



Western Australian Community Profiles 2011 Census Indonesia-born

Introduction

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

Indonesia-born community in Western Australia

Migration from Indonesia to Western Australia (WA) began in the 19th century with the arrival of Indonesian divers, mainly from Kupang, to work in the pearling industry. Between 1950 and 1970, 402 Indonesians arrived in WA mainly as international students under the Colombo Plan. Since the 1980s, migration from Indonesia has increased with the arrival of 1217 people between 1981 and 1990. Between 2001 and 2010, 4857 Indonesia-born people arrived in WA, mainly as students, skilled migrants or through Australia's Family Reunion migration program.

INDONESIA-BORN COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE

- There were 10,140 Indonesia-born in WA, a 29% increase since 2006 (from 7885).
- More than half (54%) of the Indonesia-born identified as having Indonesian ancestry and almost half (43%) as having Chinese ancestry.
- Almost half (48%) arrived in Western Australia between 2001 and 2010.
- There were more women (5826) than men (4314), with a sex ratio of 74 men for every 100 women.
- Almost half (46%) of the Indonesia-born were young adults aged between 25 and 44 years, and the smallest group was older people aged 65 years and over (7%).

- ▣ The median age of the Indonesia-born was 33 years.
- ▣ Almost three-quarters (73%) spoke English well and spoke a language other than English (LOTE) at home.
- ▣ The main languages spoken by the Indonesia-born were Indonesian (70%), Mandarin (6%) and Dutch (2%).
- ▣ Most (93%) lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area.
- ▣ Most (82%) of the Indonesia-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education, and more than half (58%) had a university (41%) or a technical qualification (17%).
- ▣ More than half were employed (58%) and more than one-third (36%) were not in the labour force.
- ▣ The Indonesia-born were mainly employed as professionals (25%), labourers (25%), technicians and trade workers (10%) and clerical and administrative workers (6%).
- ▣ More than half (58%) were middle or high income earners. Thirty-five per cent earned between \$300 and \$999 per week, and 23% earned \$1000 or more per week. One-fifth (20%) had no weekly income.
- ▣ Almost two-thirds (63%) of the Indonesia-born owned their home.
- ▣ Almost three-quarters (72%) of the Indonesia-born aged 25 years and over were married and half (50%) lived in a couple family with children.
- ▣ Almost one-fifth (19%) of the Indonesia-born aged 65 years and over required assistance with everyday living.

Migration, culture, ancestry, language and religion

In 2011, there were 10,140 Indonesia-born Western Australians, representing 0.4% of the State's total population. This group increased by 29% (from 7885) between 2006 and 2011. More than one-third (36%) were Australian citizens.

ARRIVAL

Almost half (48%) of the Indonesia-born arrived between 2001 and 2010. This compared with the State's total overseas-born population, of which 28% arrived during the same period.

AGE AND GENDER

The Indonesia-born population was composed of a larger proportion of young adults and a smaller proportion of children than the total WA population. In 2011, almost half (46%) of the Indonesia-born were young adults aged between 25 and 44 years, a larger proportion than in 2001 (37%) and compared with the total WA population (29%).

By contrast, one-tenth (10%) of the Indonesia-born were children aged between 0 and 14 years, which was comparable to 2001 (12%), but half the proportion of all Western Australians (20%).

Between 2001 and 2011, the proportion of young people aged between 15 and 24 years decreased (from 37% to 18%), but was comparable to the total WA population (14%). The proportions of adults aged between 45 and 64 years (20%) and older people aged over 65 years (7%) were stable, but smaller compared with those of all Western Australians (25% and 12%, respectively).

The median age for the Indonesia-born was 33 years, compared with 36 years for the total WA population.



Age and gender profile	Indonesia-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Age group	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
0–14 years	11.3	8.4	9.6	10.5	11.5	20.1	19.2	19.7
15–24 years	22.3	15.4	18.4	26.4	37.4	14.1	13.3	13.7
25–44 years	42.4	48.2	45.7	35.4	37.0	29.4	28.9	29.1
45–64 years	17.2	21.7	19.8	20.4	18.2	25.1	25.3	25.2
65+ years	6.8	6.3	6.5	7.4	5.9	11.3	13.2	12.3
All (number)	4314	5826	10140	7885	7660	1,126,177	1,112,994	2,239,171
Sex ratio	74.0			71.0	81.2	101.2		

In 2011, there were more Indonesia-born women than men. The sex ratio (number of men per 100 women) was estimated at 74. This was higher than in 2006 (71), but lower than in 2001 (81) and for the total WA population (101).

ANCESTRY

People who were born in Indonesia, who have one or both parents born there, or who were born elsewhere but have Indonesian ancestors, may identify that they have Indonesian ancestry. In 2011, more than half

(54%) of the Indonesia-born identified that they had Indonesian ancestry and more than one-third (43%) as having Chinese ancestry. Smaller proportions identified as having Dutch (5%), English (3%) and Australian (2%) ancestries. Most (97%) had one or both parents born overseas.

In 2011, small numbers and proportions of Western Australians and the Australia-born identified that they had Chinese (75,935 or 3%, and 17,523 or 1%, respectively) or Indonesian (8145 or 0.4%, and 2323 or 0.2%, respectively) ancestry.

Ancestry	Indonesia-born		WA population 2011	Australia-born 2011
	2011	2006		
Self-identified ancestry	Total %	Total %	Total %	Total %
Indonesian	53.8	46.0	0.4	0.2
Chinese	43.0	48.2	3.4	1.2
Dutch	4.9	6.6	2.0	2.1
English	2.5	2.7	37.9	41.3
Australian	2.4	2.9	32.3	49.6
One or both parents born overseas	96.8	96.5	56.2	35.2
Both parents born in Australia	2.1	0	43.8	64.8
One parent born in Australia	3.8	3.5	51.3	75.3

Language	Indonesia-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
English proficiency	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
English only	15.2	18.5	17.1	17.1	14.4	78.8	79.8	79.3
Other language and English; very well or well	73.3	72.3	72.7	72.7	74.6	12.4	12.7	12.5
Other language and English; not well or not at all	6.7	8.3	7.6	7.6	9.9	1.8	2.4	2.1
Main language spoken at home other than English (top two responses)*								
Indonesian	70.9	71.1	70.0	68.1	71.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Mandarin	5.8	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.1	1.2	1.3	1.3

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

LANGUAGES

In 2011, most (80%) Indonesia-born Western Australians reported speaking a language other than English (LOTE) at home, mainly Indonesian (70%), with smaller proportions speaking Mandarin (6%) and Dutch (2%). The proportion of languages other than English (LOTE) speakers had decreased since 2001 (85%).

In 2011, almost three-quarters (73%) of the Indonesia-born reported speaking a LOTE and speaking English well or very well; this was almost unchanged since 2001 (75%).

The proportion of people who spoke English only at home increased between 2001 and 2011 (from 14% to 17%). The proportion of the Indonesia-born (8%) who reported speaking a LOTE and English not well or not at all was relatively unchanged since 2001 (10%).

RELIGION

Between 2001 and 2011, there were decreases in the proportions of people affiliated with Christianity (from 60% to 55%) and Buddhism (from 12% to 8%), and an increase in the proportion of those who identified with Islam (from 16% to 23%). Other affiliations were stable. This trend was similar to the general trend for the total WA population in which identification with Christianity had decreased and identification with non-Christian religions had increased.



Geographic distribution

Between 2001 and 2011, the settlement pattern for Indonesia-born Western Australians remained stable. In 2011, most (95%) lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area and 5% lived in non-metropolitan areas. Compared with the Indonesia-born, a smaller proportion of 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 Indonesia-born lived mainly in the Local Government Areas of Canning (16%), Melville (16%) and Gosnells (11%).

Education

In 2011, most (82%) of the Indonesia-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education, a larger proportion than in 2001 (71%) and compared with the total WA population (48%).

Between 2001 and 2011, there was an increase in the proportion of the Indonesia-born with qualifications at degree/tertiary level (from 25% to 33%), while the proportion with advanced diploma, diploma and certificate level remained stable (17%). A larger proportion of the Indonesia-born (58%) held post-school qualifications compared with all Western Australians (45%). A larger proportion of Indonesia-born men (45%) than women (39%) had a degree/tertiary qualification.

A fraction (0.9%) of Indonesia-born Western Australians reported that they had not attended school, which was comparable to the total WA population (0.6%).

Educational attainment	Indonesia-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Degree/tertiary level	44.6	38.8	41.2	34.1	20.2	15.9	19.2	17.5
Advanced diploma/diploma/certificate	14.9	18.0	16.7	17.2	19.4	32.8	22.4	27.6
Completed Year 12/equivalent	81.6	81.4	81.5	78.5	71.2	46.2	49.4	47.8
Did not attend school	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	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, almost two-thirds (63%) of Indonesia-born Western Australians were in the labour force, a larger proportion than in 2001 (41%) and similar to the proportion of all Western Australians (64%).

Between 2001 and 2011, there was an increase in the proportion of the Indonesia-born who were employed (from 33% to 58%) and a decrease in the proportion not in the labour force (from 59% to 36%). The proportion employed was comparable to the total WA population (61%) while the proportion of people not in the labour force was larger (29%).

The rate of unemployment decreased (from 8% to 5%), and was comparable to the rate for all Western Australians (3%).

A larger proportion of Indonesia-born men (67%) than women (52%) were employed. The proportion of women not in the labour force was larger than that of men (42% and 27%, respectively). These gender-based trends reflect those for the total Western Australian population, of which more than two-thirds (67%) of men and more than half (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 Indonesia-born were mainly employed as professionals (25%), clerical and administrative workers (16%) and labourers (16%).¹ These occupation groups and rates were comparable to those for the total WA population, except that the proportions of Indonesia-born professionals (25% and 20%, respectively) and labourers (16% and 10%, respectively) were comparatively larger.

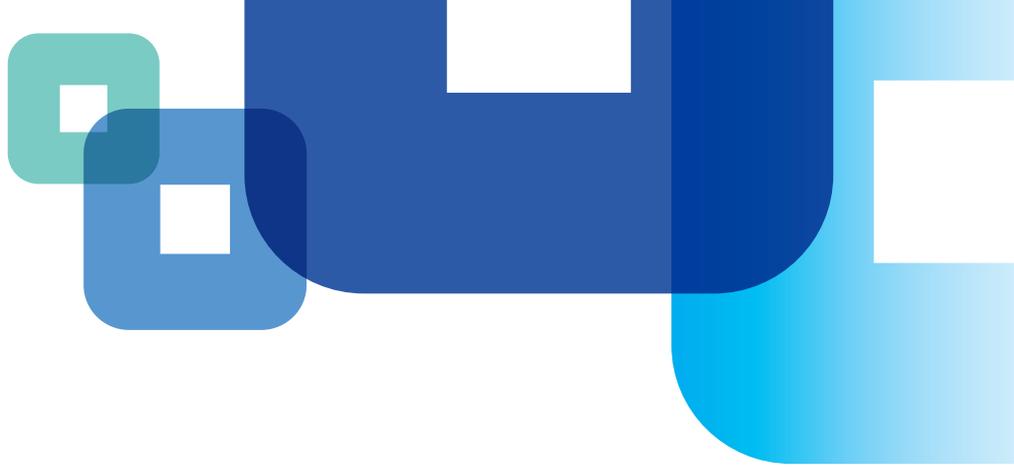
Indonesia-born men were mainly employed as professionals (29%), labourers (16%) and technicians and trade workers (14%). Indonesia-born women were mainly employed as professionals (21%), clerical and administrative workers (20%) and labourers (17%).

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

In 2011, 11% of the Indonesia-born were small or medium business owners. This was a smaller proportion than in 2006 (15%) and compared with the total WA population (15%).

Labour force	Indonesia-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	2001	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Employed	67.0	51.8	58.2	51.4	33.1	66.7	55.3	61.0
Unemployed	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.4	7.8	3.2	2.9	3.0
Not in the labour force	27.2	42.4	36.0	42.8	58.6	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	Indonesia-born					WA population 2011		
	2011			2006*	2001**	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
None	13.8	23.9	19.7	23.4	26.7	5.6	9.8	7.7
< \$300	11.6	21.3	17.3	21.8	34.4	11.7	19.8	15.7
\$300–\$999	33.6	35.9	34.9	39.6	27.3	29.3	41.9	35.6
\$1000 or more	33.9	15.9	23.4	9.9	4.5	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.

Almost two-thirds (62%) of businesses owned by the Indonesia-born employed between one and 19 people, one-third (34%) were self-managed, and the remainder (4%) employed 20 or more people. A larger proportion of Indonesia-born men (13%) than women (9%) were business owners.

INCOME

In 2011, more than one-third (35%) of the Indonesia-born were middle-income earners with a weekly income between \$300 and \$999, a larger proportion than in 2001 (27%), but comparable to all Western Australians (36%).

The proportion of Indonesia-born Western Australians earning \$1000 or more per week (24%) was almost five times larger than in 2001 (5%), but was smaller compared with the total WA population (32%). By contrast, the proportion of people earning less than \$300 per week decreased (from 34% to 17%), but was comparable to the WA figure (16%).

One-fifth (20%) of the Indonesia-born were without a weekly income, and although this proportion was smaller than in 2001 (27%), it was two-and-a-half times larger than the WA figure (8%).

Almost equal proportions of Indonesia-born women (36%) and men (34%) were middle income earners. A larger proportion of men (34%) than women (16%) were high income earners. The proportion of women (21%) earning a low income was larger than that of men (12%).

HOUSING

In 2011, almost two-thirds (63%) of the Indonesia-born owned their home, which was the same proportion for all Western Australians (63%).

More than one-quarter (26%) lived in a home they fully owned and more than one-third (36%) lived in a home they were purchasing. Both were comparable to the proportions of all Western Australians (24% and 39%, respectively). Likewise, comparable proportions of the Indonesia-born and all Western Australians were living in rental accommodation (28% and 26%, respectively).

Family

MARITAL STATUS

In 2011, almost three-quarters (72%) of the Indonesia-born aged 25 years and over were married. This was comparable to 2006 (73%), but larger compared with the proportion of the total WA population (58%). Comparable proportions of Indonesia-born men and women were married (71% and 73%, respectively).

Between 2006 and 2011, the proportions of Indonesia-born people who were widowed (6%), divorced or separated (5%), or who had never been married (16%) were relatively stable. The proportions of Indonesia-born people who had never married, or who were divorced or separated were smaller compared with those of the total WA population (23% and 14%, respectively), while the proportion who were widowed was similar (6%).

FAMILY COMPOSITION

In 2011, half (50%) of the Indonesia-born lived in couple families with children. This proportion was almost unchanged since 2006 (47%) and comparable to the total WA population (45%).

A smaller proportion of the Indonesia-born (18%) were living in couple families without children, which was comparable to 2006 (17%) and with the proportion of all Western Australians (20%).

The proportion of the Indonesia-born living in one-parent families was relatively stable between 2006 and 2011 (around 9%) and was comparable to the total WA population (10%). The proportion of women (10%) living in one-parent families was double that of men (5%).

Registered marital status (25+ years)	Indonesia-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %			
Married	71.2	72.7	72.1	73.3	59.0	57.1	58.1
Widowed	1.0	9.9	6.4	4.4	2.3	8.8	5.6
Divorced/separated	5.1	5.4	5.3	8.2	12.3	14.9	13.6
Never married	22.6	12.0	16.2	14.0	26.3	19.2	22.7
Family composition (all ages)							
Couple family with children	47.9	51.0	49.7	46.9	45.0	44.7	44.8
Couple family without children	15.9	19.6	17.7	16.7	19.4	20.3	19.8
One-parent family	5.3	9.7	7.8	9.5	7.8	12.0	9.9



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

In 2011, half (50%) of the Indonesia-born lived with a spouse or partner, comparable to 2006 (46%) but a larger proportion compared with the total WA population (42%). Larger proportions of women were living with a spouse (55%) or alone (12%) than men (45% and 7%, respectively).

Between 2006 and 2011, there was a decrease in the proportion of Indonesia-born people living with other family or non-family members (from 33% to 19%), which was smaller compared with the total WA population (34%). A larger proportion of Indonesia-born men (34%) than women (8%) had this type of living arrangement.

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 similar proportions of Indonesia-born women (19%) and men (17%) aged 65 years and over required such assistance. For all other age groups the proportion was around one per cent. The proportion of Indonesia-born older people requiring assistance was comparable with the total WA population in the same age group (18% of women and 13% of men).

In 2011, 6% of the Indonesia-born aged 15 years and over was providing unpaid care and/or assistance to a family member, comparable to the rate for the total WA population (9%).

More information

For more information and assistance, please contact:

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