

Census Outcomes: Comparison of selected demographic data for Pilbara Towns from 2011 and 2016 Census

A brief review prepared for RDA Pilbara by Imani Development Austral Ltd

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Key Observations

- ⇒ Resident Population has fallen in all locations listed apart from Onslow.
- ⇒ The male population as a ratio of the total has fallen in the larger towns of Karratha, Port Hedland and Newman but has remained static in the other locations
- ⇒ The number of children as a ratio of the population has risen in all locations except Onslow.
- ⇒ The elderly population (over 65 years) as a ratio of the total has risen in all of the locations except Paraburdoo
- ⇒ Number of families has risen in all of the locations except Tom Price and Paraburdoo, which is of interest given the fall in total population.
- ⇒ Number of private dwellings has increased in all locations (indicator of building investment during the boom) but occupancy has declined significantly in all locations.
- ⇒ Median weekly household income has fallen in all locations except Onslow. However median weekly rent has shown an increase in some locations.

Conclusion

The Census data has significant planning implications and this brief review suggests that there should be a period of consolidation and prudence by local authorities and agencies.

Pilbara Census Data

Location	Indicator	2011	2016	Change
Karratha LGA	Population	22900	21473	↓
	Male	60%	55.6%	↓
	Female	40%	44.4%	↑
	Median age	32	31	↔
	0-14 Years	20.5%	24.7%	↑
	65years+	2.0%	2.5%	↑
	Aboriginal people	2022	2801	↑
	Families	4254	4821	↑
	Private dwellings	8445	9759	↑
	Private dwellings occupied	83.6%	73.8%	↓
	Median weekly household income	\$2,839	\$2,626	↓
	Median weekly rent	\$120	\$220	↑
Port Hedland LGA	Population	15044	14469	↓
	Male	57%	53.4%	↓
	Female	43%	46.6%	↑
	Median age	31	31	↔
	0-14 Years	21.3%	23.7%	↑
	65years+	2.5%	3.5%	↑
	Aboriginal people	2223	2411	↑
	Families	2891	3191	↑
	Private dwellings	6015	7633	↑
	Private dwellings occupied	81.3%	66.4%	↓
	Median weekly household income	\$2,809	\$2,563	↓
	Median weekly rent	\$120	\$200	↑
Newman SSC	Population	9087	7238	↓
	Male	66.4%	63.4%	↓
	Female	33.6%	36.6%	↑
	Median age	32	33	↔
	0-14 Years	16.2%	18.2%	↑
	65years+	1.0%	1.4%	↑
	Aboriginal people	1029	1039	↔
	Families	1122	1042	↓
	Private dwellings	2320	2655	↑
	Private dwellings occupied	73.6%	57.8%	↓
	Median weekly household income	\$2,827	\$2,502	↓
	Median weekly rent	\$75	\$110	↑
Tom Price SSC	Population	3134	3005	↓
	Male	54.2%	54.3%	↔
	Female	45.8%	45.7%	↔
	Median age	30	31	↔
	0-14 Years	18.3%	30.7%	↑
	65years+	0.6%	1.3%	↑
	Aboriginal people	297	291	↔
	Families	753	686	↓
	Private dwellings	1264	1401	↑
	Private dwellings occupied	80.7%	73.9%	↓
	Median weekly household income	\$2,836	\$2,490	↓
	Median weekly rent	\$35	\$46	↑

Paraburdoo	Population	1509	1380	↓
SSC	Male	55.5%	56.6%	↔
	Female	44.5%	43.4%	↔
	Median age	30	32	↑
	0- 14 Years	27.7%	29.5%	↑
	65years+	1.3%	0.9%	↓
	Aboriginal people	144	124	↓
	Families	323	293	↓
	Private dwellings	677	683	↔
	Private dwellings occupied	72%	62.6%	↓
	Median weekly household income	\$2,801	\$2,750	↔
	Median weekly rent	\$30	\$30	↔
Onslow	Population	667	857	↑
SSC	Male	52.8%	53.7%	↔
	Female	47.2%	46.3%	↔
	Median age	39	39	↔
	0- 14 Years	23.2%	15.0%	↓
	65years+	6.8%	7%	↑
	Aboriginal people	180	181	↔
	Families	155	195	↑
	Private dwellings	548	626	↑
	Private dwellings occupied	82.1%	69.2%	↓
	Median weekly household income	\$1,858	\$2,200	↑
	Median weekly rent	\$65	\$107	↑
Code:	Noticeable upward change	↑		
	Noticeable downward change	↓		
	Minimal change	↔		
WA 2016	Population	2474410		
	Male	50%		
	Female	50%		
	Median age	36		
	0- 14 Years	19.3%		
	65years+	14%		
	Aboriginal people	75978		
	Families	644189		
	Private dwellings	1070962		
	Private dwellings occupied	86.70%		
	Median weekly household income	\$1,595		
	Median weekly rent	\$347		
Note:	Population is place of usual residence			
	Aboriginal people is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders			