



State of Australian Cities 2013

Perth



Population and Settlement

- Perth's population grew by 14.9% between 2006 and 2011, to 1,832,114.
- Perth's had the fastest growth rate of all the major cities between 2006 and 2011 and it was more than double the rate between 2001 and 2006 of 6.7%. Most of the population growth was accommodated in the outer parts of the city.
- In 2010–11, 4,977 more people moved to Perth from other parts of Australia than departed for other parts of Australia (Net Internal Migration), the highest number of any major city.
- Between 2006 and 2011, more people moved to Perth from other parts of Australia than left for other parts of Australia, and the additional people were 91.9% male and most were aged between 15 and 24 years old. This is perhaps indicative of the effects of the resources boom.
- Of Western Australia's 457 visa holders, 84.6% nominated their place of work as Perth in 2013 and 44.9% nominated their place of work as Perth's the inner city.
- International education has grown to become Australia's fourth largest export industry. In 2011, 25,759 international students enrolled in the vocational education and training or the higher education sectors were living in Perth, 1.4% of the city's population. Of the students enrolled at Perth's universities, an average of approximately 15% were international students. 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 2011, 82.4% of employed males in Perth worked full-time in 2011, up from 78.2% in 2001 and above the national average of 81.7%. The proportion of Perth's employed females that were working full-time was 52.0% in 2011, up from 48.9% in 2001, but below the national average of 53.0%.
- The sectors that employed the most males in Perth in 2011 were construction (16%), administrative and other services (13.3%) and manufacturing (12.3%). 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 Perth in 2011 were healthcare and social assistance (19.3%), retail trade (13.6%), education and training (12.8%) and administrative and other services (11.5%). 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.
- Of the major cities, Perth had the highest proportion of males (6.8%) and females (2.5%) employed by the mining sector in 2011.
- 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 Perth in 2011, 57.1% of males aged 15 and over had a post-school qualification, above the national average of 54.1%. This included 27.8% with a certificate, 8.5% with a diploma or advanced diploma and 20.7% with 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 2011, 48.2% of females aged 15 and over in Perth had a post-school qualification, above the national average of 46.9%. This included 14.1% with a certificate, 10.8% with a diploma or advanced diploma and 23.3% with a bachelor degree or 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.
- Traffic congestion in Perth increased by an estimated 4% between 2011 and 2012, more than any other capital city.
- In 2011, a higher proportion of commuters drove to work in Perth (77.8%) than in Sydney (66.6%), Melbourne (74.1%) and Brisbane (74.5%). However, there was a decrease in the proportion of people travelling to work by car in Perth since 2001, particularly in the inner suburbs. This was accompanied by a rise in the proportion of people using mass transit, walking or bicycling for their journey to work.

Sustainability

- Heatwave-related deaths in Australia's cities are predicted to double in the next 40 years as a result of climate change, population growth and an ageing population. In Perth the average number of annual heat-related deaths is forecast to increase from 137 in 2011 to 378 in 2050. Those at highest risk from heatwaves include the elderly, the socially disadvantaged such as those on lower incomes or the homeless, and those with underlying medical conditions.
- In Perth in 2011, 83.9 % of houses reported using mains gas, 8.8% LPG/bottled gas, 7.8% solar and 7.8% other, in addition to mains electricity for their energy source.
- In 2011–12, Perth generated 4.8 million tonnes of waste, of which 1.7 million tonnes were recovered and recycled.

Liveability

- In 2012, Perth was ranked 8th 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 Perth increased by 33.9% between 2006 and 2011 to \$1,454 per week, above the national median of \$1,234. Compared to other capital cities, income growth in Perth has been relatively even across the city's suburbs. Nationally, income has increased across all income groups; however it has increased more at the top and bottom.
- According to the ABS's Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), four of Australia's five most advantaged local government areas (LGAs) in 2011 were located in Perth.
- Perth's estimated homeless population was 4,909 in 2011, 0.3% of the city's population.
- Active travel can improve liveability in cities by increasing health and wellbeing and reducing traffic congestion. In 2011, 4.1% of Perth's commuters walked or rode a bicycle to work, one of the lowest rates of the major cities.
- Perth had 4 male bicycle commuters for every female bicycle commuter in 2011, higher than the average ratio of 3.3:1 across the major cities.