



# Census 2011: Women in Queensland

## Key points:

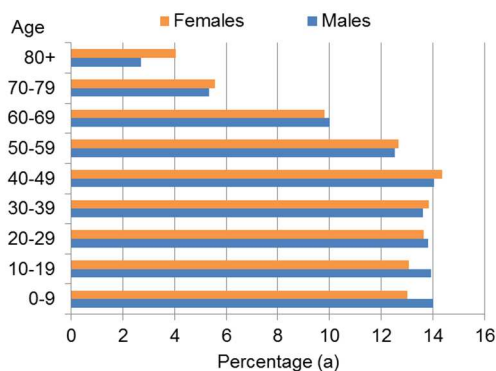
- While numbers of females and males were similar in Queensland, there were proportionally more women than men in the age groups 30 to 59 years and 70 years and over.
- More females than males participated in both full-time and part-time study at TAFE and universities in Queensland.
- Around three-quarters of females (73.2%) had a personal income of less than \$800 per week.
- Couple families with children were the most common family type.
- A higher proportion of females than males cared for children, provided assistance to a person with a disability or undertook unpaid domestic work.

## 1. Queensland's female population

In 2011, 4,332,739 people reported Queensland as their usual place of residence. Of these people, there were 2,184,518 females and 2,148,221 males (Table 1).

While numbers of females and males were similar, the distribution differed with age (Figure 1). There were proportionately more males than females aged up to 29 years and also aged 60 to 69 years. In comparison, there were proportionately more females aged 30 to 59 years and aged 70 years and over.

**Figure 1: Age by gender, 10 year age groups, Queensland, 2011**



(a) Percentages add to 100.0 separately for females and males, e.g. 13.0% of females were aged 0-9 years.

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, B04

### 1.1 Regional women

Except for Brisbane Inner City, females outnumbered males in south-eastern Queensland, Cairns and Wide Bay, while males outnumbered females in western, central and some northern areas of the State (Table 1).

The statistical areas with the highest proportion of females were the Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba (51.6% females), while this proportion was lowest in Queensland - Outback (47.1% females).

**Table 1: Population distribution by Statistical Area Level 4, Queensland, 2011**

Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4)	Females	Males	% Female
— number —			
Toowoomba	72,381	67,839	51.6
Sunshine Coast	158,266	148,643	51.6
Brisbane - North	98,129	92,918	51.4
Gold Coast	259,599	248,043	51.1
Moreton Bay - North	109,977	105,477	51.0
Brisbane - West	86,940	83,413	51.0
Brisbane - East	107,904	103,529	51.0
Brisbane - South	159,513	154,572	50.8
Wide Bay	138,484	134,783	50.7
Moreton Bay - South	84,788	82,642	50.6
Logan - Beaudesert	146,381	144,049	50.4
Cairns	112,558	111,878	50.2
Ipswich	141,038	140,752	50.1
Townsville	108,854	109,043	50.0
Brisbane Inner City	111,775	112,201	49.9
Darling Downs - Maranoa	60,590	61,683	49.6
Fitzroy	103,179	108,165	48.8
Mackay	79,482	87,329	47.6
Queensland - Outback	39,090	43,833	47.1
<b>Queensland (a)</b>	<b>2,184,518</b>	<b>2,148,221</b>	<b>50.4</b>

(a) Includes migratory, offshore and shipping areas.

(b) Data for 'Migratory - Offshore - Shipping' and 'Special Purpose Codes' SA4s are not detailed specifically, but are included in the Queensland totals. As such, the sum of SA4s may not be equivalent to the Queensland total.

Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, B04

### 1.2 Indigenous women

In 2011, 3.6% of Queensland women identified that they were of Indigenous origin.

In Queensland, 122,896 persons identified that they were of Aboriginal origin and 20,094 identified that they were of Torres Strait Islander origin, while 12,834 identified that they were both.

Slightly more women than men identified that they were of Aboriginal origin (62,533 women and 60,363 men) (Table 2). Similar numbers of women and men identified that they were Torres Strait Islander (10,046 women and 10,048 men).


**Table 2: Indigenous status by gender, Queensland, 2011**

Indigenous status	Females	Males
Indigenous persons	— number —	
Aboriginal	62,533	60,363
Torres Strait Islander	10,046	10,048
Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (a)	6,504	6,330
<i>Total</i>	<i>79,083</i>	<i>76,741</i>
Non-Indigenous	2,003,345	1,949,362
Not stated	102,090	122,119
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,184,518</b>	<b>2,148,222</b>

(a) Applicable to persons who are of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin.

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2011, Indigenous Profile, I02

### 1.3 Women born overseas

In Queensland, slightly more than half of those born overseas were female. The largest groups of overseas born women who live in Queensland were from the United Kingdom, New Zealand, South Africa, India, the Philippines, China, Germany, Vietnam and the United States of America (Table 3).

For persons living in Queensland that were born in the Philippines, the number of females (20,165) was more than double the number of males (9,298) in 2011. Females also considerably outnumbered males for Queenslanders born in China (15,545 and 11,492 respectively).

In contrast, the number of males living in Queensland that were born in India (17,220) was 32.1% higher than the number of females (13,038) in 2011.

**Table 3: Top 10 countries of birth (a) by gender, Queensland, 2011**

Country of birth	Count of persons		
	Females	Males	Persons
Australia	1,612,951	1,579,164	3,192,115
United Kingdom (b)	105,443	108,886	214,329
New Zealand	96,011	96,026	192,037
South Africa	17,925	17,624	35,549
India	13,038	17,220	30,258
Philippines	20,165	9,298	29,463
China (c)	15,545	11,492	27,037
Germany	10,751	10,277	21,028
Vietnam	8,830	7,439	16,269
USA	7,861	7,946	15,807

(a) This list of countries consists of the most common 10 country of birth responses reported in the 2011 Census for Queensland.

(b) Comprises 'England', 'Isle of Man', 'Northern Ireland', 'Scotland', 'Wales', 'Guernsey', 'Jersey' and 'United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man, not further defined'.

(c) Special Administrative Regions (SARs) comprise 'Hong Kong (SAR of China)' and 'Macau (SAR of China)'.

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2011, B09

## 2. Education

Of the 688,947 students who attended schools, males outnumbered females in pre-school, infants/primary schools and secondary schools except for 'other non-government' schools (Table 4). Female students accounted for 48.9% of students in schools.

In 2011, 79,238 persons identified they were students at a TAFE with 57.9% of these being female. A further 173,433 reported studying at universities or other tertiary institutions with 59.6% of these being female.

**Table 4: Type of attendance by educational institution and gender, Queensland, 2011**

Institution	Females	Males	% Female
	'000	'000	
Pre-school	24.4	26.2	48.3
Infants/Primary			
Government	124.5	134.1	48.1
Catholic	35.6	37.1	48.9
Other non-government	24.2	24.3	49.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>184.2</b>	<b>195.6</b>	<b>48.5</b>
Secondary			
Government	75.4	78.7	48.9
Catholic	25.9	26.1	49.9
Other non-government	26.6	25.9	50.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>127.9</b>	<b>130.6</b>	<b>49.5</b>
<b>Schools total</b>	<b>336.6</b>	<b>352.4</b>	<b>48.9</b>
TAFE			
Full-time	14.6	10.9	57.4
Part-time	30.8	22.0	<b>58.3</b>
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>57.9</b>
University or other tertiary institution			
Full-time	68.8	49.4	58.2
Part-time	34.2	20.3	62.7
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>103.4</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>59.6</b>

(a) Includes full-time/part-time status not stated.

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2011, B15

In 2011, 57.4% of persons who attended TAFE on a full-time basis and 58.3% who attended on a part-time basis were females.

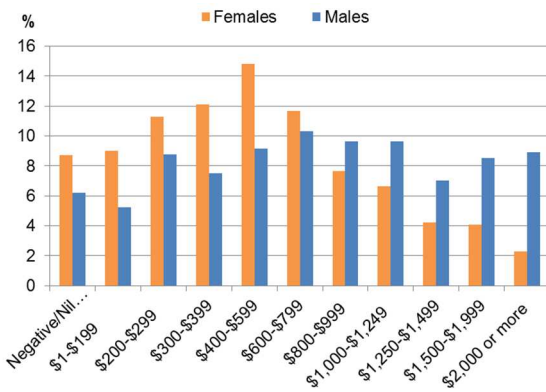
There were more females than males in both full-time and part-time study at universities and other tertiary institutions in Queensland. Similarly, females accounted for 58.2% of persons attending university full-time and 62.7% attending part-time (Table 4).

## 3. Income

In Queensland in 2011, just over two-thirds (67.7%) of women had weekly incomes of less than \$800, compared with 47.2% of men (Figure 2). In contrast, 24.8% of women had weekly incomes of more than \$800 compared with 43.7% of men. The balance includes persons aged 15 years and over who did not state their income.

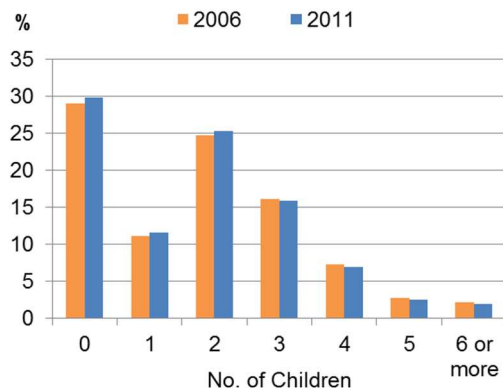


**Figure 2: Personal income (weekly) (a) by gender, Queensland, 2011**



(a) Includes only those who stated their incomes.  
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2011, B17a

**Figure 3: Proportion of women by number of children ever born, Queensland, 2011**



Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2006 (B23) and 2011 (B24)

### 4. Living arrangements

The most common living arrangements in Queensland were couple families with children (31.7%), followed by couple families with no children (29.3%) (Table 5). The least common living arrangements were one parent families (11.9%) and group households (4.7%).

In 2011, there were 189,285 female lone person households, compared with 164,225 male lone person households in Queensland. This reflects the fact that many older women outlive their partners due to their greater life expectancy and tendency to be younger than their male partners. In contrast, males aged 15 to 54 years were more likely to live alone than similar aged females.

There were 151,423 women living in one parent families in 2011 compared with 33,123 men.

**Table 5: Household type, Queensland, 2011**

Household type	Households	
	'000	%
Couple family with children	491.2	31.7
Couple family, no children	453.1	29.3
Lone person household	353.5	22.8
One parent family	184.5	11.9
Group household	73.0	4.7
<b>Total households (a)</b>	<b>1,547.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes 'other families'.  
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2011, B23, B25 and B30

#### 4.1 Number of children ever born

Compared with 2006, proportionally more women in 2011 stated that they had no children (29.8% in 2011 compared with 29.0% in 2006) (Figure 3). Similarly, there were proportionally more women in 2011 with one or two children (36.8% in 2011 compared with 35.8% in 2006). There were, however, proportionally less women with three or more children (27.3% in 2011 compared with 28.3% in 2006).

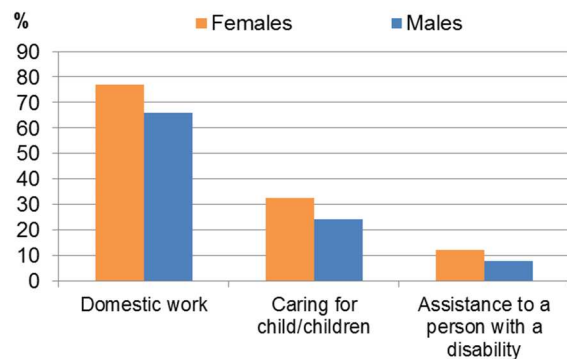
### 5. Unpaid activities

In the week prior to the 2011 Census, over three-quarters (77.0%) of women and almost two-thirds (65.9%) of men reported doing unpaid domestic work (Figure 4). In contrast, almost one-quarter (24.4%) of males and over one-eighth (15.0%) of females reported doing no unpaid domestic work.

In the two weeks prior to the 2011 Census, 32.8% of females and 24.2% of males aged 15 years and over provided some kind of child care to their own child or children and/or other children (aged less than 15 years) (Figure 4).

In the two weeks prior to the 2011 Census, 12.4% of females and 8.0% of males provided unpaid assistance with daily activities to another person because of a disability, a long-term illness or problems related to old age (Figure 4). The largest group of people who provided assistance was women aged 55 to 64 years (20.2%).

**Figure 4: Unpaid activities, proportions of persons by gender, Queensland, 2011**



Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2011, B20, B21 and B22



For more information, please see OESR's *Queensland Regional Profiles* and *Queensland Regional Database* at [www.oesr.qld.gov.au](http://www.oesr.qld.gov.au).

All data in this report are based on place of usual residence and were sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Censuses of Population and Housing ([www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)).

Office of Economic and Statistical Research  
Queensland Treasury and Trade  
Phone: (07) 3035 6418  
Email: [oesr@treasury.qld.gov.au](mailto:oesr@treasury.qld.gov.au)



© The State of Queensland  
(Queensland Treasury and Trade) 2012  
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au>