Population and Settlement

- The population of Hobart grew by 4.7% between 2006 and 2011, to 216,276.
- Between 2006 and 2011 Hobart’s net internal migration was 973 people. The largest net gain was in those aged 45-64 years, with 719 additional people from this age bracket settling in Hobart. The only net loss was in those aged 15-24 years, with 571 more people from this age bracket leaving than arriving.
- International education has grown to become Australia’s fourth largest export industry. In Hobart there were 2,408 international higher education students in 2011. It is estimated that international students in higher education, vocational and English language courses spend an average of $42,531 per annum while studying in Australia.

Productivity

- In Hobart 77.7% of employed males in Hobart worked full-time in 2011, up from 77.3% in 2001, but below the national average of 81.7%. The number of employed females in full-time employment climbed to 47.9%, up from 47.1% in 2001, but remaining below the national average of 53.0%.
- The sectors that employed the most males in Hobart in 2011 were construction (13.6%), public administration (11.4%), administrative and other services (11.2%), retail trade (10%) and manufacturing (9.7%). Nationally, the construction and manufacturing sectors employed the most males in 2011 (13.8% and 12.8%).
- The sectors that employed the most females in Hobart in 2011 were health care and social assistance (20.7%), education and training (13.5%), public administration (13.4%) and retail trade (13.3%). In Hobart, people working in health care and social assistance tend to be clustered around secondary employment hubs, such as hospitals, rather than in the main commercial centres. Nationally, the health care and social assistance sector employed more Australians than any other sector (11.6%) in 2011, including one in five working women.
- Employment by industry changed noticeably in Australia’s major cities between 2001 and 2011. Reflecting the experience of all the capitals in this period, employment share in Hobart declined in manufacturing (14.3% to 9.7% of males; 4.8% to 3.1% of females) and retail trade (14.3% to 10.0% of males; 16.9% to 13.3% of females).
- As with most major cities, between 2006 and 2011 Hobart experienced a strong shift in employment share towards the administrative and other services (4.8% to 11.2% of males; 4.4% to 9.0% of females), public administration and safety (7.8% to 11.4% of males; 7.9% to 13.4% of females) and construction (8.9% to 13.6% of males) sectors. The increase in male employment share in the construction sector was the largest of all the capital cities.
- Higher education qualifications play a key role in Australia’s productivity and there is an increasing demand for higher skill levels in the Australian workforce. In Hobart in 2011, 53.8% of males had a post-school qualification, slightly below the national average of 54.1%. Of these, 34.7% had a certificate or advanced diploma or diploma and 19.1% had a bachelor degree or above. Nationally,
26.8% of males had a certificate, 7.8% had a diploma or advanced diploma and 19.5% had a bachelor degree or above.

- In Hobart in 2011, 45.9% of females had a post-school qualification, just below the national average (46.9%), 23.4% had a certificate or advanced diploma or diploma and 22.5% had a bachelor degree level and above. Nationally, 14.0% of females had certificate level qualifications, 10.1% had a diploma or advanced diploma and 22.7% had a bachelor degree or above.

Sustainability

- Hobart experienced extreme temperatures during the 2012–13 heatwave. On 4 January Hobart reached its hottest recorded daytime temperature of 41.8°C, with the temperature only dropping to 23.4°C overnight, Hobart’s warmest January night on record. Across Australia, 123 weather records were broken during this period, including the hottest January, the hottest summer and the hottest day on record for Australia as a whole.
- In Hobart in 2011, 16% of households surveyed used LPG/bottled gas, 6% mains gas, and 32% solar in addition to mains electricity for their energy source. Significantly there was a 30% increase in the number of Hobart households using solar power for their energy requirements since a similar survey in 2008.
- The management of waste is integral to the sustainability of Australia’s major cities. In 2010–11, Hobart generated 249,000 tonnes of waste, of which 65,000 tonnes were recovered and recycled. Hobart households are among the most likely to compost or recycle kitchen or food waste of the capital cities. In Hobart 42.7% of households reported ‘always’ or ‘often’ composting food waste in 2011–12 compared to an average of 36.8% across seven capital cities.

Liveability

- In 2012, Hobart was ranked 3rd of 11 Australian cities in the Property Council of Australia’s My City liveability survey. The survey is one of a number of efforts to measure wellbeing and quality of life in cities using more than simply economic factors. Across the 11 cities, participants rated safety, cost of living, health, employment and quality of the environment as the most important attributes for liveability.
- The median household income in Hobart increased by 17.8% between 2006 and 2011 to $1,065 per week. Hobart’s household income remains lower than the national median of $1,234. Nationally, income has increased across all income groups; however it has increased more at the top and bottom brackets.
- Low-income households whose housing costs take up more than 30% of household income are regarded as experiencing housing stress. In 2011 Hobart had the highest proportion of low-income renters in rental stress comprising 24.5% of low income private rental households, and the smallest proportion of households in mortgage stress comprising 6.8% of low income mortgaged households.
- Of the capital cities, Hobart is expected to have the highest proportion of residents aged 65 and over in the next 40 years. The proportion of Hobart’s population aged 65 and over is predicted to almost double to between 24.9% and 28.2% in 2056.
- Active travel can improve liveability in cities by increasing health and wellbeing and reducing traffic congestion. In 2011, 7.7% of Hobart commuters walked or cycled to work, one of the highest rates of active travel of the major cities.
- As for all major cities, male bicycle commuters in Hobart greatly outnumber female bicycle commuters. In Hobart in 2011 there were 3.7 male bicycle commuters for every female bicycle commuter, slightly above the major city average ratio of 3.3 male bicycle commuters for every female bicycle commuter.