

# WA population boom still leads the nation

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June 23, 2011 - 11:06AM

<http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/wa-population-boom-still-leads-the-nation-20110623-1ggjs.html>



Western Australia now has 2.3 million residents.

Western Australia's population continues to grow faster than any other state, with 47,400 new residents arriving last year, according to the latest statistics released today.

There are now 2.3 million people living in the state, the [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) figures show.

However, the data does not include the tens of thousands more who work in WA mines as fly-in, fly-out employees who report their address as on the east coast.

There were almost 22.5 million people living in Australia on December 31, an increase of 325,500 or 1.5 per cent.

The national population growth has slowed to its lowest level in four years.

Net migration - 171,100 people - accounted for more than half of the national increase, compared to a natural increase of 154,400 people. However, net migration was 35 per cent lower than in 2009.

The WA population increase was 2.1 per cent, ahead of the Australian Capital Territory, which grew by 2 per cent.

Overseas migration was the single biggest factor contributing to WA's population growth, followed by natural increase and interstate migration.