

# Queensland Government household projections, 2023 edition

## Introduction

This report provides an overview of Queensland's projected households for the state, statistical areas level 4 (SA4s) and local government areas (LGAs). A [methodology paper](#)<sup>1</sup> is available which provides further information on the methods used. Detailed data tables for [Queensland](#)<sup>2</sup>, [SA4s](#)<sup>3</sup> and [LGAs](#)<sup>4</sup> are also available. The method includes the production of projected populations by living arrangement. These data have been made available for [Queensland](#) and [SA4s](#).

To account for future uncertainty, three projection series (low, medium, high) have been developed for Queensland and SA4s. These provide a range of outcomes for the possible future number of households<sup>5</sup> and persons by living arrangement.

## Queensland

The total number of households in Queensland is projected to increase from 2,045,900 in 2021 to between 2,625,600 and 3,257,300 by 2046, and between 2,863,300 and 4,613,300 by 2071 (Table 1).

**Table 1 Projected households, by series, Queensland**

Series	2021	2046	2071
Low	2,045,882	2,626,552	2,863,350
Medium	2,045,882	2,916,775	3,664,596
High	2,045,882	3,258,328	4,613,275

In 2021, couple family with children was the most common household type (585,900), followed by couple family with no children (563,500) and lone person households (507,800) (Table 2). By 2071:

- Couple family with no children households are projected to be the most common household type in the low (822,500) and medium series (1,015,100).
- Couple family with children households are projected to remain the most common household type under the high series only (1,263,200), largely due to the higher level of fertility assumed in the high series.
- Lone person households will remain the third-most common household type in each series.

In 2021, there were also 231,900 one parent family households, 91,100 group households, 41,300 multiple family households and 24,400 other family households.

Notably, in each series, one parent family households are projected to grow the fastest (annual average growth rates: low — 0.9%, medium — 1.4%, high — 1.9%).

**Table 2 Projected households, by household type and series, Queensland**

Household type		2071		
	2021	Low	Medium	High
	— 000s —			
Couple family with children	585.9	778.2	1,014.5	1,263.2
Couple family with no children	563.5	822.5	1,015.1	1,243.3
One parent family	231.9	359.9	470.5	603.6
Other family	24.4	36.4	46.8	58.8
Multiple family household	41.3	58.1	73.9	91.7
Lone person household	507.8	685.0	886.0	1,158.5
Group household	91.1	123.2	157.6	194.1
Total households	2,045.9	2,863.4	3,664.6	4,613.3

## Statistical areas level 4

In 2021, the Greater Brisbane Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA) was home to 980,000 households, with over 1,000,000 households in the rest of Queensland. In the 25 years to 2046, under the medium series, the number of households in Greater Brisbane is projected to increase by 485,000 to reach 1,465,800 (an average annual increase of 1.6%). Growth in the rest of Queensland is projected to be lower, with the number of households projected to increase by 386,100, an average annual increase of 1.2% (Table 3).

There are considerable differences in the projected growth of household numbers between SA4s in the rest of Queensland. Over the 25-year projection horizon, under the medium series, Gold Coast is projected to experience the largest increase in households (up 143,800), followed by Sunshine Coast (up 87,000) and Cairns (up 32,900). Only 800 additional households are projected in Queensland - Outback.

<sup>1</sup> [www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/overview#current-release-qld-government-household-projections-methodology](http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/overview#current-release-qld-government-household-projections-methodology)

<sup>2</sup> [www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/state#current-release-projected-households-series-household-type-qld](http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/state#current-release-projected-households-series-household-type-qld)

<sup>3</sup> [www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/regions#current-release-projected-households-series-household-type-sa4-qld](http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/regions#current-release-projected-households-series-household-type-sa4-qld)

<sup>4</sup> [www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/regions#current-release-projected-households-medium-series-household-type-lga-qld](http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/household-dwelling-projections/regions#current-release-projected-households-medium-series-household-type-lga-qld)

<sup>5</sup> Projected numbers of households and persons quoted in the report have generally been rounded to the nearest 100.

The SA4s in the rest of Queensland projected to have the fastest average annual growth rate in households between 2021 and 2046 are Gold Coast (1.8%) and Sunshine Coast (1.7%). Queensland - Outback (0.1%) and Darling Downs - Maranoa (0.2%) are projected to experience the lowest growth rates.

**Table 3 Projected households, Greater Brisbane and rest of Queensland SA4s (medium series)**

Region	Households		Change	
	2021	2046	2021–2046	
	— 000s —		000s	% (a)
<b>Greater Brisbane GCCSA</b>	<b>980.0</b>	<b>1,464.8</b>	<b>484.7</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
<b>Rest of Queensland</b>	<b>1,065.9</b>	<b>1,452.0</b>	<b>386.1</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Cairns	105.8	138.6	32.9	1.1%
Darling Downs - Maranoa	53.1	56.3	3.2	0.2%
Central Queensland	91.3	115.3	24.0	0.9%
Gold Coast	256.8	400.6	143.8	1.8%
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	71.9	94.8	22.9	1.1%
Queensland - Outback	29.6	30.4	0.8	0.1%
Sunshine Coast	163.8	250.8	87.0	1.7%
Toowoomba	65.3	84.3	19.0	1.0%
Townsville	95.3	122.9	27.6	1.0%
Wide Bay	133.1	158.0	24.9	0.7%
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>2,045.9</b>	<b>2,916.8</b>	<b>870.9</b>	<b>1.4%</b>

(a) Average annual.

### Local government areas (medium series)

Gold Coast is projected to have the largest growth in households under the medium series between 2021 and 2046 (143,000), followed closely by Moreton Bay (137,000) and Brisbane (130,000) (Table 4).

**Table 4 Projected households, top 10 LGAs<sup>(a)</sup>, medium series**

LGA	Households		Change	
	2021	2046	2021–2046	
	— 000s —		000s	% (b)
Gold Coast	250,824	394,078	143,254	1.8%
Moreton Bay	183,299	320,558	137,259	2.3%
Brisbane	499,574	629,294	129,720	0.9%
Ipswich	83,915	201,383	117,468	3.6%
Sunshine Coast	139,945	223,317	83,372	1.9%
Logan	121,978	193,947	71,969	1.9%
Townsville	78,232	104,378	26,146	1.2%
Cairns	69,072	91,589	22,517	1.1%
Toowoomba	70,443	87,768	17,325	0.9%
Mackay	49,719	65,419	15,700	1.1%

(a) Based on projected absolute change between 2021 and 2046.

(b) Average annual growth rate.

Couple family with no children households are projected to account for 28.7% of overall household growth in Gold Coast. Notably, lone person households are projected to account for 29.1% of household growth in Brisbane, and around 30% of growth in both Mackay and Toowoomba.

Among these top 10 LGAs, Ipswich is projected to have the fastest average annual growth rate (3.6%) over the 25 years to 2046, followed by Moreton Bay (2.3%), Logan and Sunshine Coast (each at 1.9%).

### Population by living arrangement (medium series)

In 2021, the largest population by living arrangement in Queensland was partnered with no children (1.20 million), followed by child aged under 15 years (987,000) and partnered with child(ren) under 15 years of age (867,400) (Figure 1). There were also 559,100 children aged 15 years and over living with parent(s), and 507,800 persons living alone.

People in partnered with no children living arrangements are projected to remain the most common in both 2046 (1.72 million) and 2071 (2.15 million). Children aged under 15 years are projected to remain the second most common living arrangement in 2046 (1.20 million), while in 2071, partnered with child(ren) under 15 years is projected to be the second most common living arrangement (1.46 million). The number of persons living alone is projected to increase to 886,000 persons.

The largest percentage increases between 2021 and 2071 are projected in persons in non-private dwellings (223%, from 76,000 to 245,300) and single parents with child(ren) aged 15 years and over only (147%, from 116,500 to 288,200).

**Figure 1 Projected population by living arrangement, Queensland, medium series**

