



DIOCESAN SOCIAL PROFILE

Based on the 2021 Australian Census

Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle



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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: 772,347

Catholic Population: 147,073

Catholics make up 19.0 per cent of the total population

Median age of Catholics is 45 years

Total Catholic families: 63,863

15,575 Catholics live alone

17,071 Catholics were born overseas

876 Catholics do not speak English well

11,454 Catholics need assistance with core activities

53,454 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	141,315	147,515	153,857	159,151	154,475	147,073
Catholics aged 0-14 (%)	24.3	23.4	21.6	20.3	19.5	17.3
Catholics aged 65+ (%)	12.2	13.4	14.7	15.9	18.4	22.7
Catholics born in NESC ² (%)	7.3	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.7	8.1
Catholics not proficient in English (%)	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Catholic families	53,495	57,486	61,466	64,363	63,436	63,863
Catholics living alone	10,881	12,994	13,772	14,869	14,816	15,575
Catholic students attending Catholic schools (%)	46.3	47.1	46.6	45.8	46.4	50.0
Catholics with university degree (%)	6.6	8.3	10.4	12.2	14.2	17.2
Catholic males in labour force (%)	68.1	59.8	65.1	65.9	64.4	62.6
Catholic females in labour force (%)	48.8	47.2	52.2	55.0	56.9	56.8
Catholic households owning or purchasing dwelling (%)	69.7	70.4	72.1	71.8	72.2	74.8

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	772,347	706,930	25,422,788	23,401,892	9	9
Catholic population	147,073	154,475	5,075,910	5,291,834	10	10
Per cent Catholic	19.0	21.9	20.0	22.6	18	20
At same address since previous Census (%)	57.6	56.5	59.4	57.3	20	17
Median age ⁴ (years)	45	41	43	40	7	8
Aged 0-14 (%)	17.3	19.5	17.9	19.8	22	22
Aged 65+ (%)	22.7	18.4	19.9	16.6	8	8
Males per 100 females	88.0	90.8	89.1	90.6	22	20

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 (%)	7.8	6.6	6.7	5.8	4	4
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability ⁵ (% of Catholics aged 15+)	14.2	13.6	13.5	12.5	9	3

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)	31.2	28.8	37.1	34.1	23	22
Workers in 'blue collar' occupations ² (% of those recording an occupation)	32.8	34.8	28.1	29.6	11	9
Men, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	62.6	64.4	66.5	69.7	24	24
Women, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	56.8	56.9	59.7	60.6	25	25
Unemployed at time of Census ⁴ (%)	4.2	6.6	4.2	5.8	9	5
Youth unemployed at time of Census ⁵ (%)	8.1	13.4	8.9	12.2	14	5

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	3.5	3.3	5.5	5.6	19	20
Born overseas in non-English-speaking country (%)	8.1	6.7	21.4	19.1	21	22
Immigrants from non-English-speaking countries & arriving in Census year or previous 3 years	1,016	917	97,457	106,428	15	14
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	8,436	7,244	135,686	133,528	3	3
Speak language other than English at home (%)	6.3	5.3	21.5	20.4	24	23
Not proficient in English ^{7, 8} (%)	0.6	0.5	2.7	2.6	23	23

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 (%)	17.2	14.2	24.6	20.6	16	15
Catholics attending an educational institution (% of all Catholics in each age group)						
Aged 15-17	90.8	89.4	94.9	92.2	22	17
Aged 18-19	58.9	54.6	67.2	62.9	11	12
Aged 20-24	39.3	33.5	43.4	38.2	9	10
Catholic primary students attending Catholic schools (%)	51.5	47.0	55.5	53.1	19	20
Catholic primary students attending Government schools (%)	42.1	47.3	38.4	41.0	9	10
Catholic secondary students attending Catholic schools (%)	48.2	45.7	55.3	54.5	21	22
Catholic secondary students attending Government schools (%)	42.2	45.9	33.4	35.1	8	8
Primary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ¹ (%)	40.1	30.2	36.6	28.1	18	18
Secondary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ¹ (%)	44.2	34.2	41.3	35.7	18	18

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 (%)	31.5	32.6	32.9	33.3	17	17
Married (%)	47.9	48.0	49.3	49.7	20	18
Divorced or Separated (%)	13.7	13.0	11.7	11.2	3	3
Widowed (%)	6.9	6.4	6.1	5.8	9	11

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	63,863	63,408	1,995,658	1,997,833	9	9
One-parent families	7,369	7,832	225,180	231,370	9	9
One-parent families (% of all families)	11.5	12.4	11.3	11.6	8	6
Couples of mixed religions ² (%)	69.2	66.3	58.1	55.9	2	2
De facto couples (%)	19.5	18.3	17.7	17.7	11	13
Median annual family income ³ (\$)	109,500	89,531	120,943	100,270	16	18

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	82,193	81,063	2,567,362	2,548,354	9	9
Persons living alone (aged under 35)	1,244	1,458	51,145	53,499	9	9
Persons living alone (aged 35+)	14,331	13,358	442,080	407,684	9	8
Persons living alone (total)	15,575	14,816	493,225	461,183	10	9
Persons living alone (% of all persons)	10.6	9.6	9.7	8.7	10	11
Dwellings owned or being purchased (%)	74.8	72.2	73.0	71.2	13	14
Median monthly housing loan repayment ⁵ (\$)	1,894	1,802	1,948	1,873	11	14

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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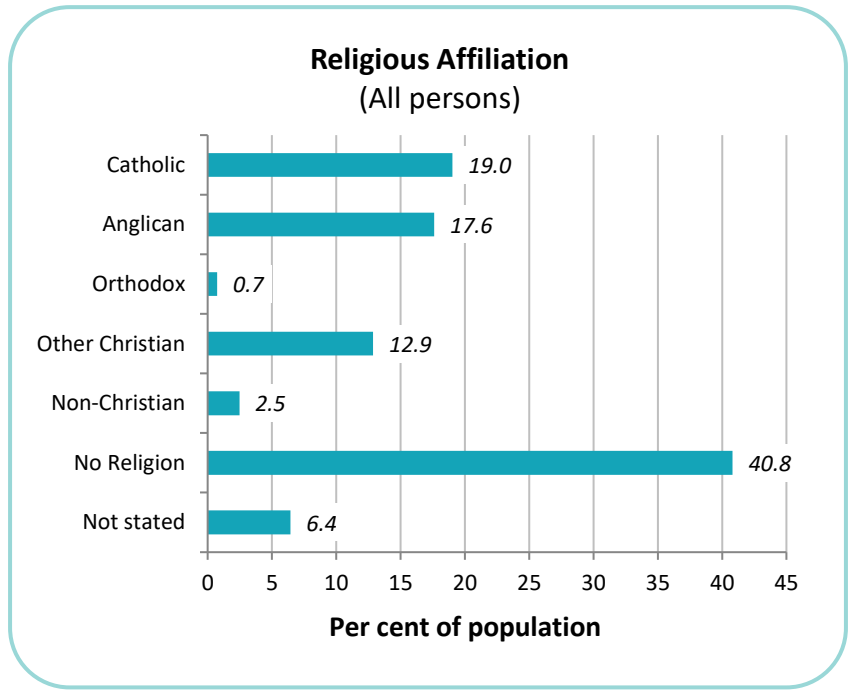
Religious Affiliation

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	15,316	18,922	14,445	16,049	17,614	20,383	20,119	15,444	8,357	146,649
Maronite Catholic	11	14	8	9	6	15	7	3	-	73
Melkite Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukrainian Catholic	8	4	3	8	3	8	17	28	4	83
Chaldean Catholic	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Syro-Malabar Catholic	71	48	14	44	50	27	5	-	-	259
Total Catholic	15,409	18,988	14,470	16,110	17,673	20,433	20,148	15,475	8,361	147,067
Per cent Catholic (of total population in age group)	17.1	20.5	15.5	16.8	19.3	21.3	20.8	20.6	20.4	19.0
Anglican	8,188	12,432	8,351	10,281	16,251	21,021	24,233	22,537	12,746	136,040
Orthodox	567	600	512	636	769	815	742	647	467	5,755
Other Christian	7,766	9,338	7,505	8,925	10,927	14,254	17,016	14,805	8,848	99,384
Non-Christian	2,529	1,793	3,208	4,324	2,910	1,892	1,502	688	225	19,071
No Religion	50,141	44,051	52,661	49,061	36,901	32,139	27,855	16,123	6,337	315,269
Not Stated	5,335	5,380	6,517	6,569	5,925	5,567	5,599	4,948	3,905	49,745
Total Population	89,935	92,582	93,224	95,906	91,356	96,121	97,095	75,223	40,889	772,331

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	537	513	1,050	1,426
1	622	548	1,170	1,676
2	674	643	1,317	1,762
3	667	660	1,327	1,789
4	758	654	1,412	2,041
5	851	821	1,672	2,052
6	882	872	1,754	2,088
7	971	848	1,819	2,113
8	943	914	1,857	2,220
9	1,070	961	2,031	2,245
10	1,013	959	1,972	2,275
11	1,046	938	1,984	2,110
12	1,037	975	2,012	2,100
13	1,017	1,048	2,065	2,114
14	1,023	991	2,014	2,142
15	983	970	1,953	2,208
16	954	854	1,808	2,175
17	949	864	1,813	2,094
18	848	853	1,701	2,049
19	842	818	1,660	1,953
20-24	3,772	3,844	7,616	9,035
25-29	3,212	3,653	6,865	8,439
30-34	3,309	4,436	7,745	8,647
35-39	3,754	4,611	8,365	8,826
40-44	3,892	4,387	8,279	9,829
45-49	4,334	5,069	9,403	10,282
50-54	4,711	5,340	10,051	10,632
55-59	4,777	5,614	10,391	10,387
60-64	4,817	5,757	10,574	9,282
65-69	4,364	5,216	9,580	9,133
70-74	4,003	4,971	8,974	7,118
75-79	2,923	3,569	6,492	5,207
80+	3,283	5,080	8,363	7,047
Total	68,838	78,251	147,089	154,496

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?

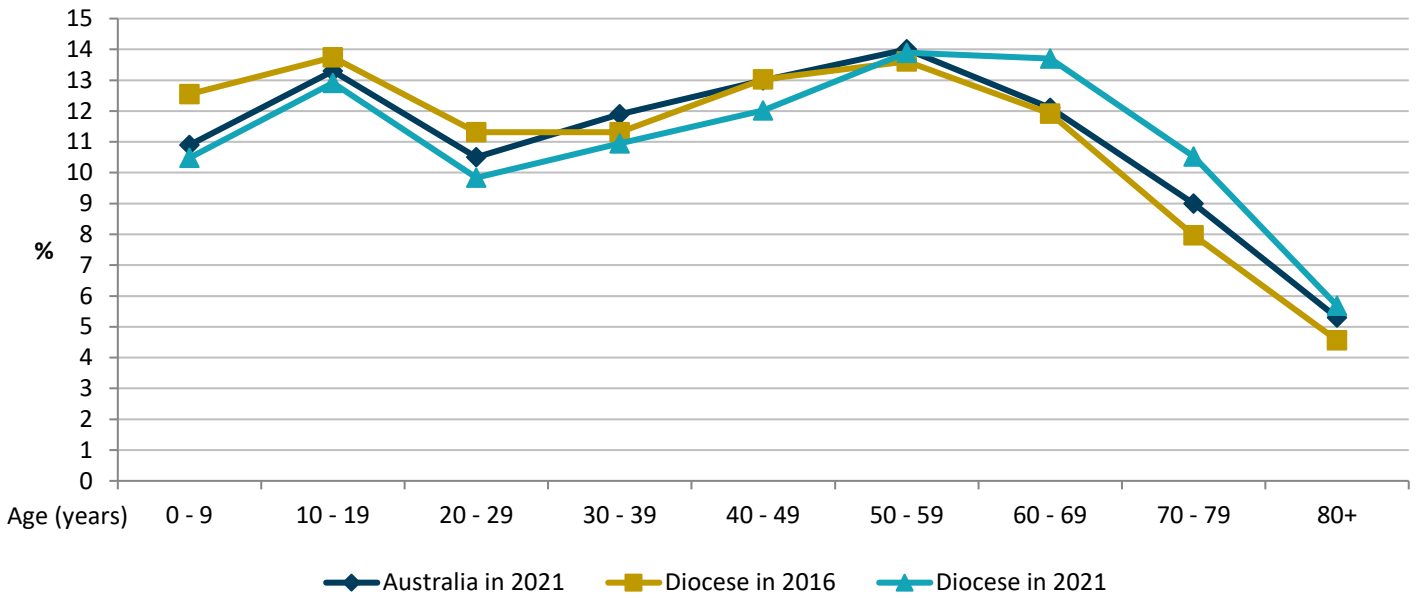
Does this data suggest any new challenges for the diocese?

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.

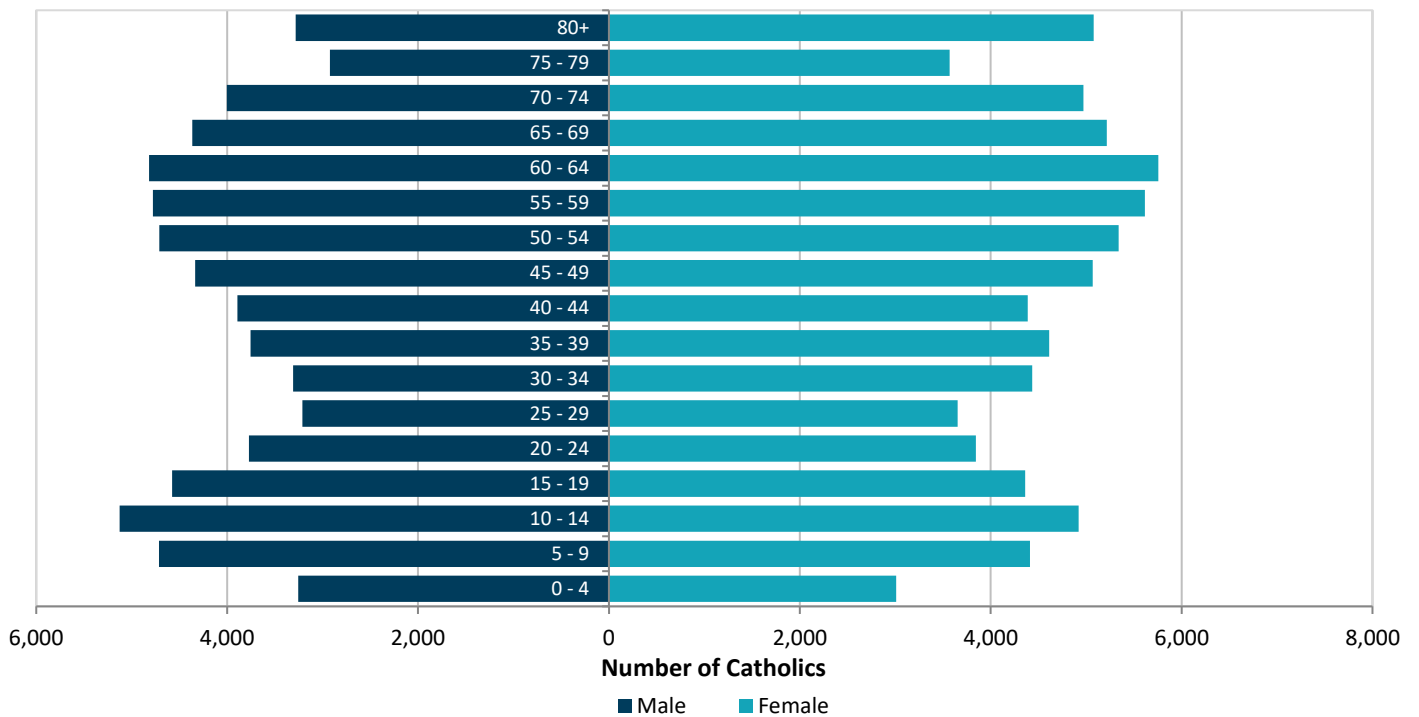


Age and Sex

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	728	694	627	716	627	318	3,710
Females	377	564	812	717	709	469	3,648
Lone Persons:							
Males	-	62	246	129	138	145	720
Females	-	34	186	179	385	441	1,225
Other non-family members or persons not present in a household on Census night³							
Males	10	86	187	130	202	203	818
Females	3	80	167	156	314	613	1,333
Total							
Males	738	842	1,060	975	967	666	5,248
Females	380	678	1,165	1,052	1,408	1,523	6,206

Table 11b: Provision of unpaid assistance by age

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to a person with a disability⁴							
Males	395	403	841	1,274	1,554	1,869	6,336
Females	527	916	1,602	2,369	2,851	2,695	10,960

Notes:

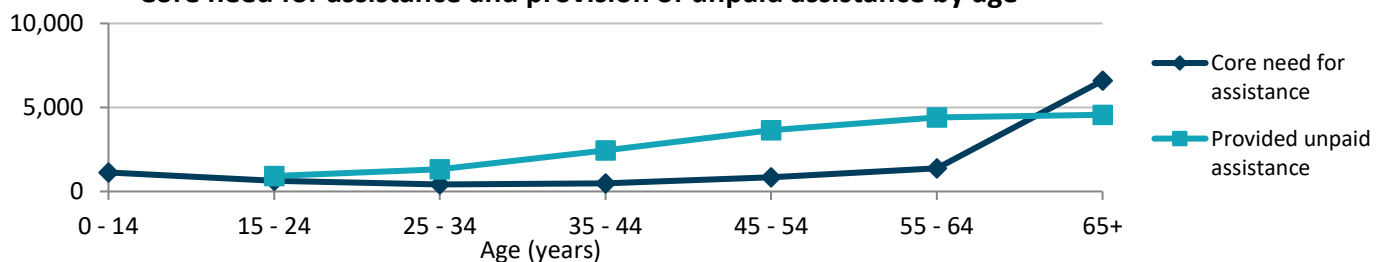
1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006. *Census Dictionary Australia 2006*. Catalogue No. 2901.0.

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	8,302	4,432	2,389	2,083	1,501	664	295	19,666
Married	43	1,876	4,448	5,306	5,907	5,738	4,077	27,395
Divorced or Separated	5	207	791	1,595	1,977	1,586	768	6,929
Widowed	-	-	22	61	210	382	1,063	1,738
Total	8,350	6,515	7,650	9,045	9,595	8,370	6,203	55,728
Females								
Never married	8,114	4,585	2,265	1,750	1,051	510	363	18,638
Married	67	3,105	5,412	6,155	6,912	6,054	3,132	30,837
Divorced or Separated	14	385	1,253	2,307	2,744	2,138	946	9,787
Widowed	4	16	68	201	660	1,488	4,210	6,647
Total	8,199	8,091	8,998	10,413	11,367	10,190	8,651	65,909

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

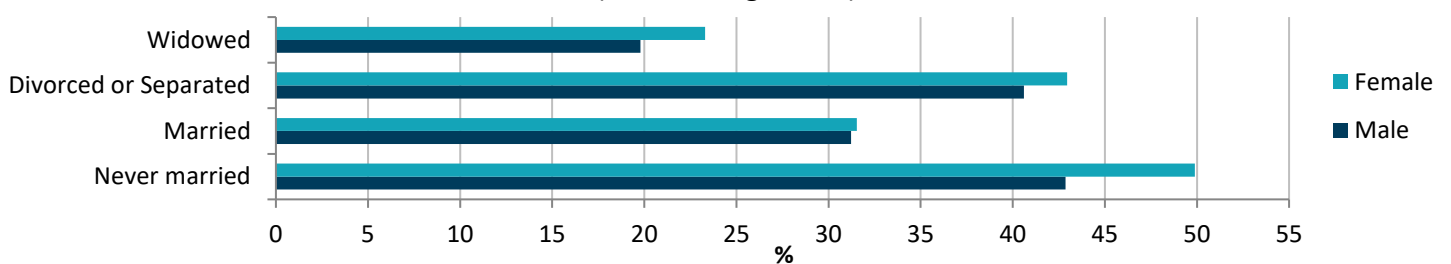


Table 13: Religious affiliation of couple by social marital status

	In a registered marriage	In a de facto marriage	Total couples	% couples in de facto marriages
Both persons Catholic	13,021	2,104	15,125	13.9
One person Catholic, the other non-Catholic Christian	19,031	3,667	22,698	16.2
One Catholic, the other non-Christian, not stated or temporarily absent	10,546	4,554	15,100	30.2
Total	42,598	10,325	52,923	19.5



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	61	107	321	1,119	2,057	1,613	1,661	436	7,375	2,904
One parent Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	62	139	445	1,523	2,947	2,335	2,423	668	10,542	2,939
One parent Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	63	113	289	1,193	2,330	1,666	1,658	361	7,673	2,857
Couples with no children living at home:										
Both partners Catholic	560	1,379	1,490	1,592	1,306	630	574	211	7,742	1,408
One partner Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	838	2,136	2,379	2,650	2,192	936	742	282	12,155	1,415
One partner Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	277	595	760	1,294	1,667	940	582	141	6,256	2,078
One-parent families:										
Parent is Catholic	592	1,077	1,797	1,746	1,092	273	154	638	7,369	1,224
Other families where at least one person is Catholic										
Other: Reference person Catholic but spouse temporarily absent ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,193	1,193	-
Total	2,622	5,789	8,117	11,884	14,334	8,788	8,166	4,163	63,863	2,100

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	1,934	375	198	80	22	2,609
\$500-\$799	4,486	577	474	178	73	5,788
\$800-\$1,249	6,091	878	718	308	124	8,119
\$1,250-\$1,999	7,580	1,699	1,691	692	223	11,885
\$2,000-\$2,999	7,309	2,455	3,091	1,175	286	14,316
\$3,000-\$3,999	3,813	1,652	2,313	860	149	8,787
\$4,000 or more	3,366	1,567	2,118	908	193	8,152
Income not fully stated	2,340	742	652	285	120	4,139
Total Families	36,919	9,945	11,255	4,486	1,190	63,795
Median Family Income (\$)	1,722	2,436	2,718	2,717	2,325	2,100

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)**

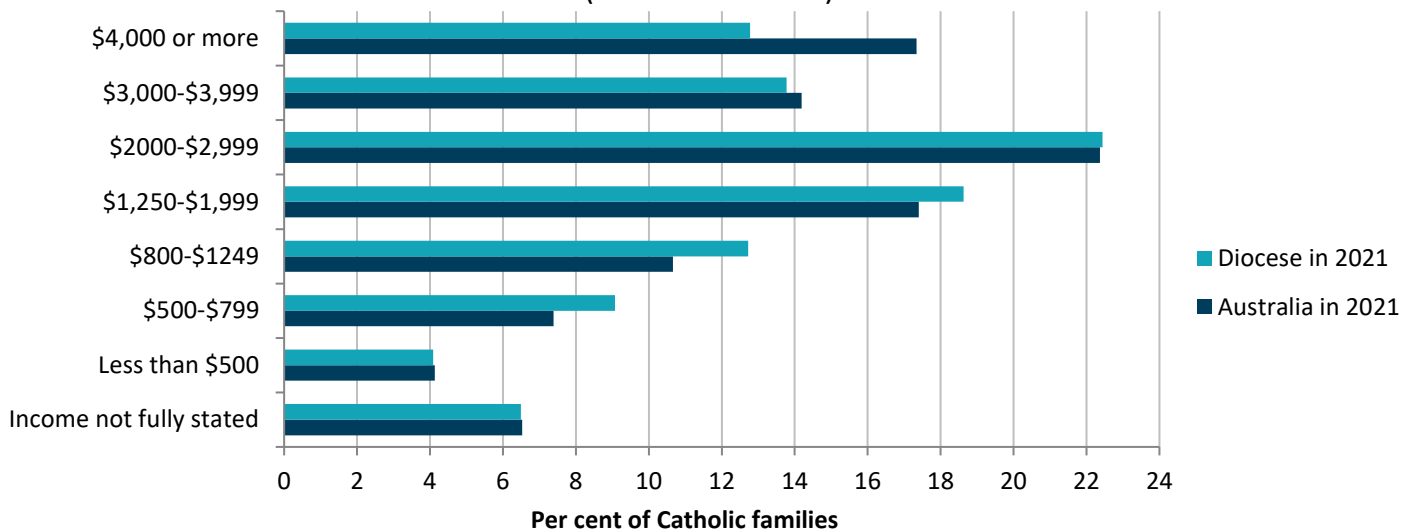


Table 16: Social marital status by number of dependent children

	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)	26,017	5,413	7,497	2,991	675	42,593
De facto couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	6,403	1,663	1,461	588	233	10,348
One parent family, parent Catholic	3,004	2,119	1,510	539	188	7,360
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	1,504	757	806	372	109	3,548
Total families	36,928	9,952	11,274	4,490	1,205	63,849



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	50,421	1,058	11,416	881	63,776	79.1
Lone person aged under 35 years	506	31	646	61	1,244	40.7
Lone person aged 35 years or over	9,508	1,119	3,035	669	14,331	66.3
Group households	1,045	82	1,594	121	2,842	36.8
Total households	61,480	2,290	16,691	1,732	82,193	74.8

	\$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	1,228	1,843	5,380	7,824	4,314	4,984	1,932
Lone person aged under 35 years	-	17	144	169	41	33	1,745
Lone person aged 35 years or over	243	298	570	441	133	159	1,401
Group households	29	50	106	137	48	34	1,674
Total households	1,500	2,208	6,200	8,571	4,536	5,210	1,894

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)

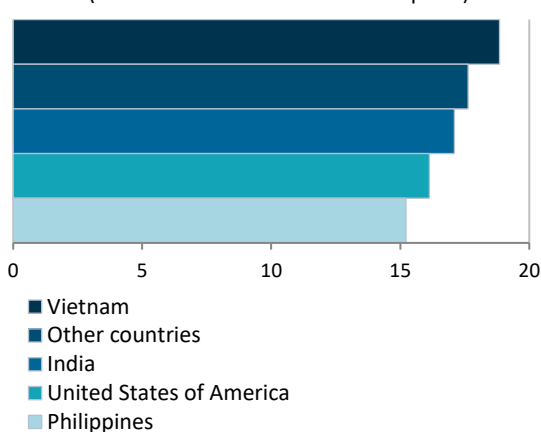


Table 19: Birthplace

	All Catholics	% of Catholics	% recent arrivals ¹
Australia	128,192	87.2	-
New Zealand	1,065	0.7	3.9
Other Oceania	358	0.2	9.8
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	2,348	1.6	2.6
Ireland (including Northern Ireland)	981	0.7	3.1
Italy	1,093	0.7	1.8
Malta	387	0.3	-
Spain and Portugal	254	0.2	1.2
France	169	0.1	6.5
Netherlands	442	0.3	-
Germany	875	0.6	2.1
Austria	256	0.2	-
Croatia and other Former Yugoslavia	555	0.4	1.4
Poland	451	0.3	1.1
Hungary	115	0.1	2.6
Other Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Baltic States	309	0.2	1.3
Other Europe NEC	94	0.1	3.2
Vietnam	260	0.2	18.8
Philippines	3,121	2.1	15.2
Indonesia	85	0.1	12.9
Malaysia	159	0.1	13.2
Singapore	73	0.0	9.6
South East Asia NEC	75	0.1	4.0
India	813	0.6	17.1
Sri Lanka	64	0.0	4.7
China (except Hong Kong and Taiwan)	65	0.0	6.2
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	80	0.1	8.8
Korea, Republic of (South)	100	0.1	12.0
Egypt	73	0.0	-
Lebanon	88	0.1	-
Iraq	41	0.0	12.2
Sudan (including South Sudan)	51	0.0	-
Middle East and North Africa NEC	125	0.1	12.0
South Africa	275	0.2	4.4
Mauritius	106	0.1	-
United States of America	310	0.2	16.1
Canada	193	0.1	9.3
Argentina	92	0.1	13.0
Brazil	173	0.1	13.9
Colombia	121	0.1	14.0
Chile	135	0.1	10.4
Central America and South America NEC	295	0.2	9.2
Other countries	346	0.2	17.6
Inadequately described/Not stated	1,828	1.2	-
Total	147,091	100.0	0.8

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	136,457	553,032	689,489	19.8
Italian	1,177	490	1,667	70.6
Maltese	160	31	191	83.8
Spanish	803	1,003	1,806	44.5
Croatian	378	100	478	79.1
Polish	481	229	710	67.7
Dutch	112	435	547	20.5
French	266	722	988	26.9
German	312	1,158	1,470	21.2
Portuguese	295	358	653	45.2
Hungarian	76	69	145	52.4
Ukrainian	39	54	93	41.9
Vietnamese	340	1,038	1,378	24.7
Filipino languages	2,096	570	2,666	78.6
Chinese languages	252	4,665	4,917	5.1
Malayalam	822	504	1,326	62.0
Sinhalese	21	328	349	6.0
Korean	91	762	853	10.7
Indonesian & Malay	74	641	715	10.3
Arabic	226	1,417	1,643	13.8
Assyrian and Chaldean	17	27	44	38.6
Oceanic and Papuan languages	315	1,074	1,389	22.7
Australian Indigenous Languages	87	557	644	13.5
Other European languages NEC	356	5,989	6,345	5.6
Other Asian languages NEC	174	8,782	8,956	1.9
Other languages NEC	320	2,762	3,082	10.4
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/Not stated	1,325	38,484	39,809	3.3
Total	147,072	625,281	772,353	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	5,792	12,374	14,392	13,590	30,612	29,187	30,507	136,454	-
Italian	10	26	32	42	160	272	642	1,184	9.9
Maltese	-	7	-	10	20	31	94	162	4.3
Spanish	43	69	46	59	303	108	182	810	10.8
Croatian	8	11	6	12	63	84	190	374	11.9
Polish	8	12	21	20	89	97	224	471	6.5
Dutch	-	6	8	-	14	30	55	113	5.3
French	7	16	12	24	78	62	73	272	1.9
German	14	18	16	12	57	61	137	315	2.6
Portuguese	10	28	17	21	129	53	44	302	7.7
Hungarian	4	5	-	-	20	9	34	72	4.1
Ukrainian	-	3	-	3	8	3	27	44	6.7
Vietnamese	23	25	29	64	138	48	17	344	37.8
Filipino languages	66	96	143	238	939	404	217	2,103	3.4
Chinese languages	6	24	11	43	68	31	60	243	13.8
Malayalam	111	145	70	45	405	46	9	831	7.8
Sinhalese	-	3	-	5	12	-	-	20	-
Korean	3	18	7	10	40	11	7	96	13.0
Indonesian & Malay	-	-	4	13	24	21	5	67	3.9
Arabic	8	22	23	31	65	46	32	227	11.5
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	4	-	-	6	-	-	10	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	28	28	17	63	84	61	33	314	8.8
Australian Indigenous Languages	-	12	19	11	26	8	3	79	-
Other European languages NEC	16	30	23	23	95	63	111	361	7.9
Other Asian languages NEC	10	22	28	16	68	22	14	180	5.7
Other languages NEC	22	26	33	58	120	53	17	329	16.1
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/ Not stated	80	63	80	70	161	192	680	1,326	6.4
Total	6,269	13,093	15,037	14,483	33,804	31,003	33,414	147,103	0.6

Notes:

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

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

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?

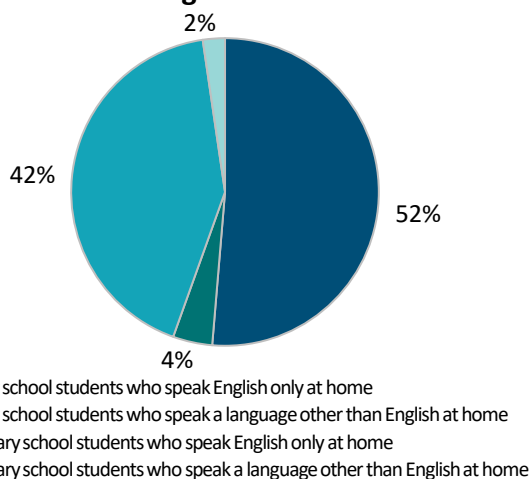
Table 22: Type of educational institution attending by religious affiliation

	Catholic	Not Catholic or not stated	All persons	% Catholic
Infants/Primary – Government	5,474	38,838	44,312	12.4
Infants/Primary – Catholic	6,694	4,485	11,179	59.9
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	832	5,884	6,716	12.4
Secondary – Government	4,375	26,465	30,840	14.2
Secondary – Catholic	5,001	3,968	8,969	55.8
Secondary – Other Non-Government	996	6,048	7,044	14.1
Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)	3,522	15,825	19,347	18.2
University or other Tertiary Institutions	5,159	24,012	29,171	17.7
Other (including pre-school)	3,755	17,589	21,344	17.6
Not stated/Not applicable ¹	111,265	482,160	593,425	18.7
Total	147,073	625,274	772,347	19.0

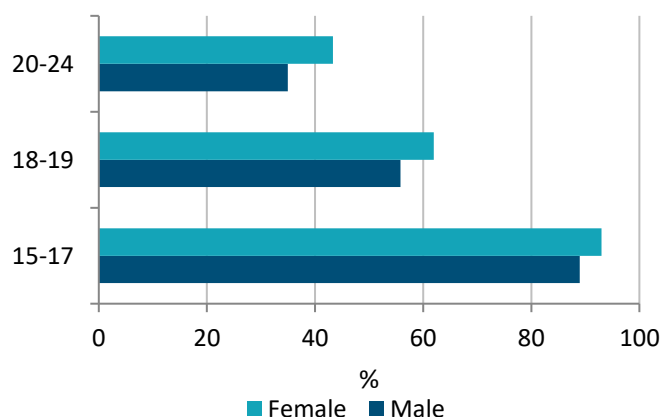
Note:

- 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

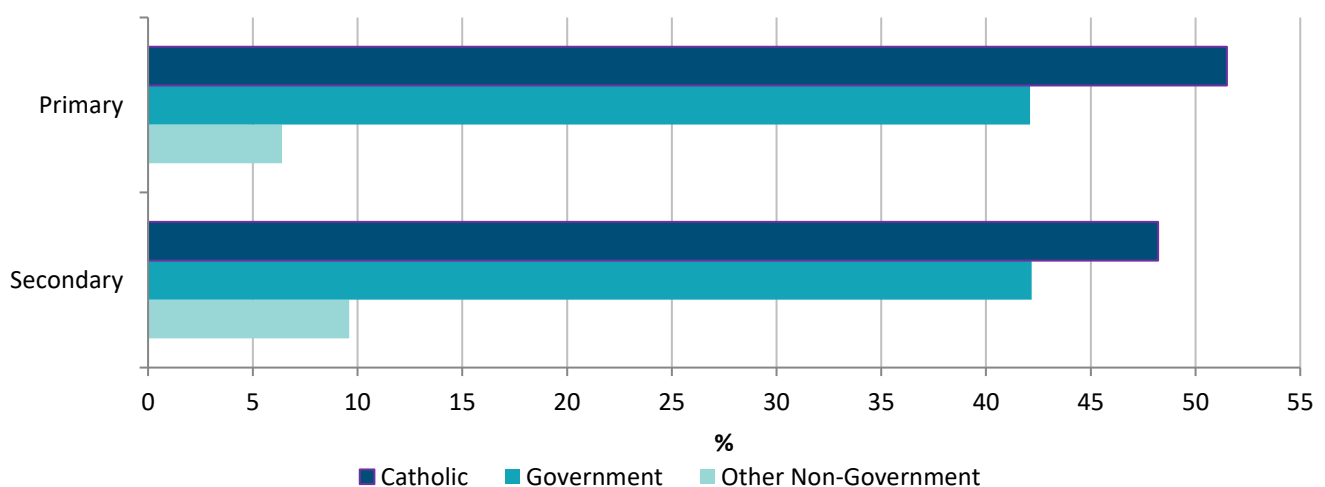
Table 23: Type of educational institution attending by weekly income of student's family¹

	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	175	388	602	988	1,399	831	624	5,349	117,321
Infants/Primary – Catholic	96	194	317	792	1,837	1,496	1,516	6,567	153,248
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	15	31	38	119	168	167	250	829	215,715
Secondary – Government	113	243	413	758	997	693	566	4,127	123,318
Secondary – Catholic	51	141	249	599	1,102	1,075	1,281	4,864	161,591
Secondary – Other Non-Government	15	21	43	83	186	184	348	956	182,500
TAFE, University or other Tertiary institution	12	28	84	182	354	394	587	1,797	177,651
Other (including pre-school)	13	41	50	144	253	175	147	880	137,970
Not stated or not applicable	24	34	30	36	72	23	30	311	104,599
Total	514	1,121	1,826	3,701	6,368	5,038	5,349	25,680	143,549

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	11	200	359	337	323	361	1,591
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	232	1,085	1,250	1,204	960	1,254	5,985
Advanced diploma or diploma level	109	394	828	994	913	949	4,187
Certificate level	1,332	2,816	3,128	3,583	3,836	4,732	19,427
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	6,659	2,018	2,078	2,928	3,559	7,273	24,515
Total	8,343	6,513	7,643	9,046	9,591	14,569	55,705
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>19.7</i>	<i>21.1</i>	<i>17.0</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>11.1</i>	<i>13.6</i>
Females							
Postgraduate degree	11	411	546	502	397	283	2,150
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	570	2,488	2,723	2,069	1,546	1,785	11,181
Advanced diploma or diploma level	293	1,010	1,299	1,548	1,569	1,467	7,186
Certificate level	1,330	2,294	2,324	2,751	2,676	2,061	13,436
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	5,995	1,894	2,112	3,538	5,173	13,243	31,955
Total	8,199	8,097	9,004	10,408	11,361	18,839	65,908
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>35.8</i>	<i>36.3</i>	<i>24.7</i>	<i>17.1</i>	<i>11.0</i>	<i>20.2</i>
All Catholics							
Postgraduate degree	22	611	905	839	720	644	3,741
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	802	3,573	3,973	3,273	2,506	3,039	17,166
Advanced diploma or diploma level	402	1,404	2,127	2,542	2,482	2,416	11,373
Certificate level	2,662	5,110	5,452	6,334	6,512	6,793	32,863
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	12,654	3,912	4,190	6,466	8,732	20,516	56,470
Total	16,542	14,610	16,647	19,454	20,952	33,408	121,613
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>28.6</i>	<i>29.3</i>	<i>21.1</i>	<i>15.4</i>	<i>11.0</i>	<i>17.2</i>

Note:

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



Employment

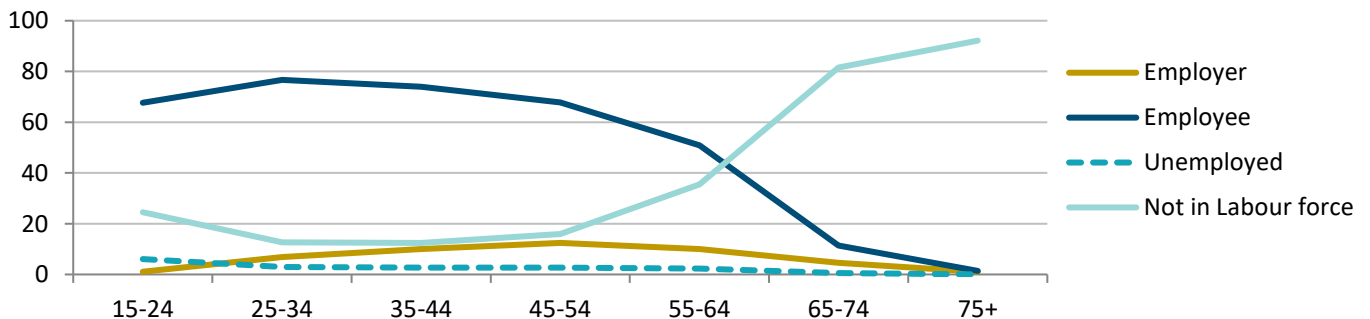
In recent years there have been many changes in society and the workplace that have affected Australian workers. One major change has been the increase in the percentages of workers, especially young people and women, in part-time jobs. Another has been the rise in participation in the labour force by women. A third major change has been the rise in participation in the labour force by older workers, following the removal of incentives to early retirement and resulting in the continuing availability of their skills, experience and maturity in the workplace.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	93	1,635	2,859	729	5,316
Employee	5,410	10,601	10,699	1,124	27,834
Unemployed	606	468	570	61	1,705
Not in the labour force	2,176	1,300	4,266	12,222	19,964
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	60	160	243	438	901
Total	8,345	14,164	18,637	14,574	55,720
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	73.2	89.7	75.8	13.1	62.6
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	9.9	3.7	4.0	3.2	4.9
Females					
Employer	86	1,028	1,660	280	3,054
Employee	5,776	12,915	13,150	1,213	33,054
Unemployed	399	414	458	46	1,317
Not in the labour force	1,882	2,621	6,273	16,591	27,367
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	54	115	235	715	1,119
Total	8,197	17,093	21,776	18,845	65,911
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	76.4	84.0	70.1	8.2	56.8
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	6.4	2.9	3.0	3.0	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	156	529	1,168	1,348	1,040	409	4,650
Professionals	230	859	1,074	1,057	875	412	4,507
Technicians & Trade Workers	1,734	1,910	1,739	1,700	1,362	269	8,714
Community & Personal Service Workers	637	425	439	485	341	98	2,425
Clerical & Administrative Workers	124	209	308	408	362	103	1,514
Sales Workers	856	286	246	292	282	109	2,071
Machinery Operators & Drivers	404	724	953	1,278	1,127	263	4,749
Labourers	1,326	610	592	708	766	182	4,184
ID / NS / NA ¹	2,878	964	1,122	1,761	3,432	12,734	22,891
Total	8,345	6,516	7,641	9,037	9,587	14,579	55,705
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	7.1	25.0	34.4	33.1	31.1	44.5	27.9
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	63.4	58.4	50.4	50.7	52.9	38.7	53.8
Females							
Managers	153	589	840	932	600	161	3,275
Professionals	559	2,224	2,378	2,017	1,454	353	8,985
Technicians & Trade Workers	294	374	321	312	232	43	1,576
Community & Personal Service Workers	1,737	1,169	1,223	1,490	1,212	200	7,031
Clerical & Administrative Workers	612	1,156	1,545	1,938	1,667	399	7,317
Sales Workers	1,836	509	506	713	635	149	4,348
Machinery Operators & Drivers	68	126	139	147	119	28	627
Labourers	552	352	385	647	609	147	2,692
ID / NS / NA ¹	2,386	1,585	1,665	2,198	4,826	17,358	30,018
Total	8,197	8,084	9,002	10,394	11,354	18,838	65,869
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	12.3	43.3	43.9	36.0	31.5	34.7	34.2
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	15.7	13.1	11.5	13.5	14.7	14.7	13.7
All Catholics							
Managers	309	1,118	2,008	2,280	1,640	570	7,925
Professionals	789	3,083	3,452	3,074	2,329	765	13,492
Technicians & Trade Workers	2,028	2,284	2,060	2,012	1,594	312	10,290
Community & Personal Service Workers	2,374	1,594	1,662	1,975	1,553	298	9,456
Clerical & Administrative Workers	736	1,365	1,853	2,346	2,029	502	8,831
Sales Workers	2,692	795	752	1,005	917	258	6,419
Machinery Operators & Drivers	472	850	1,092	1,425	1,246	291	5,376
Labourers	1,878	962	977	1,355	1,375	329	6,876
ID / NS / NA ¹	5,264	2,549	2,787	3,959	8,258	30,092	52,909
Total	16,542	14,600	16,643	19,431	20,941	33,417	121,574
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	9.7	34.9	39.4	34.6	31.3	40.2	31.2
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	38.8	34.0	29.8	31.0	33.2	28.0	32.8

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?

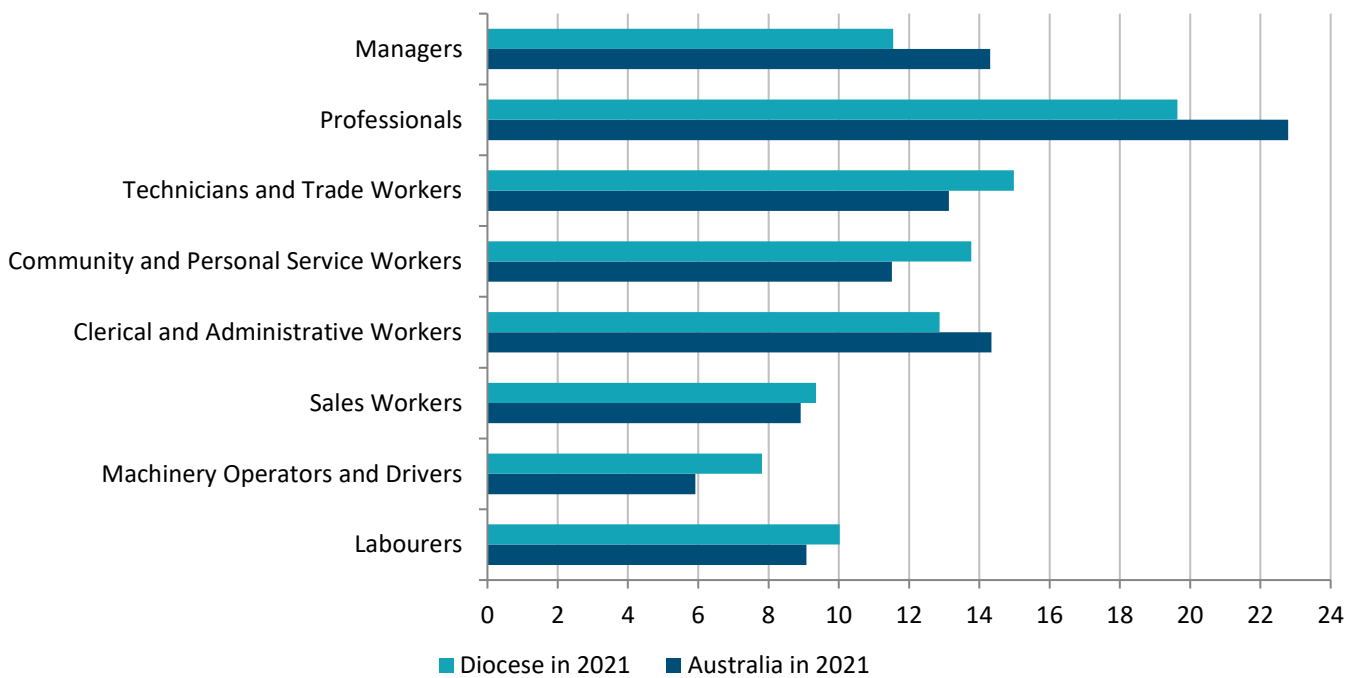
Table 27: Occupation by religious affiliation¹ (%)

	Catholic	Non-Catholic
All persons aged 15+ with an occupation		
Managers	11.5	11.2
Professionals	19.6	20.8
Technicians & Trade Workers	15.0	15.7
Community & Personal Service Workers	13.8	13.6
Clerical & Administrative Workers	12.9	11.9
Sales Workers	9.4	8.7
Machinery Operators & Drivers	7.8	7.9
Labourers	10.0	10.2
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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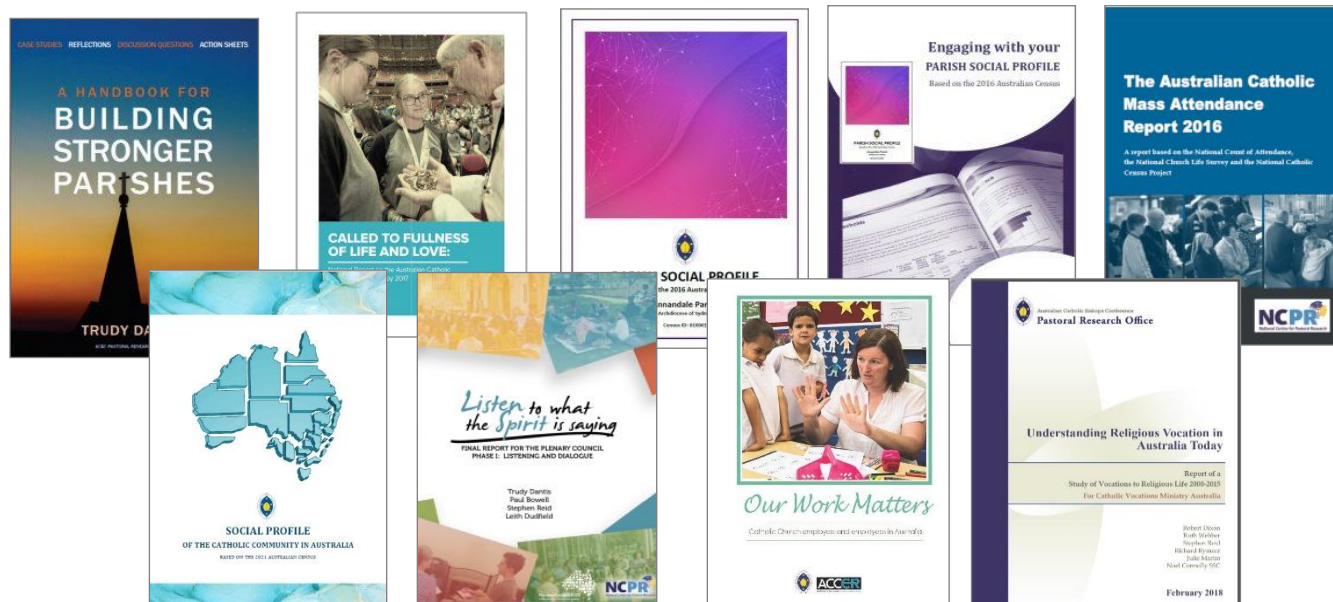
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The National Centre for Pastoral Research website allows you to view the Social Profiles online.

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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