

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics - Select Data Tables from the 2016 Census

National Centre for Pastoral Research
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Age group	2006		2011		2016	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-4 years	11,059	10.9	14,082	11.3	13,557	10.2
5-9 years	13,150	13.0	14,867	11.9	16,026	12.0
10-14 years	13,967	13.8	15,750	12.6	16,024	12.0
15-19 years	11,475	11.4	14,484	11.6	14,289	10.7
20-24 years	8,269	8.2	10,211	8.2	11,012	8.2
25-29 years	6,554	6.5	8,406	6.7	8,798	6.6
30-34 years	6,722	6.6	7,215	5.8	7,871	5.9
35-39 years	6,770	6.7	7,664	6.1	7,056	5.3
40-44 years	6,036	6.0	7,721	6.2	7,713	5.8
45-49 years	5,039	5.0	6,633	5.3	7,670	5.7
50-54 years	3,936	3.9	5,627	4.5	6,903	5.2
55-59 years	2,930	2.9	4,193	3.4	5,629	4.2
60-64 years	1,974	2.0	3,103	2.5	4,185	3.1
65-69 years	1,346	1.3	1,972	1.6	3,038	2.3
70-74 years	885	0.9	1,253	1.0	1,766	1.3
75-79 years	502	0.5	733	0.6	1,074	0.8
80+	486	0.5	711	0.6	929	0.7
Total	101,100	100	124,625	100	133,540	100

Source: ABS Census of Population & Housing 2006-2016 (data obtained using Census TableBuilder).

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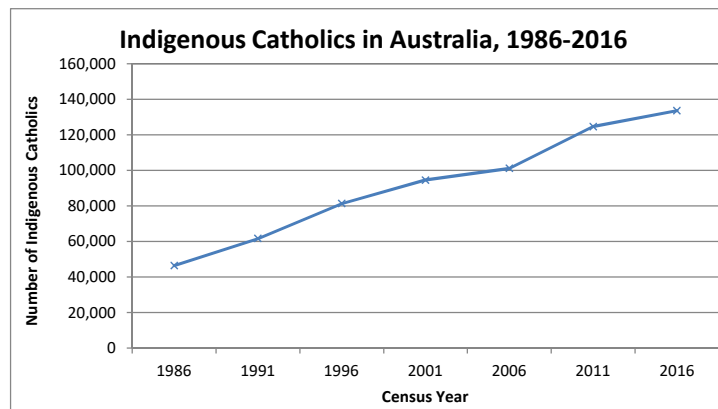
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Census Year	Total Indigenous Catholics	Total Catholics	Indigenous Catholics as % of all Catholics	Indigenous Catholics: % change from previous Census
1986	46,405	4,064,413	1.14	-
1991	61,641	4,605,844	1.34	32.8
1996	81,265	4,799,090	1.69	31.8
2001	94,556	5,001,624	1.89	16.4
2006	101,100	5,126,862	1.97	6.9
2011	124,625	5,439,267	2.29	23.3
2016	133,540	5,291,817	2.52	7.2

Overall numerical change 1986-2016	87,135
Overall % change 1986-2016	187.8

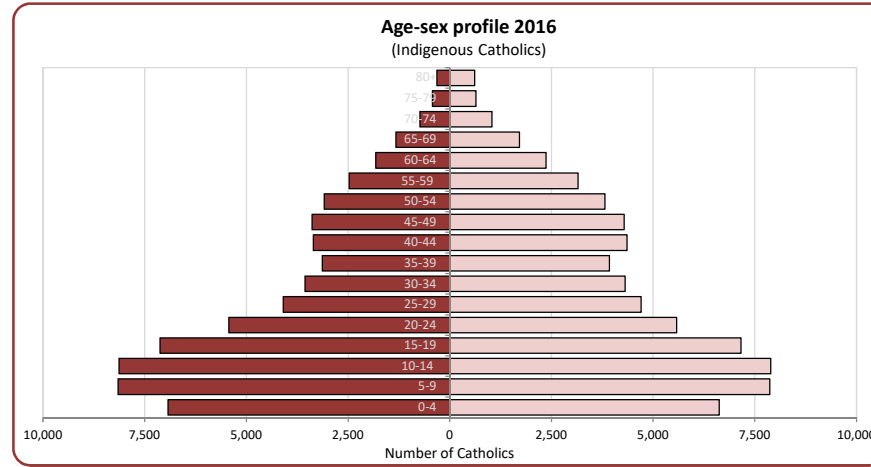
Source: ABS Census of Population & Housing 1986-2016.

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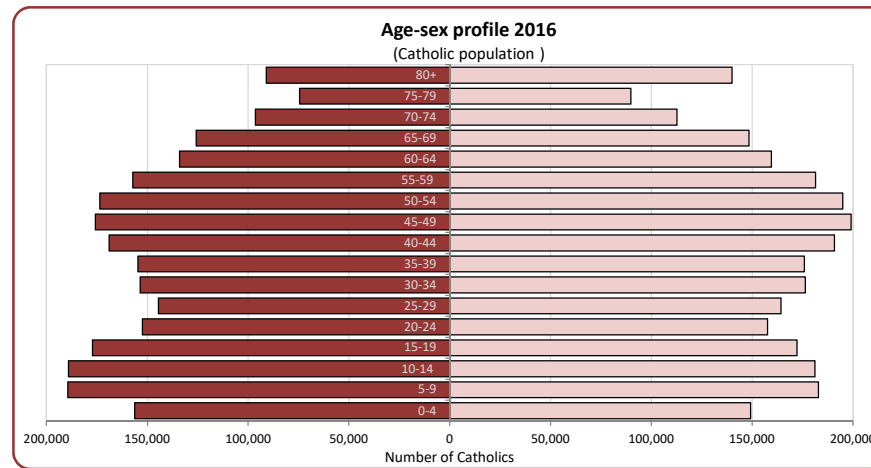


Age and Sex profiles of Indigenous Catholics and All Catholics, 2016

Age	Indigenous Catholics		Total Catholics
	Male	Female	
0-4	-6,928	6,629	13,557
5-9	-8,159	7,867	16,026
10-14	-8,132	7,892	16,024
15-19	-7,124	7,165	14,289
20-24	-5,435	5,577	11,012
25-29	-4,096	4,702	8,798
30-34	-3,561	4,310	7,871
35-39	-3,132	3,924	7,056
40-44	-3,355	4,358	7,713
45-49	-3,383	4,287	7,670
50-54	-3,089	3,814	6,903
55-59	-2,473	3,156	5,629
60-64	-1,818	2,367	4,185
65-69	-1,326	1,712	3,038
70-74	-730	1,036	1,766
75-79	-430	644	1,074
80+	-317	612	929
Total	-63,488	70,052	133,540



Age	Total Catholic Population		Total Catholics
	Male	Female	
0-4	-156,339	149,258	305,597
5-9	-189,543	182,940	372,483
10-14	-189,089	181,176	370,265
15-19	-177,253	172,259	349,512
20-24	-152,521	157,730	310,251
25-29	-144,559	164,374	308,933
30-34	-153,601	176,454	330,055
35-39	-154,700	175,903	330,603
40-44	-168,976	190,793	359,769
45-49	-175,829	199,024	374,853
50-54	-173,651	194,905	368,556
55-59	-157,238	181,484	338,722
60-64	-133,992	159,513	293,505
65-69	-125,846	148,389	274,235
70-74	-96,423	112,643	209,066
75-79	-74,505	89,886	164,391
80+	-91,047	139,981	231,028
Total	-2,515,112	2,776,712	5,291,824



Source : ABS Census of Population & Housing 2016 (data obtained as part of the National Catholic Census Project).

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Religious Affiliation of Indigenous Australians by Diocese, 2016

Diocese	Catholic		Other Religious Affiliation		Secular Beliefs & Other Spiritual Beliefs & No Religious Affiliation		Inadequately described and not stated		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Sydney	5,996	27.5	6,501	29.8	7,306	33.5	1,996	9.2	21,799
Armidale	4,307	22.1	8,423	43.1	5,783	29.6	1,011	5.2	19,524
Bathurst	5,202	26.5	7,412	37.7	5,553	28.2	1,494	7.6	19,661
Broken Bay	3,556	23.8	5,085	34.0	5,630	37.7	673	4.5	14,944
Lismore	5,497	21.8	8,447	33.5	9,590	38.0	1,694	6.7	25,228
Maitland-Newcastle	7,235	21.1	12,871	37.5	12,329	36.0	1,846	5.4	34,281
Parramatta	6,718	26.9	8,024	32.2	8,717	35.0	1,481	5.9	24,940
Wagga Wagga	2,338	25.5	3,091	33.8	3,047	33.3	677	7.4	9,153
Wilcannia-Forbes	4,087	32.1	4,171	32.7	3,640	28.6	848	6.7	12,746
Wollongong	5,770	23.9	8,225	34.1	8,849	36.7	1,260	5.2	24,104
Canberra & Goulburn	4,080	25.2	4,972	30.7	6,072	37.5	1,083	6.7	16,207
Melbourne	4,963	19.0	6,163	23.6	12,826	49.2	2,130	8.2	26,082
Ballarat	1,301	16.5	1,870	23.7	4,254	53.9	464	5.9	7,889
Sandhurst	1,353	17.5	2,141	27.7	3,744	48.5	487	6.3	7,725
Sale	884	14.8	1,647	27.5	3,032	50.6	427	7.1	5,990
Brisbane	15,403	18.9	27,073	33.3	33,260	40.9	5,649	6.9	81,385
Cairns	4,738	10.6	26,266	59.0	9,867	22.1	3,681	8.3	44,552
Rockhampton	5,359	23.1	8,450	36.4	8,080	34.8	1,302	5.6	23,191
Toowoomba	3,206	23.8	5,370	39.8	4,258	31.5	663	4.9	13,497
Townsville	6,449	27.0	8,419	35.3	7,262	30.4	1,750	7.3	23,880
Adelaide	2,720	11.8	5,884	25.5	12,497	54.2	1,935	8.4	23,036
Port Pirie	890	7.5	4,523	37.9	4,780	40.1	1,730	14.5	11,923
Perth	6,838	19.3	8,814	24.9	15,728	44.4	4,020	11.4	35,400
Broome	5,007	33.8	5,076	34.3	2,960	20.0	1,758	11.9	14,801
Bunbury	1,248	13.0	3,114	32.4	4,392	45.6	869	9.0	9,623
Geraldton	3,341	20.7	4,385	27.1	6,289	38.9	2,147	13.3	16,162
Hobart	3,705	15.7	7,065	30.0	11,540	49.0	1,264	5.4	23,574
Darwin	11,271	19.6	25,461	44.4	12,480	21.7	8,192	14.3	57,404
Military Ordinariate	59	13.1	178	39.4	162	35.8	53	11.7	452
Other Territory	7	25.9	5	18.5	10	37.0	5	18.5	27
Total Australia	133,528	20.6	229,126	35.3	233,937	36.0	52,589	8.1	649,180

Source: ABS Census of Population & Housing 2016 (data obtained as part of the National Catholic Census Project).

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Indigenous status of Catholics by Diocese, 2016

Diocese	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander		Non-Indigenous		Not stated		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Sydney	5,996	1.0	584,148	98.3	3,997	0.7	594,141
Armidale	4,307	10.1	37,649	88.6	541	1.3	42,497
Bathurst	5,202	7.9	59,696	90.9	781	1.2	65,679
Broken Bay	3,556	1.7	210,251	97.6	1,639	0.8	215,446
Lismore	5,497	5.3	97,772	93.5	1,315	1.3	104,584
Maitland-Newcastle	7,235	4.7	145,755	94.4	1,481	1.0	154,471
Parramatta	6,718	2.1	313,740	97.2	2,229	0.7	322,687
Wagga Wagga	2,338	3.9	57,657	95.0	676	1.1	60,671
Wilcannia-Forbes	4,087	14.0	24,760	84.6	414	1.4	29,261
Wollongong	5,770	3.0	182,319	96.0	1,747	0.9	189,836
Canberra & Goulburn	4,080	2.6	149,588	96.4	1,426	0.9	155,094
Melbourne	4,963	0.5	1,052,330	98.6	9,735	0.9	1,067,028
Ballarat	1,301	1.4	93,095	97.3	1,300	1.4	95,696
Sandhurst	1,353	1.5	87,707	97.2	1,130	1.3	90,190
Sale	884	0.7	121,422	98.2	1,284	1.0	123,590
Brisbane	15,403	2.2	687,912	97.1	5,387	0.8	708,702
Cairns	4,738	7.8	55,559	91.1	678	1.1	60,975
Rockhampton	5,359	4.9	102,170	94.1	1,047	1.0	108,576
Toowoomba	3,206	4.9	61,349	94.1	657	1.0	65,212
Townsville	6,449	8.2	71,790	90.9	772	1.0	79,011
Adelaide	2,720	1.0	268,890	98.1	2,519	0.9	274,129
Port Pirie	890	3.3	25,851	95.5	333	1.2	27,074
Perth	6,838	1.6	419,912	97.7	2,970	0.7	429,720
Broome	5,007	59.1	3,375	39.8	97	1.1	8,479
Bunbury	1,248	1.9	62,363	97.0	686	1.1	64,297
Geraldton	3,341	12.1	23,970	86.8	289	1.0	27,600
Hobart	3,705	4.7	74,709	94.0	1,043	1.3	79,457
Darwin	11,271	25.0	33,485	74.1	405	0.9	45,161
Military Ordinariate	59	2.7	2,114	96.4	21	1.0	2,194
Other Territory	7	1.7	398	97.3	4	1.0	409
Total Australia	133,528	2.5	5,111,736	96.6	46,603	0.9	5,291,867

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Diocese	Catholic		Other Religious Affiliation		Secular Beliefs & Other Spiritual Beliefs & No Religious Affiliation		Inadequately described and not stated		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Sydney	594,145	24.2	982,934	40.0	636,694	25.9	241,396	9.8	2,455,169
Armidale	42,490	23.1	83,660	45.4	38,177	20.7	19,896	10.8	184,223
Bathurst	65,677	28.2	93,919	40.4	47,787	20.5	25,309	10.9	232,692
Broken Bay	215,449	22.9	356,248	37.8	295,270	31.3	75,483	8.0	942,450
Lismore	104,580	20.7	191,853	38.0	153,967	30.5	54,042	10.7	504,442
Maitland-Newcastle	154,475	21.9	295,652	41.8	197,414	27.9	59,387	8.4	706,928
Parramatta	322,677	27.9	517,254	44.8	224,956	19.5	90,574	7.8	1,155,461
Wagga Wagga	60,674	29.6	79,148	38.5	45,215	22.0	20,288	9.9	205,325
Wilcannia-Forbes	29,264	27.2	40,706	37.9	24,967	23.2	12,574	11.7	107,511
Wollongong	189,834	26.2	298,312	41.2	176,985	24.4	59,109	8.2	724,240
Canberra & Goulburn	155,088	23.6	224,253	34.2	213,664	32.6	62,892	9.6	655,897
Melbourne	1,067,030	23.4	1,611,608	35.4	1,455,467	32.0	420,348	9.2	4,554,453
Ballarat	95,696	22.6	141,734	33.5	141,622	33.5	43,802	10.4	422,854
Sandhurst	90,189	23.7	131,610	34.6	120,261	31.6	38,524	10.1	380,584
Sale	123,594	21.8	205,129	36.2	184,298	32.6	53,054	9.4	566,075
Brisbane	708,701	20.7	1,306,225	38.2	1,075,900	31.5	328,079	9.6	3,418,905
Cairns	60,977	22.0	100,224	36.1	81,463	29.4	34,750	12.5	277,414
Rockhampton	108,566	24.4	180,981	40.6	109,579	24.6	46,646	10.5	445,772
Toowoomba	65,212	24.0	126,277	46.4	53,950	19.8	26,679	9.8	272,118
Townsville	79,008	27.4	100,569	34.8	77,307	26.8	31,856	11.0	288,740
Adelaide	274,135	18.1	559,427	37.0	546,001	36.1	132,009	8.7	1,511,572
Port Pirie	27,069	16.2	63,650	38.1	57,413	34.4	18,739	11.2	166,871
Perth	429,715	22.1	692,693	35.5	634,873	32.6	191,450	9.8	1,948,731
Broome	8,480	23.9	10,098	28.5	11,072	31.2	5,828	16.4	35,478
Bunbury	64,296	17.7	131,326	36.2	128,744	35.5	38,743	10.7	363,109
Geraldton	27,596	21.9	37,571	29.8	41,059	32.6	19,878	15.8	126,104
Hobart	79,454	15.6	185,787	36.4	195,034	38.2	49,690	9.7	509,965
Darwin	45,151	20.1	77,080	34.3	66,676	29.7	35,697	15.9	224,604
Military Ordinariate	2,193	21.9	2,470	24.7	4,036	40.3	1,307	13.1	10,006
Other Territory	402	9.6	2,210	52.8	858	20.5	719	17.2	4,189
Total Australia	5,291,817	22.6	8,830,608	37.7	7,040,709	30.1	2,238,748	9.6	23,401,882

Population figures for the five Eastern Rite dioceses & eparchies are included within the individual Catholic population totals in the above table.

The 2011 Census revealed that most of the Eastern Catholics live in three dioceses: Sydney, Parramatta and Melbourne.

Eastern Rite Dioceses	
Chaldean	10,029
Maronite	36,434
Melkite	2,579
Syro-Malabar	8,353
Ukrainian	2,906
Total Eastern Catholics	60,301

Source: ABS Census of Population & Housing 2016 (data obtained as part of the National Catholic Census Project).

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