



Western Australian Community Profiles 2006 Census

Germany-born

Population

The community of Germany-born Western Australians was established at the end of World War II and numbered 10,007 in 2006, slightly less than in 2001 (10,017 people). In 2006, Germany-born people represented approximately 0.5% of the total WA population.*

Germany-born Western Australians are older compared with the total WA population. In 2006, almost half (46.3%) were aged 45–64 and 23.8% were aged 65 and over. For the total WA population, the figures were 25.2% and 12%, respectively. The proportion of those in the younger age cohorts was low with 2.9% aged below 15 and 4% aged 15–24. This was significantly lower than the total WA population of which more than one third (34.2%) were aged under-25.

Women outnumbered men in all age cohorts and the sex ratio (number of males per 100 females) was estimated at 83, much lower than the total WA population (99.5).

Family pattern

More than one third (37%) of Germany-born Western Australians lived as couple families without children. This was slightly more than in 2001 (33.8%). The percentage of people living as couple families with

children was 20.4% in 2006, compared with 31.2% in 2001. The proportion of one-parent families also fell slightly between 2001 (7.25%) and 2006 (6.5%). There is a notable contrast between Germany-born people and the total WA population in which 38.5% of people lived in couple families with children, 19.4% in couple families without children and 10% in one-parent families.

Geographical distribution

Between 2001 and 2006, the settlement pattern for Germany-born Western Australians remained consistent, with a little over three-quarters (76.1%) living within the Perth Statistical Division (SD). Local Government Areas (LGAs) recording relatively higher concentrations of Germany-born people were Stirling (9.6%), Joondalup (8.7%), Wanneroo (5.1%), Swan and Melville (each 4.3%). Nearly a quarter of Germany-born people (23.9%) were living outside the Perth SD with the heaviest concentration in the South West SD (9%).

Religious affiliation

The majority of Germany-born Western Australians identified Christianity as their religion (68.8%), slightly less than in 2001 (70.5%). The proportion reporting having no religion (21%) was also slightly higher than in 2001 (17.8%).



Languages

In 2006, over half of Germany-born Western Australians reported speaking only English at home (55%). Of the 45% of people who spoke German at home, 42.6% reported speaking English well or very well, almost the same as in 2001 (42.5%). Only a very small proportion (1.3%) reported speaking English not well or not at all.

Education

The most common qualification of Germany-born Western Australians was advanced diploma, diploma or certificate (35.7%), higher than the rate for total WA adults (24.7%). Similar to the total WA adult population, more Germany-born men (47%) than women (25.9%) were qualified at this level. The rates of Germany-born men and women with degree level qualifications were similar (17.1%), representing an increase since 2001 (13.5%) and higher than for the total WA adult population (14.3%). A very small proportion of Germany-born people (0.2%) did not go to school. This was lower than the proportion for the total WA adult population (0.6%).

Employment

In 2006, a majority of Germany-born Western Australians (53.5%) was employed and only 1.9% was unemployed. This was comparable to the total WA population (59.1% and 2.3%, respectively). However, the proportion of Germany-born people who were not in the labour force was much higher (42.5%) than that of WA adults (30.3%). Germany-born adult men (45.9%) were twice more likely to be employed on a full-time basis than Germany-born adult women (21.9%).

Germany-born women were more than twice as likely (20%) to be in part-time work as Germany-born men

(9%). More women (48.8%) than men (35.1%) were not in the labour force. These gender related differences were similar in the overall WA population in which women were more likely not to be in the labour force than men (37.4% compared with 24.2%) while men were twice as likely as women to be in full-time employment (50.2% compared with 24.5%).

Germany-born men were mainly employed as professionals and managers (38.4%) and technicians and trade workers (26.9%). Germany-born women were also mainly employed as professionals and managers (34.5%) as well as administrative and clerical workers (24.7%) and community and personal service workers (15.4%).

Income

The weekly incomes of Germany-born Western Australians were similar to that of the total WA adult population with the majority (47%) earning between \$250 and \$999, and 20% earning \$1000 or more per week. Since 2001, the proportion of people earning \$1000 or more almost doubled and the proportion of people earning less than \$250 per week declined by 15%.

Germany-born men were almost three times as likely (30.8%) as Germany-born women (10.7%) to earn more than \$1000. Women were more likely (8.3%) than men (3.6%) to earn no weekly income or less than \$250 (27% and 16.9%, respectively). These figures are very similar to those for the total WA population in which men (29.9%) were more likely than women (10.4%) to earn \$1000 or more per week, and women (8.1%) were more likely than men (4.6%) to receive no weekly income or to earn less than \$250 (24.4% and 13.8%, respectively).

Summary table

Variables	Germany-born 2006			Germany-born 2001	Total Western Australian population 2006		
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
AGE GROUP /GENDER							
0–14	2.8	3.0	2.9	3.0	20.6	19.5	20.0
15–24	4.2	3.8	4.0	4.9	14.6	13.8	14.2
25–44	21.7	24.0	23.0	21.9	28.4	28.5	28.5
45–64	49.2	43.9	46.3	50.3	25.4	25.1	25.2
65+	22.1	25.2	23.8	19.8	11.0	13.1	12.0
All (number)	4649	5358	10007	10017	990,642	995,607	1,986,249
Sex-ratio			83	91.2			99.5
FAMILY TYPE							
Couple family without children	38.0	35.9	36.9	33.8	19.2	19.6	19.4
Couple family with children	20.5	20.3	20.4	31.2	38.7	38.3	38.5
One-parent family	4.4	8.3	6.5	7.2	7.9	12.1	10.0
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY							
Speaks English only	58.5	52.7	55.4	55.5	80.6	81.3	80.9
Speaks other language and English; very well or well	39.8	45.0	42.6	42.5	9.6	9.9	9.8
Speaks other language and English; not well or not at all	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.7
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (15 YEARS AND OVER)							
Degree level	17.2	17.0	17.1	13.5	13.4	15.1	14.3
Advanced diploma/diploma/certificate	47.0	25.9	35.7	35.9	30.3	19.2	24.7
Completed Year 12 schooling	46.2	46.1	46.1	41.5	40.8	42.9	41.8
Did not attend school	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.6
LABOUR FORCE (15 YEARS AND OVER)							
Employed	60.9	47.1	53.5	52.7	65.5	52.7	59.1
Unemployed	2.2	1.5	1.9	4.1	2.4	2.2	2.3
Not in LF	35.1	48.8	42.5	41.5	23.2	37.4	30.3
WEEKLY INCOME (15 YEARS AND OVER)							
None	3.6	8.3	6.1	6.3	4.6	8.1	6.4
<\$250	16.9	27.0	22.3	36.9	13.8	24.4	19.2
<\$1000	44.5	49.2	47.0	41.6	39.7	46.7	43.2
\$1000 and more	30.8	10.7	20.0	10.8	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.

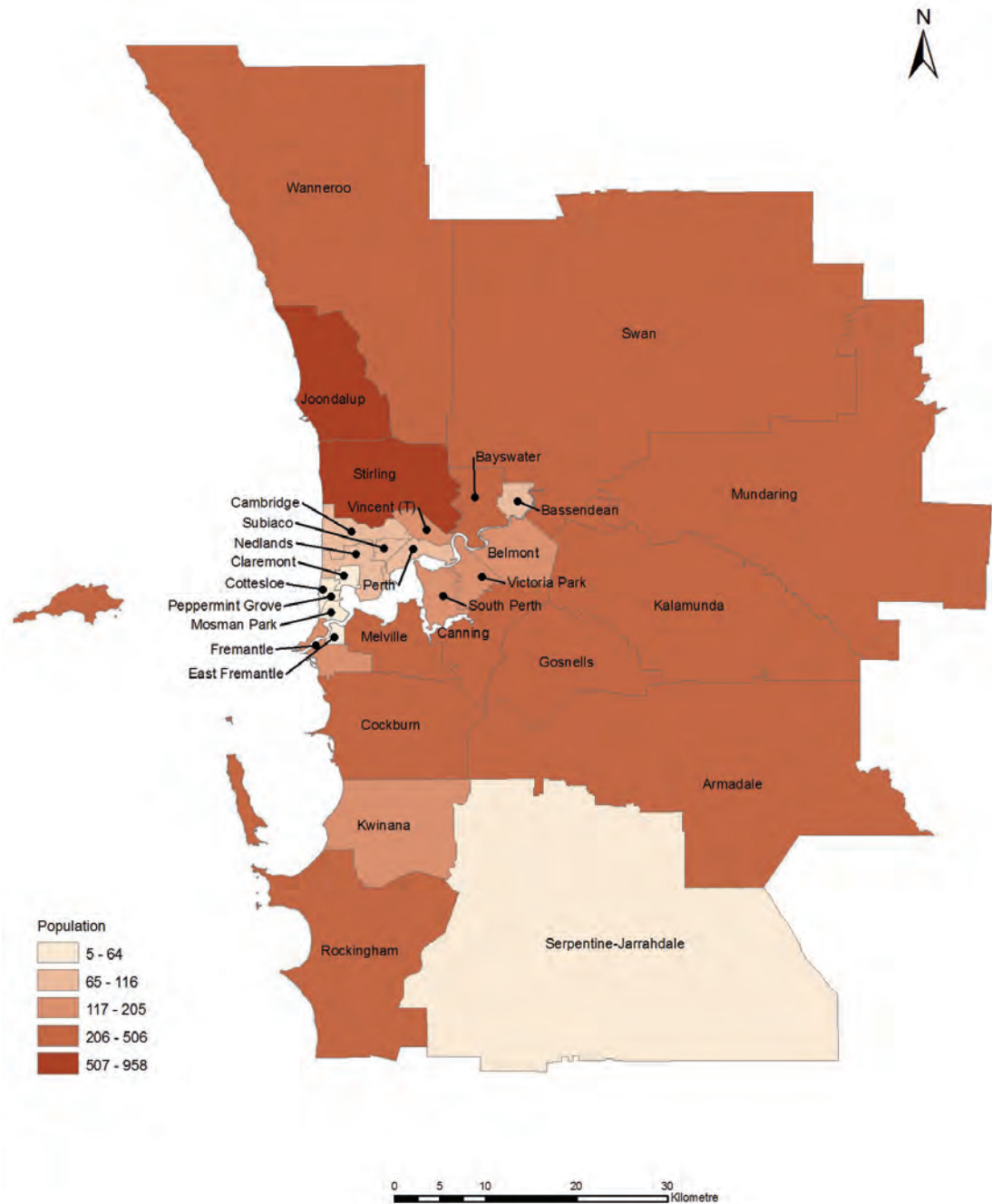


Figure 1: Distribution of Germany-born people by settlement pattern in the LGAs of the Perth Metropolitan Area (Data Source: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing).