

Table 2.1**Australia and Western Australia Compared****1996, 2001 and 2006 Census**

Key Facts	Australia			Western Australia		
	1996	2001	2006	1996	2001	2006
Population	17,752,874	18,769,271	19,855,287	1,705,832	1,828,294	1,959,095
Overseas Born						
Total	3,908,257	4,105,616	4,416,029	475,568	495,780	531,765
As a % of population	22.0	21.9	22.2	27.9	27.1	27.1
Born in a Non-Main English Speaking Country ¹	2,362,535	2,502,964	2,740,709	202,398	214,911	234,050
Born in a NMESC as a % of population	13.3	13.3	13.8	11.9	11.8	11.9
Born in a NMESC as a % of OSB	60.4	61.0	62.1	42.6	43.3	44.0
Australian Born						
Total	13,227,776	13,629,685	14,072,949	1,171,840	1,237,683	1,279,206
As a % of population	74.5	72.6	70.9	68.7	67.7	65.3
with both parents born overseas	1,473,785	1,503,689	1,586,390	166,116	169,534	172,301
with both parents OSB as a % of population	8.3	8.0	8.0	9.7	9.3	8.8
with one parent born overseas ²	1,915,946	1,973,500	2,056,650	239,861	250,064	259,369
with one parent OSB as a % of population	10.8	10.5	10.4	14.1	13.7	13.2
Aboriginal / Torres Strait Islanders						
Total	352,970	410,003	455,026	50,699	58,467	58,726
As a % of population	2.0	2.2	2.3	3.0	3.2	3.0
Language other than English Speakers						
Speak a Language other than English At Home	2,657,751	2,853,829	3,146,183	194,433	206,840	226,814
LOTE Speakers as a % of population	15.0	15.2	15.8	11.4	11.3	11.6
English Proficiency						
Speak English not well or not at all	534,580	531,835	561,414	33,882	33,167	34,996
As a % of population	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.0	1.8	1.8

1. NMESC excludes people born in Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States of America

2. Includes people who had one parent born overseas and one parent with a not stated birthplace