



Western Australian Community Profiles 2011 Census India-born

Introduction

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

India-born community in Western Australia

Small numbers of people from the Indian subcontinent began migrating to Western Australia (WA) in the mid-19th century. Migrant numbers increased following India's independence in 1947 with more than 500 India-born, primarily Anglo-Indians, arriving between 1947 and 1950. The flow increased significantly between 1965 and 1975 with nearly 4500 India-born migrating to WA. However, the largest Indian migration occurred between 2001 and 2010 with 16,755 people migrating mainly under the Skilled Migration Program and as international students. In 2011, India was the fourth-largest source country of the overseas-born in WA.

INDIA-BORN COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE

- There were 29,919 India-born in WA, almost double compared with 2006 (15,157).
- There were 40,305 Western Australians with Indian ancestry.
- More than half (56%) arrived in WA between 2001 and 2010.
- Half (51%) were Australian citizens.
- There were more men (16,284) than women (13,635) with a sex ratio of 119 men for every 100 women.
- Almost half (46%) of the India-born were young adults aged between 25 and 44 years, and the smallest group was children aged between 0 and 14 years (8%).

- ▣ The median age of the India-born was 35 years.
- ▣ More than half (57%) of the India-born spoke English well and spoke a language other than English (LOTE) at home.
- ▣ The main languages spoken at home by the India-born were Hindi (14%), Punjabi (12%), Gujarati (9%), Malayalam (8%) and Tamil (5%).
- ▣ Most (94%) of the India-born lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area.
- ▣ More than three-quarters (79%) of the India-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education, and two-thirds had a university (41%) or technical qualification (26%).
- ▣ Two-thirds (67%) were employed and more than one-quarter (28%) were not in the labour force.
- ▣ The India-born were employed mainly as professionals (26%), clerical and administrative workers (14%), and technicians and trade workers (12%).
- ▣ Two-thirds (66%) were middle or high income earners; 37% had a weekly income between \$300 and \$999 and 29% earned more than \$1000 per week. One-tenth (11%) had no weekly income.
- ▣ Half (51%) of the India-born owned their home.
- ▣ Three-quarters (75%) of the India-born aged 25 years and over were married and almost half (48%) lived in couple families with children.
- ▣ Almost one-fifth (17%) of the India-born aged over 65 years required assistance with everyday living.

Migration, culture, ancestry, language and religion

In 2011, there were 29,919 India-born Western Australians, representing one per cent of the State's total population. This group almost doubled (from 15,157) between 2006 and 2011. Half (51%) were Australian citizens.

ARRIVAL

More than half (56%) of the India-born arrived in WA between 2001 and 2010, mainly as skilled migrants and international students. This compares with the State's total overseas-born population of which more than one-quarter (28%) arrived during the same period. One fifth (21%) of the India-born arrived in WA before 1981.

AGE AND GENDER

The India-born population is composed of a larger proportion of young adults and a smaller proportion of children than the total WA population. In 2011, almost half (46%) were young adults aged between 25 and 44 years, compared with the WA figure of 29%. By contrast, only 8% of the India-born were children aged between 0 and 14 years, which was less than half the WA proportion (20%).

Between 2001 and 2011 there were decreases in the proportions of India-born older people aged 65 years and over (from 22% to 14%) and adults aged between 45 and 64 years (from 39% to 22%). In contrast, there were increases in the proportions of young adults (from 29% to 46%), children (from 4% to 8%) and young people aged between 15 and 24 years (from 6% to 10%).

The median age of the India-born was 35 years, comparable to 36 years for the total WA population.



Age and gender profile	India-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Age group	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
0–14 years	7.7	8.5	8.1	5.0	3.8	20.1	19.2	19.7
15–24 years	11.0	8.9	10.0	7.3	6.0	14.1	13.3	13.7
25–44 years	49.0	42.2	45.9	29.5	29.0	29.4	28.9	29.1
45–64 years	20.2	23.7	21.8	36.5	39.4	25.1	25.3	25.2
65+ years	12.1	16.8	14.2	21.8	21.8	11.3	13.2	12.3
All (number)	16,284	13,635	29,919	15,157	13,085	1,126,177	1,112,994	2,239,171
Sex ratio	119.4			97.8	94.2	101.2		

In 2011, there were more India-born men than women. The sex ratio (number of men per 100 women) was approximately 119. This was higher than in 2006 (98) and 2001 (94), and compared with the total WA population (101).

ANCESTRY

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

ancestry. In 2011, more than two thirds (70%) of the India-born identified having Indian ancestry, a larger proportion than in 2006 (56%). India-born Western Australians also reported that they had English (15%), Anglo-Indian (6%), Irish (3%) and Scottish (2%) ancestry. Most (98%) had one or both parents born overseas. Small numbers and proportions of the WA population (40,305 or 2%) and the Australia-born (8840 or 0.6%) identified that they have Indian ancestry.

Ancestry	India-born		WA population 2011	Australia-born 2011
	2011	2006		
Self-identified ancestry	Total %	Total %	Total %	Total %
Indian	69.7	55.8	1.8	0.6
English	15.2	26.2	37.9	41.3
Anglo-Indian	6.5	13.0	0.2	0.1
Irish	2.8	5.2	8.4	9.7
Scottish	1.8	3.4	8.3	9.2
One or both parents born overseas	98.1	97.2	56.2	35.2
Both parents born in Australia	0.2	0	43.8	64.8
One parent born in Australia	0.4	0.6	51.3	75.3

Language	India-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
English proficiency	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
English only	35.4	43.0	38.9	68.7	79.6	78.8	79.8	79.3
Other language and English; very well or well	61.4	51.4	56.8	29.2	19.1	12.4	12.7	12.5
Other language and English; not well or not at all	2.3	5.0	3.5	1.4	0.8	1.8	2.4	2.1
Main language spoken at home other than English (top two responses)*								
Hindi	14.7	12.6	13.8	9.7	6.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Punjabi	14.6	9.6	12.3	2.4	3.7	0.3	0.2	0.2

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

LANGUAGES

In 2011, almost two-thirds (60%) of India-born Western Australians reported speaking a language other than English (LOTE) at home, mainly Hindi (14%), Punjabi (12%), Gujarati (9%) and Malayalam (8%).

In 2011, more than half (57%) of the India-born reported speaking a LOTE and speaking English well: this had increased since 2001 (19%).

More than one-third (39%) spoke English only at home, half the figure for 2001 (80%).

A larger proportion of women (43%) spoke English only at home than men (35%). The proportion of India-born people who reported speaking a LOTE and English not well or not at all was 4%.

RELIGION

The religious affiliation of India-born Western Australians changed between 2001 and 2011. Identification with Christianity decreased (from 77% to 42%), while affiliation with Hinduism (from 11% to 38%) and Sikhism (from 2% to 11%) increased. Small proportions of the India-born identified as having no religion (3%) or with Islam (2%), and there was no change in these proportions since 2001. This compares with the general trend for the total WA population in which identification with Christianity has decreased and identification with non-Christian religions or identifying as having no religion has increased.



Geographic distribution

Between 2001 and 2011, the settlement pattern for India-born Western Australians remained stable. In 2011, most (94%) lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area and 6% lived in non-metropolitan areas. Compared with the India-born, a smaller proportion of the total Western Australian population lived in the Greater Metropolitan Perth Area (77%) and a larger proportion lived in non-metropolitan areas (22%).

Within the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area, the India-born lived mainly in the Local Government Areas of Stirling (15%), Canning (12%) and Gosnells (11%).

Education

In 2011, more than three-quarters (79%) of the India-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education. This proportion was larger than in 2006 (69%) and 2001 (63%), and compared with the total WA population (48%).

Between 2001 and 2011, there was an increase in the proportion of the India-born with qualifications at degree/tertiary level (from 24% to 41%), and at advanced diploma, diploma and certificate level (from 21% to 26%). A larger proportion of India-born people held post-school qualifications than the total WA population (67% and 45%, respectively). A larger proportion of India-born men (72%) had a post-school qualification than women (62%).

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

Educational attainment	India-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Degree/tertiary level	39.9	42.5	41.1	31.2	23.8	15.9	19.2	17.5
Advanced diploma/ diploma/certificate	32.3	19.3	26.4	22.4	20.8	32.8	22.4	27.6
Completed Year 12/ equivalent	80.7	77.7	79.3	69.2	63.2	46.2	49.4	47.8
Did not attend school	0.3	0.6	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 (70%) of India-born Western Australians were in the labour force, an increase from 58% in 2001. This was a larger proportion compared with the total State population (64%).

The proportion not in the labour force decreased between 2001 and 2011 (from 40% to 28%) while the rate of unemployment remained stable at around 3%. These figures were comparable to the total State population (29% and 3%, respectively) but the proportion of India-born employed (67%) was higher than the WA figure (61%).

Labour force	India-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Employed	78.3	53.5	67.0	58.3	54.3	66.7	55.3	61.0
Unemployed	2.5	4.6	3.4	2.3	3.8	3.2	2.9	3.0
Not in the labour force	17.7	40.2	27.9	37.2	40.0	22.7	36.1	29.4

A larger proportion of India-born men (78%) were employed than women (53%). The proportion of women not in the labour force was double that of men (40% and 18%, respectively). These gender-based trends reflect those for the total Western Australian population of which 67% of men and 55% of women were employed, while more than one-third of women (36%) and less than a quarter of men (23%) were not in the labour force.

OCCUPATION

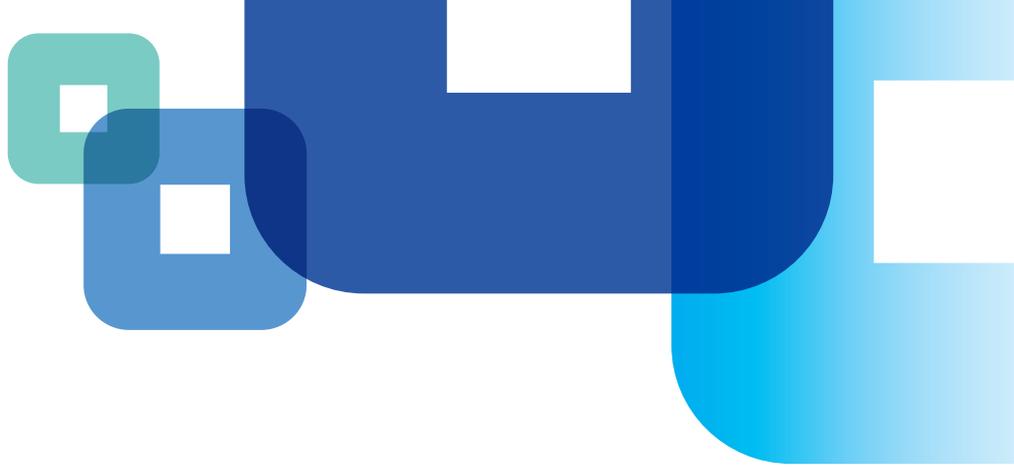
The India-born were mainly employed as professionals (26%), clerical and administrative workers (14%), and technicians and trade workers (12%). These occupation groups and rates were comparable to those for the total WA population, except that there was a larger proportion of India-born professionals (26% and 20%, respectively) and a smaller proportion of India-born technicians and trade workers (12% and 17%, respectively).

India-born men were mainly employed as professionals (25%), technicians and trade workers (16%), and machinery operators and drivers (13%). India-born women were mainly employed as professionals (29%), clerical and administrative workers (22%), community and personal service workers (15%), and sales workers (11%).

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

In 2011, 9% of the India-born were small or medium business owners. This was comparable to 2006 (12%) but smaller compared with the total WA population (15%).

Almost half (49%) of the businesses owned by the India-born employed between one and 19 people, 45% were self-managed and the remainder employed 20 or more people. A larger proportion of India-born men (11%) were business owners than women (6%).



Weekly income	India-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006*	2001**	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
None	4.8	18.1	10.8	8.3	6.7	5.6	9.8	7.7
< \$300	8.4	15.6	11.7	19.3	34.7	11.7	19.8	15.7
\$300–\$999	38.4	35.8	37.2	42.7	42.1	29.3	41.9	35.6
\$1000 or more	37.9	18.9	29.3	20.9	12.1	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

More than one-third (37%) of the India-born were middle income earners with a weekly income of between \$300 and \$999. This rate was lower than in 2006 (43%) but comparable to that for all Western Australians (36%). Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of India-born Western Australians earning \$1000 or more per week more than doubled (from 12% to 29%). The proportion earning less than \$300 per week decreased between 2001 (35%) and 2011 (12%).

A small proportion (11%) of the India-born were without a weekly income, an increase from 2001 (7%) and higher than the rate for the WA population (8%).

Among the India-born, almost equal proportions of women (36%) and men (38%) were middle income earners. The proportion of men who were high income earners (38%) was double the proportion of women (19%), while the proportion of women having no income was almost four times the proportion of men (19% and 5%, respectively).

HOUSING

In 2011, half (51%) of the India-born owned their home compared with almost two-thirds (63%) of all Western Australians.

Among the India-born, 19% lived in a home they fully owned and 32% lived in a home they were purchasing. The comparative figures for the total WA population were 24% and 39%, respectively.

In 2011, 43% of the India-born lived in rental accommodation, a larger proportion compared with the total WA population (26%).

Family

MARITAL STATUS

In 2011, three-quarters (76%) of the India-born aged 25 years and over were married, comparable to 2006 (71%) but larger compared with the total WA population (58%). Similar proportions of women (77%) and men (74%) were married.

Between 2006 and 2011, there were slight decreases in the proportions of the India-born who were divorced or separated (11% to 7%) and widowed (9% to 5%). A larger proportion of women (9%) were widowed than men (2%). While the rate of widowhood was comparable (6%), the divorce rate was half the rate for the total WA population (14%).

The proportion of the India-born who were never married was comparable in 2011 (12%) and 2006 (10%) but almost half the proportion of the Western Australian population (23%).

FAMILY COMPOSITION

In 2011, nearly half (48%) of the India-born lived in couple families with children. This was a larger proportion than those living in couple families without children (26%); both proportions were similar in 2006. Larger proportions of women lived in couple families with children (52%) and in one-parent families (6%) than men (44% and 2%, respectively).

The 2011 patterns were similar to the total Western Australian population of which almost half (45%) lived in couple families with children, and around one-fifth (20%) in couple families without children.

In 2011, 4% of the India-born lived in one-parent families, almost unchanged since 2006 (6%) and smaller compared with the total WA population (10%).

Registered marital status (25+ years)	India-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Married	74.3	76.9	75.5	70.7	59.0	57.1	58.1
Widowed	1.7	9.4	5.2	8.7	2.3	8.8	5.6
Divorced/separated	5.8	8.1	6.9	10.7	12.3	14.9	13.6
Never married	18.2	5.6	12.4	9.9	26.3	19.2	22.7
Family composition (all ages)							
Couple family with children	44.0	51.7	47.5	45.1	45.0	44.7	44.8
Couple family without children	24.5	27.2	25.8	27.3	19.4	20.3	19.8
One-parent family	2.4	6.0	4.0	5.9	7.8	12.0	9.9



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

In 2011, almost two-thirds (62%) of the India-born lived with a spouse or partner, a pattern consistent since 2006 (62%). A larger proportion of women than men were living with a spouse (65% and 56%, respectively) or alone (12% and 8%, respectively).

In 2011, the proportions of the India-born living with other family or non-family members (19%) and not living at home (9%) were comparable to 2006 (15% and 7%, respectively),

The 2011 a comparatively larger proportion (34%) of all Western Australians lived with other family and/or non-family members, and a comparatively smaller proportion (42%) lived with a spouse or partner. The proportions of the India-born and of all Western Australians living alone were comparable (10% and 12%, 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, almost one-fifth (19%) of India-born women aged 65 years and over required such assistance, which was a larger proportion than for men (14%). These figures were comparable to the WA figures for the same age group (18% and 13% respectively). For all other age groups the proportion barely exceeded one per cent.

One-tenth (10%) of the India-born aged over 15 years was providing unpaid care and/or assistance to a family member, a rate comparable to the total WA population (9%).

More information

For more information and assistance, please contact:

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