



Western Australian Community Profiles 2011 Census Chile-born

Introduction

This profile provides a range of information on Western Australians who were born in Chile. 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.

Chile-born community in Western Australia

Chilean migration to Western Australia (WA) began in the 1960s with the arrival of a small number of people leaving economic and political uncertainty in Chile. Migration from Chile increased between 1981 and 1990 with the arrival of 626 people. A large number of the Chile-born migrated to WA under the Family Reunion and Skilled Migration programs and also as international students.

CHILE-BORN COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE

- There were 1512 Chile-born in WA, 19% more than in 2006 (from 1269).
- There were 1856 Western Australians with Chilean ancestry.
- More than one-third (41%) arrived in WA between 1981 and 1991.
- Two-thirds (66%) were Australian citizens.
- There were almost equal numbers of women (759) and men (753), with a sex ratio of 99 men for every 100 women.
- More than one-third (41%) of the Chile-born were young adults aged between 25 and 44 years and a similar proportion (37%) were mature adults aged between 45 and 64 years.
- The median age of the Chile-born was 44 years.

- ▣ Almost three-quarters (74%) spoke English well and spoke a language other than English (LOTE) at home.
- ▣ The main language spoken by the Chile-born was Spanish (83%).
- ▣ Most (93%) of the Chile-born lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area.
- ▣ Almost three-quarters (74%) aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education. More than half (55%) had a university (21%) and/or technical qualification (34%).
- ▣ Almost two-thirds (64%) were employed and less than one-third (30%) were not in the labour force.
- ▣ The Chile-born were mainly employed as technicians and trade workers (21%) and professionals (20%).
- ▣ Almost two-thirds (62%) were middle or high-income earners. Thirty-three per cent earned between \$300 and \$999 and 29% earned \$1000 or more per week. One-tenth (10%) had no income.
- ▣ More than half (56%) owned their home.
- ▣ Almost two-thirds (59%) of the Chile-born aged 25 years and over were married and almost half (44%) lived in couple families with children.
- ▣ Nearly one-fifth (16%) of the Chile-born aged over 65 years required assistance with everyday living.

Migration, culture, ancestry, language and religion

In 2011, there were 1512 Chile-born Western Australians, representing 0.1% of the State's total population, an increase of 19% (from 1269) since 2006. Two-thirds (66%) were Australian citizens.

ARRIVAL

More than one-third (41%) of the Chile-born arrived in WA between 1981 and 1990. This compares with the State's total overseas-born population, of which 12% arrived during the same period.

AGE AND GENDER

The Chile-born population is composed of a larger proportion of adults and a smaller proportion of children than the total WA population. In 2011, more than one-third (41%) were aged between 25 and 44 years, a slightly larger proportion than in 2006 (37%) and compared with the total WA population (29%). The proportion of Chile-born children aged between 0 and 14 years (5%) was four times smaller compared with the total WA population (20%).

More than one-third (37%) were mature adults aged between 45 and 64 years. This proportion was smaller than in 2006 (40%) but larger compared with the WA population (25%).

Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of the Chile-born aged 65 years and over almost doubled (from 5% to 11%), and was comparable to the total WA population (12%). By contrast, the proportion of young people aged between 15 and 24 years decreased (from 15% to 6%), and was smaller than the proportion of all Western Australians (14%).

The median age of the Chile-born was 44 years, compared with 36 years for the total WA population.



Age and gender profile	Chile-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Age group	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
0–14 years	4.5	4.9	4.7	5.3	5.3	20.1	19.2	19.7
15–24 years	6.4	5.4	5.9	9.9	15.2	14.1	13.3	13.7
25–44 years	43.2	38.9	41.0	37.2	41.8	29.4	28.9	29.1
45–64 years	35.7	38.0	37.4	40.3	32.4	25.1	25.3	25.2
65+ years	10.2	11.9	11.0	7.4	5.4	11.3	13.2	12.3
All (number)	753	759	1512	1269	1234	1,126,177	1,112,994	2,239,171
Sex ratio				99.2	92	NA	101.2	

In 2011, there were almost equal numbers of Chile-born women and men. The sex ratio (number of men per 100 women) was approximately 99, higher than in 2006 (92) but lower compared with the total WA population (101).

ANCESTRY

People born in Chile, who have one or both parents born there, or who were born elsewhere but have Chilean ancestors, may identify that they have Chilean

ancestry. In 2011, two-thirds (67%) of the Chile-born identified that they had Chilean ancestry. The Chile-born also identified as having Spanish (21%), English (4%), South American (4%) and Italian (2%) ancestries. Most (97%) had one or both parents born overseas.

Small numbers of the WA population (1856) and the Australia-born (764) identified as having Chilean ancestry.

Ancestry	Chile-born		WA population 2011	Australia-born 2011
	2011	2006		
Self-identified ancestry	Total %	Total %	Total %	Total %
Chilean	66.7	66.9	0.1	0.1
Spanish	20.6	20.7	0.3	0.3
South American, not further defined	3.8	2.0	0.0*	0.0*
English	3.7	4.6	37.9	41.3
Italian	2.4	2.6	5.0	6.2
One or both parents born overseas	97.2	95.4	56.2	35.2
Both parents born in Australia	0.7	NA	43.8	64.8
One parent born in Australia	1.6	1.4	51.3	75.3

* The proportions are listed as zero because of the small numbers identifying with these ancestries. In 2011, the total Western Australian and Australia-born identifying with South American (not further defined) ancestry were 466 and 221, respectively.

Language	Chile-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
English proficiency	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Speaks English only	17.8	12.6	15.2	16.1	15.0	78.8	79.8	79.3
Speaks other language and English; very well or well	73.6	73.8	73.7	69.6	71.2	12.4	12.7	12.5
Speaks other language and English; not well or not at all	8.1	12.4	10.3	12.7	13.1	1.8	2.4	2.1
Main language spoken at home other than English (top two responses)*								
Spanish	79.9	85.6	82.8	81.0	83.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
Italian	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.2	1.3	1.5	1.4

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

LANGUAGES

In 2011, most (84%) of the Chile-born reported speaking a language other than English (LOTE) at home, mainly Spanish (83%). Almost three-quarters (74%) of Chile-born LOTE speakers spoke English well or very well, which was comparable to 2001 (71%).

The proportion of the Chile-born who reported speaking English only at home was stable between 2001 and 2011 (15%).

The proportion of the Chile-born who reported speaking a LOTE and English not well or not at all, was relatively stable (around 10%). A larger proportion of women (12%) than men (8%) reported low levels of English proficiency.

RELIGION

In 2011, more than three-quarters (78%) of Chile-born Western Australians reported an affiliation with Christianity. Smaller proportions identified as having no religion (17%), or with Judaism (0.7%), Buddhism (0.5%) and Islam (0.5%).

This trend was different compared with the total WA population, in which identification with Christianity had decreased and identification with non-Christian religions or as having no religion had increased.



Geographic distribution

Between 2001 and 2011, the settlement pattern for Chile-born Western Australians remained stable. In 2011, most of the Chile-born (93%) lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area and 6% lived in non-metropolitan areas. Compared with the Chile-born, a smaller proportion of all Western Australians lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area (77%) and a larger proportion lived in non-metropolitan areas (22%).

Within the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area, the Chile-born mainly lived in the Local Government Areas of Stirling (9%), Gosnells (8%) and Cockburn (8%).

Education

In 2011, three-quarters (74%) of the Chile-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education. This was a larger proportion than in 2001 (67%), and compared with the total WA population (48%).

Between 2001 and 2011, there was an increase in the proportions of the Chile-born with qualifications at degree/tertiary level (from 11% to 21%) and at advanced diploma, diploma and certificate level (from 27% to 34%). A larger proportion of Chile-born men had an advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level qualification than women (36% and 31%, respectively).

A larger proportion of Chile-born people held post-school qualifications compared with the total WA population (55% and 45%, respectively).

A fraction (0.4%) of Chile-born Western Australians reported that they had not attended school, which was comparable to the proportion of the total WA population (0.6%).

Educational attainment	Chile-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Degree/tertiary level	20.7	20.6	20.7	14.0	10.8	15.9	19.2	17.5
Advanced diploma/diploma/certificate	36.2	31.4	33.8	31.9	26.6	32.8	22.4	27.6
Completed Year 12/equivalent	74.0	74.1	74.0	69.4	66.8	46.2	49.4	47.8
Did not attend school	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	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, who are employed or unemployed and able to work. In 2011, more than two-thirds (68%) of Chile-born Western Australians were in the labour force, comparable to 2001 (65%) and to the total WA population (64%).

Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of the Chile-born employed increased (from 55% to 64%), the rate of unemployment halved (from 10% to 5%), and there was a decrease in the proportion of the Chile-born not in the labour force (from 34% to 30%). These figures were comparable to those for the total WA population (61%, 3% and 29%, respectively).

A larger proportion of Chile-born men (77%) were employed than women (51%). The proportion of women (43%) not in the labour force was almost two-and-a-half times larger than that of men (18%).

These gender-based trends reflect those for the total WA population, of which a larger proportion of men (67%) than women (55%) were employed, and a larger proportion of women (36%) than men (23%) were not in the labour force.

OCCUPATION

The Chile-born were mainly employed as technicians and trade workers (22%), professionals (20%) and labourers (14%).¹ Comparable proportions of the total WA population were employed as professionals (20%) and technicians and trade workers (17%).

Chile-born men were mainly employed as technicians and trade workers (30%), professionals (19%) and machinery operators and drivers (14%). Chile-born women were mainly employed as professionals (20%), community and personal service workers (21%), labourers (17%) and clerical and administrative workers (17%).

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

In 2011, 13% of the Chile-born were small or medium business owners. This was comparable to 2006 (15%) and to the proportion of the total WA population (15%).

More than half (56%) of the businesses owned by the Chile-born were self-managed, more than one-third (38%) employed between one and 19 people, and 6% employed 20 or more people. A larger proportion of Chile-born men (15%) than women (10%) were business owners.

Labour force	Chile-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Employed	76.8	50.8	63.8	63.6	55.2	66.7	55.3	61.0
Unemployed	4.0	5.0	4.5	4.9	10.0	3.2	2.9	3.0
Not in the labour force	17.9	42.5	30.3	29.9	33.5	22.7	36.1	29.4

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	Chile-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006*	2001**	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
None	4.7	16.2	10.4	9.0	8.9	5.6	9.8	7.7
< \$300	12.8	23.5	18.2	21.5	37.6	11.7	19.8	15.7
\$300–\$999	30.1	36.3	33.2	42.0	42.3	29.3	41.9	35.6
\$1000 or more	43.8	14.5	29.0	16.4	6.8	43.0	20.2	31.6

Note: *Unlike 2011 and 2001, the threshold for the 2006 Census was less than \$250. The next income group was \$250–\$999.
 **For the 2001 Census, 'no income' also included negative income.

INCOME

One-third (33%) of the Chile-born were middle income earners with a weekly income between \$300 and \$999. This was lower than in 2001 (42%) but comparable to the proportion of the total WA population (36%). The proportion of the Chile-born earning \$1000 or more increased (from 7% to 29%) and was comparable to the total WA population (32%).

The proportion of the Chile-born earning less than \$300 per week halved (from 38% to 18%) and the proportion without an income was unchanged (around 10%) from 2001. Both were comparable to the proportions of the total WA population (16% and 8%, respectively).

Larger proportions of Chile-born women had a low (24%) or no income (16%) than men (13% and 5% respectively). The proportion of men earning a high income (44%) was almost three times larger than the proportion of women (15%).

HOUSING

In 2011, more than half (56%) of the Chile-born owned their home, compared with almost two-thirds (63%) of all Western Australians.

Comparable proportions (41%) of the Chile-born and all Western Australians (39%) lived in a home they were purchasing. The proportion of the Chile-born who owned their home (15%) was smaller compared with the total WA population (24%).

More than one-third (35%) of Chile-born Western Australians were living in rental accommodation, compared with one-quarter of all Western Australians (26%).

Family

MARITAL STATUS

In 2011, nearly two-thirds (59%) of the Chile-born aged 25 years and over were married, comparable to 2006 (61%) and to the total WA population (58%).

Between 2006 and 2011, the proportions of the Chile-born widowed (4%), divorced or separated (17%) and never married (21%) were almost unchanged, and were comparable to the proportions of the total WA population (6%, 14% and 23%, respectively).

The rate of widowhood was higher among Chile-born women (6%) than men (1%). A larger proportion of men than women (24% and 17%, respectively) had never been married.

FAMILY COMPOSITION

In 2011, almost half (44%) of Chile-born Western Australians lived in couple families with children, a smaller proportion than in 2006 (51%) but comparable to the total WA population (45%). A smaller proportion of the Chile-born lived in couple families without children (24%), a larger proportion than in 2006 (20%) and compared with the total WA population (20%).

Comparable proportions of the Chile-born (11%) and all Western Australians (10%) lived in one-parent families. The proportion of Chile-born women (17%) living in one-parent families was three times larger than that of men (6%).

Registered marital status 25+ years)	Chile-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Married	58.9	58.6	58.7	61.1	59.0	57.1	58.1
Widowed	1.3	5.6	3.5	3.2	2.3	8.8	5.6
Divorced/separated	15.1	18.8	16.9	18.4	12.3	14.9	13.6
Never married	24.0	17.0	20.5	17.3	26.3	19.2	22.7
Family composition (all ages)							
Couple family with children	44.8	43.8	44.3	50.5	45.0	44.7	44.8
Couple family without children	24.4	23.7	24.0	19.9	19.4	20.3	19.8
One-parent family	5.7	16.5	11.1	12.3	7.8	12.0	9.9



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

In 2011, nearly two-thirds (59%) of the Chile-born lived with a spouse or partner. This pattern was similar for both men and women and was comparable to 2006 (58%) but larger compared with the proportion of the total WA population (42%).

Nearly one-fifth (16%) of the Chile-born lived with family or non-family members, which was less than half the proportion of Western Australians (34%) living under similar arrangements. The proportions of the Chile-born living alone (16%) and not living with family (7%) were comparable to the total WA population (12% and 8%, respectively).

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, similar proportions of Chile-born women (17%) and men (16%) aged over 65 years required such assistance, comparable to all Western Australian women and men of the same age (13% and 18%, respectively). One per cent of all other age groups required this assistance.

Almost one-tenth (8%) of the Chile-born aged 15 years and over were providing unpaid care and/or assistance for a family member, comparable to the rate for the total WA population (9%).

More information

For more information and assistance, please contact:

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

Department of Local Government and
Communities
GPO Box R1250 PERTH WA 6844

Phone: (08) 6551 8700

Fax: (08) 6552 1555

Email: harmony@omi.wa.gov.au

Website: www.omi.wa.gov.au