DIOCESAN SOCIAL PROFILE

Based on the 2016 Australian Census

Diocese of Armidale

Date of report: September 2019

Report prepared by: National Centre for Pastoral Research

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AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE
Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research

September 2019

Dear readers,

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

I hope that you will find it to be a valuable tool for your diocese's pastoral planning by helping you understand the local Catholic community and assess its needs. Diocesan pastoral councils and diocesan agencies 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 2016 Census, but some comparisons are provided with 2011 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 diocese 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 and diocese 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 and diocesan 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

Diocesan Social Profile

At a Glance (pages 2 and 3)

Provides a brief glance at some key demographic indicators for the diocese.

Diocesan Overview (pages 4-7)

Provides a clear overview of the Catholic community of the diocese, how it is changing and how it compares to other dioceses.

Diocesan Details (pages 9-25)

Provides much more detail about the Catholics of the diocese, allowing for deeper analysis of the nature of the Catholic community.

Know the diocesan 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 diocese'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 diocese to realise the vision.

This Diocesan 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

By giving a clear picture of the diocese's demographic reality, this profile helps the diocesan 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 THE DIOCESE (2016)

Total Population: 184,229

Catholic Population: 42,490

Catholics make up 23.1 per cent of the total population

Median age of Catholics is 39 years

Total Catholic families: 16,637

4,291 Catholics live alone

2,513 Catholics were born overseas

108 Catholics do not speak English well

2,351 Catholics need assistance with core activities

13,758 Catholics have changed address since 2011

What has changed in the diocesan community since 1996?

This chart will help you identify at a glance changes in some of the key indicators for Catholics in the diocese between 1996 and 2016, and may alert you to possible trends that are occurring. The 2011 and 2016 figures are drawn from the Diocesan 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.

	Diocese in 1996	Diocese in 2001	Diocese in 2006	Diocese in 2011	Diocese in 2016
Catholic population	45,295	45,075	44,284	44,238	**42,490**
Catholics aged 0-14 (%)	26.8	25.8	24.2	22.8	**22.2**
Catholics aged 65+ (%)	10.4	11.7	13.6	15.2	**17.3**
Catholics born in NESC[1] (%)	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.9	**4.3**
Catholics not proficient in English (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	**0.3**
Catholic families	16,231	16,824	16,872	17,146	**16,637**
Catholics living alone	3,428	3,867	4,057	4,291	**4,290**
Catholic students attending Catholic schools (%)	40.5	40.9	41.3	41.0	**42.7**
Catholics with university degree (%)	6.6	8.1	9.4	10.7	**13.1**
Catholic males in labour force (%)	70.7	59.6	66.0	65.3	**67.4**
Catholic females in labour force (%)	51.4	48.6	53.4	55.4	**58.6**
Catholic households owning or purchasing dwelling (%)	64.5	64.8	68.8	68.7	**67.9**

Notes:
1. NESC = Non-English-Speaking Country.

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

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Overview

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

The Diocesan Profile begins by looking at the total population living within the diocesan 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 diocesan 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 diocese?

Table 1: Population[1]	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank[2]	Diocese 2011 Rank[2]
Total population[3]	**184,229**	178,303	23,401,892	21,507,719	24	24
Catholic population	**42,490**	44,238	5,291,834	5,439,267	24	24
Per cent Catholic	**23.1**	24.8	22.6	25.3	14	15
At same address since previous Census (%)	**57.1**	56.8	57.3	57.5	15	16
Median age[4] (years)	**39**	37	40	38	17	17
Aged 0-14 (%)	**22.2**	22.8	19.8	20.5	7	8
Aged 65+ (%)	**17.3**	15.2	16.6	14.1	12	10
Males per 100 females	**91.4**	92.7	90.6	92.1	13	18

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

Table 2 shows the percentage of Catholics who are disabled 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 with some form of disability.

In what particular ways does the diocese support disabled persons and their carers?

Table 2: Disability	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank	Diocese 2011 Rank
Need assistance with core activities (%)	**5.6**	4.9	5.8	4.9	14	13
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability[5] (% of Catholics aged 15+)	**12.9**	12.2	12.5	11.7	12	10

Notes:
1. All figures in this report refer to Catholics only, except for Total Population and certain other clearly indicated figures.
2. A Diocesan Rank of 1 indicates that the diocese had the highest score of any diocese, while the diocese with the lowest score will have a Diocesan Rank of 28.
3. The population figures for the diocese and Australia do not included overseas visitors.
4. Median Age: Half the Catholic population of the diocese (or Australia) are above this age, half are below it. A Diocesan Rank of 1 signifies that the diocese has the highest median age of all dioceses.
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.

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 the diocese?

Table 3: Employment	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank	Diocese 2011 Rank
Managers and Professionals[1] (% of those recording an occupation)	**32.7**	32.2	34.1	33.0	11	9
Workers in 'blue collar' occupations[2] (% of those recording an occupation)	**34.5**	34.4	29.6	30.6	10	14
Men, employed or seeking work[3] (%)	**67.4**	65.3	69.7	69.6	17	23
Women, employed or seeking work[3] (%)	**58.6**	55.4	60.6	58.5	18	24
Unemployed at time of Census[4] (%)	**5.3**	5.9	5.8	5.0	20	4
Youth unemployed at time of Census[5] (%)	**10.8**	11.8	12.2	10.2	21	6

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 diocese's Catholic community, which in itself may raise issues of communication and inclusiveness.

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

Table 4: Birthplace, Indigenous Status & Language	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank	Diocese 2011 Rank
Born overseas in English-speaking country[6]	**1.7**	1.6	5.6	5.7	27	27
Born overseas in non-English-speaking country (%)	**4.3**	2.9	19.1	17.9	27	28
Immigrants from non-English-speaking countries arriving in Census year or previous 3 years	**440**	227	106,428	98,723	24	24
Indigenous Australians	**4,292**	3,901	133,528	124,610	15	16
Speak language other than English at home (%)	**3.3**	2.1	20.4	19.0	28	28
Not proficient in English[7] (%)	**0.2**	0.2	2.6	2.6	28	28

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.

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

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Overview

Table 5: Education[1]	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank	Diocese 2011 Rank
Catholics aged 15+ with bachelor degree or higher qualification (%)	**13.1**	10.7	20.6	17.6	23	26
Aged 15-17 attending an educational institution	**87.4**	84.0	92.2	87.2	23	19
Aged 18-19 attending an educational institution	**44.5**	44.9	62.9	57.8	19	18
Aged 20-24 attending an educational institution	**26.2**	26.5	38.2	34.3	18	18
Catholic primary students attending Catholic schools (%)	**48.9**	47.3	53.1	52.8	17	21
Catholic primary students attending Government schools (%)	**46.6**	48.1	41.0	41.2	11	7
Catholic secondary students attending Catholic schools (%)	**33.9**	33.2	54.5	52.8	27	26
Catholic secondary students attending Government schools (%)	**54.2**	57.2	35.1	37.2	4	2
Primary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic[1] (%)	**38.4**	35.1	28.1	24.1	6	8
Secondary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic[1] (%)	**39.5**	33.5	35.7	31.5	14	18

Note:
1. 'Students … who are not Catholic' includes a small proportion whose religion was not stated in the Census. Some of these may be Catholic.

Overview

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

In 2016, 82 per cent of Australia's Catholics lived in a family setting, with a further nine per cent living alone. The most common type of Catholic family was a couple family with children (45 per cent of all families where at least one person was a Catholic), followed by couple families without children (35%) and one-parent families (parent Catholic, 12%).

Have you observed changes to marriage and family life in recent years? Do you think these changes are common to Australia as a whole, or are they particularly prevalent in this diocese?

What programs and strategies does the diocese have in place to support families with children? One-parent families? Catholics living alone? Catholics who are separated or divorced?

Table 6: Marital status *of Catholics aged 15+*	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank	Diocese 2011 Rank
Never married (%)	34.3	34.4	33.3	33.9	7	9
Married (%)	47.8	48.5	49.7	49.6	20	17
Divorced or Separated (%)	11.3	10.4	11.2	10.8	14	17
Widowed (%)	6.6	6.7	5.8	5.7	8	4

Table 7: Families[1] *in which at least one person is Catholic*	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank	Diocese 2011 Rank
Families	16,608	17,146	1,997,833	2,019,556	23	23
One-parent families	2,014	2,016	231,370	239,340	23	24
One-parent families (% of all families)	12.1	11.8	11.6	11.9	10	12
Couples of mixed religions[2] (%)	66.2	68.3	55.9	55.1	3	3
De facto couples (%)	19.6	18.5	17.7	16.2	10	10
Median annual family income[3] ($)	82,310	66,013	100,270	86,401	24	26

Table 8: Households[4] *in which at least one person is Catholic*	Diocese 2016	Diocese 2011	Australia 2016	Australia 2011	Diocese 2016 Rank	Diocese 2011 Rank
Households	21,616	22,242	2,548,354	2,594,239	23	23
Persons living alone (aged under 35)	525	663	53,499	68,455	24	23
Persons living alone (aged 35+)	3,765	3,628	407,684	402,158	23	23
Persons living alone (total)	4,290	4,291	461,183	470,613	23	23
Persons living alone (% of all persons)	10.1	9.7	8.7	8.7	8	8
Dwellings owned or being purchased (%)	67.9	68.7	71.2	71.4	20	20
Median monthly housing loan repayment[5] ($)	1,488	1,393	1,873	1,861	23	23

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. 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.
4. A household can consist of one or more families, non-family groups or persons living alone.
5. Fifty per cent of households with a housing loan pay a higher repayment, fifty per cent a lower figure.

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

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Diocesan Details

CONTENTS OF THE DETAILED PROFILE

Religious affiliation

The Census question about religion is optional, and just under ten 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 diocese in the period 2007-2016?

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

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

Religious Affiliation
(All persons)
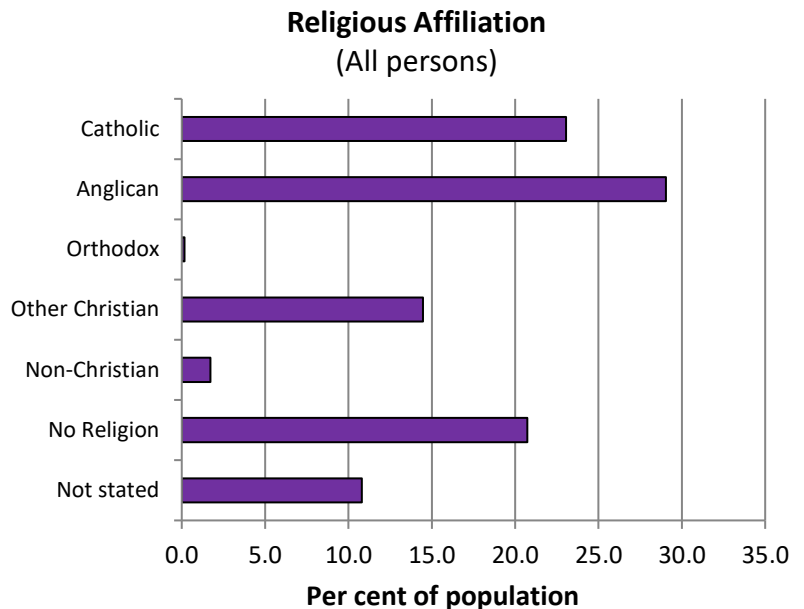
Note: No Religion also includes Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation

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	6,160	6,203	4,739	4,636	5,323	5,613	4,726	3,336	1,738	**42,474**
Maronite Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	**4**
Melkite Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
Ukrainian Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
Chaldean Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
Syro-Malabar Catholic	3	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	**10**
Total Catholic	**6,163**	**6,203**	**4,743**	**4,639**	**5,323**	**5,617**	**4,726**	**3,336**	**1,738**	**42,488**
Per cent Catholic (of total population in age group)	*25.3*	*26.2*	*22.4*	*23.3*	*23.9*	*22.3*	*20.5*	*21.1*	*19.8*	*23.1*
Anglican	5,323	6,126	4,561	5,071	6,792	8,227	7,960	5,972	3,469	**53,501**
Orthodox	19	33	30	39	58	36	45	31	26	**317**
Other Christian	2,471	2,840	2,038	2,408	3,253	4,307	4,402	3,139	1,819	**26,677**
Non-Christian	496	293	605	781	429	304	192	64	18	**3,182**
No Religion	7,451	5,844	6,751	4,884	4,060	4,000	3,179	1,464	542	**38,175**
Not Stated	2,435	2,335	2,433	2,117	2,376	2,698	2,524	1,793	1,185	**19,896**
Total Population	**24,358**	**23,674**	**21,161**	**19,939**	**22,291**	**25,189**	**23,028**	**15,799**	**8,797**	**184,236**

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.

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

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Age and sex

Table 10: Age by sex	Males 2016	Females 2016	Total 2016	Total 2011
Age (years)				
0	239	218	**457**	523
1	274	262	**536**	592
2	251	270	**521**	618
3	338	279	**617**	645
4	323	316	**639**	678
5	322	320	**642**	715
6	323	325	**648**	630
7	333	355	**688**	728
8	359	327	**686**	701
9	364	371	**735**	707
10	369	342	**711**	701
11	298	285	**583**	689
12	349	337	**686**	711
13	313	300	**613**	754
14	331	325	**656**	724
15	313	296	**609**	739
16	313	294	**607**	658
17	312	310	**622**	705
18	297	267	**564**	643
19	278	265	**543**	653
20-24	1,154	1,289	**2,443**	2,638
25-29	1,066	1,227	**2,293**	2,415
30-34	1,124	1,232	**2,356**	2,367
35-39	1,059	1,232	**2,291**	2,621
40-44	1,189	1,355	**2,544**	2,903
45-49	1,334	1,446	**2,780**	2,972
50-54	1,364	1,462	**2,826**	2,938
55-59	1,298	1,485	**2,783**	2,571
60-64	1,137	1,289	**2,426**	2,510
65-69	1,070	1,225	**2,295**	2,112
70-74	881	969	**1,850**	1,802
75-79	653	830	**1,483**	1,301
80+	664	1,072	**1,736**	1,547
Total	**20,292**	**22,177**	**42,469**	**44,211**

The table on this page shows the number of Catholics in Australia in 2016, by age and sex, and compares the total number of Catholics in each age group with the figure in 2011.

In 1996, the median age of Catholics in Australia was 33 years; by 2016, this had risen to 40 years.

Several factors can influence the age profile, including fertility rates in the past and mortality rates, but in many parishes and dioceses the key factor is migration, related either to people moving to other parts of the country or to people arriving from other parishes or dioceses, or from overseas.

It is important to keep an eye on how the diocesan age profile changes over time, as different age groups have different needs and require different pastoral responses.

In this diocese, which age group has the largest Catholic population?

Which age groups have seen the greatest changes since 2011?

Does this data suggest any new challenges for the diocese?

Note: *The Catholic population of the diocese may be slightly different in different tables in this profile as a result of the randomization 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 always be taken in interpreting small counts in tables.*

Age and sex

Age profile of the Catholic population, 2011 & 2016

Legend: Diocese in 2016, Diocese in 2011, Australia in 2016
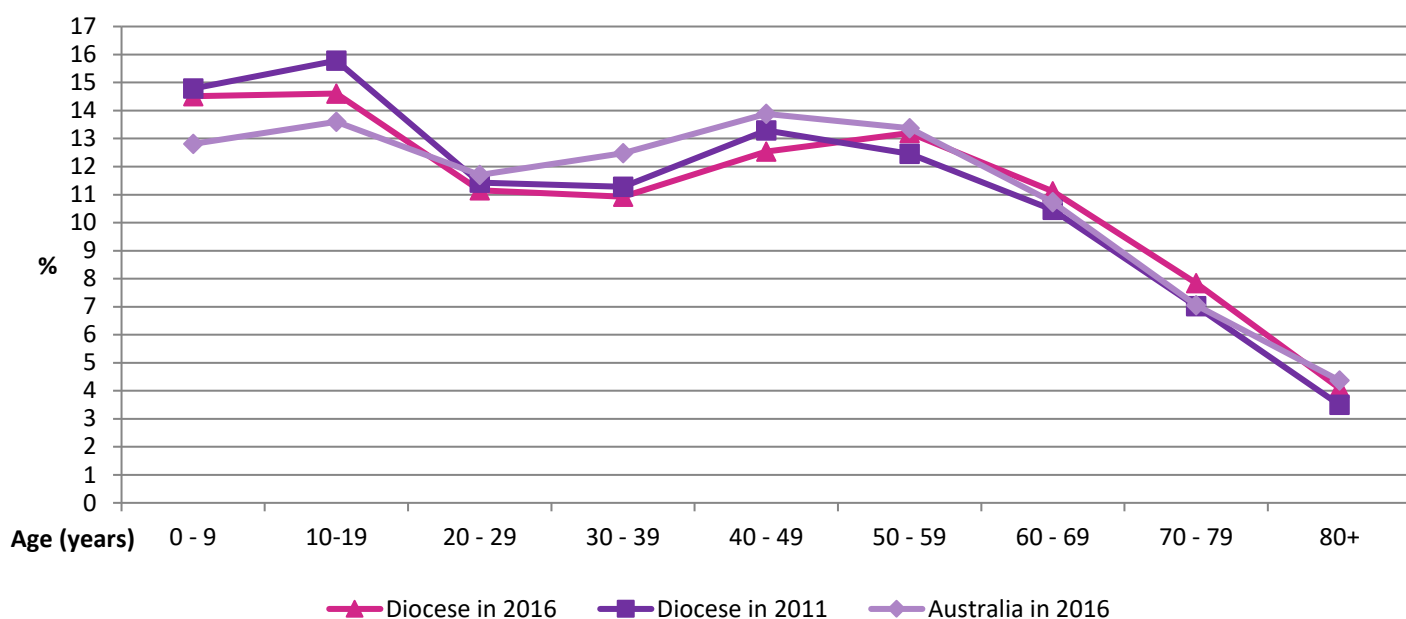
Age-sex profile of the Catholic population, 2016

Number of Catholics

Legend: Male, Female

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 with a profound or severe disability. ABS defines the profound or severe disability 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 have fewer opportunities for social interaction.[2]

How does the diocese support people who need assistance with core activities? How well are Catholic schools in the diocese equipped to meet the needs of students with a disability?

How does the diocese support and encourage Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to people with a disability?

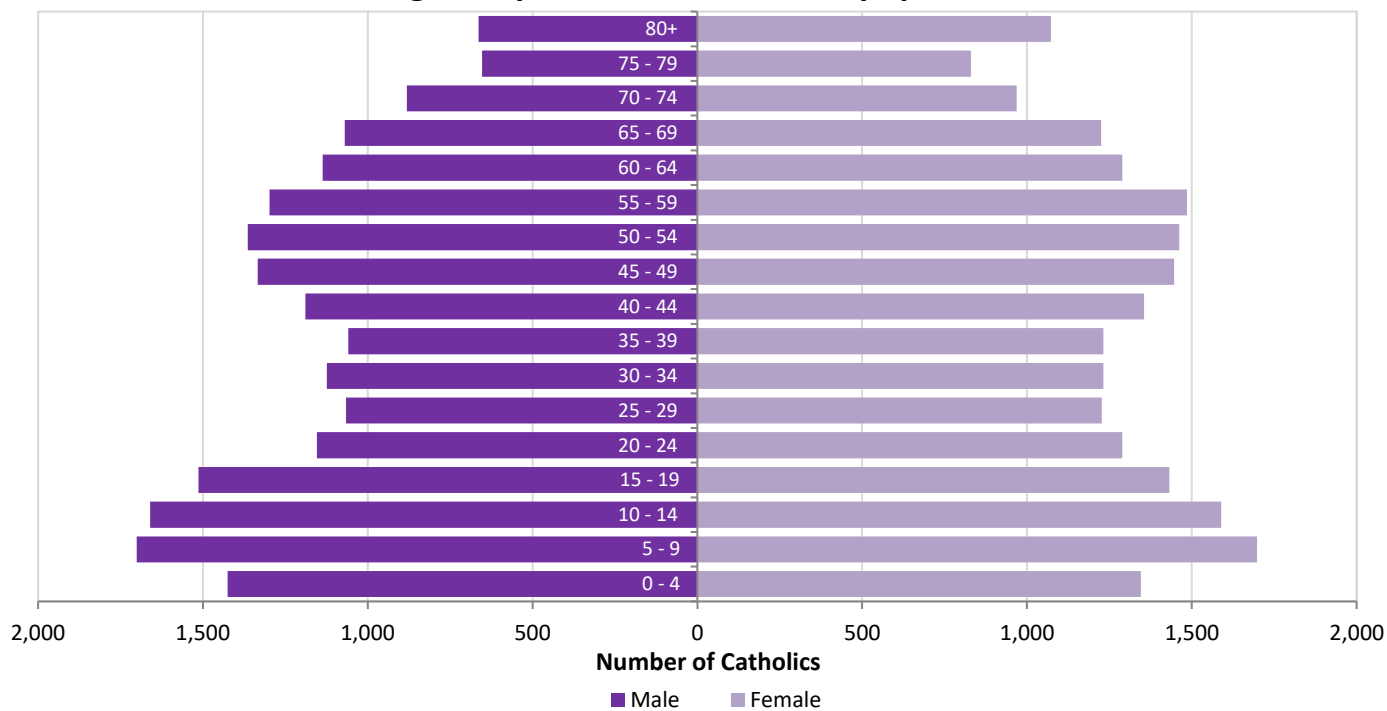| Table 11a: Need for assistance with core activities by age	0-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over	Total
Catholics who have need for assistance with core activities							
Family members:							
Males	164	186	264	213	193	101	1,121
Females	66	154	280	156	278	275	1,209
Lone Persons:							
Males	-	12	47	32	28	11	130
Females	-	8	44	25	84	87	248
Other non-family members or persons not present in a household on Census night [3]							
Males	8	29	37	16	14	-	104
Females	-	12	32	10	10	-	64
Total							
Males	172	227	348	261	235	112	1,355
Females	66	174	356	191	372	362	1,521

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 disability [4]							
Males	150	177	229	337	332	309	1,534
Females	199	308	447	591	633	536	2,714

Notes:

1. *Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006. Census Dictionary Australia 2006. Catalogue No. 2901.0.*
2. *Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. Australian Social Trends 2004. Catalogue No. 4102.0.*
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
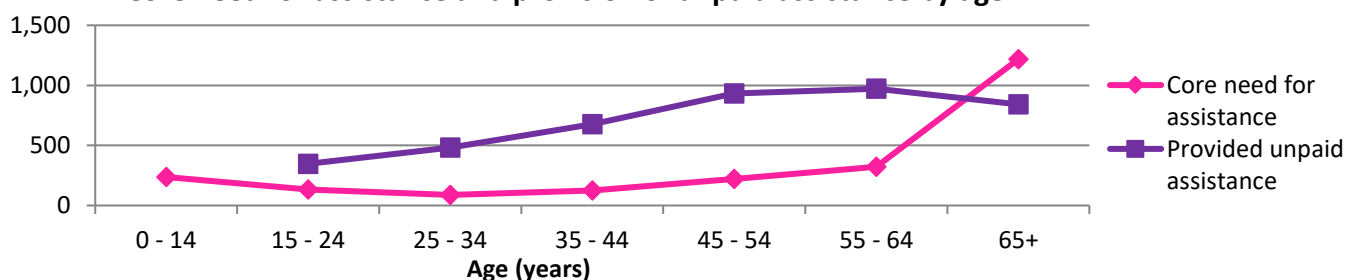
Marital Status

The marital status patterns of Australian Catholics have changed quite dramatically over the last two decades. At the time of the 1991 Census, 31.4 per cent of Australian Catholics aged 15 and over had never been married, 55.4 per cent were married, 7.4 per cent were separated or divorced and 5.8 per cent were widowed. By the 2016 Census, these figures were respectively 33.3 per cent, 49.7 per cent, 11.2 per cent and 5.8 per cent. Since 1991, there has been a substantial fall in the percentage of married Catholics and a rise in the percentage of the never married and separated and divorced.

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

The graph shows the percentage of Catholic men and women aged 15 years and older who lived in the diocese at the time of the 2016 Census and who had changed address in the previous five years. Across Australia in 2016, 36.6 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	2,633	1,341	685	629	343	166	92	5,889
Married	37	758	1,325	1,597	1,581	1,345	854	7,497
Separated/Divorced	6	82	237	451	463	341	120	1,700
Widowed	-	3	3	19	53	99	237	414
Total	**2,676**	**2,184**	**2,250**	**2,696**	**2,440**	**1,951**	**1,303**	**15,500**
Females								
Never married	2,631	1,262	664	495	234	85	84	5,455
Married	77	1,038	1,589	1,787	1,810	1,360	649	8,310
Separated/Divorced	12	154	309	554	568	324	121	2,042
Widowed	-	7	28	71	165	427	1,051	1,749
Total	**2,720**	**2,461**	**2,590**	**2,907**	**2,777**	**2,196**	**1,905**	**17,556**

Change of address since 2011 by marital status
(Catholics aged 15+)
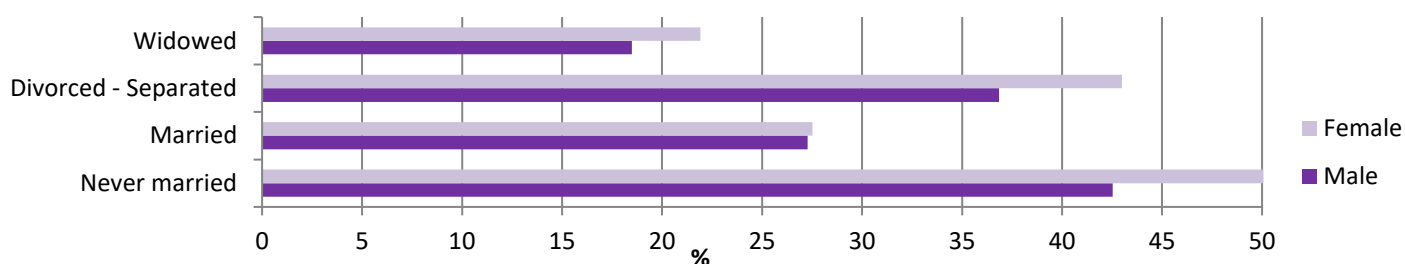
Table 13: Religious affiliation of couple by social marital status	In a registered marriage	In a de facto marriage	Total couples	% couples in de facto marriages
Both persons Catholic	3,519	680	4,199	16.2
One person Catholic, the other non-Catholic Christian	5,923	1,318	7,241	18.2
One Catholic, the other not Christian or Not stated	1,201	601	1,802	33.4
Total	**10,643**	**2,599**	**13,242**	**19.6**

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

13

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.

What is the proportion of 'mixed marriages' among couple families in this diocese? It is likely to be higher now than previously. How does this alter the pastoral needs of families, and how does it affect diocesan services, including Catholic education?

Is this a particularly difficult time, financially, for families in the diocese? What assistance is the diocese able to give struggling families? Note that the income of one-parent families is likely to be much lower than that of two-parent families. What support services can the diocese offer one-parent 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	$4,000 or more	Income not fully stated	Total families	Median Family Income[2] ($)
Two-parent families with children at home:										
Both parents Catholic	43	59	221	549	591	225	158	225	2,071	2,086
One parent Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	60	138	405	973	1,000	401	232	412	3,621	2,028
One parent Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	13	31	132	282	284	106	65	93	1,006	1,996
Couple with no children living at home:										
Both Catholic	176	422	420	449	353	109	100	108	2,137	1,295
One person Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	284	641	684	860	684	173	125	166	3,617	1,351
One person Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	45	94	118	210	189	62	40	27	785	1,685
One-parent families: Parent is Catholic	361	499	460	328	103	12	9	235	2,007	828
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	81	141	200	214	134	47	20	96	933	1,291
Other: Reference person Catholic but spouse temporarily absent[3]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	431	431	-
Total	1,063	2,025	2,640	3,865	3,338	1,135	749	1,793	16,608	1,575

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	595	217	147	62	38	1,059
$500-$799	1,311	274	253	125	60	2,023
$800-$1,249	1,646	413	351	178	70	2,658
$1,250-$1,999	2,017	585	753	387	152	3,894
$2,000-$2,999	1,654	525	736	340	79	3,334
$3,000-$3,999	509	196	262	125	32	1,124
$4,000 or more	392	112	149	93	14	760
Income not fully stated	835	343	326	204	77	1,785
Total Families	**8,959**	**2,665**	**2,977**	**1,514**	**522**	**16,637**
Median Family Income ($)	*$1,439*	*$1,579*	*$1,822*	*$1,812*	*$1,518*	*$1,575*

Note: Table population is Catholic families. Dependent children include all children aged 0-14 and dependent students aged 15-24.

Weekly Family Income
(Catholic families)

Legend: Diocese in 2016; Australia in 2016

Per cent of Catholic families
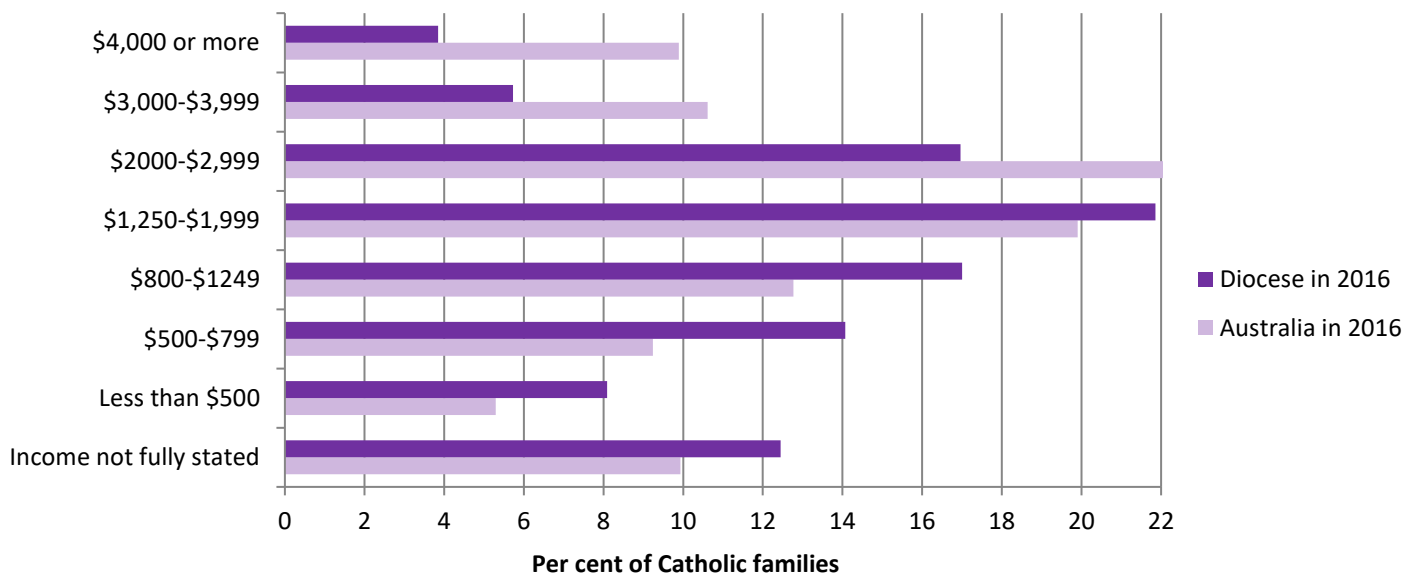
Table 16: Social marital status by number of dependent children	0 dependent children	1 dependent child	2 dependent children	3 dependent children	4 or more	Total
Family Composition:						
Married couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	6,385	1,364	1,912	1,027	306	10,994
De facto couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	1,551	477	393	191	70	2,682
One parent family, parent Catholic	616	651	445	214	96	2,022
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	409	189	196	78	46	918
Total families	**8,961**	**2,681**	**2,946**	**1,510**	**518**	**16,616**

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

15

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 8,861,600 households in Australia in 2016. At least one Catholic person lived in 2,548,400 households, or 29 per cent of all households. Seventy-eight per cent of these Catholic households were family households and, of the Catholic family households, 75 per cent were occupied dwellings that were owned or being purchased.

What is the current housing situation in this diocese? 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 diocese's pastoral strategies relate to housing issues?

Table 17: Household composition by tenure type	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	11,998	406	3,387	809	16,600	72.3
Lone person aged under 35 years	163	22	286	54	525	31.0
Lone person aged 35 years or over	2,230	218	935	382	3,765	59.2
Group households	296	30	357	43	726	40.8
Total households	**14,687**	**676**	**4,965**	**1,288**	**21,616**	**67.9**

Table 18: Household composition by monthly housing loan repayment	$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	406	831	1,990	1,618	531	571	1,523
Lone person aged under 35 years	6	29	46	23	8	6	1,313
Lone person aged 35 years or over	81	102	167	79	11	16	1,161
Group households	15	24	54	27	9	9	1,333
Total households	**508**	**986**	**2,257**	**1,747**	**559**	**602**	**1,488**

Notes:

1. *Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. Census Dictionary Australia 2016. Catalogue No. 2901.0.*
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.

How does the diocese support Catholics born in non-English-speaking countries in matters such as chaplaincy, education, pastoral care and so on?

Is there a need for the diocese to review the way it addresses the needs of Catholics who have arrived in Australia in recent years?

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

- Philippines
- United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)
- New Zealand
- Ireland (including Northern Ireland)
- Italy

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

- Korea, Republic of (South)
- India
- Philippines
- Colombia
- Vietnam
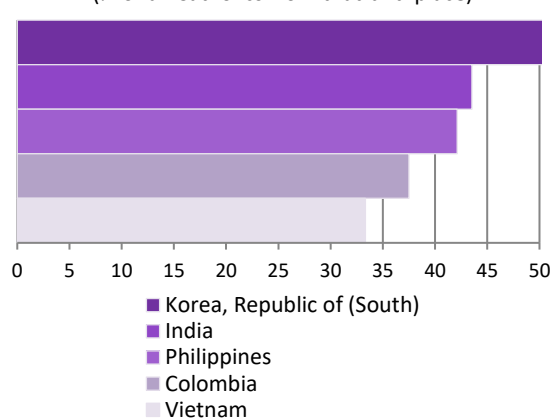
Table 19: Birthplace	All Catholics	% of Catholics	% recent arrivals[1]
Australia	38,804	91.3	-
New Zealand	163	0.4	1.8
Other Oceania	62	0.1	17.7
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	315	0.7	5.1
Ireland (including Northern Ireland)	114	0.3	3.5
Italy	99	0.2	3.0
Malta	32	0.1	-
Spain and Portugal	23	0.1	-
France	26	0.1	-
Netherlands	91	0.2	-
Germany	99	0.2	3.0
Austria	37	0.1	-
Croatia and other Former Yugoslavia	41	0.1	-
Poland	36	0.1	8.3
Hungary	22	0.1	-
Other Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Baltic States	29	0.1	-
Other Europe NEC	18	0.0	16.7
Vietnam	18	0.0	33.3
Philippines	755	1.8	42.1
Indonesia	14	0.0	-
Malaysia	19	0.0	26.3
Singapore	21	0.0	-
South East Asia NEC	10	0.0	30.0
India	85	0.2	43.5
Sri Lanka	8	0.0	-
China (except Hong Kong and Taiwan)	15	0.0	-
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	18	0.0	-
Korea, Republic of (South)	27	0.1	63.0
Egypt	9	0.0	-
Lebanon	15	0.0	-
Iraq	3	0.0	-
Sudan (including South Sudan)	-	-	-
Middle East and North Africa NEC	18	0.0	22.2
South Africa	35	0.1	17.1
Mauritius	8	0.0	-
United States of America	43	0.1	-
Canada	35	0.1	8.6
Argentina	12	0.0	-
Brazil	38	0.1	15.8
Colombia	8	0.0	37.5
Chile	9	0.0	-
Central America and South America NEC	15	0.0	-
Other countries	68	0.2	26.5
Inadequately described/Not stated	1167	2.7	-
Total	**42,484**	**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 2013 and 2016 inclusive.*

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

17

Language

In 2016, 20 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]

What provisions does this diocese make for people who do not speak English well in terms of availability of Masses in languages other than English, interpreters at diocesan events, translation of written material, access to priests and other pastoral ministers who speak their language and so on?

Is there a need for current services to be reviewed in the light of recent changes to the non-English-speaking Catholic population?

Table 20: Language spoken at home by religious affiliation	Catholic	Not Catholic (or not stated)	All persons	% Catholics among speakers[2]
English	40,540	120,973	161,513	25.1
Italian	131	65	196	66.8
Maltese	17	-	17	100.0
Spanish	69	74	143	48.3
Croatian	17	6	23	73.9
Polish	25	13	38	65.8
Dutch	28	85	113	24.8
French	49	110	159	30.8
German	48	269	317	15.1
Portuguese	40	25	65	61.5
Hungarian	19	16	35	54.3
Ukrainian	-	11	11	-
Vietnamese	21	157	178	11.8
Filipino languages	607	144	751	80.8
Chinese languages	44	974	1,018	4.3
Malayalam	76	43	119	63.9
Sinhalese	-	98	98	-
Korean	20	191	211	9.5
Indonesian and Malay	17	57	74	23.0
Arabic	21	369	390	5.4
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	-	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	36	152	188	19.1
Australian Indigenous Languages	15	95	110	13.6
Other European languages NEC	43	553	596	7.2
Other Asian languages NEC	24	1,377	1,401	1.7
Other languages NEC	53	279	332	16.0
Inadequately described/Non-Verbal/Not stated	514	15,634	16,148	3.2
Total	**42,474**	**141,770**	**184,244**	**23.1**

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 diocese? 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	30-39	40-59	60 and over	Total	% who do not speak English well
English	2,683	4,549	4,695	4,513	4,327	10,416	9,363	40,546	-
Italian	3	4	4	7	8	44	61	131	5.3
Maltese	-	-	-	-	3	5	8	16	-
Spanish	3	3	3	6	15	18	17	65	4.6
Croatian	-	-	-	-	-	5	12	17	-
Polish	-	3	-	-	7	3	18	31	9.7
Dutch	-	3	-	3	-	3	18	27	-
French	-	5	7	6	6	15	11	50	-
German	-	-	7	3	7	19	14	50	-
Portuguese	-	7	3	13	12	12	-	47	21.3
Hungarian	-	-	-	-	-	3	13	16	18.8
Ukrainian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vietnamese	-	-	3	10	7	3	-	23	34.8
Filipino languages	10	46	98	93	149	184	30	610	3.6
Chinese languages	3	9	3	8	10	10	10	53	9.4
Malayalam	9	8	5	21	19	13	-	75	9.3
Sinhalese	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Korean	-	-	-	17	4	3	-	24	29.2
Indonesian and Malay	-	5	4	-	3	4	3	19	-
Arabic	-	-	5	3	4	9	3	24	-
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	4	-	9	5	9	8	4	39	7.7
Australian Indigenous Languages	-	3	3	-	-	8	-	14	-
Other European languages NEC	5	6	5	-	7	11	10	44	6.8
Other Asian languages NEC	3	4	3	3	11	9	-	33	9.1
Other languages NEC	-	7	8	6	14	20	-	55	-
Inadequately described/Non-Verbal/ Not stated	41	43	48	39	35	111	194	511	4.1
Total	**2,764**	**4,705**	**4,913**	**4,756**	**4,657**	**10,936**	**9,789**	**42,520**	**0.3**

Notes:

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

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

19

Attendance at Educational Institutions

According to the 2016 Census, more than 719,000 Australians attended Catholic schools, accounting for almost 21 per cent of all school students in Australia.

In 2016, there were 915,100 Catholic students—almost one in six of all Catholics—attending Government, Catholic, and other non-Government schools. They constitute a very large sub-group of Australian Catholics, considerably larger than the 623,400 or so who attend Mass every Sunday. A further 317,600 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.

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

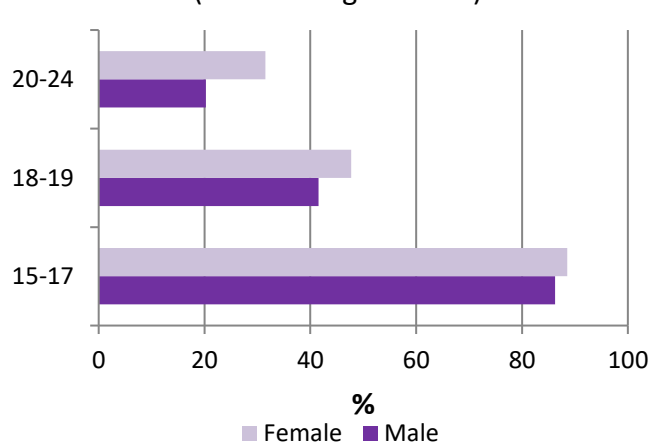| Table 22: Type of educational institution attending by religious affiliation	Catholic	Not Catholic or not stated	All persons	% Catholic
Infants/Primary – Government	2,123	8,773	10,896	19.5
Infants/Primary – Catholic	2,227	1,387	3,614	61.6
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	202	1,011	1,213	16.7
Secondary – Government	1,768	5,896	7,664	23.1
Secondary – Catholic	1,106	721	1,827	60.5
Secondary – Other Non-Government	390	1,558	1,948	20.0
Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)	795	2,403	3,198	24.9
University or other Tertiary Institutions	1,116	4,428	5,544	20.1
Other (including pre-school)	1,163	3,170	4,333	26.8
Not stated/Not applicable[1]	31,600	112,392	143,992	21.9
Total	**42,490**	**141,739**	**184,229**	**23.1**

Note:
1. *This table includes the total population of the diocese 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

- 2%
- 32%
- 2%
- 64%
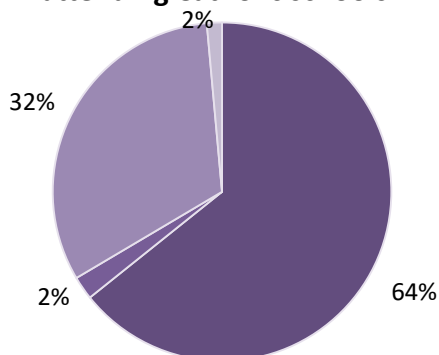
- Primary school students who speak English only at home
- Primary school students who speak a language other than English at home
- Secondary school students who speak English only at home
- Secondary school students who speak a language other than English at home

Education participation rate
(Catholics aged 15-24)

%
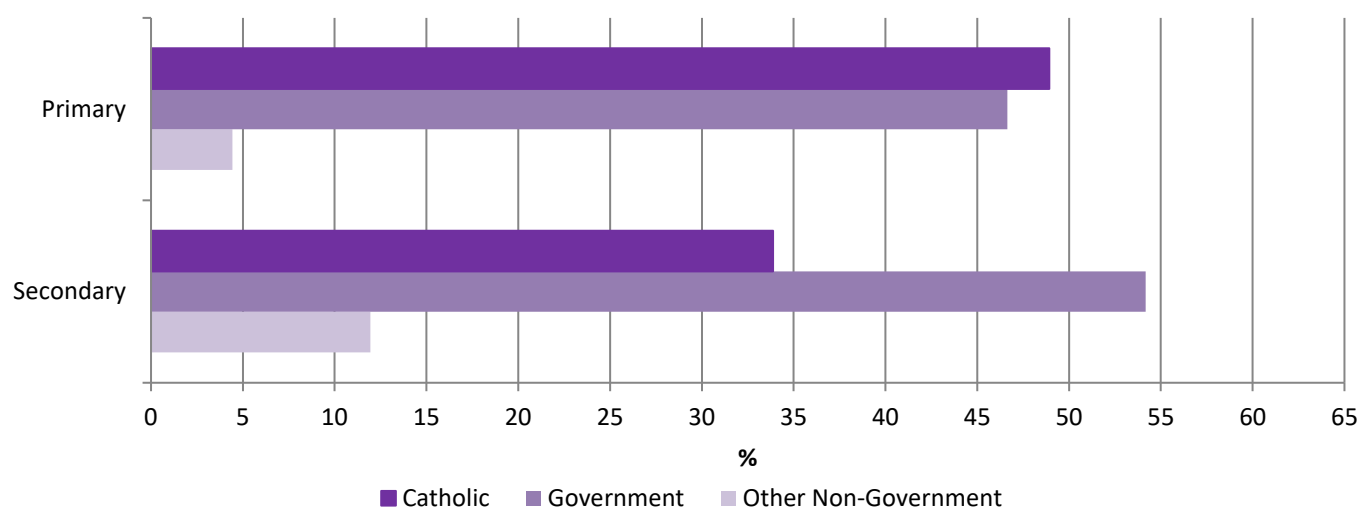Female   Male

Attendance at Educational Institutions

Table 23: Type of educational institution attending by weekly income of student's family[1]	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	169	288	293	549	372	119	64	2,061	77,974
Infants/Primary – Catholic	79	119	209	516	630	234	166	2,183	108,985
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	8	10	16	25	34	33	34	176	136,839
Secondary – Government	87	161	202	381	295	106	62	1,573	85,607
Secondary – Catholic	24	52	76	228	282	120	68	1,050	112,889
Secondary – Other Non-Government	7	11	21	34	42	26	27	207	118,239
TAFE, University or other tertiary institution	8	3	15	24	20	17	7	116	99,644
Other (including pre-school)	19	11	14	69	64	17	15	229	99,715
Not stated/Not applicable	39	70	72	96	72	18	13	428	69,007
Total	**440**	**725**	**918**	**1,922**	**1,811**	**690**	**456**	**8,023**	**93,854**

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.

Type of school being attended by Catholic students

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

21

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 2016, that figure had reached 21 per cent. Among Catholics aged 15 to 34 years in 2016, 25.8 per cent of women had a degree compared to 15.6 per cent of men. In contrast, among Catholics aged 55 and over, 13.8 per cent of men and 13.6 per cent of women had degrees.

To what extent has participation in higher education in theology and related fields kept pace in this diocese with participation in higher education in general? What new challenges and opportunities are presented to the diocese 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 diocese changed in the last two decades?

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

| 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	-	29	54	69	50	60	262
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	50	233	286	234	219	166	1,188
Advanced diploma or diploma level	19	109	184	199	155	132	798
Certificate level	498	991	848	942	761	804	4,844
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	2,098	818	877	1,263	1,255	2,104	8,415
Total	**2,665**	**2,180**	**2,249**	**2,707**	**2,440**	**3,266**	**15,507**
Per cent with degree or higher	*1.9*	*12.0*	*15.1*	*11.2*	*11.0*	*6.9*	*9.4*
Females							
Postgraduate degree	5	73	89	91	62	35	355
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	130	649	640	451	362	288	2,520
Advanced diploma or diploma level	92	259	338	395	364	270	1,718
Certificate level	477	642	581	679	545	304	3,228
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	2,025	829	938	1,294	1,435	3,210	9,731
Total	**2,729**	**2,452**	**2,586**	**2,910**	**2,768**	**4,107**	**17,552**
Per cent with degree or higher	*4.9*	*29.4*	*28.2*	*18.6*	*15.3*	*7.9*	*16.4*
All Catholics							
Postgraduate degree	5	102	143	160	112	95	617
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	180	882	926	685	581	454	3,708
Advanced diploma or diploma level	111	368	522	594	519	402	2,516
Certificate level	975	1,633	1,429	1,621	1,306	1,108	8,072
Inadequately described/Not stated/Not applicable	4,123	1,647	1,815	2,557	2,690	5,314	18,146
Total	**5,394**	**4,632**	**4,835**	**5,617**	**5,208**	**7,373**	**33,059**
Per cent with degree or higher	*3.4*	*21.3*	*22.2*	*15.1*	*13.4*	*7.4*	*13.1*

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 diocese?

Table 25: Labour force status by age and sex	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+					
Males					
Employer	44	690	1,144	307	2,185
Employee	1,496	3,039	2,743	408	7,686
Unemployed	185	201	190	12	588
Not in the labour force	911	409	952	2,411	4,683
Other/Not stated/Not applicable	37	91	117	124	369
Total	**2,673**	**4,430**	**5,146**	**3,262**	**15,511**
Per cent in labour force[2]	*64.5*	*88.7*	*79.2*	*22.3*	*67.4*
Per cent unemployed[3]	*10.7*	*5.1*	*4.7*	*1.7*	*5.6*
Females					
Employer	27	376	598	142	1,143
Employee	1,466	3,379	3,401	374	8,620
Unemployed	185	185	151	10	531
Not in the labour force	1,008	1,023	1,420	3,410	6,861
Other/Not stated/Not applicable	45	85	118	170	418
Total	**2,731**	**5,048**	**5,688**	**4,106**	**17,573**
Per cent in labour force[2]	*61.4*	*78.1*	*73.0*	*12.8*	*58.6*
Per cent unemployed[3]	*11.0*	*4.7*	*3.6*	*1.9*	*5.2*

Labour force status by age (percentage of all Catholics aged 15+)
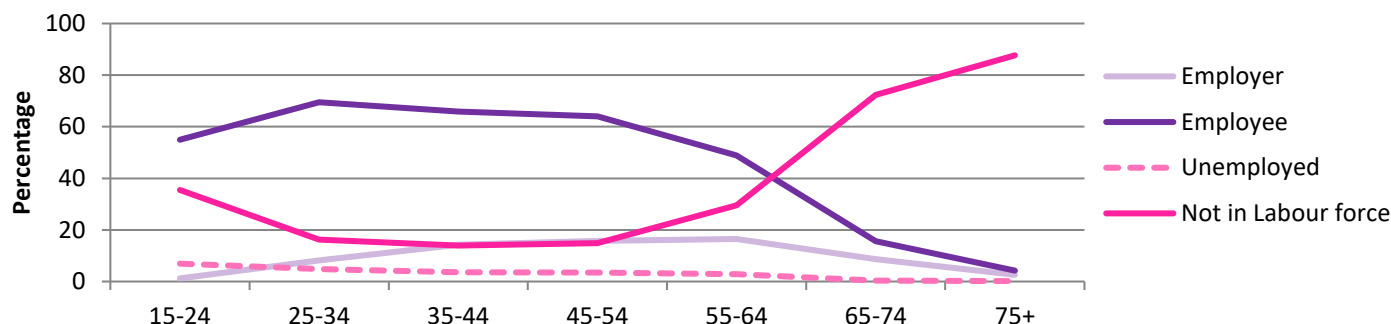
Notes:
1. *Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. Australian Social Trends 2004. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.115.*
2. *The percentage of Catholics in each age group who are in the labour force (i.e. employed or seeking employment).*
3. *The percentage of Catholics in each age group who were in the labour force and were unemployed at the time of the Census.*

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

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Occupation

Catholic women are more likely to be employed as managers or professionals; 35 per cent of Catholic women and 33 per cent of Catholic men who reported their occupation in the 2016 Census worked as managers or professionals. But men were much more likely than women—47 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	81	262	437	520	458	299	2,057
Professionals	54	190	232	249	182	84	991
Technicians & Trade Workers	499	558	399	401	291	77	2,225
Community & Personal Service Workers	85	80	97	109	84	21	476
Clerical & Administrative Workers	34	47	69	105	84	27	366
Sales Workers	241	100	104	106	90	36	677
Machinery operators & Drivers	130	256	275	373	255	98	1,387
Labourers	395	337	281	307	262	63	1,645
ID / NS / NA[1]	1,153	358	353	531	732	2,568	5,695
Total	**2,672**	**2,188**	**2,247**	**2,701**	**2,438**	**3,273**	**15,519**
Per cent Managers & Professionals[2]	*8.9*	*24.7*	*35.3*	*35.4*	*37.5*	*54.3*	*31.0*
Per cent 'blue collar workers'[2]	*67.4*	*62.9*	*50.4*	*49.8*	*47.4*	*33.8*	*53.5*
Females							
Managers	43	129	215	289	254	165	1,095
Professionals	158	571	567	531	383	65	2,275
Technicians & Trade Workers	95	88	79	103	71	9	445
Community & Personal Service Workers	379	327	317	352	252	53	1,680
Clerical & Administrative Workers	169	321	446	584	405	107	2,032
Sales Workers	457	184	151	202	149	47	1,190
Machinery operators & Drivers	19	27	22	34	15	12	129
Labourers	170	128	177	202	186	54	917
ID / NS / NA[1]	1,229	683	600	609	1,052	3,583	7,756
Total	**2,719**	**2,458**	**2,574**	**2,906**	**2,767**	**4,095**	**17,519**
Per cent Managers & Professionals[2]	*13.5*	*39.4*	*39.6*	*35.7*	*37.1*	*44.9*	*34.5*
Per cent 'blue collar workers'[2]	*19.1*	*13.7*	*14.1*	*14.8*	*15.9*	*14.6*	*15.4*
All Catholics							
Managers	124	391	652	809	712	464	3,152
Professionals	212	761	799	780	565	149	3,266
Technicians & Trade Workers	594	646	478	504	362	86	2,670
Community & Personal Service Workers	464	407	414	461	336	74	2,156
Clerical & Administrative Workers	203	368	515	689	489	134	2,398
Sales Workers	698	284	255	308	239	83	1,867
Machinery operators & Drivers	149	283	297	407	270	110	1,516
Labourers	565	465	458	509	448	117	2,562
ID / NS / NA[1]	2,382	1,041	953	1,140	1,784	6,151	13,451
Total	**5,391**	**4,646**	**4,821**	**5,607**	**5,205**	**7,368**	**33,038**
Per cent Managers & Professionals[2]	*11.3*	*31.7*	*37.5*	*35.5*	*37.3*	*51.0*	*32.7*
Per cent 'blue collar workers'[2]	*43.2*	*38.8*	*31.9*	*31.8*	*31.6*	*25.4*	*34.5*

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 and Professionals' and 'blue collar'.*

Occupation

Occupation is one indicator of socioeconomic status. The table on this page shows the occupation of all persons aged 15 years and over by religious affiliation.

Does the following table suggest that the socioeconomic status of Catholics in this diocese is different from that of non-Catholics? If there are differences, how might they have arisen?
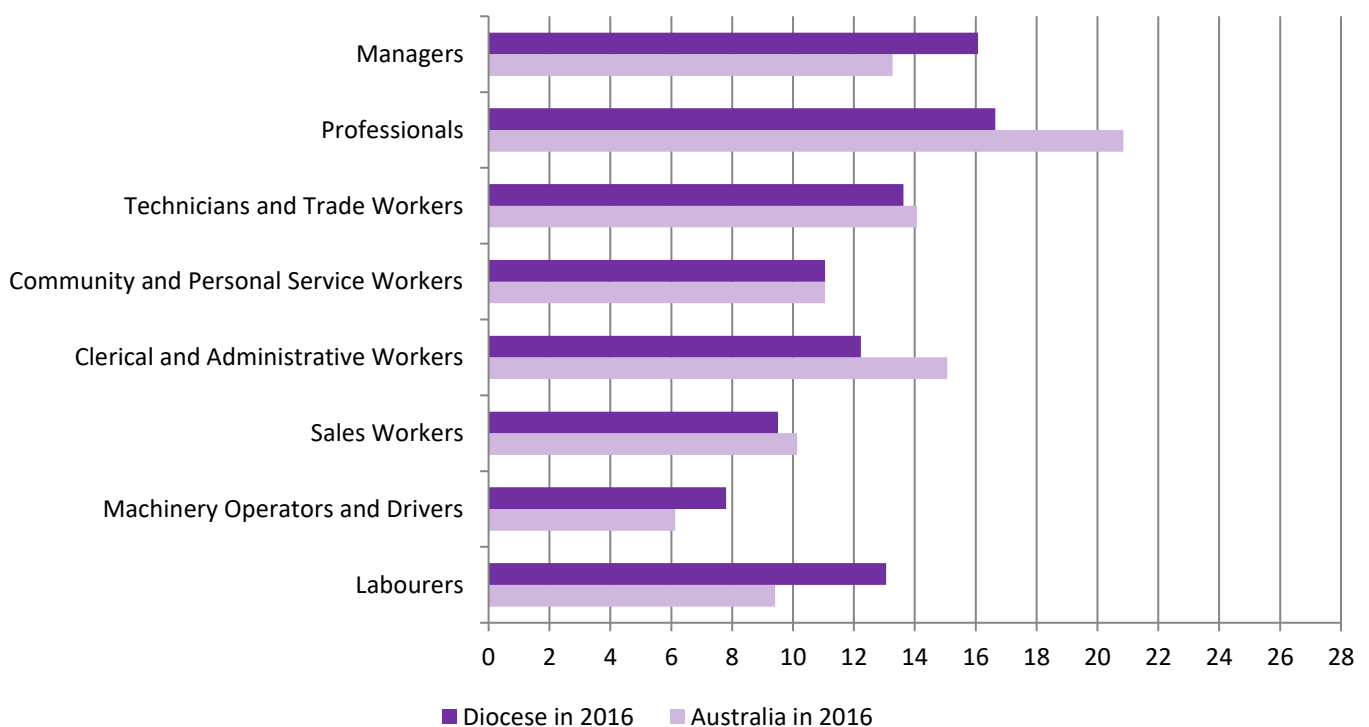
Table 27: Occupation by religious affiliation[1] (%)	Catholic	Non-Catholic
All persons aged 15+ with an occupation		
Managers	16.1	17.8
Professionals	16.6	16.6
Technicians & Trade Workers	13.6	13.0
Community & Personal Service Workers	11.1	10.5
Clerical & Administrative Workers	12.2	11.1
Sales Workers	9.5	8.9
Machinery operators & Drivers	7.8	7.7
Labourers	13.1	14.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

Note:

1. *In this table, 'Not Catholic' includes those who did not answer the question about religious affiliation.*

Occupation
(Catholics aged 15+ with an occupation)

■ Diocese in 2016   ■ Australia in 2016

Diocese of Armidale
National Catholic Census Project 1991-2016
Principal source of data: Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2016 Census of Population and Housing

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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
- Results from the 2016 National Church Life Survey
- 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 1991-2016.

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