



Western Australian Community Profiles 2011 Census

Kenya-born

Introduction

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

Kenya-born community in Western Australia

The Kenya-born community can be classified as one that is new and emerging. New and emerging communities are those with relatively small populations of which the majority of members arrived after 1991. Although a small community established itself in Western Australia (WA) before 1990, the majority of Kenya-born people arrived in the last 20 years.

KENYA-BORN COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE

- There were 4397 Kenya-born people in WA in 2011, a larger number than in 2006 (3006).
- There were 720 Western Australians with Kenyan ancestry.
- More than half (56%) arrived in WA between 2001 and 2010.
- There were more men (2240) than women (2157), with a sex ratio of 104 men for every 100 women.
- More than one-third (36%) of the Kenya-born were young adults aged between 25 and 44 years. Older people aged 65 years and over were the smallest group (7%).
- Almost two-thirds (60%) spoke English well and spoke a language other than English (LOTE) at home.
- The main languages spoken by the Kenya-born were Gujarati (57%) and Swahili (36%).
- Most (92%) of the Kenya-born lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area.

- ▣ More than three-quarters (81%) of the Kenya-born aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education. Two-thirds had a university (39%) or technical (26%) qualification.
- ▣ Almost three-quarters (72%) of the Kenya-born were employed and less than one-quarter (23%) were not in the labour force.
- ▣ The Kenya-born were employed mainly as professionals (32%), clerical and administrative workers (14%), managers (13%), and community and personal service workers (13%).
- ▣ More than one-third (35%) were middle income earners with a weekly income of between \$300 and \$999, and a similar proportion (37%) had a weekly income of \$1000 or more.
- ▣ More than half (57%) owned their home.
- ▣ Two-thirds (66%) of people aged 25 years and over were married and almost half (47%) lived in a couple family with children.
- ▣ One-tenth (11%) of Kenya-born Western Australians aged 65 years and over required assistance with everyday living.

Migration, culture, ancestry, language and religion

In 2011, there were 4397 Kenya-born Western Australians, representing 0.2 per cent of the State's total population which was a 46 per cent increase since 2006 (3006). Almost two-thirds (59%) were Australian citizens.

ARRIVAL

More than half (56%) of Kenya-born people arrived in WA between 2001 and 2010. This compares with the State's total overseas-born population of which 28 per cent arrived during the same period.

AGE AND GENDER

The Kenya-born population is composed of a larger proportion of young adults, and smaller proportions of children and older people, compared with the total WA population. In 2011, more than one-third (36%) of the Kenya-born were aged between 25 and 44 years, a slightly larger proportion than in 2006 (31%) and compared with the total WA population (29%).

One-quarter (26%) of the Kenya-born were aged between 45 and 64 years. This was comparable to 2006 (30%) and also to the total WA population (25%).

Smaller proportions of the Kenya-born were aged 65 years and over (7%) and between 0 and 14 years (12%). These were unchanged since 2006 (7% and 13%, respectively), but were smaller compared with the total WA population (12% and 29%, respectively).

In 2011, there were more Kenya-born men than women. The sex ratio (number of men per 100 women) was 104. This was lower than in 2006 (107), but higher compared with the total WA population (101).



Age and gender profile	Kenya-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
Age group	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
0–14 years	12.6	12.2	12.4	12.7	20.1	19.2	19.7
15–24 years	18.1	19.0	18.6	19.2	14.1	13.2	13.6
25–44 years	35.0	37.6	36.2	31.2	29.4	29.0	29.2
45–64 years	26.9	24.8	25.9	29.8	25.1	25.3	25.2
65+ years	7.4	6.4	6.9	7.1	11.3	13.3	12.3
All (number)	2240	2157	4397	3006	1,126,178	1,112,993	2,239,171
Sex ratio			103.8	107.2			101.2

ANCESTRY

People born in Kenya, who have one or both parents born there, or who were born elsewhere but have Kenyan ancestors, may identify that they have Kenyan ancestry. In 2011, 16 per cent of the Kenya-born identified that they had Kenyan ancestry. Larger proportions of the Kenya-born identified that they had Indian (37%) or English (20%) ancestry.

Small numbers (1007) of the WA population and the Australia-born (220) identified as having Kenyan ancestry.

Ancestry	Kenya-born		WA population 2011	Australia-born 2011
	2011	2006		
Self-identified ancestry	Total %	Total %	Total %	Total %
Indian	36.6	35.3	1.3	0.6
English	20.0	27.6	37.9	41.3
Kenyan	16.7	14.1	0.0*	0.0*
Scottish	4.8	6.1	8.3	9.2
Somali	2.6	1.5	0.1	0.0*
One or both parents born overseas	97.4	97.9	56.2	35.2
Both parents born in Australia	0.5	N/A	43.8	64.8
One parent born in Australia	1.0	67	51.3	75.3

*The proportions are listed as zero because of the small numbers identifying with these ancestries.

Language	Kenya-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
English proficiency	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
English only	38.6	37.6	38.1	46.1	78.7	79.9	79.3
Other language and English; very well or well	59.9	60.0	59.9	50.6	12.3	12.7	12.5
Other language and English; not well or not at all	1.5	2.4	1.9	1.1	1.8	2.4	2.1
Main language spoken at home other than English (top two responses)*							
Gujarati	58.7	55.5	57.1	61.7	0.2	0.2	0.2
Swahili	36.6	40.7	38.6	35.5	0.1	0.1	0.1

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

LANGUAGES

In 2011, almost two-thirds (62%) of Kenya-born Western Australians reported speaking a language other than English (LOTE) at home, mainly Gujarati (57%) and Swahili (39%).

In 2011, almost two-thirds (60%) of Kenya-born Western Australians reported speaking a LOTE and speaking English very well or well. This was a larger proportion than in 2006 (51%). More than one-third (38%) of the Kenya-born reported speaking only English at home.

A small proportion of the Kenya-born (2%) reported speaking a LOTE and English not well or not at all, which was relatively unchanged since 2006 (1%).

RELIGION

In 2011, almost half (47%) of Kenya-born Western Australians reported their affiliation with Christianity and almost one-quarter with Hinduism (23%). Smaller proportions identified with Jainism (8%) and Islam (8%) or as having no religion (7%). This trend was relatively unchanged since 2006 but was different compared with the total WA population, for which identification with Christianity had decreased and identification with non-Christian religions, or as having no religion, had increased.



Geographic distribution

Between 2006 and 2011, the settlement pattern for Kenya-born Western Australians was unchanged. Most (92%) lived in the Greater Perth Metropolitan Area and the remainder (8%) lived in non-metropolitan areas. Compared with the Kenya-born, a smaller proportion of the total Western Australian population 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 Kenya-born lived mainly in the Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Stirling (17%), Wanneroo (15%) and Joondalup (11%).

Education

In 2011, more than three-quarters (81%) of Kenya-born people aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or an equivalent level of education. This was comparable to 2006 (79%), but larger compared with the total WA population (48%).

Between 2006 and 2011, the proportion of the Kenya-born with qualifications at degree/tertiary level increased (from 33% to 39%), while the proportion with qualifications at advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level remained almost unchanged (29% and 26%, respectively). A larger proportion of the Kenya-born held post-school qualifications (65%) compared with the total WA population (45%).

The proportion of Kenya-born people who had not attended school (0.3%) was comparable to the total WA population (0.6%).

Educational attainment	Kenya-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Degree/tertiary level	41.4	36.1	38.8	33.1	15.9	19.2	17.5
Advanced diploma/diploma/certificate	24.8	27.4	26.0	28.8	32.8	22.4	27.6
Completed Year 12/equivalent	82.0	80.1	81.0	79.1	46.2	49.4	47.8
Did not attend school	0.2	0.4	0.3	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, three-quarters (76%) of Kenya-born Western Australians were in the labour force, a larger proportion compared with the total WA population (64%).

Between 2006 and 2011, the proportion of Kenya-born people who were employed remained unchanged (72%) but was larger compared with the total WA population (61%). The proportions of the Kenya-born unemployed (4%) and not in the labour force (23%) were also stable. The rate of unemployment was comparable but the proportion not in the labour force was larger compared with the total WA population (3% and 29%, respectively).

Labour force	Kenya-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Employed	77.3	67.2	72.3	72.4	66.7	55.3	61.0
Unemployed	4.1	4.5	4.3	3.4	3.2	2.9	3.0
Not in the labour force	18.0	27.4	22.6	23.6	22.7	36.1	29.4

A larger proportion of Kenya-born men (77%) than women (67%) were employed. A larger proportion of women (27%) than men (18%) were not in the labour force. These gender-based trends reflect those for the total WA population, although the proportion of Western Australian women in the labour force (55%) was smaller, and the proportion not in the labour force (36%) was larger, compared with the Kenya-born.

OCCUPATION

The Kenya-born were employed mainly as professionals (32%), clerical and administrative workers (14%), managers (13%), and community and personal service workers (13%). Similar proportions of the WA population were employed as clerical and administrative workers (14%), and managers (12%). The proportion of Kenya-born professionals (32%) was larger compared with the total WA population (20%).

Kenya-born men were mainly employed as professionals (30%), managers (18%), and technicians and trade workers (11%). Kenya-born women were mainly employed as professionals (34%), clerical and administrative workers (20%), and community and personal service workers (19%).

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

In 2011, 16 per cent of the Kenya-born were small or medium business owners, comparable to the total WA population (15%).

Almost two-thirds (61%) of the businesses owned by the Kenya-born employed between one and 19 people, 29 per cent were self-managed and 10 per cent employed 20 or more people. A larger proportion of Kenya-born men (20%) than women (10%) were small business owners.



Weekly income	Kenya-born				WA population 2011		
	2011			2006*	Male %	Female %	Total %
Population (15+ years)	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
None	7.6	13.5	10.5	10.9	6.2	10.5	8.3
<\$300	12.2	17.3	14.7	17.4	11.1	19.2	15.1
\$300—999	30.7	39.0	34.8	44.6	29.3	41.6	35.6
\$1000 or more	46.5	26.7	36.9	24.7	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.

INCOME

In 2011, more than one-third (37%) of Kenya-born people were high income earners with a weekly income of \$1000 or more. This was a larger proportion than in 2006 (25%) and compared with the total WA population (32%). A similar proportion (35%) of the Kenya-born were middle income earners with a weekly income of between \$300 and \$999, smaller than in 2006 (45%), but comparable to the total WA population (37%).

The proportions of the Kenya-born earning less than \$300 per week and who did not have a weekly income were relatively unchanged between 2006 and 2011 (15% and 11%, respectively), and were comparable to the total WA population (16% and 8%, respectively).

A larger proportion of Kenya-born men (47%) than women (27%) were high income earners.

HOUSING

In 2011, more than half (57%) of the Kenya-born owned their home compared with almost two-thirds (63%) of all Western Australians.

Almost one-quarter of Kenya-born people (23%) lived in a home they full owned, comparable to the total WA population (24%). One-third (34%) lived in a home they were purchasing, a smaller proportion compared with the total WA population (39%).

More than one-third (37%) of Kenya-born Western Australians were living in rental accommodation, a larger proportion compared with the total WA population (26%).

Family

MARITAL STATUS

In 2011, two-thirds (66%) of the Kenya-born aged 25 years and over were married. This was comparable to 2006 but larger compared with the total WA population (58%).

The proportions of the Kenya-born widowed (3%), divorced or separated (7%), and who had never married (23%) were almost unchanged since 2006. The comparative proportions for all Western Australians were six per cent, 14 per cent and 23 per cent, respectively.

FAMILY COMPOSITION

In 2011, almost half (47%) of Kenya-born Western Australians lived in couple families with children, more than double the proportion of those living in couple families without children (21%). Both proportions had decreased since 2006 (69% and 30%, respectively), but were comparable to the total WA population (45% and 20%, respectively).

In 2011, a small proportion (8%) of Kenya-born people lived in one-parent families, comparable to 2006 (12%) and also to the total WA population (10%).

Registered marital status (25+ years)	Kenya-born			WA population 2011			
	2011		2006				
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Married	67.4	63.7	65.6	65.3	59.0	57.1	58.1
Widowed	1.3	4.5	2.9	3.5	2.3	8.8	5.6
Divorced/separated	7.8	8.9	8.3	10.3	12.3	14.9	13.6
Never married	23.5	22.4	23.0	20.6	26.3	19.2	22.7
Family composition (all ages)							
Couple with children	46.6	47.0	46.8	68.4	19.4	20.3	19.8
Couple without children	21.1	19.9	20.5	29.9	45.0	44.7	44.8
One-parent family	6.9	9.9	8.4	12.3	7.8	12.0	9.9



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

In 2011, half (50%) of the Kenya-born lived with a spouse or partner, this was almost unchanged since 2006 (48%).

Between 2006 and 2011, the proportions of Kenya-born people living with other family or non-family members (33%) and not living at home (10%) were almost unchanged. The comparative proportions for the total WA population were 38 per cent and eight per cent, respectively.

The proportion of the Kenya-born living alone (9%) was comparable to all Western Australians (12%).

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, 11 per cent of the Kenya-born aged 65 years and over required assistance with everyday living; this was smaller compared with the proportion of all Western Australians of the same age (16%). The proportion of Kenya-born older women (16%) who required such assistance was more than double that of older men (7%). Less than two per cent of all other age groups required assistance.

The proportion of Kenya-born people aged 15 years and over (9%) providing unpaid care and/or assistance to a family member was the same as for the total WA population (9%).

More information

For more information and assistance, please contact:

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