



# Western Australian Community Profiles 2006 Census

## Greece-born

### Population

---

**The community of Greece-born Western Australians arrived mainly during the 1950s and 1960s. The population of Greece-born people is decreasing in size. In 2006, there were 3034 Greece-born people in Western Australia, 12% less than in 1996. In 2006, Greece-born people represented approximately 0.15% of the total WA population.\***

Greece-born Western Australians were older compared with the total WA population. Nearly half (48%) of Greece-born people were aged 65 years and over, and more than one-third (36%) were aged 45–64, compared with 12% and 25.2%, respectively, for the total WA population. The cohorts of Greece-born people aged below 15 years (1.2%), 15–24 (2.3%) and 25–44 (12.1%) were small, and much smaller compared with the total WA population (20%, 14.2% and 28.5%, respectively).

These statistics reflect the ageing of Greece-born Western Australians with a decrease in the cohort aged 45–64 (from 42.7% to 36.2%) and an increase in the cohort aged 65 or older (from 42.1% to 48.1%) between 2001 and 2006.

Women outnumbered men in all but the 0–14 and 44–64 cohorts. The sex ratio (number of males per 100 females) for the Greece-born community was estimated at 98, lower than in 2001 (103.6) but comparable to the total WA population (99.5).

### Family pattern

---

In 2006, more than one third (38.6%) of Greece-born Western Australians lived in couple families without children, a similar percentage to 2001 (35.6%), and almost double that of the total WA population (19.4%). The percentage of Greece-born people living in couple families with children was 14.9%, less than half compared with 2001 (36.3%), and for the total WA population (38.5%) in 2006. The proportion of one-parent families was slightly less (7.2%) than for the total WA population (10%). Women (10.6%) were three times more likely than men (3.7%) to fall into this category.

### Geographic distribution


---

Settlement patterns for Greece-born Western Australians remained consistent between 2001 and 2006. The majority (93%) of Greece-born people lived in the Perth Statistical Division (SD). Local Government Areas (LGAs) with significant or relatively higher concentrations of Greece-born people were Stirling (36.2%), Vincent (9.7%) and Bayswater (7.9%). The largest Greece-born community outside of Perth was in the South West SD (3.6%).

### Religious affiliation

---

Greece-born Western Australians were more likely to identify with a religion compared with the total WA population. More than 90% of Greece-born people



identified Christianity as their religion, while only 3% identified 'no religion', compared with 59% and 22.6%, respectively, for the total WA population. The proportion of Greece-born people who identified with Islam increased between 2001 and 2006 (from 0.4% to 1.1%) which is comparable to the total WA population (1.2%).

## Languages

---

The majority (81%) of Greece-born Western Australians spoke a language other than English at home. Of these, most (61%) reported speaking English well or very well, with a smaller proportion (18.6%) reporting they spoke English not well or not at all. Greek and Macedonian were most common languages other than English spoken at home. Greece-born women were twice more likely than Greece-born men (25.4% compared with 11.7%) to report speaking English not well or not at all. The proportion of Greece-born Western Australians speaking only English at home increased between 2001 and 2006 (from 14.1% to 19%).

## Education

---

The most common qualification held by Greece-born Western Australians was an advanced diploma, diploma or certificate (16.5%), less than for the total WA population (24.7%). A small proportion of Greece-born adults had obtained a bachelor or higher degree and higher qualification (6.6%), less than half that of the total WA population (14.3%). Greece-born men were more likely than Greece-born women to have advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level qualifications (24.7% compared with 8.5%). This gender difference was higher than for the total WA population (30.3% and 19.2%, respectively). The proportion of Greece-born Western Australians who did not attend school was significantly higher (9.5%) than the total WA population (0.6%), with Greece-born women more likely than Greece-born men to have not attended school (11.8% compared with 7.2%).

## Employment

---

A majority (61%) of Greece-born Western Australians was not in the labour force and one-third (33.7%) were employed, compared with 30.3% and 59.1%, respectively, for the total WA population. This difference is most likely to be a result of the older age structure of the Greece-born community. Unemployment was lower (1.4%) compared with the total WA population (2.3%). Greece-born women were more likely than Greece-born men (70.6% compared with 51.3%) not to be in the labour force. These figures are high compared with the total WA population (37.4% compared with 23.2%), but reflect a similar trend of gender difference. Similarly, almost twice as many Greece-born men were employed than women (42.9% compared with 24.6%).

Greece-born men were mainly employed as professionals and managers (34%) and technicians and trade Workers (23.7%). Women were mainly employed as professionals and managers (29.4%), administrative and clerical workers (21.8%) and labourers (14%).

## Income

---

Between 2001 and 2006, the proportion of Greece-born Western Australians earning between \$250 and \$999 per week increased (from 29.8% to 41.5%), comparable to the total WA population (43.2%). The percentage of Greece-born people earning more than \$1000 also increased (from 6.4% to 12.4%), but this was lower than for the total WA population (20%). Greece-born men were more likely to earn more than \$1000 per week than Greece-born women (19.9% compared with 6%). The proportion of Greece-born Western Australians earning less than \$250 a week decreased between 2001 and 2006 (from 53.9% to 35.6%), but remained higher than the rate for the total WA population (19.2%). The proportion earning no weekly income (4.9%) was similar to the total WA population (6.4%) with women (7.4%) more likely than men (2.5%) to be in this category.

## Summary table

Variables	Greece-born 2006			Greece-born 2001	Total Western Australian population 2006		
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
<b>AGE GROUP /GENDER</b>							
0–14	1.4	1.0	1.2	0.9	20.6	19.5	20.0
15–24	2.1	2.6	2.3	1.4	14.6	13.8	14.2
25–44	11.3	12.9	12.1	12.8	28.4	28.5	28.5
45–64	39.3	33.2	36.2	42.7	25.4	25.1	25.2
65+	46.0	50.2	48.1	42.1	11.0	13.1	12.0
All (Number)	1508	1526	3034		990,642	995,607	1,986,249
Sex-ratio			98	103.6			99.5
<b>FAMILY TYPE</b>							
Couple family without children	41.9	34.9	38.4	35.6	19.2	19.6	19.4
Couple family with children	16.6	13.1	14.9	36.3	38.7	38.3	38.5
One-parent family	3.7	10.6	7.2	7.1	7.9	12.1	10.0
<b>LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY</b>							
Speaks English only	22.3	15.8	19.0	14.1	80.6	81.3	80.9
Speaks other language and English; very well or well	64.5	57.6	61.0	63.1	9.6	9.9	9.8
Speaks other language and English; not well or not at all	11.7	25.4	18.6	20.9	1.5	2.0	1.7
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (15 YEARS AND OVER)</b>							
Degree level	7.3	5.9	6.6	4.7	13.4	15.1	14.3
Advanced diploma/diploma/ certificate	24.7	8.5	16.5	14.9	30.3	19.2	24.7
Completed Year 12 schooling	28.3	20.3	24.2	18.9	40.8	42.9	41.8
Did not attend school	7.2	11.8	9.5	9.8	0.5	0.7	0.6
<b>LABOUR FORCE (15 YEARS AND OVER)</b>							
Employed	42.9	24.6	33.7	32.8	65.5	52.7	59.1
Unemployed	1.7	1.1	1.4	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.3
Not in LF	51.3	70.6	61.0	61.7	23.2	37.4	30.3
<b>WEEKLY INCOME (15 YEARS AND OVER)</b>							
None	2.5	7.4	4.9	4.3	4.6	8.1	6.4
<\$250	31.6	39.5	35.6	53.9	13.8	24.4	19.2
<\$1000	42.2	40.9	41.5	29.8	39.7	46.7	43.2
\$1000 and more	18.9	6.0	12.4	6.4	29.9	10.4	20.0

Note: Totals do not always add up to 100% because of the use of selected indicators.

\* The 2006 Census recorded a total WA population of 1,959,095 people.

\*\* For 2001, the cut-off point was \$299.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001 and 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

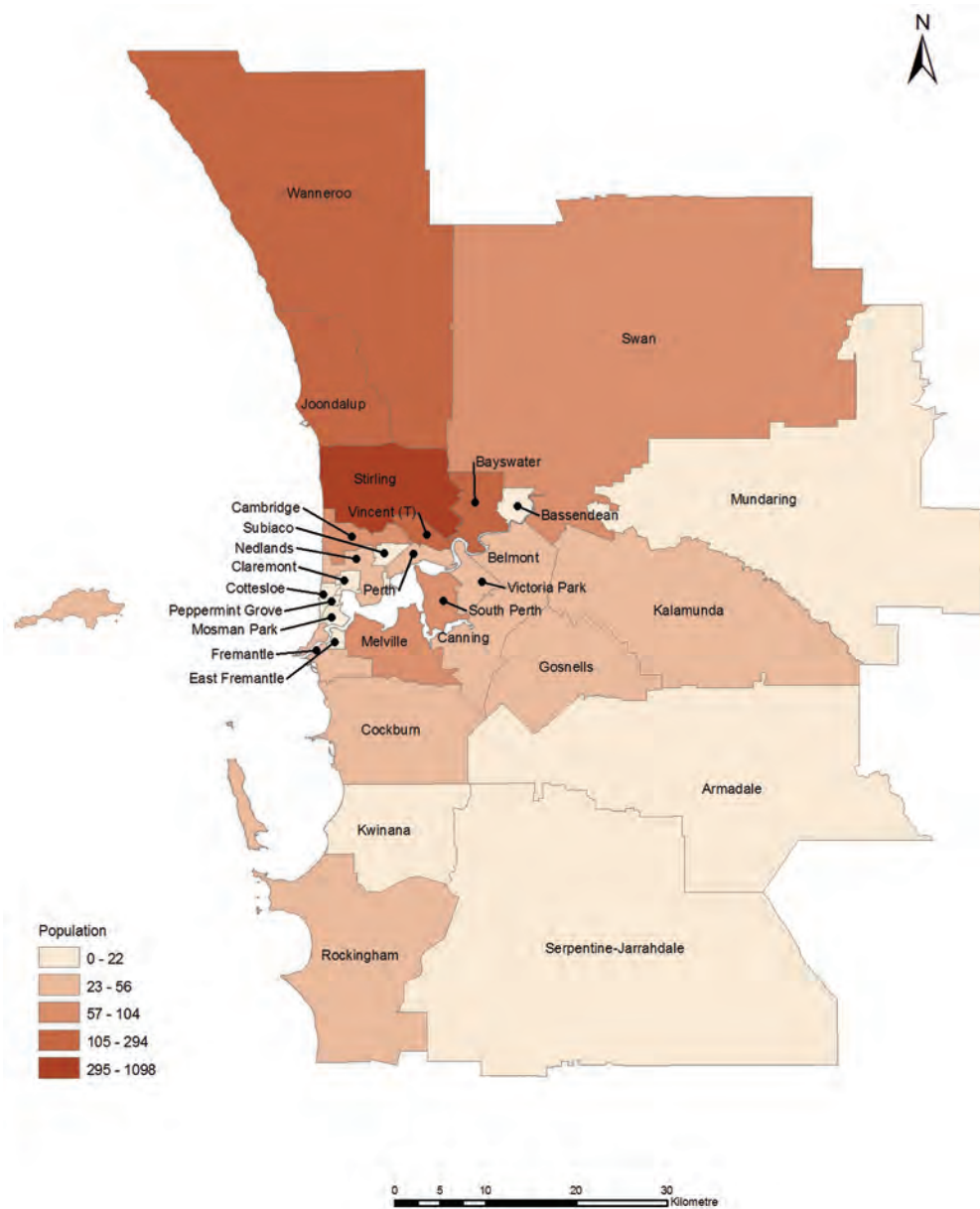


Figure 1: Distribution of Greece-born people by settlement pattern in the LGAs of the Perth Metropolitan Area (Data source: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing).