



Census 2011: Population mobility, Queensland

Key points:

- At the time of the 2011 Census, 764,695 (17.9%) Queensland usual residents had a different usual address compared with one year prior to Census night. Queensland's population mobility was second only to the Northern Territory.
- The Gold Coast was the main destination in Queensland for both interstate and overseas arrivals in the year prior to the 2011 Census (17.7% and 15.3% respectively).

1. Population mobility

Population mobility refers to the geographic movement of people where there has been a change in the place of usual residence. To determine the level and spatial pattern of mobility, the Census asks individuals about the location of their usual residence both five years and one year prior to the Census. This bulletin focuses on population mobility only during the year prior to the 2011 Census between Queensland and other states and territories (interstate migration), as well as examining overseas arrivals¹.

At the time of the 2011 Census, 17.9% (764,695) of Queensland's usual resident population aged one year and over had moved usual residence in the previous year (Table 1). This was the highest proportion among all states and territories² with the exception of the Northern Territory (19.1%), indicating high population mobility.

Table 1: Usual residents aged one year and over by type of move, Queensland, year to 2011 Census

Type of move	persons	– % –
Did not move	3,278,187	76.7
Moved	764,695	17.9
<i>Between Queensland SA2s^{(a)(b)}</i>	470,479	11.0
<i>Within same Queensland SA2^(a)</i>	145,804	3.4
<i>From interstate</i>	75,239	1.8
<i>From overseas</i>	63,184	1.5
<i>Previous address not stated</i>	9,989	0.2
Not stated ^(c)	232,395	5.4
Total	4,275,277	100.0

(a) Includes Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2s) of 'Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Qld)' and 'No Usual Address (Qld)'.
 (b) Includes movement from 'Capital City Undefined (Greater Brisbane)' and 'State Undefined (Qld)'.
 (c) Persons who did not state whether they were usually resident at a different address one year ago.

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, B38

Interstate arrivals to Queensland over this period numbered 75,239, the highest figure of any state or territory, and exceeded the number of interstate departures from Queensland over the year (68,872). Overseas arrivals to Queensland in the year prior to

the 2011 Census numbered 63,184, the third highest number of arrivals behind New South Wales (92,848) and Victoria (78,560).

2. Overseas arrivals to Queensland

Australian-born usual residents comprised 18.4% of all overseas arrivals to Queensland in the year prior to the 2011 Census (Table 2). New Zealand (19.8%) and England (8.4%) were the top two countries of birth for those born overseas. Queensland was the primary destination for New Zealand-born arrivals over the 12 month period, and the third most popular destination for English-born arrivals behind New South Wales (7,389) and Western Australia (5,996).

Table 2: Overseas arrivals to Queensland by top 20 overseas countries of birth, year to 2011 Census

Country of birth	Overseas arrivals	
	persons	– % –
<i>Australia</i>	11,629	18.4
New Zealand	12,486	19.8
England	5,336	8.4
China ^(a)	2,780	4.4
South Korea	2,126	3.4
India	1,981	3.1
South Africa	1,888	3.0
Philippines	1,828	2.9
United States of America	1,589	2.5
Ireland	1,229	1.9
Japan	1,192	1.9
Canada	1,077	1.7
Taiwan	958	1.5
Malaysia	874	1.4
Germany	745	1.2
Scotland	711	1.1
Singapore	574	0.9
Iran	544	0.9
Hong Kong ^(b)	533	0.8
Papua New Guinea	526	0.8
France	525	0.8
Other ^(c)	11,521	18.2
Country of birth not stated	532	0.8
Queensland	63,184	100.0

(a) Excludes the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, and Taiwan Province.
 (b) Special Administrative Region of China.
 (c) Includes other countries of birth (11,468 persons) and 'Inadequately described' (53 persons).

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

¹ For the purposes of this bulletin, individuals who were no longer living at the same usual residence as one year prior to the 2011 Census were considered as having moved.
² Other Territories excluded from comparison.



3. Interstate migration

Across the nation, there were 296,985 interstate moves made during the year to the 2011 Census (Table 3). It should be noted that the total number of persons who moved interstate during this period is less than this figure, after return and repeat movements are taken into account. The counter flow of arrivals and departures from one state or territory to another means the actual redistribution of population is much smaller than the number of interstate moves or interstate movers.

In the year to the 2011 Census, Queensland recorded an overall net gain of 6,367 persons through interstate migration, the largest net gain of all states and territories.

Table 3: Interstate migration, year to 2011 Census

State / Territory	Interstate arrivals	Interstate departures	Net gain/loss
	– number –		
New South Wales	70,235	82,488	-12,253
Victoria	58,006	53,603	4,403
Queensland	75,239	68,872	6,367
South Australia	20,112	21,616	-1,504
Western Australia	32,773	27,175	5,598
Tasmania	10,412	10,293	119
Northern Territory	12,840	16,780	-3,940
ACT	17,102	15,592	1,510
Other Territories	266	566	-300
Total	296,985	296,985	0

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, B38

Queensland recorded a net gain from all other states and territories with the exception of Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania (Table 4). New South Wales and Victoria attracted two-thirds (66.2%) of all interstate departures from Queensland over the year to the 2011 Census. New South Wales was the recipient of the largest number of Queensland residents, with 28,951 persons moving from Queensland to New South Wales.

Table 4: Interstate moves to and from Queensland by state and territory, year to 2011 Census

State / Territory	Arrivals from Qld	Departures to Qld	Net gain/loss to Qld
	– number –		
New South Wales	28,951	35,106	-6,155
Victoria	16,660	16,169	491
South Australia	4,363	5,363	-1,000
Western Australia	9,344	7,591	1,753
Tasmania	2,961	2,809	152
Northern Territory	3,834	5,255	-1,421
ACT	2,724	2,852	-128
Other Territories	35	94	-59
Total	68,872	75,239	-6,367

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, B38

New South Wales was also the main source of interstate arrivals to Queensland over the year to the

2011 Census with 35,106 persons moving to Queensland (Table 4 and Figure 1).

Figure 1: Interstate arrivals to Queensland^(a), year to 2011 Census



(a) Arrivals from Other Territories not shown.

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, B38

4. Overseas arrivals and interstate migration by region

Greater Brisbane³ attracted more than half (57.6%) of all overseas arrivals to Queensland in the year prior to the 2011 Census (Figure 2 and Table 5). The Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast attracted a further 15.3% and 5.4% of overseas arrivals respectively. In comparison, Queensland - Outback and Darling Downs - Maranoa attracted the least number of overseas arrivals over this period (1.1 and 1.0% respectively).

Overseas arrivals born abroad were more likely to reside at Brisbane - South compared with those born in Australia (12.8% and 9.2% respectively). Comparatively, the Sunshine Coast was a more popular location for Australian-born overseas arrivals (7.8% compared with 4.8%).

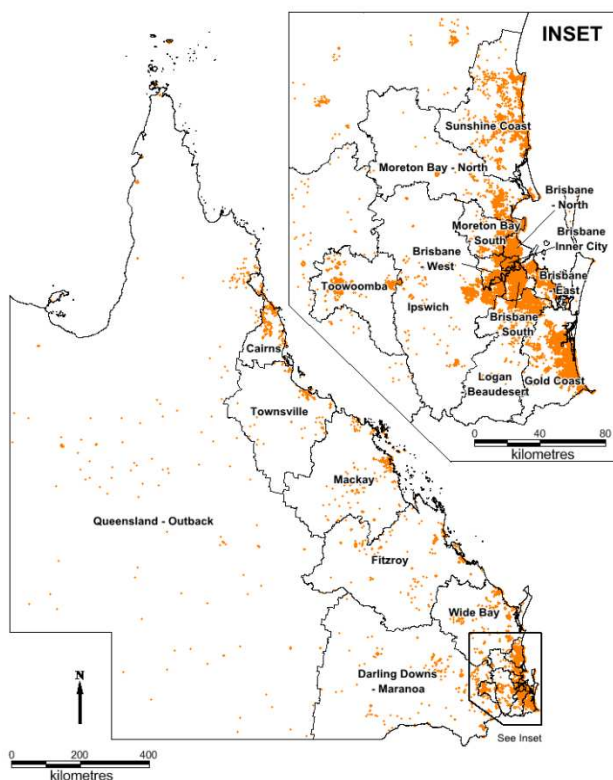
Greater Brisbane attracted 38.4% of all interstate arrivals to Queensland in the year prior to the 2011 Census (Figure 3). The number of interstate arrivals was greater than the number of interstate departures for all Queensland SA4s with the exception of Queensland - Outback, Logan - Beaudesert and Townsville (Table 5). Townsville recorded the largest net interstate loss of 148 persons while the Gold Coast recorded the largest net interstate gain (2,415).

Interstate arrivals over this period were more likely than overseas arrivals to move to regional locations outside of South East Queensland. In particular, a higher proportion of interstate arrivals chose to reside in Townsville (6.2% and 3.1% respectively) and Wide Bay (5.1% and 2.2% respectively).

³ Defined as the Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA) of Brisbane comprising the SA4s of Brisbane - East, Brisbane - North, Brisbane - South, Brisbane - West, Brisbane Inner City, Ipswich, Logan - Beaudesert, Moreton Bay - North and Moreton Bay - South.

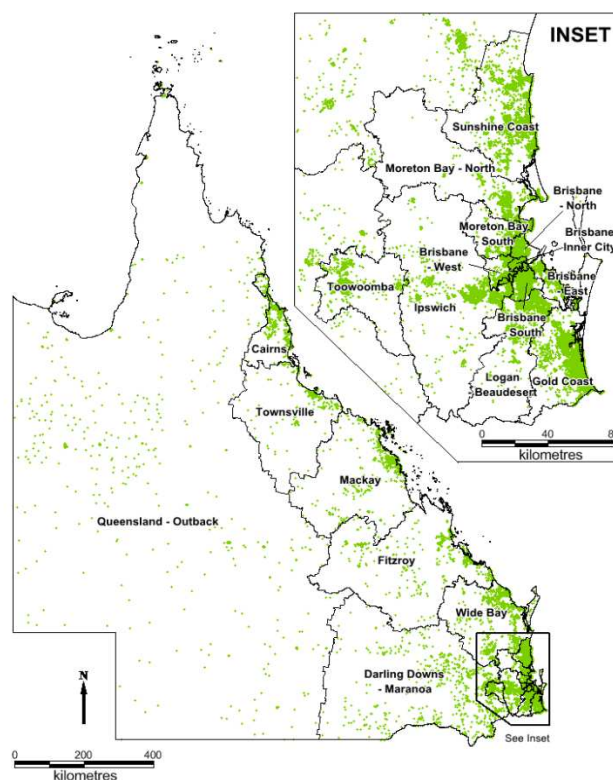


Figure 2: Regional distribution of overseas arrivals by SA4, Queensland, year to 2011 Census



1 dot = 1 overseas arrival

Figure 3: Regional distribution of interstate arrivals by SA4, Queensland, year to 2011 Census



1 dot = 1 interstate arrival

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

Table 5: Overseas arrivals, interstate arrivals and interstate departures by SA4, Queensland, year to 2011 Census

SA4	Overseas arrivals ^(a)		Interstate arrivals ^(a)		Interstate departures ^(b)		Net interstate gain/loss ^(b)	
	persons	– % –	persons	– % –	persons	– % –	persons	– % –
Brisbane - East	2,483	3.9	2,608	3.5	2,284	3.3	324	5.1
Brisbane - North	2,724	4.3	2,429	3.2	2,098	3.0	331	5.2
Brisbane - South	7,648	12.1	3,700	4.9	3,654	5.3	46	0.7
Brisbane - West	4,304	6.8	2,842	3.8	2,674	3.9	168	2.6
Brisbane Inner City	9,468	15.0	5,299	7.0	5,165	7.5	134	2.1
Cairns	2,757	4.4	5,056	6.7	4,853	7.0	203	3.2
Darling Downs - Maranoa	641	1.0	1,721	2.3	1,573	2.3	148	2.3
Fitzroy	1,819	2.9	3,271	4.3	2,583	3.8	688	10.8
Gold Coast	9,659	15.3	13,338	17.7	10,923	15.9	2,415	37.9
Ipswich	2,723	4.3	3,692	4.9	3,277	4.8	415	6.5
Logan - Beaudesert	3,390	5.4	3,005	4.0	3,037	4.4	-32	-0.5
Mackay	1,968	3.1	3,737	5.0	3,071	4.5	666	10.5
Moreton Bay - North	1,898	3.0	2,848	3.8	2,549	3.7	299	4.7
Moreton Bay - South	1,760	2.8	2,485	3.3	1,873	2.7	612	9.6
Queensland - Outback	709	1.1	1,516	2.0	1,535	2.2	-19	-0.3
Sunshine Coast	3,396	5.4	5,510	7.3	4,943	7.2	567	8.9
Toowoomba	1,379	2.2	1,845	2.5	1,682	2.4	163	2.6
Townsville	1,947	3.1	4,692	6.2	4,840	7.0	-148	-2.3
Wide Bay	1,387	2.2	3,833	5.1	3,529	5.1	304	4.8
Queensland	63,184	100.0	75,239	100.0	68,872	100.0	6,367	100.0

(a) Queensland total includes the SA4's of 'Migratory - Offshore – Shipping (Qld)' and 'No Usual Address (Qld)'.

(b) Queensland total includes the SA4's of 'Migratory - Offshore – Shipping (Qld)' and 'No Usual Address (Qld)', in addition to the codes 'Capital City Undefined (Greater Brisbane)' and 'State Undefined (Qld)'.

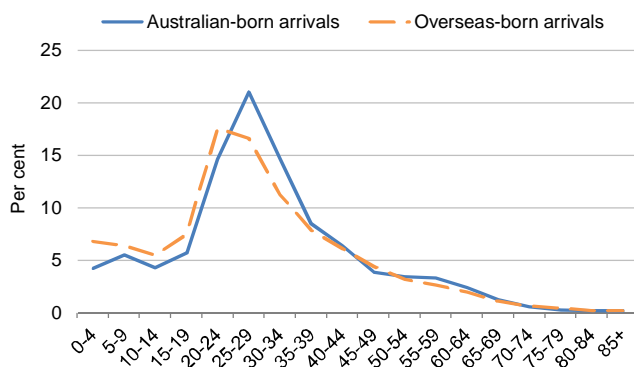
Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro



5. Age profile

One fifth (21.0%) of overseas arrivals born in Australia were aged 25-29 years in the year to the 2011 Census, creating a notable spike in the age profile of this cohort (Figure 4). There were also high proportions of Australian-born overseas arrivals aged 20-24 years and 30-34 years (14.6% each). Overseas arrivals born abroad also had a young age profile, with those aged 20-24 years and 25-29 years comprising the largest proportions (17.6% and 16.6% respectively). The median age of Australian-born overseas arrivals was higher than that of arrivals born abroad at 28.7 and 26.7 years respectively³.

Figure 4: Overseas arrivals^(a), Queensland, year to 2011 Census



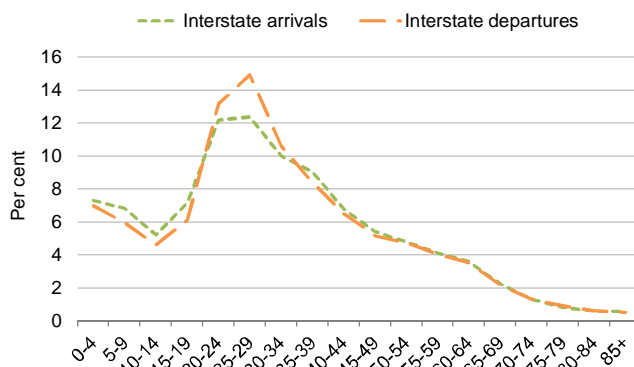
(a) Excludes country of birth not stated.

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

The age profile of those arriving in Queensland from interstate was very similar to those departing (Figure 5). Young adults in their twenties dominated both arrivals and departures with a median age of 29.5 and 29.3 years respectively for these cohorts⁴. People aged 20-24 years and 25-29 years together accounted for 24.5% of all arrivals to Queensland (18,444) and 28.1% of all departures (19,334).

Persons aged 65 years or more represented only 2.5% of all overseas arrivals and 5.5% of all interstate arrivals in the year to the 2011 Census, reflecting the lower propensity to move among older age groups.

Figure 5: Interstate arrivals and departures, Queensland year to 2011 Census



Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro

⁴ Government Statistician estimate.

6. Labour force, occupation and non-school qualification profile

A lower proportion of overseas arrivals than interstate arrivals were employed at the time of the 2011 Census (52.3% compared with 60.0%). Overseas arrivals also had a higher proportion of persons not in the labour force compared with interstate arrivals (35.0% and 29.2% respectively). Of those who were employed, a higher proportion of overseas arrivals than interstate arrivals were in a professional occupation (26.9% and 22.4% respectively) or working as a labourer (15.4% and 9.2% respectively).

Overseas arrivals had a higher representation of persons with a bachelor degree compared with interstate arrivals (40.9% and 26.5% respectively). Comparatively, a higher proportion of interstate arrivals than overseas arrivals had attained a certificate level education (39.7% and 19.8% respectively).

Table 6: Labour force, occupation and non-school qualification profile of overseas and interstate arrivals, Queensland, year to 2011 Census

	Overseas arrivals		Interstate arrivals	
	persons	%	persons	%
<i>Labour force status^(a)</i>				
Employed	27,152	52.3	36,414	60.0
Unemployed	5,904	11.4	6,048	10.0
Not in labour force	18,190	35.0	17,746	29.2
Total^(b)	51,931	100.0	60,717	100.0
<i>Occupation^(c)</i>				
Managers	2,638	9.7	4,490	12.3
Professionals	7,295	26.9	8,157	22.4
Technicians & trade workers	3,316	12.2	5,217	14.3
Community & personal service workers	3,140	11.6	4,510	12.4
Clerical & administrative workers	2,813	10.4	4,383	12.0
Sales workers	1,913	7.0	3,138	8.6
Machinery operators & drivers	1,333	4.9	2,574	7.1
Labourers	4,172	15.4	3,345	9.2
Total^(d)	27,152	100.0	36,414	100.0
<i>Non-school qualification level^(e)</i>				
Postgraduate degree	3,789	11.9	2,609	7.3
Graduate certificate/diploma	877	2.7	1,023	2.9
Bachelor degree	13,072	40.9	9,503	26.5
Advanced diploma/diploma	4,519	14.1	5,583	15.6
Certificate	6,340	19.8	14,252	39.7
Total^(d)	31,957	100.0	35,861	100.0

(a) Count of persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Includes not stated.

(c) Count of employed persons aged 15 years and over.

(d) Includes inadequately described and not stated.

(e) Count of persons aged 15 years and over with a qualification. Excludes schooling up to Year 12.

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, TableBuilder Pro



Notes

Population counts in this bulletin are based on Census counts by place of usual residence. Persons who did not state their usual address one year before the Census night have been excluded from analysis as it is not possible to determine their migration status. Persons aged less than one year on Census night have also been excluded from analysis as they had not been born one year prior.

Census counts by place of usual residence exclude overseas visitors and Australian residents temporarily overseas.

A population census is limited in capturing the mobility of the population in that it can determine whether a person has moved between two points in time, but not how many times that person has moved within that period of time. The Census data does not capture the movements of those who migrated interstate or overseas and returned to their home state or country within the year before the Census night.

Australian-born in this bulletin refers to all people born in Australia, including the other territories of Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay Territory. Overseas-born is used to refer to all persons born in a country other than Australia, including responses classified as 'Inadequately described'.

It should be noted that the labour force status, occupation and educational achievement of overseas and interstate arrivals who were usually resident in Queensland on Census night may not be equivalent to their labour force status, occupation and educational achievement at the time of movement to Queensland.

Geographies in this bulletin are based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard, July 2011. SA4s represent labour markets where there is a high degree of interconnectivity between the labour supply and demand. SA2s represent a community that interacts together socially and economically.

All data in this bulletin have been sourced from ABS Tablebuilder Pro (extracted 30th October 2012), unless otherwise stated. TableBuilder Pro independently applies a confidentiality process and random cell adjustments to each table of data during its extraction. As a result, data presented here may show some minor differences to the same data generated at a different time in TableBuilder Pro, or sourced from another ABS product or consultancy service.

For more information, please see Queensland Treasury and Trade's *Queensland Regional Profiles* and *Queensland Regional Database* at www.oesr.qld.gov.au.

All data in this report were sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Censuses of Population and Housing (www.abs.gov.au).

Government Statistician
Economic and Structural Policy
Queensland Treasury and Trade
Phone: (07) 3035 6418
Email: oesr@treasury.qld.gov.au

© The State of Queensland
(Queensland Treasury and Trade) 2012

