

The next Census is on Tuesday 11 August 2026



The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducts the Australian Census of Population and Housing every five years. **The Census counts every person and home in Australia.** Census data tells us about the economic, social and cultural make-up of the country. The Census is compulsory for everyone in Australia on Census night (including international students, temporary workers, and tourists).

Why the Census is important

The information collected in the Census helps estimate Australia's population, which is used to set electoral boundaries and calculate how government funds are distributed.

Census data helps inform decisions about transport, schools, health care and infrastructure for communities across Australia.

It also helps plan local services for individuals, families and communities.



Supporting People from Cultural and Linguistic Diversity to participate

The 2026 Census wants to include more participation from **three key groups**:

- **Newly Arrived Permanent Migrants and Emerging CALD communities** (Refugee/Humanitarian, Pacific Engagement, Essential Workforce, Skilled Migrants, Family Reunification and Carer and Marriage)
- **Temporary/Short term Visitors from Overseas** (International Students, Family Visitors, Business, Holiday/Tourist/Backpacker, People here to play sport, Pacific Labour Mobility (PALM) workers, People on Bridging Visas)
- **Older Migrants (over 65) living alone or with family in community** (not in support environments).

Everyone* in Australia on 11 August 2026 **must complete** the Census. *People with unclear visa status can complete the Census too.*

Finding Out More and helping us connect with Community:



Neil BARBER CALD Community Engagement Manager – Regional NSW

E: neil.barber@abs.gov.au

M: 0427 251128



<https://info.census.abs.gov.au>

*(except accredited diplomatic personnel)