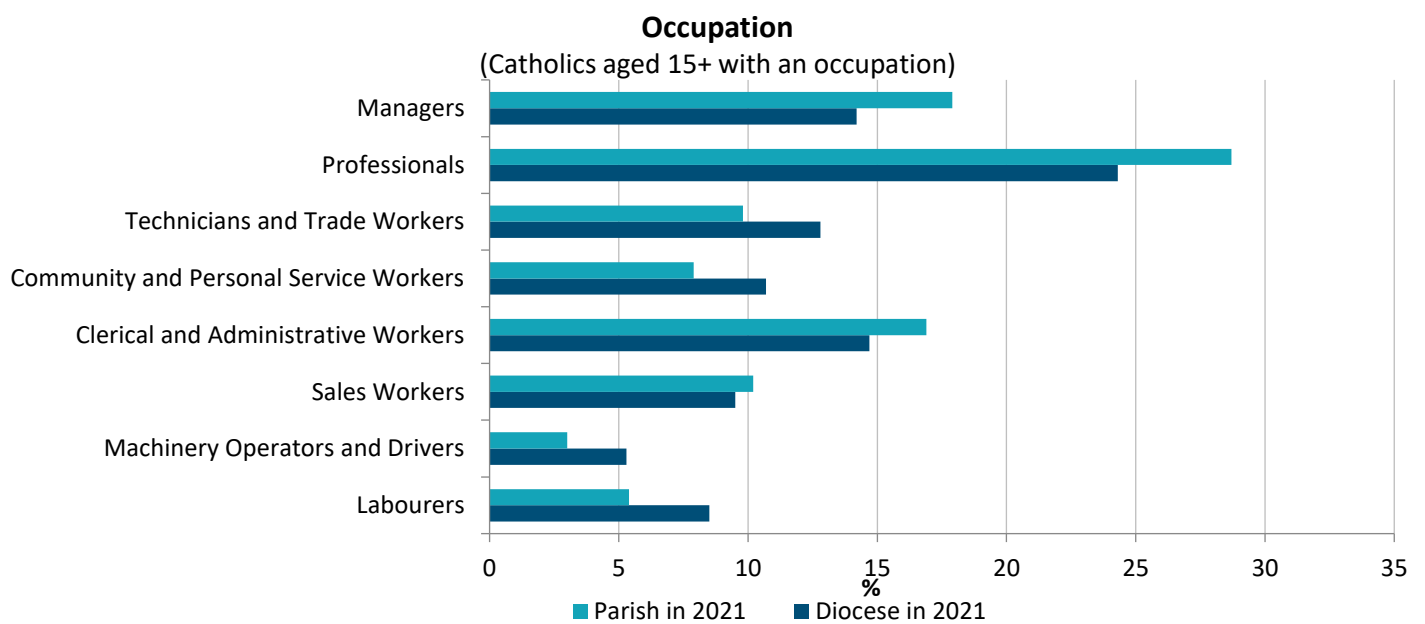
What are the major occupations of younger people? Middle-aged people? Older people? What do you think accounts for differences in occupation between the different age groups?

Are there any figures that strike you as being unexpectedly large or small? How can this information help the parish connect more effectively with parishioners?

Table 27: Occupation of parents of students attending Catholic schools

	Primary School (%)	Secondary School (%)
Both parents in professional occupation	44	30
One parent or lone parent in professional occupation	118	115
Both parents in 'white collar' occupation ¹	84	92
One parent or lone parent in 'white collar' occupation	94	76
Both parents in 'blue collar' occupation ²	-	13
One parent or lone parent in 'blue collar' occupation	19	11
Not applicable and not stated	15	43
Total	374	380
% with professional parent(s)	43.3	38.2
% with blue collar parent(s)	5.1	6.3

- Note:
1. 'White collar' includes occupations such as managers, community and personal service workers, clerical and administrative workers and sales workers.
 2. See Note 2 on page 5 for the type of occupations covered by the term 'blue collar'.



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The National Centre for Pastoral Research website allows you to view the Social Profiles online.

Visit the website to obtain:

- Social Profiles for any diocese or parish in Australia
- A Social Profile for the Catholic population of Australia
- Helpful hints on using the Census data
- Reports on the National Count of Attendance
- Research reports from the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia
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This profile has been created by the staff of the ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research as part of the National Catholic Census Project 1991-2021.

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