

Leaders of the Opposition from 1905

From 1905 there have been 33 Leaders of the Opposition in Western Australia.

Government	Leader of the Opposition	Date Appointed	Date of Retirement from Office
1905 – 1906 Cornthwaite Rason (Lib) <i>25 August 1905 – 7 May 1906</i>	Henry Daghish (ALP) <i>(Served 1 month 2 days)</i>	25 August 1905	27 September 1905
	William Dartnell Johnson (ALP) <i>(Served 23 days)</i>	4 October 1905	27 October 1905
1906 – 1909 Newton Moore (Min) <i>7 May 1906 – 14 May 1909</i>	Thomas Henry Bath <i>(Served 4 years 8 months 12 days)</i>	22 November 1905	3 August 1910
1910 – 1911 Frank Wilson (Lib) <i>16 September 1910 – 7 October 1911</i>	John Scaddan (ALP) <i>(Served 1 year 2 months 4 Days)</i>	3 August 1910	7 October 1911
1911 – 1916 John Scaddan (ALP) <i>7 October 1911 – 27 July 1916</i>	Frank Wilson (Lib) <i>(Served 4 years 8 months 26 days)</i>	1 November 1911	27 July 1914
1916 – 1917 Frank Wilson (Lib) <i>27 July 1916 – 28 June 1917</i>	John Scaddan (ALP) <i>(Served 12 days)</i>	27 July 1916	8 August 1916
	William Dartnell Johnson (ALP) <i>(Served 1 month 12 Days)</i>	19 September 1916	31 October 1916
	John Scaddan (ALP) <i>(Served 5 month 10 days)</i>	31 October 1916	c.10 April 1917
1917 – 1919 Henry Lefroy (Lib) <i>28 June 1917 – 17 April 1919</i> & 1919 – 1919 Hal Colbatch (Lib) <i>17 April 1919 - 17 May 1919</i> & 1919 – 1924 Sir James Mitchell (Lib) <i>17 May 1919 – 15 April 1924</i>	Philip Collier (ALP) <i>(Served 6 years 11 months 8 day)</i>	9 May 1917	17 April 1924
1924 – 1930 Philip Collier (ALP) <i>16 April 1924 – 23 April 1930</i>	Sir James Mitchell (Lib) <i>(Served 6 years 7 days)</i>	17 April 1924	24 April 1930
1930 – 1933 Sir James Mitchell (Lib) <i>24 April 1930 – 24 April 1933</i>	Philip Collier (ALP) <i>(Served 3 years)</i>	24 April 1930	24 April 1933
1933 – 1936 Philip Collier (ALP) <i>24 April 1933 – 19 August 1936</i> & 1936 – 1945 John Willcock (ALP) <i>20 August 1936 – 31 July 1945</i>	Sir Charles George Latham (CP) <i>(Served 9 years 5 months 13 days)</i>	24 April 1933	7 October 1942
1945 – 1947 Frank Wise (ALP) <i>31 July 1945 - 1 April 1947</i>	Arthur Frederick Watts (CP) <i>(Served 4 years 5 months 24 days)</i>	8 October 1942	1 April 1947
1947 – 1953 Sir Duncan McLarty (Nat/Lib) <i>1 April 1947 – 22 February 1953</i>	Frank Joseph Scott Wise (ALP) <i>(Served 4 years 2 months 25 days)</i>	1 April 1947	26 June 1951

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	Albert Redvers George Hawke (ALP) (Served 1 year 7 months 19 days)	3 July 1951	22 February 1953
1953 – 1959 Albert Hawke (ALP) 23 February 1951 – 2 April 1959	Sir (Duncan) Ross McLarty (Lib) (Served 4 years 4 months 6 days)	23 February 1953	1 March 1957
	David Brand (Lib) (Served 2 year 1 month)	1 March 1957	1 April 1959
1959 – 1971 David Brand (Lib) 2 April 1959 - 3 March 1971	Albert Redvers George Hawke (ALP) (Served 7 year 8 months 29 days)	2 April 1959	31 December 1966
	John Tresize Tonkin (ALP) (Served 4 years 2 months 1 day)	1 January 1967	2 March 1971
1971 – 1974 John Tonkin (ALP) 3 March 1971 – 8 April 1974	Sir David Brand (Lib) (Served 1 year 3 months 2 days)	3 March 1971	5 June 1972
	Sir Charles Walter Michael Court (Lib) (Served 1 year 10 months 3 days)	5 June 1972	8 April 1974
1974 – 1982 Sir Charles Court (Lib) 9 April 1974 – 25 January 1982	John Tresize Tonkin (ALP) (Served 2 years, 7 day)	8 April 1974	15 April 1976
	Colin Jamieson (ALP) (Served 1 year 10 months 5 days)	16 April 1976	21 February 1978
	Ronald Davies (ALP) (Served 3 years 6 months 28 days)	21 February 1978	18 September 1981
1982 -1983 Raymond O'Connor (Lib) 25 January 1982 – 25 February 1983	Brian Thomas Burke (ALP) (Served 1 year 5 months 1 day)	18 September 1981	19 February 1983
1983 - 1988 Brian Burke (ALP) 25 February 1983 – 25 February 1988	Raymond James O'Connor (Lib) (Served 11 months 27 days)	19 February 1983	15 February 1984
	William Ralph Boucher Hassell (Lib) (Served 2 year 9 months 10 days)	15 February 1984	25 November 1986
1988 – 1990 Peter Dowding (ALP) 25 February 1988-12 February 1990 & Carmen Lawrence (ALP) 12 February 1990-16 February 1993	Barry MacKinnon (Lib) (Served 6 year 5 months 17 days)	25 November 1986	12 May 1992
1990 – 1993 Carmen Lawrence (ALP) 12 February 1990-16 February 1993	Richard Fairfax Court (Lib) (Served 9 months 4 days)	12 May 1992	6 February 1993
1993 – 2011 Richard Court (Lib) 16 February 1993 – 16 February 2001	Carmen Lawrence (ALP) (Served 11 Months 22 days)	16 February 1993	7 February 1994
	Ian Taylor (ALP) (Served 10 months 5 days)	7 February 1994	12 October 1994
	Jim McGinty (ALP) (Served 2 years 3 days)	12 October 1994	15 October 1996
	Geoff Gallop (ALP) (Served 4 years 4 months 1 day)	15 October 1996	16 February 2001

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2001 - 2006 Geoff Gallop (ALP) 16 February 2001 – 25 January 2006	Richard Fairfax Court (Lib) (Served 10 months Resigned as MLA 27 April 2001)	16 February 2001	26 February 2001
	Colin James Barnett (Lib) (Served 4 years 11 months)	26 February 2001	9 March 2005
2006-2008 Alan Carpenter (ALP) 26 January 2006 – 23 September 2008	Matthew (Matt) John Birney (Lib) (Served 1 years 15 days)	9 March 2005	24 March 2006
	Hon. Paul Domenic Omodei (Lib) (Served 1 year 9 months 24 days)	24 March 2006	17 January 2008
	Mr Troy Raymond Buswell (Lib) (Served 6 months 18 days)	17 January 2008	4 August 2008
	Hon. Colin James Barnett (Lib) (Served 1 month 19 days)	4 August 2008	23 September 2008
2008 - Colin Barnett (Lib) 23 September 2008 -	Hon. Eric Stephen Ripper (ALP) (Served 3 year 3 month 29 days)	26 September 2008	23 January 2012
	Hon. Mark McGowan (ALP)	23 January 2012	

Abbreviations

ALP	Australian labor Party
CP	Country Party
Lib	Liberal Party
Min	Ministerialist
Nat	National Party

Source

1. *The Western Australian Parliament Handbook* edited by David Black. 22nd (Rev) ed. Parliament of Western Australia, 2009.
2. *Parliament of Western Australia 2012 Internet* - www.parliament.wa.gov.au.