



**WESTERN AUSTRALIA
AT A GLANCE**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Capital city: Perth, founded 12 August 1829

Time: Western Standard Time, eight hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time

Approximate distances by air from Perth to other capital cities in Australia (kilometres)

Canberra	3 300	Brisbane	4 100	Hobart	3 400
Sydney	3 400	Adelaide	2 200	Darwin	2 900
Melbourne	2 800				

Population		1994	1995	1996
Estimated resident population (ERP) at 30 June—				
Western Australia—				
Males	'000	854.6	869.5	884.9
Females	"	846.4	861.6	877.9
Persons	"	1 701.1	1 731.2	1 762.7
Perth Statistical Division	"	1 238.8	1 262.2	1 282.8
Rest of State	"	462.3	469.0	479.9

Census Population		1981	1986	1991
Age groups (proportion of population)—				
Under 15 years	%	26.0	24.2	23.6
15–19 years	"	8.9	8.6	7.8
20–59 years	"	53.0	54.0	54.9
60–64 years	"	3.4	3.9	3.9
65 years and over	"	8.7	9.3	9.9
Birthplace (proportion of population)—				
Australia	%	71.5	70.9	69.2
Europe—				
UK and Ireland	"	14.6	13.8	13.6
Italy	"	2.3	2.0	1.7
Other	"	4.4	4.3	4.2
Asia	"	3.0	3.6	4.7
New Zealand	"	1.5	1.8	2.2
Other	"	2.8	3.7	4.4
Major urban centres—				
Albany	No.	15 222	16 316	18 826
Bunbury	"	21 749	23 031	24 003
Geraldton	"	20 895	21 726	24 361
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	"	19 848	22 232	25 016
Mandurah	"	10 978	14 699	23 343
Perth	"	809 035	883 716	1 018 702
Port Hedland	"	12 948	13 069	11 344

Vital statistics		1993	1994	1995
Live Births registered	No.	25 079	25 124	25 122
Deaths registered	"	10 318	10 295	10 361
Marriages registered	"	10 382	10 366	10 404
Divorces granted	"	4 654	5 024	5 040
Crude rate (per 1 000 mean ERP)—				
Births		15.0	14.8	14.4
Deaths		6.2	6.1	6.0
Marriages		6.2	6.1	6.0
Divorces		2.8	3.0	2.9

Education (a)		1993	1994	1995
Government —				
Schools	No.	767	768	769
Students, full-time	"	222 451	223 105	223 091
Non-government —				
Schools	"	249	251	250
Students, full-time	"	74 288	76 307	78 590

(a) as at 31 July

Average weekly earnings: May (a)		1994	1995	1996
Males	\$	633.50	664.10	692.40
Females	"	381.20	403.70	410.80
Persons	"	510.80	541.90	557.40

(a) Trend

Labour force: May		1994	1995	1996
Total labour force —	'000	857.5	901.5	906.5
Employed persons	"	785.6	835.7	837.6
Unemployed persons	"	71.9	65.8	68.9
Unemployment rate	%	8.4	7.3	7.6

Industry of employed persons: May		1994	1995	1996
Agriculture, forestry, etc	'000	48.9	50.5	47.6
Mining	"	32.9	29.4	28.1
Manufacturing	"	82.1	89.0	84.8
Electricity, gas & water	"	9.5	9.3	7.0
Construction	"	68.1	67.9	68.7
Wholesale and retail trade	"	155.3	169.4	174.6
Accommodation, cafe &	"	35.0	41.1	36.3
Transport and storage	"	38.9	35.8	36.3
Communication	"	11.3	12.8	15.8
Finance, insur, property &	"	103.9	109.5	108.4
Government admin & defence	"	29.1	33.7	34.3
Education	"	58.4	55.7	58.6
Health & community services	"	70.1	78.4	80.6
Culture, recreation & personal	"	50.1	53.0	56.5

State Government Finance		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Current outlays —	\$m	6 144	6 359	6 862
Final consumption expenditure	"	4 158	4 189	4 584
Interest payments	"	1 008	1 042	1 063
Other current outlays	"	979	1 128	1 216
Capital outlays —	"	1 293	1 138	587
Gross fixed capital expenditure	"	1 170	1 087	1 410
Other capital outlays	"	123	50	-824
Total Revenue —	"	7 309	7 571	8 107
Taxes, fees and fines	"	2 376	2 549	2 679
Net operating surpluses of public trading enterprises	"	863	735	693
Interest received	"	153	204	321
Grants received	"	3 292	3 368	3 737
Other revenue	"	626	714	678
Financing transactions —	"	128	-74	-658
Borrowing (net)	"	-45	-36	167
Other financing transactions	"	173	-37	-825

Housing finance: Owner occupied 1993-94 1994-95 1995-96

Secured finance commitments to individuals for —

	\$m	1 405.2	1 206.2	1 015.1
Construction of dwellings				
Purchase of —				
Newly erected dwellings	"	160.9	120.6	157.3
Established dwellings (a)	"	4 691.9	4 072.1	4 363.9
Alterations and additions	"	265.6	284.7	349.5

(a) Includes refinancing.

Average retail prices of food 1994 1995 1996

Perth, December quarter —		(cents)	(cents)	(cents)
Milk carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	106	116	125
Cheese, processed, sliced wrapped	500 g	334	344	336
Butter	"	162	193	199
Bread, white loaf, sliced	680 g	150	166	174
Rump steak	1 kg	1 077	1 101	1 051
Silverside, corned	"	731	678	646
Lamb, leg	"	516	554	614
Chicken, frozen	"	312	329	338
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	309	318	336
Sausages	1 kg	413	411	398
Potatoes	1 kg	122	120	124
Tomatoes	"	263	282	349
Eggs	50 g 1 doz	192	217	257
Sugar, white	2 kg	211	220	216
Tea	250 g	173	186	198
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	521	577	559
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	154	172	159

Consumer Price Index 1993-94 1994-95 1995-96

Perth

Base: 1989-90 = 100.0

Food	110.0	113.4	116.8
Clothing	108.2	107.4	107.0
Housing	87.3	94.0	100.9
Household equipment and operation	108.2	109.0	111.2
Transportation	114.4	118.9	123.4
Tobacco and alcohol	128.8	131.8	145.9
Health and personal care	123.8	130.4	138.6
Recreation and education	107.7	109.6	114.1
All groups	108.5	112.3	116.7

Building 1993-94 1994-95 1995-96

New residential buildings —

Approved	No.	26 580	22 312	15 738
Completed	"	21 839	24 132	17 447

Value of new residential buildings —

Approved	\$m	1 965	1 775	1 421
Completed	"	1 655	1 976	1 642

Total value of buildings —

Approved	"	2 782	2 659	2 387
Completed	"	2 542	3 103	2 618

Mining (source ABARE)		1994	1995
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Production —			
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Iron ore	'000 tonnes	124 263	135 966
Crude oil	megalitres	11 094	12 512
Gold	kilograms	192 480	189 353
Natural gas	gigalitres	4 915	5 827
Diamonds	'000 carats	27 716	23 452

Manufacturing		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
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Establishments as at 30 June	No.	3 896	3 896	3 936
Persons employed as at 30 June	'000	63.8	65.0	65.4
Turnover	\$m	12 850	13 511	13 778

Foreign trade		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
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Imports	\$m	4 792	5 799	6 290
Exports	"	15 660	16 394	18 914

Exports to —				
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Japan	\$m	3 999	4 421	4 814
U.K.	"	1 180	568	954
Singapore	"	1 008	1 134	1 076

Imports from —				
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Japan	\$m	829	1 196	859
U.S.A.	"	934	1 020	1 259
United Kingdom	"	249	332	375

Major commodities exported —				
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Iron ore	\$m	2 765	2 759	2 846
Wool	"	655	733	691
Wheat	"	1 122	1 121	1 826
Gold bullion	"	3 286	2 931	3 342
Petroleum & petroleum products	"	930	1 544	1 586

Agriculture		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
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Gross value of production —				
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Wheat for grain	\$m	1 083.8	1 156.9	1 307.4
Wool	"	604.8	604.7	811.2
Livestock slaughterings and other disposals	"	466.2	545.7	624.2
Total agriculture	"	3 114.8	3 365.1	3 861.4

Livestock at 31 March —				
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Cattle for —				
Milk	'000	116.2	123.0	126.0
Meat	"	1 532.0	1 682.5	1 773.1
Sheep and lambs	"	32 964.8	31 951.5	30 217.9
Pigs	"	305.3	311.6	316.4

Production —				
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Wheat for grain	'000 tonnes	5 979	6 689	5 438
Wool	"	208	212	173
Beef and veal	"	100	102	97
Mutton and lamb	"	100	87	67
Pigmeat	"	34	32	37

	No.	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Total Overseas Arrivals		591 700	656 850	699 380
Total Overseas Departures		580 220	651 730	689 300
Short term visitor arrivals by air —				
Indonesia	"	27 530	28 980	30 120
Japan	"	27 840	44 240	49 260
New Zealand	"	25 150	24 330	24 200
Singapore	"	50 700	59 600	64 690
United Kingdom & Ireland	"	57 480	61 070	59 220
All countries		297 750	339 690	361 180

Transport (a)		1994	1995	1996
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New motor vehicles registrations —				
Motor cars and station wagons	No.	48 589	51 947	51 134
Motor cycles	"	2 103	2 344	2 440
Other	"	12 486	12 952	13 153
Total		63 178	67 243	66 727
Vehicles on register —				
Motor cars and station wagons	No.	827 837	855 129	880 856
Motor cycles	"	37 078	37 440	37 590
Other	"	277 466	286 243	293 340
Total		1 142 381	1 178 812	1 211 786

(a) For 1994, Vehicles on Register is at 30 June.

For 1995, Vehicles on Register is at 31 May.

For 1996, Vehicles on Register is at 2 November.

Western Australia in relation to Australia				
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		Date or period	Western Australia	Per cent of Australian total
Area	'000 sq km	..	2 526	32.9
Coastline	km	..	12 500	34.0
Demography —				
Estimated resident population	'000	30 Jun 1995	1 731.2	9.6
Births registered	No.	1995	25 139	9.8
Deaths registered (including infant deaths)	"	"	10 364	8.3
Marriages registered	"	"	10 404	9.5
Divorces granted	"	"	5 040	10.1
Labour force —				
Employed persons	'000	May 1996	837.6	10.0
Unemployed persons	"	"	68.9	9.1
Agriculture —				
Gross value of production	\$m	1994-95	3 861	16.2
Area of establishments	'000 ha	"	113 955	24.6
Wheat for grain —				
Area	'000 ha	"	3 848	48.8
Production	'000 tonnes	"	5 438	60.6
Wool	"	"	173	25.5
Manufacturing —				
Establishments	No.	1992-93	3 436	8.9
Persons employed	'000	"	62.1	7.0
Foreign Trade				
Imports	\$m	1995-96	6 290	8.1
Exports	"	"	18 914	24.9

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