



# DIOCESAN SOCIAL PROFILE

Based on the 2021 Australian Census

Archdiocese of Adelaide



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# AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

## Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research

July 2023

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 has 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 diocese who identified themselves as Catholic in the Census. Census data informs 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.

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# 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 (2021)

Total Population: 1,615,557

Catholic Population: 253,871

Catholics make up 15.7 per cent of the total population

Median age of Catholics is 40 years

Total Catholic families: 102,298

29,819 Catholics live alone

73,290 Catholics were born overseas

7,414 Catholics do not speak English well

19,941 Catholics need assistance with core activities

77,253 Catholics have changed address since 2016



# 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 2021 and may alert you to possible trends that are occurring. The 2016 and 2021 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.

## RANDOMISATION OF CENSUS DATA

The Catholic population of the diocese 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 always be taken in interpreting small counts in tables.

	Diocese in 1996	Diocese in 2001	Diocese in 2006	Diocese in 2011	Diocese in 2016	Diocese in 2021 <sup>1</sup>
Catholic population	266,980	275,345	278,017	290,144	274,135	<b>253,871</b>
Catholics aged 0-14 (%)	20.8	19.9	18.6	18.0	17.2	<b>15.1</b>
Catholics aged 65+ (%)	13.0	14.4	15.8	16.4	19.5	<b>23.7</b>
Catholics born in NESC <sup>2</sup> (%)	22.9	21.1	20.2	20.2	20.9	<b>23.1</b>
Catholics not proficient in English (%)	4.4	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.1	<b>2.9</b>
Catholic families	96,928	102,360	105,180	110,373	106,021	<b>102,298</b>
Catholics living alone	23,315	27,815	29,257	30,858	29,391	<b>29,819</b>
Catholic students attending Catholic schools (%)	52.4	53.3	55.2	54.3	52.9	<b>54.4</b>
Catholics with university degree (%)	8.6	10.7	13.3	16.1	18.9	<b>23.3</b>
Catholic males in labour force (%)	67.7	59.6	66.3	67.1	65.9	<b>65.1</b>
Catholic females in labour force (%)	52.0	50.3	55.1	57.1	58.2	<b>58.3</b>
Catholic households owning or purchasing dwelling (%)	72.7	74.2	75.3	74.6	75.0	<b>77.1</b>

### Notes:

1. Prior to 2021, persons living on Australian Defence Force bases were excluded from the Diocesan Social Profiles figures, but rather were counted within the Military Ordinariate of Australia figures. For 2021, such persons have been included in the geographical diocese in which the military base is located. The overall result of inclusion in 2021 figures is negligible.
2. NESC = Non-English-Speaking Country.



# Overview

**Table 1: Population** (for more detail 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 the most significant for the life of the diocese?*

Table 1: Population <sup>1</sup>	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank <sup>2</sup>	Diocese 2016 Rank <sup>2</sup>
Total population <sup>3</sup>	<b>1,615,557</b>	1,511,576	25,422,788	23,401,892	5	5
Catholic population	<b>253,871</b>	274,135	5,075,910	5,291,834	6	6
Per cent Catholic	<b>15.7</b>	18.1	20.0	22.6	25	25
At same address since previous Census (%)	<b>64.2</b>	62.8	59.4	57.3	2	1
Median age <sup>4</sup> (years)	<b>40</b>	43	43	40	24	3
Aged 0-14 (%)	<b>15.1</b>	17.2	17.9	19.8	27	28
Aged 65+ (%)	<b>23.7</b>	19.5	19.9	16.6	5	4
Males per 100 females	<b>86.4</b>	88.5	89.1	90.6	26	27

**Table 2: Disability** (for more detail 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 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Need assistance with core activities (%)	<b>7.9</b>	6.9	6.7	5.8	3	3
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability <sup>5</sup> (% of Catholics aged 15+)	<b>14.7</b>	13.6	13.5	12.5	5	5

**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 had a diocesan rank of 28.
3. The population figures for the diocese and Australia do not include 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.





# Overview

**Table 3: Employment** (for more detail 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 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Managers and Professionals <sup>1</sup> (% of those recording an occupation)	<b>35.7</b>	32.8	37.1	34.1	9	10
Workers in 'blue collar' occupations <sup>2</sup> (% of those recording an occupation)	<b>27.5</b>	29.1	28.1	29.6	22	22
Men, employed or seeking work <sup>3</sup> (%)	<b>65.1</b>	65.9	66.5	69.7	18	22
Women, employed or seeking work <sup>3</sup> (%)	<b>58.3</b>	58.2	59.7	60.6	19	20
Unemployed at time of Census <sup>4</sup> (%)	<b>4.2</b>	6.2	4.2	5.8	10	10
Youth unemployed at time of Census <sup>5</sup> (%)	<b>8.6</b>	13.3	8.9	12.2	8	6

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

This table begins to explore the ethnic balance of the diocese's Catholic community, which may highlight greater needs related to 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 of the rest of Australia?*

Table 4: Birthplace, Indigenous Status & Language	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Born overseas in English-speaking country <sup>6</sup>	<b>5.7</b>	5.9	5.5	5.6	6	6
Born overseas in non-English-speaking country (%)	<b>23.1</b>	20.9	21.4	19.1	7	5
Immigrants from non-English-speaking countries & arriving in Census year or previous 3 years	<b>5,134</b>	5,341	97,457	106,428	6	6
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	<b>2,716</b>	2,725	135,686	133,528	21	22
Speak language other than English at home (%)	<b>23.8</b>	23.0	21.5	20.4	6	5
Not proficient in English <sup>7, 8</sup> (%)	<b>2.9</b>	3.1	2.7	2.6	5	4

**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.
8. The figures and rankings for some dioceses were slightly incorrect in the 2016 Social Profile and have been amended in this 2021 Social Profile.



# Overview

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

Catholic schools are a very important part of every diocese in Australia. This table is primarily devoted to the educational levels of all Catholics, the participation of young Catholics and to the percentage of non-Catholics in Catholic schools.

*What are the implications for the diocese, if any, of changes in the percentage of Catholics with a university degree?*

*Has there been any change in the percentage of young Catholics continuing their education in the post-compulsory years?*

*What challenges for the diocese are associated with the percentage of Catholic students attending Catholic schools? And what challenges are associated with the percentage of non-Catholics among students at Catholic schools?*

*In relation to the topics covered in this table, how does this diocese compare with other dioceses in Australia?*

Table 5: Education <sup>1</sup>	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Catholics aged 15+ with bachelor degree or higher qualification (%)	<b>23.3</b>	18.8	24.6	20.6	9	9
Catholics attending an educational institution (% of all Catholics in each age group)						
Aged 15-17	<b>96.5</b>	94.7	94.9	92.2	2	1
Aged 18-19	<b>68.3</b>	65.5	67.2	62.9	5	5
Aged 20-24	<b>47.7</b>	41.7	43.4	38.2	4	4
Catholic primary students attending Catholic schools (%)	<b>52.9</b>	52.6	55.5	53.1	16	13
Catholic primary students attending Government schools (%)	<b>38.2</b>	38.9	38.4	41.0	17	24
Catholic secondary students attending Catholic schools (%)	<b>56.2</b>	53.3	55.3	54.5	10	12
Catholic secondary students attending Government schools (%)	<b>30.2</b>	33.7	33.4	35.1	25	22
Primary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic <sup>1</sup> (%)	<b>54.9</b>	43.4	36.6	28.1	3	3
Secondary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic <sup>1</sup> (%)	<b>55.5</b>	49.4	41.3	35.7	4	4

Notes:  
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

**Table 6, 7 & 8: Marital Status, Families & Households** (for more detail 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%).

*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 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Never married (%)	30.4	31.0	32.9	33.3	22	24
Married (%)	49.9	50.1	49.3	49.7	12	13
Divorced or Separated (%)	12.4	11.9	11.7	11.2	10	9
Widowed (%)	7.4	7.0	6.1	5.8	5	4

**Table 7: Families<sup>1</sup>**  
*in which at least one person is Catholic*

	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Families	102,298	106,000	1,995,658	1,997,833	6	6
One-parent families	11,931	12,698	225,180	231,370	6	6
One-parent families (% of all families)	11.7	12.0	11.3	11.6	7	11
Couples of mixed religions <sup>2</sup> (%)	58.7	55.9	58.1	55.9	20	22
De facto couples (%)	16.0	15.7	17.7	17.7	26	24
Median annual family income <sup>3</sup> (\$)	110,647	91,176	120,943	100,270	13	15

**Table 8: Households<sup>4</sup>**  
*in which at least one person is Catholic*

	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Households	136,180	140,213	2,567,362	2,548,354	6	5
Persons living alone (aged under 35)	2,346	2,952	51,145	53,499	5	5
Persons living alone (aged 35+)	27,473	26,439	442,080	407,684	5	5
Persons living alone (total)	29,819	29,391	493,225	461,183	5	5
Persons living alone (% of all persons)	11.7	10.7	9.7	8.7	5	5
Dwellings owned or being purchased (%)	77.1	75.0	73.0	71.2	6	3
Median monthly housing loan repayment <sup>5</sup> (\$)	1,655	1,595	1,948	1,873	18	20

**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, 50 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, 50 per cent a lower figure.



# Diocesan Details

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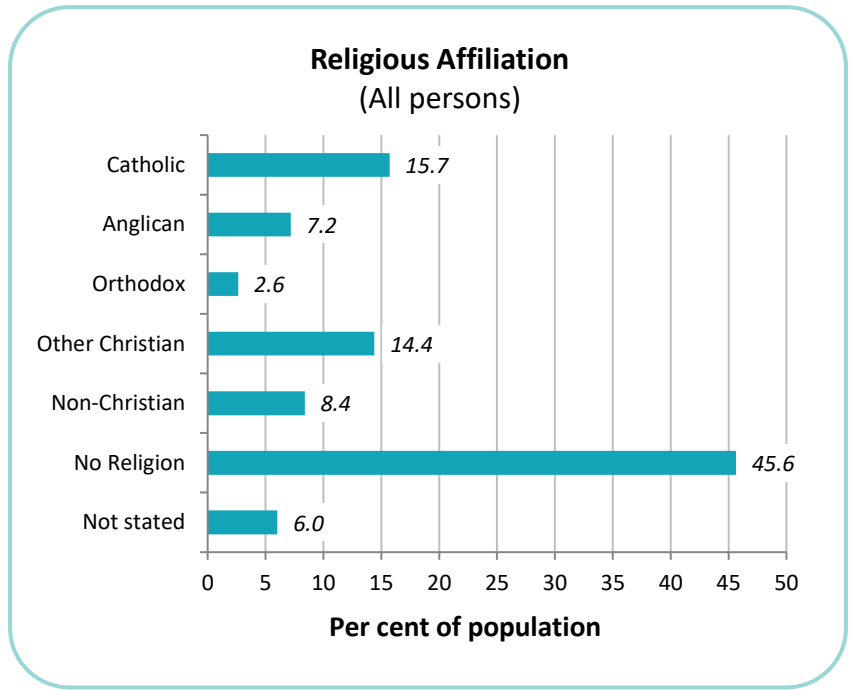
# Religious Affiliation

The Census question about religion is optional, and just over 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, where it remained in 2021. 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 2012-2021?*

*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?*



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	22,927	29,171	25,217	27,269	31,171	37,897	34,597	26,364	17,325	<b>251,938</b>
Maronite Catholic	77	68	77	86	80	82	70	60	22	<b>622</b>
Melkite Catholic	6	4	6	5	7	5	-	3	-	<b>36</b>
Ukrainian Catholic	24	35	22	30	44	54	84	93	29	<b>415</b>
Chaldean Catholic	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	<b>3</b>
Syro-Malabar Catholic	192	194	66	123	191	77	14	7	5	<b>869</b>
<b>Total Catholic</b>	<b>23,226</b>	<b>29,472</b>	<b>25,388</b>	<b>27,516</b>	<b>31,493</b>	<b>38,115</b>	<b>34,765</b>	<b>26,527</b>	<b>17,381</b>	<b>253,883</b>
<b>Per cent Catholic (of total population in age group)</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>15.7</b>
Anglican	4,858	7,856	5,468	6,255	10,868	18,281	22,622	23,435	16,169	<b>115,812</b>
Orthodox	3,925	4,694	4,614	4,369	5,081	7,207	5,048	3,992	3,742	<b>42,672</b>
Other Christian	19,205	22,741	18,898	21,687	25,172	31,177	37,063	34,909	21,932	<b>232,784</b>
Non-Christian	21,020	15,494	25,543	30,785	19,853	10,629	7,451	3,487	1,246	<b>135,508</b>
No Religion	97,006	95,047	116,266	113,855	94,329	88,536	72,854	42,612	16,935	<b>737,440</b>
Not Stated	10,124	10,105	12,728	13,625	12,261	12,157	11,338	8,655	6,450	<b>97,443</b>
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>179,364</b>	<b>185,409</b>	<b>208,905</b>	<b>218,092</b>	<b>199,057</b>	<b>206,102</b>	<b>191,141</b>	<b>143,617</b>	<b>83,855</b>	<b>1,615,542</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	879	874	<b>1,753</b>	2,158
1	949	879	<b>1,828</b>	2,650
2	986	989	<b>1,975</b>	2,779
3	1,030	1,041	<b>2,071</b>	2,937
4	1,121	1,093	<b>2,214</b>	2,977
5	1,237	1,210	<b>2,447</b>	3,117
6	1,340	1,287	<b>2,627</b>	3,240
7	1,408	1,314	<b>2,722</b>	3,368
8	1,414	1,345	<b>2,759</b>	3,495
9	1,456	1,373	<b>2,829</b>	3,488
10	1,428	1,436	<b>2,864</b>	3,443
11	1,472	1,459	<b>2,931</b>	3,385
12	1,544	1,477	<b>3,021</b>	3,407
13	1,509	1,588	<b>3,097</b>	3,347
14	1,513	1,584	<b>3,097</b>	3,419
15	1,510	1,471	<b>2,981</b>	3,399
16	1,543	1,407	<b>2,950</b>	3,547
17	1,484	1,469	<b>2,953</b>	3,521
18	1,411	1,396	<b>2,807</b>	3,398
19	1,421	1,352	<b>2,773</b>	3,423
20-24	6,649	6,646	<b>13,295</b>	15,872
25-29	5,838	6,257	<b>12,095</b>	14,227
30-34	5,870	7,116	<b>12,986</b>	15,472
35-39	6,505	8,020	<b>14,525</b>	15,875
40-44	6,785	8,088	<b>14,873</b>	17,923
45-49	7,747	8,874	<b>16,621</b>	19,863
50-54	8,643	9,930	<b>18,573</b>	20,637
55-59	9,031	10,514	<b>19,545</b>	19,346
60-64	8,383	10,128	<b>18,511</b>	16,855
65-69	7,223	9,028	<b>16,251</b>	16,042
70-74	6,797	8,760	<b>15,557</b>	11,906
75-79	4,765	6,193	<b>10,958</b>	10,023
80+	6,797	10,597	<b>17,394</b>	15,602
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,688</b>	<b>136,195</b>	<b>253,883</b>	274,141

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

In 1996, the median age of Catholics in Australia was 33 years; by 2021, this had risen to 43 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 2016?*

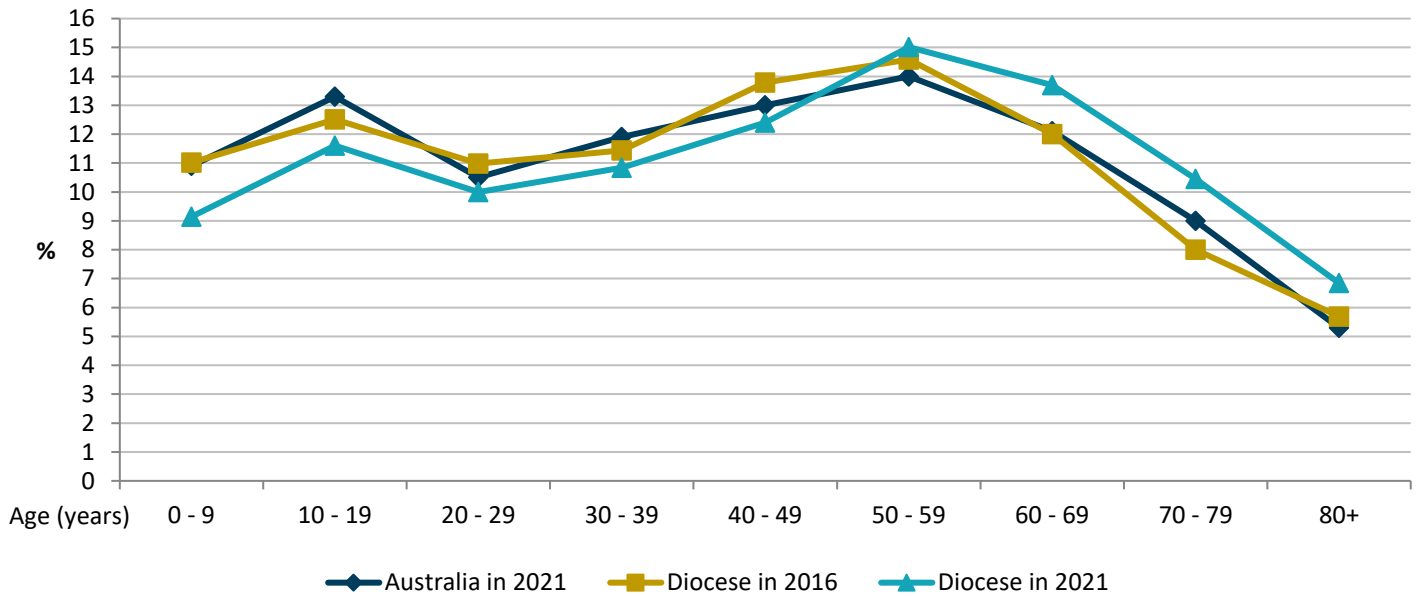
*Does this data suggest any new challenges for the diocese?*

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

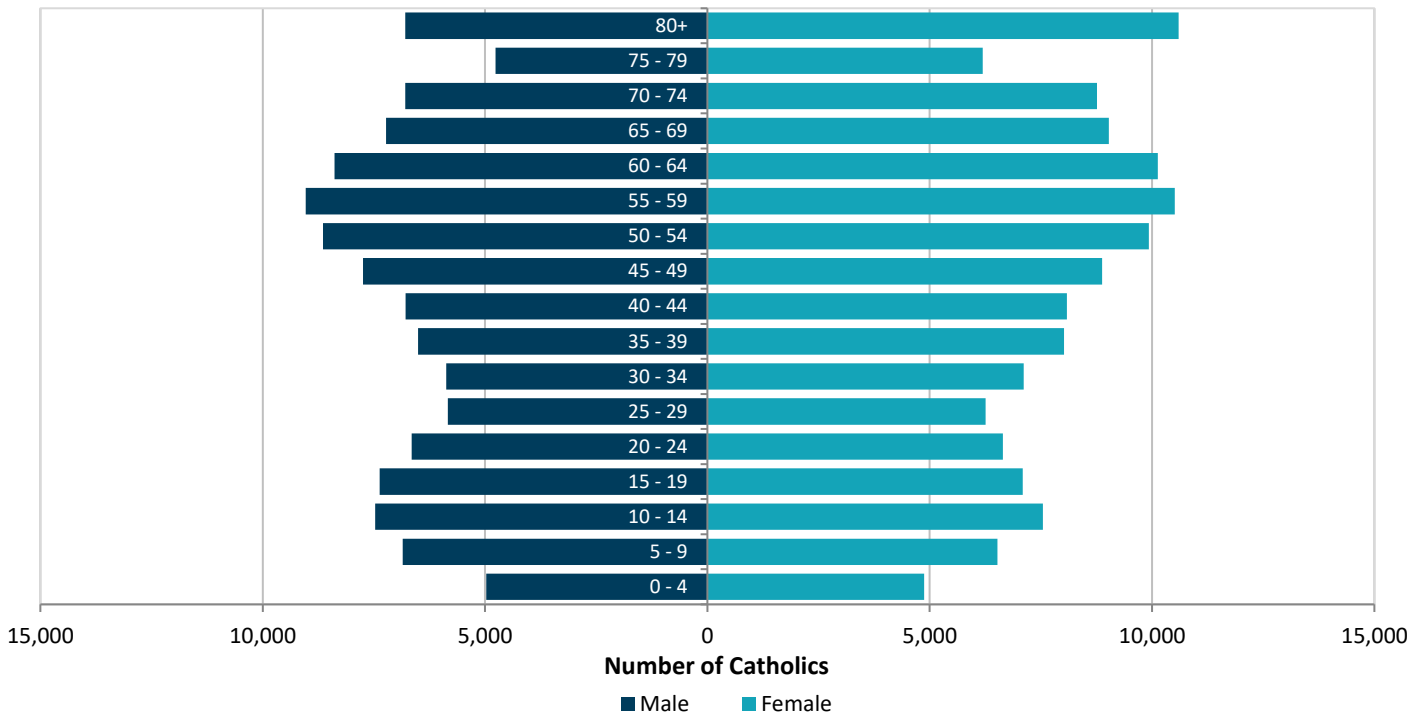


# Age and Sex

## 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 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”.<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 have fewer opportunities for social interaction.<sup>2</sup>

*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
<b>Catholics who have need for assistance with core activities</b>							
<b>Family members:</b>							
Males	967	880	911	971	1,170	820	5,719
Females	505	684	1,153	1107	1,460	978	5,887
<b>Lone Persons:</b>							
Males	-	120	366	233	263	308	1,290
Females	-	66	340	353	876	1250	2,885
<b>Other non-family members or persons not present in a household on Census night<sup>3</sup></b>							
Males	20	104	222	219	353	521	1,439
Females	19	85	253	260	633	1,471	2,721
<b>Total</b>							
Males	987	1,104	1,499	1,423	1,786	1,649	8,448
Females	524	835	1,746	1,720	2,969	3,699	11,493

**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	674	737	1,407	2,548	3,179	3,320	11,865
Females	775	1,309	2,585	4,522	5,514	5,040	19,745

**Notes:**

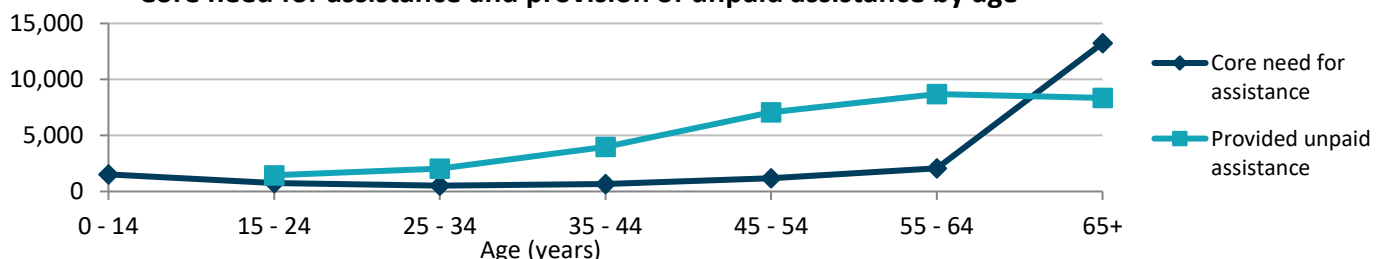
1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006. *Census Dictionary Australia 2006*. Catalogue No. 2901.0.

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 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 and divorced.

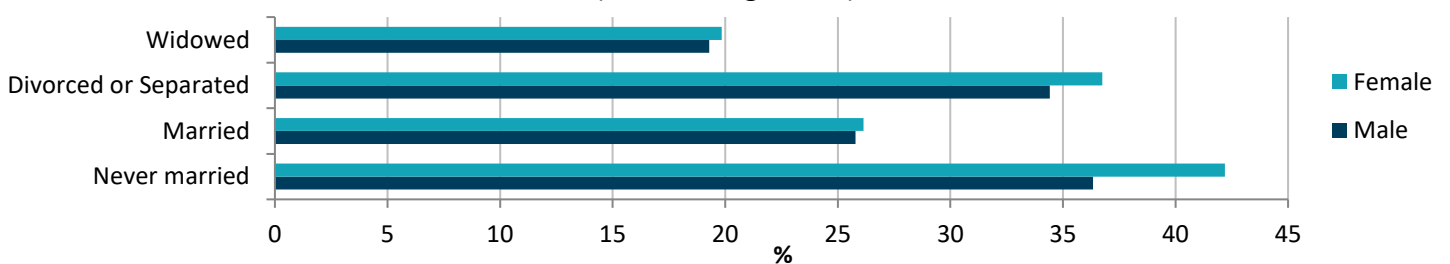
*How might changes in marital status patterns affect the life of the Church in this diocese? Do they result in the need for new pastoral services and programs?*

The graph below shows, for each marital status, the percentage of Catholic men and women aged 15 years and older who lived in the diocese 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	13,958	8,240	3,955	3,533	2,663	1,047	468	33,864
Married	50	3,229	8,191	10,256	11,200	9,793	7,952	50,671
Divorced or Separated	9	231	1,122	2,504	3,294	2,603	1,142	10,905
Widowed	4	5	23	93	265	588	1,998	2,976
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,021</b>	<b>11,705</b>	<b>13,291</b>	<b>16,386</b>	<b>17,422</b>	<b>14,031</b>	<b>11,560</b>	<b>98,416</b>
<b>Females</b>								
Never married	13,567	7,728	3,605	2,998	2,183	967	553	31,601
Married	151	5,129	10,448	11,832	12,746	10,675	5,865	56,846
Divorced or Separated	9	498	1,952	3,674	4,737	3,461	1,577	15,908
Widowed	-	15	99	307	969	2,693	8,795	12,878
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,727</b>	<b>13,370</b>	<b>16,104</b>	<b>18,811</b>	<b>20,635</b>	<b>17,796</b>	<b>16,790</b>	<b>117,233</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	30,421	2,946	33,367	8.8
One person Catholic, the other non-Catholic Christian	19,711	3,403	23,114	14.7
One Catholic, the other non-Christian, not stated or temporarily absent	21,706	7,379	29,085	25.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,838</b>	<b>13,728</b>	<b>85,566</b>	<b>16.0</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.

*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 <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 Family Income <sup>2</sup> (\$)
<b>Two-parent families with children at home:</b>										
Both parents Catholic	182	279	1,028	3,051	5,114	3,486	3,734	903	17,777	2,762
One parent Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	65	125	453	1,491	2,894	2,161	2,699	629	10,517	2,970
One parent Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	104	186	671	2,236	4,306	3,087	3,412	735	14,737	2,883
<b>Couples with no children living at home:</b>										
Both partners Catholic	1,197	3,010	2,997	3,188	2,790	1,068	968	376	15,594	1,345
One partner Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	717	1,880	2,498	2,786	2,420	1,116	884	292	12,593	1,534
One partner Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	494	1,154	1,700	2,736	3,325	1,629	1,133	223	12,394	2,000
<b>One-parent families:</b>										
Parent is Catholic	960	1,540	2,779	3,089	1,853	450	306	954	11,931	1,300
<b>Other families where at least one person is Catholic</b>										
Other: Reference person Catholic but spouse temporarily absent <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,941	1,941	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,938</b>	<b>8,563</b>	<b>12,974</b>	<b>19,621</b>	<b>23,757</b>	<b>13,550</b>	<b>13,608</b>	<b>6,287</b>	<b>102,298</b>	<b>2,122</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: 50 per cent of families have a higher income, 50 per cent 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.



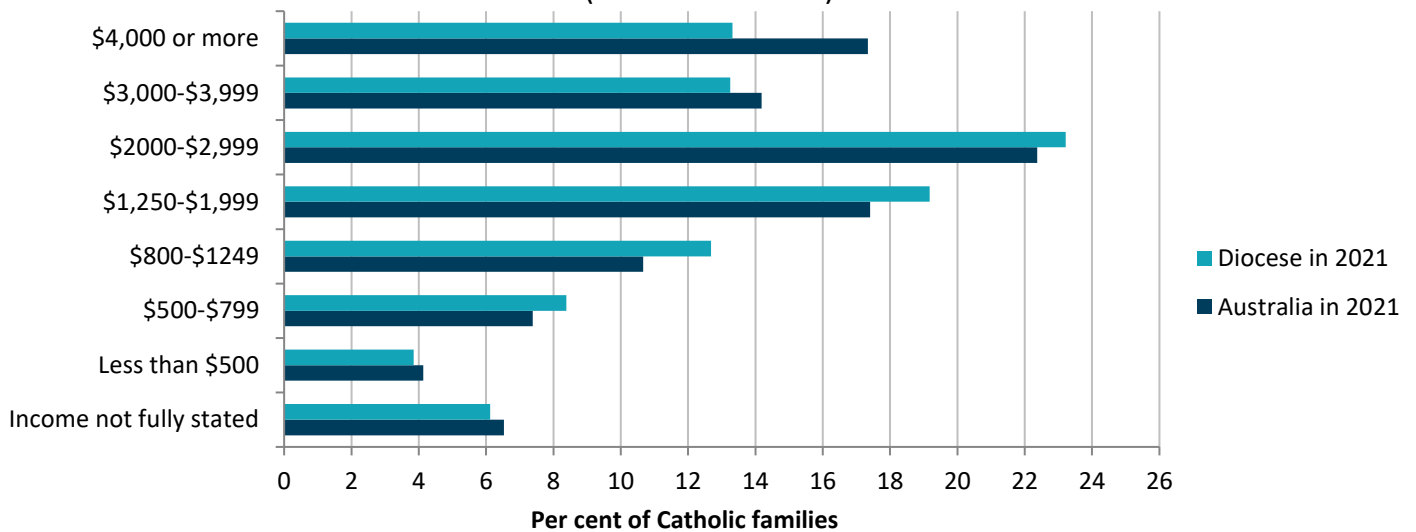
# Families

**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 dependent children	Total
Less than \$500	2,816	588	353	131	52	3,940
\$500-\$799	6,738	891	648	233	67	8,577
\$800-\$1,249	9,660	1,536	1,184	423	175	12,978
\$1,250-\$1,999	12,196	3,024	3,081	1,040	281	19,622
\$2,000-\$2,999	12,367	4,235	5,249	1,557	352	23,760
\$3,000-\$3,999	6,172	2,520	3,526	1,127	219	13,564
\$4,000 or more	5,657	2,694	3,727	1,292	256	13,626
Income not fully stated	3,529	1,150	1,063	381	143	6,266
<b>Total Families</b>	<b>59,135</b>	<b>16,638</b>	<b>18,831</b>	<b>6,184</b>	<b>1,545</b>	<b>102,333</b>
<b>Median Family Income (\$)</b>	<b>1,778</b>	<b>2,402</b>	<b>2,689</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>2,357</b>	<b>2,122</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 dependent children	Total
<b>Family Composition:</b>						
Married couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	42,211	10,134	13,885	4,583	1,024	71,837
De facto couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	9,233	2,051	1,672	563	207	13,726
One parent family, parent Catholic	5,439	3,437	2,213	654	195	11,938
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	2,288	1,017	1,056	353	109	4,823
<b>Total families</b>	<b>59,171</b>	<b>16,639</b>	<b>18,826</b>	<b>6,153</b>	<b>1,535</b>	<b>102,324</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 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?*

	Fully owned or being purchased	Rented from State or Territory Housing	Rented from other landlord, or landlord not stated	Other households	Total households	Per cent owned or being purchased
Family households	83,172	1,671	15,951	1,475	102,269	81.3
Lone person aged under 35 years	1,081	76	1,089	100	2,346	46.1
Lone person aged 35 years or over	19,188	2,297	4,952	1,036	27,473	69.8
Group households	1,547	150	2,263	132	4,092	37.8
<b>Total households</b>	<b>104,988</b>	<b>4,194</b>	<b>24,255</b>	<b>2,743</b>	<b>136,180</b>	<b>77.1</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 payment
Family households	2,836	4,276	11,629	11,869	4,988	6,535	1,717
Lone person aged under 35 years	18	99	411	235	41	47	1,450
Lone person aged 35 years or over	734	897	1,546	875	225	275	1,250
Group households	75	152	253	184	55	54	1,378
<b>Total households</b>	<b>3,663</b>	<b>5,424</b>	<b>13,839</b>	<b>13,163</b>	<b>5,309</b>	<b>6,911</b>	<b>1,655</b>

**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.



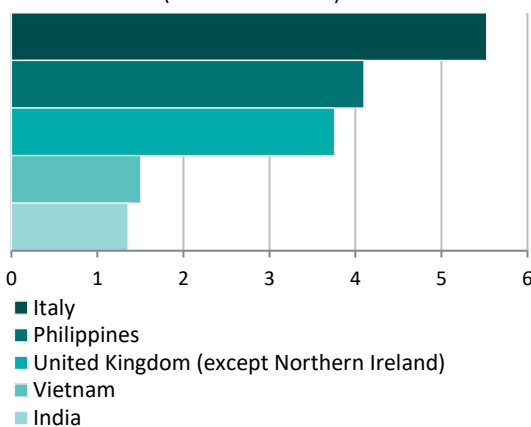
# Birthplace

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.

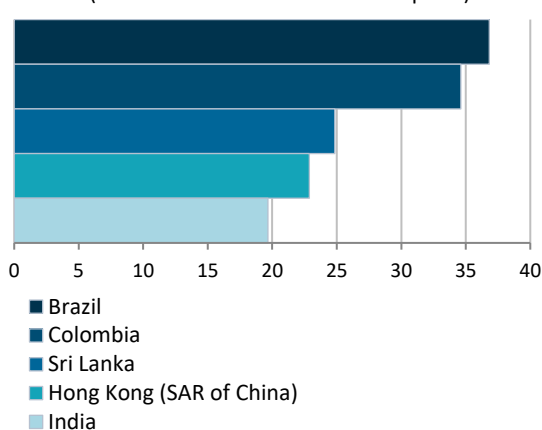
*How does the diocese support Catholics born in non-English-speaking countries in matters such as chaplaincy, education, pastoral care, and so on?*

*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)



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



**Table 19: Birthplace**

	All Catholics	% of Catholics	% recent arrivals <sup>1</sup>
Australia	177,940	70.1	-
New Zealand	1,221	0.5	4.9
Other Oceania	332	0.1	17.8
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	9,539	3.8	2.3
Ireland (including Northern Ireland)	2,237	0.9	3.1
Italy	14,028	5.5	0.9
Malta	1,032	0.4	0.9
Spain and Portugal	763	0.3	4.1
France	445	0.2	11.9
Netherlands	1,489	0.6	0.3
Germany	2,096	0.8	1.8
Austria	515	0.2	-
Croatia and other Former Yugoslavia	2,351	0.9	0.4
Poland	3,260	1.3	1.5
Hungary	555	0.2	4.0
Other Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Baltic States	1,607	0.6	4.4
Other Europe NEC	363	0.1	8.8
Vietnam	3,819	1.5	8.5
Philippines	10,406	4.1	14.4
Indonesia	370	0.1	16.2
Malaysia	1,123	0.4	12.5
Singapore	440	0.2	14.8
South East Asia NEC	387	0.2	10.3
India	3,443	1.4	19.7
Sri Lanka	817	0.3	24.8
China (except Hong Kong and Taiwan)	443	0.2	13.8
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	341	0.1	22.9
Korea, Republic of (South)	555	0.2	13.9
Egypt	193	0.1	-
Lebanon	510	0.2	6.1
Iraq	57	0.0	5.3
Sudan (including South Sudan)	420	0.2	1.4
Middle East and North Africa NEC	568	0.2	15.1
South Africa	648	0.3	16.2
Mauritius	101	0.0	8.9
United States of America	618	0.2	11.7
Canada	321	0.1	10.3
Argentina	322	0.1	17.4
Brazil	812	0.3	36.8
Colombia	936	0.4	34.6
Chile	358	0.1	10.3
Central America and South America NEC	1,497	0.6	12.0
Other countries	1,952	0.8	18.9
Inadequately described/Not stated	2,668	1.1	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>253,898</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2.2</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



# 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>

*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 <sup>2</sup>
English	191,257	1,049,934	1,241,191	15.4
Italian	20,032	3,254	23,286	86.0
Maltese	591	68	659	89.7
Spanish	3,693	3,412	7,105	52.0
Croatian	2,217	464	2,681	82.7
Polish	3,635	1,434	5,069	71.7
Dutch	394	1,438	1,832	21.5
French	670	1,979	2,649	25.3
German	996	4,188	5,184	19.2
Portuguese	1,248	1,381	2,629	47.5
Hungarian	584	582	1,166	50.1
Ukrainian	394	477	871	45.2
Vietnamese	5,757	15,899	21,656	26.6
Filipino languages	8,360	2,914	11,274	74.2
Chinese languages	1,634	41,930	43,564	3.8
Malayalam	2,373	2,358	4,731	50.2
Sinhalese	551	3,517	4,068	13.5
Korean	543	3,110	3,653	14.9
Indonesian & Malay	367	2,405	2,772	13.2
Arabic	1,182	9,734	10,916	10.8
Assyrian and Chaldean	10	22	32	31.3
Oceanic and Papuan languages	160	1,090	1,250	12.8
Australian Indigenous Languages	111	1,229	1,340	8.3
Other European languages NEC	1,748	36,811	38,559	4.5
Other Asian languages NEC	1,275	73,887	75,162	1.7
Other languages NEC	1,953	29,013	30,966	6.3
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/Not stated	2,135	69,138	71,273	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>253,870</b>	<b>1,361,668</b>	<b>1,615,538</b>	<b>15.7</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 who 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 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	7,855	15,899	19,989	19,902	42,019	44,172	41,427	191,263	-
Italian	208	356	459	702	3,028	5,061	10,217	20,031	13.7
Maltese	-	20	8	10	72	84	399	593	6.1
Spanish	159	296	208	393	1,617	502	511	3,686	9.9
Croatian	43	62	80	111	398	498	1,026	2,218	12.7
Polish	92	119	135	184	745	859	1,502	3,636	12.6
Dutch	3	9	17	-	47	63	258	397	1.3
French	21	66	45	54	187	129	166	668	4.9
German	24	44	23	37	154	175	536	993	3.0
Portuguese	65	73	45	130	640	148	153	1,254	8.9
Hungarian	9	15	15	23	100	123	291	576	9.3
Ukrainian	11	14	16	11	75	74	196	397	9.1
Vietnamese	256	468	672	884	1,644	1,198	633	5,755	27.0
Filipino languages	233	347	681	1,136	3,664	1,568	729	8,358	3.0
Chinese languages	62	180	114	260	480	227	313	1,636	12.7
Malayalam	169	347	305	330	981	211	30	2,373	6.1
Sinhalese	22	53	40	102	265	55	13	550	5.1
Korean	19	58	67	58	245	74	10	531	20.3
Indonesian & Malay	12	27	15	69	151	54	40	368	7.6
Arabic	39	69	89	145	355	239	245	1,181	9.2
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	3	-	4	5	-	12	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	5	10	9	26	83	26	5	164	6.8
Australian Indigenous Languages	11	10	16	10	36	24	6	113	6.4
Other European languages NEC	80	132	106	116	440	359	516	1,749	10.5
Other Asian languages NEC	66	142	101	170	521	191	83	1,274	10.9
Other languages NEC	122	236	276	344	722	190	63	1,953	13.3
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/ Not stated	258	134	146	155	333	325	787	2,138	10.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,844</b>	<b>19,186</b>	<b>23,680</b>	<b>25,362</b>	<b>59,006</b>	<b>56,634</b>	<b>60,155</b>	<b>253,867</b>	<b>2.9</b>

Notes:

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

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



# 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 diocese, 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.

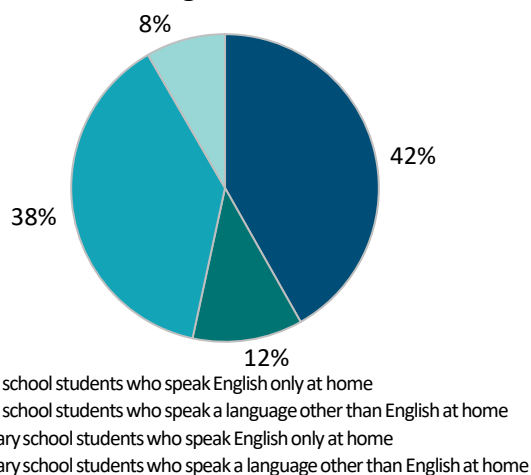
*How does the diocese connect with Catholic students at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, especially those not attending Catholic schools?*

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

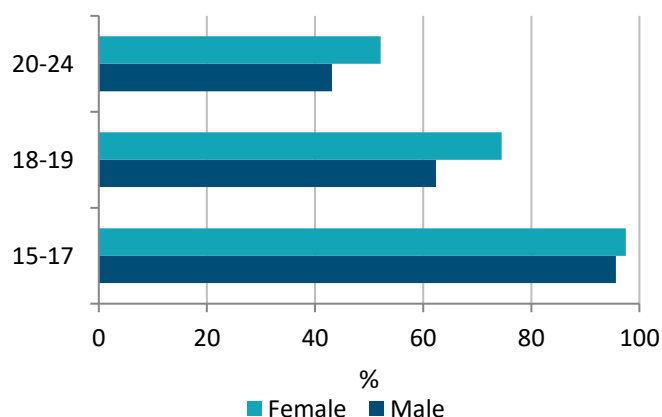
	Catholic	Not Catholic or not stated	All persons	% Catholic
Infants/Primary – Government	7,804	82,044	89,848	8.7
Infants/Primary – Catholic	10,823	13,165	23,988	45.1
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	1,818	20,117	21,935	8.3
Secondary – Government	5,004	44,889	49,893	10.0
Secondary – Catholic	9,320	11,618	20,938	44.5
Secondary – Other Non-Government	2,246	20,757	23,003	9.8
Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)	4,560	30,800	35,360	12.9
University or other Tertiary Institutions	12,066	69,022	81,088	14.9
Other (including pre-school)	4,876	34,587	39,463	12.4
Not stated/Not applicable <sup>1</sup>	195,354	1,034,687	1,230,041	15.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>253,871</b>	<b>1,361,686</b>	<b>1,615,557</b>	<b>15.7</b>

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**



**Education participation rate (Catholics aged 15-24)**





# Attendance at Educational Institutions

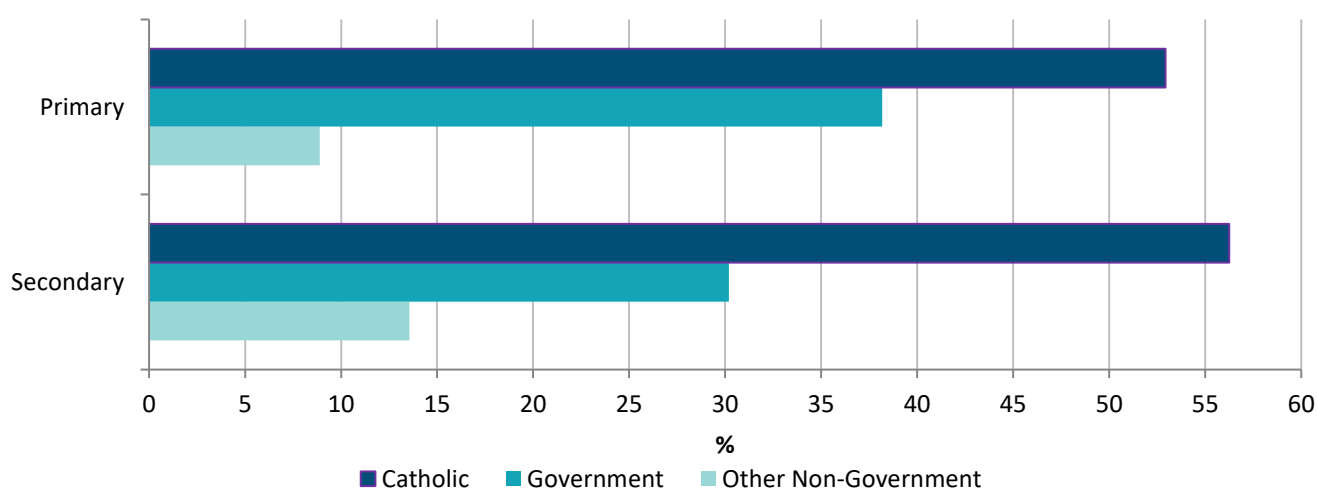
**Table 23: Type of educational institution attending by weekly income of student's family<sup>1</sup>**

	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	308	465	779	1,598	2,204	1,036	854	7,646	115,444
Infants/Primary – Catholic	234	381	744	1,610	2,873	2,094	2,106	10,482	141,516
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	40	40	102	271	411	318	547	1,814	156,481
Secondary – Government	169	293	471	949	1,285	646	392	4,547	113,202
Secondary – Catholic	154	280	561	1,256	2,151	1,847	2,193	9,006	151,996
Secondary – Other Non-Government	32	45	106	244	435	340	742	2,106	173,271
TAFE, University or other Tertiary institution	40	86	241	725	1,177	1,081	1,662	5,395	167,848
Other (including pre-school)	18	35	52	136	174	100	80	629	121,180
Not stated or not applicable	36	33	64	85	107	25	38	461	93,231
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>1,658</b>	<b>3,120</b>	<b>6,874</b>	<b>10,817</b>	<b>7,487</b>	<b>8,614</b>	<b>42,086</b>	<b>138,544</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.

**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 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.<sup>1</sup> How have women's roles and responsibilities in the diocese 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	59	698	1,044	982	795	766	4,344
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	940	3,360	3,490	3,113	2,374	2,474	15,751
Advanced diploma or diploma level	232	761	1,386	1,779	1,798	1,787	7,743
Certificate level	1,786	3,506	3,882	5,028	5,296	6,514	26,012
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	10,992	3,383	3,498	5,492	7,144	14,029	44,538
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,009</b>	<b>11,708</b>	<b>13,300</b>	<b>16,394</b>	<b>17,407</b>	<b>25,570</b>	<b>98,388</b>
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>34.7</i>	<i>34.1</i>	<i>25.0</i>	<i>18.2</i>	<i>12.7</i>	<i>20.4</i>
<b>Females</b>							
Postgraduate degree	76	1,127	1,434	1,003	798	637	5,075
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	1,608	5,577	6,155	4,866	3,543	3,350	25,099
Advanced diploma or diploma level	278	1,337	2,098	2,619	2,670	2,514	11,516
Certificate level	1,621	2,624	3,146	3,843	3,619	2,902	17,755
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	10,157	2,721	3,267	6,480	10,009	25,185	57,819
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,740</b>	<b>13,386</b>	<b>16,100</b>	<b>18,811</b>	<b>20,639</b>	<b>34,588</b>	<b>117,264</b>
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>50.1</i>	<i>47.1</i>	<i>31.2</i>	<i>21.0</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i>25.7</i>
<b>All Catholics</b>							
Postgraduate degree	135	1,825	2,478	1,985	1,593	1,403	9,419
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	2,548	8,937	9,645	7,979	5,917	5,824	40,850
Advanced diploma or diploma level	510	2,098	3,484	4,398	4,468	4,301	19,259
Certificate level	3,407	6,130	7,028	8,871	8,915	9,416	43,767
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	21,149	6,104	6,765	11,972	17,153	39,214	102,357
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,749</b>	<b>25,094</b>	<b>29,400</b>	<b>35,205</b>	<b>38,046</b>	<b>60,158</b>	<b>215,652</b>
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>42.9</i>	<i>41.2</i>	<i>28.3</i>	<i>19.7</i>	<i>12.0</i>	<i>23.3</i>

Note:

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



# Employment

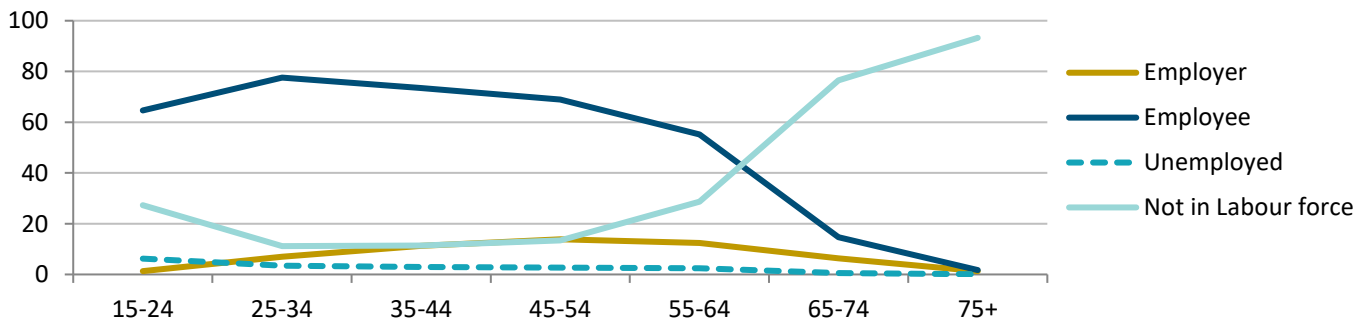
In recent years there have been many changes in society and the workplace that have affected Australian workers. One major change has been the increase in the percentages of workers, especially young people and women, in part-time jobs. Another has been the rise in participation in the labour force by 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 diocese?*

**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	233	3,273	6,493	1,689	11,688
Employee	8,582	18,539	19,703	2,456	49,280
Unemployed	1,012	906	1,025	127	3,070
Not in the labour force	4,117	2,000	6,112	20,650	32,879
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	80	277	471	662	1,490
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,024</b>	<b>24,995</b>	<b>33,804</b>	<b>25,584</b>	<b>98,407</b>
<i>Per cent in labour force<sup>2</sup></i>	70.1	90.9	80.5	16.7	65.1
<i>Per cent unemployed<sup>3</sup></i>	10.3	4.0	3.8	3.0	4.8
<b>Females</b>					
Employer	127	1,789	3,118	713	5,747
Employee	9,354	22,509	25,561	2,710	60,134
Unemployed	717	803	860	74	2,454
Not in the labour force	3,453	4,170	9,541	30,134	47,298
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	86	211	363	952	1,612
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,737</b>	<b>29,482</b>	<b>39,443</b>	<b>34,583</b>	<b>117,245</b>
<i>Per cent in labour force<sup>2</sup></i>	74.2	85.1	74.9	10.1	58.3
<i>Per cent unemployed<sup>3</sup></i>	7.0	3.2	2.9	2.1	3.6

**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	248	1,112	2,221	3,083	2,536	951	10,151
Professionals	692	2,236	2,543	2,424	1,945	798	10,638
Technicians & Trade Workers	1,883	2,602	2,542	2,912	2,510	712	13,161
Community & Personal Service Workers	1,130	844	701	780	739	219	4,413
Clerical & Administrative Workers	461	673	849	949	956	289	4,177
Sales Workers	1,655	605	583	719	718	330	4,610
Machinery Operators & Drivers	486	735	932	1,439	1,578	409	5,579
Labourers	2,156	1,246	1,141	1,344	1,321	400	7,608
ID / NS / NA <sup>1</sup>	5,303	1,657	1,779	2,730	5,111	21,479	38,059
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,014</b>	<b>11,710</b>	<b>13,291</b>	<b>16,380</b>	<b>17,414</b>	<b>25,587</b>	<b>98,396</b>
<i>Per cent Managers &amp; Professionals<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>33.3</i>	<i>41.4</i>	<i>40.3</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>42.6</i>	<i>34.5</i>
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>51.9</i>	<i>45.6</i>	<i>40.1</i>	<i>41.7</i>	<i>44.0</i>	<i>37.0</i>	<i>43.7</i>
<b>Females</b>							
Managers	253	971	1,716	1,994	1,391	385	6,710
Professionals	1,118	4,125	4,564	3,927	2,966	742	17,442
Technicians & Trade Workers	383	594	594	699	548	160	2,978
Community & Personal Service Workers	2,563	1,950	2,009	2,298	2,222	430	11,472
Clerical & Administrative Workers	1,031	1,889	2,687	3,845	3,548	1,002	14,002
Sales Workers	3,189	735	731	1,235	1,279	302	7,471
Machinery Operators & Drivers	79	69	65	172	139	36	560
Labourers	792	583	754	1,057	1,208	355	4,749
ID / NS / NA <sup>1</sup>	4,345	2,442	2,971	3,584	7,350	31,171	51,863
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,753</b>	<b>13,358</b>	<b>16,091</b>	<b>18,811</b>	<b>20,651</b>	<b>34,583</b>	<b>117,247</b>
<i>Per cent Managers &amp; Professionals<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>46.7</i>	<i>47.9</i>	<i>38.9</i>	<i>32.8</i>	<i>33.0</i>	<i>36.9</i>
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>13.3</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>12.7</i>	<i>14.2</i>	<i>16.1</i>	<i>12.7</i>
<b>All Catholics</b>							
Managers	501	2,083	3,937	5,077	3,927	1,336	16,861
Professionals	1,810	6,361	7,107	6,351	4,911	1,540	28,080
Technicians & Trade Workers	2,266	3,196	3,136	3,611	3,058	872	16,139
Community & Personal Service Workers	3,693	2,794	2,710	3,078	2,961	649	15,885
Clerical & Administrative Workers	1,492	2,562	3,536	4,794	4,504	1,291	18,179
Sales Workers	4,844	1,340	1,314	1,954	1,997	632	12,081
Machinery Operators & Drivers	565	804	997	1,611	1,717	445	6,139
Labourers	2,948	1,829	1,895	2,401	2,529	755	12,357
ID / NS / NA <sup>1</sup>	9,648	4,099	4,750	6,314	12,461	52,650	89,922
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,767</b>	<b>25,068</b>	<b>29,382</b>	<b>35,191</b>	<b>38,065</b>	<b>60,170</b>	<b>215,643</b>
<i>Per cent Managers &amp; Professionals<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>12.8</i>	<i>40.3</i>	<i>44.8</i>	<i>39.6</i>	<i>34.5</i>	<i>38.2</i>	<i>35.7</i>
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>31.9</i>	<i>27.8</i>	<i>24.5</i>	<i>26.4</i>	<i>28.5</i>	<i>27.6</i>	<i>27.5</i>

**Notes:**

1. ID = Inadequately described; NS = Not stated; NA = Not applicable.

2. See Notes 1 and 2 on page 5 for the type of occupations covered by the terms ‘managers and professionals’ and ‘blue collar’.



# Occupation

Occupation is one of the many indicators of socioeconomic status.

*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?*

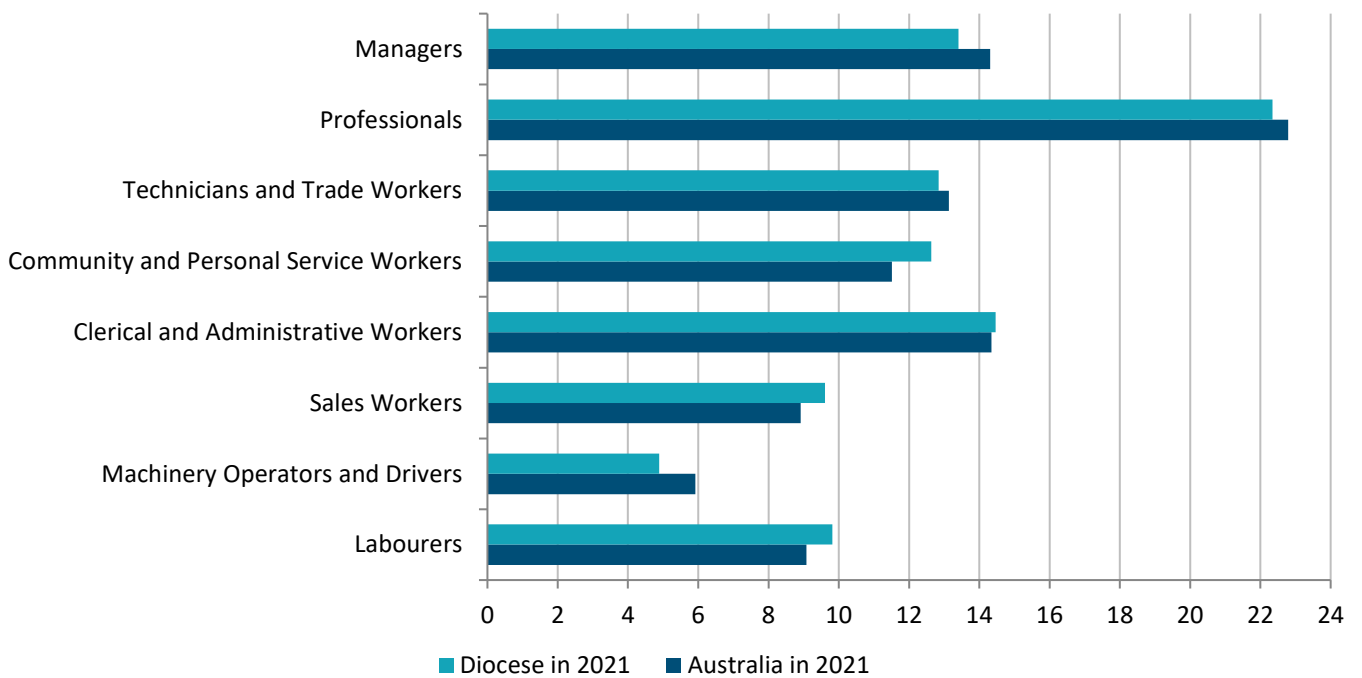
**Table 27: Occupation by religious affiliation<sup>1</sup> (%)**

	Catholic	Non-Catholic
<b>All persons aged 15+ with an occupation</b>		
Managers	13.4	12.9
Professionals	22.3	22.7
Technicians & Trade Workers	12.8	13.4
Community & Personal Service Workers	12.6	13.4
Clerical & Administrative Workers	14.5	12.7
Sales Workers	9.6	8.4
Machinery Operators & Drivers	4.9	6.0
Labourers	9.8	10.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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)



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Visit the website to obtain:

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This profile has been created by the staff of the ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research as part of the National Catholic Census Project 1991-2021.

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