



Population Growth: Regional Queensland, 2010-11

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Introduction

This brief is based on population estimates rebased by the Australian Bureau of Statistics according to Census 2011 results. These estimated resident population (ERP) figures are known as preliminary rebased estimates. This brief replaces a previous 2010-11 regional population growth brief using ERPs released prior to rebasing.

Commentary

At 30 June 2011, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast were the largest local government areas (LGAs) by population size in both Queensland and Australia (Table 1).

Seven of Queensland's top 10 LGAs by population size at 30 June 2011 were located in South East Queensland (SEQ). Only Townsville, Cairns and Toowoomba (ranked 6th, 8th and 9th respectively) were located outside SEQ.

The largest population increases over the year to 30 June 2011 in Queensland LGAs occurred in Brisbane (13,950), Moreton Bay (7,660) and Gold Coast (5,364). Brisbane, Logan, Redland and Gladstone all recorded larger annual increases in the year to 30 June 2011 than in the previous year (Table 2).

Of Queensland LGAs with populations of 2,000 or more, Cook (6.5%) recorded the highest growth rate in the 12 months ending 30 June 2011, followed by Palm Island (4.5%) (Table 3). Cook also recorded the largest acceleration in annual population growth compared with the previous year (3.1 percentage points).

Population growth in the Greater Brisbane Capital City Statistical Area moderated slightly in the 12 months to 30 June 2011, compared with the previous 12 month period (from 1.7% to 1.6%). This trend was evident in all Australian state capital cities with the exception of Perth (Table 4).

Table 1: Ten largest local government areas by population at 30 June 2011, Queensland

Qld ranking	Aust ranking	Local government area	Population (number)
1	1	Brisbane (C)	1,089,743
2	2	Gold Coast (C)	513,954
3	3	Moreton Bay (R)	389,661
4	4	Sunshine Coast (R)	316,858
5	6	Logan (C)	287,517
6	19	Townsville (C)	180,389
7	24	Ipswich (C)	172,147
8	30	Cairns (R)	162,740
9	36	Toowoomba (R)	154,931
10	46	Redland (C)	143,628

Table 2: Ten largest¹ population increases in local government areas, Queensland

Qld ranking	Local government area	Increase 2009-10	Increase 2010-11
— number —			
1	Brisbane (C)	13,702	13,950
2	Moreton Bay (R)	10,239	7,660
3	Gold Coast (C)	7,198	5,364
4	Ipswich (C)	5,205	4,637
5	Logan (C)	4,366	4,577
6	Townsville (C)	2,505	2,408
7	Sunshine Coast (R)	3,378	1,969
8	Redland (C)	1,443	1,784
9	Mackay (R)	1,500	1,434
10	Gladstone (R)	311	1,349

Table 3: Ten fastest¹ growing local government areas², Queensland

Qld ranking	Local government area	Increase 2009-10	Increase 2010-11
— % —			
1	Cook (S)	3.4	6.5
2	Palm Island (S)	4.4	4.5
3	Northern Peninsula Area (R)	5.3	3.1
4	Ipswich (C)	3.2	2.8
5	Gladstone (R)	0.5	2.3
6	Weipa (T)	0.7	2.1
7	Western Downs (R)	1.2	2.1
8	Moreton Bay (R)	2.8	2.0
9	Somerset (R)	2.8	1.9
10	Lockyer Valley (R)	1.8	1.7

Table 4: Greater Capital City Statistical Area³ populations and growth rates, Australia

	Estimated resident population at 30 June		Increase	
	2010	2011	2009-10	2010-11
— number —				
Sydney	4,550,200	4,605,992	1.4	1.2
Melbourne	4,108,441	4,169,103	1.7	1.5
Brisbane	2,113,025	2,146,577	1.7	1.6
Adelaide	1,253,778	1,262,940	1.1	0.7
Perth	1,785,076	1,832,114	2.3	2.6
Hobart	214,627	216,276	1.0	0.8
Darwin	128,128	129,062	2.1	0.7
Canberra	360,753	367,752	2.0	1.9

C = City, R = Regional Council, S = Shire

¹Ranked by growth in 2010-11

²LGAs with populations of 2,000 or more at 30 June 2011.

³Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) July 2011