



Australian
Bureau of
Statistics

**2004
WESTERN
AUSTRALIA
AT A
GLANCE**



ABS Catalogue No. 1306.5

Western Australia had an estimated population of 1,952,280 in June 2003.

Although it has the largest land area of any Australian state or territory, Western Australia accounts for less than 10% of Australia's population.

The state capital is Perth, founded on 12 August 1829. In June 2003 the estimated population of Perth was 1,433,217.

This brochure provides a snapshot of Western Australia; more detail can be found in the variety of publications released by the ABS.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

Area	units	Period	Western Australia	% of Australian total
Area	sq km		2 532 400	32.9
Coastline	km		12 500	34.0
Demography				
Estimated resident population	'000	2003	1 952 280	9.8
Births registered	no.	2002	23 601	9.4
Deaths registered (including infant deaths)	no.	2002	11 326	8.5
Marriages registered	no.	2002	10 484	9.9
Divorces granted	no.	2001	5 351	9.7
Labour Force				
Employed persons (as at Nov)	'000	2003	982.2	10.2
Unemployed persons (as at Nov)	'000	2003	62.3	10.8
International Trade				
Imports	\$m	2002-03	11 755	8.8
Exports	\$m	2002-03	32 376	28.0

POPULATIONS — Estimated resident population (30 June)

		2001	2002	2003
Western Australia				
Males	'000	951.6	963.4	976.9
Females	'000	949.6	961.1	975.4
Persons	'000	1 901.2	1 924.6	1 952.3
Perth Statistical Division	'000	1 393.0	1 411.6	1 433.2
Rest of state	'000	508.2	512.9	519.0
Age groups				
under 15 years	'000	402.8	399.4	398.3
15-19 years	'000	140.6	142.7	143.5
20-59 years	'000	1 075.8	1 089.6	1 105.3
60-64 years	'000	77.1	80.0	82.6
65 years and over	'000	209.6	215.5	222.5

CENSUS POPULATION(a)

		1991	1996	2001
Birthplace (proportion of population)				
Australia	%	70.5	71.2	70.3
Europe				
United Kingdom and Ireland	%	13.9	13.0	11.9
Italy	%	1.7	1.5	1.3
Other	%	3.9	3.8	3.8
Asia	%	4.9	5.2	5.3
New Zealand	%	2.3	2.4	2.5
Other	%	2.8	2.9	4.9
Religious affiliation				
Anglican	%	26.3	23.8	22.4
Catholic	%	25.6	24.8	24.4
Other religious affiliations	%	31.1	30.1	33.7
No religion	%	17.0	21.3	19.5
Population of main urban centres				
Perth	no.	1 018 702	1 096 829	1 176 542
Mandurah	no.	23 343	35 945	46 697
Bunbury	no.	32 795	39 904	45 299
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	no.	25 016	28 087	28 281
Geraldton	no.	24 361	25 243	25 436
Albany	no.	18 826	20 493	22 415
Broome	no.	8 906	11 368	15 906
Busselton	no.	8 936	10 642	13 963
Port Hedland	no.	11 334	12 846	12 697
Karratha	no.	11 325	10 057	10 796

(a) Place of enumeration counts.

VITAL STATISTICS

		2000	2001	2002
Live births registered	no.	25 093	24 002	23 601
Deaths registered	no.	10 668	10 779	11 326
Marriages registered	no.	11 000	9 785	10 484
Divorces granted	no.	5 276	5 351	na
Crude rate (per 1,000 mean ERP)				
Births		13.3	12.6	12.2
Deaths		5.7	5.7	5.9
Marriages		5.8	5.1	5.4
Divorces		2.8	2.8	na

EDUCATION

		2001	2002	2003
Students				
Government	no.	224 296	233 344	230 308
Non-government	no.	94 599	101 382	103 742
Schools				
Government	no.	769	775	778
Non-government	no.	283	285	286

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS — November(a)

		2001	2002	2003
Males	\$	817.80	835.10	913.10
Females	\$	489.40	506.70	532.20
Persons	\$	655.80	684.40	730.90

(a) Total earnings, Trend.

EMPLOYMENT — November(a)

		2001	2002	2003
Total labour force	'000	1 010.0	1 031.5	1 044.5
Employed persons	'000	943.9	968.1	982.2
Unemployed persons	'000	66.1	63.4	62.3
Unemployment rate	%	6.5	6.1	6.0

(a) Trend.

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS — November

		2001	2002	2003
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	48	34	49
Mining	'000	29	35	36
Manufacturing	'000	88	102	90
Electricity, gas & water supply	'000	7	8	6
Construction	'000	82	71	88
Wholesale and retail trade	'000	196	199	202
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	48	42	38
Transport and storage	'000	37	33	43
Communication services	'000	11	15	15
Finance, insurance, property & business	'000	133	137	151
Government administration and defence	'000	36	42	40
Education	'000	70	72	76
Health and community services	'000	90	88	95
Culture, recreation & personal services	'000	75	84	57

AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES (cents)

<i>Perth, December quarter</i>	units	2001	2002	2003
Milk carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	157	159	171
Cheese, processed, sliced wrapped	500 g	374	375	371
Butter	500 g	215	232	216
Bread, white loaf, sliced	650 g	250	257	233
Rump steak	1 kg	1 570	1 505	1 641
Silverside, corned	1 kg	836	793	766
Lamb, leg	1 kg	736	796	904
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	403	387	379
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	392	405	390
Sausages	1 kg	682	702	588
Potatoes	1 kg	160	169	189
Tomatoes	1 kg	329	356	352
Eggs	1 doz	355	336	380
Sugar, white	2 kg	257	243	244
Tea bags	180 g	361	361	371
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	668	607	580
Margarine, polyunsaturated	500 g	195	220	229

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX(a)

Percentage change from previous year		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Food	%	3.9	5.9	2.9
Alcohol and tobacco	%	11.5	4.1	3.0
Clothing and footwear	%	6.4	-1.5	0.3
Housing	%	7.0	2.1	2.7
Household furnishings, supplies & services	%	2.0	1.6	0.9
Health	%	2.9	3.7	7.9
Transportation	%	6.1	-0.1	2.9
Communication	%	6.5	0.8	3.2
Recreation	%	3.4	4.4	1.3
Education	%	4.8	2.6	3.1
Miscellaneous	%	6.5	4.1	6.6
All groups	%	5.5	2.7	2.8

(a) For Perth capital city.

BUILDING

		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
New residential buildings				
Approved	no.	14 731	20 088	21 649
Completed	no.	17 445	17 004	18 268
Value of new residential buildings				
Approved	\$m	1 870	2 604	3 023
Completed	\$m	2 203	2 334	2 558
Total value of buildings				
Approved	\$m	3 422	3 838	4 857
Completed	\$m	3 576	3 606	3 856

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Imports	\$m	9 302	9 323	11 755
Exports	\$m	30 862	30 222	32 376
Exports to				
China	\$m	2 708	3 208	4 089
Japan	\$m	8 186	7 727	8 260
Korea, Republic of	\$m	3 094	3 625	3 425
United Kingdom	\$m	1 320	1 809	2 811
Imports from				
Indonesia	\$m	653	987	1 509
Japan	\$m	1 210	1 163	1 302
United States of America	\$m	1 383	1 045	1 174
Korea, Republic of	\$m	547	814	712
Major commodities exported				
Iron ore	\$m	4 840	5 110	5 291
Gold bullion	\$m	3 166	3 602	4 954
Petroleum and petroleum products	\$m	5 176	4 649	5 015
Wheat	\$m	1 379	1 328	1 415
Wool	\$m	519	481	518

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MINING (source ABARE)

<i>Production</i>		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Iron ore	'000 tonnes	170 628	179 937	193 229
Gold	tonnes	206	186	190
Diamonds	'000 carats	22 381	30 562	31 901
Crude oil	megalitres	18 812	19 756	19 428
Natural gas	million m ³	18 641	18 560	20 179

MOTOR VEHICLES

<i>New motor vehicle sales</i>		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Passenger vehicles	no.	49 432	45 808	47 276
Other vehicles	no.	23 324	26 137	29 397
Total vehicles sales	no.	72 756	71 945	76 673

TOURISM

		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Residents departing short-term	no.	426 254	388 729	372 625
Short-term overseas visitors arriving	no.	465 365	451 297	460 534
Short-term arrivals — country of origin				
by air on holiday				
United Kingdom and Ireland	%	18.1	20.9	24.3
Rest of Europe	%	13.2	12.0	13.0
Singapore	%	22.0	19.8	18.5
Japan	%	13.5	12.7	12.5
Malaysia	%	10.9	10.9	10.0
Indonesia	%	4.8	4.2	4.1
New Zealand	%	3.3	3.8	3.5
Thailand	%	2.8	3.1	2.3
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	%	1.5	3.1	2.3
United States of America	%	2.1	1.8	1.8
South Africa	%	1.8	2.4	1.6
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0

SINGLE STATE BUSINESS ENTITIES REGISTERED FOR GST BY INDUSTRY

		June 2001
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	no.	24 631
Mining	no.	2 558
Manufacturing	no.	14 277
Electricity, gas and water supply	no.	234
Construction	no.	37 338
Wholesale trade	no.	7 703
Retail trade	no.	23 545
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	no.	4 981
Transport and storage	no.	11 443
Communication services	no.	3 070
Finance and insurance	no.	17 616
Property and business services	no.	47 613
Government administration and defence	no.	864
Education	no.	2 821
Health and community services	no.	8 737
Cultural and recreational services	no.	5 716
Personal and other services	no.	9 221
Industry not stated	no.	320
Total all industries	no.	222 688

INTERNET ACTIVITY

As at September quarter		2001	2002	2003
Internet service providers	no.	100	92	96
Access lines	'000	41	65	138
All subscribers (as at end of period)	'000	363	411	472
Data downloaded (during reference quarter)	million Mbs	129	273	522

CLIMATE

	Mean daily temperature				Mean annual rainfall (mm)
	January		July		
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	
Perth	29.7	17.9	17.4	9.0	869
Albany	22.8	15.0	15.6	8.1	932
Broome	33.4	26.1	27.9	14.1	576
Esperance	26.2	15.5	17.1	8.3	619
Kalgoorie	33.8	17.9	16.7	5.9	242
Port Hedland	34.7	26.3	26.3	13.1	327

Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2004, <<http://www.bom.gov.au>>.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

ABARE	— Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics	mm	— millimetres
ABS	— Australian Bureau of Statistics	\$m	— million dollars
°C	— degrees celcius	no.	— number
doz	— dozen	na	— not available
ERP	— estimated resident population	pkt	— packet
g	— gram	SAR	— Special Administrative Region
GST	— Goods & Services Tax	sq km	— square kilometres
kg	— kilogram	\$	— dollars
km	— kilometres	%	— per cent
m³	— cubic metres	'000	— thousand
Mbs	— megabytes		

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