



Western Australian Community Profiles 2011 Census Brazil-born

Introduction

This profile provides a range of information on Western Australians who were born in Brazil. Using data from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing, it details:

- key social and economic characteristics of the community including population size, age and gender profile, education, income and workforce participation
- migration history and cultural backgrounds including ancestry, language and religious affiliation
- family and wellbeing including marital status, family composition, living arrangements and disability.

The purpose of this profile is to assist all Western Australians to understand the State's cultural diversity and the way it has changed over time. The information can be used for a variety of purposes including policy, program and service development, research and for general interest.

Brazil-born community in Western Australia

The Brazil-born community can be classified as one that is recently arrived. Small numbers of the Brazil-born arrived in Western Australia (WA) during the 1980s, mainly as humanitarian entrants. More than two-thirds (70%) of the Brazil-born arrived in WA between 2001 and 2010, mainly as international students.

BRAZIL-BORN COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE

- There were 1751 Brazil-born in WA, almost three-times more than in 2006 (683).
- There were 1410 Western Australians with Brazilian ancestry.
- More than two-thirds (70%) arrived in WA between 2001 and 2010.
- There were more women (955) than men (796) with a sex ratio of 83 men for every 100 women.
- More than two-thirds (69%) of the Brazil-born were young adults aged between 25 and 44 years. Children aged between 0 and 14 years (5%) and people aged over 65 years (3%) were the smallest groups.
- More than three-quarters (79%) of the Brazil-born spoke English well and spoke a language other than English (LOTE) at home.

- ▣ The main languages spoken by the Brazil-born were Portuguese (82%) and Spanish (1%).
- ▣ Most (90%) of the Brazil-born lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area.
- ▣ Most (90%) of the Brazil-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education. More than half (54%) had a university qualification and almost one-quarter (23%) had a technical qualification.
- ▣ Three-quarters (75%) of the Brazil-born were employed and 20% were not in the labour force.
- ▣ The Brazil-born were employed mainly as professionals (23%), labourers (19%), and community and personal service workers (18%).
- ▣ Almost half (45%) were middle income earners with a weekly income between \$300 and \$999, and 12% had no weekly income.
- ▣ More than one-third (34%) owned their home and almost two-thirds (59%) lived in rental accommodation.
- ▣ More than half (53%) of the Brazil-born aged 25 years and over were married, and more than one-quarter (28%) lived in a couple family with children.
- ▣ More than one-tenth (14%) of the Brazil-born aged 65 years and over required assistance with everyday living.

Migration, culture, ancestry, language and religion

In 2011, there were 1751 Brazil-born Western Australians, representing 0.1% of the State's total population. This group increased by 156% (from 683) between 2006 and 2011. More than one-quarter (28%) were Australian citizens.

ARRIVAL

More than two-thirds (70%) of the Brazil-born arrived in WA between 2001 and 2010, mainly as international students. This compares with the total WA overseas-born population, of which more than one-quarter (28%) arrived during the same period.

AGE AND GENDER

The Brazil-born population is composed of a larger proportion of young adults and smaller proportions of children and older people than the total WA population. In 2011, more than two-thirds (69%) were aged between 25 and 44 years, a larger proportion than in 2001 (41%) and compared with the total WA population (29%).

By contrast, there were decreases in the proportions of the Brazil-born aged between 0 and 14 years (from 10% to 5%), 15 and 24 years (from 18% to 11%), and 45 and 64 years (from 26% to 12%) during the same period. These proportions were smaller compared with those of the total WA population (20%, 14% and 25%, respectively).

Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of people aged 65 years and over was relatively unchanged (5% and 3%, respectively), but was four times smaller than the proportion of all older Western Australians (12%).



Age and gender profile	Brazil-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Age group	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %			
0–14 years	5.2	4.3	4.7	6.0	10.4	20.1	19.2	19.7
15–24 years	12.8	10.1	11.3	20.5	17.6	14.1	13.3	13.7
25–44 years	69.7	68.5	69.0	50.5	41.0	29.4	28.9	29.1
45–64 years	8.8	14.8	12.1	18.9	26.4	25.1	25.3	25.2
65+ years	3.5	2.4	2.9	4.1	4.6	11.3	13.2	12.3
All (number)	796	955	1751	683	393	1,126,177	1,112,994	2,239,171
Sex ratio	83.3			66.2	N/A	101.2		

In 2011, there were more Brazil-born women than men. The sex ratio (number of men per 100 women) was estimated at 83. This was higher than in 2006 (66), but lower compared with the total WA population (101).

ANCESTRY

People born in Brazil, with one or both parents born there, or who were born elsewhere but have Brazilian ancestors, may identify that they have Brazilian ancestry. In 2011, 60% of the Brazil-born identified that

they had Brazilian ancestry, a comparable proportion to 2006 (56%). Brazil-born Western Australians also reported that they had Italian (22%), Portuguese (16%), German (6%) or Spanish (4%) ancestries. Most (98%) had one or both parents born overseas.

Small numbers of the total WA population (1410 or 0.06%) and the Australia-born (292 or 0.02%) had Brazilian ancestry.

Ancestry	Brazil-born		WA population 2011	Australia-born 2011
	2011	2006		
Self-identified ancestry	Total %	Total %	Total %	Total %
Brazilian	59.9	56.0	0.1	0.1
Italian	21.9	17.2	5.0	4.3
Portuguese	15.6	20.4	0.4	0.2
German	5.9	4.5	2.8	4.2
Spanish	4.1	4.5	0.3	0.4
One or both parents born overseas	98.3	95.3	51.7	35.2
Both parents born in Australia	0.2	NA	40.3	64.8
One parent born in Australia	1.0	2.0	13.6	75.3

Language	Brazil-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
English proficiency	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Speaks English only	13.4	14.4	14.0	20.5	27.3	78.8	79.8	79.3
Speaks other language and English; very well or well	79.8	78.0	78.8	71.3	65.8	12.4	12.7	12.5
Speaks other language and English; not well or not at all	5.4	7.5	6.6	7.7	5.4	1.8	2.4	2.1
Main language spoken at home other than English (top 2 responses)*								
Portuguese	83.1	81.3	82.1	73.9	64.1	0.4	0.4	0.4
Spanish	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.2

* The first three columns show the top two responses for the Brazil-born. Data for the WA population are not the top responses and are presented for comparative purposes.

LANGUAGES

In 2011, most (85%) of the Brazil-born reported speaking a language other than English (LOTE) at home, mainly Portuguese (82%). The proportion of Portuguese speakers among the Brazil-born was larger than in 2001 (64%).

In 2011, more than three-quarters (79%) of Brazil-born Western Australians reported speaking a LOTE and speaking English well or very well; a larger proportion than in 2001 (66%).

Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of the Brazil-born who spoke only English at home decreased (from 27% to 14%). In 2011, the proportion of the Brazil-born (7%) who spoke a LOTE and English not well or not at all was similar to 2001 (5%). A slightly larger proportion of Brazil-born women (8%) reported low levels of English proficiency than men (5%).

RELIGION

Between 2001 and 2011, there was an increase in the proportion of the Brazil-born who identified as having no religion (from 11% to 16%) and a decrease in the proportion that identified with Christianity (from 80% to 74%). Brazil-born Western Australians also identified an affiliation with Spiritualism (3%), Buddhism (1%) and Judaism (0.6%). This trend was similar to that for the WA population for which identification with Christianity had decreased and having no religion had increased.



Geographic distribution

Between 2001 and 2011, the settlement pattern for Brazil-born Western Australians remained stable. In 2001, most (90%) lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area and 9% lived in non-metropolitan areas.

Compared with the Brazil-born, a smaller proportion of the total WA population (77%) lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area and a larger proportion (22%) lived in non-metropolitan areas.

Within the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area, the Brazil-born lived mainly in the Local Government Areas of Stirling (24%), Perth (7%) and Vincent (6%).

Education

In 2011, most (90%) of the Brazil-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education. This was a larger proportion than in 2001 (73%) and almost double compared with the total WA population (48%).

Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of the Brazil-born with qualifications at degree/tertiary level doubled (from 26% to 54%), while the proportion with advanced diploma, diploma and certificate level qualifications was relatively stable (20%). A larger proportion of the Brazil-born (74%) had post-school qualifications compared with the total WA population (45%).

The proportion of Brazil-born Western Australians (0.4%) who reported that they had not attended school was comparable to the total WA population (0.6%).

Educational attainment	Brazil-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Degree/tertiary level	53.1	53.9	53.6	40.5	26.4	15.9	19.2	17.5
Advanced diploma/diploma/certificate	20.9	19.3	20.0	23.1	21.3	32.8	22.4	27.6
Completed Year 12/equivalent	89.3	89.6	89.5	82.1	72.9	46.2	49.4	47.8
Did not attend school	0.4	0.3	0.4	0	NA	0.5	0.7	0.6

Labour force

PARTICIPATION

The labour force participation rate is the proportion of the total population, aged 15 years and over, employed or unemployed and able to work. In 2011, more than three-quarters (80%) of Brazil-born Western Australians were in the labour force. This figure was larger than in 2001 (62%), and compared with the total WA population (64%).

Between 2001 and 2011, there were decreases in proportions of the Brazil-born not in the labour force (from 38% to 20%) and unemployed (from 10% to 5%). Of the total WA population, a comparable proportion was unemployed (3%), a smaller proportion was employed (61%), and a larger proportion was not in the labour force (29%).

Labour force	Brazil-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Employed	82.6	68.9	75.1	68.2	52.0	66.7	55.3	61.0
Unemployed	4.2	5.0	4.7	5.1	10.3	3.2	2.9	3.0
Not in the labour force	12.6	25.3	19.5	26.0	37.6	22.7	36.1	29.4

A larger proportion of Brazil-born men (83%) were employed than women (69%). The proportion of women who were not in the labour force was double that of men (25% and 13%, respectively).

These gender-based trends reflect those for the total WA population, of which a larger proportion of men (67%) were employed than women, and a larger proportion of women (36%) were not in the labour force than men (23%).

OCCUPATION

The Brazil-born were mainly employed as professionals (23%), labourers¹ (19%), and community and personal service workers (18%). A comparable proportion of the WA population was employed as professionals (20%).

Brazil-born men were mainly employed as professionals (24%), labourers (19%), and technicians and trade workers (19%). Brazil-born women were mainly employed as community and personal service workers (22%), professionals (21%) and labourers (20%).

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

In 2011, 6% of Brazil-born Western Australians were small or medium business owners, a smaller proportion compared with the total WA population (15%).

More than half (57%) of the businesses owned by the Brazil-born were self-managed, more than one-third (38%) employed between one and 19 people, and the remainder (5%) employed 20 or more people. Similar proportions of men and women were business owners (around 6%).

¹ According to the 2011 Census Dictionary, 'labourers' include cleaners and laundry workers, construction and mining labourers, factory process workers, farm, forestry and garden workers, food preparation assistants and miscellaneous category such as handypersons, recycling and rubbish collectors and vending machine attendants.



Weekly income	Brazil-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006*	2001**	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
None	7.2	16.5	12.3	14.8	15.1	5.6	9.8	7.7
< \$300	8.0	13.7	11.7	18.7	30.8	11.7	19.8	15.7
\$300–\$999	43.4	46.2	44.9	42.9	38.2	29.3	41.9	35.6
\$1000 or more	34.6	17.8	25.4	14.2	10.9	43.0	20.2	31.6

Note: *Unlike 2011 and 2001, the threshold for the 2006 Census was less than \$250. The next income bracket was \$250–\$999.

** For the 2001 Census no income also included negative income.

INCOME

In 2011, nearly half (45%) of the Brazil-born were middle income earners with a weekly income of \$300-\$999. This was a larger proportion than in 2001 (38%) and compared with all Western Australians (36%).

Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of Brazil-born Western Australians earning a high weekly income of \$1000 or more doubled (from 11% to 25%), but was smaller compared with the proportion of all Western Australians (32%).

There was a decrease in the proportion of the Brazil-born earning a weekly income of less than \$300 (from 31% to 12%) for the same period, which was smaller compared with all Western Australians (16%). The proportion with no weekly income remained almost unchanged (15% and 12%, respectively), but was larger compared with the proportion of the total WA population (8%).

A larger proportion of Brazil-born men (35%) were high income earners than women (18%), while larger proportions of women had no income (17%) or a low income (14%) compared with men (7% and 8%, respectively).

HOUSING

In 2011, more than one-third (34%) of the Brazil-born owned their home, a smaller proportion than in 2006 (42%) and compared with almost two-thirds (63%) of all Western Australians.

A larger proportion lived in a home they were purchasing (25%) than lived in a home they fully owned (9%), and both rates were smaller compared with the total WA population (24% and 39%, respectively).

Nearly two-thirds (59%) of the Brazil-born lived in rental accommodation, compared with 26% of all Western Australians.

Family

MARITAL STATUS

In 2011, more than half (53%) of the Brazil-born aged over 25 years were married. This was comparable to 2006 (56%) and the total WA population (58%). A larger proportion of women (56%) were married than men (49%).

Between 2006 and 2011, the proportion of the Brazil-born who were widowed was relatively unchanged (less than 2%), but was lower compared with all Western Australians (6%).

The proportion of the Brazil-born who were divorced or separated (9%) was comparable to 2006 (11%) but larger compared with the total WA population (14%).

In 2011, the proportion of the Brazil-born never married (38%) was larger than in 2006 (30%) and compared with the WA population (23%). A larger proportion of men (44%) had never married than women (33%).

FAMILY COMPOSITION

In 2011, more than one-quarter (28%) of Brazil-born Western Australians lived in couple families with children, a smaller proportion than in 2006 (40%) and compared with the total WA population (45%).

More than one-third (39%) lived in couple families without children, a larger proportion than in 2006 (26%) and compared with the proportion of all Western Australians (20%).

In 2011, 3% of the Brazil-born lived in one-parent families, comparable to 2006 (6%) but smaller than the proportion of the total WA population (10%).

Registered marital status (25+ years)	Brazil-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %			
Married	48.9	55.6	52.6	55.6	59.0	57.1	58.1
Widowed	0.5	1.5	1.0	2.4	2.3	8.8	5.6
Divorced/separated	6.9	9.8	8.5	11.2	12.3	14.9	13.6
Never married	43.6	33.1	37.8	30.1	26.3	19.2	22.7
Family composition (all ages)							
Couple family with children	24.8	30.5	27.9	39.5	45.0	44.7	44.8
Couple family without children	36.1	41.6	39.1	26.4	19.4	20.3	19.8
One-parent family	1.8	4.2	3.1	5.6	7.8	12.0	9.9



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

In 2011, nearly two-thirds (60%) of the Brazil-born lived with a spouse or partner. This was a larger proportion than in 2006 (53%) and compared with the total WA population (45%). A larger proportion of women (66%) were living with a spouse than men (60%).

The proportion of the Brazil-born living with other family or non-family members decreased between 2006 and 2011 (from 18% to 14%) and was smaller compared with the total WA population (38%).

The proportion of the Brazil-born living alone (8%) was larger compared with the WA population (12%). Similar proportions of Brazil-born women (9%) and men (6%) were living alone.

DISABILITY/SICKNESS

Disability refers to the level of assistance a person requires in day-to-day activities such as eating, dressing and bathing. In 2011, 14% of the Brazil-born aged 65 years and over required such assistance; all were women. This was a smaller proportion than in 2006 (18%) but comparable to the proportion of the total WA population (16%).

A smaller proportion of the Brazil-born aged 15 years and over (3%) was providing unpaid care and/or assistance to a family member than the total WA population (9%).

More information

For more information and assistance, please contact:

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