

Cultural diversity

2021 CENSUS FACTSHEET

Prepared for the City of Ryde Council



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1. Introduction

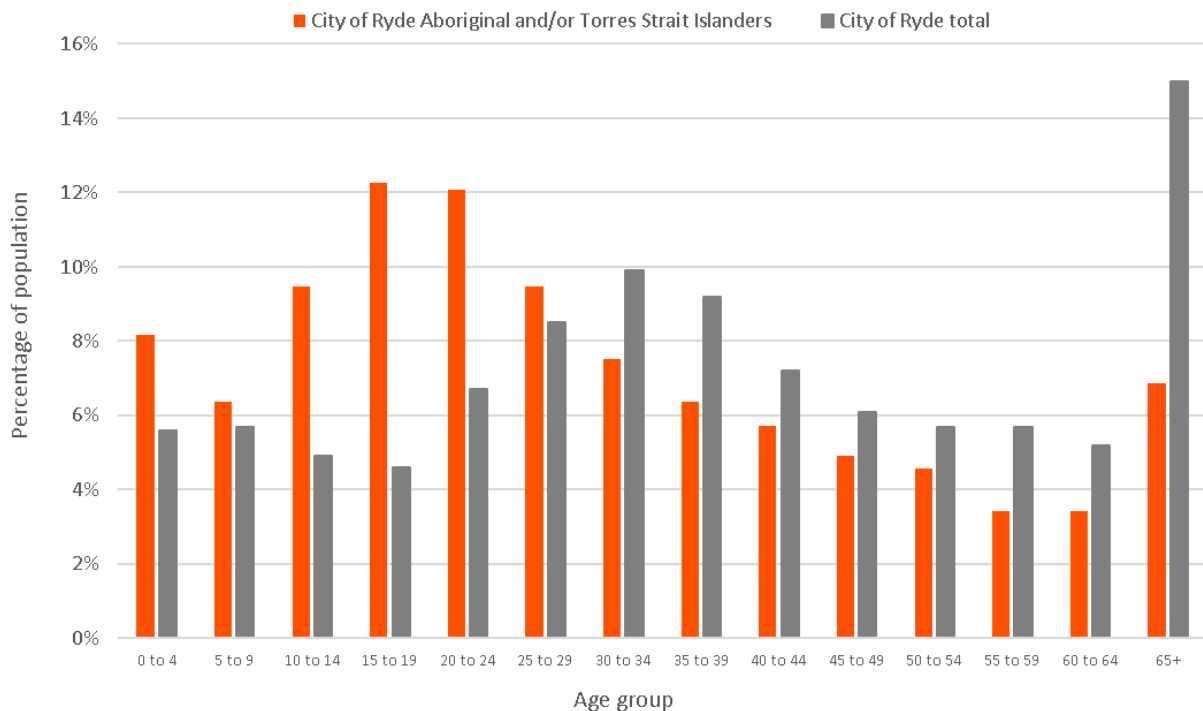
Cultural diversity statistics inform local government about the range of ethnicities and nationalities of residents within the municipality. Understanding where residents come from, how long they have been in Australia, which languages they speak and how proficient they are in English is valuable in ensuring wider inclusion in City of Ryde's decision making, access to local government resources in a variety of locally relevant languages and being mindful of cultural diversity when organising events or formulating community-facing policies and strategies.

2. Cultural diversity summary

- ▣ The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population has increased since 2016 and now composes 0.5% of the population. In addition, the City's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is younger than the total population, with a median age of 25 years, compared to 37 years for the City overall.
- ▣ In 2021, 47% of City of Ryde's residents were born in Australia and 49% overseas. The proportion of overseas-born residents has increased since 2016.
- ▣ The most common overseas birthplaces of City of Ryde residents in 2021 were China, India, South Korea, Hong Kong and the Philippines.
- ▣ "Year of arrival to Australia" information shows when most overseas-born residents came to Australia and identifies if there were any periods of above-average migration in an area. For example, most of the City of Ryde's overseas arrivals came to Australia since 2016 (23% of all overseas arrivals) followed by arrivals between 2001 and 2010 (22%) and 2011-2015 (15%).
- ▣ A lower proportion of City of Ryde residents spoke only English at home compared to Greater Sydney, and conversely, a higher proportion spoke a non-English language at home. Mandarin, Cantonese and Korean were the three most common non-English languages.
- ▣ From a proficiency in English perspective, a higher proportion of City of Ryde residents than Greater Sydney residents spoke another language and English well or very well, whereas an identical proportion of residents spoke another language without speaking English well.
- ▣ Religious affiliation statistics in the City of Ryde show that Christianity was the largest religious group but is declining over time, whereas no affiliation to religion is increasing. Other religions in the City of Ryde are Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam.

3. Indigenous status

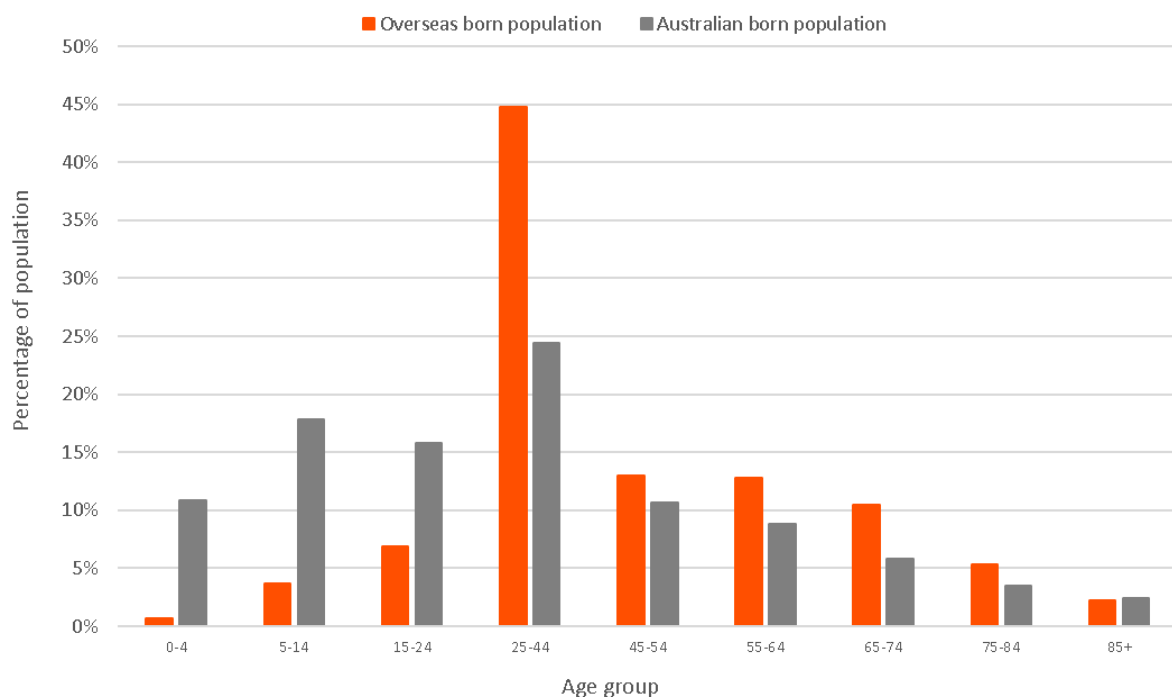
- In 2021, the City of Ryde had 612 residents who identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. This represents 0.5% of the City’s population and is an increase from 2016, when 0.4% (430 residents) identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- Greater Sydney had a higher proportion of residents who identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (1.7%) compared to the City of Ryde (0.5%).
- In 2021, almost 52% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents were females, compared to 51% of the entire City of Ryde population, who were females. On the other hand, 48% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents were males, compared to 49% of the entire City of Ryde population.
- City of Ryde’s Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander population is younger than the total population with 48% aged under 24 years (compared to 28% of the total population). Their median age is 25 years, compared to 37 years for the City of Ryde.
- On the other hand, only 7% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders in the City of Ryde are aged 65 years or older, compared to 15% of the total population.



Age structure of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders compared to the total City of Ryde population, 2021

4. Country of birth

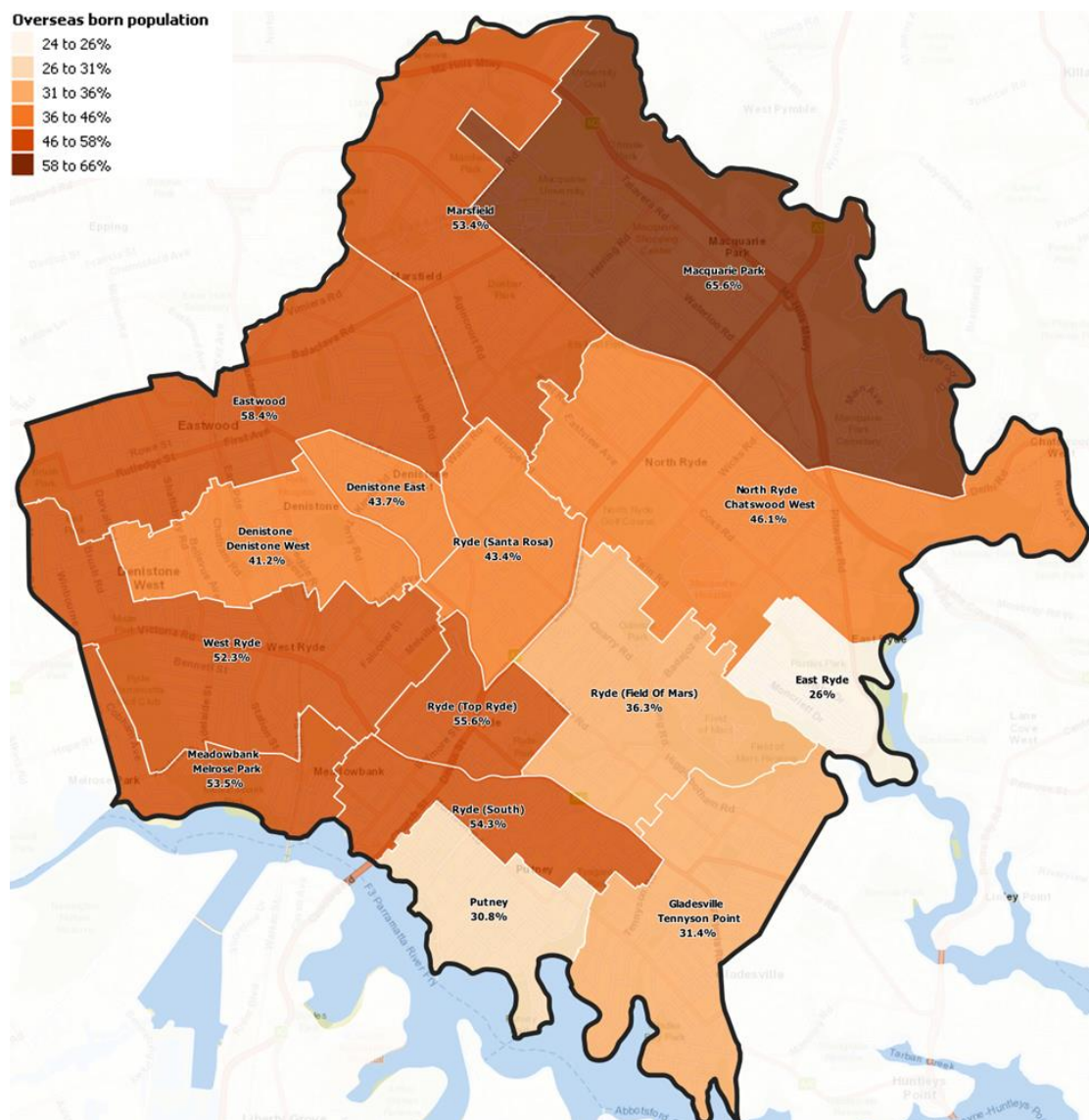
- In 2021, 48% of City of Ryde's residents were born in Australia and 49% overseas (4% not stated). The proportion of overseas-born residents had increased compared to 2016, when 47% were born overseas.
- Greater Sydney has a higher proportion of residents born in Australia (57%) than the City of Ryde (48%).
- The median age of the City of Ryde's overseas-born residents is 42 years compared to 30 years for the Australian-born population.
- Almost 45% of overseas-born residents in the City of Ryde are 25-44 years old (compared to 25% of Australian-born residents). The overseas-born population is under-represented in the under-25 age groups, compared to Australian-born residents, and overrepresented in the 45+ age groups.
- Most common overseas birthplaces of City of Ryde residents in 2021 were China (12.4% of all residents), India (4.0%), South Korea (3.7%), Hong Kong (2.8%) and the Philippines (2.1%).
- Since 2016, India, the Philippines, Iran, Malaysia and Indonesia have climbed the list of overseas birthplaces in the City of Ryde, whereas South Korea, England and Italy dropped down the list.



Age structure of overseas-born and Australian-born residents in the City of Ryde, 2021

Rank	Country	No.	% of all residents	Rank in 2016
1.	China	16,064	12.4%	1.
2.	India	5,101	4.0%	3.
3.	South Korea	4,816	3.7%	2.
4.	Hong Kong (SAR of China)	3,587	2.8%	4.
5.	Philippines	2,697	2.1%	6.
6.	England	2,375	1.8%	5.
7.	Iran	1,989	1.5%	8.
8.	Malaysia	1,863	1.4%	9.
9.	Italy	1,568	1.2%	7.
10.	Indonesia	1,490	1.2%	11.

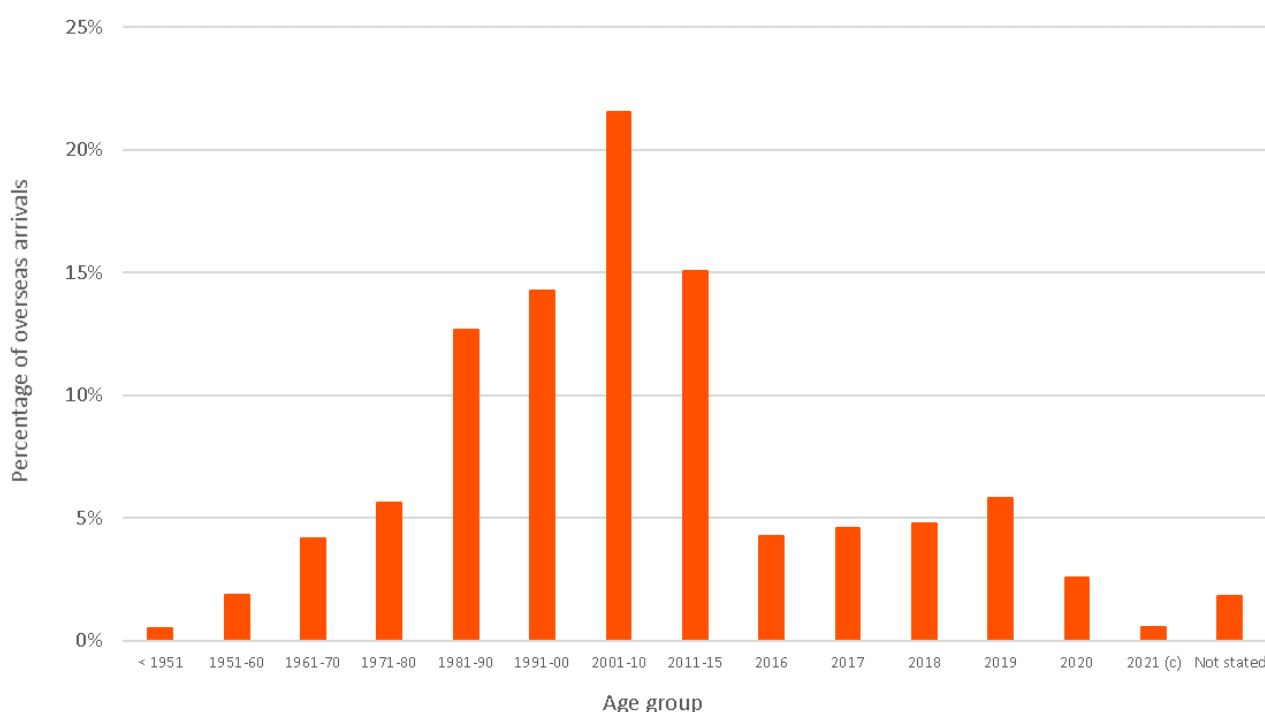
Top 10 overseas birthplaces of City of Ryde residents, 2021



Distribution of overseas born population within the City of Ryde

5. Year of arrival to Australia

- “Year of arrival to Australia” information shows when most overseas-born residents came to Australia and identifies if there were any periods of above-average migration in an area.
- Most of the City of Ryde’s overseas arrivals came to Australia since 2016 (22.6% of all overseas arrivals).
- Almost 22% of the City of Ryde’s 63,340 overseas arrivals arrived in Australia between 2001 and 2010. This is followed by 2011-2015 (15% of all overseas arrivals) and 1991-2000 (14% of all overseas arrivals).



Overseas arrivals to the City of Ryde by year of arrival. 2021 (c) – the year 2021 is the period 1. Jan – 10. August 2021.

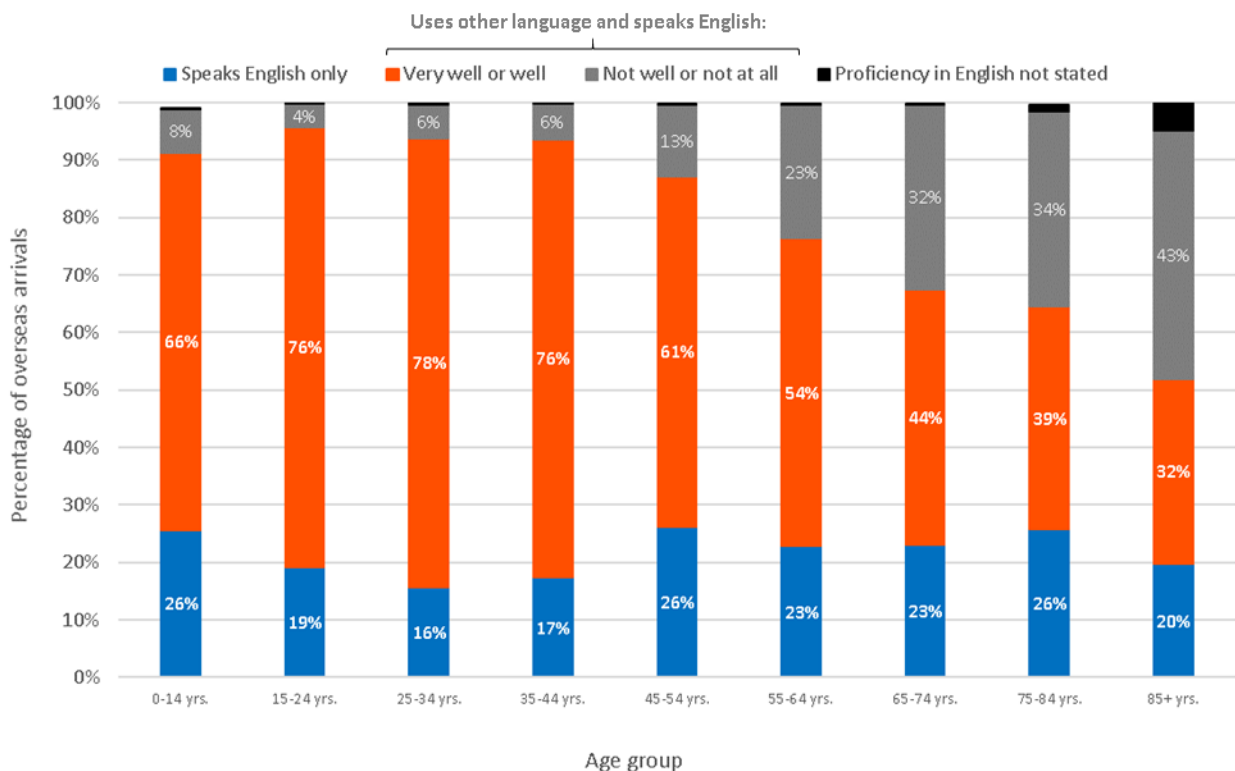
6. Proficiency in English

- In 2021, 46% of all residents used only English at home, lower than Greater Sydney (57%).
- On the other hand, almost 50% of all City of Ryde residents used a non-English language at home, compared to 38% in Greater Sydney.

- In terms of proficiency in English of non-English speakers, 41% of City of Ryde residents spoke another language and English well/very well (compared to 31% in Greater Sydney) and 8.2% spoke other language/s but did not speak English well/very well (compared to 6.4% in Greater Sydney).
- A total of 10,567 City of Ryde residents spoke another language without speaking English well/very well. As a proportion of all residents, this decreased from 8.5% in 2016 to 8.2% in 2021.

6.1 Proficiency in English of overseas arrivals

- For overseas arrivals only, English proficiency was highest in younger age groups. Still, it decreased with age, with 15-24-year-olds having the highest proficiency levels (96% who spoke English only or another language and English very well/well).
- Proficiency levels decrease from age 55 and are lowest for overseas-born City of Ryde residents aged 85 years and over, with 43% of them (619 residents in total) speaking another language but English not well or not at all.



English proficiency by age of overseas arrivals, City of Ryde, 2021

7. Languages spoken

- ▣ “English only” was spoken by 46.3% of City of Ryde residents in 2021, a decrease from 47.7% in 2016. On the other hand, 49.5% of residents are using another language, an increase of 1.5% since 2016. Slightly more than 4% did not state the language spoken.

- ▣ Mandarin is the most widely spoken non-English language in the City of Ryde, with 13.8% of City of Ryde residents speaking the language. This is followed by Cantonese (7.2%) and Korean (4.5%).

- ▣ Since 2016, the proportion of residents speaking Mandarin has increased by 1.1%, representing the highest proportional increase for any language spoken in the City of Ryde. Cantonese increased by 0.2%, whereas the proportion of residents speaking Korean decreased by 0.2%, and Italian decreased by 0.5%. The decrease in Italian is the most significant proportional decrease for a language spoken in the City of Ryde.

Rank	Language spoken	No.	% of all residents	Rank in 2016
1.	Mandarin	17,757	13.8%	1.
2.	Cantonese	9,297	7.2%	2.
3.	Korean	5,792	4.5%	3.
4.	Italian	2,216	1.7%	4.
5.	Arabic	2,126	1.6%	5.
6.	Filipino/Tagalog	2,077	1.6%	8. ↑
7.	Hindi	2,060	1.6%	7.
8.	Armenian	1,912	1.5%	6. ↓
9.	Persian (excl. Dari)	1,685	1.3%	11. ↑
10.	Spanish	1,455	1.1%	9. ↓

Top 10 languages spoken (other than English) by City of Ryde residents, 2021

8. Religious affiliation

- ▾ In 2021, 57.4% of the City of Ryde’s population had a religious affiliation, down from 62% in 2016. Conversely, 37% of residents had no religious affiliation, up from 30.5% in 2016.

- ▾ Christianity was the largest religious group, with 44.2% of the City of Ryde’s population affiliated with this religion. However, Christianity decreased from 50% of residents in 2016.

- ▾ Within Christianity, 23% of residents were affiliated with the Western (Roman) Catholic denomination, 6.6% with the Anglican denomination, 2.7% with the Presbyterian and Reformed denomination and 1.7% with the Greek Orthodox denomination. In addition, a notable proportion (2.8%) of residents had a “Christianity not further defined” religious affiliation.

- ▾ Hinduism comprised 4.3% of all religious affiliation (up from 3.8% in 2016), Buddhism comprised 4.2% (up from 4.1% in 2016) and Islam 3.1% (up from 2.4% in 2016).

- ▾ The Armenian Apostolic denomination, which is much more prominent in the City of Ryde than in Greater Sydney, was the religious denomination of 0.9% of residents. In Greater Sydney, only 0.1% of residents have an affiliation with the Armenian Apostolic religion.

- ▾ Since 2016, Christianity has remained the most popular religious affiliation in the City of Ryde. Hinduism increased in proportion by 0.5% and overtook Buddhism, which increased by 0.1%. Islam increased by 0.7%, whereas Armenian Apostolic decreased by 0.3%.

Rank	Religion	No.	% of all residents	Rank in 2016
1.	Christianity	57,063	44.2%	1.
2.	No religion/secular beliefs	47,720	37.0%	2.
3.	Hinduism	5,577	4.3%	4. ↑
4.	Buddhism	5,427	4.2%	3. ↓
5.	Islam	4,052	3.1%	5.
6.	Armenian Apostolic	1,218	0.9%	6.
7.	Other religions	1,045	0.8%	7.

Top religious affiliations of City of Ryde residents, 2021