Demographics

Population

The total population of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in 2016 was 544, comprising 140 people on West Island and 404 people on Home Island.

Of these, 49.5% were male and 50.5% were female. In 2011, 51.6% of the population were male and 48.4% were female.

In 2016, there were 153 families on island. For those with children, the average number was 1.9 children.

Age

In 2016, the median age was 42, which is four years higher than the national median age. People aged 65 years and over made up 15.5% of the population. Children (0 - 14 years) made up 20.6% of the population.

The proportion of residents aged 65 and over has increased since 2006, where 8.7% of people were 65 years or older. At the same time, the proportion of residents aged 0 - 14 years has decreased from 26.6% in 2006 to 20.6% in 2016.

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2 Home Island and West Island are the only populated islands of the 27 islands that make up the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
Cultural and language diversity

**Ancestry**

Malay ancestry is now the **most common ancestry** on the CKI.

In 2016, the most common ancestries were Malay (16.6%), Australian (15.5%), Indonesian (14.3%), English (9.3%) and Javanese (5.6%).

In 2011, the most common ancestries were Australian (18.5%), Malay (15.9%), Indonesian (13.1%), English (11.7%) and Javanese (5.0%).

**Country of Birth**

In 2016, **82.5%** of people on the CKI were **Australian-born**. Following Australia, the only other responses for country of birth were Malaysia (5.0%), New Zealand (1.1%), England (0.6%) and Singapore (0.6%).

**74.0%** of people had **both parents born in Australia**, while 6.9% of people had both parents born overseas. 3.3% of people had only their mother born overseas, while 6.3% had only their father born overseas.

**Language Spoken at Home**

In 2016, **nearly two-thirds** (63.6%) of households on the CKI reported that a **non-English language was spoken at home**. 69.6% of people **spoke Malay at home** and **22.2%** of people **only spoke English at home**.

**Religion**

In 2016, the **most common religions** on the CKI were Islam (75.0%), Anglican (3.5%) and Catholic (1.5%). **13.4%** of the population identified as having No Religion.

**Employment**

**Income**

In 2016, the **median weekly personal income** for people aged 15 years and over on the CKI was **$563**. This figure is lower than the national median weekly personal income of $662.

The median weekly personal income on the CKI increased by 15.6% ($76) from 2011 to 2016, compared to 14.7% nationally. This increase is less than 2006 to 2001, which was 42.8% ($146), compared to 23.8% nationally.
The median weekly household income on the CKI was $1,859, which was higher than the national median of $1,438. 11.1% of households had a weekly income of less than $650 and 17.6% of households had a weekly income of more than $3000.

Unpaid Work
In the week before the 2016 Census, 48.7% of people aged 15 years and over did unpaid domestic work, this compares to the national median of 69.0%.

During the two weeks before the Census, 27.9% provided care for children (compared to 27.6% nationally) and 8.7% assisted family members or others due to a disability, long term illness or problems related to old age (compared to 11.3% nationally).

In the year before the Census, 22.1% of people did voluntary work through an organisation or a group, compared to 19.0% nationally.

Dwellings

Tenure and Household Composition
In 2016, 84.0% of private dwellings on the CKI were occupied and 16.0% were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings, 58.9% were rented, 13.7% were owned outright and 2.4% were owned with a mortgage. All occupied private dwellings were separate houses.

The average household size was 3.7 people. Of all households on the CKI, 94.6% were family households and 5.4% were single person households.

Mortgage and Rent
In 2016, median rent on the CKI was $166 per week, compared to the national median rent of $335 per week. 92.1% of households had rent payments less than 30% of household income (88.5% nationally), while households with rent payments greater than 30% of household income were 7.9% (11.5% nationally).

Median mortgage repayments were $1,029 per week, which is lower than the national median of $1,755.

Motor Vehicles
In 2016, 7.9% of occupied private dwellings on the CKI had no registered motor vehicles garaged or parked at their address, 25.7% had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 29.3% had two registered motor vehicles and 30.7% had three or more registered motor vehicles.

Internet Connection
In 2016, 76.1% of households had at least one person access the internet. This could have been through a desktop/laptop computer, mobile or smart phone, tablet, music or video player, gaming console, smart TV or any other device.