# WESTERN AUSTRALIA TRADE PROFILE – March 2025

Western Australia’s economic development over the past 60 years has largely been based on international trade, in particular, the growth of its mineral and energy exports to first Japan and then China. The State’s natural endowment of mineral and energy exports and its small domestic market, combined with the lack of domestic supply but high demand for these commodities in Japan, China and other Asian markets, created a complementary trade relationship. At the same time, Western Australia’s industries have benefited from importing specialised capital equipment from these countries, while the growth of manufacturing industries in Asia has allowed consumers in Western Australia to access a broader range of imports at lower prices. Services trade, while significantly lower in value than goods trade, has also helped grow Western Australia’s economy, particularly in the tourism and international education sectors. Western Australia’s economy is now arguably the most export‑oriented of all Australian states and territories, with net exports of goods and services accounting for 43% of the State’s gross state product in 2023‑24.

This Trade Profile provides summary information of Western Australia’s goods and services trade, the markets for Western Australia’s main export items in 2024, as well as time series data on the value of goods exports and imports and international visitors and students by market and information on Western Australia’s overseas‑born population.1

A large share of the value of Western Australia’s trade is confidentialised by the Australian Bureau of Statistics2, while data on services trade by market is not available at a state and territory level. This limits the capacity to produce and publish breakdowns of Western Australia’s trade relationships with its major trading partners. Requests for data on Western Australia’s trade relationships with specific markets can be addressed to JTSI’s Economic Analysis team.

**Western Australia’s trade in goods**



Note: Imports are shown as negative values because they are an outflow of expenditure from the economy.

Source: Based on data from ABS International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia.

* Western Australia’s main exports are minerals (iron ore, gold and alumina), energy (liquefied natural gas), and agri‑food (wheat, canola seeds and barley).
* In 2024, the value of Western Australia’s exports of goods fell 11% to $234.6 billion. The fall was due mainly to lower average prices for some of Western Australia’s main export commodities, including iron ore, liquefied natural gas and battery and critical minerals (lithium and nickel).
* Western Australia’s main imports are refined petroleum oils, motor vehicles and non-monetary gold for further refining at the Perth Mint before re-export.
* In 2024, the value of Western Australia’s imports of goods rose 7% to $52.0 billion, with imports of machinery and transport equipment the largest contributor to the increase.
* With the fall in goods exports and rise in goods imports, Western Australia’s surplus in goods trade fell 15% to $182.7 billion.

**Western Australia’s share of Australia’s goods exports**



Source: Based on data from ABS International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia.

* Western Australia has consistently had the highest share of Australia’s goods exports of any state or territory.
* In 2024, Western Australia’s goods exports ($234.6 billion) accounted for 45% of the value of Australia’s goods exports ($517.0 billion). The next highest goods exporting states in 2024 were:
	+ Queensland $111.7 billion (22% share)
	+ New South Wales $79.8 billion (15% share)
	+ Victoria $35.8 billion (7% share).
* In the period 2014 to 2024, Western Australia’s highest share of the value Australia’s goods exports was in 2021 when it accounted for 52%. This was due primarily to the very high average price for iron ore that year (noting that Western Australia accounts for nearly all of Australia’s iron ore exports).

## Western Australia’s exports of goods by market ($billion)

The table below shows Western Australia’s top 20 goods export markets for 2024 and the value of exports to these markets for each year from 2014 to 2024. China has been Western Australia’s largest market for goods exports since 2006 (when it overtook Japan), with its share of Western Australia’s total goods exports reaching a high of 60.7% in 2021. In 2024, Western Australia’s top seven export markets were in Asia, highlighting that Western Australia’s exports are based on proximity to these markets as well as complementarity.

The value of Western Australia’s exports, both in total and to individual markets, can change significantly from year to year due to changes in prices for Western Australia’s export commodities. Changes in demand from importing markets can also have an impact; in particular, changes in demand for gold have resulted in large movements in the rankings of Western Australia’s export markets in recent years.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Rank | Market | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2024 share | 10‑year AAG |
| 1 | China1  | 56.5 | 48.5 | 51.8 | 59.8 | 68.6 | 95.1 | 104.8 | 145.7 | 136.3 | 152.8 | 123.8 | 52.8% | 8.2% |
| 2 | Japan | 24.1 | 16.7 | 13.8 | 16.5 | 23.1 | 24.0 | 17.9 | 25.5 | 36.6 | 30.5 | 26.4 | 11.3% | 0.9% |
| 3 | South Korea | 9.8 | 7.1 | 6.1 | 7.1 | 8.6 | 10.4 | 10.3 | 15.8 | 20.0 | 16.0 | 15.8 | 6.7% | 4.9% |
| 4 | Singapore | 5.3 | 3.6 | 2.3 | 3.6 | 6.2 | 7.5 | 7.6 | 9.5 | 12.6 | 9.9 | 12.0 | 5.1% | 8.4% |
| 5 | Hong Kong2 | 7.2 | 5.9 | 6.7 | 8.7 | 7.0 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 3.2 | 4.9 | 5.7 | 7.8 | 3.3% | 0.8% |
| 6 | India | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.3 | 2.4 | 3.5 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 4.7 | 6.5 | 2.8% | 15.0% |
| 7 | Taiwan | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 3.1 | 6.2 | 10.9 | 7.2 | 6.4 | 2.7% | 13.0% |
| 8 | United Kingdom | 1.3 | 1.0 | 7.5 | 3.5 | 2.2 | 12.4 | 12.1 | 1.8 | 0.3 | 2.9 | 5.7 | 2.4% | 15.6% |
| 9 | Indonesia | 1.6 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 1.5% | 8.2% |
| 10 | United States | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 6.7 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 1.4% | 10.7% |
| 11 | United Arab Emirates | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 2.7 | 1.1% | 8.8% |
| 12 | Malaysia | 2.4 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 1.0% | -0.5% |
| 13 | Thailand | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 2.9 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 4.2 | 2.2 | 0.9% | 1.7% |
| 14 | Vietnam | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 0.8% | 9.0% |
| 15 | Bahrain | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 0.7% | 11.9% |
| 16 | Germany | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 3.1 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 0.6% | 5.7% |
| 17 | Philippines | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 1.2 | 0.5% | 7.3% |
| 18 | South Africa | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 0.5% | 6.1% |
| 19 | Mozambique | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.3% | 6.7% |
| 20 | Qatar | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.3% | 12.9% |
|  | All other markets | 4.5 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 5.2 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 5.5 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 7.9 | 7.3 | 3.1% | 5.0% |
|  | **Total exports** | **124.4** | **102.7** | **106.5** | **123.1** | **145.2** | **181.2** | **187.3** | **239.8** | **260.6** | **263.0** | **234.6** | **100.0%** | **6.5%** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ASEAN | 12.7 | 10.0 | 8.5 | 11.7 | 15.2 | 17.3 | 16.1 | 22.4 | 26.6 | 25.3 | 23.9 | 10.2% | 6.5% |
|  | EU | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 6.4 | 3.8 | 3.1 | 1.3% | 5.9% |
|  | GCC | 2.9 | 3.1 | 2.7 | 3.4 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 3.3 | 4.1 | 6.0 | 4.7 | 6.2 | 2.6% | 7.7% |

1 Mainland. 2 Special Administrative Region of China.

Note: AAG = Average Annual Growth; ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; EU = European Union (27 member states); GCC = Gulf Cooperation Council.

Source: Based on data from ABS International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia.

## Western Australia’s imports of goods by market ($billion)

The table below shows Western Australia’s top 20 goods import markets for 2024 and the value of imports from these markets for each year from 2014 to 2024. In 2024, nine of Western Australia’s top ten import markets were in Asia, but compared to its export markets, there is greater representation within the top 20 from markets in Europe and North America.

The value of Western Australia’s imports over the past decade has been more stable than the value of its exports. Some of the major changes in the values and rankings of import markets over the past decade have been because of changes in the price of petroleum (particularly in 2022), the closure of the Kwinana Oil Refinery in 2021 (which led to a substitution from imports of crude petroleum to refined petroleum), changes in the volume of imports of gold ore for processing at the Perth Mint, and the importation of specific, high‑value capital equipment for use in the resources industry.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Rank | Market | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2024 share | 10‑year AAG |
| 1 | China1 | 4.2 | 5.3 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.7 | 5.4 | 6.1 | 6.9 | 10.1 | 10.2 | 10.7 | 20.5% | 9.7% |
| 2 | United States | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 6.9 | 7.1 | 13.6% | 8.4% |
| 3 | Malaysia | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 2.3 | 1.4 | 1.8 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 3.4 | 6.5% | 5.2% |
| 4 | Japan | 2.3 | 2.3 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 2.7 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 6.5% | 3.7% |
| 5 | Indonesia | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 3.2 | 6.1% | 5.9% |
| 6 | India | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 2.6 | 5.0% | 22.5% |
| 7 | Singapore | 4.5 | 2.5 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 1.1 | 2.9 | 4.2 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 4.5% | -6.2% |
| 8 | Thailand | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 4.2% | 5.6% |
| 9 | South Korea | 2.9 | 3.9 | 1.3 | 8.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 3.3% | -5.0% |
| 10 | Brunei Darussalam | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 3.3% | 24.2% |
| 11 | Germany | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 2.8% | 2.8% |
| 12 | Taiwan | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 2.0% | 11.8% |
| 13 | United Kingdom | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.7% | 1.8% |
| 14 | Italy | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.7% | -3.6% |
| 15 | South Africa | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 1.5% | 17.7% |
| 16 | New Zealand | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.4% | -1.9% |
| 17 | France | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 1.2% | 7.0% |
| 18 | Finland | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.1% | 14.0% |
| 19 | Vietnam | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.0% | 4.3% |
| 20 | Canada | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 1.0% | 0.1% |
|  | All other markets | 8.1 | 7.7 | 8.2 | 7.6 | 9.2 | 7.3 | 7.0 | 6.4 | 6.7 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 11.0% | -3.4% |
|  | **Total imports** | **36.7** | **36.4** | **31.9** | **37.9** | **33.9** | **33.4** | **33.5** | **35.5** | **46.7** | **48.7** | **52.0** | **100.0%** | **3.6%** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ASEAN | 10.2 | 8.6 | 7.3 | 6.8 | 8.1 | 8.0 | 7.1 | 8.3 | 11.9 | 12.0 | 13.5 | 25.9% | 2.8% |
|  | EU | 4.1 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 5.8 | 5.9 | 11.4% | 3.7% |
|  | GCC | 2.8 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 2.0% | -9.1% |

1 Mainland. 2 Special Administrative Region of China.

Note: AAG = Average Annual Growth; ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; EU = European Union (27 member states); GCC = Gulf Cooperation Council.

Source: Based on data from ABS International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia.

## Western Australia’s total trade in goods by market ($billion)

The table below shows Western Australia’s top 20 trading partners for 2024, as measured by the sum of merchandise exports and merchandise imports for each market, and the value of total trade to these markets for each year from 2014 to 2024. As the value of Western Australia’s merchandise exports are much higher than the value of its merchandise imports, the rankings of Western Australia’s trading partners are similar to the rankings for its export markets.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Rank | Market | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2024 share | 10‑year AAG |
| 1 | China1  | 60.7 | 53.8 | 55.9 | 63.9 | 73.3 | 100.5 | 110.9 | 152.6 | 146.4 | 163.0 | 134.5 | 46.9% | 8.3% |
| 2 | Japan | 26.4 | 19.0 | 17.5 | 20.4 | 27.0 | 26.7 | 20.3 | 27.8 | 39.6 | 33.9 | 29.8 | 10.4% | 1.2% |
| 3 | South Korea | 12.6 | 11.1 | 7.4 | 15.8 | 9.3 | 11.0 | 10.9 | 16.9 | 22.6 | 18.1 | 17.5 | 6.1% | 3.3% |
| 4 | Singapore | 9.8 | 6.1 | 3.9 | 5.4 | 8.6 | 9.4 | 8.7 | 12.4 | 16.8 | 12.6 | 14.4 | 5.0% | 3.9% |
| 5 | United States | 4.4 | 4.7 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 4.0 | 5.7 | 11.3 | 7.0 | 8.7 | 10.7 | 10.4 | 3.6% | 9.1% |
| 6 | India | 1.9 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 6.1 | 9.1 | 3.2% | 16.7% |
| 7 | Hong Kong2 | 7.3 | 6.0 | 6.9 | 8.7 | 7.3 | 3.9 | 4.7 | 3.3 | 5.3 | 5.9 | 7.9 | 2.7% | 0.8% |
| 8 | Taiwan | 2.2 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 6.7 | 12.1 | 8.0 | 7.4 | 2.6% | 12.8% |
| 9 | Indonesia | 3.5 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 2.9 | 4.1 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 6.8 | 2.4% | 7.0% |
| 10 | United Kingdom | 2.1 | 1.9 | 8.3 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 13.2 | 13.3 | 3.1 | 1.2 | 4.0 | 6.6 | 2.3% | 12.2% |
| 11 | Malaysia | 4.4 | 3.8 | 2.9 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 5.3 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 6.1 | 6.6 | 5.6 | 2.0% | 2.5% |
| 12 | Thailand | 3.1 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 4.3 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.7 | 6.2 | 4.4 | 1.5% | 3.4% |
| 13 | United Arab Emirates | 3.6 | 3.4 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.5 | 1.6 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 1.1% | -1.6% |
| 14 | Germany | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 1.0% | 4.1% |
| 15 | Vietnam | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 0.8% | 7.7% |
| 16 | Brunei Darussalam | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 0.8% | 27.4% |
| 17 | South Africa | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 0.7% | 9.4% |
| 18 | Bahrain | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 0.6% | 11.6% |
| 19 | Philippines | 0.7 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 0.5% | 6.6% |
| 20 | New Zealand | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.4% | -0.1% |
|  | All other markets | 12.6 | 11.6 | 11.8 | 12.8 | 14.5 | 12.9 | 12.9 | 15.3 | 17.7 | 16.2 | 15.6 | 5.4% | 2.2% |
|  | **Total trade** | 161.1 | 139.1 | 138.4 | 161.0 | 179.1 | 214.7 | 220.8 | 275.3 | 307.3 | 311.7 | 286.6 | 100.0% | 5.9% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ASEAN | 22.9 | 18.5 | 15.8 | 18.5 | 23.3 | 25.3 | 23.2 | 30.7 | 38.6 | 37.3 | 37.4 | 13.0% | 5.0% |
|  | EU | 5.9 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 8.1 | 9.2 | 11.2 | 9.6 | 9.1 | 3.2% | 4.4% |
|  | GCC | 5.7 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 6.8 | 6.2 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 7.2 | 2.5% | 2.4% |

1 Mainland. 2 Special Administrative Region of China.

Note: ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; EU = European Union (27 member states); GCC = Gulf Cooperation Council; AAG = Average Annual Growth.

Source: Based on data from ABS International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia.

## Western Australia’s main goods exports by market: 2024

The tables below show the markets for some of Western Australia’s main goods exports for 2024. China accounts for a very high share of exports of Western Australia’s highest value commodity, iron ore, as well as lithium and barley. Exports of other commodities are less concentrated on a single market.

Western Australia exports gold in three main forms: non‑monetary gold, which is generally exported to be used as a store of value or for industrial purposes (including the manufacturing of jewellery); gold ore, which is unrefined gold exported to other countries for further processing; and gold coin, which is mostly used for collectible purposes.

Western Australia’s second highest value export – liquefied natural gas, or LNG – is not shown in the tables below as export values for individual markets (and the total value) are confidentialised by the ABS. Information from other data sources indicates that Western Australia’s largest LNG export markets are Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan and Malaysia. Other Western Australian exports that are affected by confidentialised data include nickel, copper, mineral sands and other petroleum products.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Iron ore | Value ($b) | Share | Non-monetary gold | Value ($b) | Share | Alumina | Value ($b) | Share | Lithium1 | Value ($m) | Share | Wheat | Value ($m) | Share |
| China2 | 103.7 | 84.3% | Hong Kong3 | 7.5 | 28.6% | Bahrain | 1.6 | 20.8% | China2 | 4,483 | 94.4% | South Korea | 558 | 15.7% |
| Japan | 7.3 | 5.9% | United Kingdom | 5.4 | 20.6% | UAE | 1.5 | 19.6% | South Korea | 158 | 3.3% | China2 | 517 | 14.5% |
| South Korea | 7.0 | 5.7% | India | 4.8 | 18.5% | South Africa | 1.0 | 12.5% | Indonesia | 77 | 1.6% | Indonesia | 470 | 13.2% |
| Taiwan | 2.0 | 1.6% | China2 | 2.9 | 11.2% | Mozambique | 0.7 | 9.2% | Belgium | 15 | 0.3% | Japan | 429 | 12.1% |
| Vietnam | 1.3 | 1.1% | Singapore | 2.4 | 9.1% | Qatar | 0.7 | 8.7% | United States | 13 | 0.3% | Yemen | 336 | 9.5% |
| All other markets | 179 | 1.4% | All other markets | 3.1 | 11.9% | All other markets | 2.3 | 29.2% | All other markets | 1 | 0.0% | All other markets | 1,243 | 35.0% |
| Total | **123.0** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **26.1** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **7.8** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **4,747** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **3,553** | **100.0%** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Canola seeds | Value ($m) | Share | Gold ore4 | Value ($m) | Share | Barley | Value ($m) | Share | Gold coin | Value ($m) | Share | Meat | Value ($m) | Share |
| France | 418 | 19.4% | Philippines | 701 | 33.4% | China2 | 1,075 | 77.1% | United States | 605 | 46.2% | China2 | 350 | 29.1% |
| Germany | 392 | 18.2% | South Korea | 548 | 26.1% | Japan | 149 | 10.6% | Germany | 571 | 43.7% | United States | 117 | 9.7% |
| Japan | 379 | 17.6% | Japan | 334 | 15.9% | Saudi Arabia | 55 | 3.9% | Hong Kong3 | 32 | 2.5% | Singapore | 98 | 8.2% |
| UAE | 231 | 10.8% | Germany | 271 | 12.9% | Vietnam | 39 | 2.8% | Japan | 26 | 2.0% | Indonesia | 63 | 5.2% |
| Pakistan | 212 | 9.9% | Finland | 165 | 7.9% | Mexico | 28 | 2.0% | Taiwan | 23 | 1.7% | UAE | 60 | 5.0% |
| All other markets | 517 | 24.1% | All other markets | 79 | 3.8% | All other markets | 50 | 3.6% | All other markets | 51 | 3.9% | All other markets | 514 | 42.8% |
| Total | **2,148** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **2,099** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **1,396** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **1,307** | **100.0%** | **Total** | **1,201** | **100.0%** |

1 Spodumene concentrate. 2 Mainland. 3 Special Administrative Region of China. 4 May include other precious metal ore.

Note: UAE = United Arab Emirates.

Source: Based on data from ABS International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia.

**Western Australia’s trade in services**



Note – Imports are shown as negative values because they are an outflow of expenditure from the economy.

Source: Based on data from ABS, International Trade: Supplementary Information.

* Western Australia’s services trade has largely normalised after the disruption from international travel restrictions that were imposed during the COVID‑19 pandemic.
* The value of Western Australia’s services exports rose 30% to $9.9 billion in 2023‑24. Western Australia accounted for 8.0% of Australia’s services exports in 2023‑24.
* The value of Western Australia’s services imports rose 26% to $16.9 billion in 2023‑24. Western Australia accounted for 10.5% of Australia’s services imports in 2023‑24.
* Western Australia had a services trade deficit of $6.9 billion in 2023‑24.

**Western Australia’s services exports by sector**



Source: Based on data from ABS, International Trade: Supplementary Information.

* Western Australia’s services exports are mainly the spending by international students and visitors in the State.
* The value of Western Australia’s international education exports reached a record high in 2023‑24, while the value of international tourism exports returned to its pre‑pandemic level.
	+ Western Australia’s education‑related travel services exports rose 57% to $3.7 billion in 2023‑24
	+ Western Australia’s personal related travel services exports rose 26% to $2.5 billion in 2023‑24.

**Western Australia’s services imports by sector**



Source: Based on data from ABS, International Trade: Supplementary Information.

* Western Australia’s services imports are mainly the spending by Western Australians travelling overseas and transport services provided to Western Australian businesses and consumers.
* The value of Western Australia’s international tourism imports reached a record high in 2023‑24, while an easing of global freight prices led to a fall in the value of transport services imports.
	+ Western Australia’s personal travel services imports rose 49% to $8.2 billion in 2023‑24
	+ Western Australia’s transport services imports fell 7% to $3.5 billion in 2023‑24.

## Western Australia’s international visitors by market

The table below shows Western Australia’s top 20 source markets for international visitors in 2024, and the number of visitors for these markets for each year from 2014 to 2024. Western Australia’s source markets for international visitors are diverse, with Europe, Asia, Oceania (New Zealand) and North America all represented in the top six markets. While international visitor numbers have recovered strongly from the COVID‑19 pandemic, total visitor numbers in 2024 were still below the 2019 level. The recovery in visitor numbers has generally been stronger for Asian markets compared to European and North American markets.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Rank | Market | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023  | 2024  | 2024 share |
| 1 | United Kingdom | 143,200 | 146,100 | 151,700 | 145,000 | 146,500 | 141,600 | 45,300 | 1,400 | 70,400 | 113,300 | 117,800 | 13.6% |
| 2 | Singapore | 81,200 | 82,200 | 100,300 | 101,600 | 99,000 | 107,100 | 14,000 | 1,000 | 64,300 | 87,500 | 109,600 | 12.7% |
| 3 | New Zealand | 80,700 | 82,900 | 80,600 | 69,300 | 68,600 | 74,500 | 12,200 | 4,400 | 36,000 | 71,600 | 83,200 | 9.6% |
| 4 | China | 39,300 | 43,700 | 52,000 | 58,600 | 61,000 | 73,000 | 15,100 | 300 | 3,300 | 54,200 | 68,400 | 7.9% |
| 5 | Malaysia | 71,500 | 81,000 | 107,900 | 110,100 | 102,300 | 100,700 | 11,100 | 200 | 16,100 | 47,900 | 60,700 | 7.0% |
| 6 | United States | 71,200 | 71,500 | 85,500 | 79,600 | 72,100 | 57,100 | 17,000 | 600 | 21,000 | 44,600 | 46,500 | 5.4% |
| 7 | Indonesia | 29,900 | 27,900 | 29,200 | 30,000 | 31,500 | 38,800 | 6,100 | 400 | 10,500 | 30,900 | 40,300 | 4.7% |
| 8 | India | 18,200 | 20,800 | 23,600 | 27,800 | 30,900 | 31,000 | 9,200 | 700 | 23,800 | 29,000 | 33,600 | 3.9% |
| 9 | Japan | 26,500 | 23,300 | 25,600 | 27,500 | 30,900 | 38,800 | 9,000 | 90 | 3,300 | 27,700 | 30,400 | 3.5% |
| 10 | Germany | 31,500 | 32,600 | 38,000 | 32,500 | 34,900 | 33,800 | 10,100 | 200 | 14,700 | 23,900 | 24,500 | 2.8% |
| 11 | Philippines | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 26,900 | 19,000 | 2.2% |
| 12 | France | 21,200 | 20,100 | 18,600 | 18,600 | 19,100 | 21,300 | 6,800 | 200 | 8,000 | 23,200 | 18,800 | 2.2% |
| 13 | Canada | 17,600 | 19,100 | 19,700 | 17,700 | 20,400 | 23,500 | 5,900 | 200 | 5,800 | 17,300 | 14,400 | 1.7% |
| 14 | South Korea | 14,000 | 12,100 | 15,700 | 10,400 | 15,500 | 13,000 | 2,300 | 60 | 3,900 | 14,900 | 13,600 | 1.6% |
| 15 | Thailand | 9,800 | 9,400 | 12,600 | 12,200 | 12,400 | 11,400 | 1,600 | 100 | 5,200 | n.a. | 13,300 | 1.5% |
| 16 | Switzerland | 11,100 | 11,700 | 12,200 | 11,100 | 13,400 | 14,800 | 3,400 | 0 | 6,000 | n.a. | 12,700 | 1.5% |
| 17 | South Africa | 18,300 | 17,200 | 16,900 | 15,000 | 19,800 | 18,600 | 4,000 | 100 | 8,700 | 11,900 | 9,200 | 1.1% |
| 18 | Netherlands | 8,000 | 9,300 | 9,000 | 8,600 | 9,400 | 11,300 | 2,200 | 200 | 5,000 | 7,500 | 7,400 | 0.9% |
|  | All other markets | 68,400 | 74,400 | 73,800 | 89,500 | 90,100 | 87,800 | 18,800 | 1,250 | 8,600 | 131,700 | 141,600 | 16.4% |
|  | **Total visitors** | **832,200** | **851,300** | **947,800** | **926,200** | **945,300** | **974,000** | **214,700** | **13,800** | **376,100** | **786,700** | **865,000** | **100.0%** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ASEAN | 192,400 | 200,500 | 250,000 | 253,900 | 245,200 | 258,000 | 32,800 | 1,700 | 98,400 | 193,200 | 242,900 | 28.1% |
|  | EU | 100,400 | 97,600 | 97,200 | 84,400 | 93,200 | 98,800 | 31,100 | 1,200 | 58,700 | 77,300 | 50,700 | 5.9% |
|  | GCC | n.a | n.a | n.a | n.a | n.a | n.a | 300 | 200 | 1700 | n.a | n.a | n.a. |

1 Mainland.

Note: ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; EU = European Union (27 member states); GCC = Gulf Cooperation Council. Not all member countries may be included in the total for these groups due to a small sample size. n.a. = Not available.

Source: Tourism Research Australia, International Visitor Survey.

## Western Australia’s international student enrolments by market

The table below shows Western Australia’s top 20 source markets for international student enrolments in 2024, and the number of enrolments from these markets for each year from 2014 to 2024. The number of international student enrolments in Western Australia more than doubled between 2022 and 2024 to be well above pre‑pandemic levels. South Asian countries now account for a very large share of Western Australia’s international student enrolments, with India, Bhutan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka all in the top 12 source markets in 2024. The recovery has been slower for other markets, with markets such as Malaysia and Singapore still some way below their pre‑pandemic enrolment numbers.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Rank | Market | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2024 share |
| 1 | India | 4,101 | 6,092 | 7,814 | 7,840 | 7,965 | 8,918 | 9,151 | 8,209 | 8,671 | 11,669 | 15,547 | 17.1% |
| 2 | Bhutan | 627 | 907 | 1,141 | 1,361 | 1,775 | 2,220 | 2,289 | 1,865 | 3,097 | 10,177 | 11,974 | 13.2% |
| 3 | China1 | 6,880 | 6,983 | 7,251 | 8,037 | 8,444 | 8,380 | 7,093 | 5,796 | 5,159 | 6,335 | 8,550 | 9.4% |
| 4 | Philippines | 677 | 704 | 655 | 556 | 591 | 1,197 | 1,525 | 1,243 | 1,377 | 4,040 | 5,891 | 6.5% |
| 5 | Pakistan | 1,343 | 1,450 | 1,481 | 1,445 | 1,423 | 1,745 | 1,975 | 1,911 | 2,547 | 5,127 | 5,572 | 6.1% |
| 6 | Nepal | 799 | 884 | 947 | 1,139 | 1,357 | 1,875 | 2,101 | 1,898 | 2,716 | 3,550 | 4,417 | 4.9% |
| 7 | Colombia | 990 | 1,120 | 1,277 | 1,265 | 1,368 | 1,701 | 1,746 | 1,303 | 1,656 | 3,152 | 3,733 | 4.1% |
| 8 | Vietnam | 2,021 | 2,111 | 2,242 | 2,026 | 1,704 | 1,589 | 1,493 | 1,292 | 1,282 | 2,091 | 2,974 | 3.3% |
| 9 | Kenya | 715 | 857 | 1,165 | 1,480 | 1,448 | 1,288 | 1,084 | 860 | 1,034 | 1,968 | 2,714 | 3.0% |
| 10 | Brazil | 2,568 | 2,643 | 2,990 | 2,569 | 2,461 | 2,308 | 1,911 | 1,260 | 1,423 | 2,007 | 2,557 | 2.8% |
| 11 | Bangladesh | 281 | 304 | 274 | 264 | 252 | 289 | 333 | 330 | 507 | 1,313 | 2,284 | 2.5% |
| 12 | Sri Lanka | 412 | 455 | 486 | 491 | 530 | 903 | 1,009 | 950 | 1,018 | 1,636 | 2,165 | 2.4% |
| 13 | Indonesia | 1,486 | 1,406 | 1,295 | 1,184 | 1,117 | 1,199 | 1,121 | 1,027 | 1,074 | 1,546 | 2,058 | 2.3% |
| 14 | Malaysia | 3,428 | 3,552 | 3,682 | 3,590 | 3,417 | 3,056 | 2,504 | 1,881 | 1,660 | 1,790 | 1,854 | 2.0% |
| 15 | Japan | 714 | 744 | 1,011 | 1,081 | 1,127 | 1,173 | 860 | 509 | 842 | 1,242 | 1,525 | 1.7% |
| 16 | Hong Kong2 | 1,424 | 1,713 | 2,015 | 1,852 | 1,600 | 1,345 | 1,242 | 1,219 | 1,286 | 1,506 | 1,439 | 1.6% |
| 17 | Singapore | 1,649 | 1,490 | 1,448 | 1,454 | 1,422 | 1,470 | 1,396 | 1,282 | 1,249 | 1,263 | 1,294 | 1.4% |
| 18 | Mauritius | 672 | 768 | 939 | 887 | 820 | 833 | 794 | 645 | 590 | 783 | 1,095 | 1.2% |
| 19 | Taiwan | 1,269 | 2,047 | 2,519 | 2,220 | 1,777 | 1,418 | 1,019 | 774 | 684 | 756 | 977 | 1.1% |
| 20 | Thailand | 856 | 867 | 972 | 892 | 784 | 667 | 589 | 396 | 538 | 863 | 957 | 1.1% |
|  | All other markets | 12,844 | 13,202 | 13,204 | 11,917 | 10,234 | 9,794 | 8,624 | 6,195 | 6,434 | 9,037 | 11,252 | 12.4% |
|  | **Total enrolments** | **45,756** | **50,299** | **54,808** | **53,550** | **51,616** | **53,368** | **49,859** | **40,845** | **44,844** | **71,851** | **90,829** | **100.0%** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ASEAN | 10,405 | 10,381 | 10,532 | 9,925 | 9,234 | 9,411 | 8,886 | 7,339 | 7,474 | 11,915 | 15,397 | 17.0% |
|  | EU | 4,043 | 4,286 | 4,245 | 3,676 | 3,090 | 3,030 | 2,586 | 1,663 | 1,670 | 2,127 | 2,709 | 3.0% |
|  | GCC | 1,410 | 1,274 | 993 | 892 | 751 | 802 | 781 | 565 | 377 | 362 | 336 | 0.4% |

1 Mainland. 2 Special Administrative Region of China.

Note: ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; EU = European Union (27 member states); GCC = Gulf Cooperation Council; n.a. = Not available.

Source: Australian Department of Education, International Student Data.

## Western Australia’s overseas‑born population (as at 30 June)

The table below shows the top 20 countries contributing to Western Australia’s overseas‑born population in 2021, and how this has changed over each census year since 2001. Over 200 countries are represented in Western Australia’s overseas‑born population. In 2021, Western Australia had the highest share of overseas‑born people in its population of any Australian state or territory, with 34.1% compared to the national average of 29.3%.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Rank | Country | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 | 2016 | 2021 | 2021 share of overseas-born population |
| 1 | United Kingdom1 | 222,650 | 232,900 | 256,120 | 257,380 | 253,440 | 27.0% |
| 2 | New Zealand | 49,680 | 54,240 | 80,970 | 87,350 | 85,590 | 9.1% |
| 3 | India | 13,550 | 17,740 | 34,640 | 53,370 | 66,550 | 7.1% |
| 4 | South Africa | 16,990 | 25,870 | 39,800 | 45,550 | 49,300 | 5.3% |
| 5 | Philippines | 5,970 | 8,140 | 19,880 | 33,430 | 40,470 | 4.3% |
| 6 | Malaysia | 19,390 | 23,080 | 29,430 | 32,250 | 34,800 | 3.7% |
| 7 | China2 | 5,710 | 9,990 | 20,520 | 29,960 | 31,220 | 3.3% |
| 8 | Vietnam | 10,780 | 12,010 | 14,590 | 17,620 | 19,920 | 2.1% |
| 9 | Ireland | 9,720 | 10,540 | 17,050 | 21,580 | 19,910 | 2.1% |
| 10 | Italy | 24,630 | 23,630 | 21,750 | 21,960 | 19,280 | 2.1% |
| 11 | Singapore | 11,070 | 13,800 | 16,300 | 16,270 | 17,420 | 1.9% |
| 12 | Indonesia | 9,180 | 9,700 | 12,070 | 12,490 | 15,350 | 1.6% |
| 13 | Zimbabwe | 4,460 | 7,310 | 11,420 | 13,890 | 14,430 | 1.5% |
| 14 | Germany | 11,050 | 12,110 | 13,190 | 12,770 | 12,390 | 1.3% |
| 15 | United States | 6,890 | 8,310 | 10,400 | 11,450 | 11,890 | 1.3% |
| 16 | Thailand | 2,710 | 3,850 | 6,710 | 8,360 | 10,840 | 1.2% |
| 17 | Myanmar | 6,150 | 6,530 | 8,470 | 9,110 | 10,120 | 1.1% |
| 18 | Sri Lanka | 3,410 | 4,030 | 6,310 | 8,870 | 10,050 | 1.1% |
| 19 | Netherlands | 11,820 | 12,160 | 11,780 | 10,390 | 9,580 | 1.0% |
| 20 | Pakistan | 1,000 | 1,300 | 2,930 | 6,170 | 8,460 | 0.9% |
|  | All other countries | 98,190 | 116,640 | 152,180 | 185,140 | 197,890 | 21.1% |
|  | **Total overseas-born population** | **545,000** | **613,880** | **786,510** | **895,360** | **938,900** | **100.0%** |
|  | Australian-born population | 1,361,280 | 1,436,700 | 1,566,900 | 1,660,620 | 1,810,470 |  |
|  | Total population | 1,906,270 | 2,050,580 | 2,353,410 | 2,555,980 | 2,749,370 |  |
|  | *Overseas-born share of population* | *28.6%* | *29.9%* | *33.4%* | *35.0%* | *34.1%* |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ASEAN | 67,120 | 79,190 | 110,040 | 132,130 | 151,960 | 16.2% |
|  | EU | 92,440 | 96,280 | 103,250 | 106,680 | 99,680 | 10.6% |
|  | GCC | 900 | 1,690 | 3,230 | 4,100 | 4,370 | 0.5% |

1 To be consistent with trade data used in this document, the United Kingdom includes Channel Islands and Isle of Man. 2 Mainland.

Note: ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; EU = European Union (27 member states); GCC = Gulf Cooperation Council

Source: Based on data from ABS Australia’s Population by Country of Birth.