



2005 WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT A GLANCE



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Western Australia had an estimated population of 1,982,204 in June 2004.

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 1,431,498.

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	2004	1 982 204	9.9
Births registered	no.	2003	24 273	9.7
Deaths registered (including infant deaths)	no.	2003	11 311	8.6
Marriages registered	no.	2003	9 549	9.0
Divorces granted	no.	2002	5 252	9.7
Labour Force				
Employed persons (as at Nov)	'000	2004	1 000.3	10.2
Unemployed persons (as at Nov)	'000	2004	47.4	8.6
International Trade				
Imports	\$m	2003–04	11 690	8.9
Exports	\$m	2003–04	32 296	29.6

POPULATIONS — Estimated resident population (30 June)

		2002	2003	2004
Western Australia				
Males	'000	963.4	976.2	992.5
Females	'000	961.1	973.7	989.8
Persons	'000	1 924.6	1 949.9	1 982.2
Perth Statistical Division	'000	1 411.6	1 431.5	na
Rest of state	'000	513.0	518.4	na
Age groups				
under 15 years	'000	399.7	398.6	399.6
15–19 years	'000	140.7	141.7	144.7
20–59 years	'000	1 088.1	1 104.2	1 121.5
60–64 years	'000	80.3	82.7	86.3
65 years and over	'000	215.8	222.8	230.1

CENSUS POPULATION(a)

		1991	1996	2001
Birthplace (proportion of population)				
Australia	%	70.6	71.3	71.6
Europe				
United Kingdom and Ireland	%	14.0	13.0	12.1
Italy	%	1.7	1.5	1.3
Other	%	4.1	4.0	3.8
Asia	%	4.7	5.2	5.3
New Zealand	%	2.3	2.4	2.6
Other	%	2.6	2.7	3.3
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				
		1991	1996	2001
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

		2001	2002	2003
Live births registered	no.	24 002	23 601	24 273
Deaths registered	no.	10 779	11 326	11 311
Marriages registered	no.	9 785	10 484	9 549
Divorces granted	no.	5 351	5 252	na
Crude rate (per 1,000 mean ERP)				
Births		12.6	12.2	12.4
Deaths		5.7	5.9	5.8
Marriages		5.1	5.4	4.9
Divorces		2.8	2.7	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 — August(a)

		2002	2003	2004
Males	\$	832.40	892.30	939.50
Females	\$	503.90	526.70	543.30
Persons	\$	679.60	718.80	749.80

(a) Total earnings, Trend.

EMPLOYMENT — November(a)

		2002	2003	2004
Total labour force	'000	1 015.8	1 028.1	1 048.9
Employed persons	'000	953.9	966.0	1 001.4
Unemployed persons	'000	61.8	62.0	47.5
Unemployment rate	%	6.1	6.0	4.5

(a) Trend.

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS — November

		2002	2003	2004
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	34	49	45
Mining	'000	35	36	38
Manufacturing	'000	102	90	100
Electricity, gas & water supply	'000	8	6	9
Construction	'000	71	88	91
Wholesale and retail trade	'000	199	202	205
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	42	38	45
Transport and storage	'000	33	43	39
Communication services	'000	15	15	16
Finance, insurance, property & business	'000	137	151	139
Government administration and defence	'000	42	40	44
Education	'000	72	76	68
Health and community services	'000	88	95	98
Culture, recreation & personal services	'000	84	57	73

AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES (cents)

<i>Perth, September quarter</i>	units	2002	2003	2004
Milk carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	159	164	(a) 263
Cheese, processed, sliced wrapped	500 g	360	371	426
Butter	500 g	224	226	226
Bread, white loaf, sliced	650 g	246	257	234
Rump steak	1 kg	1 514	1 681	1 466
Pork, leg	1 kg	773	802	687
Lamb, leg	1 kg	812	891	879
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	398	405	396
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	374	377	350
Sausages	1 kg	712	591	510
Potatoes	1 kg	153	181	184
Tomatoes	1 kg	390	282	325
Eggs	1 doz	345	387	387
Sugar, white	2 kg	246	243	239
Tea bags	180 g	374	367	359
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	629	601	608
Margarine, polyunsaturated	500 g	210	232	229

(a) Milk unit 2 litres from September 2004

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Percentage change (from previous year, annual average)

		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Food	%	5.8	3.0	2.2
Alcohol and tobacco	%	4.2	2.9	3.1
Clothing and footwear	%	-1.5	0.3	-0.8
Housing	%	2.0	2.8	5.8
Household furnishings, supplies & services	%	1.5	0.9	-0.1
Health	%	3.7	8.0	5.8
Transportation	%	-0.1	2.8	0.7
Communication	%	0.8	3.2	1.4
Recreation	%	4.4	1.3	-2.5
Education	%	2.7	3.1	4.4
Miscellaneous	%	4.1	6.6	2.8
All groups	%	2.7	2.8	2.1

BUILDING

		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
New residential buildings				
Approved	no.	20 187	21 674	23 560
Completed	no.	17 004	18 276	18 148
Value of new residential buildings				
Approved	\$m	2 620	3 027	3 549
Completed	\$m	2 334	2 558	2 697
Total value of buildings				
Approved	\$m	3 867	4 870	5 382
Completed	\$m	3 606	3 857	4 624

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Imports	\$m	9 323	11 755	11 690
Exports	\$m	30 222	32 376	32 296
Exports to				
China	\$m	3 208	4 089	4 390
Japan	\$m	7 727	8 260	6 927
Korea, Republic of	\$m	3 625	3 425	3 201
United Kingdom	\$m	1 809	2 811	1 915
Imports from				
Indonesia	\$m	987	1 509	1 247
Japan	\$m	1 163	1 302	1 315
United States of America	\$m	1 045	1 174	1 339
Korea, Republic of	\$m	814	712	461
Major commodities exported				
Iron ore	\$m	5 110	5 291	5 216
Gold bullion	\$m	3 602	4 954	5 554
Petroleum and petroleum products	\$m	4 649	5 015	4 002
Wheat	\$m	1 328	1 415	1 785
Wool	\$m	481	518	500

MINING (source ABARE)

<i>Production</i>		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Iron ore	'000 tonnes	179 937	193 251	216 609
Gold	tonnes	186	190	173
Diamonds	'000 carats	30 562	31 901	24 292
Crude oil	megalitres	19 756	19 428	17 158
Natural gas	million m ³	18 560	20 179	20 561

MOTOR VEHICLES

<i>New motor vehicle sales</i>		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Passenger vehicles	no.	45 808	47 276	51 824
Other vehicles	no.	26 138	29 397	34 906
Total vehicles sales	no.	71 946	76 673	86 730

TOURISM

		2001-02	2002-02	2003-04
Residents departing short-term	no.	388 729	372 625	454 236
Short-term overseas visitors arriving	no.	451 297	460 534	483 472
Short-term arrivals — country of origin				
by air on holiday				
United Kingdom and Ireland	%	20.9	24.3	24.4
Rest of Europe	%	12.0	13.0	12.6
Singapore	%	19.8	18.5	15.7
Japan	%	12.7	12.5	12.1
Malaysia	%	10.9	10.0	13.2
Indonesia	%	4.2	4.1	3.8
New Zealand	%	3.8	3.5	3.8
Thailand	%	3.1	2.3	2.9
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	%	3.1	2.3	2.3
United States of America	%	1.8	1.8	1.9
South Africa	%	2.4	1.6	2.0
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0

GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY — 2002

		Age (years)					
		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 or over
Personal Characteristics by Age							
Had undertaken voluntary work in last 12 months	%	29.8	27.9	37.9	44.5	44.0	29.6
Victim of physical or threatened violence in last 12 months	%	15.9	13.4	9.9	10.2	7.1	1.7
Victim of actual or attempted break-in in last 12 months	%	17.0	20.9	16.4	13.5	14.3	9.5
Self-assessed health status							
Excellent/Very Good	%	75.4	73.7	62.8	55.5	43.6	35.0
Good	%	19.1	18.8	28.1	29.1	32.9	35.6
Fair/Poor	%	5.4	7.6	9.2	15.4	23.5	29.4
Difficulty with transport							
Can easily get to places needed	%	73.5	89.1	90.5	93.1	90.9	76.5
Cannot, or often has difficulty, getting to the places needed	%	3.6	4.2	1.8	1.2	3.8	8.1
Used computer at home in last 12 months	%	70.5	65.3	70.2	65.0	50.0	19.9
Accessed Internet at home in last 12 months	%	51.9	50.0	54.6	52.3	37.7	14.3

INTERNET ACTIVITY

As at March quarter		2002	2003	2004
Internet service providers	no.	100	85	94
Access lines	'000	43	87	187
All subscribers as at end of period	'000	386	472	480
Data downloaded during reference quarter	million Mbs	173	303	798

CLIMATE

	Mean daily temperature — 2004				Mean annual rainfall (mm)
	January		July		
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	
Perth (Metro)	30.7	17.8	18.3	8.0	786
Albany	22.8	15.0	15.6	8.1	933
Broome	33.4	26.1	27.9	14.1	576
Esperance	26.2	15.5	17.1	8.3	620
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 2005, Bureau of Meteorology, Perth, <<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		

FURTHER INFORMATION

The WA Office of the ABS produces a quarterly publication, *Western Australian Statistical Indicators* (ABS cat. no. 1367.5), which provides a comprehensive overview of recent developments in the state economy. Each issue contains a series of statistical tables covering: state accounts; prices; consumption; investment and finance; construction; international trade; mining and energy; agriculture; tourism; the labour market; population; and crime. In addition, each release includes feature articles on issues of economic and social importance to Western Australia.

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