Population Age and Gender, Regional Queensland, 2012

Source: ABS 3235.0, released 30 August 2013, 11:30 am AEST

Age structure
The estimated resident population (ERP) of Queensland increased from 4,111,018 to 4,565,529 from 30 June 2007 to 30 June 2012. The ERP of some age groups increased more than others over this five year period (Figure 1). The largest percentage increase in population from 30 June 2007 to 2012 was among 65–69 year olds (32.1%), while 35–39 year olds had the lowest percentage increase (2.1%). Adults aged 25–29 years had the largest increase in population size over the five years (54,161 people), while the smallest increase was among 35–39 year olds (6,350 people).

Figure 1: Population by age and gender at 30 June, Queensland

Median age
In the five years to 30 June 2012, the median age of Queensland’s population increased by 0.4 years (from 36.2 years to 36.6 years). Over the same period, the median age of males increased from 35.6 to 35.9 years, and the median age of females increased from 36.8 to 37.3 years.

There were large variations in age structure among Queensland’s local government areas (LGAs) at 30 June 2012 (Figure 2). The highest median ages were recorded in Hinchinbrook (S) (46.4 years), Fraser Coast (R) (44.9 years) and Etheridge (S) and North Burnett (R) (both 44.7 years). The LGAs with the lowest median ages were predominantly Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities including Cherbourg (S) (22.3 years), Woorabinda (S) (22.6 years) and Yarrabah (S) (22.9 years).

Children (0–14 years)
There were seven LGAs with more than one-third of the population aged 0–14 years (Table 1). The population of these LGAs was predominantly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

At 30 June 2012, the LGA of Diamantina (S) had the lowest proportion of children with 12.8%.

Table 1: LGAs with more than a third of the population at 0–14 years, 30 June 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>Total number</th>
<th>Persons aged 0–14 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doomadgee (S)</td>
<td>1,374</td>
<td>493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherbourg (S)</td>
<td>1,255</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mornington (S)</td>
<td>1,214</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torres Strait Island (R)</td>
<td>4,576</td>
<td>1,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woorabinda (S)</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarrabah (S)</td>
<td>2,587</td>
<td>864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Peninsula Area (R)</td>
<td>2,493</td>
<td>832</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Queensland’s ‘child dependency ratio’ (the ratio of children aged 0–14 compared with those of working age 15–64 years) decreased from 30.0% at 30 June 2007 to 29.7% at 30 June 2012.

Working–age population (15–64 years)
All LGAs within Queensland had over 50% of the population within the working–age range. LGAs with the smallest proportions of working–age persons were Fraser Coast (R) (59.3%) and South Burnett (R) (59.8%), while Diamantina (S) (76.9%) and Burke (S) (76.2%) had the highest proportions.

People aged 65 years and over
The proportion of the population aged 65 years and over in Queensland LGAs ranged from 2.2% in Weipa (T) to 22.4% in Hinchinbrook (S).

Queensland’s ‘aged dependency ratio’ (ratio of those aged 65 years or more to the working ages of 15–64 years) increased from 18.1% in 2007 to 20.0% at 30 June 2012.

Ratio of males to females
There were 99.6 males in the population for every 100 females in Queensland at 30 June 2012, similar to the ratio of 99.7 at 30 June 2007. The ratio of males to females in Queensland LGAs ranged from 86.8 in Woorabinda (S) to 162.0 in Bulloo (S).
Figure 2: Median age, local government areas in Queensland, 30 June 2012

1 Queensland level data sourced from ABS 3101.0, Australian Demographic Statistics, Dec 2012 (released 20 June 2013).
2 Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2012 boundaries.
3 r = revised. The ABS revised 2012 sub–state estimates to maintain, for most areas, the 2011–12 growth rates released in the 2011–12 issue of 3218.0, published 30 April 2013.