



2006
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA
AT A
GLANCE**



Western Australia had an estimated population of 2,010,113 in June 2005. This accounts for less than 10% of Australia's population, although Western Australia has the largest land area (2,532,400 sq km) of any Australian State or Territory.

Western Australia has a coastline of 12,500km, accounting for 34% of Australia's total coastline.

The State capital is Perth, founded on 12 August 1829. In June 2004 the estimated population of Perth was 1,454,606.

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	Period	% of Australian total
Area		32.9
Coastline		34.0
Demography		
Estimated resident population	June 2005	9.9
Births registered	2004	9.9
Deaths registered	2004	8.4
Marriages registered	2004	9.6
Divorces granted	2004	8.2
Labour Force		
Employed persons (as at Nov)	2005	10.5
Unemployed persons (as at Nov)	2005	8.0
International Trade		
Imports	2004-05	9.5
Exports	2004-05	30.6



POPULATIONS — Estimated resident population (30 June)

		2003	2004	2005
Western Australia				
Males	'000	976.2	991.3	1 007.8
Females	'000	973.7	986.8	1 002.3
Persons	'000	1 949.9	1 978.1	2 010.1
Perth Statistical Division	'000	1 431.5	1 454.6	na
Rest of state	'000	518.4	523.5	na
Age groups				
under 15 years	'000	398.6	398.7	399.3
15–19 years	'000	141.7	142.7	145.1
20–59 years	'000	1 104.2	1 120.1	1 137.7
60–64 years	'000	82.7	86.4	90.4
65 years and over	'000	222.8	230.2	237.5

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 Europe	%	4.1	4.0	3.8
Asia	%	4.7	5.2	5.3
New Zealand	%	2.3	2.4	2.6
Other countries	%	2.6	2.7	3.3
Religious affiliation (proportion of population)				
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 major 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

		2002	2003	2004
Live births registered	no.	23 601	24 273	25 295
Deaths registered	no.	11 326	11 311	11 184
Marriages registered	no.	10 484	9 549	10 601
Divorces granted	no.	5 252	5 685	4 337
Crude rate (per 1,000 persons)(a)				
Births		12.2	12.4	12.8
Deaths		5.9	5.8	5.7
Marriages		5.4	4.9	5.3
Divorces		2.7	2.9	2.2

(a) Based on mean Estimated Resident Population

EDUCATION

		2002	2003	2004
Students				
Government	no.	233 344	230 308	229 766
Non-government	no.	101 382	103 742	106 300
Schools				
Government	no.	775	778	775
Non-government	no.	285	286	289

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS — August(a)

		2003	2004	2005
Males	\$	892.20	945.70	1 014.7
Females	\$	526.20	541.30	564.70
Persons	\$	718.70	753.90	801.90

(a) Total earnings, Trend.

EMPLOYMENT — November(a)

		2003	2004	2005
Total labour force	'000	1 030.2	1 053.2	1 099.4
Employed persons	'000	967.4	1 004.7	1 054.8
Unemployed persons	'000	62.8	48.5	44.5
Unemployment rate	%	6.1	4.6	4.1

(a) Trend.

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS — November

		2003	2004	2005
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	50	45	57
Mining	'000	36	38	53
Manufacturing	'000	88	100	96
Electricity, gas & water supply	'000	5	9	7
Construction	'000	86	91	100
Wholesale and retail trade	'000	198	205	190
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	37	45	44
Transport and storage	'000	43	39	49
Communication services	'000	15	16	16
Finance, insurance, property & business	'000	148	139	150
Government administration and defence	'000	40	44	51
Education	'000	75	68	73
Health and community services	'000	94	98	104
Culture, recreation & personal services	'000	59	73	66

STATE ACCOUNTS — June(a)

		2003	2004	2005
State Final Demand	\$m	78 586	84 911	89 878
Gross State Product	\$m	85 390	92 339	94 827

(a) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2003–04

HOUSE PRICE INDEX(a)

	2003	2004	2005
Established House	84.4	100.0	p 114.3
Project home	91.4	100.0	111.9

(a)(Base: 2003-04 = 100.0)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Percentage change (from previous year, annual average)

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Food	%	2.9	2.2	2.7
Alcohol and tobacco	%	3.0	3.1	3.2
Clothing and footwear	%	0.3	-0.7	-2.8
Housing	%	2.7	5.7	7.0
Household furnishings, supplies & services	%	0.9	-0.1	-0.8
Health	%	7.9	5.7	5.1
Transportation	%	2.9	0.6	2.9
Communication	%	3.2	1.4	1.0
Recreation	%	1.3	-2.5	1.1
Education	%	3.1	4.3	5.3
Miscellaneous	%	6.6	2.8	4.5
All groups	%	2.8	2.0	3.2

BUILDING

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
New residential buildings				
Approved	no.	21 682	r23 587	23 926
Completed	no.	18 276	18 286	19 221
Value of new residential buildings				
Approved	\$m	3 028	r3 554	4 080
Completed	\$m	2 558	2 725	3 093
Total value of buildings				
Approved	\$m	4 872	r5 399	6 237
Completed	\$m	3 857	4 655	4 894

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Imports	\$m	11 755	11 686	14 157
Exports	\$m	32 439	32 302	38 835
Imports from:				
U.S.A.	\$m	1 174	1 338	1 573
Japan	\$m	1 302	1 315	1 554
Indonesia	\$m	1 509	1 246	681
Korea, Republic of	\$m	712	461	351
Exports to:				
Japan	\$m	8 260	6 942	8 539
China	\$m	4 089	4 414	6 586
Korea, Republic of	\$m	3 425	3 210	3 197
United Kingdom	\$m	2 811	1 920	1 566
Major commodities exported				
Iron ore	\$m	5 291	5 216	8 019
Gold bullion	\$m	4 954	5 554	5 616
Petroleum and petroleum products	\$m	5 015	4 004	5 637
Wheat	\$m	1 415	1 785	1 748
Wool	\$m	518	502	490

MINING

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Production				
Iron ore	'000 tonnes	193 251	216 609	246 240
Gold	tonnes	190	174	173
Diamonds	'000 carats	31 901	24 292	32 446
Crude oil	megalitres	19 428	17 158	16 997
Natural gas	million m ³	20 179	20 561	24 582

AGRICULTURE

Agricultural establishments, 30 June		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Establishments	no.	12 499	12 107	11 692
Area of holding	'000	108 955	102 728	101 184
Livestock, 30 June				
Sheep and lambs	'000	23 063	23 887	25 063
Meat cattle and calves	'000	1 980	1 815	1 962
Milk cattle and calves	'000	124	130	133
Production				
Whole milk	ML	393	404	403
Eggs	'000 dozen	19 318	20 337	19 839
Beef and veal	'000 tonnes	89	105	117
Mutton and lamb	'000 tonnes	75	75	84
Pig meat	'000 tonnes	40	45	45
Wool	'000 tonnes	115 596	117 212	118 057
Wheat for grain	'000 tonnes	7 760	4 047	11 070

MOTOR VEHICLES

New Motor Vehicle Sales		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Passenger vehicles	no.	47 276	51 824	55 953
Other vehicles	no.	29 397	34 906	39 153
Total Vehicle Sales	no.	76 673	86 730	95 106

TOURISM

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Residents departing short-term	no.	372 625	454 236	531 698
Short-term overseas visitors arriving	no.	460 534	483 472	500 117
Short-term arrivals - Country of origin by air on holiday				
UK and Ireland	%	24.3	24.4	23.2
Rest of Europe	%	12.9	12.6	12.6
Singapore	%	18.5	15.7	19.4
Japan	%	12.5	12.1	12.7
Malaysia	%	10.0	13.1	10.4
Indonesia	%	4.1	3.8	3.2
New Zealand	%	3.5	3.8	4.9
Thailand	%	2.3	2.9	2.2
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	%	2.3	2.3	2.4
United States of America	%	1.8	1.9	1.8
South Africa	%	1.6	2.0	1.3
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0

INTERNET ACTIVITY - March quarter

		2003	2004	2005
Internet service providers	no.	85	94	88
Access lines	'000	87	187	282
All subscribers as at end of period	'000	472	480	606
Data downloaded during reference quarter	million Mbs	303	798	1 797

CLIMATE

	Mean daily temperature — 2005				Mean annual rainfall (mm)
	January		July		
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	
Perth (Metro)	30.0	16.8	18.6	6.7	875
Albany	22.1	16.0	16.8	8.9	908
Broome	34.0	27.4	29.9	16.0	344
Esperance	25.7	14.8	17.3	8.1	693
Kalgoorlie/Boulder	34.3	17.5	18.0	5.1	171
Port Hedland	39.4	26.7	27.9	14.0	169

Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2006, Perth, <<http://www.bom.gov.au>>.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

ABS	— Australian Bureau of Statistics	no.	— number
°C	— degrees Celsius	na	— not available
doz	— dozen	p	— preliminary figure or series subject to revision
ERP	— estimated resident population		
g	— gram	r	— revised
GST	— Goods & Services Tax	SAR	— Special Administrative Region
ha	— hectare		
km	— kilometres	sq km	— square kilometres
m³	— cubic metres	t	— tonnes
Mbs	— megabytes	\$	— dollars
ML	— megalitre	%	— per cent
mm	— millimetres	'000	— thousand
\$m	— million dollars		

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.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ABS publications draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would be unavailable for use by the community. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

Cover photograph: Fish Hook Bay, Rottnest Island (copyright, Western Australian Tourism Commission)

INTERNET

www.abs.gov.au

The ABS web site is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

LIBRARY

A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our web site, or purchase a hard copy publication.

Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service.

Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE

1300 135 070

EMAIL

client.services@abs.gov.au

FAX

1300 135 211

POST

Client Services, ABS, GPO Box
796, Sydney 2001

FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

All ABS statistics can be downloaded free of charge from the ABS web site.

WEB ADDRESS

www.abs.gov.au



2130650001060

ISSN 1329-1351