

**Western Australia Tomorrow
Population Report No. 9
Long Term Population Forecasts for Western Australia, 2031 to 2061**

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The disclaimer is reproduced, as a reminder that there is always some probability that future trends may not happen the way expected.

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ROUNDING

Figures have been rounded to the nearest 1000.

THE PROJECTED YEARS

Forecasts for the years prior to 2031 form part of short term and medium term forecasts. As such they are separate to the long term forecasts.

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About

WA Tomorrow is a series of population forecasts based on historical trends. The forecasts represent the best estimate of future population size if trends in fertility, mortality and migration continue.

Long term forecasts, 2031 to 2061

WA Tomorrow Population Report No. 9 contains the long term population forecast for Western Australia. These forecasts present an alternative view of the future to those released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS. Population Projections, Australia. 3222.0). They represent the official Western Australian Government forecasts for the years 2031 to 2061.

Series

The uncertainty in these forecasts have been presented as three series; low, medium and high. The range represents the variation in expected trends in net overseas migration for WA.

Decision-making

Long term forecasts provide an indication of the scale and direction of the future population. As such they are best suited for large scale planning of major infrastructure and services, and the review of fiscal policy.

WA Tomorrow long term forecasts consist of three series. It is important to understand how each of the different scenarios may affect your decision-making.

Limits of WA Tomorrow

While WA Tomorrow is a trend forecast, this does not mean that it cannot make provision for a changing environment. These forecasts are separate to government strategies and scenarios such as Perth and Peel @ 3.5 million, and *Directions 2031 and beyond* which seek to influence existing trends to achieve more desirable future outcomes.

The forecasts do not take into account unforeseen events that may change trends – such as significant shifts in government policy, natural disasters and epidemics. Forecasts should be assessed on their effectiveness for intended purpose, rather than on their accuracy.

What are the forecasts based on?

WA Tomorrow long term forecasts are based on the analysis of past trends in total population and net overseas migration for WA.