# WESTERN AUSTRALIA ECONOMIC PROFILE – November 2021

**The Economy**

**Gross state product (% change1): Financial years**



1 Real or adjusted for price changes. Original series. Note – Forecasts start in 2021-22.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual); WA State Budget 2021-22 (September 2021); and Australian Government Budget 2021-22 (May 2021).

* Western Australia’s gross state product (GSP) was $361.8 billion in 2020-21, 17.5% of Australia’s gross domestic product (GDP).
* Western Australia’s GSP per capita was $135,479 in 2020‑21, 68% above Australia’s GDP per capita of $80,461.
* Western Australia’s real GSP rose 2.6% in 2020-21, above growth of 1.0% in 2019-20, although below compound annual growth of 3.0% over the past 10 years.
* The WA State Budget 2021‑22 forecasts Western Australia’s real GSP will rise 3.5% in 2021‑22 and 1.0% in 2022-23.
* Australia’s real GDP rose 1.5% in 2020-21, following a fall of 0.004% in 2019‑20.
* The Australian Government Budget 2021‑22 forecasts Australia’s real GDP will rise 4.25% in 2021‑22 and 2.5% in 2022-23.

**Industry contribution to Western Australia’s GSP1:**

**Financial years**

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1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) Gross operating surplus of dwelling owners, with owner‑occupiers assigned a rent for their dwellings. (b) Repairs, maintenance and personal services.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual).

* Goods-producing industries accounted for 59% ($214.2 billion) of Western Australia’s GSP in 2020-21, including:
	+ Mining (47% or $169.6 billion).
	+ Construction (5% or $18.2 billion).
	+ Manufacturing (4% or $15.3 billion).
	+ Agriculture, forestry and fishing (2% or $6.4 billion).
* Services industries accounted for 32% ($116.7 billion) of GSP in 2020-21, including:
	+ Healthcare and social assistance (5% or $17.0 billion).
	+ Professional, scientific and technical services (4% or $15.2 billion).
	+ Finance and insurance (3% or $11.1 billion).
* Dwelling ownership and other items such as net interstate trade and changes in inventories accounted for the remaining 9% of GSP in 2020-21.

**Industry contribution to change1 in Western Australia’s GSP: 2020-21 financial year**



1 Real or adjusted for price changes. Original series. pp = percentage point. (a) Gross operating surplus of dwelling owners, with owner-occupiers assigned a rent for their dwellings. (b) Repairs, maintenance and personal services.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual).

* Manufacturing (up 8.7%) made the largest contribution to Western Australia’s real GSP growth in 2020-21, followed by:
	+ Agriculture, forestry and fishing (up 23.1%).
	+ Healthcare and social assistance (up 6.9%).
	+ Retail trade (up 8.4%).
	+ Wholesale trade (up 9.9%).
	+ Mining (up 0.4%).
* In 2020-21, Western Australia’s manufacturing industry increased production of minerals and chemical products and machinery and transport equipment. Western Australia also had a large crop harvest from favourable weather conditions, which contributed to increased output in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry.
* Transport, postal and warehousing (down 6.3%) was the largest detractor from Western Australia’s real GSP growth in 2020-21, followed by administrative and support services (down 8.8%).

**The Economy**

**Expenditure on Western Australia’s GSP1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) General government final consumption expenditure and public gross fixed capital formation. (b) Includes ownership transfer costs. (c) Goods and services. (d) Implicitly comprises net interstate trade in goods and services, changes in inventories, miscellaneous items and a balancing item that equates the sum of GSP across the states and territories to Australia’s GDP.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual).

* Goods exports accounted for 63% ($226.9 billion) of Western Australia’s GSP in 2020-21, followed by:
	+ Household consumption (31% or $110.7 billion).
	+ Public final demand (15% or $55.4 billion).
	+ Business investment (11% or $41.5 billion).
	+ Dwelling investment and ownership transfer costs (3% or $11.4 billion).
	+ Services exports (1% or $4.6 billion).
* Imports of goods and services detract from Western Australia’s GSP because it is expenditure on goods and services produced outside of the state’s economy (-11% or $40.2 billion in 2020-21).
* The Other(c) category detracted $48.5 billion (13%) from Western Australia’s GSP in 2020-21. Western Australia generally has a negative value for this category because of its interstate trade deficit.

**Expenditure contribution to change1 in Western Australia’s GSP: 2020-21 financial year**



1 Real or adjusted for price changes. Original series. pp = percentage point. (a) General government final consumption expenditure and public gross fixed capital formation. (b) Goods and services. (c) Includes ownership transfer costs. (d) Interstate trade in goods and services, changes in inventories and other items.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual).

* Public final demand (up 6.2%) made the largest contribution to Western Australia’s real GSP growth in 2020-21, followed by:
	+ Imports of goods and services (down 7.0% – decreases in imports contribute positively to real GSP growth).
	+ Household consumption (up 2.6%).
	+ Dwelling investment and ownership transfer costs (up 14.2%).
	+ Goods exports (up 0.4%).
* Public final demand grew strongly in 2020-21 due to increased consumption expenditure to manage the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and increased infrastructure investment to support economic activity.
* Services exports (down 36.1%) was the largest detractor from Western Australia’s real GSP growth in 2020-21, as COVID-19 travel restrictions significantly limited the arrival of overseas tourists and students.

**Western Australia’s state final demand1 (expenditure contribution to change2): Quarters**



1 Seasonally adjusted series. 2 Real or adjusted for price changes. Note - Changes in SFD are exaggerated by large swings in business investment without adjusting for the associated changes in imports. (a) Includes ownership transfer costs. (b) General government final consumption expenditure and public gross fixed capital formation.

Source: ABS 5206.0. Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (Quarterly).

* State final demand (SFD) measures total consumption and investment by the private and public sectors. SFD accounted for 61% ($218.9 billion) of Western Australia’s GSP in 2020-21.
* Western Australia’s state final demand has grown strongly following a sharp downturn in the June quarter 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Real SFD rose 0.6% in the September quarter 2021, following growth of 0.9% in the June quarter 2021.
* Household consumption (up 1.9%) was the largest contributor to Western Australia’s real SFD growth in the September quarter 2021, followed dwelling investment and ownership transfer costs (up 2.4%). Business investment (down 2.5%) and public final demand (down 0.1%) detracted from real SFD in the September quarter 2021.
* Western Australia’s real SFD rose 4.4% in 2020‑21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s real SFD will rise 5.0% in 2021-22 and 1.25% in 2022-23.

**Population and income**

**Western Australia’s population1 (change2): Calendar years**



Note – Components of population change may not sum to total population growth due to intercensal difference. 1 Original series. 2 Change between December quarters of each year.

Source: ABS 3101.0 Australian Demographic Statistics (Quarterly).

* Western Australia’s population was 2.67 million in 2020, which was 10.4% of Australia’s population.
* Western Australia’s population growth fell in 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19 on overseas migration. However, interstate migration made a positive contribution to population growth for the first time since 2013.
* Western Australia’s population rose 0.9% in 2020, below growth of 1.5% in 2019, and below compound annual growth of 1.4% over the past 10 years.
* Western Australia’s population grew by 24,537 in 2020, comprising:
	+ Natural increase of 17,432.
	+ Net overseas migration of 5,720.
	+ Net interstate migration of 1,385.
* On a financial year basis, Western Australia’s population rose 1.5% in 2019-20. The WA State Budget 2021-22 estimates Western Australia’s population rose 0.8% in 2020-21 and forecasts growth of 0.7% in 2021‑22.

**Western Australia’s gross state income and household income per capita (% change)1: Financial years**



1 Original series. (a) Real or adjusted for price changes. (b) Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Household income from wages and salaries, salary sacrifice, non-cash benefits, bonuses, termination payments, government pensions and allowances, profit/loss from own unincorporated business, net investment income and private transfers less income tax, the Medicare levy and the Medicare levy surcharge.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual).

* Gross state income (GSI) is an alternative measure of Western Australia’s economy that takes into account changes in the terms of trade (ratio of export prices to import prices).
* In 2020-21, Western Australia’s real GSI grew 18.1%, above growth of 7.4% in 2019-20 and compound annual growth of 3.8% over the past 10 years.
* The large increase in Western Australia’s real GSI in 2020‑21 was mainly the result of higher iron ore prices.
* Changes in GSI flow through to household incomes. Western Australia’s gross household disposable income per capita rose 6.1% to $58,210 in 2020-21, to be 7.8% ($4,204) higher than the Australian average of $54,006.

**Australia’s exchange rate and commodity prices1: Months**



Note – Axis does not start at zero. 1 Monthly index of Australia’s commodity prices. 2019-20 = 100.0. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), Statistical Tables (Monthly).

* The $A exchange rate rose 4.7% to average US75.5 cents in October 2021.
* The $A exchange rate averaged US74.7 cents in 2020‑21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts the $A exchange rate will average US73.8 cents in 2021‑22 and US73.6 cents in 2022‑23.
* The RBA’s $A commodity price index for Australia rose 2.5% in October 2021.
* China’s iron ore spot price (including cost and freight) fell 1.3% to average US$122.9 a tonne in October 2021.
* The price of iron ore delivered to north China (including cost and freight) averaged US$154.5 a tonne in 2020-21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts the price of iron ore delivered to north China (including cost and freight) will average US$121.3 a tonne in 2021‑22 and US$66.0 a tonne in 2022-23.

**Labour market**

**Western Australia’s labour market summary**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Month7 | Change from: | Financial year8 | Change from: | Calendar year8 | Change from: |
|  | **Oct.2021** | Sep.2021 | Oct.2020 | **2020-21** | 2019-20 | **2020** | 2019 |
| Employed full-time1 | **963,496** | +3,283 | +0.3% | +57,280 | +6.3% | **915,308** | -1,752 | -0.2% | **909,730** | -14,488 | -1.6% |
| Employed part-time2 | **459,285** | -7,705 | -1.6% | +1,434 | +0.3% | **458,579** | +25,541 | +5.9% | **438,978** | +8,524 | +2.0% |
| Total employed | **1,422,781** | -4,422 | -0.3% | +58,714 | +4.3% | **1,373,887** | +23,789 | +1.8% | **1,348,708** | -5,964 | -0.4% |
| Total hours worked (millions)3 | **196.9** | -2.0 | -1.0% | +9.4 | +5.0% | **188.5** | +2.2 | +1.2% | **184.9** | -4.6 | -2.4% |
| Participation rate4 | **68.4%** | -0.4pp | n.a. | +0.3pp | n.a. | **68.1%** | +0.5pp | n.a. | **67.4%** | -0.8pp | n.a. |
| Employment to population ratio | **65.7%** | -0.3pp | n.a. | +2.2pp | n.a. | **63.9%** | +0.5pp | n.a. | **63.0%** | -1.2pp | n.a. |
| Unemployed | **57,543** | -3,846 | -6.3% | -38,463 | -40.1% | **88,852** | +1,584 | +1.8% | **95,881** | +10,876 | +12.8% |
| Unemployment rate5 | **3.9%** | -0.2pp | n.a. | -2.7pp | n.a. | **6.1%** | +0.0pp | n.a. | **6.6%** | +0.7pp | n.a. |
| Underemployed | **93,440** | -14,211 | -13.2% | -29,730 | -24.1% | **118,989** | -24,547 | -17.1% | **141,209** | +9,381 | +7.1% |
| Underemployment rate6 | **6.3%** | -0.9pp | n.a. | -2.1pp | n.a. | **8.1%** | -1.9pp | n.a. | **9.8%** | +0.6pp | n.a. |

n.a. = not applicable. pp = percentage point. 1 Worked 35 hours or more a week. 2 Worked less than 35 hours a week. 3 Total monthly hours worked in all jobs (full time and part time jobs). 4 The proportion of the civilian working age population (aged 15 and older) in the labour force (employed or unemployed people). 5 The proportion of unemployed in the labour force (people without a job who are actively looking for work). 6 The proportion of underemployed in the labour force (workers wanting more hours). 7 Seasonally adjusted series. 8 Original series (except for total hours worked in seasonally adjusted terms).

Source: ABS 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia (Monthly).

**Western Australia’s employment1: Months**



Note – Axis does not start at zero. 1 Seasonally adjusted series. 2 Worked 35 hours or more a week. 3 Worked less than 35 hours a week.

Source: ABS 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia’s employment fell slightly in October 2021 after reaching a record high in September 2021.
* Western Australia’s employment fell 0.3% (4,422) to 1.42 million in October 2021, following a rise of 0.3% (3,580) in September 2021.
* In October 2021, Western Australia’s:
	+ Full-time2 employment rose 0.3% (3,283) to 963,496.
	+ Part-time3 employment fell 1.6% (7,705) to 459,285.
* Western Australia’s annual average employment rose 1.8% in 2020-21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s annual average employment will rise 2.5% in 2021-22 and 1.5% in 2022-23.

**Western Australia’s employment by industry1: Quarters2**



1 Original series. 2 Average over the past 4 quarters. Middle month of each quarter: February, May, August and November.

(a) Repairs, maintenance and personal services.

Source: ABS 6291.0.55.003 Labour Force, Australia, Detailed (Quarterly).

* Services industries accounted for 73% of Western Australia’s average employment over the 4 quarters to the September quarter 2021, including:
	+ Healthcare and social assistance (13.7%).
	+ Retail trade (8.9%).
	+ Education and training (8.6%).
* Goods-producing industries accounted for 27% of Western Australia’s average employment over the 4 quarters to the September quarter 2021, including:
	+ Construction (8.6%).
	+ Mining (8.4%).
	+ Manufacturing (6.0%).
* Healthcare and social assistance (up 23,286 or 13.8%) had the largest rise in Western Australia’s employment2 between the September quarters of 2020 and 2021, followed by education and training (up 10,889 or 9.9%).
* Public administration and safety (down 8,566 or 8.9%) had the largest fall in Western Australia’s employment2 between the September quarters of 2020 and 2021, followed by agriculture, forestry and fishing (down 4,155 or 11.7%).

**Labour market**

**Western Australia’s total hours worked1: Months**



Note – Axis does not start at zero. 1 Total monthly hours worked in all jobs (full time and part time jobs). Seasonally adjusted series.

Source: ABS 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia’s total hours worked fell in October 2021 after reaching a record high of 199 million hours in September 2021.
* Western Australia’s total hours worked in all jobs fell 1.0% in October 2021, following a rise of 0.7% in September 2021.
* Western Australia’s average hours worked per employed person fell 0.7% to 138.4 hours in October 2021.

**Western Australia’s participation rate1: Months**



Note – Axis does not start at zero. 1 Seasonally adjusted series.

Source: ABS 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia’s participation rate fell for the second consecutive month in October 2021.
* Western Australia’s participation rate fell from 68.8% in September 2021 to 68.4% in October 2021.
* The fall in Western Australia’s participation rate reflected a decrease in the labour force of 8,269 in October 2021.
* Western Australia’s participation rate averaged 68.1% in 2020-21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s participation rate will average 68.2% in both 2021-22 and 2022-23.

**Western Australia’s unemployment rate1: Months**



1 Seasonally adjusted series.

Source: ABS 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia’s unemployment rate has fallen steadily since reaching 8.5% in June 2020 due to the initial impact of COVID-19.
* Western Australia’s unemployment rate fell from 4.1% in September 2021 to 3.9% in October 2021.
* Western Australia’s unemployment rate of 3.9% in October 2021 was the lowest rate since July 2012.
* Australia’s unemployment rate was 5.2% in October 2021.
* The number of unemployed persons in Western Australia fell 6.3% (3,846) to 57,543 in October 2021, following a fall of 9.9% (6,753) in September 2021.
* Western Australia’s unemployment rate averaged 6.1% in 2020-21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s unemployment rate will average 4.75% in 2021‑22 and 4.5% in 2022-23.

**Labour market**

**Western Australia’s underemployment rate1: Months**



1 Seasonally adjusted series.

Source: ABS 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia’s underemployment rate of 6.3% in October 2021 was the lowest rate since February 2014 and well below the 14.3% reached in April 2020 due to the initial impact of COVID-19.
* Western Australia’s underemployment rate fell from 7.2% in September 2021 to 6.3% in October 2021.
* The number of underemployed persons in Western Australia fell 13.2% (14,211) to 93,440 in October 2021, following a rise of 3.9% (4,035) in September 2021.
* Western Australia’s underemployment rate averaged 8.1% in 2020-21, below the average underemployment rate of 10.0% in 2019-20.

**Western Australia’s internet vacancies1: Months**



1 Online job advertisements on SEEK, CareerOne and Australian JobSearch. Excludes job advertisements on other online job boards, employer web sites, newspapers and word of mouth. Seasonally adjusted series. 2 Recruitment through on site and online job advertisements, by notifying employment agencies or trade unions, and from internal job registers. Original series.

Source: Australia Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Vacancy Report (Monthly).

* Western Australia’s internet vacancies fell slightly in October 2021 although remain at a high level.
* Western Australia’s internet vacancies fell 2.7% (743) to 26,486 in October 2021, following a rise of 1.3% (357) in September 2021.
* According to the ABS Job Vacancy Survey2, Western Australia had 52,100 job vacancies in the September quarter 2021, 5,900 more than in the previous quarter and 19,900 more than a year ago.
* The high level of job vacancies in Western Australia reflects the high demand for workers in industries recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic (accommodation and food services) and responding to the increased activity generated by the pandemic and associated economic stimulus measures (retail trade, healthcare and construction). Labour shortages, caused by overseas and interstate travel restrictions, are also contributing to the high level of job vacancies.

**Wage price index (% change1): Quarters**



1 Change from same quarter of previous year or year-on-year. Original series. Wage price index 2008-09 = 100.0. Note - Changes in the wage price index and average weekly earnings differ because labour quality (job specifications and employee performance and experience) and labour quantity (hours worked and employee numbers) is held constant by the wage price index.

Source: ABS 6345.0 Wage Price Index, Australia (Quarterly).

* Growth in Western Australia’s wages has accelerated, driven by robust economic activity and labour supply constraints.
* Western Australia’s wage price growth rose from 1.6% in the June quarter 2021 to 1.9% in the September quarter 2021 (year-on-year).
* Australia’s wage price index rose 2.2% in the September quarter 2021 (year-on-year).
* Western Australia’s annual average wages rose 1.5% in 2020-21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s annual average wages will rise 2.25% in both 2021-22 and 2022-23.
* Western Australia’s annual adult full-time total earnings averaged $100,607 in 2020-21, 8.5% ($7,868) above the Australian average of $92,739.

**Consumption**

**Western Australia’s household consumption (% change1): Financial years**



1 Real or adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual); and ABS 5206.0. Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (Quarterly).

* Household consumption in Western Australia recovered strongly in 2020-21, following the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019‑20.
* Western Australia accounted for 10.4% of Australia’s household consumption in 2020-21.
* Western Australia’s real household consumption rose 2.6% in 2020-21, following a fall of 2.4% in 2019-20.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s real household consumption will rise 2.5% in 2021-22 and 2.25% in 2022‑23.

**Western Australia’s household consumption by industry sector1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual); and ABS 5206.0. Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (Quarterly).

* The value of Western Australia’s household consumption rose 3.8% to $110.7 billion in 2020-21.
* Rent and other dwelling services accounted for 21% of Western Australia’s household consumption in 2020-21, followed by insurance, finance and other (14%) and food (11%).
* The largest increases in Western Australia’s household consumption in 2020-21 were in:
	+ Health (up $1.0 billion or 12.5%).
	+ Recreation and culture (up $866 million or 9.1%).
	+ Furnishings and household equipment (up $834 million or 17.3%).
* The largest decreases in Western Australia’s household consumption in 2020-21 were in:
	+ Transport (down $1.1 billion or 10.4%).
	+ Electricity, gas and other fuel (down $473 million or 20.7%).

**Western Australia’s retail turnover1: Months**



Note – Axis does not start at zero. 1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Seasonally adjusted series 2 Includes newspapers and books; other recreational goods; pharmaceutical, cosmetic and toiletry goods; and other retailing.

Source: ABS 8501.0 Retail Trade, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia's retail turnover reached a new record high in September 2021 supported by favourable labour market conditions and consumers diverting their spending from overseas and interstate travel into retail goods and services.
* The value of Western Australia’s retail turnover rose 1.4% to $3.61 billion in September 2021, following a rise of 2.8% in August 2021. The rise in September 2021 was driven by:
	+ Other retailing2 (up 4.6% to $540 million).
	+ Clothing, footwear and personal accessories (up 7.1% to $224 million).
	+ Household goods (up 2.2% to $649 million).
	+ Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services (up 2.2% to $614 million).
* In September 2021, the value of retailing fell in Western Australia for food (down 1.0% to $1.4 billion) and department stores (down 1.1% to $201 million).

**Investment**

**Western Australia’s investment1: Financial years**



1 Gross fixed capital formation. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual); and ABS 5206.0. Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (Quarterly).

* Business investment in Western Australia has grown over the past two financial years, following six years of decline from its peak of $76.6 billion in 2012-13.
* Western Australia accounted for 19.2% of Australia’s business investment in 2020-21.
* In 2020-21, the value of Western Australia’s:
	+ Business investment rose 5.3% to $41.5 billion.
	+ Dwelling investment rose 12.4% to $8.2 billion.
	+ Public investment rose 3.6% to $9.2 billion.
* Western Australia’s real business investment rose 4.5% in 2020-21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s real business investment will rise 9.75% in 2021‑22 and 3.25% in 2022-23.

**Western Australia’s private new capital expenditure1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) All industries other than mining; agriculture, forestry and fishing; public administration and safety; and superannuation funds.

Source: ABS 5625.0 Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (Quarterly).

* Western Australia accounted for 23% of Australia’s private new capital expenditure in 2020-21, including:
	+ 58% of Australia’s mining industry new capital expenditure.
	+ 10% of Australia’s non-mining industries new capital expenditure.
* The mining industry accounted for 70% of Western Australia’s private new capital expenditure in 2020-21.
* In 2020-21, the value of Western Australia’s new capital expenditure in the:
	+ Mining industry rose 8.6% to $20.6 billion.
	+ Non-mining industries rose 9.6% to $8.7 billion.
* According to the WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia had $36.1 billion of major resource projects under construction or committed and $90.6 billion under consideration in September 2021.

**Industry contribution to Western Australia’s investment1: Financial years**



1 Gross fixed capital formation. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) Repairs, maintenance and personal services.

Source: ABS 5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts (Annual).

* The mining industry accounted for 44% ($27.4 billion) of Western Australia’s gross fixed capital formation in 2020‑21, followed by:
	+ Transport, postal and warehousing (7% or $4.4 billion).
	+ Electricity, gas, water and waste services (4% or $2.7 billion).
	+ Public administration and safety (4% or $2.4 billion).
* The largest increase in Western Australia’s gross fixed capital formation in 2020-21 was in mining (up $1.1 billion or 4.2%), followed by construction (up $320 million or 40.5%).
* The largest decrease in Western Australia’s gross fixed capital formation in 2020-21 was in information, media and telecommunications (down $448 million or 44.6%), followed by rental, hiring and real estate services (down $139 million or 12.7%).

**Investment**

**Western Australia’s exploration expenditure1:**

**Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: ABS 8412.0 Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (Quarterly).

* Exploration expenditure can be a leading indicator for investment in minerals and petroleum projects.
* Western Australia accounted for 65% of Australia’s minerals exploration expenditure in 2020-21.
* The value of minerals exploration expenditure in Western Australia rose 21.2% to $2.1 billion in 2020-21, mainly due to increases in gold, iron ore, and nickel and cobalt exploration.
* In 2020-21, the value of Western Australia’s exploration expenditure in:
	+ Gold rose 36.4% to $1.1 billion.
	+ Iron ore rose 30.2% to $455 million.
	+ Nickel and cobalt rose 24.2% to $185 million.
* Western Australia accounted for 44% of Australia’s petroleum exploration expenditure in 2020-21.
* The value of petroleum exploration expenditure in Western Australia fell 25.8% to $442 million in 2020-21.

**Western Australia’s engineering construction activity1: Quarters**



Note –The large value of engineering construction activity in the September quarter 2017 was mainly due to the arrival of the Prelude Floating LNG Plant. 1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Seasonally adjusted series.

Source: ABS 8762.0 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (Quarterly).

* The value of Western Australia’s engineering construction activity fell 2.5% to $5.2 billion in the June quarter 2021, following a rise of 12.2% in the March quarter 2021.
* In 2020-21, the value of Western Australia’s engineering construction activity rose 13.9% to $20.1 billion, driven by engineering construction on:
	+ Heavy industry rising 21.9% to $13.8 billion.
	+ Bridges, railways and harbours rising 68.3% to $1.5 billion.
	+ Water storage and supply, sewerage and drainage rising 24.2% to $473 million.
* The value of Western Australia engineering construction activity in 2020-21 fell on:
	+ Electricity generation, transmission and distribution and pipelines (down 21.5% to $1.9 billion).
	+ Roads, highways and subdivisions (down 6.0% to $1.6 billion).
	+ Telecommunications (down 13.3% to $485 million).
	+ Recreation and other (down 1.4% to $434 million).

**Western Australia’s building activity1: Quarters**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Seasonally adjusted series (except for total building activity in the pipeline).

(a) Total residential and non-residential building activity in the pipeline. Original series.

Source: ABS 8752.0 Building Activity, Australia (Quarterly).

* The value of Western Australia’s building activity rose 3.8% to $2.5 billion in the June quarter 2021, with:
	+ Residential building activity rising 6.9% to $1.6 billion.
	+ Non-residential building activity falling 1.1% to $913 million.
* The value of building work in the pipeline rose 21.7% to $9.0 billion in the June quarter 2021, to be 56.8% higher than in the June quarter 2020.
* In 2020-21, the value of Western Australia’s building activity rose 3.2% to $9.1 billion, with:
	+ Residential building rising 14.4% to $5.5 billion.
	+ Non-residential building falling 10.1% to $3.6 billion.

**Investment**

**Western Australia’s housing finance1: Months**



1 Value of new loan commitments for housing by owner-occupiers and investors. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Seasonally adjusted series.

Source: ABS 5601.0 Lending Indicators, Australia (Monthly).

* Housing finance remains at elevated levels in Western Australia following strong growth since the WA and Australian Governments introduced housing stimulus packages in June 2020.
* The value of Western Australia’s housing finance commitments rose 6.3% to $2.7 billion in September 2021, following a fall of 1.0% in August 2021.
* In September 2021, the value of Western Australia’s housing finance commitments for:
	+ Owner-occupiers rose 6.1% to $2.1 billion.
	+ Investors rose 7.3% to $569 million.

**Western Australia’s dwelling approvals1: Months**



1 House and other dwelling approvals. Seasonally adjusted series. 2 Residential and non-residential building approvals.

Source: ABS 8731.0 Building Approvals, Australia (Monthly).

* Building approvals have fallen in Western Australia as the demand induced by the WA and Australian Governments housing stimulus packages unwinds.
* The number of dwelling approvals in Western Australia fell 20.9% to 1,604 in September 2021, following a rise of 22.6% in August 2021.
* The value of Western Australia’s building approvals2 fell 8.7% to $1.0 billion in September 2021, following a rise of 16.1% in August 2021. In September 2021, the value of approvals for:
	+ Residential building fell 20.4% to $579 million.
	+ Non-residential building rose 13.7% to $431 million.
* Western Australia has a large amount of work in the housing construction pipeline that will support building activity in the state over the next 12 to 18 months.

**Perth’s housing prices1: Quarters**



Note – Axis does not start at zero. 1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. Consumer price index 2011‑12 = 100.0. (a) Index of prices for new dwellings purchased by owner-occupiers in Perth. (b) Index of prices for rents in Perth.

Source: ABS 6401.0 Consumer Price Index, Australia (Quarterly).

* Perth’s house prices fell in the September quarter 2021 following strong growth since the start of 2020, while rental prices rose sharply.
* Prices for new dwellings purchased by owner-occupiers in Perth fell 2.3% in the September quarter 2021, although were 2.8% higher than in the September quarter 2020.
* Perth’s rents rose 2.8% in the September quarter 2021, to be 6.5% higher than in the September quarter 2020.
* Perth’s median established house price rose 0.9% to $545,000 in the June quarter 2021.
* The median established house price for the rest of Western Australia’s (excluding Perth) rose 3.7% to $420,000 in the June quarter 2021.

**International trade**

**Western Australia’s exports of goods1: Financial years**



1 Free on board. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: ABS 5368.0 International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia accounted for 56% of Australia’s goods exports in 2020-21.
* The value of Western Australia’s goods exports rose 20.5% to $222.1 billion in 2020-21, with:
	+ Iron ore exports rising 47.5% to $150.2 billion.
	+ Non-iron ore exports falling 12.8% to $72.0 billion.
* Western Australia exported $19.1 billion of goods in September 2021, 17.8% less than in the previous month (not seasonality adjusted), but 24.9% more than a year ago.
* Western Australia’s real goods exports rose 0.4% in 2020‑21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s real goods exports will rise 2.25% in 2021-22 and 1.5% in 2022-23.

**Western Australia’s major markets for goods exports1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: ABS 5368.0 International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (Monthly).

* In 2020-21, Western Australia’s largest market for goods exports was China ($134.0 billion or 60%), followed by Japan ($19.1 billion or 9%) and South Korea ($12.9 billion or 6%).
* Western Australia had majority shares of Australia’s goods exports to China (81%), United Kingdom (76%), Singapore (67%) and Hong Kong SAR of China (60%) in 2020-21.
* The largest increases in Western Australia’s goods exports in 2020-21 were to China (up $35.6 billion or 36.2%), South Korea (up $2.4 billion or 22.9%) and Singapore (up $1.2 billion or 16.7%). These increases were mainly driven by iron ore and gold exports.
* The largest decreases in Western Australia’s goods exports in 2020-21 were to United Kingdom (down $4.0 billion or 30.6%, mainly due to lower gold exports), Japan (down $3.3 billion or 14.9%, mainly due to lower petroleum exports) and United Arab Emirates (down $866 million or 43.2%, mainly due to lower alumina exports).
* Minerals and petroleum accounted for 94% ($208.4 billion) of Western Australia’s goods exports in 2020-21.
* Agriculture, food, fibre, fisheries and forestry (excluding confidential items) accounted for 4% ($8.4 billion) of Western Australia’s goods exports in 2020-21.

**Western Australia’s major export commodities by market1: 2020-21 financial year**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Iron ore | $m | % | Gold | $m | % | Petroleum2 | $m | % | Alumina3 | $m | % | Nickel ore | $m | % |
| China(a) | 122,655 | 82 | UK | 8,765 | 40 | Japan | 7,998 | 37 | Bahrain | 1,055 | 19 | China(a) | 1,217 | 44 |
| Japan | 8,905 | 6 | USA | 3,619 | 16 | Singapore | 4,157 | 19 | UAE | 848 | 15 | South Korea | 438 | 16 |
| South Korea | 8,622 | 6 | Singapore | 2,164 | 10 | China(a) | 3,786 | 17 | China(a) | 649 | 11 | Japan | 212 | 8 |
| Taiwan | 3,041 | 2 | China(a) | 2,028 | 9 | South Korea | 1,825 | 8 | South Africa | 607 | 11 | Netherlands | 196 | 7 |
| Hong Kong(b) | 2,120 | 1 | India | 1,396 | 6 | Taiwan | 841 | 4 | Mozambique | 494 | 9 | USA | 194 | 7 |
| Other | 4,813 | 3 | Other | 4,043 | 18 | Other | 3,238 | 15 | Other | 2,016 | 36 | Other | 493 | 18 |
| Total | **150,156** | **100** | **Total** | **22,016** | **100** | **Total** | **21,845** | **100** | **Total** | **5,668** | **100** | **Total** | **2,750** | **100** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Wheat | $m | % | Gold coin | $m | % | Precious metal ore4 | $m | % | Mineral sands5 | $m | % | Barley | $m | % |
| Indonesia | 485 | 18 | Germany | 1,099 | 50 | South Korea | 548 | 33 | China(a) | 745 | 51 | Saudi Arabia | 370 | 37 |
| South Korea | 341 | 13 | USA | 881 | 40 | Philippines | 343 | 20 | Netherlands | 112 | 8 | Thailand | 201 | 20 |
| Japan | 279 | 10 | Hong Kong(b) | 89 | 4 | Germany | 330 | 20 | USA | 86 | 6 | Japan | 148 | 15 |
| Vietnam | 190 | 7 | Switzerland | 39 | 2 | Japan | 231 | 14 | Saudi Arabia | 80 | 5 | Vietnam | 64 | 6 |
| Philippines | 188 | 7 | Japan | 26 | 1 | Finland | 89 | 5 | Spain | 79 | 5 | Qatar | 53 | 5 |
| Other | 1,211 | 45 | Other | 69 | 3 | Other | 139 | 8 | Other | 367 | 25 | Other | 159 | 16 |
| Total | **2,694** | **100** | **Total** | **2,203** | **100** | **Total** | **1,681** | **100** | **Total** | **1,469** | **100** | **Total** | **995** | **100** |

Note – Components may not add to totals due to rounding. 1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. 2 LNG, condensate, crude oil and LPG. 3 Includes bauxite. 4 Mainly gold ore. 5 Garnet, illmenite, leucoxene, zircon and rutile. (a) Mainland. (b) Special Administrative Region of China.

Source: ABS 5368.0 International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (Monthly); and WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (Bi-annual).

**International trade**

**Western Australia’s exports of services1: Calendar years**



1 Customs Value. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) Education, personal and business travel; and passenger, freight, postal, courier and other transport. (b) Technical, trade-related & other business; financial services; government goods & services; telecommunications, computer & information; insurance & pension; personal, cultural & recreational; professional & management consulting; intellectual property charges; research & development; and others.

Source: ABS 5368.0.55.003/004 International Trade: Supplementary Information, Financial Year/Calendar Year (Annual).

* Western Australia accounted for 7% of Australia’s services exports in 2020.
* The value of Western Australia’s services exports fell 32.5% to $5.2 billion in 2020.
* Western Australia’s real services exports fell 33.5% in 2020 (down 36.1% in the 2020-21 financial year).
* Western Australia’s travel and transport services exports fell 45.0% to $3.2 billion in 2020, with:
	+ Personal travel down $1.7 billion (73.6%) to $625 million.
	+ Education travel down $344 million (15.9%) to $1.8 billion.
	+ Transport down $309 million (31.4%) to $674 million.
	+ Business travel down $199 million (78.3%) to $55 million.
* Western Australia’s business and other services exports rose 3.9% to $2.1 billion in 2020, with:
	+ Insurance and pension services up $22 million (17.7%) to $146 million.
	+ Telecommunications, computer and information services up $21 million (7.7%) to $292 million.

**Western Australia’s overnight visitor spend1:**

**Financial years**

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1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: Tourism Research Australia, International and National Visitor Surveys (Quarterly).

* The tourism industry (including net taxes) accounted for 1.7% ($5.4 billion) of Western Australia’s GSP and 4.9% (65,800) of total employment in 2019-20.
* The closure of international and interstate borders had a major impact on Western Australia’s tourism industry in 2020-21.
* Tourists in Western Australia spent $8.3 billion in 2020-21, 8.7% ($787 million) less than in 2019-20.
* In 2020-21, Western Australia’s spending by:
	+ International visitors fell 95.9% to $70 million.
	+ Interstate visitors fell 58.0% to $665 million.
	+ Intrastate (overnight) visitors rose 47.1% to $5.4 billion.
	+ Intrastate (daytrips) visitors rose 1.6% to $2.1 billion.
* Western Australia had 360 short-term overseas visitors arriving in September 2021, 60 more than in September 2020. A large proportion of visitors to Western Australia in September 2021 were from Vanuatu (80), Singapore (40) and Afghanistan (30).

**Western Australia’s international students1: Calendar years**



1 Enrolments. Original series.

Source: Department of Education, Skills and Employment, International student data (Monthly).

* International travel restrictions have reduced the number of international students enrolled in Western Australia.
* Western Australia had 49,661 international student enrolments in 2020, 6.8% (3,643) fewer than in 2019.
* Western Australia’s share of Australia’s international student enrolments rose slightly, from 5.60% in 2019 to 5.63% in 2020.
* Many international students arrived in Western Australia for the first semester of 2020, before COVID-19 travel restrictions were imposed. This, together with some students reverting to online learning from their home countries, supported the number of enrolments in 2020.
* However, ongoing travel restrictions have stopped the arrival of new international students to Western Australia.
* Western Australia had 38,630 international student enrolments between January and September 2021, 18.1% (8,525) lower than the same period of 2020.

**International trade**

**Western Australia’s imports of goods1: Financial years**



1 Customs Value. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) Other manufactures, gold (imported to Western Australia for refining at the Perth Mint to the London Bullion Market Association’s accredited standard and re-exported), mineral fuels, chemicals, agricultural products and other goods.

Source: ABS 5368.0 International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (Monthly).

* Western Australia accounted for 11% of Australia’s goods imports in 2020-21.
* The value of Western Australia’s goods imports rose 1.4% to $34.4 billion in 2020-21, with:
	+ Machinery and transport equipment imports rising 23.1% to $12.3 billion.
	+ Other imports falling 7.6% to $22.1 billion, due to decreases in gold, mineral fuels and chemicals imports.
* Western Australia’s real goods imports rose 4.8% in 2020‑21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts Western Australia’s real goods imports will rise 4.75% in 2021‑22 and 2.0% in 2022-23.

**Western Australia’s major markets for goods imports1: Financial years**

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1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: ABS 5368.0 International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (Monthly).

* In 2020-21, Western Australia’s largest market for goods imports was China ($6.4 billion or 19%), followed by the United States ($4.4 billion or 13%) and Japan ($2.4 billion or 7%).
* The largest increases in Western Australia’s goods imports in 2020-21 were from Spain (up $786 million or 452%, mainly due to higher imports of ships, boats and floating structures), United Kingdom (up $744 million or 88.3%, mainly due to higher silver, platinum and gold imports) and China (up $563 million or 9.6%, mainly due to higher gold imports).
* The largest decreases in Western Australia’s goods imports in 2020-21 were from Papua New Guinea (down $1.5 billion or 94.9%, mainly due to lower gold imports), Thailand (down $1.2 billion or 38.8%, mainly due to lower gold imports) and United States (down $482 million or 9.9%, mainly due to lower petroleum imports).

**Western Australia’s imports of services1: Calendar years**



1 Customs Value. Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) Education, personal and business travel; and passenger, freight, postal, courier and other transport. (b) Technical, trade-related & other business; financial services; government goods & services; telecommunications, computer & information; insurance & pension; personal, cultural & recreational; professional & management consulting; intellectual property charges; research & development; and others.

Source: ABS 5368.0.55.003/004 International Trade: Supplementary Information, Financial Year/Calendar Year (Annual).

* Western Australia accounted for 10% of Australia’s services imports in 2020.
* The value of Western Australia’s services imports fell 52.5% to $5.4 billion in 2020.
* Western Australia’s real services imports fell 54.8% in 2020 (down 53.0% in the 2020-21 financial year).
* Western Australia’s travel and transport services imports fell 67.9% to $2.8 billion in 2020, with:
	+ Personal travel down $4.9 billion (80.9%) to $1.1 billion.
	+ Transport down $693 million (30.9%) to $1.6 billion.
	+ Business travel down $362 million (77.5%) to $105 million.
	+ Education travel down $40 million (75.5%) to $13 million.
* Western Australia’s business and other services imports fell 1.5% to $2.6 billion in 2020, with:
	+ Insurance and pension services down $143 million (78.1%) to $40 million.
	+ Professional and management consulting services down $65 million (20.6%) to $250 million.
	+ Financial services up $211 million (57.2%) to $580 million.

**Mining industry**

**Minerals production: 2020 calendar year**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Commodity | Unit | Western Australia | Australia | World | WA shareof Aust. | WA shareof world |
| Lithium | Kt | 40 | 40 | 82 | 100% | 48% |
| Iron ore | Mt | 846 | 855 | 2,354 | 99% | 36% |
| Garnet | Kt | 296 | 296 | 1,046 | 100% | 28% |
| Diamonds | Mct | 14 | 14 | 56 | 100% | 25% |
| Zircon | Kt | 177 | 480 | 1,425 | 37% | 12% |
| Alumina | Mt | 14 | 21 | 125 | 68% | 11% |
| Rare earths | Kt | 23 | 23 | 247 | 100% | 9% |
| Gold | t | 209 | 317 | 3,087 | 66% | 7% |
| Nickel ore | Kt | 165 | 165 | 2,470 | 100% | 7% |
| Rutile | Kt | 39 | 200 | 634 | 20% | 6% |
| Salt | Mt | 12 | 12 | 264 | 96% | 4% |
| Cobalt | Kt | 6 | 6 | 135 | 100% | 4% |
| Illmenite1 | Kt | 313 | 800 | 7,565 | 39% | 4% |
| Manganese | Kt | 544 | 3,300 | 18,490 | 16% | 3% |
| Copper | Kt | 146 | 879 | 19,799 | 17% | 1% |

Mt = Million tonnes. Kt = Thousand tonnes. t = tonnes. Mct = Million carats. 1 Excludes ilmenite feedstock for synthetic rutile production.

Source: WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (Annual).

* Western Australia is the main exporter of minerals and petroleum in Australia and accounts for a significant proportion of the world’s minerals and petroleum production.
* In 2020-21, Western Australia had 125 high-value, export‑oriented mining projects and 13 major mineral processing operations transforming bauxite into alumina; gold ore into gold bars; nickel ore into nickel concentrate, matte, powder and briquettes; rutile into titanium dioxide pigment; zircon into fused zirconia; and silica sand into silicon metal.
* In 2020-21, Western Australia also had 22 petroleum projects that produced gas, condensate and crude oil from 55 onshore and offshore fields. These projects had 13 processing plants, mainly for LNG exports and domestic gas supply.

**Western Australia’s mineral and petroleum sales1:**

**Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series.

Source: WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (Bi-Annual).

* Western Australia accounted for 65% of Australia’s mining industry gross value added in 2019-20.
* Western Australia’s mining industry gross value added rose 25.4% to $135.3 billion in 2019-20.
* In 2020-21, minerals accounted for 89% of Western Australia’s minerals and petroleum sales and petroleum accounted for 11%.
* In 2020-21, Western Australia’s minerals and petroleum sales rose 21.3% to $209.6 billion, with:
	+ Minerals sales up 37.1% to $186.2 billion.
	+ Petroleum sales down 36.8% to $23.5 billion.

**Western Australia’s major minerals and petroleum sales1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. (a) Copper, lead and zinc (contains gold and silver).

(b) Spodumene. (c) Garnet, illmenite, leucoxene, zircon and rutile.

Source: WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (Bi-Annual).

* Iron ore accounted for 74% of the value of Western Australia’s minerals and petroleum sales in 2020-21, followed by gold (7.9%) and LNG (7.5%).
* The largest increases in the value of Western Australia’s minerals and petroleum sales in 2020-21 were in:
	+ Iron ore (up $50.1 billion or 47.9%).
	+ Gold (up $702 million or 4.4%).
	+ Nickel ore (up $313 million or 9.9%).
* The largest decreases in the value of Western Australia’s minerals and petroleum sales in 2020-21 were in:
	+ LNG (down $11.3 billion or 41.7%).
	+ Condensate (down $1.1 billion or 20.8%).
	+ Crude oil (down $964 million or 36.0%).

**Mining industry**

**Western Australia’s iron ore sales1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. Indexes 2010‑11 = 100.0.

Source: WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (Bi-Annual).

* The value of Western Australia’s iron ore sales rose 47.9% to $154.7 billion in 2020-21, which was almost entirely due to the increase in the average price in 2020‑21.
* The annual average $A unit price (free on board) of Western Australia’s iron ore sales rose 47.6% in 2020-21.
* The volume of Western Australia’s iron ore sales rose 0.2% to 839 million tonnes in 2020-21.
* The WA State Budget 2021-22 forecasts the volume of Western Australia’s iron ore sales will rise to 877 million tonnes by 2023-24, before declining to 870 million tonnes in 2024-25.

**Western Australia’s LNG sales1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. Indexes 2010-11 = 100.0.

Source: WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (Bi-Annual).

* The value of Western Australia’s LNG sales fell 41.7% to $15.8 billion in 2020-21, due to a fall in both the average price and sales volumes in 2020‑21.
* The annual average $A unit price (free on board) of Western Australia’s LNG sales fell 35.2% in 2020-21.
* The volume of Western Australia’s LNG sales fell 10.0% to 42 million tonnes in 2020-21.

**Western Australia’s gold sales1: Financial years**



1 Nominal or not adjusted for price changes. Original series. Indexes 2010-11 = 100.0.

Source: WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (Bi-Annual).

* The value of Western Australia’s gold sales rose 4.4% to $16.6 billion in 2020-21, with the increase in the average price in 2020‑21 offsetting a fall in sales volumes.
* The annual average $A unit price (free on board) of Western Australia’s gold sales rose 6.7% in 2020-21.
* The volume of Western Australia’s gold sales fell 2.2% to 208 tonnes in 2020-21.

**Regions**

**Western Australia’s Regional Development Commission Regions**



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **PILBARA & OFFSHORE** |  | **KIMBERLEY** |
|  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |  |  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |
| Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $57.3b | +20.0% | 18.1% |  | Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $3.2b | +7.7% | 1.0% |
| Population: 2019-20 | 62,841 | +1.1% | 2.4% |  | Population: 2019-20 | 36,054 | +0.4% | 1.4% |
| Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 39,853 | +7.0% | 2.9% |  | Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 16,124 | +14.8% | 1.2% |
| Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 2.1% | -1.1pp |  |  | Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 9.4% | -6.7pp |  |
| Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $176.5b | +25.5% | 84.2% |  | Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $582m | -23.9% | 0.3% |
| Building approvals: 2020-21 | $363m | +1.5% | 2.7% |  | Building approvals: 2020-21 | $67m | -22.7% | 0.5% |
| Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 996,000 |  | 8.4% |  | Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 374,000 |  | 3.1% |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **GASCOYNE** |  | **MID WEST** |
|  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |  |  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |
| Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $1.6b | +12.3% | 0.5% |  | Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $9.5b | +13.4% | 3.0% |
| Population: 2019-20 | 9,262 | -0.2% | 0.3% |  | Population: 2019-20 | 52,769 | -0.3% | 2.0% |
| Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 4,871 | +10.3% | 0.4% |  | Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 25,658 | +9.6% | 1.9% |
| Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 5.6% | -3.5pp |  |  | Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 5.3% | -3.0pp |  |
| Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $144m | +47.7% | 0.1% |  | Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $4.6b | -2.7% | 2.2% |
| Building approvals: 2020-21 | $44m | +23.3% | 0.3% |  | Building approvals: 2020-21 | $180m | +14.1% | 1.4% |
| Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 291,000 |  | 2.4% |  | Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 671,000 |  | 5.6% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PERTH METROPOLITAN AREA** |  | **WHEATBELT** |
|  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |  |  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |
| Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $186.1b | +6.7% | 58.8% |  | Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $7.4b | +3.8% | 2.3% |
| Population: 2019-20 | 1,985,640 | +1.8% | 74.5% |  | Population: 2019-20 | 73,690 | +0.3% | 2.8% |
| Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 1,036,538 | +2.1% | 75.5% |  | Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 37,997 | -3.2% | 2.8% |
| Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 6.4% | +0.2pp |  |  | Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 3.6% | +0.5pp |  |
| Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $3.8b | -9.0% | 1.8% |  | Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $3.2b | +49.2% | 1.5% |
| Building approvals: 2020-21 | $10.3b | +44.5% | 77.9% |  | Building approvals: 2020-21 | $248m | +65.4% | 1.9% |
| Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 3,915,000 |  | 32.9% |  | Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 1,102,000 |  | 9.3% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PEEL** |  | **GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE** |
|  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |  |  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |
| Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $10.3b | +10.5% | 3.3% |  | Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $21.9b | +18.6% | 6.9% |
| Population: 2019-20 | 146,239 | +2.3% | 5.5% |  | Population: 2019-20 | 53,914 | -0.9% | 2.0% |
| Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 61,849 | -3.1% | 4.5% |  | Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 29,985 | +8.7% | 2.2% |
| Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 7.4% | +0.2pp |  |  | Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 3.4% | -2.4pp |  |
| Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $2.1b | +16.3% | 1.0% |  | Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $16.1b | +13.1% | 7.7% |
| Building approvals: 2020-21 | $743m | +85.5% | 5.6% |  | Building approvals: 2020-21 | $127m | +9.6% | 1.0% |
| Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 685,000 |  | 5.8% |  | Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 725,000 |  | 6.1% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **SOUTH WEST** |  | **GREAT SOUTHERN** |
|  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |  |  | Figure | Annual change1 | WA share |
| Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $14.9b | +5.3% | 4.7% |  | Gross regional product: 2019-20 | $4.1b | -0.7% | 1.3% |
| Population: 2019-20 | 181,801 | +1.1% | 6.8% |  | Population: 2019-20 | 61,351 | +0.6% | 2.3% |
| Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 89,631 | -3.4% | 6.5% |  | Employed persons: Jun.2021 | 30,889 | -3.2% | 2.2% |
| Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 4.9% | -0.1pp |  |  | Unemployment rate: Jun.2021 | 3.6% | +0.4pp |  |
| Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $2.6b | -17.4% | 1.2% |  | Minerals & petroleum sales: 2020-21 | $5m | -31.5% | 0.0% |
| Building approvals: 2020-21 | $872m | +62.2% | 6.6% |  | Building approvals: 2020-21 | $279m | +79.5% | 2.1% |
| Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 2,409,000 |  | 20.2% |  | Overnight visitors a year: 2018-2020 | 740,000 |  | 6.2% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

n.a. = not available. pp = percentage point. 1 Change from previous year for annual series (nominal or not adjusted for price changes) and change from same quarter of the previous year for the quarterly labour force series. Source: WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, GRP estimates (Annual); ABS 3218.0 Regional Population Growth Australia (Annual); Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Small Area Labour Markets (Quarterly); WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Resource Data Files (B‑Annual); ABS 8731.0 Building Approvals, Australia (Monthly); and Tourism Western Australia, Regional Development Commission Fact Sheets (Annual).