



State of Australian Cities 2012

Hobart



Population and Settlement

- Hobart's population increased from 198,296 in 2001 to 216,276 in 2011. This represents a growth rate of 0.9 per cent, below the national average of 1.5 per cent.
- Hobart is home to 42.3 per cent of Tasmanians, a proportion which has remained fairly stable since 1981. Hobart is home to one per cent of Australians, a rate which has been maintained for a century.
- Over the five years 2006-11, Hobart's stock of private dwellings increased by 5,860. With a population increase of 11,131 over the same period, there were 1.89 additional people for each new dwelling constructed. Hobart's 2011 household occupancy rate was 2.57 people per dwelling which was considerably below the 2011 average major city occupancy rate of 2.73.
- Of Hobart's total stock of 91,209 private dwellings in 2011, 9.41 per cent were unoccupied, compared to the major city average of 9.16 per cent.
- Hobart housing rental vacancy rates more than doubled between 2010 and 2012 from one per cent to 2.5 per cent.
- In the year to March 2012, Hobart hosted nearly four million domestic visitor nights, down only slightly from 4.06 million in 2008, and 1.8 million international visitor nights, which is down very slightly from 2008 by 24,000.

Productivity

- In 2011-12, Hobart's port handled 1,038,794 tonnes of bulk imports and 1,268,553 tonnes of bulk exports.
- In 2011, 1.8 million domestic passengers passed through Hobart Airport.
- Since 2008, Hobart's labour force participation rate has dropped slightly from 63.6 per cent to 62.3 per cent in 2012, and is below the national average rate of 65.1 per cent. It has risen from since 2000 when it was 59.1 per cent.
- Hobart recorded the largest increase in female participation rates of the surveyed major cities, with an increase between 2000 and 2012 of six per cent, to 58.1 per cent. Its male participation rate is 66.8 per cent, up less than one per cent over the same period.
- Hobart is the only major city to have substantial gains in the labour force participation rate of its young people between 2000 and 2012 with nearly a five per cent increase for males and more than a 10 per cent increase for females.
- Hobart has also experienced a remarkable 17.2 per cent increase in the labour force participation rate of females aged 45 to 64 since 2000, the highest increase of the surveyed major cities, lifting their participation rate to 69.3 per cent.

Sustainability

- Between 1952 and 2011, Hobart's average annual minimum and maximum temperatures trended upwards.
- One of Australia's three driest capitals, Hobart experienced a marked reduction in average annual rainfall over this time.
- Sea level rise around Australia has been equal to and in some cases greater than the global average of approximately three millimetres per year. Since 1993, the coastline around Hobart (tidal gauge measures at Spring Bay) has experienced sea level rises of three to four millimetres per year.

Liveability

- According to the *Australian City Liveability Index* survey of residents in 10 Australian cities:
 - Most Hobart residents agree that the city has a 'quality natural environment' (72%) and is a 'safe place for people and their property' (58%).
 - Just 41 per cent of Hobart residents agree that the city provides 'good economic opportunity and quality of living'.
- Hobart continues to have a rate of volunteering well above the national average. In 2011, 19 per cent of the city's population aged 15 or over were involved in volunteering with a group or organisation, compared to the national average of 17.8 per cent.
- According to the 2012 AMP NATSEM *Income and Wealth Report's* analysis of typical household goods and services, Hobart is among the least expensive of the capital cities, particularly for rent, mortgage interest and transport.
- Of households living in multi-unit dwellings such as flats, units or apartments in Hobart:
 - Lone person households comprise almost two in five (38%), the highest rate of all the capital cities, and nearly double the rate of Darwin and Sydney (both 20%).
 - One-parent families comprise 14 per cent of households in Hobart which is the largest proportion of any major city and well above the national average.
- Group households comprise just nine per cent of all households living in multi-unit dwellings such as flats, units or apartments in Hobart, the lowest rate of such households in the capital cities.
- In 2011, 81.2 per cent of people in Hobart travelled to work by car and 6.3 per cent used public transport.
- Of the capital cities, Hobart has the highest proportion of people that walk to work (6.3%) and the second-lowest proportion of people who cycle to work (1.1%).
- In addition, a high proportion of adults walk regularly for purposes other than to work or study in Hobart, compared to in other capital cities (47.5%).

Governance

- Metropolitan Hobart councils and State agencies have formed a capital city steering committee to coordinate state and local government strategies for greater Hobart. Relevant components of the final Capital City Plan will be incorporated into the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority regional land use strategy and other implementation plans and programs.