Most data from the 2006 Census will be released on a 'place of usual residence' basis – that is, according to where people normally live. For the 2001 Census most data was released on a 'place of enumeration' basis – that is, according to where people were on Census night. However, data on both bases are available from both Census years.

The figures in the table below illustrate the differences between these concepts, and the difference between these and the concept of 'estimated resident population'. For some locations, the number of persons counted at the Census is important because that figure includes visitors. For other areas, or for other purposes, the number of usual residents is a more appropriate measure. In all cases, the estimated resident population (which includes an allowance for persons not counted at the Census) is regarded as the 'official' population (see explanatory notes). Except where indicated, the population data in this fact sheet is based on the place of usual residence, while all dwellings data is based on place of enumeration.

### Population summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total usual residents</td>
<td>14,287</td>
<td>14,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons counted at home</td>
<td>13,340</td>
<td>13,701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas visitors counted in area</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total visitors counted in area</td>
<td>2,323</td>
<td>2,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons counted in area</td>
<td>15,663</td>
<td>16,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated resident population (30 June)</td>
<td>15,315</td>
<td>15,680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) This data is based on place of enumeration.

- The median age in the Cassowary Coast region of 40 years was higher than the Queensland median. There is a larger proportion of the population aged under 15 and a larger proportion aged over 65.
- Household income is $206 a week lower on average in the Cassowary Coast region, while the median mortgage payment is $379 a month lower. The median rent is $63 a week lower compared to Queensland in general.
- The proportion of the population with a severe or profound disability is 4.7% compared with the state average of 4.0%.

### Comparisons to Queensland (2006)(a)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>QLD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median age</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of population aged under 15</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of population aged 65 and over</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% with profound or severe disability</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual income</td>
<td>$422</td>
<td>$476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family income</td>
<td>$1,028</td>
<td>$1,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household income</td>
<td>$827</td>
<td>$1,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median housing loan repayment (monthly)</td>
<td>$921</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median rent (weekly)</td>
<td>$137</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average persons per bedroom</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average household size</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) For detailed explanatory notes refer to Australian Bureau of Statistics, Basic Community Profile, Table 2.
(b) Median values derived by PIFU by assuming that persons falling in the median range are distributed equally across $ values in that range.
Over the five years to 2006 the number of children aged 0-14 years decreased by 778 (11.6%) and the proportion of these children in the population fell from 23.2% to 21.4%. The population aged 75 and over increased by 232 (15.5%) and grew from 5.2% of the population in 2001 to 6.2% in 2006.

The number of persons attending an educational institution increased by 5.9% over the 2001-06 period.

The proportion of secondary students attending non-government schools rose from 29.0% in 2001 to 32.4% in 2006 while for infant and primary students the proportion in government schools fell from 68.1% to 65.4% over the same period.

The number of students at TAFE or university decreased by 19.8%.

In the five years to 2006 the proportion of persons in the Cassowary Coast region who were born in Australia did not change. During this period the population who were Australian citizens decreased by 1,849.

In 2006 4.2% of persons were counted in non-private dwellings, compared with 6.3% in 2001.
From 2001 to 2006 the proportion of persons who had never been married increased from 30.1% to 30.8%.

Married persons decreased in number by 546, and as a share of total persons declined from 52.2% to 50.4%.

The number who were separated or divorced increased by 9.7%.

The number of persons living in a de facto relationship increased by 15.9% between 2001 and 2006 compared with a decrease of 6.6% for those living in a registered marriage.

Social marital status is generally assumed to more closely reflect current living arrangements than do figures for formal registered marital status.

From 2001 to 2006 the proportion of females aged 15 or more who had never borne children was 20.9% compared to 22.2% in 2001. Those who had borne three or more children fell from 37.2% in 2001 to 34.8% in 2006.

Over the five years to 2006 there was a decrease of 1,584 in the number of persons in families with children, while the proportion of persons in couples without children increased from 25.9% to 28.9%.

Between 2001 and 2006 there was a decrease of 133 (5.4%) lone person households in the Cassowary Coast region. One parent families increased by 36 (3.5%) while the number of couples without children increased by 147 (5.1%).

The proportion of females aged 15 or more who had never borne children was 20.9% compared to 22.2% in 2001. Those who had borne three or more children fell from 37.2% in 2001 to 34.8% in 2006.

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The proportion of households renting their home decreased from 33.1% in 2001 to 29.3% in 2006, while the proportion of households paying off their home rose from 16.5% to 22.7%. The number of dwellings being purchased increased by 644.

Between 2001 and 2006 the number of separate houses rose by 90 while the number of attached dwellings increased by 94.

As a proportion of occupied private dwellings, attached dwellings rose from 9.3% in 2001 to 10.4% in 2006.

The proportion of all private dwellings that were vacant declined from 11.9% to 10.8% over the same period.

The Planning Information and Forecasting Unit (PIFU) provides a comprehensive range of professional products and services in the areas of population, housing trends, projections and urban land supply. Standard and customised products are available. Second release Census data will be incorporated when available (expected early 2008).

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