



# **1999 WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT A GLANCE**



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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                                       |      | 1995    | 1996    | 1997    |
|--|------|---------|---------|---------|
| Estimated resident population (ERP) at 30 June — |      |         |         |         |
| Western Australia —                              |      |         |         |         |
| Males  | '000 | 869.5   | 887.9   | 904.4   |
| Females  | "    | 861.6   | 877.9   | 893.7   |
| Persons  | "    | 1 731.2 | 1 765.7 | 1 798.1 |
| Perth Statistical Division                       | "    | 1 262.2 | 1 295.1 | 1 319.0 |
| Rest of State                                    | "    | 469.0   | 470.6   | 479.2   |

| Census Population                       |   | 1986 | 1991 | 1996 |
|---|---|------|------|------|
| Age groups (proportion of population) — |   |      |      |      |
| Under 15 years                          | % | 24.2 | 23.6 | 22.4 |
| 15–19 years                             | " | 8.6  | 7.8  | 7.4  |
| 20–59 years                             | " | 54.0 | 54.9 | 56.2 |
| 60–64 years                             | " | 3.9  | 3.9  | 3.6  |
| 65 years and over                       | " | 9.3  | 9.9  | 10.4 |

|   |   |      |      |      |
|---|---|------|------|------|
| Birthplace (proportion of population) — |   |      |      |      |
| Australia                               | % | 70.9 | 69.2 | 68.3 |
| Europe —                                |   |      |      |      |
| UK and Ireland                          | " | 13.8 | 13.6 | 12.4 |
| Italy                                   | " | 2.0  | 1.7  | 1.5  |
| Other                                   | " | 4.3  | 4.2  | 2.4  |
| Asia                                    | " | 3.6  | 4.7  | 4.1  |
| New Zealand                             | " | 1.8  | 2.2  | 2.3  |
| Other                                   | " | 3.7  | 4.4  | 9.0  |

|                       |     |         |           |           |
|-----------------------|-----|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Major urban centres — |     |         |           |           |
| Albany                | No. | 16 316  | 18 826    | 20 493    |
| Bunbury               | "   | 23 031  | 24 003    | 24 945    |
| Geraldton             | "   | 21 726  | 24 361    | 25 243    |
| Kalgoorlie-Boulder    | "   | 22 232  | 25 016    | 28 087    |
| Mandurah              | "   | 14 699  | 23 343    | 35 945    |
| Perth                 | "   | 883 716 | 1 018 702 | 1 096 829 |
| Port Hedland          | "   | 13 069  | 11 344    | 12 846    |

| Vital statistics       |     | 1995   | 1996   | 1997   |
|------------------------|-----|--------|--------|--------|
| Live Births registered | No. | 25 139 | 24 793 | 24 776 |
| Deaths registered      | "   | 10 361 | 11 027 | 10 807 |
| Marriages registered   | "   | 10 404 | 10 294 | 10 456 |
| Divorces granted       | "   | 5 040  | 4 959  | 5 046  |

|                                   |  |      |      |      |
|-----------------------------------|--|------|------|------|
| Crude rate (per 1 000 mean ERP) — |  |      |      |      |
| Births                            |  | 14.4 | 14.1 | 13.8 |
| Deaths                            |  | 6.0  | 6.3  | 6.0  |
| Marriages                         |  | 6.0  | 5.8  | 5.8  |
| Divorces                          |  | 2.9  | 2.8  | 2.8  |

| <b>Education (a)</b>    |     | <b>1996</b> | <b>1997</b> | <b>1998</b> |
|-------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Government —</b>     |     |             |             |             |
| Schools                 | No. | 764         | 767         | 764         |
| Students, full-time     | "   | 224 714     | 226 075     | 226 583     |
| <b>Non-government —</b> |     |             |             |             |
| Schools                 | "   | 255         | 264         | 264         |
| Students, full-time     | "   | 82,092      | 85,002      | 87 444      |

(a) as at 31 July

| <b>Average weekly earnings: Nov (a)</b> |    | <b>1996</b>   | <b>1997</b>   | <b>1998</b>   |
|---|----|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Males                                   | \$ | 690.00        | 721.20        | 736.60        |
| Females                                 | "  | 415.00        | 415.70        | 413.00        |
| <b>Persons</b>                          | "  | <b>554.30</b> | <b>564.20</b> | <b>572.50</b> |

(a) Total earnings, Trend

| <b>Labour force: Nov (a)</b> |      | <b>1996</b> | <b>1997</b> | <b>1998</b> |
|------------------------------|------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Total labour force —</b>  | '000 | 918.5       | 933.1       | 959.2       |
| Employed persons             | "    | 848.4       | 868.1       | 891.3       |
| Unemployed persons           | "    | 70.1        | 65.0        | 67.9        |
| Unemployment rate            | %    | 7.6         | 7.0         | 7.1         |

(a) Trend

| <b>Industry of employed persons: Nov</b> |      | <b>1996</b> | <b>1997</b> | <b>1998</b> |
|--|------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Agriculture, forestry, etc               | '000 | 46.0        | 46.4        | 45.8        |
| Mining                                   | "    | 33.5        | 28.6        | 31.1        |
| Manufacturing                            | "    | 90.7        | 85.2        | 91.8        |
| Electricity, gas & water                 | "    | 7.6         | 6.4         | 6.9         |
| Construction                             | "    | 71.5        | 73.9        | 62.7        |
| Wholesale and retail trade               | "    | 171.6       | 178.8       | 179.4       |
| Accommodation, cafe &                    | "    | 37.2        | 39.8        | 40.7        |
| Transport and storage                    | "    | 37.9        | 37.6        | 41.1        |
| Communication                            | "    | 16.3        | 14.4        | 14.5        |
| Finance, insur, property &               | "    | 115.9       | 116.1       | 129.2       |
| Government admin & defence               | "    | 27.5        | 33.8        | 35.8        |
| Education                                | "    | 60.2        | 65.1        | 65.8        |
| Health & community services              | "    | 74.1        | 80.7        | 82.3        |
| Culture, recreation & personal           | "    | 51.7        | 60.1        | 61.3        |

| <b>State Government Finance</b>                       |     | <b>1994–95</b> | <b>1995–96</b> | <b>1996–97</b> |
|---|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Current outlays —</b>                              | \$m | <b>6 359</b>   | <b>6 862</b>   | <b>6 947</b>   |
| Final consumption expenditure                         | "   | 4 189          | 4 584          | 4 388          |
| Interest payments                                     | "   | 1 042          | 1 063          | 983            |
| Other current outlays                                 | "   | 1 128          | 1 216          | 1 576          |
| <b>Capital outlays —</b>                              | "   | <b>1 138</b>   | <b>587</b>     | <b>1 698</b>   |
| Gross fixed capital expenditure                       | "   | 1 087          | 1 410          | 1 572          |
| Other capital outlays                                 | "   | 50             | -824           | 126            |
| <b>Total Revenue —</b>                                | "   | <b>7 571</b>   | <b>8 107</b>   | <b>7 953</b>   |
| Taxes, fees and fines                                 | "   | 2 549          | 2 679          | 2 751          |
| Net operating surpluses of public trading enterprises | "   | 735            | 693            | 1 092          |
| Interest received                                     | "   | 204            | 321            | 381            |
| Grants received                                       | "   | 3 368          | 3 737          | 3 173          |
| Other revenue   | "   | 714            | 678            | 556            |
| <b>Financing transactions —</b>                       | "   | <b>-74</b>     | <b>-658</b>    | <b>692</b>     |
| Borrowing (net)                                       | "   | -36            | 167            | 142            |
| Other financing transactions                          | "   | -38            | -824           | 550            |

| <b>Housing finance: Owner occupied</b>           |     | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> | <b>1997-98</b> |
|--|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Secured finance commitments to individuals for — |     |                |                |                |
| Construction of dwellings                        | \$m | 1 015.1        | 979.1          | 1 210.8        |
| Purchase of —                                    |     |                |                |                |
| Newly erected dwellings                          | "   | 157.3          | 199.3          | 227.7          |
| Established dwellings (a)                        | "   | 4 363.9        | 4 870.2        | 5 045.0        |
| Alterations and additions                        | "   | 349.5          | 268.4          | 283.2          |

(a) includes refinancing.

| <b>Average retail prices of food</b> |            | <b>1996</b> | <b>1997</b> | <b>1998</b> |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Perth, December quarter —            |            | (cents)     | (cents)     | (cents)     |
| Milk carton, supermarket sales       | 1 litre    | 125         | 135         | 135         |
| Cheese, processed, sliced wrapped    | 500 g      | 336         | 337         | 335         |
| Butter                               | "          | 199         | 191         | 196         |
| Bread, white loaf, sliced            | 680 g      | 174         | 187         | 196         |
| Rump steak                           | 1 kg       | 1 051       | 1 052       | 1 018       |
| Silverside, corned                   | "          | 646         | 636         | 686         |
| Lamb, leg                            | "          | 614         | 579         | 589         |
| Chicken, frozen                      | "          | 338         | 368         | 349         |
| Bacon, middle rashers                | 250 g pkt  | 336         | 351         | 359         |
| Sausages                             | 1 kg       | 398         | 428         | 398         |
| Potatoes                             | 1 kg       | 124         | 120         | 135         |
| Tomatoes                             | "          | 349         | 311         | 398         |
| Eggs                                 | 55 g 1 doz | 257         | 263         | 246         |
| Sugar, white                         | 2 kg       | 216         | 233         | 254         |
| Tea                                  | 250 g      | 198         | 231         | 264         |
| Coffee, instant                      | 150 g jar  | 559         | 656         | 679         |
| Margarine, poly-unsaturated          | 500 g      | 159         | 149         | 169         |

| <b>Consumer Price Index</b>       |  | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> | <b>1997-98</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Perth                             |  |                |                |                |
| Base: 1989-90 = 100.0             |  |                |                |                |
| Food                              |  | 116.8          | 121.0          | 122.9          |
| Clothing                          |  | 107.0          | 106.2          | 106.2          |
| Housing                           |  | 100.9          | 96.4           | 89.1           |
| Household equipment and operation |  | 111.2          | 113.1          | 113.6          |
| Transportation                    |  | 123.4          | 122.4          | 121.4          |
| Tobacco and alcohol               |  | 145.9          | 152.2          | 155.2          |
| Health and personal care          |  | 138.6          | 146.8          | 147.0          |
| Recreation and education          |  | 114.1          | 116.0          | 118.7          |
| <b>All groups</b>                 |  | <b>116.7</b>   | <b>118.3</b>   | <b>118.0</b>   |

| <b>Building</b>                      |     | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> | <b>1997-98</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| New residential buildings —          |     |                |                |                |
| Approved                             | No. | 15 738         | 15 646         | 18 354         |
| Completed                            | "   | 17 447         | 14 342         | 16 131         |
| Value of new residential buildings — |     |                |                |                |
| Approved                             | \$m | 1 421          | 1 525          | 1 856          |
| Completed                            | "   | 1 642          | 1 430          | 1 709          |
| Total value of buildings —           |     |                |                |                |
| Approved                             | "   | 2 387          | 2 902          | 2 943          |
| Completed                            | "   | 2 618          | 2 496          | 3 023          |

| <b>Mining (source ABARE)</b> |            | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> | <b>1997-98</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Production —                 |            |                |                |                |
| Iron ore                     | '000t      | 143 489        | 150 711        | 155 485p       |
| Crude oil                    | megalitres | 9 676          | 15 974         | 17 561p        |
| Gold                         | kilograms  | 206 490        | 227 040        | 240 510p       |
| Natural gas                  | gigalitres | 16 766         | 16 713         | 18 004p        |
| Diamonds                     | '000ct     | 42 565         | 37 120         | 43 046         |

| <b>Manufacturing</b>           |      | <b>1994-95</b> | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> |
|--------------------------------|------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Persons employed as at 30 June | '000 | 73.8           | 72.3           | 73.4           |
| Turnover                       | \$m  | 15 246         | 15 750         | 16 815         |

| <b>Foreign trade</b> |     | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> | <b>1997-98</b> |
|----------------------|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Imports</b>       | \$m | <b>6 290</b>   | <b>6 815</b>   | <b>8 609</b>   |
| <b>Exports</b>       | "   | <b>18 843</b>  | <b>19 331</b>  | <b>22 764</b>  |

|                     |     |       |       |       |
|---------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Exports to —</b> |     |       |       |       |
| Japan               | \$m | 4 815 | 4 840 | 5 391 |
| U.K.                | "   | 954   | 435   | 868   |
| Singapore           | "   | 1 076 | 1 183 | 1 308 |

|                       |     |       |       |       |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Imports from —</b> |     |       |       |       |
| Japan                 | \$m | 859   | 882   | 1 012 |
| U.S.A.                | "   | 1 260 | 1 178 | 1 248 |
| United Kingdom        | "   | 375   | 390   | 472   |

|                                     |     |       |       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Major commodities exported —</b> |     |       |       |       |
| Iron ore                            | \$m | 2 843 | 3 149 | 3 766 |
| Wool                                | "   | 694   | 645   | 654   |
| Wheat                               | "   | 1 826 | 1 616 | 1 601 |
| Gold bullion                        | "   | 3 266 | 3 044 | 4 508 |
| Petroleum & petroleum products      | "   | 1 589 | 1 943 | 2 047 |

| <b>Agriculture</b>                          |     | <b>1994-95</b> | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> |
|---|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Gross value of production —                 |     |                |                |                |
| Wheat for grain                             | \$m | 1 307.4        | 1 812.0        | 1 621.1        |
| Livestock slaughterings and other disposals |     | 624.2          | 684.1          | 685.1          |
| Total agriculture                           | "   | 3 861.4        | 4 489.2        | 4 196.4        |

|                         |      |          |          |          |
|-------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|
| Livestock at 31 March — |      |          |          |          |
| Cattle for —            |      |          |          |          |
| Milk                    | '000 | 126.0    | 120.9    | 121.9    |
| Meat                    | "    | 1 773.1  | 1 802.8  | 1 786.8  |
| Sheep and lambs         | "    | 30 217.9 | 29 834.0 | 27 821.1 |
| Pigs                    | "    | 316.4    | 313.6    | 297.4    |

|                 |      |       |       |       |
|-----------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Production —    |      |       |       |       |
| Wheat for grain | '000 | 5 438 | 6 827 | 7 516 |
| Wool            | "    | 176   | 161   | 160   |
| Beef and veal   | "    | 97    | 97    | 92    |
| Mutton and lamb | "    | 72    | 63    | 88    |
| Pigmeat         | "    | 35    | 37    | 39    |

| <b>Tourism</b>                              |            | <b>1995-96</b> | <b>1996-97</b> | <b>1997-98</b> |
|---|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Total Overseas Arrivals</b>              | <b>No.</b> | <b>699 380</b> | <b>763 410</b> | <b>814 000</b> |
| <b>Total Overseas Departures</b>            | <b>"</b>   | <b>689 300</b> | <b>747 390</b> | <b>810 300</b> |
| <b>Short term visitor arrivals by air —</b> |            |                |                |                |
| Indonesia                                   | "          | 30 120         | 51 600         | 34 370         |
| Japan                                       | "          | 49 260         | 33 880         | 32 090         |
| New Zealand                                 | "          | 24 200         | 26 420         | 26 320         |
| Singapore                                   | "          | 64 690         | 63 950         | 73 120         |
| United Kingdom & Ireland                    | "          | 59 220         | 69 460         | 80 930         |
| <b>All countries</b>                        | <b>"</b>   | <b>361 180</b> | <b>397 290</b> | <b>400 810</b> |

| <b>Transport (a)</b>               |          | <b>1995</b>   | <b>1996</b>      | <b>1997</b>      |
|------------------------------------|----------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| New motor vehicles registrations — |          |               |                  |                  |
| Motor cars and station wagons      | No.      | 52 094        | 51 319           | 56 984           |
| Motor cycles                       | "        | 2 355         | 2 441            | 2 692            |
| Other                              | "        | 12 861        | 13 162           | 13 035           |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>"</b> | <b>67 310</b> | <b>66 922</b>    | <b>72 711</b>    |
| Vehicles on register —             |          |               |                  |                  |
| Motor cars and station wagons      | No.      | 855 129       | 880 865          | 911 887          |
| Motor cycles                       | "        | 37 440        | 37 590           | 39 181           |
| Other                              | "        | 286 243       | 293 340          | 302 658          |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>"</b> | <b>***</b>    | <b>1 211 786</b> | <b>1 253 726</b> |

(a) For 1995, Vehicles on Register is at 31 May.

For 1996 and 1997, Vehicles on Register is at 2 November.

## Western Australia in relation to Australia

|                               |            | Date or<br>period | Western<br>Australia | Per cent of<br>Australian<br>total |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Area                          | '000 sq km | ..                | 2 526                | 32.9                               |
| Coastline                     | km         | ..                | 12 500               | 34.0                               |
| Demography —                  |            |                   |                      |                                    |
| Estimated resident population | '000       | 30 Jun 1998       | 1 831.4              | 9.7                                |
| Births registered             | No.        | "                 | 24 776               | 9.8                                |
| Deaths registered             | "          | "                 | 10 807               | 8.3                                |
| (including infant deaths)     | "          | "                 | 10 456               | 9.8                                |
| Marriages registered          | "          | "                 | 5 046                | 9.8                                |
| Divorces granted              | "          | "                 |                      |                                    |
| Labour force —                |            |                   |                      |                                    |
| Employed persons              | '000       | Mar 1999          | 893.0                | 10.2                               |
| Unemployed persons            | "          | "                 | 67.6                 | 9.7                                |
| Agriculture —                 |            |                   |                      |                                    |
| Gross value of production     | \$m        | 1996-97           | 4 196                | 14.9                               |
| Area of establishments        | '000 ha    | "                 | 112 482              | 24.1                               |
| Wheat for grain —             |            |                   |                      |                                    |
| Area                          | '000 ha    | "                 | 4 264                | 39.0                               |
| Production                    | '000       | "                 | 7 516                | 32.8                               |
| Wool                          | "          | "                 | 160                  | 23.3                               |
| Manufacturing —               |            |                   |                      |                                    |
| Persons employed              | '000       | 1996-97           | 73.4                 | 7.8                                |
| Turnover                      | \$m        | "                 | 16 815.0             | 8.1                                |
| Foreign Trade—                |            |                   |                      |                                    |
| Imports                       | \$m        | 1997-98           | 8 609                | 9.5                                |
| Exports                       | "          | "                 | 22 764               | 25.9                               |



## **For inquiries . . .**

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For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index, call 1900 986 400. These calls cost 75c per minute.

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| Adelaide    | 08 8237 7100    | 08 8237 7566  |
| Hobart      | 03 6222 5800    | 03 6222 5995  |
| Darwin      | 08 8943 2111    | 08 8981 1218  |

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