



# PARISH SOCIAL PROFILE

Based on the 2021 Australian Census

**Werribee Parish**  
Archdiocese of Melbourne

Census ID: 122227



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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: 118,701

Catholic Population: 22,475

Catholics make up 18.9 per cent of the total population

Median age of Catholics is 37 years

Total Catholic families: 8,477

1,736 Catholics live alone

7,826 Catholics were born overseas

661 Catholics do not speak English well

1,489 Catholics need assistance with core activities

10,546 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	19,933	<b>22,475</b>
Catholics aged 0-14 (%)	21.7	<b>20.8</b>
Catholics aged 65+ (%)	12.1	<b>13.0</b>
Catholics born in NES <sup>1</sup> (%)	23.3	<b>30.2</b>
Catholics not proficient in English (%)	2.8	<b>3.0</b>
Catholic families	7,321	<b>8,477</b>
Catholics living alone	1,367	<b>1,736</b>
Catholic students attending Catholic schools <sup>2</sup> (%)	62.0	<b>61.3</b>
Catholics with university degree (%)	14.9	<b>22.2</b>
Catholic males in labour force (%)	73.6	<b>73.6</b>
Catholic females in labour force (%)	61.3	<b>64.3</b>
Catholic households owning or purchasing dwelling (%)	75.1	<b>73.4</b>

**Notes:**

1. NES<sup>1</sup> = 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 <sup>1</sup>	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group <sup>2</sup>	Australian Group <sup>2</sup>
Total population <sup>3</sup>	<b>118,701</b>	76,085	4,962,398	25,422,788	1	1
Catholic population	<b>22,475</b>	19,933	1,038,276	5,075,910	1	1
Per cent Catholic	<b>18.9</b>	26.2	20.9	20.0	3	3
At same address since previous Census (%)	<b>53.1</b>	58.4	62.4	59.4	5	5
Median age <sup>4</sup> (years)	<b>37</b>	36	43	43	5	5
Aged 0-14 (%)	<b>20.8</b>	21.7	16.8	17.9	1	1
Aged 65+ (%)	<b>13.0</b>	12.1	20.1	19.9	5	5
Males per 100 females	<b>90.0</b>	90.3	89.1	89.1	2	3

**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 (%)	<b>6.6</b>	6.0	7.4	6.7	3	3
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability <sup>5</sup> (% of Catholics aged 15+)	<b>12.7</b>	12.2	14.9	13.5	5	4

**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 <sup>1</sup> (% of those recording an occupation)	<b>28.2</b>	24.3	38.5	37.1	5	5
Workers in 'blue collar' occupations <sup>2</sup> (% of those recording an occupation)	<b>34.2</b>	36.1	26.6	28.1	1	2
Men, employed or seeking work <sup>3</sup> (%)	<b>73.3</b>	73.6	67.6	66.5	1	1
Women, employed or seeking work <sup>3</sup> (%)	<b>64.2</b>	61.3	59.6	59.7	2	2
Unemployed at time of Census <sup>4</sup> (%)	<b>5.4</b>	7.3	4.5	4.2	1	1
Youth unemployed at time of Census <sup>5</sup> (%)	<b>13.0</b>	15.3	10.3	8.9	1	1

**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 <sup>6</sup> (%)	<b>4.5</b>	4.8	4.3	5.5	2	3
Born overseas in non-English-speaking country (%)	<b>30.2</b>	23.3	27.6	21.4	2	1
Immigrants from non-English-speaking countries arriving in Census year or previous 3 years	<b>572</b>	417	23,189	97,457	1	1
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	<b>195</b>	183	5,285	135,686	1	1
Speak language other than English at home (%)	<b>30.8</b>	25.3	28.3	21.5	2	1
Not proficient in English <sup>7</sup> (%)	<b>3.0</b>	2.8	3.9	2.7	3	2

**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 <sup>1</sup>	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Catholics aged 15+ with bachelor degree or higher qualification (%)	<b>22.2</b>	14.9	27.6	24.6	4	3
Catholics attending an educational institution (% of all Catholics in each age group)						
Aged 15-17	<b>96.4</b>	93.4	97.1	94.9	4	3
Aged 18-19	<b>70.4</b>	64.0	77.0	67.2	4	3
Aged 20-24	<b>42.2</b>	33.3	50.5	43.4	5	3
Catholic primary students attending Catholic schools (%)	<b>62.4</b>	63.6	62.3	55.5	3	2
Catholic primary students attending Government schools (%)	<b>33.3</b>	31.9	32.7	38.4	3	4
Catholic secondary students attending Catholic schools (%)	<b>60.0</b>	59.9	58.5	55.3	3	2
Catholic secondary students attending Government schools (%)	<b>34.8</b>	34.0	30.4	33.4	2	3
Primary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic <sup>2</sup> (%)	<b>40.2</b>	26.7	29.8	36.6	2	3
Secondary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic <sup>2</sup> (%)	<b>38.1</b>	30.0	35.0	41.3	3	4

**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?*

**Table 6: Marital Status of Catholics aged 15+**

	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Never married (%)	35.7	34.7	33.8	32.9	2	2
Married (%)	48.0	49.2	49.1	49.3	3	4
Divorced or Separated (%)	11.4	11.4	10.8	11.7	2	3
Widowed (%)	4.8	4.7	6.3	6.1	5	4

**Table 7: Families<sup>1</sup>**

*in which at least one person is Catholic*

	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Families	8,477	7,321	391,626	1,995,658	1	1
One-parent families	1,205	1,035	45,151	225,180	1	1
One-parent families (% of all families)	14.2	14.1	11.5	11.3	1	1
Couples of mixed religions <sup>2</sup> (%)	50.7	49.6	52.6	58.1	4	5
De facto couples <sup>3</sup> (%)	20.2	17.3	17.1	17.7	2	2
Median annual family income <sup>4</sup> (\$)	116,018	92,919	125,195	120,943	4	3

**Table 8: Households<sup>5</sup>**

*in which at least one person is Catholic*

	Parish 2021	Parish 2016	Diocese 2021	Australia 2021	Diocesan Group	Australian Group
Households	10,397	8,813	510,989	2,567,362	1	1
Persons living alone (aged under 35)	283	217	11,882	51,145	1	1
Persons living alone (aged 35+)	1,453	1,150	92,102	442,080	1	1
Persons living alone (total)	1,736	1,367	103,984	493,225	1	1
Persons living alone (% of all persons)	7.7	6.9	10.0	9.7	4	4
Dwellings owned or being purchased (%)	73.4	75.1	75.1	73.0	4	3
Median monthly housing loan repayment <sup>6</sup> (\$)	1,827	1,657	1,996	1,948	5	3

**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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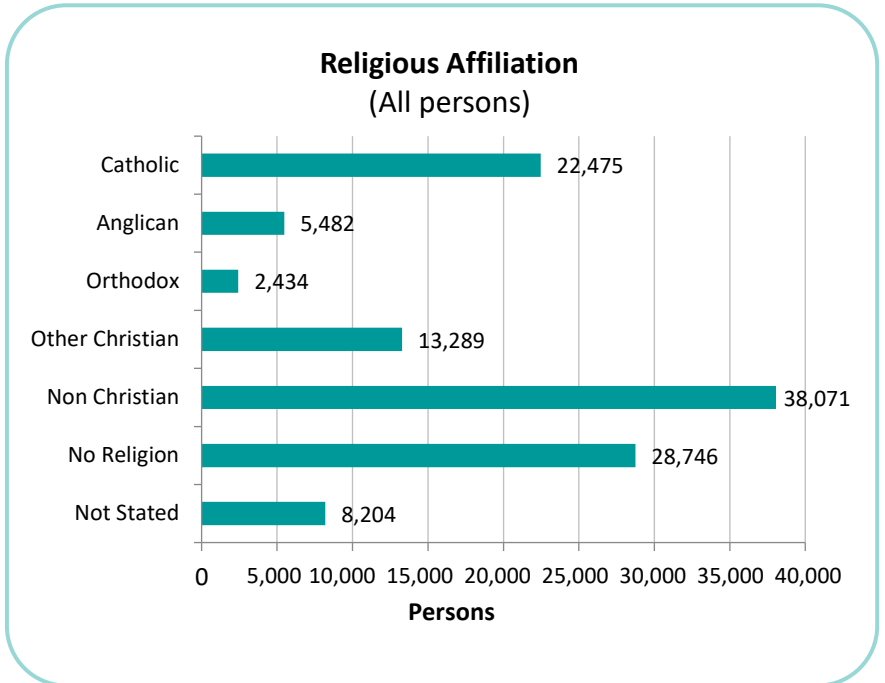
# Religious Affiliation

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	3,012	3,104	2,814	3,434	3,010	2,914	2,079	1,288	701	22,356
Maronite Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Melkite Catholic	4	-	4	-	-	7	-	-	-	15
Ukrainian Catholic	6	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	13
Chaldean Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syro-Malabar Catholic	26	17	-	21	21	3	-	-	-	88
<b>Total Catholic</b>	<b>3,048</b>	<b>3,125</b>	<b>2,818</b>	<b>3,455</b>	<b>3,031</b>	<b>2,927</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>1,291</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>22,475</b>
<b>Per cent Catholic (of total population in age group)</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>
Anglican	494	549	516	571	704	911	862	573	302	5,482
Orthodox	372	311	287	382	388	313	218	102	61	2,434
Other Christian	2,124	1,958	1,754	2,122	1,816	1,418	1,131	654	312	13,289
Non-Christian	9,276	3,884	4,984	12,458	4,960	1,251	887	288	83	38,071
No Religion	4,862	3,901	5,376	5,388	3,655	2,705	1,796	780	283	28,746
Not Stated	1,664	1,053	1,321	1,776	934	656	409	234	157	8,204
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>21,840</b>	<b>14,781</b>	<b>17,056</b>	<b>26,152</b>	<b>15,488</b>	<b>10,181</b>	<b>7,382</b>	<b>3,922</b>	<b>1,899</b>	<b>118,701</b>

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**

	<b>Males 2021</b>	<b>Females 2021</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2016</b>
<b>Age (years)</b>				
0	116	87	<b>203</b>	246
1	136	127	<b>263</b>	264
2	151	123	<b>274</b>	268
3	167	149	<b>316</b>	330
4	160	139	<b>299</b>	253
5	191	164	<b>355</b>	276
6	164	162	<b>326</b>	315
7	176	165	<b>341</b>	307
8	178	188	<b>366</b>	310
9	149	148	<b>297</b>	318
10	140	160	<b>300</b>	323
11	172	191	<b>363</b>	287
12	159	165	<b>324</b>	286
13	148	177	<b>325</b>	274
14	174	160	<b>334</b>	271
15	167	160	<b>327</b>	284
16	154	144	<b>298</b>	278
17	157	149	<b>306</b>	299
18	143	119	<b>262</b>	268
19	154	132	<b>286</b>	260
20-24	669	680	<b>1,349</b>	1,293
25-29	660	818	<b>1,478</b>	1,322
30-34	748	905	<b>1,653</b>	1,457
35-39	818	978	<b>1,796</b>	1,382
40-44	724	826	<b>1,550</b>	1,390
45-49	678	807	<b>1,485</b>	1,441
50-54	697	788	<b>1,485</b>	1,399
55-59	696	744	<b>1,440</b>	1,144
60-64	526	620	<b>1,146</b>	970
65-69	433	501	<b>934</b>	832
70-74	345	423	<b>768</b>	571
75-79	230	305	<b>535</b>	448
80+	263	441	<b>704</b>	567
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,643</b>	<b>11,845</b>	<b>22,488</b>	<b>19,933</b>

**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.

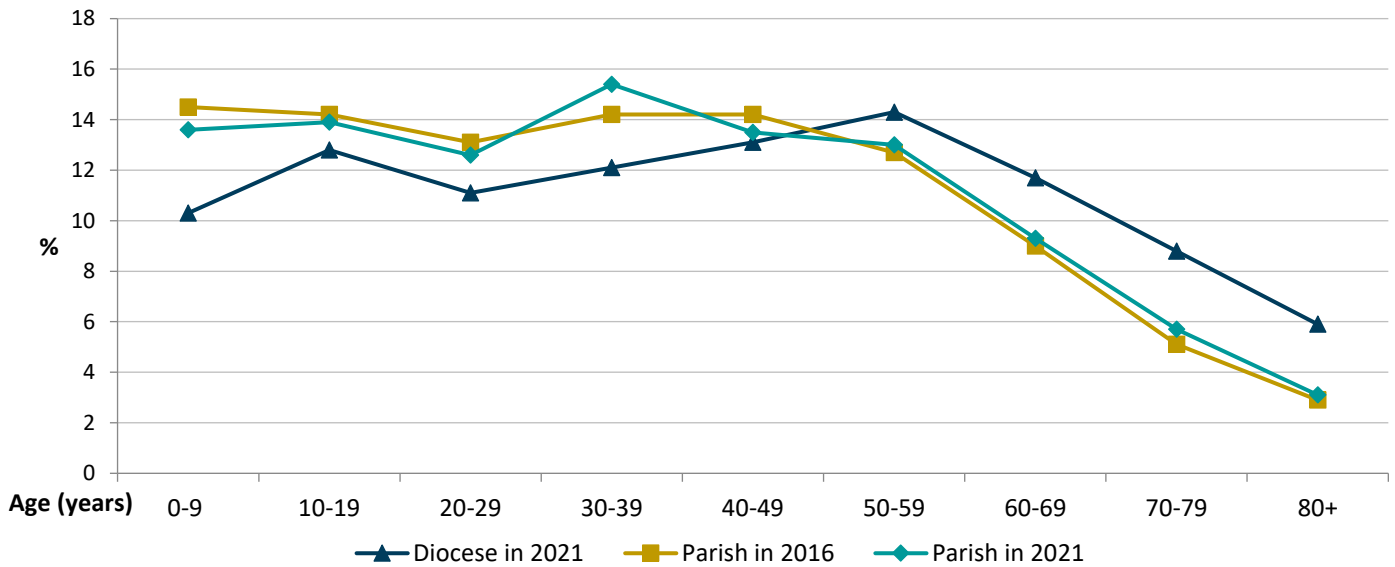
In 2021, among Australian Catholics as a whole, 53 per cent were female and 47 per cent were male. But it is not always like this. Among Catholics aged under 20, males slightly outnumbered females, whereas females accounted for 58 per cent of Catholics aged 75 or more. There are also local factors, such 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?*

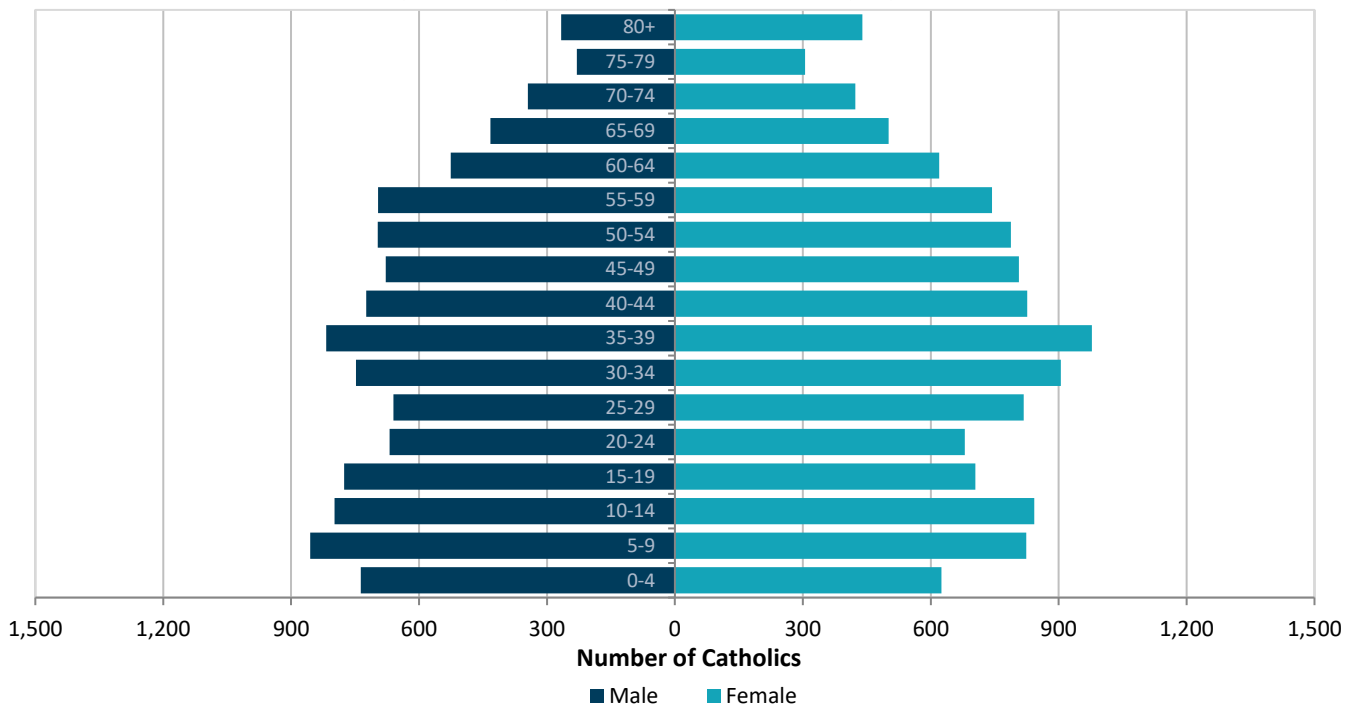


# Age and Sex

## 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”.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>

*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**

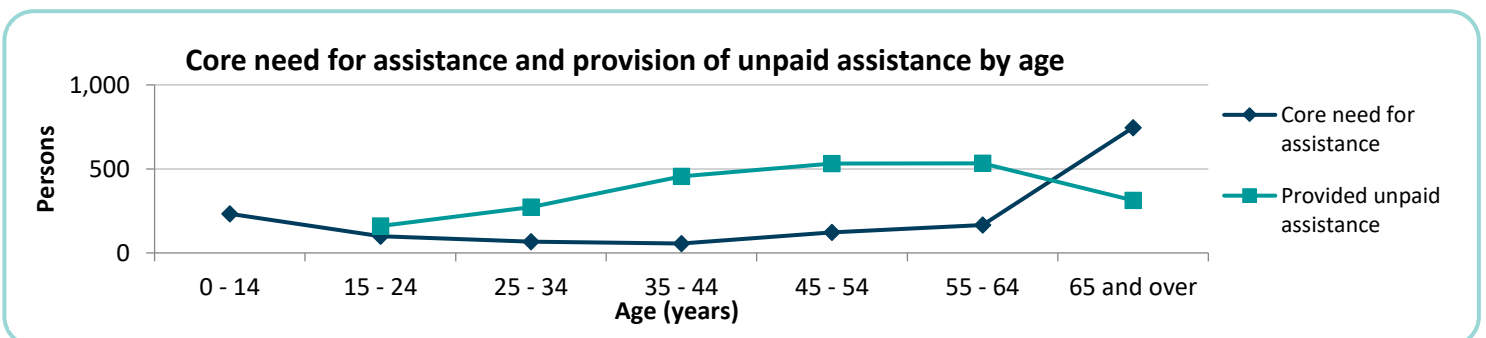
	0-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over	Total
<b>Catholics who have need for assistance with core activities</b>							
<b>Family members:</b>							
Males	162	107	81	60	84	35	529
Females	71	92	127	81	89	50	510
<b>Lone Persons:</b>							
Males	-	-	15	15	19	12	61
Females	-	4	24	15	48	41	132
<b>Other non-family members or persons not present in a household on Census night<sup>3</sup></b>							
Males	-	14	22	12	31	20	99
Females	-	11	15	11	40	74	151
<b>Total</b>							
Males	162	121	118	87	134	67	689
Females	71	107	166	107	177	165	793

**Table 11b: Provision of unpaid assistance by age**

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
<b>Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to a person with a disability<sup>4</sup></b>							
Males	73	95	144	166	190	114	782
Females	89	175	308	367	345	198	1,482

**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.



# 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.

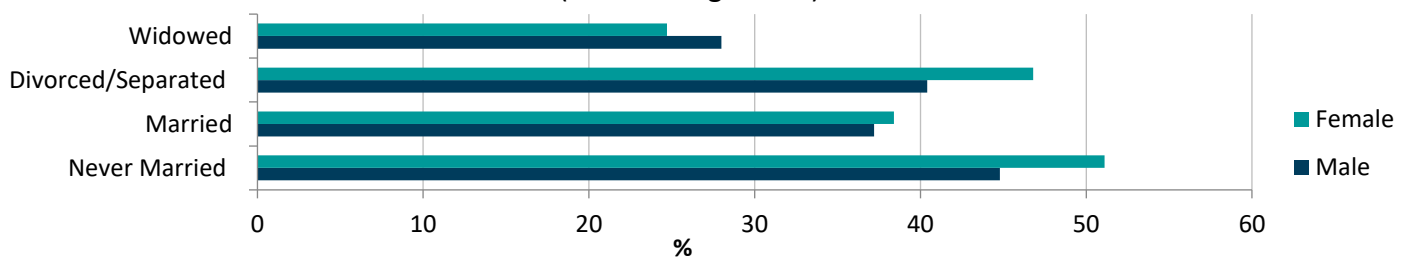
*How might changes in marital status patterns affect the life of the Church in this parish? Do they result in the need for new pastoral services and programs?*

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
<b>Catholics aged 15 and over</b>								
<b>Males</b>								
Never married	1,445	934	387	251	129	62	17	3,225
Married	-	441	1,027	917	833	556	337	4,111
Separated or Divorced	-	32	130	193	243	128	44	770
Widowed	-	-	-	10	14	31	94	149
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,445</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>1,371</b>	<b>1,219</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>8,255</b>
<b>Females</b>								
Never married	1,363	955	367	249	115	52	27	3,128
Married	14	684	1,168	980	827	529	231	4,433
Separated or Divorced	4	81	258	326	338	176	75	1,258
Widowed	-	3	11	32	84	160	414	704
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>1,587</b>	<b>1,364</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>9,523</b>

**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	2,824	404	3,228	12.5
One person Catholic, the other non-Catholic Christian	1,184	300	1,484	20.2
One Catholic, the other not Christian, not stated or temporarily absent	1,404	662	2,066	32.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,412</b>	<b>1,366</b>	<b>6,778</b>	<b>20.2</b>



# 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 <sup>1</sup> 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 <sup>2</sup> (\$)
<b>Two-parent families with children at home:</b>										
Both parents Catholic	17	38	110	371	695	431	317	98	2,077	2,652
One parent Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	14	12	51	135	265	147	147	44	815	2,654
One parent Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	13	16	55	195	425	223	176	48	1,151	2,641
<b>Couple with no children living at home:</b>										
Both partners Catholic	101	165	163	229	285	120	57	26	1,146	1,679
One partner Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	26	76	107	141	170	99	36	11	666	1,880
One partner Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	26	55	68	152	283	133	65	25	807	2,318
<b>One-parent families:</b>										
Parent is Catholic	117	188	269	288	186	46	25	86	1,205	1,225
<b>Other families where at least one person is Catholic</b>										
Other: Reference person Catholic but spouse temporarily absent <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	115	115	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>1,636</b>	<b>2,422</b>	<b>1,261</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>8,477</b>	<b>2,225</b>

**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.





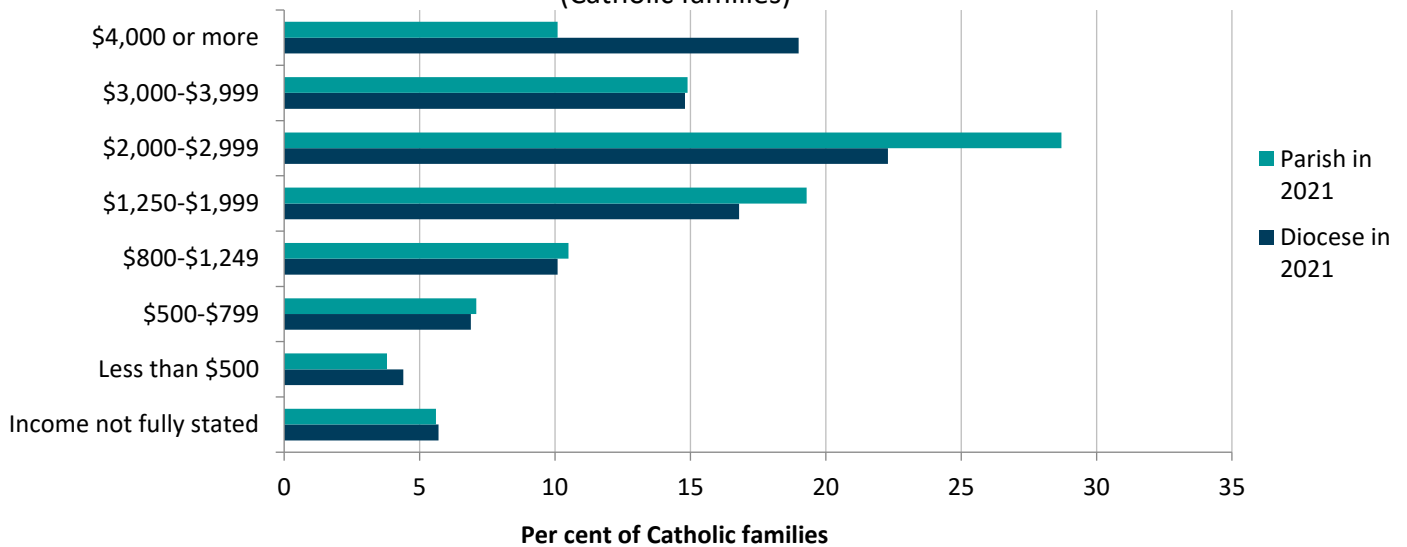
# Families

**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	206	55	39	16	6	322
\$500-\$799	348	104	93	40	12	597
\$800-\$1,249	501	171	152	42	24	890
\$1,250-\$1,999	782	322	364	111	48	1,627
\$2,000-\$2,999	1,082	519	580	196	51	2,428
\$3,000-\$3,999	549	281	305	94	32	1,261
\$4,000 or more	369	203	213	57	12	854
Income not fully stated	224	93	87	34	31	469
<b>Total Families</b>	<b>4,061</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>1,833</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>8,448</b>
<b>Median Weekly Family Income (\$)</b>	<b>2,075</b>	<b>2,338</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>2,352</b>	<b>2,049</b>	<b>2,225</b>

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
<b>Family Composition:</b>						
Married couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	2,614	1,039	1,223	408	120	5,404
De facto couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	794	277	219	57	23	1,370
One parent family, parent Catholic	453	342	277	85	48	1,205
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	226	90	98	51	23	488
<b>Total families</b>	<b>4,087</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>1,817</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>8,467</b>



# 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.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>

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	6,333	43	1,885	116	8,377	75.6
Lone person aged under 35 years	157	-	116	10	283	55.5
Lone person aged 35 years or over	1,018	41	337	57	1,453	70.1
Group households	122	-	154	8	284	43.0
<b>Total households</b>	<b>7,630</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2,492</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>10,397</b>	<b>73.4</b>

	\$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	162	255	921	1,500	617	505	1,856
Lone person aged under 35 years	-	8	39	58	12	7	1,755
Lone person aged 35 years or over	23	39	107	70	26	6	1,412
Group households	4	6	22	27	6	6	1,677
<b>Total households</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>1,089</b>	<b>1,655</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>1,827</b>

**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**

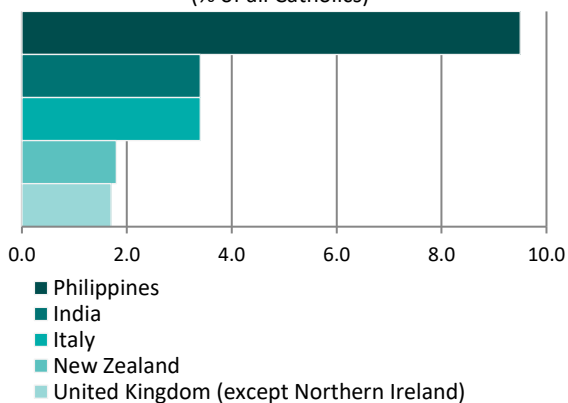
	All Catholics	% of Catholics	% recent arrivals <sup>1</sup>
Australia	14,494	64.5	-
New Zealand	404	1.8	13.3
Other Oceania	132	0.6	13.8
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	378	1.7	2.6
Ireland (including Northern Ireland)	139	0.6	4.4
Italy	755	3.4	1.5
Malta	298	1.3	-
Spain and Portugal	75	0.3	-
France	11	0.0	-
Netherlands	49	0.2	-
Germany	66	0.3	-
Austria	15	0.1	-
Croatia and other Former Yugoslavia	137	0.6	-
Poland	119	0.5	-
Hungary	28	0.1	-
Other Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Baltic States	74	0.3	5.8
Other Europe NEC	9	0.0	-
Vietnam	135	0.6	6.6
Philippines	2,128	9.5	12.1
Indonesia	91	0.4	4.4
Malaysia	83	0.4	-
Singapore	80	0.4	10.7
South East Asia NEC	213	0.9	17.5
India	773	3.4	13.4
Sri Lanka	218	1.0	14.7
China (except Hong Kong and Taiwan)	33	0.1	-
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	17	0.1	33.3
Korea, Republic of (South)	43	0.2	-
Egypt	49	0.2	-
Lebanon	30	0.1	-
Iraq	20	0.1	15.4
Sudan (including South Sudan)	268	1.2	1.1
Middle East and North Africa NEC	78	0.3	10.3
South Africa	37	0.2	7.3
Mauritius	100	0.4	6.8
United States of America	37	0.2	-
Canada	13	0.1	-
Argentina	28	0.1	-
Brazil	28	0.1	9.4
Colombia	88	0.4	14.9
Chile	66	0.3	-
Central America and South America NEC	146	0.6	2.1
Other countries	335	1.5	6.4
Inadequately described/Not stated	152	0.7	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,472</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>

Notes:

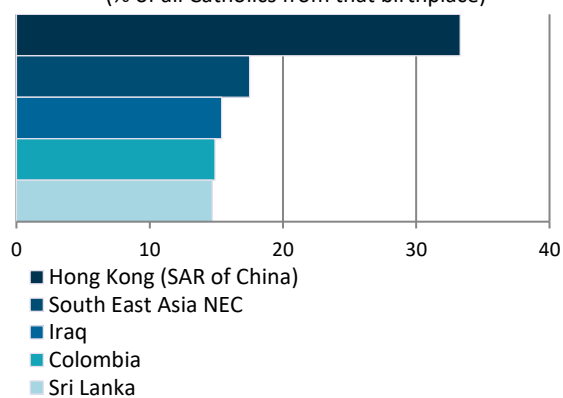
1. % recent arrivals = the percentage of Catholics who were born in the named country and who arrived in Australia between 2018 and 2021 inclusive.

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.<sup>1</sup>

*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 <sup>2</sup>
English only	15,305	42,472	57,777	26.5
Italian	1,109	143	1,252	88.6
Maltese	256	29	285	89.8
Spanish	390	315	705	55.3
Croatian	142	36	178	79.8
Polish	126	38	164	76.8
Dutch	15	33	48	31.3
French	101	173	274	36.9
German	32	81	113	28.3
Portuguese	81	94	175	46.3
Hungarian	38	20	58	65.5
Ukrainian	11	4	15	73.3
Vietnamese	182	666	848	21.5
Filipino languages	2,002	867	2,869	69.8
Chinese languages	161	2,072	2,233	7.2
Malayalam	370	685	1,055	35.1
Sinhalese	178	864	1,042	17.1
Korean	58	177	235	24.7
Indonesian and Malay	96	573	669	14.3
Arabic	144	1,427	1,571	9.2
Assyrian and Chaldean	14	-	14	100.0
Oceanic and Papuan languages	176	1,208	1,384	12.7
Australian Indigenous languages	-	17	17	-
Other European languages NEC	77	1,794	1,871	4.1
Other Asian languages NEC	590	31,152	31,742	1.9
Other languages NEC	565	3,895	4,460	12.7
Inadequately described/Non-Verbal/Not stated	263	7,401	7,664	3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,482</b>	<b>96,236</b>	<b>118,718</b>	<b>18.9</b>

**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.<sup>1</sup>

*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	983	1,734	1,935	2,092	3,871	2,862	1,823	15,300	-
Italian	13	24	21	39	179	279	553	1,108	14.1
Maltese	7	5	4	16	62	56	112	262	6.8
Spanish	30	25	16	39	157	60	66	393	10.4
Croatian	4	8	8	11	35	40	38	144	11.3
Polish	5	6	5	-	36	43	32	127	12.1
Dutch	-	-	-	-	4	6	6	16	-
French	3	11	-	12	44	20	4	94	4.9
German	-	-	-	-	-	8	14	22	-
Portuguese	5	4	5	7	30	10	15	76	14.7
Hungarian	-	-	3	-	6	16	9	34	8.1
Ukrainian	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	9	-
Vietnamese	12	19	17	32	76	25	5	186	21.5
Filipino languages	81	134	148	254	918	364	109	2,008	2.5
Chinese languages	12	35	9	13	66	19	11	165	11.7
Malayalam	38	62	32	16	198	21	3	370	8.3
Sinhalese	17	19	14	22	83	23	3	181	5.6
Korean	7	10	7	-	27	3	-	54	25.5
Indonesian and Malay	9	12	8	12	44	10	4	99	-
Arabic	8	3	23	37	34	21	10	136	8.6
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	7	18.8
Oceanic and Papuan languages	11	12	13	30	64	28	8	166	10.1
Australian Indigenous Languages	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other European languages NEC	3	8	-	4	23	12	18	68	10.3
Other Asian languages NEC	41	66	67	67	272	54	21	588	18.1
Other languages NEC	44	105	93	89	180	49	3	563	9.4
Inadequately described/Non-Verbal/Not stated	40	37	32	23	58	38	51	279	14.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>2,339</b>	<b>2,460</b>	<b>2,815</b>	<b>6,474</b>	<b>4,076</b>	<b>2,918</b>	<b>22,455</b>	<b>3.0</b>

Notes:

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

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Werribee Parish, Archdiocese of Melbourne, Census ID: 122227

National Catholic 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?*

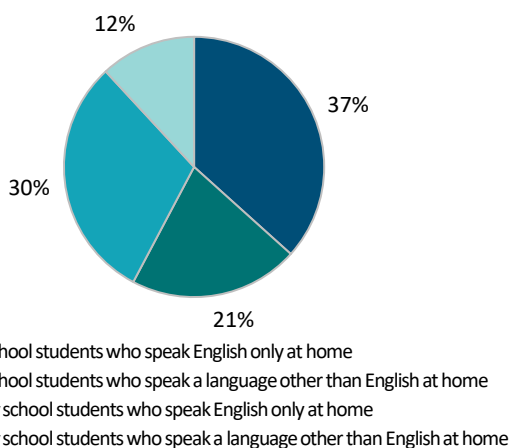
**Table 22: Type of educational institution attending by religious affiliation**

	Catholic	Not Catholic or not stated	All persons	% Catholic
Infants/Primary – Government	758	7,932	8,690	8.7
Infants/Primary – Catholic	1,423	958	2,381	59.8
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	98	1,589	1,687	5.8
Secondary – Government	624	4,201	4,825	12.9
Secondary – Catholic	1,077	663	1,740	61.9
Secondary – Other Non-Government	93	957	1,050	8.9
Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)	543	3,007	3,550	15.3
University or other Tertiary Institutions	889	4,052	4,941	18.0
Other (including pre-school)	846	4,767	5,613	15.1
Not stated/Not applicable <sup>1</sup>	16,118	68,108	84,226	19.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,469</b>	<b>96,234</b>	<b>118,703</b>	<b>18.9</b>

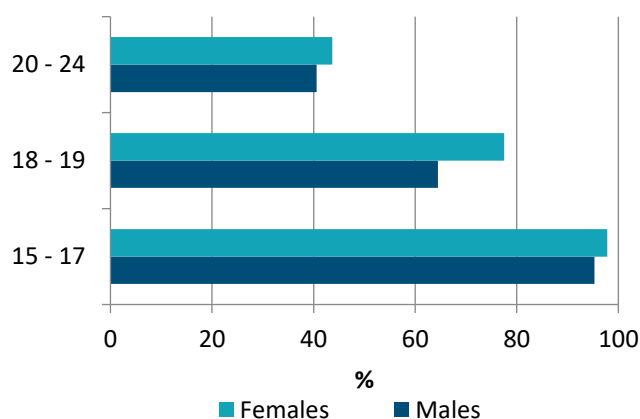
Note:

- 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

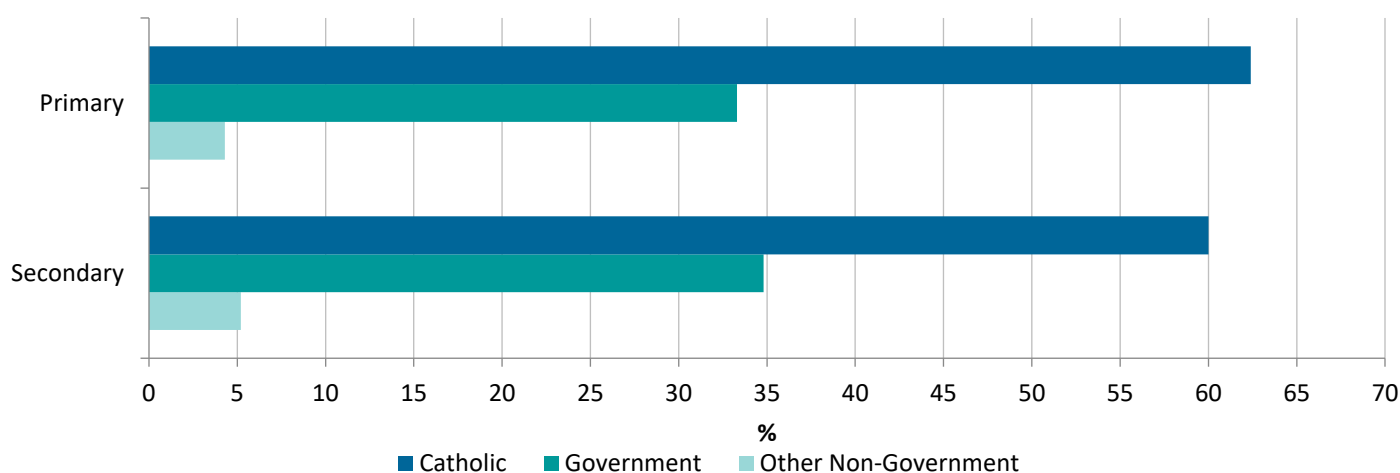
**Table 23: Type of educational institution attending by weekly income of student's family<sup>1</sup>**

	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 <sup>2</sup>	Median annual family income <sup>3</sup> (\$)
Infants/Primary - Government	38	54	106	155	229	75	46	740	103,869
Infants/Primary – Catholic	31	76	104	235	465	283	139	1,415	129,001
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	-	-	-	13	32	21	32	101	166,336
Secondary – Government	25	40	81	145	151	67	33	582	98,863
Secondary – Catholic	14	39	67	178	345	196	139	1,058	133,121
Secondary – Other Non-Government	-	-	-	13	26	16	25	84	159,661
TAFE, University or other tertiary institution	-	11	21	77	121	81	125	470	151,214
Other (including pre-school)	13	7	26	38	56	41	14	199	116,852
Not stated/Not applicable	6	3	8	9	19	-	9	68	106,997
<b>Total</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>1,444</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>4,717</b>	<b>125,091</b>

**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.<sup>1</sup> 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
<b>Catholics aged 15+</b>							
<b>Males</b>							
Postgraduate degree	3	71	127	65	28	21	315
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	76	302	398	226	137	71	1,210
Advanced diploma or diploma level	55	131	166	130	101	75	658
Certificate level	205	464	442	453	408	318	2,290
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	1,110	442	419	501	546	777	3,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,449</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>1,552</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>8,268</b>
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>26.5</i>	<i>33.8</i>	<i>21.2</i>	<i>13.5</i>	<i>7.3</i>	<i>18.4</i>
<b>Females</b>							
Postgraduate degree	3	115	145	56	29	17	365
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	134	612	640	385	172	112	2,055
Advanced diploma or diploma level	73	259	259	211	174	95	1,071
Certificate level	171	315	343	339	235	120	1,523
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	997	424	417	604	763	1,320	4,525
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>1,595</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>1,664</b>	<b>9,539</b>
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>9.9</i>	<i>42.1</i>	<i>43.5</i>	<i>27.6</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>7.8</i>	<i>25.4</i>
<b>All Catholics</b>							
Postgraduate degree	6	186	272	121	57	38	680
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	210	914	1,038	611	309	183	3,265
Advanced diploma or diploma level	128	390	425	341	275	170	1,729
Certificate level	376	779	785	792	643	438	3,813
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	2,107	866	836	1,105	1,309	2,097	8,320
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,827</b>	<b>3,135</b>	<b>3,356</b>	<b>2,970</b>	<b>2,593</b>	<b>2,926</b>	<b>17,807</b>
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>35.1</i>	<i>39.0</i>	<i>24.6</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>22.2</i>

Note:

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



# Employment

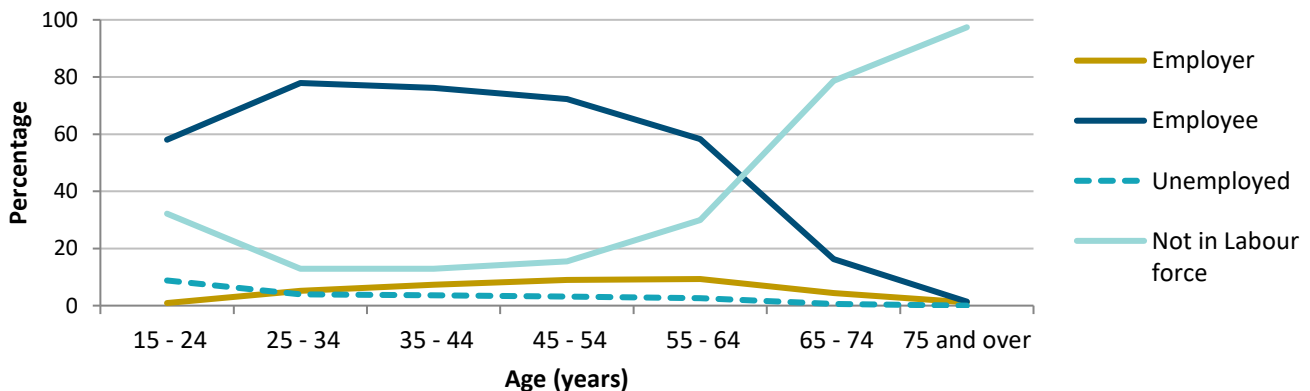
In recent years there have been many changes in society and the workplace that have affected Australian workers. One major change has been the increase in the percentages of workers, especially young people and women, in part-time jobs. Another has been the rise in participation in the labour force by 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.<sup>1</sup> 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
<b>Catholics aged 15+</b>					
<b>Males</b>					
Employer	13	265	349	69	696
Employee	781	2,348	1,734	151	5,014
Unemployed	145	109	73	6	333
Not in the labour force	493	204	403	1,006	2,106
Other/Not stated/Not applicable	10	33	29	27	99
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>2,959</b>	<b>2,588</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>8,248</b>
<i>Per cent in labour force<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>65.1</i>	<i>92.0</i>	<i>83.3</i>	<i>18.0</i>	<i>73.3</i>
<i>Per cent unemployed<sup>3</sup></i>	<i>15.4</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>5.5</i>
<b>Females</b>					
Employer	9	141	144	19	313
Employee	850	2,607	1,878	135	5,470
Unemployed	104	134	91	4	333
Not in the labour force	412	622	823	1,459	3,316
Other/Not stated/Not applicable	6	19	30	46	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>3,523</b>	<b>2,966</b>	<b>1,663</b>	<b>9,533</b>
<i>Per cent in labour force<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>69.7</i>	<i>81.8</i>	<i>71.2</i>	<i>9.5</i>	<i>64.2</i>
<i>Per cent unemployed<sup>3</sup></i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>5.4</i>

**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
<b>Catholics aged 15+</b>							
<b>Males</b>							
Managers	23	111	194	174	123	40	665
Professionals	38	199	263	135	82	23	740
Technicians & Trade Workers	230	349	282	274	208	41	1,384
Community & Personal Service Workers	49	90	81	60	61	17	358
Clerical & Administrative Workers	35	103	136	103	64	24	465
Sales Workers	149	66	50	49	33	6	353
Machinery operators & Drivers	81	165	199	233	211	29	918
Labourers	165	135	127	125	121	31	704
ID / NS / NA <sup>1</sup>	674	182	206	212	323	1,048	2,645
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,444</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,538</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>1,226</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>8,232</b>
<i>Per cent Managers &amp; Professionals<sup>2</sup></i>	7.9	25.5	34.3	26.8	22.7	29.9	25.1
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’<sup>2</sup></i>	61.8	53.3	45.6	54.8	59.8	47.9	53.8
<b>Females</b>							
Managers	25	121	123	98	71	19	457
Professionals	88	422	436	246	109	23	1,324
Technicians & Trade Workers	30	69	72	41	25	8	245
Community & Personal Service Workers	193	204	231	227	121	19	995
Clerical & Administrative Workers	110	286	321	327	277	50	1,371
Sales Workers	300	117	97	103	82	14	713
Machinery operators & Drivers	26	25	45	43	35	3	177
Labourers	74	68	70	104	92	25	433
ID / NS / NA <sup>1</sup>	531	411	402	397	562	1,513	3,816
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,377</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>1,374</b>	<b>1,674</b>	<b>9,531</b>
<i>Per cent Managers &amp; Professionals<sup>2</sup></i>	13.4	41.4	40.1	28.9	22.2	26.1	31.2
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’<sup>2</sup></i>	15.4	12.3	13.4	15.8	18.7	22.4	15.0
<b>All Catholics</b>							
Managers	48	232	317	272	194	59	1,122
Professionals	126	621	699	381	191	46	2,064
Technicians & Trade Workers	260	418	354	315	233	49	1,629
Community & Personal Service Workers	242	294	312	287	182	36	1,353
Clerical & Administrative Workers	145	389	457	430	341	74	1,836
Sales Workers	449	183	147	152	115	20	1,066
Machinery operators & Drivers	107	190	244	276	246	32	1,095
Labourers	239	203	197	229	213	56	1,137
ID / NS / NA <sup>1</sup>	1,205	593	608	609	885	2,561	6,461
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,821</b>	<b>3,123</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>2,933</b>	<b>17,763</b>
<i>Per cent Managers &amp; Professionals<sup>2</sup></i>	10.8	33.7	37.3	27.9	22.4	28.2	28.2
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’<sup>2</sup></i>	37.5	32.1	29.2	35.0	40.3	36.8	34.2

**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?*

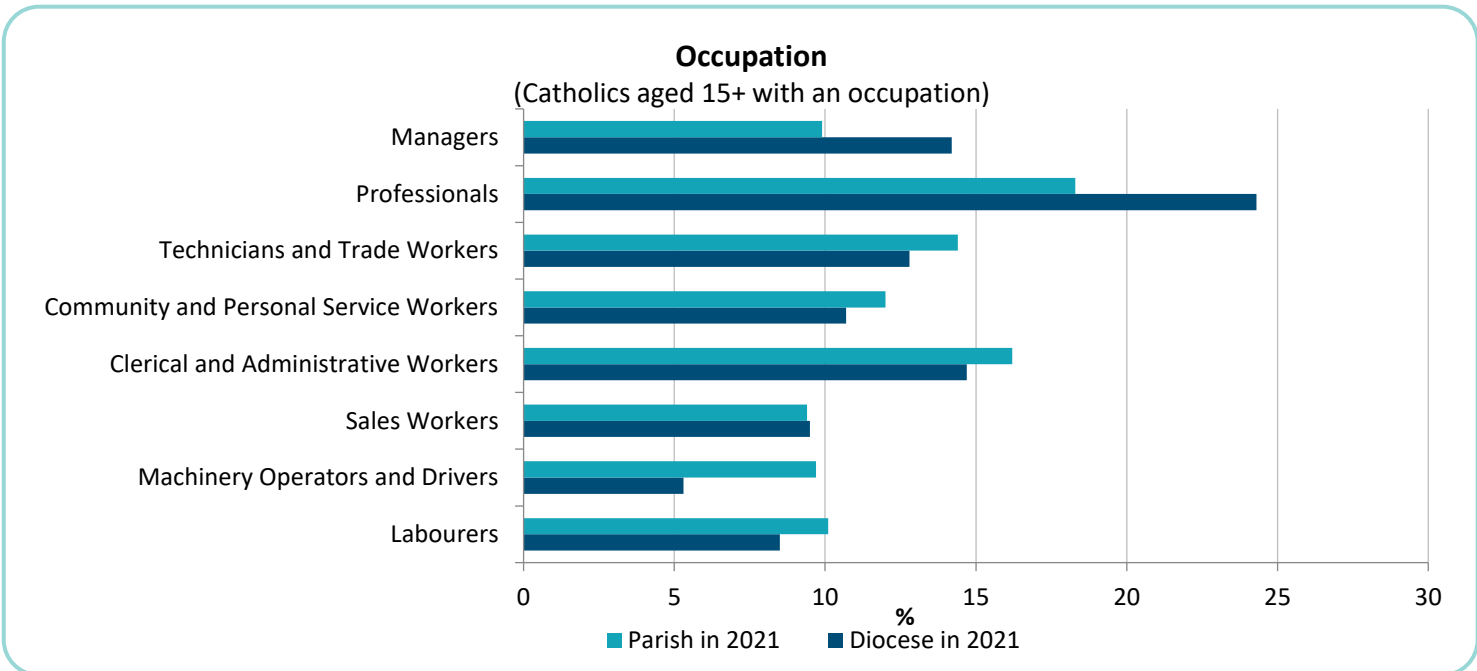
*What are the major occupations of younger people? Middle-aged people? Older people? What do you think accounts for differences in occupation between the different age groups?*

*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	145	62
One parent or lone parent in professional occupation	621	400
Both parents in 'white collar' occupation <sup>1</sup>	307	287
One parent or lone parent in 'white collar' occupation	698	552
Both parents in 'blue collar' occupation <sup>2</sup>	77	91
One parent or lone parent in 'blue collar' occupation	236	147
Not applicable and not stated	288	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>1,739</b>
% with professional parent(s)	32.3	26.6
% with blue collar parent(s)	13.2	13.7

- 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
- Results of other research projects conducted by the National Centre for Pastoral Research



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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