

Population growth, regional Queensland, 2015–16

Source: ABS 3218.0, released 28 July 2017

Key data

Fastest growing local government area (LGA)¹ in 2015–16:

Ipswich (C)..... ↑ 2.9%

Fastest growing statistical area level 2 (SA2) in 2015–16:

Pimpama..... ↑ 33.4%

¹Based on the LGAs with 5,000 persons or more as at 30 June 2016.

Main findings

Note: This brief is based on population estimates rebased by the ABS according to Census 2016 results (known as preliminary rebased estimates). It replaces the previous 2015–16 edition which used ERP prior to rebasing. Further details on the changes in preliminary rebased estimates are available at: <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/reports/rebased-erp-reg-qld/index.php> SA2 and LGA geographies are defined under the ASGS, July 2016.

- At 30 June 2016, Brisbane (C), Gold Coast (C) and Moreton Bay (R) were the largest LGAs by population size in both Queensland and Australia (Table 1).
- Seven of Queensland's top 10 LGAs by population size at 30 June 2016 were located in South East Queensland (SEQ). Townsville (C), Toowoomba (R) and Cairns (R) (ranked 7th, 8th and 9th respectively) were located outside SEQ.
- The largest population increases over the year to 30 June 2016 in Queensland LGAs occurred in Brisbane (C) (18,301 persons), Gold Coast (C) (13,562 persons) and Moreton Bay (R) (9,771 persons) (Table 2).
- Of Queensland LGAs with populations of 5,000 or more, Ipswich (C) recorded the fastest growth rate in the year to 30 June 2016 with 2.9%, followed by Sunshine Coast (R) with 2.5% (Table 3).
- The most populous SA2 in Queensland was Upper Coomera - Willow Vale (located in Gold Coast SA4) with 32,210 people (ranked 10th most populous of all SA2s within Australia).
- The largest increases in population for Queensland SA2s in the year to June 2016 occurred in Pimpama SA2 (located in Gold Coast SA4) (up 2,410 persons), North Lakes - Mango Hill SA2 (located in Moreton Bay - South SA4) (up 2,281 persons) and Jimboomba SA2 (located in Logan - Beaudesert SA4) (up 1,569 persons).
- For Queensland SA2s, Pimpama SA2 (located in Gold Coast SA4) recorded the fastest annual growth rate to 30 June 2016 (33.4% or an additional 2,410 persons).

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

Table 1 Ten largest LGAs, at 30 June 2016, Queensland

Qld ranking	Aust. ranking	LGA	Population
			number
1	1	Brisbane (C)	1,184,215
2	2	Gold Coast (C)	576,918
3	3	Moreton Bay (R)	438,313
4	7	Logan (C)	313,785
5	9	Sunshine Coast (R)	303,389
6	26	Ipswich (C)	200,123
7	29	Townsville (C)	192,058
8	35	Toowoomba (R)	164,595
9	37	Cairns (R)	162,451
10	48	Redland (C)	151,987

Table 2 Ten largest growing LGAs^(a), Queensland

Qld ranking	LGA	Population increase	
		2014–15	2015–16
		— number —	
1	Brisbane (C)	16,521	18,301
2	Gold Coast (C)	11,371	13,562
3	Moreton Bay (R)	9,144	9,771
4	Sunshine Coast (R)	6,850	7,406
5	Ipswich (C)	5,126	5,685
6	Logan (C)	4,123	4,787
7	Redland (C)	1,264	1,946
8	Cairns (R)	1,583	1,680
9	Toowoomba (R)	1,378	1,352
10	Townsville (C)	1,422	1,332

(a) Based on the ten largest growing LGAs during 2015–16.

Table 3 Ten fastest growing LGAs^(a), Queensland

Qld ranking	LGA	Annual growth	
		2014–15	2015–16
		— % —	
1	Ipswich (C)	2.7	2.9
2	Sunshine Coast (R)	2.4	2.5
3	Gold Coast (C)	2.1	2.4
4	Moreton Bay (R)	2.2	2.3
5	Somerset (R)	0.9	1.9
6	Scenic Rim (R)	1.1	1.6
7	Brisbane (C)	1.4	1.6
8	Lockyer Valley (R)	1.3	1.6
9	Logan (C)	1.4	1.5
10	Gympie (R)	0.9	1.5

(a) Based on LGAs with 5,000 persons or more as at 30 June 2016.