



Western Australian Community Profiles 2006 Census

Vietnam-born

Population

The community of Vietnam-born Western Australians arrived and settled mainly between 1975 and 1990. In 2006, there were 10,494 Vietnam-born people in Western Australians, 3.6% more than in 2001. In 2006, Vietnam-born Western Australians represented approximately 0.5% of the total WA population.*

The population structure was concentrated in the middle years with more than half (51%) aged 25–44 and almost one-third (30.6%) aged 45–64, higher than for the total WA population (28.5% and 25%, respectively). The cohorts of Vietnam-born people aged below 15 (2.3%) and aged 15–24 (8.8%) were smaller compared with the corresponding cohorts in the total WA population (20% and 14.2%, respectively).

Women outnumbered men in all age groups. The sex-ratio (number of males per 100 females) was estimated at 93, lower than that of the total WA population (99.5).

Family pattern

Half (50%) of Vietnam-born Western Australians lived in couple families with children, fewer than in 2001 (64.6%), but significantly higher than for the total WA population (38.5%). The proportion of Vietnam-born people living in couple families without children increased for the

same period (12% to 15.8%). The proportion of people living in one-parent families remained consistent (almost 11%) and slightly higher than for the total WA population (10%). Vietnam-born women were more likely than men (14.4% compared with 6.8%) to be in a one-parent family.

Geographic distribution

The settlement patterns for Vietnam-born Western Australians remained consistent between 2001 and 2006, with the majority of people (96%) living in the Perth Statistical Division (SD). Local Government Areas (LGAs) recording relatively higher concentrations of Vietnam-born people were Stirling (23%), Wanneroo (21.5%), Swan (13.5%) and Bayswater (12.8%). Settlements of Vietnam-born people outside of the Perth SD were mainly in the Central SD (1.9%) and the South West SD (1%).

Religious affiliation

More than half (55.7%) of Vietnam-born Western Australians identified Buddhism as their religion, and 29.4% identified Christianity. The religious affiliation of Vietnam-born people was different compared with the WA total population in which the majority (58.7%) identified with Christianity, and a very small proportion (1.7%) with Buddhism.



Languages

Most Vietnam-born Western Australians (96%) spoke a language other than English at home, mainly Vietnamese or Cantonese. Of these, more than half (56%) reported speaking English very well or well and 40% reported speaking English not well or not at all. Vietnam-born women were more likely (45.1%) than men (32.1%) to report speaking English not well or not at all, and less likely than men (50.1% compared with 62.5%) to report speaking English very well or well.

Education

The proportion of Vietnam-born Western Australians with a bachelor degree or higher qualification (14%) was comparable to the total WA population (14.3%). In contrast, the proportion of Vietnam-born adults qualified at advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level was less than half the proportion for the total WA population (10.9% compared with 24.7%). Although Vietnam-born people were more likely to have completed Year 12 or equivalent than the total WA adult population (49.3% compared with 41.8%), they were more likely not to have attended school (10.1% compared with 0.6%).

Employment

More than half (59.8%) of Vietnam-born Western Australians were employed, comparable to the total WA population (59.1%). The proportion of people not in the labour force was also comparable to the total WA population (33.4% and 30.3%, respectively). Although the proportion of unemployed Vietnam-born people almost halved between 2001 and 2006 (from 9.8% to 4.3%), it remained higher than for the total WA population (2.3%). Vietnam-born women were more likely than men (42.5% compared with 23.4%) not to be in the labour force and also less likely to be employed

(50.5% compared with 70%). Similar gender differences were recorded for the total WA population.

Vietnam-born men were mainly employed as professionals and managers (29.4%), technicians and trade workers (25.8%), and labourers (18%). Vietnam-born women were mainly employed as professionals and managers (30.2%), labourers (16.7%), technicians and trade workers (10.9%), machine operators and drivers (10.5%), and sales workers (10.4%).

Income

The weekly incomes of Vietnam-born Western Australians improved between 2001 and 2006, with a decline in the proportion earning less than \$250 per week (from 42.7% to 26.5%). There was an increase in the proportion of Vietnam-born people earning between \$250 and \$999 (42% to 47.7%), and over \$1000 (3.7% to 10.8%) per week. The proportion of Vietnam-born people not earning a weekly income increased during this period (7% to 9.5%), and was higher than for the total WA population (6.4%). Vietnam-born women were more likely than men to be in this income bracket (12.2% compared with 6.5%). The proportion of Vietnam-born people earning less than \$250 per week was higher than for the total WA population (19.2%) and women were more likely than men (32.6% compared with 10.9%) to be in this income bracket.

Vietnam-born men were more likely to be in the higher weekly income brackets of \$250 to \$999 (52.5% compared with 43.2%), and more than \$1000 (14% compared with 7%).

Summary table

Variables	Vietnam-born 2006			Vietnam-born 2001	Total Western Australian population 2006		
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
AGE GROUP /GENDER							
0–14	2.6	2.0	2.3	2.7	20.6	19.5	20.0
15–24	8.7	8.9	8.8	15.6	14.6	13.8	14.2
25–44	50.8	51.2	51.0	51.3	28.4	28.5	28.5
45–64	31.0	30.3	30.6	23.4	25.4	25.1	25.2
65+	6.8	7.6	7.2	7.0	11.0	13.1	12.0
All (#)	5050	5444	10,494	10,125	990,642	995,607	1,986,249
Sex-ratio	93		93	97	99.5		99.5
FAMILY TYPE							
Couple family without children	15.3	16.3	15.8	12.0	19.2	19.6	19.4
Couple family with children	51.3	49.2	50.2	64.6	38.7	38.3	38.5
One-parent family	6.8	14.4	10.7	10.5	7.9	12.1	10.0
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY							
Speaks English only	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.3	80.6	81.3	80.9
Speaks other language and English; very well or well	62.5	50.1	56.0	55.5	9.6	9.9	9.8
Speaks other language and English; not well or not at all	32.1	45.1	38.8	40.0	1.5	2.0	1.7
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (15 YEARS AND OVER)							
Degree level	14.9	13.0	13.9	10.2	13.4	15.1	14.3
Advanced diploma/diploma/ certificate	12.0	9.9	10.9	9.4	30.3	19.2	24.7
Completed Year 12 schooling	51.7	47.1	49.3	43.9	40.8	42.9	41.9
Did not attend school	8.8	11.2	10.1	12.8	0.5	0.7	0.6
LABOUR FORCE (15 YEARS AND OVER)							
Employed	70.0	50.5	59.8	53.2	65.5	52.7	59.1
Unemployed	4.1	4.6	4.3	9.8	2.4	2.2	2.3
Not in LF	23.4	42.5	33.4	35.8	23.2	37.4	30.3
WEEKLY INCOME (15 YEARS AND OVER)							
None	6.5	12.2	9.5	7.0	4.6	8.1	6.4
<\$250	19.9	32.6	26.5	42.7	13.8	24.4	19.2
<\$1000	52.5	43.2	47.7	42.0	39.7	46.7	43.2
\$1000 and more	14.9	7.0	10.8	3.7	29.9	10.4	20.0

Note: Totals do not 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.

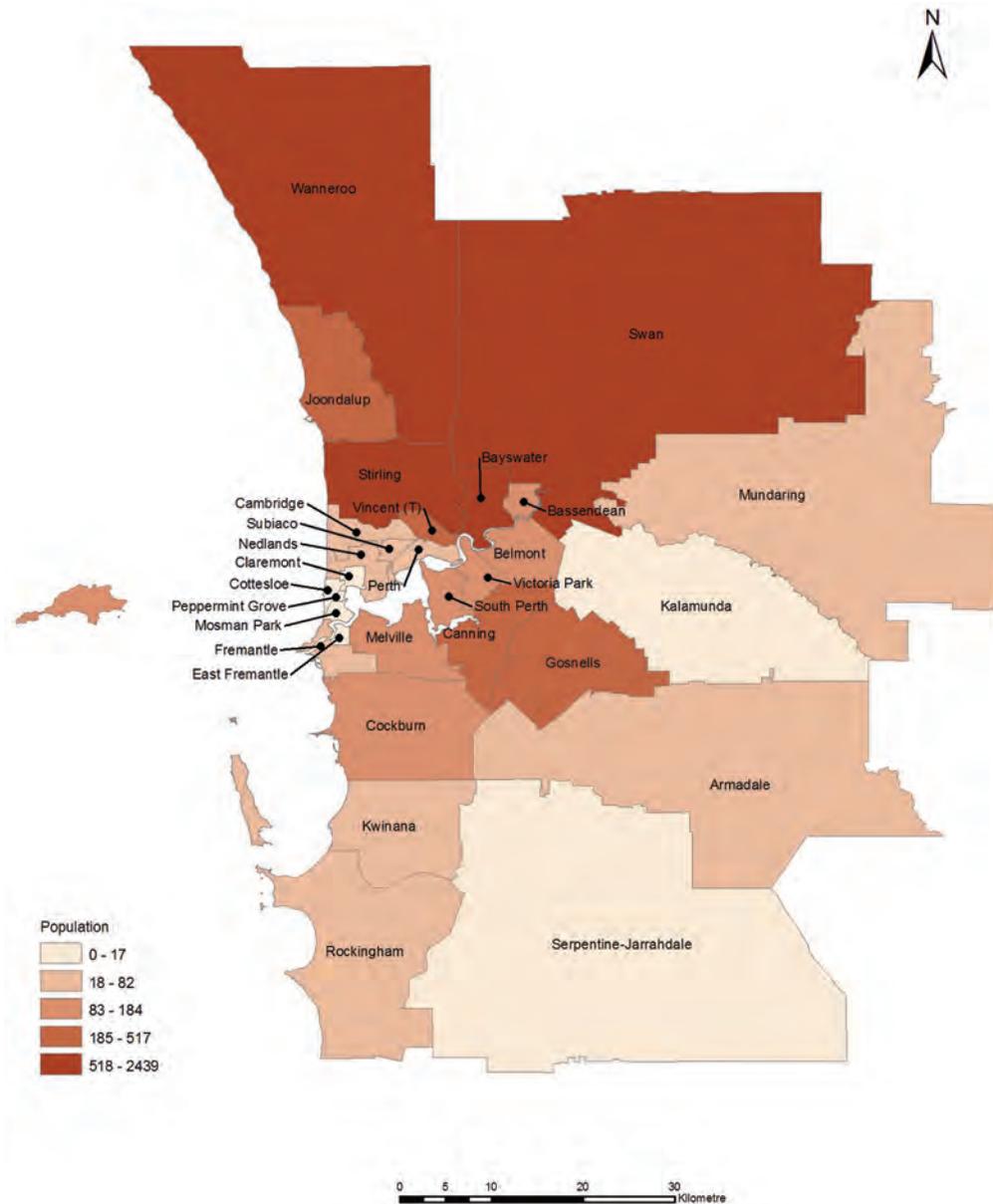


Figure 1: Distribution of Vietnam-born people by settlement pattern in the LGAs of the Perth Metropolitan Area (Data Source: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing).