



DIOCESAN SOCIAL PROFILE

Based on the 2021 Australian Census

Diocese of Cairns



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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.

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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.

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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: 290,875

Catholic Population: 55,137

Catholics make up 19.0 per cent of the total population

Median age of Catholics is 44 years

Total Catholic families: 22,466

5,784 Catholics live alone

10,700 Catholics were born overseas

709 Catholics do not speak English well

3,417 Catholics need assistance with core activities

20,094 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 ¹
Catholic population	59,755	59,887	57,157	62,247	60,977	55,137
Catholics aged 0-14 (%)	23.8	23.5	22.6	21.8	21.3	18.8
Catholics aged 65+ (%)	10.0	11.4	11.9	13.0	15.8	20.2
Catholics born in NESC ² (%)	13.3	12.6	12.2	12.5	13.1	14.8
Catholics not proficient in English (%)	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3
Catholic families	19,941	20,943	21,989	23,927	23,669	22,466
Catholics living alone	4,112	4,958	5,015	5,899	5,773	5,784
Catholic students attending Catholic schools (%)	47.5	45.3	47.4	48.6	52.3	56.2
Catholics with university degree (%)	7.3	8.9	10.3	11.9	14.3	17.5
Catholic males in labour force (%)	74.3	62.5	71.5	70.1	70.1	67.8
Catholic females in labour force (%)	58.7	54.8	61.0	62.1	64.2	63.7
Catholic households owning or purchasing dwelling (%)	59.5	59.9	65.2	65.2	66.8	70.2

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 ¹	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank ²	Diocese 2016 Rank ²
Total population ³	290,875	277,411	25,422,788	23,401,892	19	19
Catholic population	55,137	60,977	5,075,910	5,291,834	22	21
Per cent Catholic	19.0	22.0	20.0	22.6	19	18
At same address since previous Census (%)	57.3	54.5	59.4	57.3	21	19
Median age ⁴ (years)	44	40	43	40	9	12
Aged 0-14 (%)	18.8	21.3	17.9	19.8	13	12
Aged 65+ (%)	20.2	15.8	19.9	16.6	14	21
Males per 100 females	90.5	93.0	89.1	90.6	8	7

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 (%)	6.2	5.2	6.7	5.8	21	20
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability ⁵ (% of Catholics aged 15+)	12.8	11.8	13.5	12.5	20	22

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 ¹ (% of those recording an occupation)	32.3	30.7	37.1	34.1	17	17
Workers in 'blue collar' occupations ² (% of those recording an occupation)	32.2	33.5	28.1	29.6	13	14
Men, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	67.8	70.1	66.5	69.7	9	8
Women, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	63.7	64.2	59.7	60.6	4	4
Unemployed at time of Census ⁴ (%)	4.0	5.9	4.2	5.8	13	14
Youth unemployed at time of Census ⁵ (%)	8.3	11.3	8.9	12.2	11	17

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 ⁶	4.7	4.4	5.5	5.6	10	12
Born overseas in non-English-speaking country (%)	14.8	13.1	21.4	19.1	12	12
Immigrants from non-English-speaking countries & arriving in Census year or previous 3 years	866	829	97,457	106,428	17	15
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	4,782	4,732	135,686	133,528	13	14
Speak language other than English at home (%)	13.5	12.5	21.5	20.4	14	13
Not proficient in English ^{7, 8} (%)	1.3	1.3	2.7	2.6	13	13

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 ¹	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Catholics aged 15+ with bachelor degree or higher qualification (%)	17.5	14.3	24.6	20.6	14	12
Catholics attending an educational institution (% of all Catholics in each age group)						
Aged 15-17	92.0	87.2	94.9	92.2	18	24
Aged 18-19	44.4	32.8	67.2	62.9	22	25
Aged 20-24	26.3	20.0	43.4	38.2	21	21
Catholic primary students attending Catholic schools (%)	60.5	54.7	55.5	53.1	6	9
Catholic primary students attending Government schools (%)	36.8	42.4	38.4	41.0	20	15
Catholic secondary students attending Catholic schools (%)	51.1	49.0	55.3	54.5	16	17
Catholic secondary students attending Government schools (%)	45.3	47.8	33.4	35.1	7	6
Primary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ¹ (%)	48.8	40.2	36.6	28.1	4	5
Secondary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ¹ (%)	49.8	44.9	41.3	35.7	9	6

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 (%)	33.5	34.1	32.9	33.3	9	8
Married (%)	47.2	47.8	49.3	49.7	24	22
Divorced or Separated (%)	13.2	12.5	11.7	11.2	4	5
Widowed (%)	6.2	5.6	6.1	5.8	14	18

Table 7: Families¹
in which at least one person is Catholic

	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Families	22,466	23,628	1,995,658	1,997,833	21	21
One-parent families	2,557	2,763	225,180	231,370	19	19
One-parent families (% of all families)	11.4	11.7	11.3	11.6	11	15
Couples of mixed religions ² (%)	62.1	58.8	58.1	55.9	18	17
De facto couples (%)	22.4	22.3	17.7	17.7	4	5
Median annual family income ³ (\$)	105,381	89,773	120,943	100,270	19	17

Table 8: Households⁴
in which at least one person is Catholic

	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Households	29,375	30,663	2,567,362	2,548,354	21	21
Persons living alone (aged under 35)	525	666	51,145	53,499	21	20
Persons living alone (aged 35+)	5,259	5,107	442,080	407,684	22	21
Persons living alone (total)	5,784	5,773	493,225	461,183	22	21
Persons living alone (% of all persons)	10.5	9.5	9.7	8.7	14	13
Dwellings owned or being purchased (%)	70.2	66.8	73.0	71.2	23	22
Median monthly housing loan repayment ⁵ (\$)	1,657	1,692	1,948	1,873	17	16

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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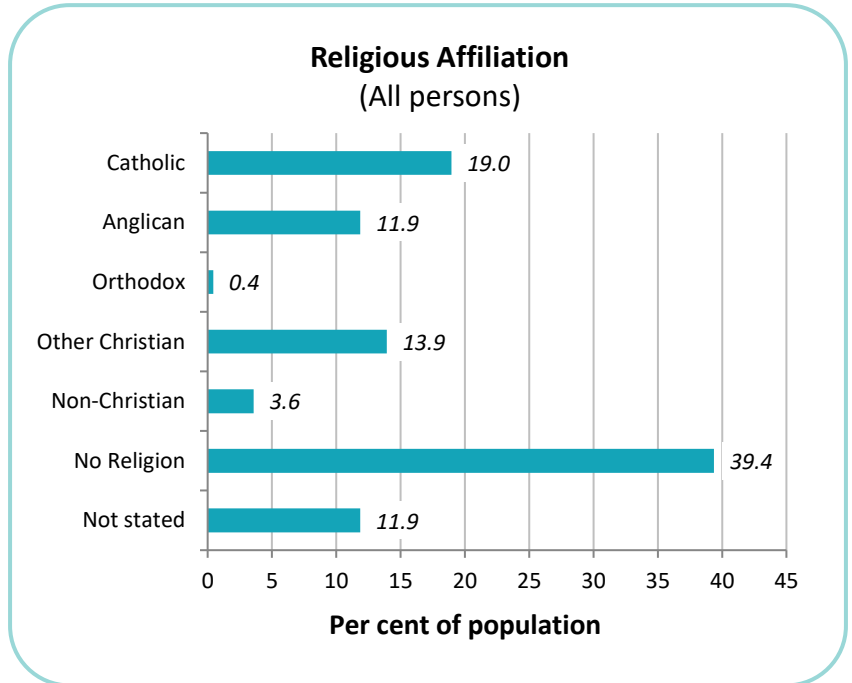
Religious Affiliation

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	6,130	7,627	4,746	6,121	7,029	8,294	7,403	4,957	2,710	55,017
Maronite Catholic	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Melkite Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukrainian Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chaldean Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syro-Malabar Catholic	32	31	5	19	28	6	-	-	-	121
Total Catholic	6,166	7,658	4,751	6,140	7,057	8,300	7,403	4,957	2,710	55,142
Per cent Catholic (of total population in age group)	17.4	20.2	14.1	16.4	18.6	20.8	20.9	21.6	26.9	19.0
Anglican	3,041	3,825	2,620	2,921	4,088	5,582	5,649	4,712	2,098	34,536
Orthodox	113	157	125	148	167	212	163	89	94	1,268
Other Christian	4,590	5,409	3,706	4,169	5,067	5,713	5,944	4,144	1,760	40,502
Non-Christian	1,347	950	1,531	2,232	1,664	1,269	883	434	132	10,442
No Religion	16,309	15,993	15,935	16,815	15,392	14,418	11,606	6,174	1,875	114,517
Not Stated	3,861	3,969	5,021	5,115	4,573	4,392	3,691	2,455	1,401	34,478
Total Population	35,427	37,961	33,689	37,540	38,008	39,886	35,339	22,965	10,070	290,885

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**

	Males 2021	Females 2021	Total 2021	Total 2016
Age (years)				
0	199	180	379	616
1	217	222	439	714
2	227	254	481	752
3	302	221	523	747
4	300	276	576	829
5	347	327	674	858
6	383	356	739	929
7	392	379	771	934
8	375	399	774	958
9	399	408	807	1,007
10	429	410	839	1,001
11	430	415	845	957
12	399	440	839	896
13	427	431	858	934
14	440	409	849	876
15	433	421	854	942
16	407	366	773	839
17	345	346	691	833
18	311	295	606	646
19	266	231	497	618
20-24	1,153	1,138	2,291	3,000
25-29	1,172	1,288	2,460	3,360
30-34	1,227	1,616	2,843	3,659
35-39	1,465	1,827	3,292	3,616
40-44	1,451	1,872	3,323	4,112
45-49	1,700	2,031	3,731	4,391
50-54	1,973	2,142	4,115	4,508
55-59	1,995	2,193	4,188	4,138
60-64	1,832	2,091	3,923	3,680
65-69	1,630	1,859	3,489	3,128
70-74	1,385	1,490	2,875	2,337
75-79	962	1,123	2,085	1,775
80+	1,225	1,489	2,714	2,385
Total	26,198	28,945	55,143	60,975

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?

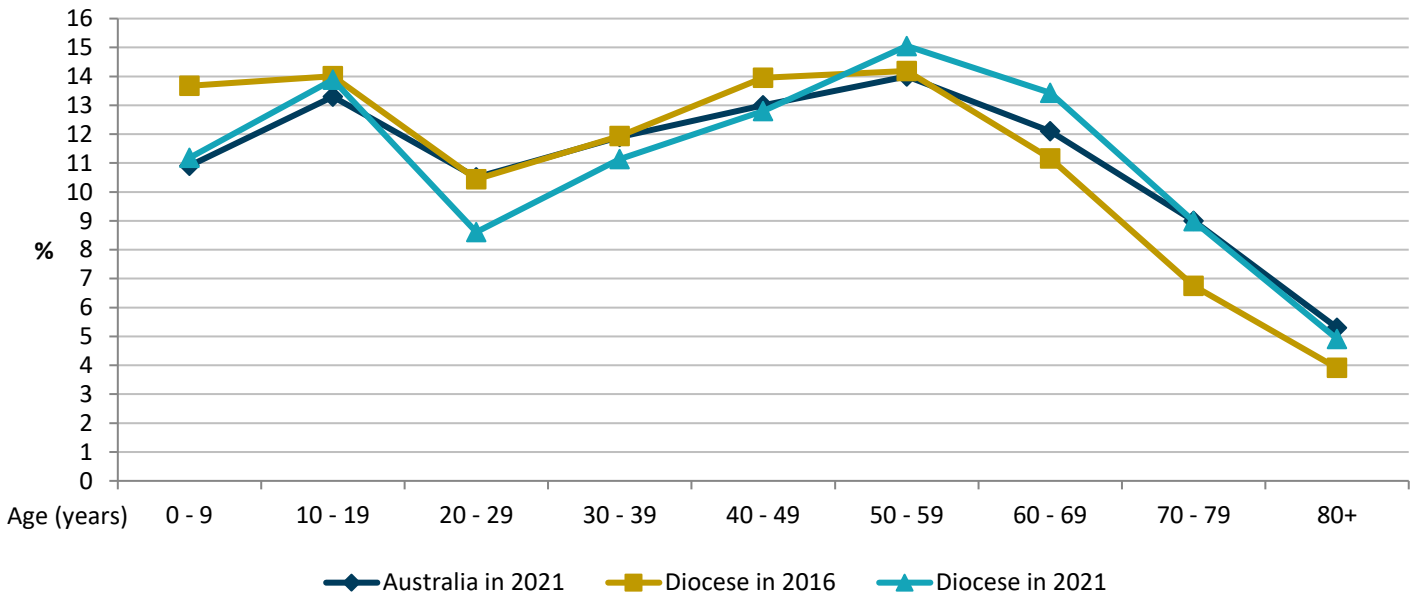
Does this data suggest any new challenges for the diocese?

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.

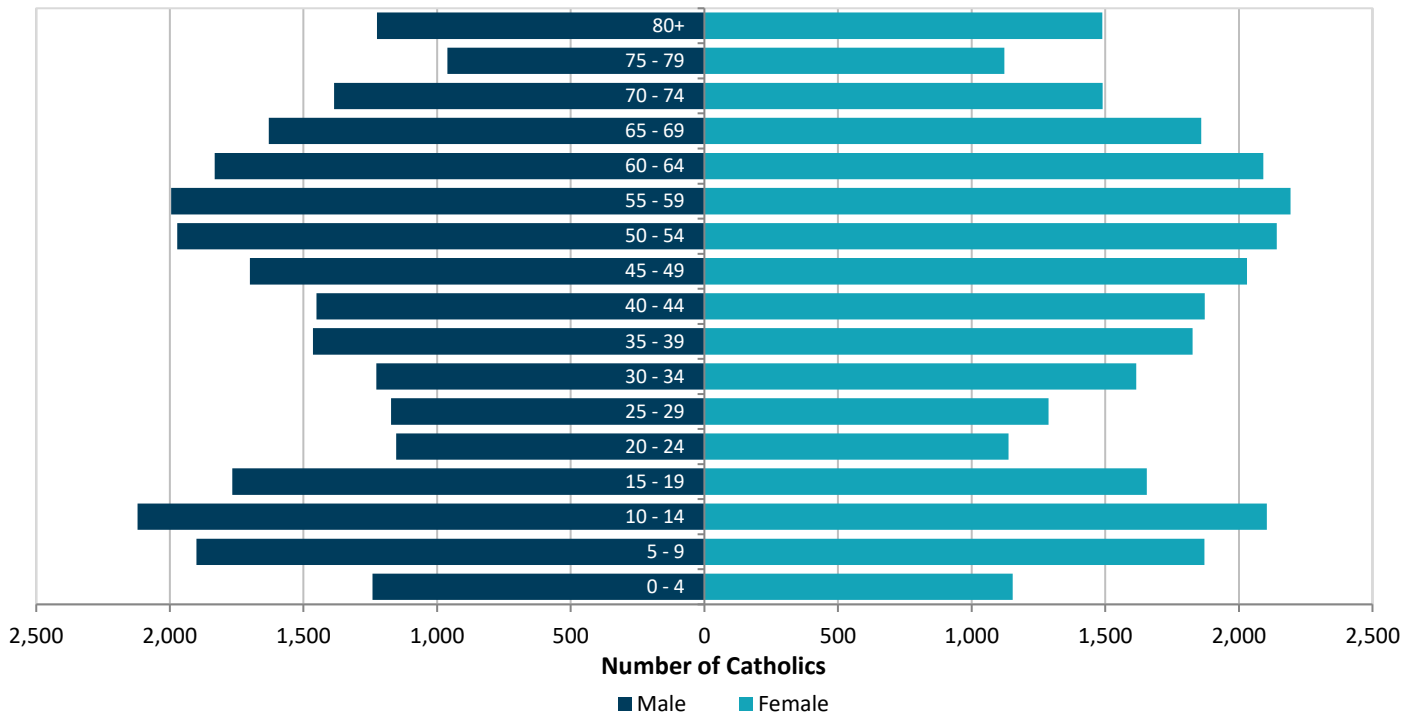


Age and Sex

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”.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	219	169	186	177	182	158	1,091
Females	111	128	222	183	229	139	1,012
Lone Persons:							
Males	-	23	82	44	52	39	240
Females	-	17	62	64	136	142	421
Other non-family members or persons not present in a household on Census night³							
Males	7	28	57	45	58	64	259
Females	4	20	63	50	95	162	394
Total							
Males	226	220	325	266	292	261	1,590
Females	115	165	347	297	460	443	1,827

Table 11b: Provision of unpaid assistance by age

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to a person with a disability⁴							
Males	138	148	281	494	568	531	2,160
Females	181	266	530	847	878	873	3,575

Notes:

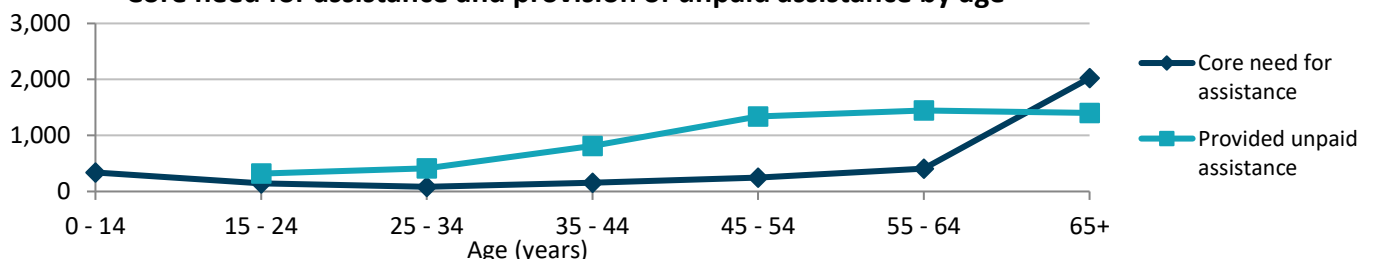
1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006. *Census Dictionary Australia 2006*. Catalogue No. 2901.0.

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
Catholics aged 15 and over								
Males								
Never married	2,904	1,730	1,058	967	721	310	163	7,853
Married	10	611	1,583	2,061	2,289	1,938	1,421	9,913
Divorced or Separated	5	56	277	626	752	644	265	2,625
Widowed	3	-	7	24	60	127	332	553
Total	2,922	2,397	2,925	3,678	3,822	3,019	2,181	20,944
Females								
Never married	2,757	1,737	1,084	790	498	187	80	7,133
Married	31	1,048	2,139	2,435	2,586	1,975	980	11,194
Divorced or Separated	3	115	450	853	930	668	242	3,261
Widowed	-	11	25	94	269	524	1,305	2,228
Total	2,791	2,911	3,698	4,172	4,283	3,354	2,607	23,816

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

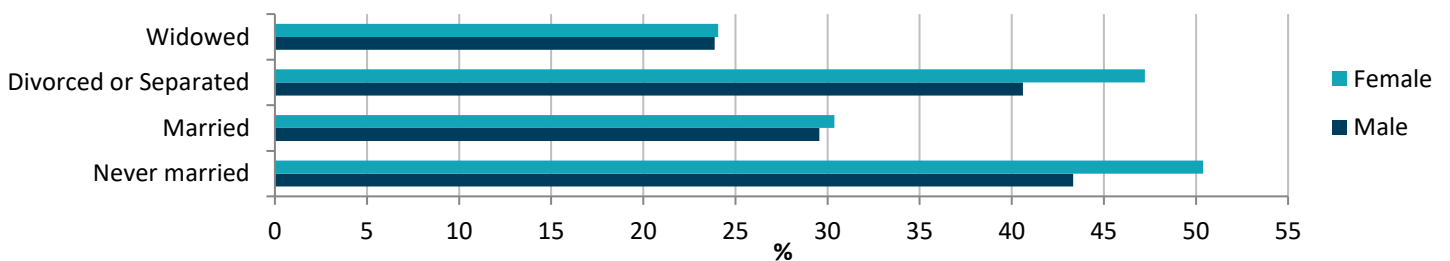


Table 13: Religious affiliation of couple by social marital status

	In a registered marriage	In a de facto marriage	Total couples	% couples in de facto marriages
Both persons Catholic	5,279	1,031	6,310	16.3
One person Catholic, the other non-Catholic Christian	4,980	1,194	6,174	19.3
One Catholic, the other non-Christian, not stated or temporarily absent	4,140	1,923	6,063	31.7
Total	14,399	4,148	18,547	22.4



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	35	53	163	533	945	590	490	240	3,049	2,656
One parent Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	23	43	130	448	741	512	437	219	2,553	2,705
One parent Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	29	51	151	489	816	567	416	173	2,692	2,661
Couples with no children living at home:										
Both partners Catholic	248	453	519	718	633	327	241	128	3,267	1,615
One partner Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	260	524	626	792	729	342	228	119	3,620	1,572
One partner Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	131	229	332	575	744	338	235	67	2,651	2,033
One-parent families:										
Parent is Catholic	191	390	615	643	360	70	44	244	2,557	1,221
Other families where at least one person is Catholic										
Other: Reference person Catholic but spouse temporarily absent ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	724	724	-
Total	989	1,835	2,776	4,521	5,246	2,898	2,199	2,002	22,466	2,021

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	707	158	94	33	3	995
\$500-\$799	1,318	244	175	68	29	1,834
\$800-\$1,249	1,870	364	342	125	52	2,753
\$1,250-\$1,999	2,684	737	717	283	92	4,513
\$2,000-\$2,999	2,717	908	1,106	404	101	5,236
\$3,000-\$3,999	1,380	507	706	238	56	2,887
\$4,000 or more	1,051	387	516	204	40	2,198
Income not fully stated	1,067	384	359	156	63	2,029
Total Families	12,794	3,689	4,015	1,511	436	22,445
Median Family Income (\$)	1,800	2,164	2,452	2,417	2,103	2,021

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)**

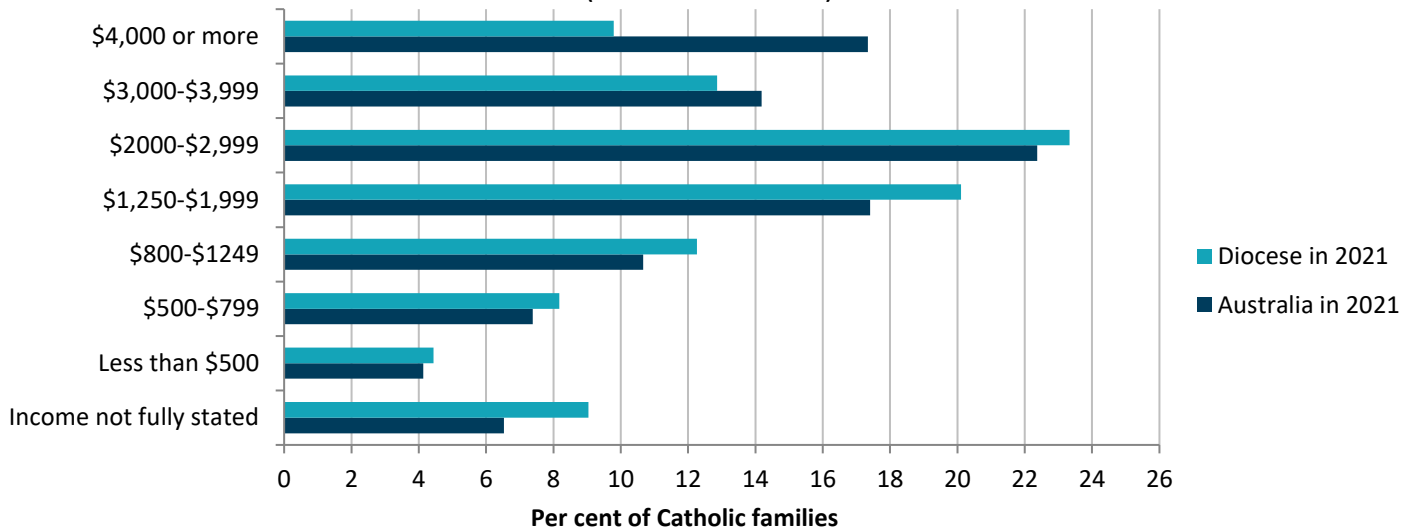


Table 16: Social marital status by number of dependent children

	0 dependent children	1 dependent child	2 dependent children	3 dependent children	4 or more dependent children	Total
Family Composition:						
Married couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	8,884	1,863	2,450	962	235	14,394
De facto couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	2,518	671	617	223	102	4,131
One parent family, parent Catholic	897	850	547	183	73	2,550
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	492	293	381	144	39	1,349
Total families	12,791	3,677	3,995	1,512	449	22,424



Households

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

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

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

What is the current housing situation in this 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	16,677	451	4,723	619	22,470	74.2
Lone person aged under 35 years	189	14	266	56	525	36.0
Lone person aged 35 years or over	3,271	243	1,382	363	5,259	62.2
Group households	482	20	560	59	1,121	43.0
Total households	20,619	728	6,931	1,097	29,375	70.2

	\$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	422	790	2,415	2,739	905	960	1,707
Lone person aged under 35 years	6	17	82	25	11	6	1,369
Lone person aged 35 years or over	100	154	266	155	37	37	1,271
Group households	20	32	78	51	13	17	1,411
Total households	548	993	2,841	2,970	966	1,020	1,657

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.



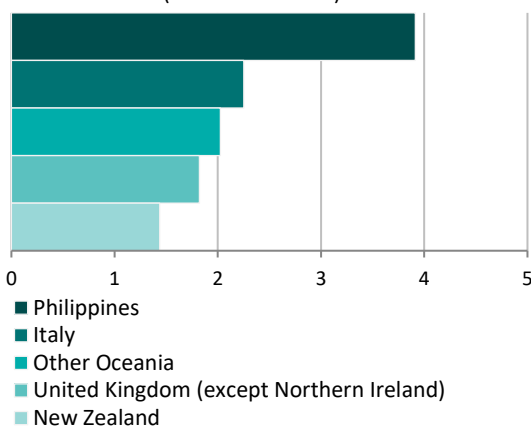
Birthplace

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)

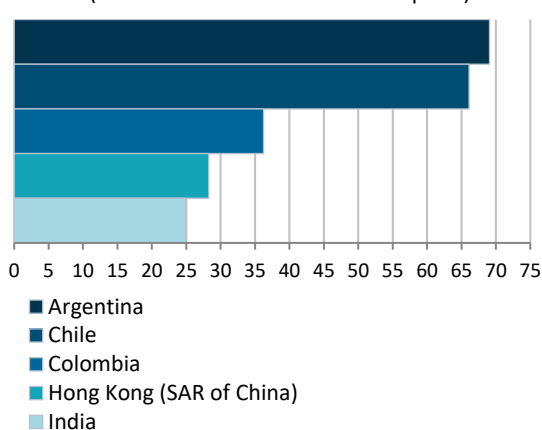


Table 19: Birthplace

	All Catholics	% of Catholics	% recent arrivals ¹
Australia	43,617	79.1	-
New Zealand	792	1.4	6.9
Other Oceania	1,116	2.0	13.0
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	1,004	1.8	3.2
Ireland (including Northern Ireland)	397	0.7	6.0
Italy	1,241	2.3	3.4
Malta	112	0.2	-
Spain and Portugal	127	0.2	11.8
France	159	0.3	12.6
Netherlands	164	0.3	-
Germany	318	0.6	2.5
Austria	91	0.2	-
Croatia and other Former Yugoslavia	203	0.4	1.5
Poland	139	0.3	7.2
Hungary	61	0.1	13.1
Other Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Baltic States	138	0.3	4.3
Other Europe NEC	117	0.2	-
Vietnam	87	0.2	13.8
Philippines	2,157	3.9	11.2
Indonesia	91	0.2	18.7
Malaysia	58	0.1	6.9
Singapore	39	0.1	-
South East Asia NEC	114	0.2	7.0
India	417	0.8	24.9
Sri Lanka	95	0.2	3.2
China (except Hong Kong and Taiwan)	35	0.1	8.6
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	46	0.1	28.3
Korea, Republic of (South)	129	0.2	6.2
Egypt	4	0.0	-
Lebanon	8	0.0	-
Iraq	5	0.0	-
Sudan (including South Sudan)	5	0.0	-
Middle East and North Africa NEC	43	0.1	-
South Africa	117	0.2	6.0
Mauritius	66	0.1	-
United States of America	156	0.3	12.2
Canada	101	0.2	12.9
Argentina	97	0.2	69.1
Brazil	84	0.2	15.5
Colombia	69	0.1	36.2
Chile	59	0.1	66.1
Central America and South America NEC	143	0.3	9.1
Other countries	296	0.5	13.2
Inadequately described/Not stated	800	1.5	-
Total	55,117	100.0	1.8

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.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	46,714	170,219	216,933	21.5
Italian	1,759	494	2,253	78.1
Maltese	63	12	75	84.0
Spanish	428	692	1,120	38.2
Croatian	155	35	190	81.6
Polish	108	79	187	57.8
Dutch	102	412	514	19.8
French	255	553	808	31.6
German	305	1,168	1,473	20.7
Portuguese	160	184	344	46.5
Hungarian	46	85	131	35.1
Ukrainian	5	69	74	6.8
Vietnamese	95	426	521	18.2
Filipino languages	1,468	512	1,980	74.1
Chinese languages	149	2,039	2,188	6.8
Malayalam	437	187	624	70.0
Sinhalese	40	140	180	22.2
Korean	146	744	890	16.4
Indonesian & Malay	51	407	458	11.1
Arabic	21	190	211	10.0
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	4	4	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	356	1,899	2,255	15.8
Australian Indigenous Languages	809	13,515	14,324	5.6
Other European languages NEC	145	1,682	1,827	7.9
Other Asian languages NEC	253	8,594	8,847	2.9
Other languages NEC	136	746	882	15.4
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/Not stated	934	30,686	31,620	3.0
Total	55,140	235,773	290,913	19.0

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.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	2,057	4,826	5,314	3,924	10,760	10,670	9,165	46,716	-
Italian	21	32	40	75	260	404	928	1,760	11.8
Maltese	-	-	-	3	5	18	30	56	12.3
Spanish	11	21	13	87	177	48	64	421	9.8
Croatian	-	-	-	3	16	34	93	146	12.7
Polish	-	3	-	5	35	18	43	104	10.7
Dutch	-	-	3	4	16	20	59	102	2.9
French	6	12	14	19	75	38	84	248	6.4
German	15	21	18	20	55	79	100	308	2.6
Portuguese	9	8	6	12	69	31	27	162	9.3
Hungarian	5	-	-	-	23	11	10	49	15.6
Ukrainian	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	-
Vietnamese	-	13	7	16	31	15	9	91	16.8
Filipino languages	42	59	103	155	612	354	145	1,470	4.2
Chinese languages	7	22	10	8	43	25	35	150	6.5
Malayalam	42	89	48	25	208	23	3	438	7.3
Sinhalese	-	3	-	-	15	14	8	40	9.8
Korean	11	26	12	8	78	11	-	146	23.8
Indonesian & Malay	-	-	5	11	16	8	8	48	-
Arabic	-	3	-	-	4	4	7	18	-
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	3	11	26	78	139	67	33	357	7.3
Australian Indigenous Languages	56	123	160	137	193	98	48	815	8.9
Other European languages NEC	3	9	11	15	42	27	45	152	9.1
Other Asian languages NEC	18	50	41	23	78	37	8	255	11.5
Other languages NEC	7	9	21	11	45	24	8	125	14.4
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/ Not stated	73	102	119	98	205	135	198	930	5.8
Total	2,386	5,442	5,971	4,737	13,200	12,213	11,163	55,112	1.3

Notes:

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

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Diocese of Cairns

National Catholic Census Project 1991-2021

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

Attendance at Educational Institutions

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

The pie-chart below shows the language background of all primary and secondary school students in your 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?

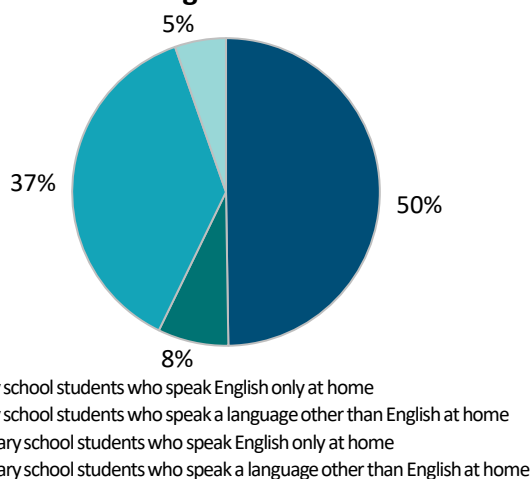
Table 22: Type of educational institution attending by religious affiliation

	Catholic	Not Catholic or not stated	All persons	% Catholic
Infants/Primary – Government	1,942	14,249	16,191	12.0
Infants/Primary – Catholic	3,195	3,046	6,241	51.2
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	140	1,410	1,550	9.0
Secondary – Government	2,081	11,215	13,296	15.7
Secondary – Catholic	2,346	2,329	4,675	50.2
Secondary – Other Non-Government	163	1,297	1,460	11.2
Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)	970	4,656	5,626	17.2
University or other Tertiary Institutions	1,494	5,763	7,257	20.6
Other (including pre-school)	1,209	5,209	6,418	18.8
Not stated/Not applicable ¹	41,597	186,564	228,161	18.2
Total	55,137	235,738	290,875	19.0

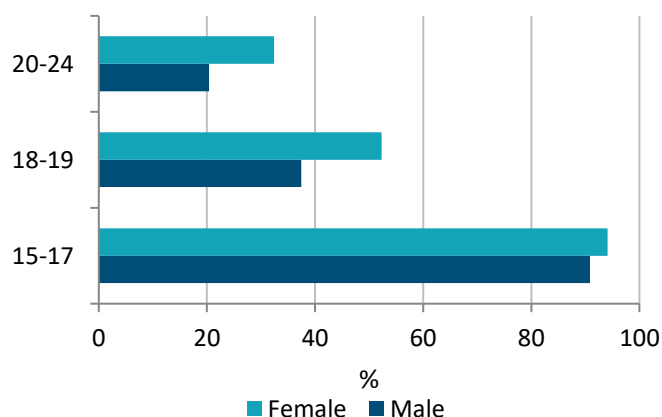
Note:

- 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

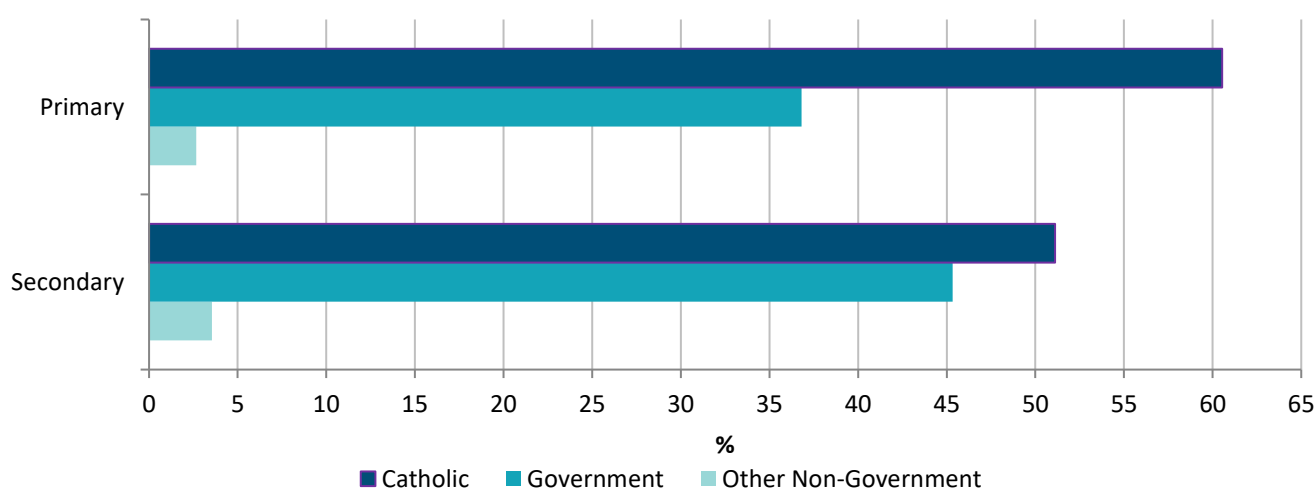
Table 23: Type of educational institution attending by weekly income of student's family¹

	Less than \$500	\$500-\$799	\$800-\$1,249	\$1,250-\$1,999	\$2,000-\$2,999	\$3,000-\$3,999	\$4,000 or more	Total ²	Median annual family income ³ (\$)
Infants/Primary – Government	70	148	241	415	539	213	116	1,887	103,973
Infants/Primary – Catholic	64	118	220	501	826	646	491	3,117	137,709
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	3	11	11	19	29	19	31	138	135,728
Secondary – Government	60	101	218	416	529	277	140	1,943	111,690
Secondary – Catholic	28	60	139	288	554	463	449	2,199	149,024
Secondary – Other Non-Government	6	7	14	12	22	18	32	134	143,393
TAFE, University or other Tertiary institution	3	3	12	53	73	58	87	330	156,846
Other (including pre-school)	-	14	28	45	60	29	16	204	112,107
Not stated or not applicable	19	26	29	24	37	12	18	204	78,996
Total	253	488	912	1,773	2,669	1,735	1,380	10,156	127,281

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.¹ 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
Catholics aged 15+							
Males							
Postgraduate degree	8	48	100	105	86	91	438
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	76	409	468	480	377	361	2,171
Advanced diploma or diploma level	27	170	282	382	373	307	1,541
Certificate level	556	1,029	1,264	1,476	1,429	1,503	7,257
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	2,254	745	803	1,228	1,556	2,941	9,527
Total	2,921	2,401	2,917	3,671	3,821	5,203	20,934
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>19.0</i>	<i>19.5</i>	<i>15.9</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>8.7</i>	<i>12.5</i>
Females							
Postgraduate degree	4	105	189	195	119	91	703
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	188	955	1,128	977	699	552	4,499
Advanced diploma or diploma level	87	355	534	648	526	423	2,573
Certificate level	555	738	895	899	845	479	4,411
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	1,949	752	958	1,455	2,091	4,419	11,624
Total	2,783	2,905	3,704	4,174	4,280	5,964	23,810
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>36.5</i>	<i>35.6</i>	<i>28.1</i>	<i>19.1</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>21.8</i>
All Catholics							
Postgraduate degree	12	153	289	300	205	182	1,141
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	264	1,364	1,596	1,457	1,076	913	6,670
Advanced diploma or diploma level	114	525	816	1,030	899	730	4,114
Certificate level	1,111	1,767	2,159	2,375	2,274	1,982	11,668
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	4,203	1,497	1,761	2,683	3,647	7,360	21,151
Total	5,704	5,306	6,621	7,845	8,101	11,167	44,744
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>28.6</i>	<i>28.5</i>	<i>22.4</i>	<i>15.8</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>17.5</i>

Note:

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



Employment

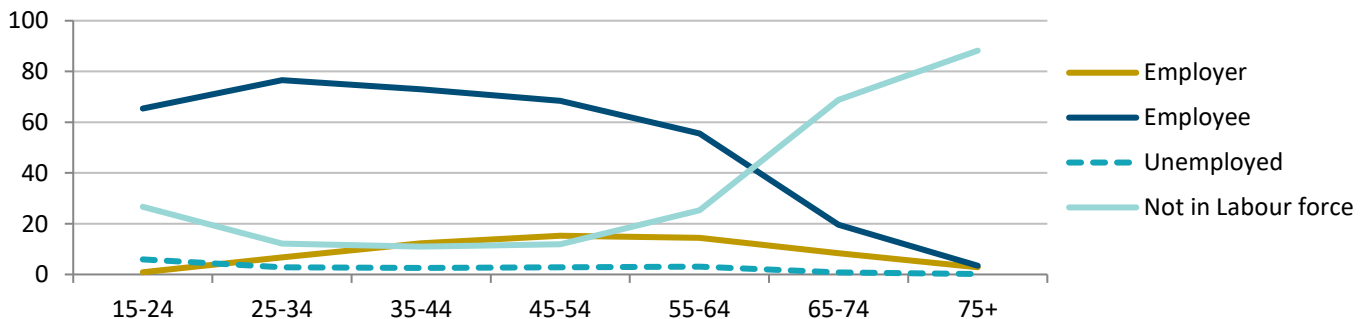
In recent years there have been many changes in society and the workplace that have affected Australian workers. One major change has been the increase in the percentages of workers, especially young people and women, in part-time jobs. Another has been the rise in participation in the labour force by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

Have any of the changes described above had a noticeable impact on Catholic life in this 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	26	727	1,557	455	2,765
Employee	1,846	3,931	4,305	705	10,787
Unemployed	200	158	253	41	652
Not in the labour force	818	414	1,244	3,827	6,303
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	31	92	135	170	428
Total	2,921	5,322	7,494	5,198	20,935
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	70.9	90.5	81.6	23.1	67.8
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	9.7	3.3	4.1	3.4	4.6
Females					
Employer	25	453	813	212	1,503
Employee	1,892	4,956	5,578	711	13,137
Unemployed	142	162	203	21	528
Not in the labour force	708	956	1,743	4,782	8,189
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	26	78	114	233	451
Total	2,793	6,605	8,451	5,959	23,808
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	73.7	84.3	78.0	15.8	63.7
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	6.9	2.9	3.1	2.2	3.5

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



Notes:

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



Occupation

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

Table 26: Occupation by age and sex	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+							
Males							
Managers	58	220	458	672	631	419	2,458
Professionals	85	297	368	433	345	151	1,679
Technicians & Trade Workers	556	690	730	743	576	162	3,457
Community & Personal Service Workers	199	200	228	213	164	39	1,043
Clerical & Administrative Workers	52	65	96	127	138	42	520
Sales Workers	344	89	82	144	140	64	863
Machinery Operators & Drivers	127	177	306	395	400	150	1,555
Labourers	432	320	295	341	373	145	1,906
ID / NS / NA ¹	1,069	344	368	609	1,060	4,040	7,490
Total	2,922	2,402	2,931	3,677	3,827	5,212	20,971
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	7.7	25.1	32.2	36.0	35.3	48.6	30.7
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	60.2	57.7	51.9	48.2	48.8	39.0	51.3
Females							
Managers	51	200	367	437	346	178	1,579
Professionals	193	726	880	807	588	162	3,356
Technicians & Trade Workers	105	108	122	141	86	22	584
Community & Personal Service Workers	456	500	567	632	476	101	2,732
Clerical & Administrative Workers	232	415	654	833	709	212	3,055
Sales Workers	639	174	210	294	308	115	1,740
Machinery Operators & Drivers	12	31	28	54	34	11	170
Labourers	218	177	228	289	342	124	1,378
ID / NS / NA ¹	888	576	645	691	1,386	5,048	9,234
Total	2,794	2,907	3,701	4,178	4,275	5,973	23,828
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	12.8	39.7	40.8	35.7	32.3	36.8	33.8
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	17.6	13.6	12.4	13.9	16.0	17.0	14.6
All Catholics							
Managers	109	420	825	1,109	977	597	4,037
Professionals	278	1,023	1,248	1,240	933	313	5,035
Technicians & Trade Workers	661	798	852	884	662	184	4,041
Community & Personal Service Workers	655	700	795	845	640	140	3,775
Clerical & Administrative Workers	284	480	750	960	847	254	3,575
Sales Workers	983	263	292	438	448	179	2,603
Machinery Operators & Drivers	139	208	334	449	434	161	1,725
Labourers	650	497	523	630	715	269	3,284
ID / NS / NA ¹	1,957	920	1,013	1,300	2,446	9,088	16,724
Total	5,716	5,309	6,632	7,855	8,102	11,185	44,799
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	10.3	32.9	36.9	35.8	33.8	43.4	32.3
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	38.6	34.2	30.4	29.9	32.0	29.3	32.2

Notes:

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

2. See Notes 1 and 2 on page 5 for the type of occupations covered by the terms ‘managers 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?

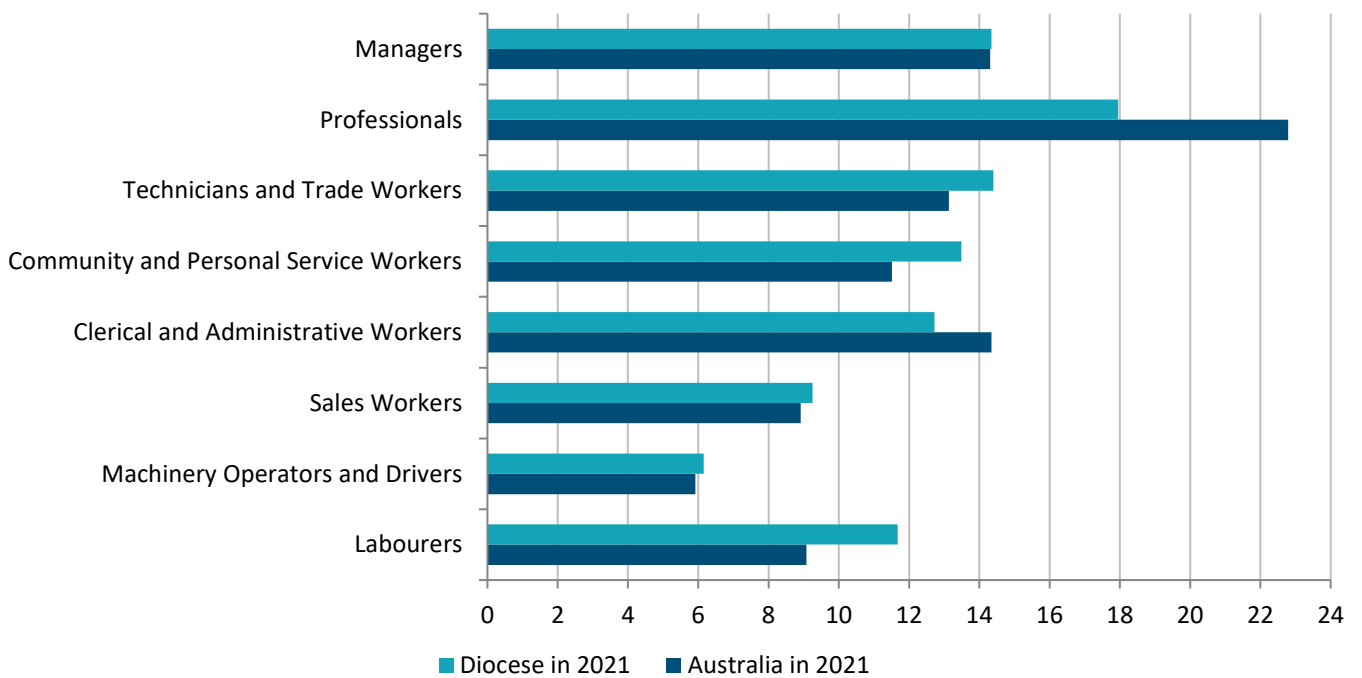
Table 27: Occupation by religious affiliation¹ (%)

	Catholic	Non-Catholic
All persons aged 15+ with an occupation		
Managers	14.3	12.1
Professionals	18.0	18.6
Technicians & Trade Workers	14.4	15.0
Community & Personal Service Workers	13.5	14.9
Clerical & Administrative Workers	12.7	11.2
Sales Workers	9.3	8.8
Machinery Operators & Drivers	6.2	6.8
Labourers	11.7	12.7
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)



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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
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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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