



# The Cocos (Keeling) Islands Community Portrait

This Portrait uses data from the 2006 Census to examine the social and economic characteristics of the residents of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, looking at how this community differs from Western Australia, and how it has changed since 2001.

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The regular 5-yearly Census conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) provides the most important set of data on local communities. About 96% of the population of Australia complete the Census, so its numbers are very accurate. To protect the privacy of individuals, the ABS randomly adjusts very small numbers in Census tables, where there are fewer than 4 people in a category, to be either 0 or 3.

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prepared for the Attorney General's Department

# Population

## Population and growth

In the August 2006 Census, 572 residents were counted in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands – 296 females and 276 males. Of these residents, 517 (90.4%) were at home on Census night, while none were staying elsewhere within the same locality and 54 were staying somewhere else in Australia. There were 115 visitors from elsewhere in Australia staying in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands on Census night; these people are not included in this profile.

The counted resident population had decreased by 15 or 2.6% since the 2001 Census.

The most recent ABS estimate of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' population at 30 June 2006 is 590 residents, indicating that 97% of the population completed the Census. In 2001, the proportion who completed the Census was 98%. The similar response rate in 2006 suggests that the current ABS population estimate is fairly accurate.

Some 9.4% of residents were away from the local area on Census night (but completed a form elsewhere). Of these, there were 1.20 females per male. This is inconsistent with the general pattern that more men are away from home than women, usually due to more work trips.

A high 94% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents were Australian citizens, compared with 83% for Western Australia.

Population	people in the Cocos Islands				the Cocos Islands 2006				
	2006	2001	2001-2006 change	% of 2006 residents	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males	females	ratio
at home on Census Night	517	546	dn 29	90.4%	94.5%	4.1% less	251	266	1.06 F:M
away from locality at Census	54	18	up 36	9.4%	4.7%	4.7% more	25	30	1.20 F:M
away from home (but local)	0	3	dn 3	0.0%	0.8%	0.8% less	0	0	=
<b>counted residents</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>dn 15</b>	100.0%	100.0%	dn 2.6%	<b>276</b>	<b>296</b>	1.07 F:M
Australian citizens	539	550	dn 11	94.2%	83.5%	10.8% more	262	277	1.06 F:M
<b>Estimated Resident Pop'n</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>dn 10</b>	103.1%	105.1%	dn 1.7%	285	305	1.07 F:M

In all tables, negative numbers are in red, and where appropriate, extreme results (highs and lows) are bold. The gender ratio is blue if males dominate (eg 2.12 M:F), or red if females do (eg 1.30 F:M). Very small differences may show as, say '0.0% more' or '0% higher'; this means they are virtually zero, but slightly positive or negative.

The median age of all people in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (where half are younger and half older) was 37 years, which was 1 year older than Western Australia and little changed since 2001.

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands had an average of 4.0 residents per occupied dwelling, and 1.3 residents per bedroom. By comparison, Western Australia averaged 2.5 residents per dwelling and 1.1 per bedroom.

The median individual income in mid-2006 was \$341 a week, 32% less than Western Australia's \$500. The median family income was \$1,020 a week, 18% less than Western Australia's \$1,246.

The median mortgage repayment in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in August 2006 was \$568 a month, 53% or \$52 less than Western Australia's median. The median rent was \$118 a week, 31% or \$52 less than Western Australia.

Some medians	2006		Cocos's difference	2001		Cocos's change from 2001	the Cocos Islands v. WA
	Cocos	WA		Cocos	WA		
median age	37 yrs	36 yrs	1 y. older	37 yrs	34 yrs	same	
av. persons per household	4.0	2.5	60% more	4.1	2.6	2% less	
av. persons per bedroom	1.3	1.1	18% more	1.26	0.82	3% more	
individual weekly income	\$341	\$500	32% less	\$404	\$404	16% less	
family weekly income	\$1,020	\$1,246	18% less	\$865	\$1,038	18% more	
household weekly income	\$1,220	\$1,066	14% more	\$1,269	\$865	4% less	
monthly mortgage payment	\$568	\$1,213	53% less	\$577	\$1,038	2% less	
weekly rent	\$118	\$170	31% less	\$144	\$144	18% less	
<b>CPI @ 30 June</b>	<b>154.3</b>			<b>133.8</b>		<b>15% more</b>	

Note: the median incomes and housing payments in 2001 were given as ranges (eg \$400-\$499), not exact amounts as in 2006. The approximate median in 2006 dollars is calculated as the mid-point of the range (eg \$450), factored up by the CPI increase of 15% over 2001 to 2006. The 2006 average persons per bedroom is given in Census tables; the 2001 figure is calculated from 2001 Census data and may not be exactly compatible.

## Age structure

This Age Tree illustrates the population's age profile, with each branch representing an age group; older age groups being higher up the tree. The length of each branch is proportional to the number of people in that age group – the shorter branches near the top of the tree show there are fewer older people. **Right-hand branches show males in blue; left branches show females in pink.**

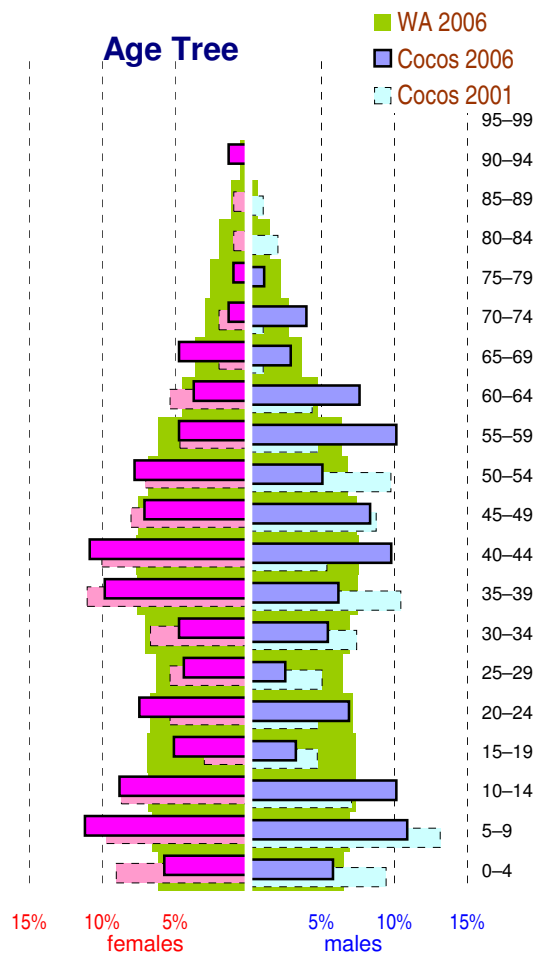
The largest age groups in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006, shown by the longest branches, were people 5–9, 40–44 and 10–14 years old.

Compared with Western Australia, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands had relatively more people aged 5–9, 40–44 and 10–14 years, but fewer people aged 15–19, 25–29 and 30–34 years.

Over 2001 to 2006, the the Cocos (Keeling) Islands age groups that increased most were 55–59, 40–44 and 65–69 years-old, while the 0–4, 35–39 and 30–34 age groups fell most as a proportion of the population.

The ratio of females to males rises rapidly over the age of 70, as women tend to live longer than men. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the ratio peaks in the 90–94 age group, with all women.

Among those under 70, females were most common among people aged 25–29 and 65–69 years, while males were more common among those aged 55–59, 60–64 and 45–49 years.



5-year age groups	the Cocos Islands 2006				the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos's change	
	people	percent	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males	females	ratio	Cocos in 2001	from 2001
0–4	33	5.8%	6.4%	0.6% less	16	17	1.06 F:M	9.2%	dn 3.4%
5–9	63	<b>11.0%</b>	6.7%	<b>4.3% more</b>	30	33	1.10 F:M	11.4%	dn 0.4%
10–14	54	<b>9.5%</b>	7.1%	<b>2.3% more</b>	28	26	1.08 M:F	7.9%	up 1.6%
15–19	24	4.2%	7.1%	<b>2.9% less</b>	9	15	1.67 F:M	3.9%	up 0.3%
20–24	41	7.2%	6.9%	0.2% more	19	22	1.16 F:M	5.0%	up 2.1%
25–29	20	3.5%	6.4%	<b>2.9% less</b>	7	13	<b>1.86 F:M</b>	5.2%	dn 1.7%
30–34	29	5.1%	7.0%	<b>1.9% less</b>	15	14	1.07 M:F	7.0%	dn 2.0%
35–39	46	8.1%	<b>7.5%</b>	0.5% more	17	29	<b>1.71 F:M</b>	10.7%	dn 2.7%
40–44	59	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>2.7% more</b>	27	32	1.19 F:M	7.7%	up 2.6%
45–49	44	7.7%	<b>7.4%</b>	0.3% more	23	21	1.10 M:F	8.4%	dn 0.7%
50–54	37	6.5%	6.8%	0.3% less	14	23	1.64 F:M	8.4%	dn 1.9%
55–59	42	7.4%	6.3%	1.1% more	28	14	<b>2.00 M:F</b>	4.7%	up 2.7%
60–64	32	5.6%	4.6%	1.0% more	21	11	<b>1.91 M:F</b>	4.9%	up 0.7%
65–69	22	3.9%	3.6%	0.2% more	8	14	<b>1.75 F:M</b>	1.5%	up 2.3%
70–74	15	2.6%	2.9%	0.2% less	11	4	<b>2.75 M:F</b>	1.5%	up 1.1%
75–79	6	1.1%	2.4%	1.4% less	3	3	=	0.0%	up 1.1%
80–84	0	0.0%	1.7%	1.7% less	0	0	=	1.5%	dn 1.5%
85–89	0	0.0%	0.9%	0.9% less	0	0	=	1.0%	dn 1.0%
90–94	4	0.7%	0.4%	0.3% more	0	4	F	0.0%	up 0.7%
95–99	0	0.0%	0.1%	0.1% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
100+	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
<b>residents</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>276</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>1.07 F:M</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>4% less</b>

In this and later tables, the most extreme results in a column (eg differences) are highlighted by bold font so they are easy to spot.

# Life stages

When planning for communities and their services, understanding changes in the numbers of people in key life stages is important. Four broad age groups - children, youth, adults and retirees - can each be divided into two life-stages, giving eight in all. They are pre-school and primary children, secondary and tertiary-age young people, birthing and prime-age adults, and retiring and the oldest people.

Over 2001 to 2006, the retiring (55–69 years) group grew most, as a proportion of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' residents, gaining another 5.7% of the population, with the young adult (18–24 years) group also growing, up by 3.6%. Offsetting this were declines in the relative size of other life stages, such as the birthing age (25–39 years) group, down by 6.3%, and the pre-school (0–4 years) group down by 3.4%.

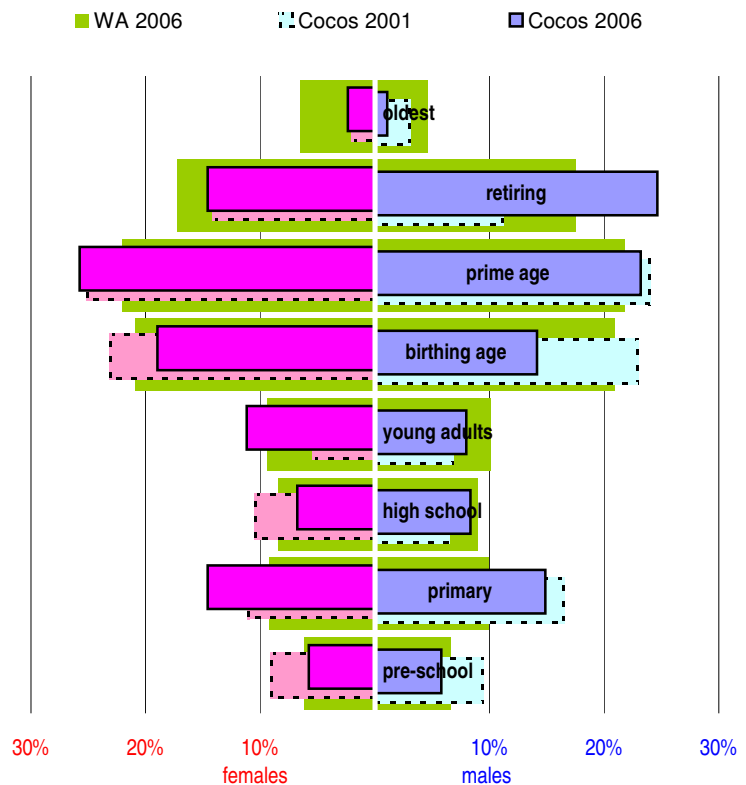
Compared with Western Australia, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' life stages that were proportionally larger were the primary school (5–11 years), which had 5.1% more of the population, and prime age (40–54 years), with 2.6% more.

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands had relatively fewer people in the birthing age (25–39 years) stage of life, with 4.3% less, and in the oldest (70+ years) stage, with 4.0% fewer.

For most communities with reasonably large populations, the number of males and females is within about 5% of each other. Over the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the male:female ratio is 1.07 females per male, reaching 2.33 females per male among those aged 70 or more.

The younger life stages with the biggest differences between the number of males and females were retiring (55–69 years), where there were 1.58 males per female, and the young adult (18–24 years) stage of life, with 1.50 females per male.

## Life stages



Life stages	the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos's % in WA	Cocos's difference	the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos in 2001	difference from 2001
	people	percent			males	females	ratio		
pre-school (0–4 years)	33	5.8%	6.4%	0.6% less	5.8%	5.8%	1.06 F:M	9.2%	3.4% less
primary school (5–11 years)	84	14.7%	9.6%	5.1% more	14.9%	14.6%	1.05 F:M	13.8%	1.0% more
high school (12–17 years)	43	7.5%	8.7%	1.1% less	8.3%	6.8%	1.15 M:F	8.4%	0.9% less
young adult (18–24 years)	55	9.6%	9.7%	0.1% less	8.0%	11.2%	1.50 F:M	6.0%	3.6% more
birthing age (25–39 years)	95	16.6%	20.9%	4.3% less	14.1%	19.0%	1.44 F:M	23.0%	6.3% less
prime age (40–54 years)	140	24.5%	21.9%	2.6% more	23.2%	25.8%	1.19 F:M	24.5%	0.0% more
retiring (55–69 years)	96	16.8%	14.5%	2.3% more	20.7%	13.2%	1.58 M:F	11.1%	5.7% more
oldest (70+ years)	25	4.4%	8.4%	4.0% less	5.1%	3.7%	2.33 F:M	4.0%	0.4% more
<b>residents</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1.07 F:M</b>	<b>596</b>	
aged 15+	538	94.2%	93.6%	0.6% more	260	278	1.07 F:M	90.8%	3.4% more

The male:female ratio is the ratio of their numbers, not their proportions.

# Generations

Your generation is set by the period you are born in, and each generation has different aspirations and values. The relative sizes of generations in a community influences its overall culture. With no incoming population, older generations with higher mortality rates will decline proportionally, and younger generations will become a larger proportion of the population, and gain more influence on community culture as they age.

Statistically, generations are counted as 15 years long (three Censuses). The first 'named' generation, the *Baby-boomers*, was born between 1946 and 1961, followed by *Generation X*, born 1961 to 1976, and *Generation Y*, born 1976 to 1991. Before these were the *Wartime* generation (1931-1946) and the *Veterans* (1916-1931). The most recent generation, simply called *Children*, was born between 1991 and 2006, but only those counted in both of the last two Censuses (i.e. they were born between 1991 to 2001) are included here. Generations are dated as between Censuses (eg August 1946 to July 1961).

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands is currently undergoing noticeable generational change with Gen X (30–44 years) and the Wartime (60–74 years) increasing their share of the population, mostly at the cost of Veteran (75–89 years) and to a lesser extent, Baby-boomers (45–59 years).

The Veterans generation, aged 75 to 89 in 2006, is mostly shrinking in size and as a proportion of the population. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, there were 12 fewer veterans in 2006. Their proportion of the population fell by 1.9%. There were males and females equally.

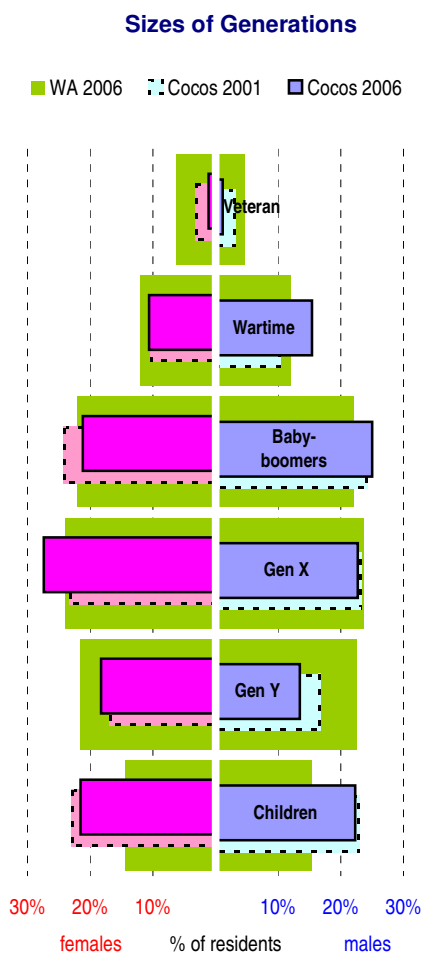
The Wartime generation, aged 60 to 74 in 2006, grew up through World War 2 then raised their baby-boom children. Their number increased by 3 and their population share increased by 1.7% over 2001 to 2006, likely an effect of falling population. The gender ratio was 1.38 males per female (more men are living past 75 than in the past).

Baby-boomers, aged 45 to 59 in 2006, made up the second largest generation in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands with 123 residents, 23% of the population. Their numbers decreased by 23 while their share of the population decreased by 1.7% over 2001–2006. There were 1.12 males per female.

Generation X, aged 30–44 in 2006, was the largest generation. Their population share increased by 1.9% since 2001 to 25.1%, while their numbers remained fairly stable. Their gender ratio was strongly biased towards women, with 1.27 females per male.

The youngest full generation in 2001, Gen Y, numbered 85, which was 15 less than 2001, making it the fourth largest generation. Gen Y's share of the population fell by 1.0% since 2001 to 16%, which was 6% smaller than in Western Australia. This generation has 1.43 females per male.

Over 2001–2006, the number in Children generation (those born from 1991 to 2001 who were 5–14 years old in 2006), remained fairly stable. Their proportion rose 1.1% since 2001, and was 7% larger than Western Australia.



Generations	the Cocos Islands						WA, 2006		
	2006	2001	change	2006%	2001%	change	M / F ratio	share (%)	Cocos has
Children (5–14 years)	117	123	-6	21.9%	20.8%	up 1.1%	1.02 F:M	14.9%	7.0% more
Gen Y (15–29 years)	85	100	-15	15.9%	16.9%	dn 1.0%	1.43 F:M	22.0%	6.1% less
Gen X (30–44 years)	134	137	-3	25.1%	23.2%	up 1.9%	1.27 F:M	23.7%	1.3% more
Baby-boomers (45–59 years)	123	146	-23	23.0%	24.7%	dn 1.7%	1.12 M:F	22.1%	1.0% more
Wartime (60–74 years)	69	66	+3	12.9%	11.2%	up 1.7%	1.38 M:F	11.9%	1.0% more
Veteran (75–89 years)	6	18	-12	1.1%	3.1%	dn 1.9%	=	5.4%	4.3% less
<b>residents aged 5–89</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>-56</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>S.D.= 1.8%</b>	<b>1.05 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>dn 9.5%</b>
other residents	37	6	+31	6.9%	1.0%				

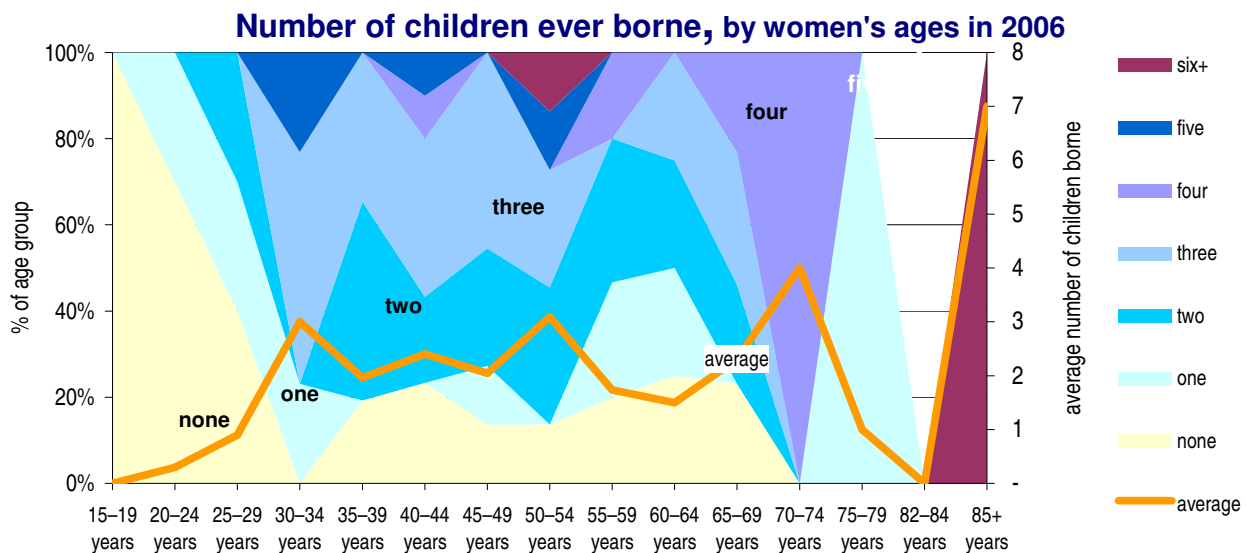
Note: there will generally be fewer residents aged 5-89 in 2006 than lived in 2001. The 2006 total excludes those aged 0-4 and those aged 90+, whereas the 2001 total includes the large age group 0-4 at the cost of the small age group 85-89, so the population will fall.

# Number of children borne by women

Every decade, the Census asks women how many children they had ever given birth to. The pattern is charted below, with the solid line representing the average number of births for women of different ages, and the shaded areas the proportion who had one, two, or more children. It is clear that older women have had more children on average than do younger ones; the average number rises fairly consistently with the women's ages (in 2006).

In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the average number of children borne by all women aged 15+ was 2.0, and the average borne by women who had borne children was 2.7. This was lower than in Western Australia, where women averaged 1.8 births (2.6 for those who had given birth). The average number of births is strongly influenced by the age structure, because older women had more births than is common nowadays. For example, all women in their seventies averaged 2.5 births each, compared with 2.2 for women in their forties.

Across their ages, women's birth numbers tend to fall into three broad patterns. Among women aged under 40, the average number of births increases with age, and the proportions with one, two or three children all grow. The rising birth rate plateaus around the age of 40; few women have babies after this age. Women aged from 45 to 60 (the baby boomer generation, for whom the contraceptive Pill first became available) tend to have different birthing patterns from older women, with fewer births.



Number of children ever born	% of women of each age who had this many births, the Cocos Islands					average births per women this age			
	none	one	two	three	four +	all women Cocos	WA	women who had child Cocos	WA
<b>age of women in 2006</b>									
15-19 years	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-	0.04	-	1.35
20-24 years	70%	30%	0%	0%	0%	0.30	0.23	1.00	1.47
25-29 years	40%	30%	30%	0%	0%	0.90	0.69	1.50	1.81
30-34 years	0%	23%	0%	54%	23%	3.00	1.34	3.00	2.06
35-39 years	19%	0%	46%	35%	0%	1.96	1.84	2.43	2.31
40-44 years	23%	0%	20%	37%	20%	2.40	2.08	3.13	2.45
45-49 years	14%	14%	27%	45%	0%	2.05	2.19	2.37	2.52
50-54 years	14%	0%	32%	27%	27%	3.09	2.25	3.58	2.54
55-59 years	20%	27%	33%	0%	20%	1.73	2.33	2.17	2.58
60-64 years	25%	25%	25%	25%	0%	1.50	2.51	2.00	2.75
65-69 years	23%	0%	23%	31%	23%	2.31	2.82	3.00	3.06
70-74 years	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	4.00	3.05	4.00	3.30
75-79 years	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	1.00	3.09	1.00	3.35
82-84 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.23
85+ years	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	7.00	2.73	7.00	3.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>1.76</b>	<b>2.71</b>	<b>2.56</b>

Average births is calculated from raw data assuming 7 births average for women with 6+ births.

most common for age

highest birth numbers

# Households

## The types of households

Households are the fundamental unit of a community, with three broad types - families, lone persons, and shared households. The Australian trend is towards more single person households, but locally the types of households are often a reflection of the sizes of dwellings available.

In 2006, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' residents lived in 138 households, of which 94% were family households, 4% were single persons and 4% were shared households.

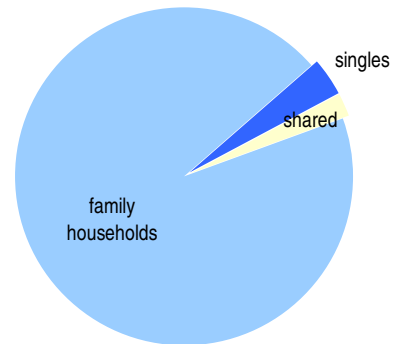
In the Census, people reported the number who usually live in their household, even if some were away on Census night. For the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the reported number of residents per household averaged 4.12, with the family households averaging 4.28 people.

Of the 130 family households, 19% had two members (who would be mainly couples), while 21% had three members and 60% had four or more members. By way of comparison, Western Australia's family households had 45% with two members (25% more), 21% with three (similar), and 35% with four or more members (25% fewer).

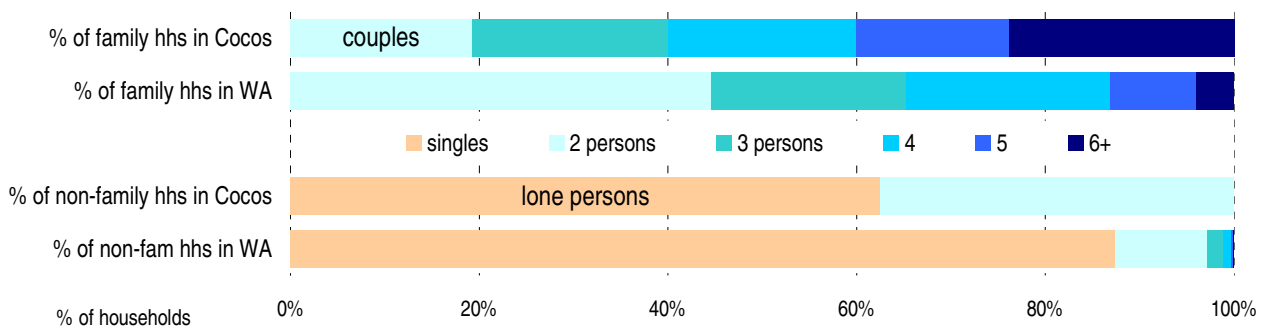
Of the other, non-family households in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 5 or 63% reported just one usual resident. The rest were shared or group housing, with all of these having two 'flat-mates'. Across Western Australia, almost nine in every ten of non-family households had just one usual resident.

Since 2001, the average occupancy of all households had decreased by 0.13 persons. That of family households decreased by 0.17 while that of non-family households increased by 0.38.

Types of households



Numbers in households



Sizes of households	Number of households (dwellings) of each size						total dwellings	total residents	av. h'hold size
	singles	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 or more			
family households		25	27	26	21	31	130	557	4.28
non-family households	5	3	0	0	0	0	8	11	1.38
<b>all dwellings 2006</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>4.12</b>
family households 2001 *		26	18	32	24	36	136	606	4.46
non-family households 2001 *	9	0	0	0	0	0	9	9	1.00
<b>all dwellings 2001 *</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>4.24</b>
<b>2006</b>									
% of family hhs in Cocos		19%	21%	20%	16%	24%	100%		av. in 6+ person dwgs
% of family hhs in WA		45%	21%	22%	9%	4%	100%		7.0 persons
% of non-family hhs in Cocos	63%	38%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%		
% of non-fam hhs in WA	87%	10%	2%	1%	0%	0%	100%		

The total number of residents is calculated by multiplying the number of households by their sizes, assuming 7 persons per household for those recorded as '6 or more'. This assumption can be varied. The population so calculated will not exactly equal the Census count unless the assumed number of residents in 6+ person households is 7.1, due to data complexities.

The 2001 dwellings include non-visitor and non-classifiable households which the 2006 dwellings do not, so the numbers of dwellings is not comparable. The average household size should not vary much due to this variation.

# Roles in households

The social structure of a community is revealed by the different roles that people have in households, and how these differ between the sexes, from other places, and over time. Adults usually live as couples or singles, though some live in mixed households. Younger people living at home are classified either as children (under 15), full-time students (aged 15 to 24), or independent (if aged 15 to 24 but not full-time students).

In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 55% of residents lived as partners in a couple (with one in twenty-five being de facto couples), and 1% lived as sole parents.

Children living with a parent made up 33% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' residents, of whom 27% were under 15 years old, 1% were full-time students, and 5% were independent young adults.

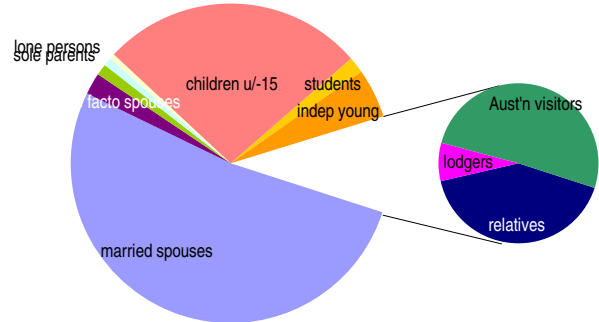
Other adults in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands were mainly living alone, 1% of residents, or in shared housing, 1%, but 4% lived with relatives and 1% as lodgers.

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands had more residents than Western Australia who were married spouses (13% more) and children under 15 (6% more), but fewer lone persons (by 9%) and de facto partners (5% fewer).

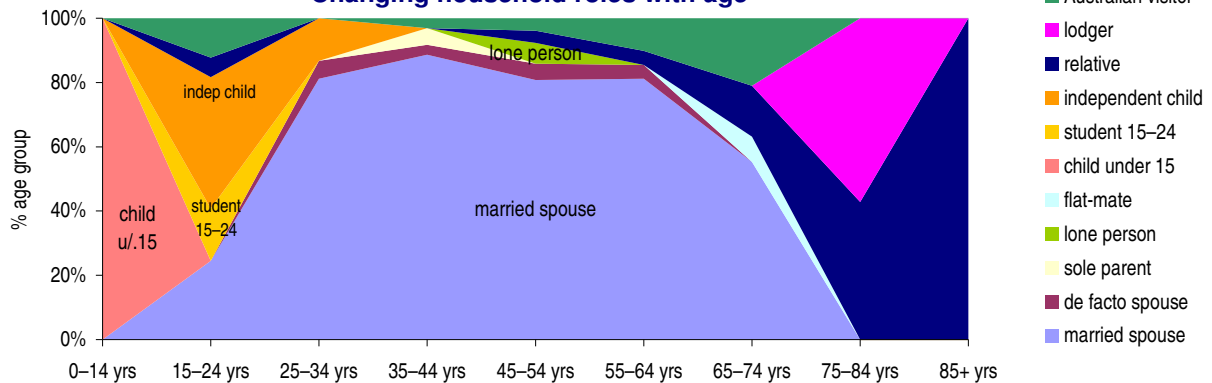
Since 2001, the biggest changes in the relative sizes of the social groupings were that 0.9% more of the population were full-time students (15–24) and 0.2% more were lodgers, while 2.2% fewer were children under 15 and 1.2% fewer lived as independent young adults.

The roles people have in their household changes as they age and move home. The chart below shows the proportions of different age groups in the main roles. The dominant feature is usually the proportion of married spouses, dominating over the 40 to 60 age groups. The proportion in de facto relationships generally peaks among those in their thirties, while the proportion who live alone tends to increase with age, often accounting for about half the oldest people.

Household roles



Changing household roles with age



Roles in households	the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos's difference		the Cocos Islands 2006			2001 % in Cocos	diff. from 2001
	no. aged all ages	% of age group	% in WA		males	females	ratio		
married spouses	281	52%	39%	13% more	142	139	1.0 M:F	53%	dn 0.9%
de facto partners	13	2%	8%	5% less	6	7	1.2 F:M	3%	dn 0.8%
sole parents	5	1%	4%	3% less	0	5	F	2%	dn 0.7%
lone persons	5	1%	10%	9% less	0	5	F	1%	dn 0.1%
flat-mates	3	1%	3%	2% less	0	3	F	1%	up 0.0%
children under 15	144	27%	21%	6% more	68	76	1.1 F:M	29%	dn 2.2%
full-time students (15–24)	8	1%	5%	3% less	4	4	=	1%	up 0.9%
independent young adults	27	5%	6%	1% less	13	14	1.1 F:M	6%	dn 1.2%
relatives	22	4%	2%	2% more	13	9	1.4 M:F	4%	dn 0.2%
lodgers	4	1%	1%	0% more	4	0	M	1%	up 0.2%
Aust'n visitors	27	5%	2%	3% more	11	16	1.5 F:M	7%	dn 2.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>261</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	

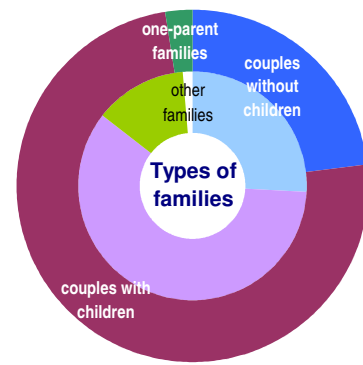
Children living with their families and not a partner are classified into one of three groups - children under 15, dependent children (who are full-time students), and non-dependent children (who may work or be part-time students, or neither). Flat-mates are unrelated people who share a household; Lodgers are unrelated residents living with a family.

# Families

The families in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands fall into three main types – 'nuclear' families consisting of a couple with children make up 75% of families; couples without children, who tend to be either young or old, are 23% of families; and 2% are one-parent families. In the Census, a family is a group of related people living in the same dwelling (or household).

The biggest difference from Western Australia in the types of families is that the Cocos (Keeling) Islands has more couples with children and fewer one-parent families.

Since 2001, the proportion of couples without children has increased by 3% while the proportion of couples with children has decreased by 3%.



The outer, darker ring is Cocos; the inner, lighter ring is WA.

Couples can be same-sex couples, so gender imbalances may indicate that some couples are same-sex. However, there is often a slight female bias in 'childless' couples counted in the Census because men are more likely to be away Census night (probably on work trips). In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, there were 104 males per 100 females in couples without children. However, there can be a male bias in couple families with children, as normally more children are male; here there were 107 females per 100 males in families with children.

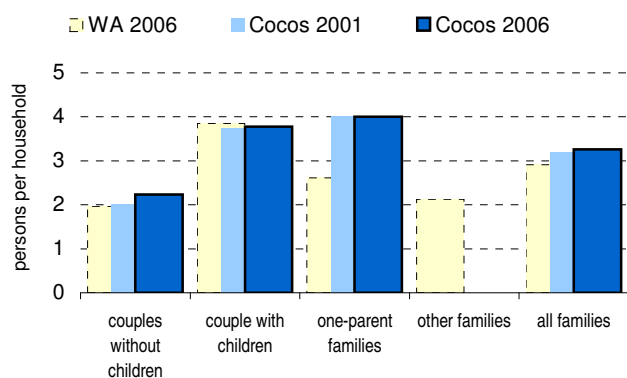
Types of families	the Cocos Islands 2006				the Cocos Islands, 2006			Cocos's change from 2001	
	residents	percent	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males	females	ratio	Cocos in 2001	Cocos's change from 2001
couples without children	114	23%	26%	3% less	58	56	1.04 M:F	20%	up 3%
couples with children	370	75%	60%	15% more	179	191	1.07 F:M	77%	dn 3%
one-parent families	12	2%	13%	11% less	0	12	F	3%	dn 1%
other families	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	=	0%	same
<b>residents</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>237</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>1.09 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	

The average size of nuclear families in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006 was 3.8 persons (ie 1.8 kids), which was very similar to Western Australia and virtually unchanged from 2001.

Among single parent families, the average size families was 4.0 persons (ie 3.0 kids), 1.4 more than Western Australia and almost the same as 2001.

Women nearly always outnumber men among single parents. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' single parent families, there were only females.

## Average family size



Family size	the Cocos Islands 2006				the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos's change from 2001	
	families	% of families	% in WA	Cocos's difference	residents	av. family size	av. family size, WA	Cocos's diff. from WA	Cocos's change from 2001
couples without children	51	34%	38%	5% less	114	2.24	1.96	0.27 more	up 0.24
couple with children	98	64%	45%	19% more	370	3.78	3.85	0.07 less	up 0.04
one-parent families	3	2%	15%	13% less	12	4.00	2.61	1.39 more	same
other families	0	0%	2%	2% less	0	-	2.12	-	n.a.
<b>all families</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>496</b>	<b>3.26</b>	<b>2.91</b>	<b>0.35 more</b>	<b>up 0.06</b>

Excludes family members temporarily absent on Census Night.

# Marriage and family blending

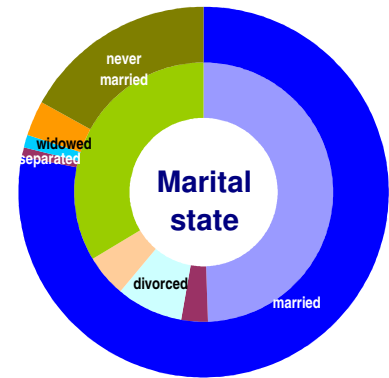
The high prevalence of divorce, coupled with a reluctance to marry amongst younger generations, has resulted in many families consisting of couples who may not be married to each other, living with children who may not be both of theirs by birth. A person's marital state can be a poor indicator of their lifestyle. To address this, the Census collects information on a person's legal marital status (eg married, divorced) and their social marital status (whether they live as a couple or a single). The Census asked about family relationships, classifying families as either natural families (where children come from both parents, or were adopted), step-families (where all children came from one partner), or blended families (with children from each partner).

Of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' 420 residents aged 15+ in 2006, 78% were married, 17% had never married, and 5% were once married, now separated (0.7%), divorced (1.2%), or widowed (3.1%).

About 77% of residents in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands reported they lived as a couple, which was similar to the 78% who were legally married.

Compared with Western Australia, relatively more residents were married (29% more), while fewer were never married (17% fewer) or divorced (7% fewer).

Over 2001 to 2006, the proportions of adults in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands who were married rose by 4%. The proportion who were divorced fell by 3% with the proportion who were never married down 2%.



The outer, darker ring is Cocos; the inner, lighter ring is WA.

While the gender ratio of married couples should always be close to 1:1, allowing for a few absences, it can be quite imbalanced in other marital states. Generally, because women live longer, more tend to be widowed, but also separated and divorced. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, among widowed people, there were 1.2 women per man, while there were all men among separated adults and all women among divorced adults. People who have never married are more usually male; in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, however, there were 1.8 women per man among those who had never married.

For the first time, the 2006 Census asked couple families whether they included step-children. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 13% of these families included at least one step child (not including adopted children) – 7.1% were step families (where the children had one natural parent in the couple), and 6.1% were blended families (with both step and natural children of the couple). For comparison, Western Australia had 7.3% step-families, and 4.3% blended families. Overall, the proportion of blended or step families in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands was 1.2% higher than for Western Australia.

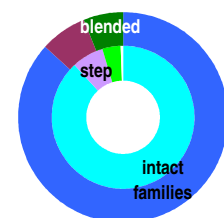
Legal marriage	Cocos, 2006		% in WA	Cocos's difference	the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos in 2001	change from 2001
	people	percent			males	females	ratio		
married	328	78%	50%	29% more	169	159	1.1 M:F	74%	up 4%
separated	3	1%	3%	2% less	3	0	M	1%	dn 0%
divorced	5	1%	8%	7% less	0	5	F	4%	dn 3%
widowed	13	3%	5%	2% less	6	7	1.2 F:M	3%	up 0%
never married	71	17%	34%	17% less	25	46	1.8 F:M	19%	dn 2%
<b>residents aged 15+</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>203</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Living situation									
married	284	77%	50%	27% more	145	139	1.0 M:F	76%	up 1%
de facto	10	3%	10%	7% less	6	4	1.5 M:F	5%	dn 3%
single	73	20%	40%	20% less	27	46	1.7 F:M	18%	up 1%
<b>residents aged 15+</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>178</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	

These tables excludes those who were temporarily absent on Census night, and people living in 'visitors only' households or non-private dwellings (eg nursing homes, barracks).

Blended and step families	Cocos, 2006		% in WA	Cocos's difference
	families	%		
intact families	85	87%	88%	1% less
step families	7	7%	7%	0% less
blended families	6	6%	4%	2% more
other families	0	0%	0%	0% less
<b>families</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

## Family blending

- intact families
- step families
- blended families
- other families



The outer, darker ring is Cocos; the inner, lighter ring is WA.

## Child caring

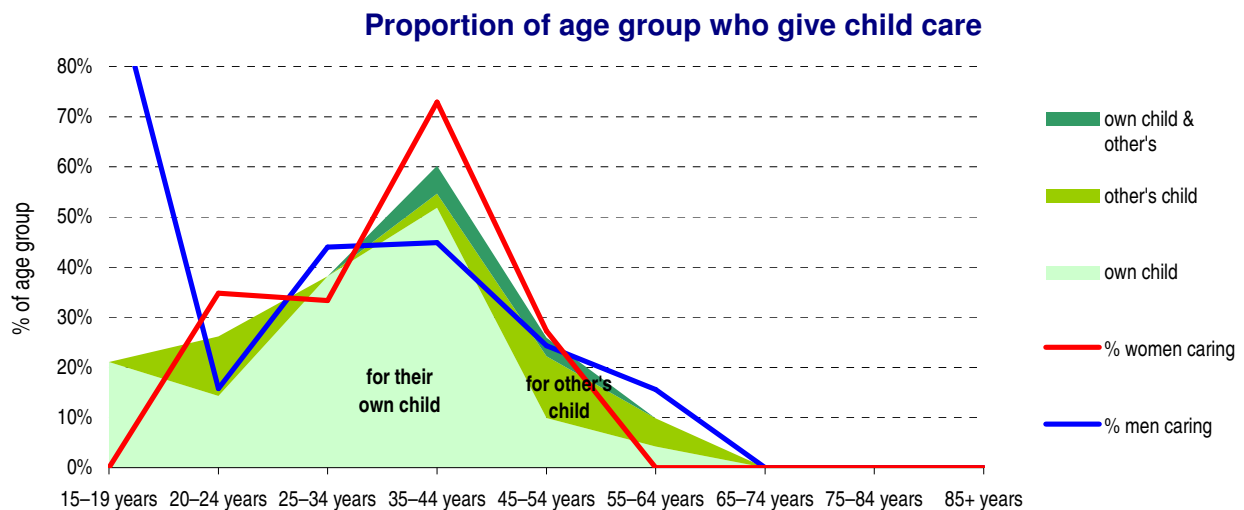
The 2006 Census asked people for the first time whether they voluntarily provided child care, either for their own child or another's, within the past fortnight. The results are illustrated below, showing how the proportion caring for a child rises to a peak with people in their forties, while the proportion caring for another's child usually peaks in the grandparent age.

In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 31% of adults (aged 15+) provided some voluntary child care, with 23% caring for their own child, 5% caring for another's child, and 2% caring for both their and another's children.

As might be expected, there is a noticeable difference between child care provision by men and women. This is shown on the chart by the lines representing men and women. At virtually all ages, more women care for children than men. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 33% of women provided voluntary child caring while 27% of men did. For Western Australia overall, 33% of women and 23% of men provided child care.

Child caring peaked in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands between the ages of 35–44 years when 60% of residents were providing child caring (73% of women and 45% of men). It was next highest among people aged 25–34 years (38%) and 20–24 years (26%).

Caring for others' children was highest amongst residents aged 45–54 years with 16% caring for another's child (likely their grandchild), compared with 14% of this age group who were caring for their own child. Caring for others' children was next most common among those aged 20–24 years, when 12% looked after another's child (with or without their own).



Child care given, residents aged 15+	Proportion of residents of each age who cared for ...					the Cocos Islands		Western Australia	
	own child	other's child	own child & other's	no child / unstated	any child (total)	% men caring	% women caring	% men caring	% women caring
15–19 years	21%	0%	0%	79%	21%	100%	0%	5%	11%
20–24 years	14%	12%	0%	74%	26%	16%	35%	8%	20%
25–34 years	38%	0%	0%	62%	38%	44%	33%	29%	49%
35–44 years	52%	3%	6%	40%	60%	45%	73%	49%	63%
45–54 years	10%	12%	4%	74%	26%	24%	27%	27%	29%
55–64 years	4%	6%	0%	90%	10%	16%	0%	12%	23%
65–74 years	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	11%	17%
75–84 years	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	5%	5%
85+ years	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>all residents aged 15+</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>33%</b>

# Housework

The 2006 Census asked people how many hours housework (unpaid domestic work) they did in the last week, including cleaning, cooking, washing, shopping, gardening and maintenance. The pattern between the sexes is similar to child caring – women generally do more hours. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, women averaged around 10 hours of domestic work a week, compared to 6 hours for men.

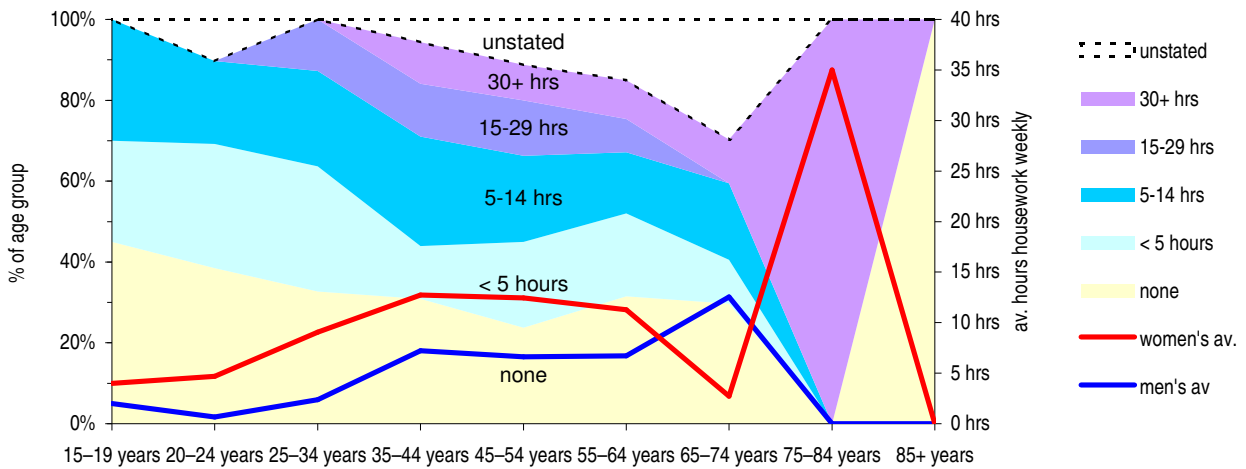
The chart below shows how the contribution to domestic labour changes with age and sex. The shaded areas represent the proportion of residents who did different amounts of housework (eg 5-14 hours a week), running from the youngest on the left to the oldest on the right. The blue and red lines represent the average hours work done by men and women, shown on the right axis.

On average, 32% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents did not do any housework. They include high proportions of teenagers (here 45% of them), with the proportion not doing housework falling to 24% among those aged 45–54 years, before rising with age to 100% among those 85+ years old.

Housework is strongly affected by having children, with the peak housework hours usually occurring over the main child-rearing ages, particularly for women. Here, the peak housework age is around 75–84 years, when women averaged around 35 hours housework each week, though with very few this age. There were no men this age.

Women tend to do more housework than men regardless of age. Their ratio of housework hours peaks amongst those aged 20–24 years, when women did around seven times the housework each week, 5 hours vs 0.7 for men. It was similarly high amongst residents aged 25–34 years, when women did 3.8 times the housework, and 15–19 years, 2.0 times. By old age, housework usually tapers off for men and women, until the ratio of their weekly hours becomes irrelevant due to small numbers.

**Hours of housework, by age and sex**



Housework by residents aged 15+	hours of unpaid domestic work per week					average hours housework			
	none	< 5 hours	5-14 hrs	15-29 hrs	30+ hrs	men's average	women's average	ratio of hours	ratio in WA
15–19 years	45%	25%	30%	0%	0%	2.0 hrs	4.0 hrs	2.0 F:M	1.59 F:M
20–24 years	38%	31%	21%	0%	0%	0.7 hrs	4.7 hrs	7.1 F:M	2.23 F:M
25–34 years	33%	31%	24%	13%	0%	2.4 hrs	9.1 hrs	3.8 F:M	2.65 F:M
35–44 years	31%	13%	27%	13%	10%	7.2 hrs	12.7 hrs	1.8 F:M	2.60 F:M
45–54 years	24%	21%	21%	14%	9%	6.6 hrs	12.4 hrs	1.9 F:M	2.34 F:M
55–64 years	32%	21%	15%	8%	10%	6.7 hrs	11.3 hrs	1.7 F:M	2.24 F:M
65–74 years	30%	11%	19%	0%	11%	12.5 hrs	2.7 hrs	4.6 M:F	1.57 F:M
75–84 years	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	-	35.0 hrs	-	1.19 F:M
85+ years	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-	0	-	1.13 M:F
<b>residents</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6.1 hrs</b>	<b>10.1 hrs</b>	<b>1.7 F:M</b>	<b>2.20 F:M</b>

The average number of hours is estimated by multiplying the proportion in each range by an estimated average for that range. The averages used are 0 for none, 2 for <5 hours, 10 for 5-14 hours, 22 for 15-29 hours, and 35 for 30+ hours. There is no evidence for these averages, but different assumptions will yield similar comparisons between ages and sexes.

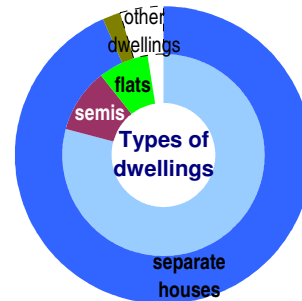
# Housing

## Types of dwellings

There were 150 occupied private dwellings in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006, which was a decrease of 10 since 2001. Most of these were occupied by residents; some were occupied only by visitors or were unclassifiable because the occupants did not complete a Census form.

Some 93% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' occupied dwellings were detached houses, which was 14% above Western Australia. The other occupied dwellings were 3 flats and units, and 7 other types of dwellings, notably caravans or cabins.

Since 2001, many new dwellings across Australia have been flats or townhouses, to cater for smaller households. However, changes in the count of these dwellings are not precise, because they could have been classified differently at different Censuses.



The outer, darker ring is Cocos; the inner, lighter ring is WA.

The count of occupied separate houses is fairly accurate, affected mainly by the return rate on the Census. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, there were 9 fewer occupied houses in 2006, compared with 2001. With attached houses and flats/units, changes in numbers are less accurate. The Cocos (Keeling) Islands recorded a loss of 3 townhouses or semis, and a loss of 2 flats or units.

Of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' occupied flats/units in 2006, 100% were low-rise (ground-floor or walk-up), and none were in buildings with four or more storeys. The 'other' dwellings' were 7 caravans or cabins.

Types of occupied private dwellings	occupied. dwgs (incl. non-resident dwgs)				occupied dwellings (incl. non-resident dwgs)				
	Cocos 2006	% Cocos dwgs.	% WA dwgs.	Cocos's difference	Cocos 2001	change 2001-2006	% change	% change in WA	Cocos's difference
<b>separate houses</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>14% more</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>- 9</b>	<b>dn 6%</b>	<b>up 4%</b>	<b>10% less</b>
<b>semis/ townhouses</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10% less</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>- 3</b>	<b>dn 100%</b>	<b>dn 7%</b>	<b>93% less</b>
• one storey	0	0.0%	8.2%	8.2% less	3	- 3	dn 100%	dn 9%	91% less
• two or more storeys	0	0.0%	2.3%	2.3% less	0	same	-	dn 3%	-
<b>flats or units</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6% less</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>- 2</b>	<b>dn 40%</b>	<b>up 6%</b>	<b>46% less</b>
• in a 1-2 storey block	3	2.0%	5.0%	3.0% less	5	- 2	dn 40%	up 16%	56% less
• in a 3 storey block	0	0.0%	1.5%	1.5% less	0	same	-	dn 11%	-
• in a 4+ storey block	0	0.0%	1.5%	1.5% less	0	same	-	dn 4%	-
• attached to a house	0	0.0%	0.1%	0.1% less	0	same	-	dn 32%	-
<b>other dwellings</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2% more</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>+ 4</b>	<b>up 133%</b>	<b>dn 54%</b>	<b>187% more</b>
• caravan, cabin, houseboat	7	4.7%	2.0%	2.7% more	3	+ 4	up 133%	up 10%	124% more
• improvised home or tent	0	0.0%	0.3%	0.3% less	0	same	-	dn 18%	-
• flat attached to a shop	0	0.0%	0.1%	0.1% less	0	same	-	dn 28%	-
not stated	0	0.0%	0.1%	0.1% less	0	same	-	dn 91%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>160</b>	<b>- 10</b>	<b>dn 6%</b>	<b>up 1%</b>	<b>7% less</b>

The 2006 data is from the 2006 Place of Enumeration Profile (PEP) and includes dwellings occupied by visitors and non-classifiable households, which are not included in the other tables in this Portrait. Non-classifiable households would mainly be dwellings that appeared inhabited but where a Census form was not collected. The 2001 BCP data includes all occupied dwellings and is compatible with the 2006 PEP data but not the 2006 BCP data. Note that changes in the number of dwellings between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses can be caused by dwellings being classified differently (attached houses and flats can switch).

## Dwelling tenures

The Census asks whether each occupied dwelling is owned, being bought (under a mortgage) or rented (under various landlords). The balance between these three forms of housing tenure gives some indications about the permanency, age and wealth of a community.

Overall, 15% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' occupied dwellings were fully owned, which was 16% lower than Western Australia, which can indicate fewer long-term residents, though not here.

Another 5% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' dwellings were being purchased, 33% less than Western Australia, indicating fewer incoming residents.

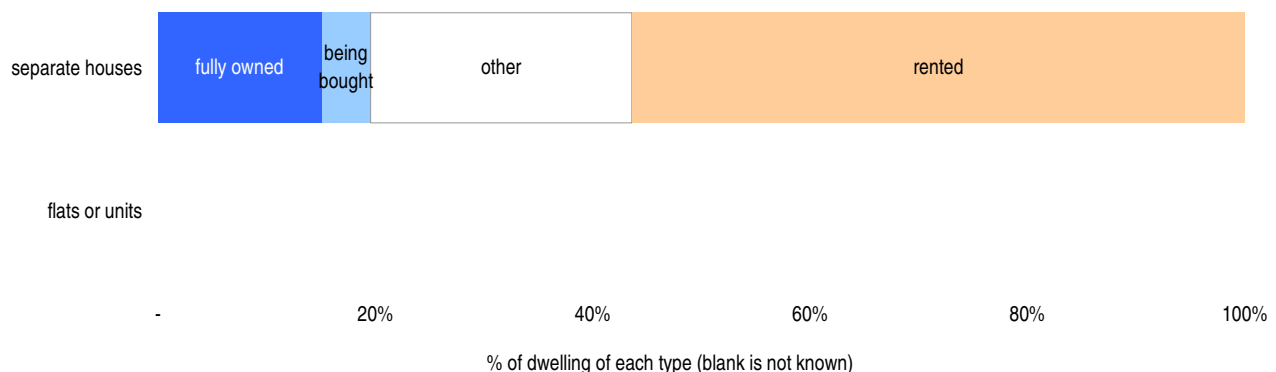
Most of the remaining dwellings were rented (56%), which was 29% higher than Western Australia. More rental dwellings can indicate a lower-income or more transient population.

Tenures tend to vary with dwelling types, with people more likely to rent flats or units (particularly when they are young) but to own houses (when older). In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 15% of houses were fully owned. Conversely, 56% of the separate houses were rented.

The proportion of dwellings being bought gives some indication of the incoming population, though some mortgages would be over 20 years old. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, only 5% of separate houses were being purchased.

Of the 56% of occupied dwellings that were rented, none were managed by real estate agents and none by individuals (eg small investors); 21% had other private landlords. Another 35% of dwellings were public housing, 47 occupied homes in all. All were separate houses.

### Tenure of dwellings, by type



Tenures of dwellings, by type	% of occupied dwelling type in each tenure				% of occupied dwellings under different landlords				
	fully owned	being bought	rented	other / unstated	estate agent	owner investor	public housing	co-op / other	public hsg 2001
separate houses	15%	5%	56%	24%	-	-	35%	15%	69%
flats or units	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50%
<b>% of occ'd dwgs, Cocos</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>67%</b>
% of occ'd dwgs, WA	31%	38%	27%	4%	11%	8%	4%	3%	4%
<b>Cocos diff. from WA</b>	<b>16% lower</b>	<b>33% lower</b>	29% higher	20% higher	<b>11% lower</b>	<b>8% lower</b>	31% higher	12% higher	62% higher
<b>Dwelling numbers</b>									
separate houses	20	6	75	32	-	-	47	20	101
flats or units	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>104</b>

The proportions under different landlords do not add to the total rental proportion due to the exclusion of smaller landlord types eg cooperative, not stated or other.

# Mortgage payments

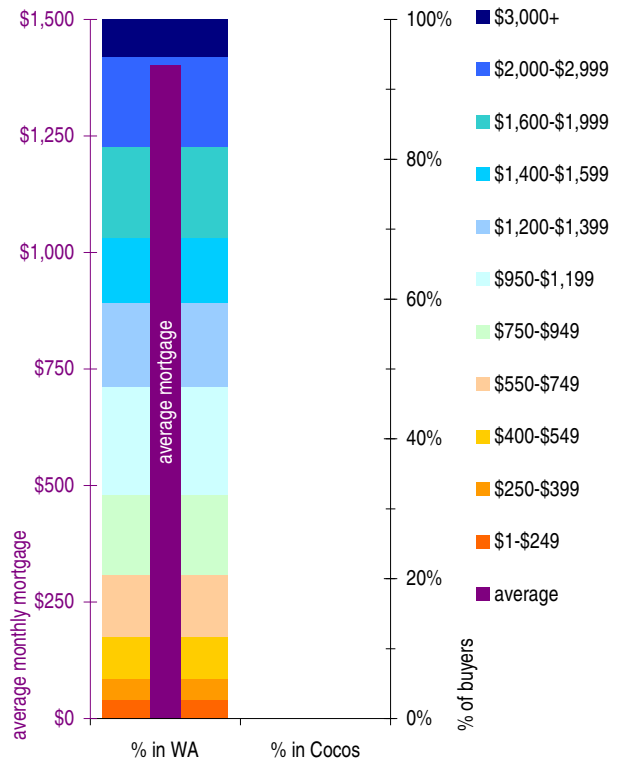
The average monthly mortgage paid by the 5 households who were paying off their home in 2006 was unknown. The median mortgage, where half the households paid more and half less, was in the range not stated.

The average mortgage generally varies with the type of dwelling, but here there is insufficient data.

A rough comparison can be made with mortgages in 2001 by adjusting the mortgage ranges used in the 2001 Census to match those of the 2006 Census, then turning the resulting average into 2006 dollars by adjusting for CPI changes. This gives an average 2001 mortgage of around \$400.

Mortgages measured in 2006 can be also adjusted to reflect changes in interest rates from then. At the time of the Census, the Basic House Interest Rate was 7.25%. With interest rates at 7.00% repayments would be about 3% lower.

Monthly mortgage repayment



Monthly mortgage payments	occupied dwellings being purchased				% of dwelling type in mortgage range				% in Cocos, 2001
	number in Cocos	% in Cocos	% in WA	Cocos's difference	separate houses	attached houses	flats or units	other dwellings	
\$1-\$249	0	-	3%	-					0%
\$250-\$399	0	-	3%	-					<b>50%</b>
\$400-\$549	0	-	6%	-					<b>50%</b>
\$550-\$749	0	-	9%	-					0%
\$750-\$949	0	-	11%	-					0%
\$950-\$1,199	0	-	<b>15%</b>	-					0%
\$1,200-\$1,399	0	-	12%	-					0%
\$1,400-\$1,599	0	-	9%	-					0%
\$1,600-\$1,999	0	-	<b>13%</b>	-					0%
\$2,000-\$2,999	0	-	13%	-					0%
\$3,000+	0	-	5%	-					0%
not stated	5				not included in percentages				
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>100%</b>
av. monthly mortgage	\$-		\$1,402	100% lower	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	\$400
<b>Housing cost factors</b>	CPI Aug 2001	133.8	CPI Aug 2006	154.3	Basic interest	August 2001	7.25%	Oct 2009	7.00%

The largest bands for each place and dwelling type are highlighted in bold. The basic house interest rate is as reported by the Reserve Bank. The mortgage ranges measured in the 2001 Census were different from the 2006 Census, so the number in each 2006 range (those shown in the table) is calculated by apportioning the 2001 ranges. The average is calculated from the number in the 2006 ranges using the same formula as 2006 averages, then increased by the CPI increase over 2001 to 2006, to show equivalent dollars.

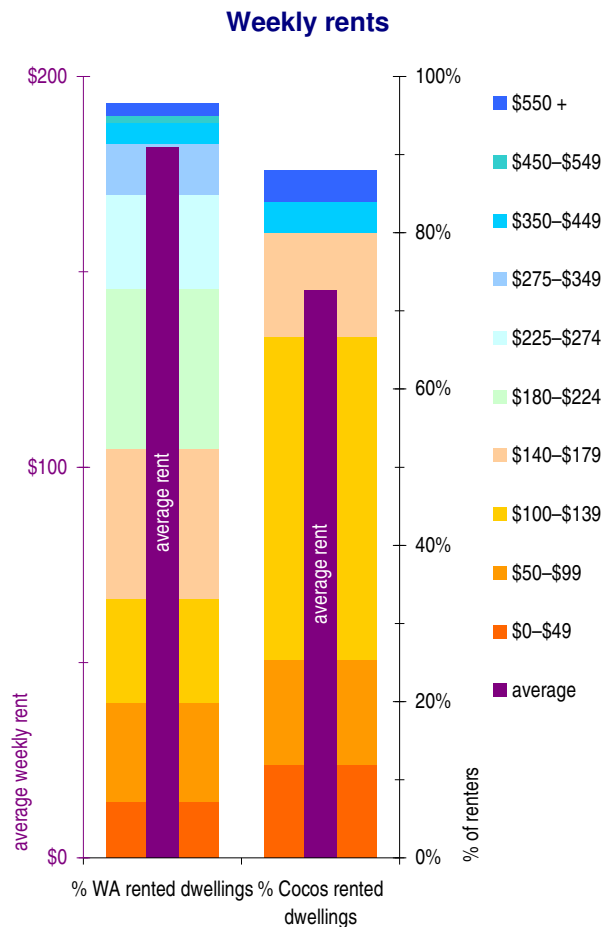
# Weekly rents

The average rent paid by the 75 households renting in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006 was \$145 a week, which was 20% less than the Western Australia average. The median rent, where half the households paid more and half less, was in the range \$100–\$139.

The average rent was \$131 for those run by private landlords (ie people who live elsewhere or housing associations or charities) with \$155 weekly paid in public housing.

The most common rents in 2006 were in the range \$100–\$139, \$50–\$99 then \$140–\$179. These three ranges included 68% of rental households. In Western Australia, the most common rent was \$100–\$139. In 2001 in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, it was in the range \$100–\$139 a week.

Rents in 2001 can be compared with 2006 by adjusting the rent ranges measured in the 2001 Census to match those of the 2006 Census, then turning the resultant average into 2006 dollars by adjusting for CPI changes. This gives an average 2001 rent of \$180, suggesting the average rent in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands had decreased by \$34 or 19% in real terms.



Weekly rent payments	occupied dwellings					% dwellings in each rent range, by landlord			
	number	% Cocos rented dwellings	% WA rented dwellings	Cocos's difference	% Cocos in 2001	real estate agents	private* landlords	public housing	other or not stated
\$0-\$49	9	12%	7%	5% more	0%	-	19%	10%	0%
\$50-\$99	10	13%	13%	1% more	19%	-	29%	8%	0%
\$100-\$139	31	41%	13%	28% more	49%	-	24%	42%	100%
\$140-\$179	10	13%	19%	6% less	14%	-	0%	21%	0%
\$180-\$224	0	0%	20%	20% less	2%	-	0%	0%	0%
\$225-\$274	0	0%	12%	12% less	1%	-	0%	0%	0%
\$275-\$349	0	0%	7%	7% less	0%	-	0%	0%	0%
\$350-\$449	3	4%	3%	1% more	4%	-	14%	0%	0%
\$450-\$549	0	0%	1%	1% less	3%	-	0%	0%	0%
\$550 +	3	4%	2%	2% more	2%	-	0%	6%	0%
not stated	9	12%	3%	9% more	5%	-	14%	13%	0%
<b>Total</b>	75	100%	100%	same	100%	-	100%	100%	100%
<b>average rent</b>	<b>\$145</b>	<b>\$182</b>	<b>20% lower</b>	<b>\$180</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$131</b>	<b>\$155</b>	<b>\$120</b>	

The most common rent ranges are have their data in bolded. The rent ranges measured in the 2001 Census were different from the 2006 Census, so the number in each 2006 range (those shown in the table) is calculated by apportioning the 2001 ranges. The average is calculated from the number in the 2006 ranges using the same formula as 2006 averages, then increased by the CPI increase over 2001 to 2006, to show equivalent dollars.

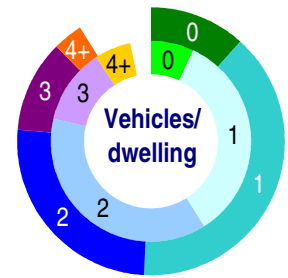
## Vehicles

In August 2006, there was an average of 1.54 vehicles parked at each household in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, which was 13% or 0.23 vehicles per household less than the average for Western Australia, and 0.12 vehicles per household higher than in 2001.

About 12% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands households had no vehicles, with most having one (39%) or two (26%), while 15% had three or more vehicles. The biggest differences from Western Australia were the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' greater proportion of households with no vehicles and lower proportion of households with two vehicles.

Since 2001, the proportion of households with two vehicles has grown most, up by 14.1%, while the proportion with number not stated fell by 13.1%.

Vehicles per dwelling	occupied dwellings with each number of vehicles					
	dwellings 2006	% Cocos dwellings	% WA dwellings	Cocos's difference	% Cocos dwgs, 01	change in % dwgs
no vehicles	16	12%	7%	5% more	17%	dn 6%
one vehicle	53	39%	34%	5% more	47%	dn 8%
two vehicles	35	26%	38%	12% less	12%	up 14%
three vehicles	15	11%	12%	1% less	2%	up 13%
four+ vehicles	5	4%	6%	2% less	n.a.	n.a.
number not stated	12	9%	3%	5% more	22%	dn 13%
<b>Total dwellings</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>155</b>	<b>dn 12%</b>
<b>average vehicles / dwelling</b>	<b>1.54</b>		<b>1.76</b>	<b>0.23 less</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>up 0.12</b>



The outer, darker ring is Cocos; the inner, lighter ring is WA.

The average vehicles per dwelling is calculated assuming 4.5 vehicles average in dwellings with 4+ vehicles in 2006, and 3.5 vehicles average for dwellings with 3+ vehicle in 2001.

## Internet connection

By August 2006, 46% of occupied dwellings in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands were connected to the Internet, with 7% having a broadband connection and 37% still using a dial-up connection. Compared with Western Australia, there were 15% more households with a dial-up connection and 34% fewer households with a broadband connection.

Overall, 93% of dwellings did not have a high-speed internet connection, compared with 60% for Western Australia.

Internet connection	number	occupied dwellings			% of dwelling type with internet connection			
		% Cocos dwellings	% WA dwellings	Cocos's difference	separate houses	townhouses	flats	other dwelling
an Internet connection	62	46%	63%	17% less	46%	-	-	-
no Internet connection	63	47%	34%	13% more	47%	-	-	-
unstated connections	9	7%	3%	4% more	7%	-	-	-
<b>occupied dwellings</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
a broadband connection	9	7%	40%	34% less	7%	-	-	-
a dial-up connection	50	37%	22%	15% more	37%	-	-	-
another type of connection	3	2%	1%	2% more	2%	-	-	-
<b>no broadband connection</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>34% more</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Other types of internet connection include mobile phone, but wireless is included in broadband.

# Community Capital

## Stability

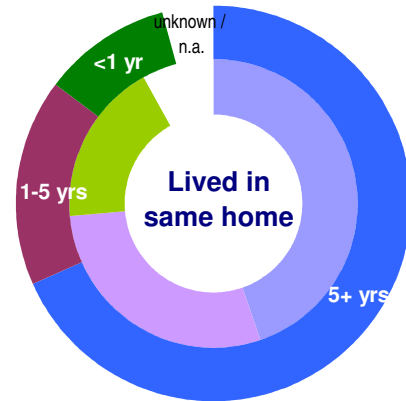
The time that residents have lived in a community affects the extent to which they develop relationships and networks with other residents, and build social capital. The longer that more residents have lived in a place, the stronger their community networks are likely to be. The Census provides valuable indicators of community stability by asking people where they lived one and five years ago.

In 2006, 68% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' residents had lived in the same house for at least 5 years, compared with 45% in Western Australia, and another 17% had been in their home for 1 to 5 years (29% for Western Australia). Overall, if staying in the same home over a year is the indicator, local stability was much higher than Western Australia.

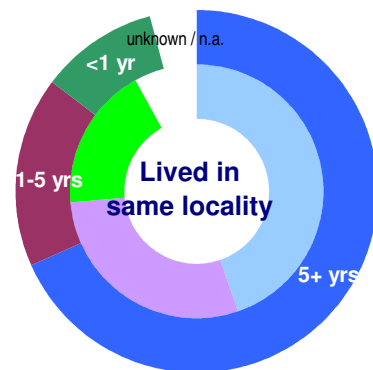
A better indicator of community stability is the proportion of residents who have stayed in the same locality for some time, either in the same home or after moving. The locality measured by the Census is the Statistical Local Area, which is a small Local Government Area, or several suburbs of a large Council area (to town size).

Altogether, 72% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' residents had lived here in the same locality for more than 5 years, which was 15% higher than the average across Western Australia. In total, 88% of current residents had lived here in the same locality for at least a year, compared with 80% across Western Australia.

Over the five years 2001 to 2006, the proportion of residents who had lived over 5 years in the same house rose by 8%, suggesting a more stable community, ageing in place. The proportion who moved home within the last year fell by 2%.



The outer, darker ring is Cocos; the inner, lighter ring is WA.



The outer, darker ring is Cocos; the inner, lighter ring is WA.

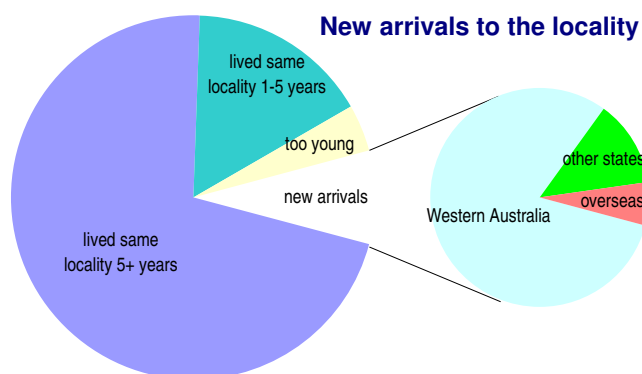
Residential stability	the Cocos Islands 2006		% in WA	Cocos's difference	the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos in 2001	change from 2001
	people	percent			males	females	ratio		
lived same home 5+ years	391	68%	45%	24% more	69%	68%	1.0 M:F	60%	up 8%
lived same home 1-5 years	97	17%	29%	12% less	17%	17%	1.0 F:M	15%	up 2%
lived same home <1 year	60	10%	18%	8% less	9%	11%	1.2 F:M	13%	dn 2%
not stated / too young	24	4%	8%	4% less	5%	4%	1.3 M:F	12%	dn 8%
<b>residents</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	
lived same locality 5+ years	409	72%	57%	15% more	74%	69%	1.1 M:F	63%	up 8%
lived same locality 1-5 years	92	16%	23%	7% less	13%	19%	1.4 F:M	14%	up 2%
lived same locality <1 year	47	8%	12%	4% less	8%	9%	1.2 F:M	11%	dn 3%
too young	24	4%	8%	4% less	5%	4%	1.3 M:F	12%	dn 8%

## New arrivals and visitors

The new residents to the locality last year were mainly from Western Australia (38 people or 6.6% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' residents), with 6 from other states and 3 from overseas. New residents from overseas could be immigrants or returning Australians. Overseas visitors who are not Australian residents are not included in this profile.

Compared with Western Australia, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands had 3.7% fewer of its population who were recent arrivals (within the last year), with the biggest difference being the lower proportion from Western Australia.

Over the last five years, the largest group of arrivals was from Western Australia, which provided 72 new residents (making 13% of the 2006 population). New residents from other states constituted another 4% of the population, down by 3% since 2001. The proportion of the population who had arrived from overseas within the last five years fell by 0.8% since 2001, to be 0.5% in 2006.



New residents to the locality	the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos's difference	the Cocos Islands 2006			changed	
	people	% residents	% in WA		males	females	ratio	Cocos in 2001	share from 2001
<b>Came last year from ...</b>									
Western Australia	38	6.6%	8.5%	1.9% less	5.4%	7.8%	1.43 F:M	8.3%	dn 1.7%
other states	6	1.0%	1.4%	0.3% less	2.2%	0.0%	M	2.7%	dn 1.7%
overseas	3	0.5%	1.9%	1.3% less	0.0%	1.0%	F	0.0%	up 0.5%
unstated	0	0.0%	0.2%	0.2% less	0.0%	0.0%	=	0.0%	same
<b>new residents last year</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>3.7% less</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>1.15 F:M</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>dn 2.9%</b>
<b>Came in last 5 years, from ...</b>									
Western Australia	72	12.6%	20.3%	7.7% less	11.6%	13.5%	1.17 F:M	11.9%	up 0.7%
other states	21	3.7%	3.3%	0.4% more	2.9%	4.4%	1.52 F:M	6.8%	dn 3.1%
overseas	3	0.5%	5.2%	4.6% less	0.0%	1.0%	F	1.4%	dn 0.8%
unstated origins	6	1.0%	0.5%	0.5% more	1.1%	1.0%	1.07 M:F	0.0%	up 1.0%
<b>newish residents, last 5 years</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>17.8%</b>	<b>29.2%</b>	<b>11.4% less</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>1.28 F:M</b>	<b>20.1%</b>	<b>dn 2.3%</b>

There were 115 Australian visitors to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands on Census night, August 2006, of whom nil (none) were visitors from within the same locality (eg staying with friends). Most of the other visitors came from Western Australia, 74 in all.

Visitors on Census night	people in the Cocos Islands			the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos's difference	Cocos in	
	2006	2001	change 2001-2006	no. in all age gp	% of all age gp	% in WA aged all		2001	Cocos's change from 2001
visiting on Census night	115	68	up 47	115	20.1%	5.8%	14.3% more	11.6%	up 8.5%
<b>Visitors from ...</b>						<b>% visitors,</b>		<b>% visitors</b>	
the local area	0	3	dn 3	0	0%	14%	14% less	4%	dn 4%
Western Australia	74	50	up 24	74	64%	64%	0% less	74%	dn 9%
Victoria	18	0	up 18	18	16%	7%	9% more	0%	up 16%
South Australia	12	7	up 5	12	10%	3%	8% more	10%	up 0%
New South Wales	6	5	up 1	6	5%	6%	1% less	7%	dn 2%
other Territories	5	3	up 2	5	4%	0%	4% more	4%	dn 0%
Queensland	0	0	same	0	0%	4%	4% less	0%	same
the ACT	0	0	same	0	0%	1%	1% less	0%	same
Tasmania	0	0	same	0	0%	1%	1% less	0%	same
the Northern Territory	0	0	same	0	0%	1%	1% less	0%	same
<b>Total visitors</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>up 50</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	

Note: The column 'number any age' can be altered to a specific age group. When this is not the case, the numbers are the same as in the 2006 column.

## Voluntary work

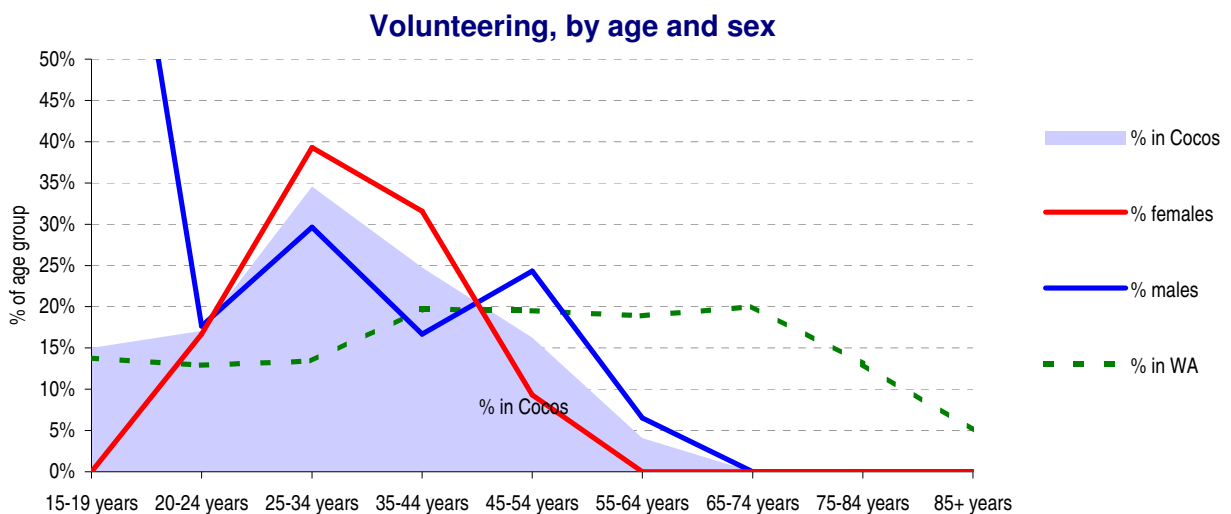
For the first time, the 2006 Census asked people (if aged 15+) whether they did any voluntary work for a group or organisation in the past year. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 71 residents said that they did (17%), 301 said that they did not (71%), and 49 or 12% did not answer. The proportion who volunteered was similar to Western Australia's average volunteering rate of 17%.

Volunteering tends to be highest amongst middle-aged people, and seems to only decline with incapacity as old age sets in. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the rate of volunteering was highest amongst those aged 25-34 years when 35% volunteered, and next highest in the 35-44 years and 20-24 years age groups, with 25% and 17% volunteering, respectively.

In terms of volunteer numbers, the largest groups of volunteers were 26 aged 35-44 years, 19 aged 25-34 years and 13 aged 45-54 years.

Volunteering also tends to be more common amongst women than men across most age groups. This could be influenced by women's lower labour force participation, but countering this is women's greater time commitment to housework and child care than men's. Where women spend longer hours doing paid work, housework and childcare than men, then their further commitment of time of community organisations may indicate greater community spirit or greater value placed on community services.

In 2006, there were 37 women and 34 men volunteering in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 1.01 women per man. Overall, 17% of women and 17% of men were volunteers. The gender difference in volunteering was highest amongst those aged 35-44 years when women were 1.9 times more likely to volunteer than men that age, and those aged 25-34 years, when women were 1.3 times more likely to volunteer than men. Local men's best volunteer performance relative to women was when aged 45-54 years when they were 2.6 times more likely to volunteer.



Volunteering, by age	Cocos 2006				Volunteers in the Cocos Islands 2006				
	number volunteers	% of age group	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males	females	% males	% females	ratio M% : F%
15-19 years	3	15%	14%	1% more	3	0	100%	0%	<b>M</b>
20-24 years	7	17%	13%	4% more	3	4	18%	17%	<b>1.1 M:F</b>
25-34 years	19	35%	13%	<b>21% more</b>	8	11	30%	39%	<b>1.3 F:M</b>
35-44 years	26	25%	20%	<b>5% more</b>	8	18	17%	32%	<b>1.9 F:M</b>
45-54 years	13	16%	20%	<b>3% less</b>	9	4	24%	9%	<b>2.6 M:F</b>
55-64 years	3	4%	19%	<b>15% less</b>	3	0	7%	0%	<b>M</b>
65-74 years	0	0%	20%	<b>20% less</b>	0	0	0%	0%	<b>=</b>
75-84 years	0	0%	13%	<b>13% less</b>	0	0	0%	0%	<b>=</b>
85+ years	0	0%	5%	<b>5% less</b>	0	0	0%	0%	<b>=</b>
<b>residents aged 15+</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>0.1% more</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>1.0 F:M</b>

## Need for disability assistance

The 2006 Census asked for the first time whether people needed assistance with three core activities in daily life – self-care, movement and communication – because of a disability, a health condition lasting six months or more, or old age. People with a profound or severe disability are defined as those who reported a need for assistance in self-care, mobility or communication.

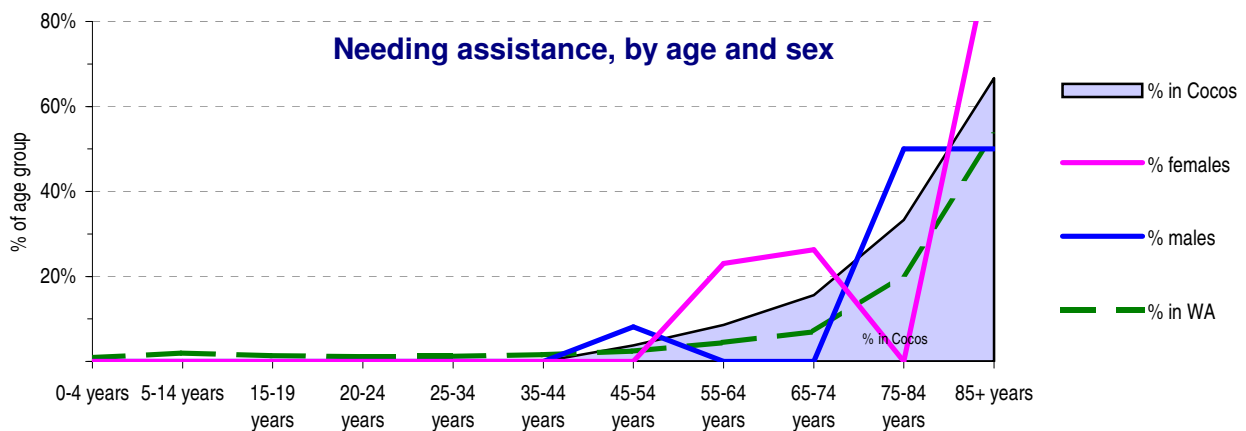
In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 4.2% of the population needed assistance because of disability, which was 0.4% higher than Western Australia. However, because disability increases significantly with old age, the average disability rate can be more a reflection of the community's age structure than any other factor.

The chart below shows, with the shaded area, how the proportion of people with a severe disability rises slowly from around none of infants to about half of the oldest people. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the disability rate reached 67% among those aged 85+ years. The next highest rate was among 75-84 years at 33%.

The main differences in disability rates between places tend to be in the older age groups, simply because the rates among younger people are generally very small. Disability rates here were highest compared with Western Australia among those aged 85+ years (when 13% more reported a disability), but relatively lowest among those aged 5-14 years (2% fewer).

Males tend to have higher disability rates from birth than females, and this trend continues through adulthood due to their having more disabling accidents. With ageing, women's disability rates rise faster, until they can exceed men's. Overall, 3.4% of males and 4.9% of females reported a severe or profound disability requiring assistance; the overall female disability rate was 44% higher than for males.

In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the gender imbalance in disability rates across age groups is random, due to low numbers of people with disability.



Residents needing assistance with core activities	Cocos in 2006				the Cocos Islands, 2006				
	number	% of age group	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males	females	% males	% females	ratio of %'s
0-4 years	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	0%	0%	=
5-14 years	0	0%	2%	2% less	0	0	0%	0%	=
15-19 years	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	0%	0%	=
20-24 years	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	0%	0%	=
25-34 years	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	0%	0%	=
35-44 years	0	0%	2%	2% less	0	0	0%	0%	=
45-54 years	3	4%	2%	1% more	3	0	8%	0%	M
55-64 years	6	9%	4%	4% more	0	6	0%	23%	F
65-74 years	5	16%	7%	9% more	0	5	0%	26%	F
75-84 years	3	33%	21%	13% more	3	0	50%	0%	M
85+ years	6	67%	53%	13% more	3	3	50%	100%	2.0 F:M
<b>residents</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>0% more</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>1.4 F:M</b>

The total used for the percentages does not include those who did not state whether they needed assistance.

## Disability care given

Many people in the community need assistance with core tasks of daily living, and this can require significant contributions from a number of people. The Census asked people aged 15 or more whether they provided unpaid care to people with profound or severe disabilities, within the previous fortnight, and found that on average about one person in every nine provided disability care.

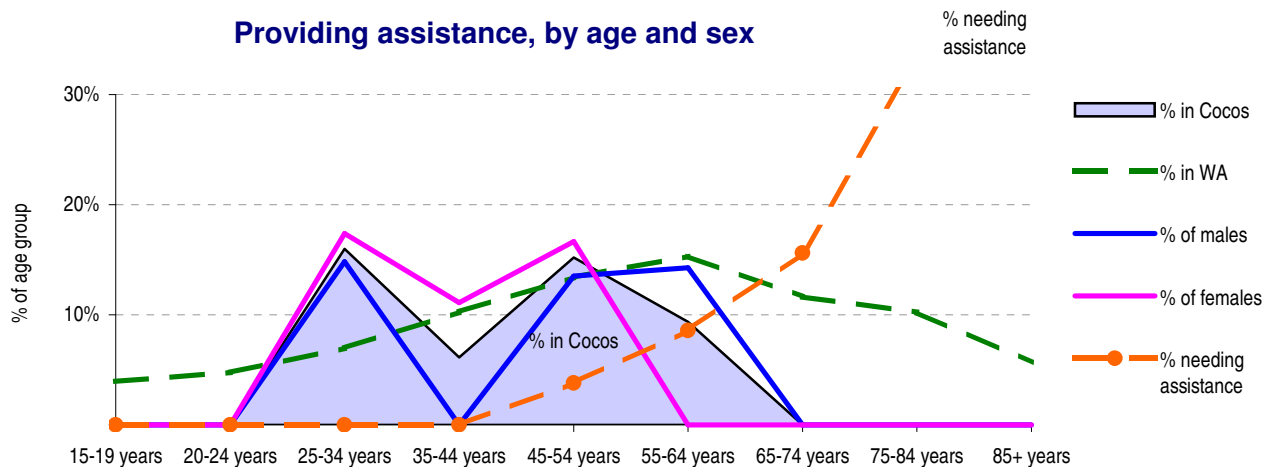
In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 8% of residents aged 15+ gave unpaid care to another needing assistance, with 32 carers in all. This rate was 2% lower than Western Australia. Generally, more women than men are carers; here, 9% of women were unpaid carers when 8% of men were. This means that women were 8% more likely to be carers than men.

Caring is provided by people almost regardless of age. Among younger age groups, 16% of those aged 25-34 years were carers.

However, as with most other forms of domestic labour, the contribution tends to be highest from people in their middle years caring for an aged spouse or relative, or a child with a disability still at home. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the proportion who gave care was highest amongst those aged 25-34 years, when 16% were carers (15% of men and 17% of women).

Women are more likely to be carers than men at most ages, with the ratio peaking in the 45-54 years age group, when women were 23% more likely to be carers. They were 17% more likely to be carers than men in the 25-34 years age group, and 100% more likely in the 35-44 years age group.

The ratio of carers to cared-for people in different age-sex group gives an indication of how caring is shared between the generations and the genders. Overall in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, there were 32 carers for 23 residents needing care, a ratio of 1.4 to 1. There were 1.2 female carers per cared-for woman and 1.7 male carers per cared-for man. Among women, there were no carers in the age groups with disabilities. Among men, the best carer ratio was for the 45-54 years age group with 1.7 carers per man with disabilities. However, the number of people giving assistance is small, which distorts these ratios.



Provided disability assistance	Cocos, 2006				the Cocos Islands 2006			Carers per cared-for	
	no. giving assistance	% of age group	% in WA	Cocos's difference	% of males	% of females	ratio of percents	men	women
15-19 years	0	0%	4%	4% less	0%	0%	=	n.a.	n.a.
20-24 years	0	0%	5%	5% less	0%	0%	=	n.a.	n.a.
25-34 years	8	16%	7%	9% more	15%	17%	1.2 F:M	n.a.	n.a.
35-44 years	6	6%	10%	4% less	0%	11%	F	n.a.	n.a.
45-54 years	12	15%	13%	2% more	14%	17%	1.2 F:M	1.7	n.a.
55-64 years	6	9%	15%	6% less	14%	0%	M	n.a.	0
65-74 years	0	0%	12%	12% less	0%	0%	=	n.a.	0
75-84 years	0	0%	10%	10% less	0%	0%	=	0	n.a.
85+ years	0	0%	6%	6% less	0%	0%	=	0	0
<b>residents aged 15+</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>2% less</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>

The carers per cared-for ratio is "n.a." if there are no cared-for of that age.

# Education

## Current schooling

In 2006, there were 96 school students living in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, of whom 9 were at pre-school, 55 were in primary/infants school, and 32 were at high school.

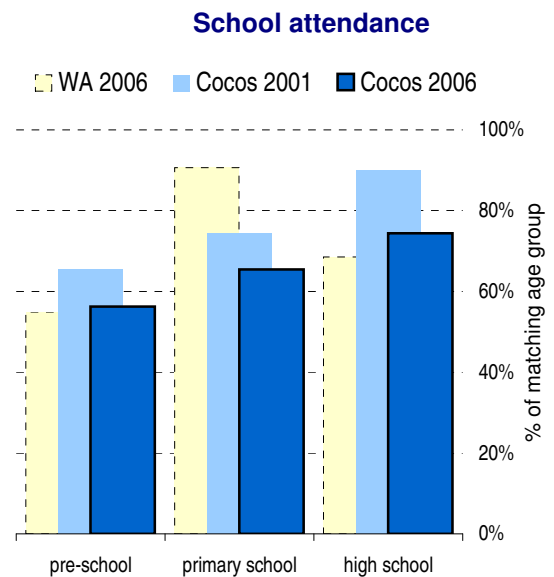
School attendance rates can be indicated by dividing the student population by their main age group. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 56% of the number of 3–4 year-old residents attended pre-school, 65% of the number of 5–11 year-olds attended primary school\*, and 74% of the number of 12–17 year-olds attended high school.

Since 2001, attendance rates for 3–4 year-olds at pre-school had decreased by 9%; attendance rates for primary-aged children decreased by 9% and those for high-school aged decreased by 16%.

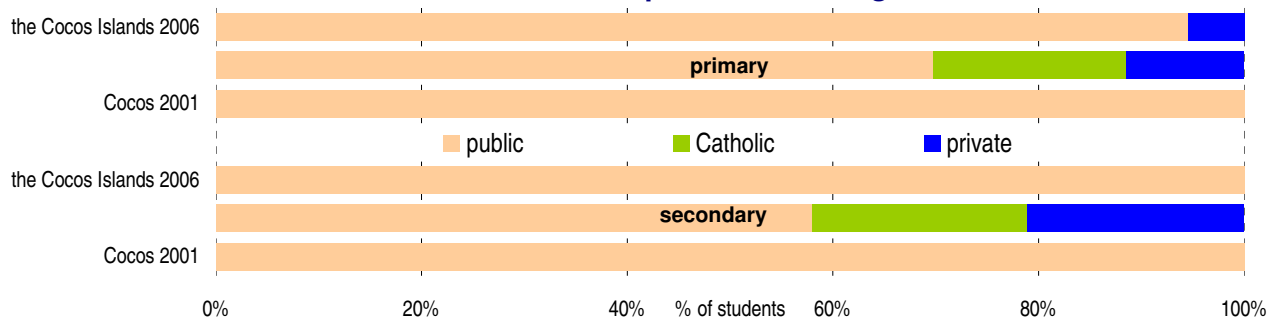
Compared with Western Australia, the attendance rate at pre-school was 1% higher while attendance rate for primary-aged children was 25% lower, and that for high-school aged was 6% higher.

About 97% of all primary and high school students were in public schools (vs 65% for Western Australia), while there were none at Catholic schools (vs 20%), and 3% were at other private schools (vs 15%). Since 2001, the proportion at private primary schools rose by 5% and that at public fell by 5%, while in secondary school, the proportion at public schools was stable.

Across all school students here, there were 1.09 females per male, but this ranged from 1.20 males per female among primary school students to 2.00 females per male among pre-school students.



## Public or private schooling?



School education	the Cocos Islands 2006		the Cocos Islands 2006		the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos 2001	
	students	% school pop'n	WA 2006	Cocos's difference	males	females	ratio	Cocos 2001	Cocos's change from 2001
pre-school	9	56%	55%	1% more	3	6	2.0 F:M	66%	dn 9%
primary school	55	65%	91%	25% less	30	25	1.2 M:F	74%	dn 9%
high school	32	74%	69%	6% more	13	19	1.5 F:M	90%	dn 16%
<b>Students</b>	<b>96</b>				<b>46</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>		
<b>Primary</b>		<b>% students</b>						<b>% students</b>	
public	52	95%	70%	25% more	30	22	1.4 M:F	100%	dn 5%
Catholic	0	0%	19%	19% less	0	0	=	0%	same
private	3	5%	11%	6% less	0	3	F	0%	up 5%
<b>Secondary</b>		<b>% students</b>						<b>% students</b>	
public	32	100%	58%	42% more	13	19	1.5 F:M	100%	same
Catholic	0	0%	21%	21% less	0	0	=	0%	same
private	0	0%	21%	21% less	0	0	=	0%	same

\* The attendance rate at primary school should theoretically be 100% because primary school is compulsory, but here student numbers are divided by the number of 5 to 11 year olds. If some students start younger and others finish later, and the year age groups are different in size, the ratio can vary from 100%.

## Tertiary studies

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents included 16 tertiary students in 2006, of whom 3 were at university, 10 at TAFE, and 3 at other tertiary colleges.

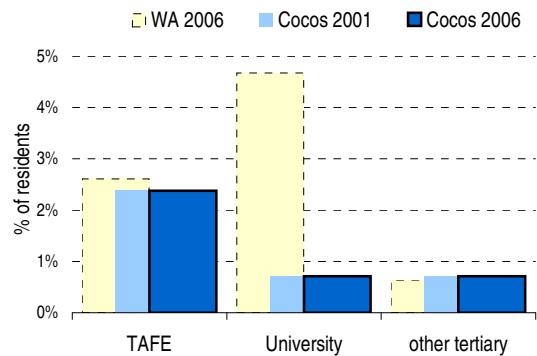
These students constituted 3.8% of the population, which was 4% lower than Western Australia. The biggest difference was in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' 4% smaller proportion at University courses.

From 2001 to 2006, the number of residents enrolled in tertiary courses decreased by 1. The proportion of the population aged 15+ who were tertiary students stayed fairly constant, while across Western Australia it fell 1%.

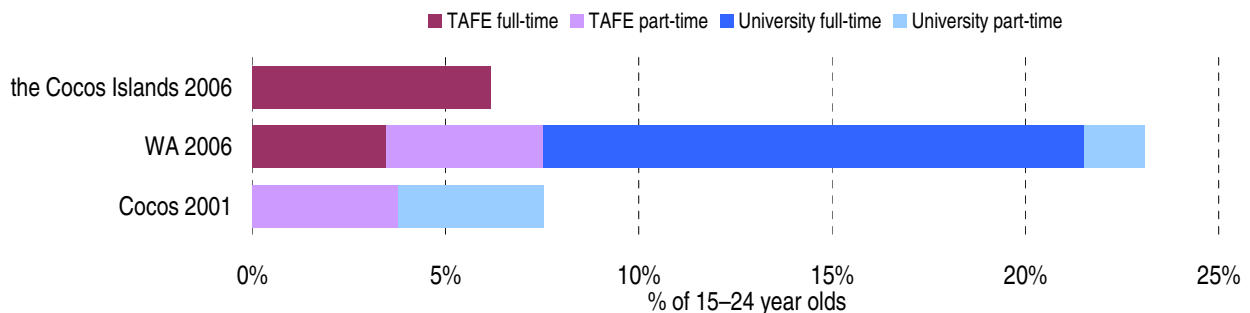
Among the 15 to 24 year-olds in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 6% were at TAFE and none were at university. This compares with 8% at TAFE and 16% at university in Western Australia. There were 4% at TAFE and 4% at university in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2001. From 2001 to 2006, the greatest local growth was in attendance at TAFE full-time, with 6% more of the young adults. None of local younger TAFE students attended part-time.

Young men and women tend to attend different courses and tertiary institutions, with men generally more likely to attend TAFE. Here, among tertiary students, there were 1.7 females per male overall, but with very small numbers.

### Tertiary attendance



### Tertiary attendance by 15–24 year olds



Tertiary education	the Cocos Islands 2006				the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos in change	
	people	% of 15+yrs	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males	females	ratio	2001	from 2001
TAFE	10	2%	3%	0% less	3	7	2.3 F:M	2%	up 0%
University	3	1%	5%	4% less	3	0	M	2%	dn 1%
other tertiary	3	1%	1%	0% more	0	3	F	0%	up 1%
<b>tertiary students</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>4% less</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.7 F:M</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>dn 0%</b>
<b>15–24 year olds</b>	% 15–24 yrs				% 15–24 yrs				
TAFE full-time	4	6%	3%	3% more	0	4	F	0%	up 6%
TAFE part-time	0	0%	4%	4% less	0	0	=	4%	dn 4%
University full-time	0	0%	14%	14% less	0	0	=	0%	same
University part-time	0	0%	2%	2% less	0	0	=	4%	dn 4%
<b>all 15–24 students</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>17% less</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>dn 1%</b>
<b>25+ year olds</b>	% 25–74 yrs				% 25–74 yrs				
TAFE full-time	0	0%	0%	0% less	0	0	=	0%	same
TAFE part-time	6	2%	1%	1% more	3	3	=	1%	up 1%
University full-time	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	=	0%	same
University part-time	0	0%	2%	2% less	0	0	=	1%	dn 1%
<b>all 25+ students</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2% less</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>up 1%</b>

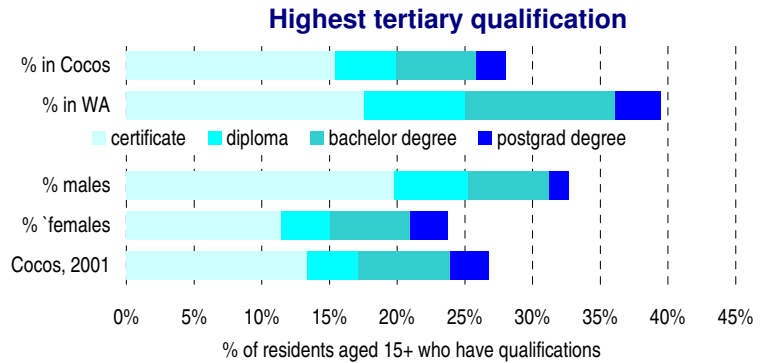
Note: 2001 data on part and full-time attendance by age groups is not available for small localities.

## Level of education attained

Education is a strong determinant of income and social status. Two indicators of a community's education level are the proportions with tertiary qualifications and the average school leaving age. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 43% of residents aged 15+ stated they had a tertiary qualification, and the average schooling completed was 6 years 10 months. By comparison, Western Australia had 53% with tertiary qualifications and average schooling of 10 years 9 months.

While overall the ratio of qualified males to females was 108 women per 100 men, this ranged from 1.73 men per woman having a certificate to 1.84 women per man having a postgraduate degree/diploma.

In 2001, 44% had a tertiary qualification, with the most noticeable changes since then being a 2.1% rise in the proportion with a certificate and a rise of 0.8% in the proportion with a diploma.

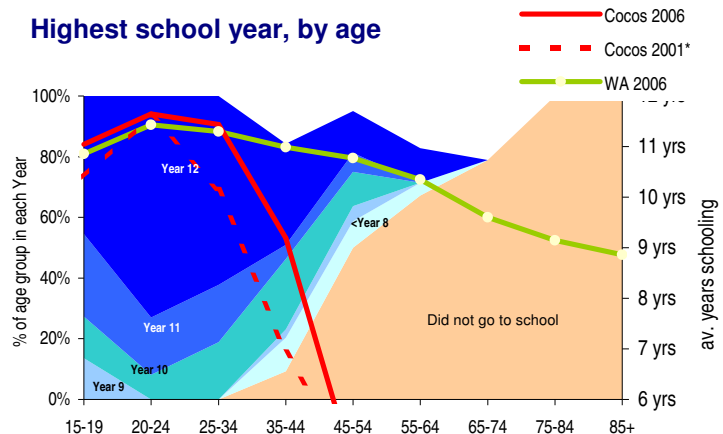


Highest tertiary qualifications	the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos's difference	the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos change from 2001	
	people aged 15+	% in Cocos		% in WA	% males	% females	ratio	Cocos, 2001
postgraduate degree/diploma	9	2.1%	3.4%	1.5%	2.7%	1.84 F:M	2.8%	dn 0.7%
bachelor degree	25	5.9%	11.1%	5.9%	5.9%	1.00 M:F	6.8%	dn 0.9%
diploma or advanced diploma	19	4.5%	7.4%	5.4%	3.7%	1.49 M:F	3.8%	up 0.8%
certificate	65	15.4%	17.6%	19.8%	11.4%	1.73 M:F	13.4%	up 2.1%
inadequately described	63	15.0%	13.8%	1%	14.4%	1.08 F:M	17.6%	dn 2.6%
none or not stated	240	57.0%	46.8%	10% more	53.0%	1.15 F:M	55.6%	up 1.4%
<b>Residents aged 15+</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,562,653</b>		<b>202</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>1.08 F:M</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The chart shows the highest year of school completed by residents of different ages. The shaded bands show the proportion of each age group who completed that year, and the lines show the average years schooling completed.

Most recent students finished Year 12, peaking at 73% of 20-24 year-olds. With older age groups, the proportions who finished Year 12 decreases, and the average number of years schooling falls to nil amongst 65-74 year-olds.

### Highest school year, by age



Highest school year	Highest school year						average years schooling		
	Year 12	Year 11	Year 10	Year 9	<Year 8	Did not go to school	Cocos 2006	WA 2006	Cocos 2001*
15-19	45%	27%	14%	14%	0%	0%	11.0 yrs	10.9 yrs	10.4 yrs
20-24	73%	19%	8%	0%	0%	0%	11.6 yrs	11.4 yrs	11.6 yrs
25-34	62%	19%	19%	0%	0%	0%	11.4 yrs	11.3 yrs	10.2 yrs
35-44	33%	5%	23%	3%	11%	9%	9.2 yrs	11.0 yrs	6.9 yrs
45-54	14%	6%	11%	5%	9%	50%	4.7 yrs	10.8 yrs	4.5 yrs
55-64	11%	0%	0%	0%	4%	67%	2.0 yrs	10.3 yrs	1.9 yrs
65-74	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	79%	0.0 yrs	9.6 yrs	1.4 yrs
75-84	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0.0 yrs	9.1 yrs	n.a.
85+	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0.0 yrs	8.9 yrs	n.a.
<b>residents</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>6.8 yrs</b>	<b>10.7 yrs</b>	<b>6.4 yrs</b>

The average schooling is estimated by multiplying the proportions who finished each year by the number of years, taking the average for <Year 8 as Year 6, excluding non-stated.

\* 2001 data is not available on people aged over 75 or for small areas (eg. suburbs).

# The Local Economy

## Individual incomes

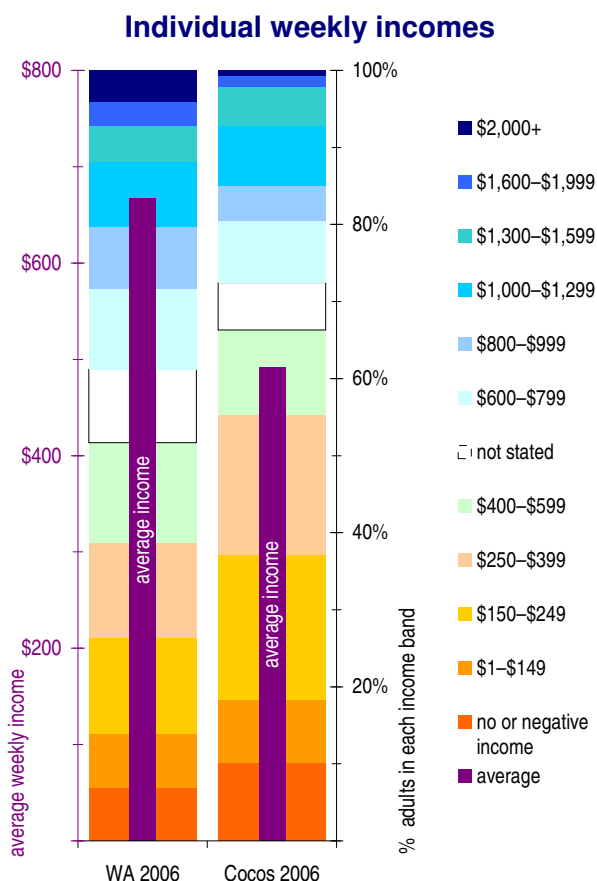
In mid-2006, the average income from all sources of the adults (aged 15+) in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands was around \$491 a week, which was \$176 lower than the \$667 average for Western Australia. The average income of local women was \$352 and the average of local men was \$640 (82% more). The median income (where half earn more and half less) was \$341 a week compared with \$500 for Western Australia.

Since 2001, while average weekly earnings rose 24% across Australia, the average income in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands rose by 6% less (up 18%), suggesting that the Cocos (Keeling) Islands became relatively poorer. Male average incomes went from \$505 in 2001 to \$640 in 2006, up by 27%; women's from \$320 in 2001 to \$352 in 2006, up by 10%.

The income ranges measured in the 2006 Census can be aggregated into four broad income groups. Low income is less than 30% of average earnings, or \$250 a week (roughly the single pension); middle income lies up to 70% of average earnings (\$250 to \$600 pw); high income is from 70% to 155% of the average (\$600-\$1299); and highest income is over 155% or \$1,300 a week.

In 2006, 37% of adults in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands received low-incomes, 29% got middle-incomes, 20% got high-incomes, and 7% were in the highest income group. The Cocos (Keeling) Islands had 11% more in the low income band than Western Australia, and 7% fewer in the high income band. Almost without exception, there are more men than women in the higher income bands, and more women than men in the lower. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the sex ratio ranges from 6.0 men per woman earning \$1,300-\$1,599 to 2.9 women per man earning no or negative income.

The total value of personal incomes in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006 was about \$10 million.



Incomes of people aged 15+ yrs	the Cocos Islands 2006				the Cocos Islands 2006				% in Cocos in 2001	Cocos's change from 2001
	no. aged 15+ yrs	% aged 15+ yrs	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males 15+ yrs	females 15+ yrs	ratio			
no or negative income	43	10%	7%	3% more	11	32	2.9 F:M	12%	dn 1.4%	
\$1-\$149	34	8%	7%	1% more	10	24	2.4 F:M	21%	dn 12.7%	
\$150-\$249	79	19%	12%	6% more	24	55	2.3 F:M	9%	up 9.7%	
\$250-\$399	77	18%	12%	6% more	36	41	1.1 F:M	12%	up 6.8%	
\$400-\$599	46	11%	13%	2% less	30	16	1.9 M:F	16%	dn 4.9%	
\$600-\$799	34	8%	10%	2% less	27	7	3.9 M:F	5%	up 2.6%	
\$800-\$999	19	5%	8%	4% less	5	14	2.8 F:M	6%	dn 1.4%	
\$1,000-\$1,299	33	8%	8%	1% less	24	9	2.7 M:F	5%	up 2.3%	
\$1,300-\$1,599	21	5%	5%	0% more	18	3	6.0 M:F	4%	up 1.3%	
\$1,600-\$1,999	6	1%	3%	2% less	3	3	=	0%	up 1.1%	
\$2,000+	3	1%	4%	3% less	3	0	M	0%	up 0.3%	
not stated	26	6%	10%	3% less	12	14	1.2 F:M	10%	dn 3.7%	
<b>total</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>203</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>		
<b>average weekly income</b>		<b>\$491</b>	<b>\$667</b>	<b>36% less</b>	<b>\$640</b>	<b>\$352</b>	<b>1.8 M:F</b>	<b>\$415</b>	<b>up 18%</b>	

The average weekly income is calculated by multiplying the mid-point of each income range by the number of people in that range, using \$2,500 for the \$2000+ range, and dividing by the number who stated their income. The 2001 average is calculated in the same way, after apportioning the numbers from the different 2001 income ranges to the 2006 ranges.

From August 2001 to August 2006, the average Australian adult total earnings increased from \$673 to \$837, by 24%. Men's earnings rose 25% from \$801 to \$1003, while women's rose 22% from \$535 to \$654.

## Family incomes

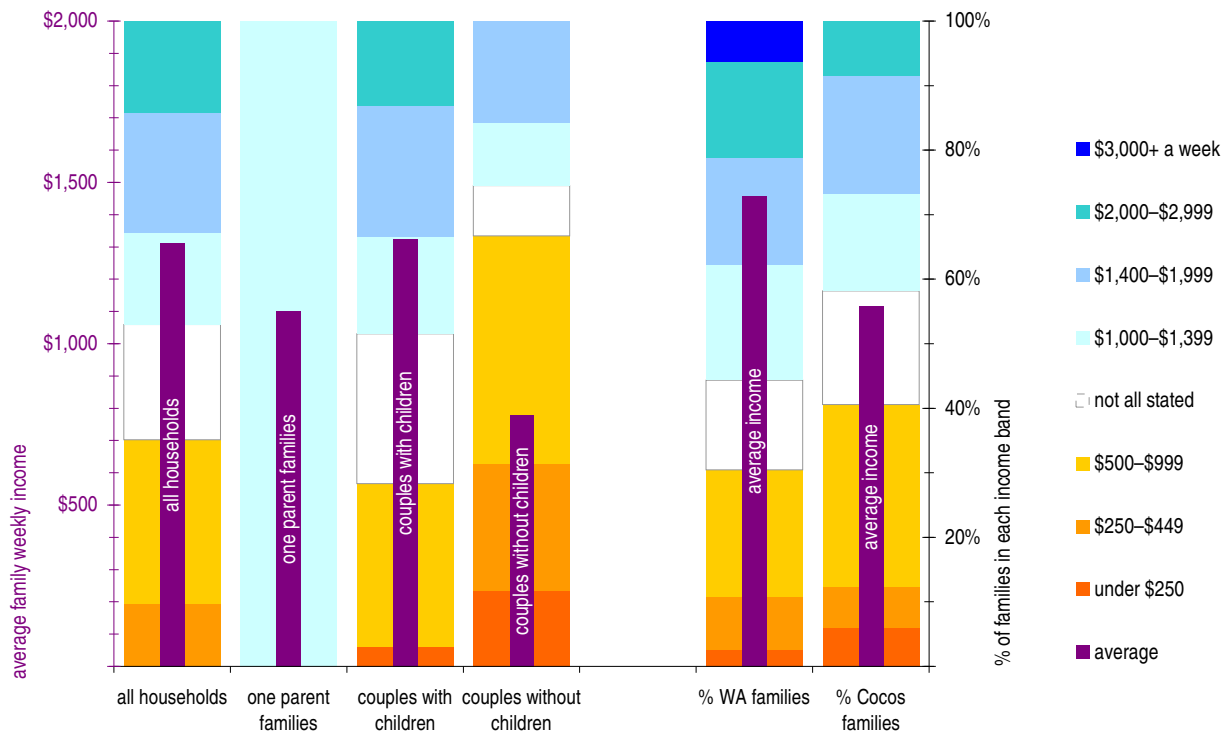
The average weekly family income in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in July 2006 was \$1,115, which was 24% or \$343 a week lower than the \$1,458 average for Western Australia. The family income was equivalent to 2.3 individual incomes (2.2 in Western Australia).

Average incomes ranges from \$1,324 for couples with children and \$1,311 for all households to \$1,100 for one parent families and \$778 for couples without children

While the average family income was \$1,115, the median income for all families (where half earn more and half less) was \$1,020 (it was \$1,246 in Western Australia). Generally, the more the average is above the median range, the more higher-income families there are, or vice versa.

The median income was \$1,200–\$1,399 a week for couples with children and \$500–\$649 for couples without children. One-parent families usually have fewer income earners than families with children, and hence lower family incomes. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, their median income was in the range \$1,000–\$1,199 a week. Over all households, singles, group and families, the median income was \$1,000–\$1,199.

### Family weekly incomes



Family incomes	families in each income range				% of family types in each income range			
	number	% Cocos families	% WA families	Cocos's difference	couples without children	couples with children	one parent families	all households
under \$250	9	6%	3%	3.3% more	12%	3%	0%	0%
\$250–\$449	10	7%	8%	1.6% less	20%	0%	0%	10%
\$500–\$999	43	28%	20%	8.5% more	35%	25%	0%	25%
\$1,000–\$1,399	23	15%	18%	2.9% less	10%	15%	100%	14%
\$1,400–\$1,999	28	18%	17%	1.8% more	16%	20%	0%	19%
\$2,000–\$2,999	13	8%	15%	6.4% less	0%	13%	0%	14%
\$3,000+ a week	0	0%	6%	6.3% less	0%	0%	0%	0%
not all stated	27	18%	14%	3.7% more	8%	23%	0%	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>average weekly income</b>		<b>\$1,115</b>	<b>\$1,458</b>	<b>24% less</b>	<b>\$778</b>	<b>\$1,324</b>	<b>\$1,100</b>	<b>\$1,311</b>
av. Inc. in WA					\$1,352	\$1,781	\$853	\$1,114

The average weekly income is calculated by multiplying the mid-point of each income range (\$3,500 for the \$3000+ range) by the number in that range, and dividing by the total in all ranges. The ranges shown in the table are summarised from a larger number. The larger income bands are highlighted by bolding.

# Employment

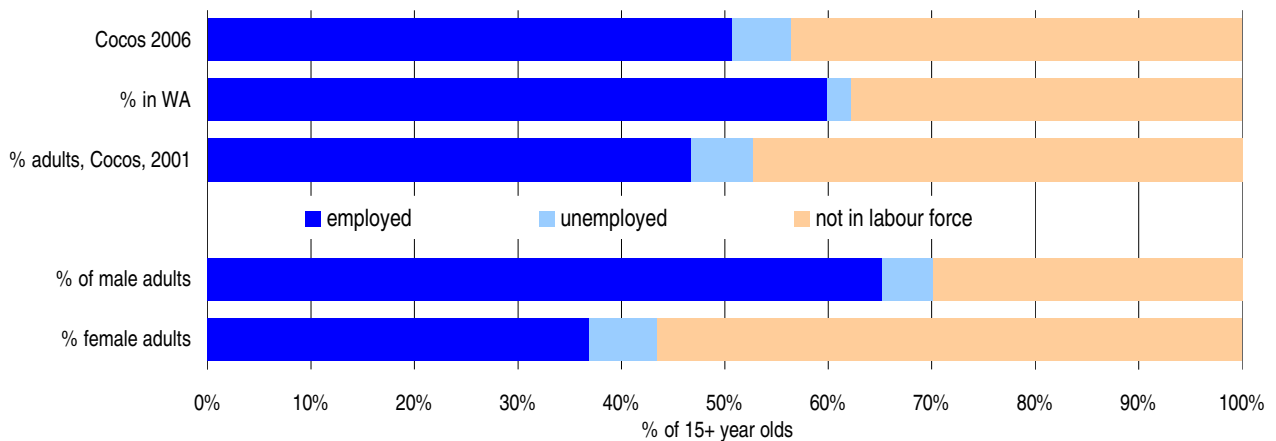
There were 236 residents of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in the workforce in 2006. They constituted 56% of the adult population aged 15+; this is the workforce participation rate. About 51% of the adults were employed and 6% were unemployed, giving an unemployment rate of 10.2% of the workforce.

Compared with Western Australia, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' workforce participation rate in 2006 was 6% lower and its unemployment rate was 6% higher. Since 2001, the participation rate had risen by 4% and the unemployment rate had fallen by 1%.

Women tend to have lower workforce participation rates on average, with greater time spent in child raising, housework and caring. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, women's workforce participation was at 43% compared with 70% for men. Women also tend to have lower attachment to the workforce, and to withdraw (by not seeking work) when unemployed. This can cause their measured unemployment rate to be lower. Here, however, women's unemployment rate in 2006 was 15% when men's was 7%.

Women's domestic responsibilities also make them more inclined towards working part-time. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 43% of female workers were part-timers when 31% of the men were. Contrarily, among the unemployed workforce, 21% of women wanted part-time work while 40% of men did. The overall proportion of unemployed residents wanting part-time work was 13% lower than in Western Australia and 4% higher than in 2001.

**Labour force status, adults 15+**



Employment status	Cocos 2006		the Cocos Islands 2006			% adults, Cocos, 2001	Cocos's change from 2001		
	number	% of adults	% in WA	Cocos's difference	% of male adults			% female adults	ratio of percents
employed	212	51%	60%	9% less	65%	37%	1.8 M:F	47%	up 4%
unemployed	24	6%	2%	3% more	5%	7%	1.3 F:M	6%	dn 0%
labour force participation	236	56%	62%	6% less	70%	43%	1.6 M:F	53%	up 4%
not in labour force	182	44%	38%	6% more	30%	57%	1.9 F:M	47%	dn 4%
<b>residents aged 15+</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	
		% of labour force			% of labour force			% of labour force	
unemployment rate		10%	4%	6% more	7%	15%	2.2 F:M	11%	dn 1%
full-time workers	119	56%	63%	7% less	65%	41%	1.6 M:F	82%	dn 26%
part-time workers	75	35%	29%	6% more	31%	43%	1.4 F:M	18%	up 17%
away or unstated hours	18	8%	7%	1% more	4%	16%	4.4 F:M	0%	up 8%
		% of unemployed			% of unemployed			% of unemployed	
unemployed want full-time work	17	71%	58%	13% more	60%	79%	1.3 F:M	75%	dn 4%
unemployed want part-time	7	29%	42%	13% less	40%	21%	1.9 M:F	25%	up 4%

# Industries employing residents

The main industries employing the Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents in 2006 were:

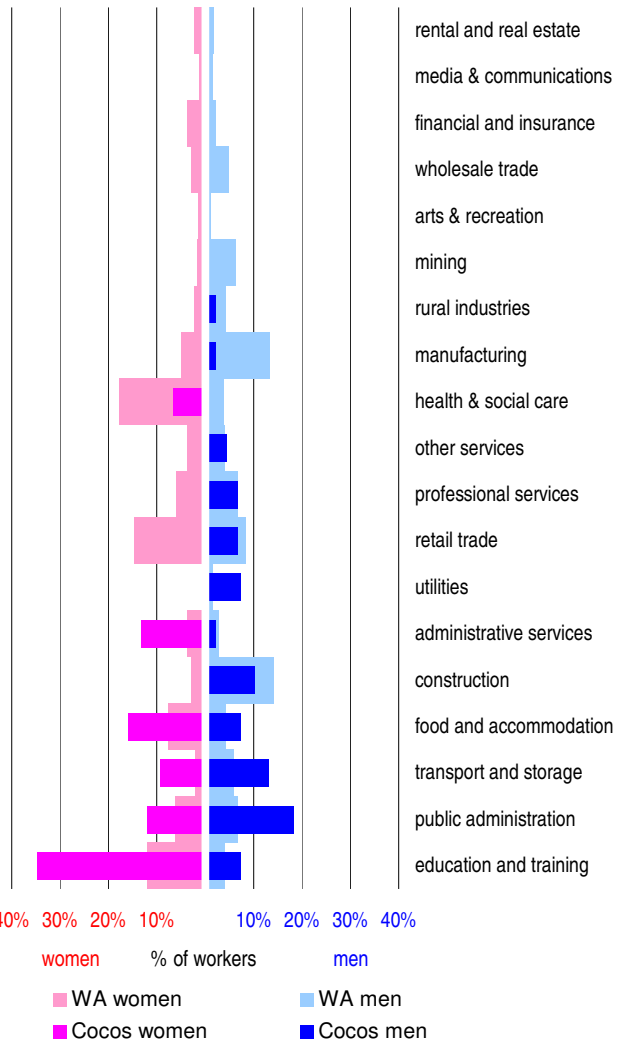
- education and training, with 17% of workers
- public administration, 16%
- transport and storage, 12%
- food and accommodation, 10%
- construction, 7%.

These main five industries together employed around 62% of working residents. Other significant industries for local workers were: administrative services, with 6% of the workers; utilities, 5%; retail trade, 4%; and professional services, 4%.

Industries that employed greater proportions of local residents than average for Western Australia included public administration (10% more), education and training (9% more), and transport and storage (8% more).

Industries that employed proportionally more local women included administrative services (3.3 women per man), education and training (2.6 women per man), and food and accommodation (1.2 women per man). Men were predominant in public administration (2.8 men per woman), transport and storage (2.6 men per woman), and some smaller industries were all male.

Since 2001, the fastest-growing employers were the food and accommodation, public administration, and manufacturing industries, whose share of local workers rose by 3.7%, 2.1% and 1.4%, respectively.



Industry of employers	Cocos 2006		the Cocos Islands 2006				Cocos's		
	number	% of workers	% in WA	Cocos's difference	males	females	ratio of workers	Cocos in 2001	change from 2001
education and training	36	17.0%	7.7%	<b>9.3% more</b>	7.3%	34.7%	<b>2.6 F:M</b>	16.5%	up 0.5%
public administration	34	16.0%	6.4%	<b>9.6% more</b>	18.2%	12.0%	<b>2.8 M:F</b>	13.9%	up 2.1%
transport and storage	25	11.8%	4.2%	7.6% more	13.1%	9.3%	<b>2.6 M:F</b>	12.4%	dn 0.6%
food and accommodation	22	10.4%	5.8%	4.5% more	7.3%	16.0%	<b>1.2 F:M</b>	6.7%	up 3.7%
construction	14	6.6%	9.1%	<b>2.5% less</b>	10.2%	0.0%	<b>M</b>	8.8%	dn 2.2%
administrative services	13	6.1%	3.2%	3.0% more	2.2%	13.3%	<b>3.3 F:M</b>	n.a.	n.a.
utilities	10	4.7%	1.0%	3.7% more	7.3%	0.0%	<b>M</b>	4.6%	up 0.1%
retail trade	9	4.2%	11.1%	<b>6.9% less</b>	6.6%	0.0%	<b>M</b>	4.6%	dn 0.4%
professional services	9	4.2%	6.3%	<b>2.0% less</b>	6.6%	0.0%	<b>M</b>	n.a.	n.a.
other services	6	2.8%	3.8%	<b>1.0% less</b>	4.4%	0.0%	<b>M</b>	1.5%	up 1.3%
health & social care	5	2.4%	10.2%	<b>7.8% less</b>	0.0%	6.7%	<b>F</b>	6.2%	dn 3.8%
manufacturing	3	1.4%	9.4%	<b>8.0% less</b>	2.2%	0.0%	<b>M</b>	0.0%	up 1.4%
rural industries	3	1.4%	3.3%	<b>1.9% less</b>	2.2%	0.0%	<b>M</b>	0.0%	up 1.4%
mining	0	0.0%	4.3%	<b>4.3% less</b>	0.0%	0.0%	<b>=</b>	0.0%	same
arts & recreation	0	0.0%	1.2%	<b>1.2% less</b>	0.0%	0.0%	<b>=</b>	1.5%	dn 1.5%
wholesale trade	0	0.0%	4.0%	<b>4.0% less</b>	0.0%	0.0%	<b>=</b>	0.0%	same
financial and insurance	0	0.0%	2.9%	<b>2.9% less</b>	0.0%	0.0%	<b>=</b>	1.5%	dn 1.5%
media & communications	0	0.0%	1.3%	<b>1.3% less</b>	0.0%	0.0%	<b>=</b>	0.0%	same
rental and real estate	0	0.0%	2.0%	<b>2.0% less</b>	0.0%	0.0%	<b>=</b>	n.a.	n.a.
inadequately described	23	10.8%	2.7%	<b>8.1% more</b>	12.4%	8.0%	<b>2.8 M:F</b>	11.3%	dn 0.5%
<b>employed residents</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>89.7%</b>	

Comparisons between 2001 and 2006 are difficult because the 2006 industry classification is different from the 2001 with new industries 'professional services', 'administrative services' and 'rental and real estate' replacing the 2001 'professional and business services', and minor adjustments in some other industries (eg media added to communications).

# Occupations of employed residents

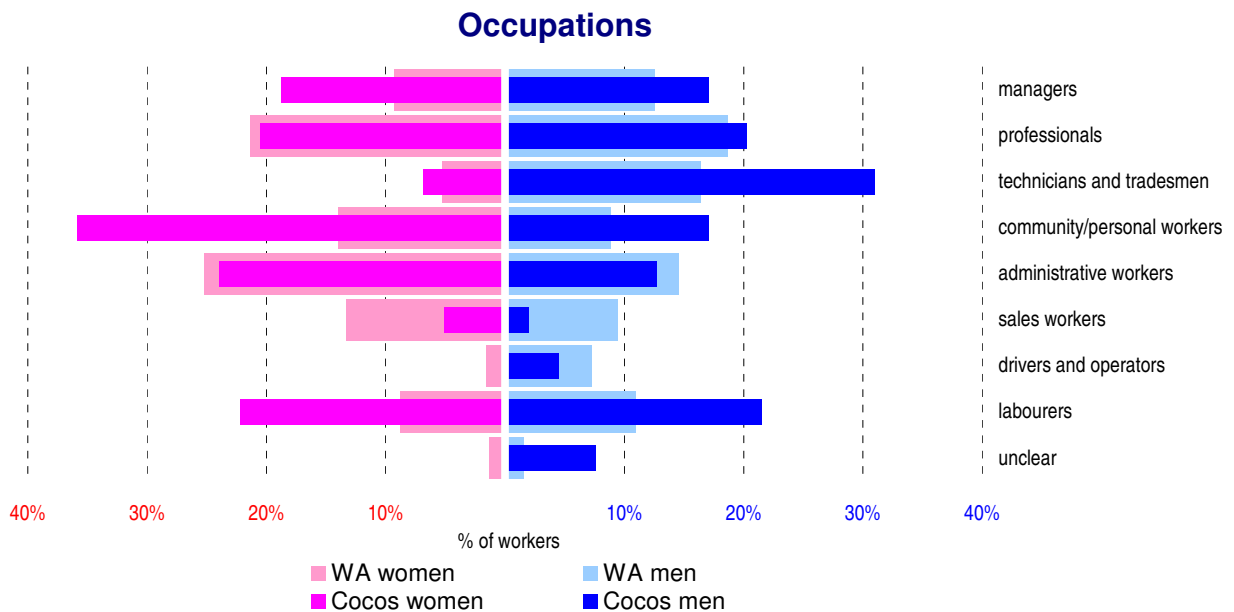
Occupations are a good indicator of socio-economic status, and communities with more people in more highly educated occupations tend to be wealthier. The occupational tree below shows the proportions of men and women in the eight occupational bands in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006, with the more educated ones being higher branches. The more top-heavy the tree, the higher is the socio-economic status of the community. The lighter background tree shows Western Australia's occupations for comparison.

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands' had 28% workers in the top two occupational bands (13% were managers, including farmers and small business operators, and 15% professionals), compared with 31% for Western Australia. The two lowest bands made up 19% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' workers (3% were drivers / machine operators and 16% were labourers), while Western Australia had 18% in these occupations.

Relative to Western Australia, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands had 7% more workers who were technicians and tradesmen and 5% more who were labourers, but 8% fewer workers who were sales workers and 5% fewer who were administrative workers.

Many occupations have a significant gender bias. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, there were 4.5 men per woman among technicians and tradesmen and all men among smaller occupations, but there were 2.7 women per man among sales workers and 2.1 women per man among community/personal workers.

Occupational changes since 2001 are difficult to measure at the local level because of changes to the classification system used in the 2006 Census. Some occupational classifications changed little; of those, labourers gained about 13% of the workforce, but professionals lost about 2%.



Occupations of employed residents	the Cocos Islands 2006		workers in the Cocos Islands				Cocos in 2001	Cocos's change from 2001	
	number workers	% of workers	% in WA	Cocos's difference	% of males	% of females			ratio of percents
managers	27	13%	13%	0.3% more	13%	14%	1.1 F:M	7%	up 6%
professionals	32	15%	19%	3.4% less	15%	15%	1.0 F:M	17%	dn 2%
technicians and tradesmen	49	23%	16%	6.8% more	23%	5%	4.5 M:F	34%	n.a.
community/personal workers	27	13%	9%	3.9% more	13%	27%	2.1 F:M	n.a.	n.a.
administrative workers	20	9%	15%	5.0% less	9%	18%	1.9 F:M	n.a.	n.a.
sales workers	3	1%	9%	8.0% less	1%	4%	2.7 F:M	n.a.	n.a.
drivers and operators	7	3%	7%	3.9% less	3%	0%	M	4%	dn 1%
labourers	34	16%	11%	5.2% more	16%	17%	1.0 F:M	3%	up 13%
unclear	12	6%	2%	4.1% more	6%	0%	M	7%	dn 2%
<b>total employed residents</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>same</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1.7 M:F</b>	<b>72%</b>	

The 2006 occupations are coded to the 2006 Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), which has replaced the 1996 Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) used in the 2001 Census. Where reasonable, 2001 occupations have been matched to 2006 classifications, otherwise 'n.a.' is shown for 2001.

## Travel to work

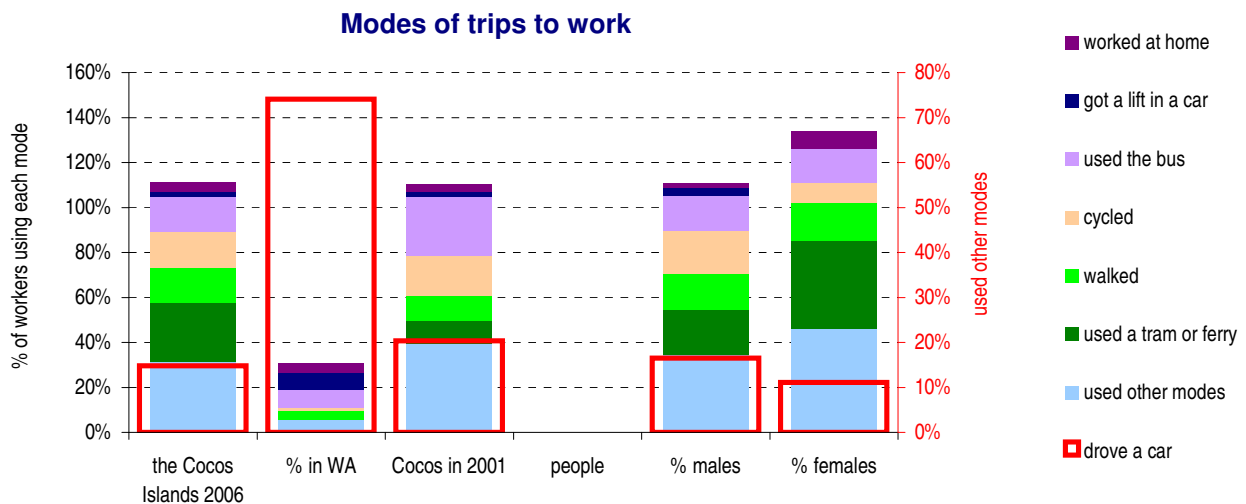
In the 2006 Census, people were asked how they travelled to work on Tuesday 8 August. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, 80% of the 210 employed residents travelled to work that day, with 12% not going to work, and 4% working from home; some did not say.

Some workers' journeys involved multiple 'trips' by different modes (eg a lift and a bus). In all, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands workers took 206, an average of 1.22 trips per worker, or about one worker in four making two trips to get to work.

The most common way to get to work nearly everywhere is by driving, but in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, only 15% of workers who travelled did so by driving in 2006 (74% in Western Australia). Since 2001, the proportion who drove fell by 6%. Driving is generally more common amongst men than women; in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, there were 3.2 men per woman among drivers. Similarly male-biased travellers were those who cycled (4.4 men per woman), and those who used other modes (3.1 men per woman).

Other than driving, the other main ways people travelled to work in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands were that 31% of travellers used other modes, 26% used a tram or ferry, 16% walked, and 16% cycled. Less common were those who used the bus (15%), or got a lift in a car (2%).

Women tend not to drive to work as often as men. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, women were most numerous among those who worked at home, with 2.0 women per man; or who did not work on Census day, with 1.8 women per man.



The 'used other modes' category includes trips by motorcycle (31), and other modes, often as one stage of a journey.

Trips to work	the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos's difference		the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos in 2001		
	workers	% travellers	% in WA		% males	% females	ratio of workers	% of trips	change
drove a car	25	15%	74%	59% less	17%	11%	3.2 M:F	20%	dn 6%
used other modes	53	31%	6%	26% more	35%	46%	3.1 M:F	40%	dn 8%
used a tram or ferry	44	26%	0%	26% more	20%	39%	1.1 M:F	10%	up 16%
walked	27	16%	4%	12% more	16%	17%	2.0 M:F	12%	up 4%
cycled	27	16%	1%	15% more	19%	9%	4.4 M:F	18%	dn 2%
used the bus	26	15%	8%	7% more	16%	15%	2.3 M:F	26%	dn 11%
got a lift in a car	4	2%	8%	5% less	3%	0%	M	2%	up 0%
<b>Trips to work</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>122%</b>	<b>106%</b>		<b>125%</b>	<b>137%</b>	<b>2.1 M:F</b>	<b>107%</b>	
<b>Employed residents</b>		<b>% workers</b>			<b>% workers</b>			<b>% workers</b>	
travelled to work	169	80%	82%	2% less	86%	71%	2.1 M:F	79%	up 1%
worked at home	9	4%	4%	0% less	2%	8%	2.0 F:M	3%	up 1%
did not work on Census day	25	12%	12%	0% more	7%	21%	1.8 F:M	15%	dn 3%
not stated	7	3%	2%	2% more	5%	0%	M	3%	up 1%
<b>Employed residents</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>100%</b>	

The top half of the table shows trips, not workers, and multiple-mode trips (eg lift to bus) are counted for each mode, where possible.

# Community Cultures

## Ancestry

The ancestry of a community's residents is a significant contributor to its cultural heritage, and is usually quite diverse. In most places across Australia, people claiming 'Australian' ancestry are a minority group; in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006, they were 32% of residents.

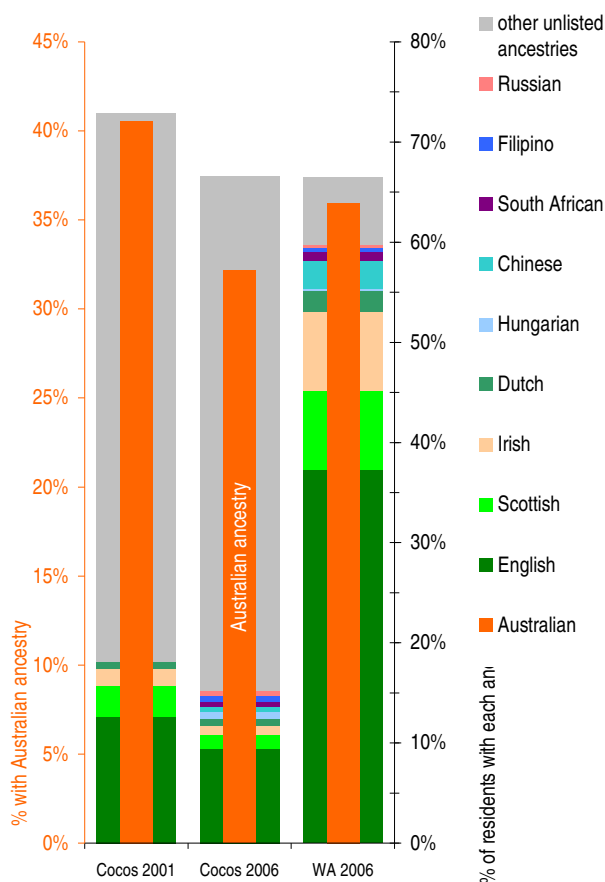
People could give at most two ancestries on the Census form, which limits information somewhat. About 24% of residents here named two ancestries. Only 6 ancestries were given 'tick boxes' on the Census form (English, Irish, Italian, German, Chinese, Scottish and Australian); others had to be written in, which will tend to give lower results.

The most commonly cited, non-Australian ancestries of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents were: other unlisted ancestries, 9% of residents; Scottish 1.4%; Irish 0.9%; Dutch 0.7%; Hungarian 0.7%; and Chinese 0.5%.

Compared with Western Australia, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands had more people with other unlisted ancestries, Hungarian, Russian, Filipino and Turkish ancestries.

Over the five years since 2001, three ancestries that became more common in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands were Chinese, claimed by 0.5% more of the population than in 2001, Filipino (0.5% more), and Russian (0.5% more).

Most common ancestries



Ancestry	the Cocos Islands 2006		% in WA	Cocos's difference	Parents of Cocos residents			Cocos in 2001	Cocos's change from 2001
	residents	percent			both born overseas	one born overseas	both born Australia		
Australian	184	32.2%	35.9%	4% less	7%	12%	71%	40.5%	dn 8.4%
Australian Aboriginal	0	0.0%	0.9%	1% less	-	-	-	0.0%	same
English	54	9.4%	37.3%	28% less	15%	31%	46%	12.6%	dn 3.2%
Scottish	8	1.4%	7.8%	6% less	50%	0%	50%	3.1%	dn 1.7%
Irish	5	0.9%	7.9%	7% less	0%	0%	100%	1.8%	dn 0.9%
Dutch	4	0.7%	2.1%	1% less	0%	0%	100%	0.6%	up 0.1%
Hungarian	4	0.7%	0.2%	0% more	0%	0%	100%	n.a.	n.a.
Chinese	3	0.5%	2.9%	2% less	0%	0%	0%	0.0%	up 0.5%
South African	3	0.5%	0.8%	0% less	0%	0%	0%	n.a.	n.a.
Filipino	3	0.5%	0.5%	0% more	0%	0%	100%	0.0%	up 0.5%
Russian	3	0.5%	0.2%	0% more	0%	0%	0%	0.0%	up 0.5%
other unlisted ancestries	294	51.4%	6.8%	45% more	10%	8%	68%	54.8%	dn 3.4%
unstated ancestry	64	11.2%	8.6%	3% more	0%	19%	48%	13.2%	dn 2.1%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>110.0%</b>	<b>129.3%</b>	<b>19% less</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>129.2%</b>	<b>dn 19.3%</b>
<b>residents</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>9%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Note: the apparent growth in Scottish ancestry from 19 to 8 probably indicates that 138% of local Scots did not name this heritage in 2001 when unprompted, rather than that their number increased by 58%. Because Greek was offered as an ancestry option in 2001, but required a write-in in 2006, their count might fall as a result. In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Greek ancestry was given by none in 2001 and none in 2006. Note also that the number writing in Indigenous ancestry is often low, because there is a specific Indigenous Census question (see later).

# Indigenous residents

In 2006, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands had 13 Indigenous residents; all identifying as Torres Strait Islanders (TSI). Indigenous people constituted 2.3% of the residents, compared with 3.0% of Western Australia.

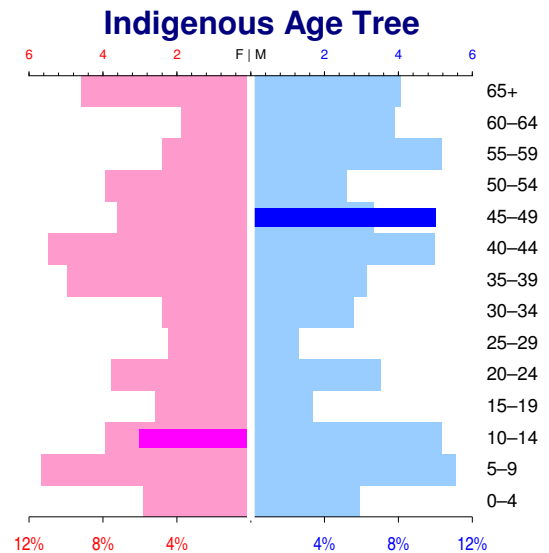
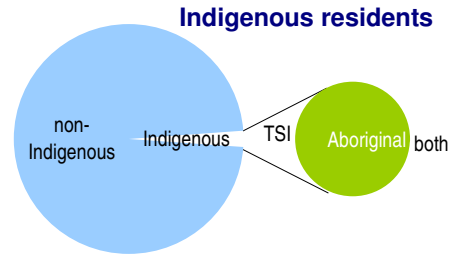
The median (mid-point) age of local Indigenous people was 45–49 and the average was about 34 years. By comparison, non-Indigenous residents had an average age of about 35 and a median age of 35–39.

Generally, the age structure of the Indigenous population is quite different from the non-indigenous community, due to larger families and higher mortality rates. Young people form a larger share of the Indigenous population, so the Indigenous age tree has wider lower branches and shorter upper branches than for non-indigenous people.

Here, the Indigenous population is so small that the age structure is unusual.

In 2001, the median age of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' Indigenous people was 45–49 and the average was about 49 years, so the average age was down about 14.8 years.

Changes in the age structure since 2001 can seem dramatic with small numbers, and may reflect ageing of a static community.



Legend for Age Tree: non-Indig females (light pink), Indigenous females (dark pink), non-Indig males (light blue), Indigenous males (dark blue).

Indigenous people	the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos's		the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos in	
	number	% residents	% in WA	difference	males	females	ratio	2001	change from 2001
Aboriginal	0	0.0%	2.9%	2.9% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
Torres Strait Islander (TSI)	13	2.3%	0.1%	2.2% more	4	9	2.25 F:M	2.4%	dn 0.1%
Aboriginal and TSI	0	0.0%	0.1%	0.1% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>0.7% less</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2.25 F:M</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>dn 0.1%</b>
non-Indigenous	559	97.7%	97.0%	0.7% more	272	287	1.06 F:M	97.6%	up 0.1%
<b>residents</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>276</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>1.07 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Ages of Indigenous people	the Cocos Islands 2006				Cocos Indigenous residents, 2006			Cocos in	
	Indigenous	% Indig.	% non-Indig	Indig. diff.	males	females	ratio	2001	changed share
0-4	0	0%	6%	6% less	0	0	=	0%	same
5-9	0	0%	11%	11% less	0	0	=	0%	same
10-14	3	38%	9%	28% more	0	3	F	0%	up 38%
15-19	0	0%	4%	4% less	0	0	=	0%	same
20-24	0	0%	7%	7% less	0	0	=	0%	same
25-29	0	0%	4%	4% less	0	0	=	0%	same
30-34	0	0%	5%	5% less	0	0	=	0%	same
35-39	0	0%	8%	8% less	0	0	=	33%	dn 33%
40-44	0	0%	10%	10% less	0	0	=	0%	same
45-49	5	63%	7%	56% more	5	0	M	33%	up 29%
50-54	0	0%	7%	7% less	0	0	=	0%	same
55-59	0	0%	7%	7% less	0	0	=	0%	same
60-64	0	0%	6%	6% less	0	0	=	33%	dn 33%
65+	0	0%	8%	8% less	0	0	=	0%	same
<b>residents</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>100%</b>	
<b>average age</b>		<b>33.9 yrs</b>	<b>34.6 yrs</b>	<b>dn 0.8 yrs</b>	<b>47.0 yrs</b>	<b>12.0 yrs</b>		<b>48.7 yrs</b>	<b>dn 14.8 yrs</b>

# Birthplaces

Of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents, 90% were born in Australia and 7% were born overseas (in 3 of the 35 places listed in the Census table), with 3% not saying. The proportion born in Australia was 25% more than Western Australia, and 3% more than in 2001.

The main overseas birthplaces, and the number and proportion of residents born there, were:

- Malaysia – 21 or 3.7%;
- Singapore – 10 or 1.8%;
- the Netherlands – 3 or 0.5%;

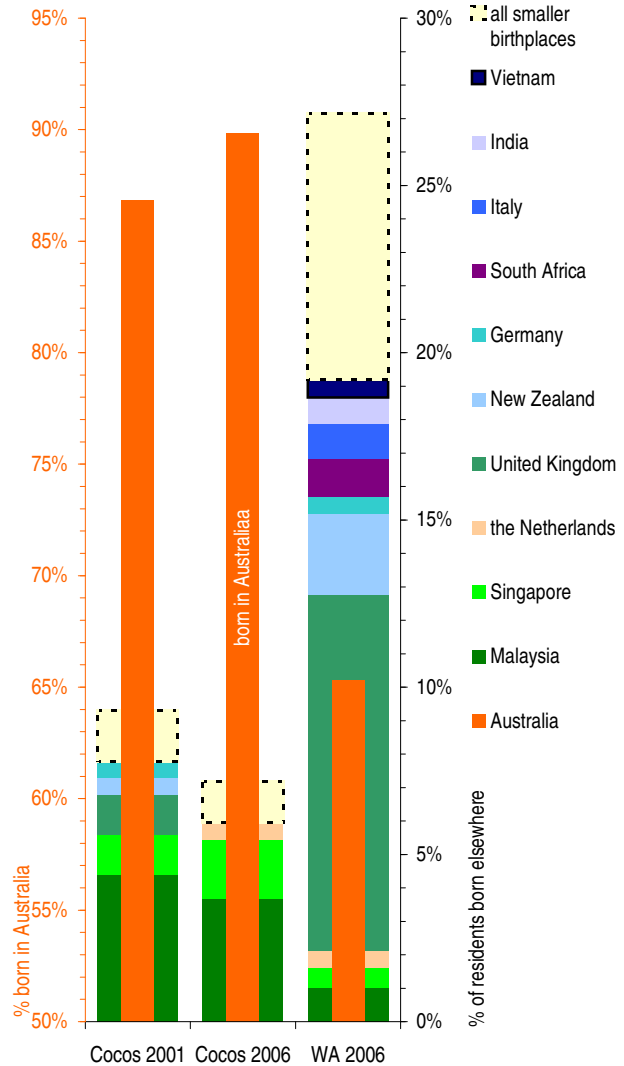
The birthplace that increased most as a proportion of the population over the previous five years was Australia, up 3.0%, with Singapore up 0.6%, then the Netherlands up 0.5%.

The birthplace which was significantly more common in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands than in Western Australia was Malaysia with 2.7% more of the population. Singapore was also larger (1.1% more).

Because Australians were born in many different countries, most places will have some very small 'birthplace' communities, where the male-female balance may become skewed and even unisex.

In the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, birthplaces whose males most outnumbered females included Singapore with 2.3 males per female and Malaysia with 1.6 males per female, while there were only females born in the Netherlands and 1.6 males per female born in Malaysia.

Most common birthplaces



Main birthplaces of residents	the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos's difference		the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos in change	
	people	percent	% in WA		males	females	ratio	2001	from 2001
Australia	513	89.8%	65.3%	<b>24.5% more</b>	244	269	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	86.8%	<b>up 3.0%</b>
Malaysia	21	3.7%	1.0%	<b>2.7% more</b>	13	8	<b>1.6 M:F</b>	4.4%	<b>dn 0.7%</b>
Singapore	10	1.8%	0.6%	<b>1.1% more</b>	7	3	<b>2.3 M:F</b>	1.2%	<b>up 0.6%</b>
the Netherlands	3	0.5%	0.5%	0.0% more	0	3	<b>F</b>	0.0%	<b>up 0.5%</b>
United Kingdom	0	0.0%	10.6%	<b>10.6% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	1.2%	<b>dn 1.2%</b>
New Zealand	0	0.0%	2.4%	<b>2.4% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.5%	<b>dn 0.5%</b>
Germany	0	0.0%	0.5%	<b>0.5% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.5%	<b>dn 0.5%</b>
South Africa	0	0.0%	1.1%	<b>1.1% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.0%	<b>same</b>
Italy	0	0.0%	1.1%	<b>1.1% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.0%	<b>same</b>
India	0	0.0%	0.8%	<b>0.8% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.0%	<b>same</b>
Vietnam	0	0.0%	0.5%	<b>0.5% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.0%	<b>same</b>
Ireland	0	0.0%	0.5%	<b>0.5% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.0%	<b>same</b>
China	0	0.0%	0.4%	<b>0.4% less</b>	0	0	<b>=</b>	0.0%	<b>same</b>
a non-listed place	7	1.2%	3.4%	<b>2.2% less</b>	3	4	<b>1.3 F:M</b>	1.5%	<b>dn 0.3%</b>
<b>all smaller birthplaces</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>6.7% less</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>-2.4%</b>	<b>up 3.6%</b>
not stated	17	3.0%	7.6%	<b>4.6% less</b>	7	10	<b>1.4 F:M</b>	3.9%	<b>dn 0.9%</b>
<b>overseas born</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>27.1%</b>	<b>4 places</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1.28 M:F</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>dn 2.1%</b>

Not all birthplaces can be shown in this table due to space constrictions, smaller birthplaces are in an appendix. 'All smaller birthplaces' are those not shown in the table.

# Languages

In 2006, 26% of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands' residents spoke English at home, which was 1% more than in 2001, and 55% lower than in Western Australia. While 3% did not say what they spoke, 71% spoke another language at home (59% more than in Western Australia), with none of the 35 most common languages reported in the Census .

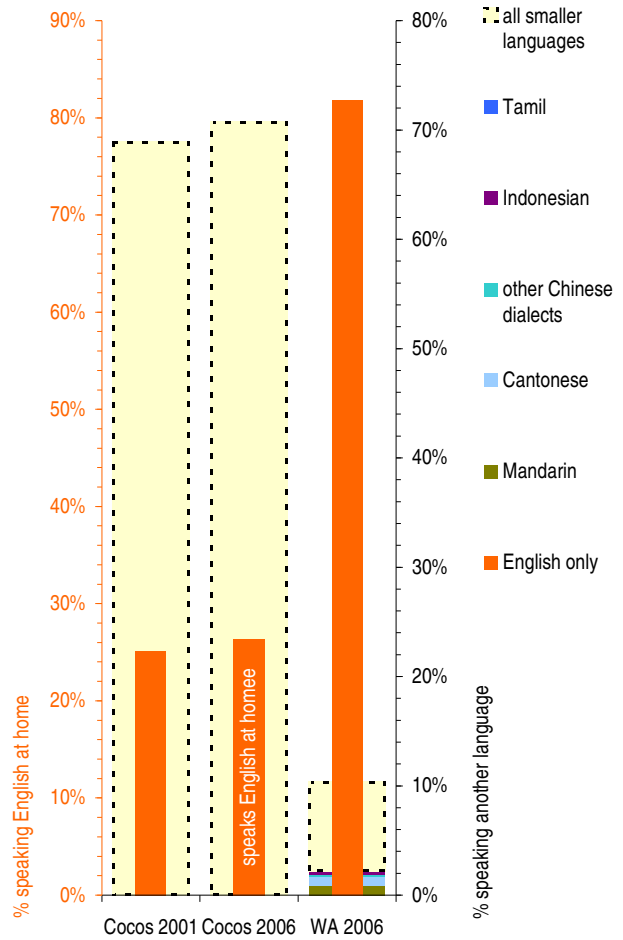
The main non-English languages spoken in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands homes, and the number and proportion of residents speaking them, were unknown, with none being identified in the Census table.

No recorded foreign language was spoken significantly more than in 2001.

No listed languages were spoken proportionally more in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands than in Western Australia.

Many places will have some languages spoken by just a few people, often a few families. These cases may have significant gender imbalances.

Most common languages



Main languages spoken at home	the Cocos Islands 2006		% in WA	Cocos's difference	the Cocos Islands 2006			Cocos in 2001	change from 2001
	people	percent			males	females	ratio		
English only	150	26.4%	81.8%	55.5% less	77	73	1.1 M:F	25.2%	up 1.2%
another language	402	70.7%	11.6%	59.1% more	186	216	1.2 F:M	69.3%	up 1.3%
not stated	17	3.0%	6.6%	3.6% less	12	5	2.4 M:F	5.5%	dn 2.5%
<b>residents</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0 langs.</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Mandarin	0	0.0%	0.8%	0.8% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
Cantonese	0	0.0%	0.8%	0.8% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
other Chinese dialects	0	0.0%	0.2%	0.2% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
Indonesian	0	0.0%	0.3%	0.3% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
Tamil	0	0.0%	0.1%	0.1% less	0	0	=	0.0%	same
other languages	402	70.7%	2.2%	68.4% more	186	216	1.2 F:M	67.8%	up 2.8%
all smaller languages	402	70.7%	8.0%	62.6% more	186	216	1.2 F:M	68.8%	up 1.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>3.6% less</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.4 M:F</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>dn 2.5%</b>

Not all languages can be shown in this table due to space constrictions, smaller languages are in an appendix. 'All smaller languages' are those not shown in the table.

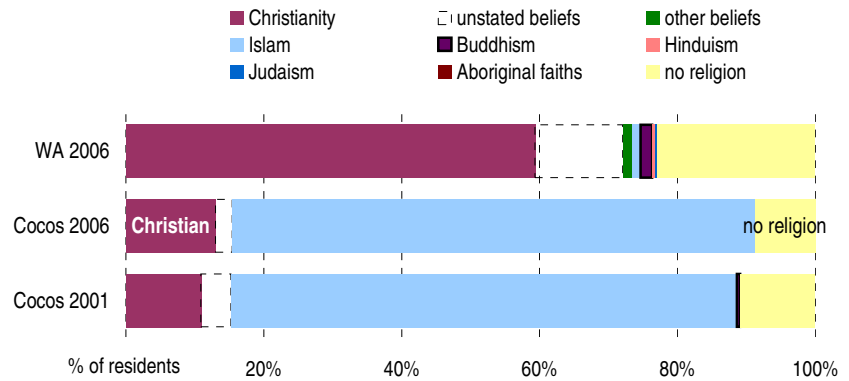
# Beliefs

The range of religious beliefs held within a community is a good indicator of cultural diversity, although nearly everywhere in Australia is majority Christian. The Cocos (Keeling) Islands is a rare exception, with 13% of residents being Christian in 2006. Generally, there has been a trend towards more people either having no religion (here, 9% of residents in 2006) or not stating their religion on the Census form (2%).

## Religious beliefs

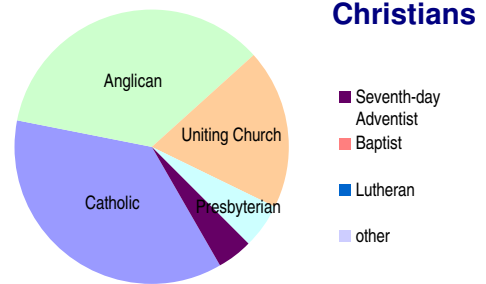
Only one non-Christian belief was identified in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2006, Islam with 432 followers, or 75.8% of residents.

The fastest growing belief system over 2001 to 2006 was Islam with 2.4% more of the population, followed by Christianity with 2.1% more



There were falls in the proportion who believed in no religion (down by 2.1% of the population).

The ratio of male to female believers varied amongst the beliefs. Among Christians generally in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, there were equal men and women, while there were 1.2 men per woman among those who did not have a religion. The gender ratio ranged from 1.5 men per woman among followers of Catholic to 1.8 women per man among followers of Uniting Church.



Religious beliefs	the Cocos Islands 2006		Cocos's difference		the Cocos Islands 2006			2001 % Cocos	change from 2001
	people	percent	% in WA		males	females	ratio		
Christianity	74	13%	59%	46% less	37	37	=	11%	up 2%
no religion	50	9%	23%	14% less	27	23	1.2 M:F	11%	dn 2%
Islam	432	76%	1%	75% more	204	228	1.1 F:M	73%	up 2%
Buddhism	0	0%	2%	2% less	0	0	=	1%	dn 1%
Hinduism	0	0%	0%	0% less	0	0	=	0%	same
Judaism	0	0%	0%	0% less	0	0	=	0%	same
Aboriginal faiths	0	0%	0%	0% less	0	0	=	0%	same
other beliefs	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	=	0%	same
unstated beliefs	14	2%	13%	10% less	7	7	=	4%	dn 2%
<b>total residents</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>275</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>1.1 F:M</b>	<b>100%</b>	
<b>Christians</b>							<b>=</b>		
Catholic	27	5%	24%	19% less	16	11	1.5 M:F	2%	up 3%
Anglican	26	5%	20%	16% less	12	14	1.2 F:M	4%	up 0%
Uniting Church	14	2%	4%	1% less	5	9	1.8 F:M	2%	up 1%
Presbyterian	4	1%	2%	2% less	4	0	M	1%	up 0%
Seventh-day Adventist	3	1%	0%	0% more	0	3	F	0%	up 1%
Baptist	0	0%	2%	2% less	0	0	=	1%	dn 1%
Lutheran	0	0%	1%	1% less	0	0	=	1%	dn 1%
all other Christian	0	0%	3%	3% less	0	0	=	0%	same
<b>total Christians</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>46% less</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>up 2%</b>