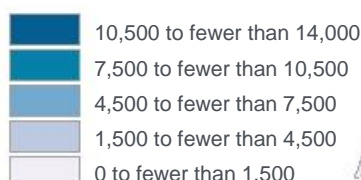


# Population growth highlights and trends, Queensland regions, 2023 edition.

Updated November 2024. Source: ABS *Regional population*, released 31 August 2023

## Highlights—population change in Queensland SA4s<sup>1</sup>, year to 30 June 2022

### Overall population growth 2021–22



SA4 boundary  
SEQ<sup>2</sup> boundary

**Cairns** had an overall gain of 3,580 persons, due to a combination of net overseas migration (1,370 persons), net internal migration (1,160 persons), and natural increase (1,050 persons).

**Townsville** grew by 2,890 persons, with natural increase accounting for almost half of the growth.

**Mackay–Isaac–Whitsunday** was the second-fastest growing regional Queensland SA4 (1.6%).

While **Wide Bay** grew the most (6,810 persons) and the fastest (2.2%) among the regional SA4s. It was the only SA4 to record a natural decrease (–80 persons) in 2021–22.

**Queensland–Outback** experienced a small population gain (90 persons), due to natural increase and net overseas migration offsetting net internal migration losses.

**Central Queensland** experienced the greatest natural increase (1,500 persons) of all regional SA4s.

Over half (53.9%) of the growth in **Darling Downs–Maranoa** was due to natural increase.

Around **70%** of the **Sunshine Coast** population increase was due to gains from net internal migration.

**Gold Coast** accounted for almost **1 in 7** (13,730 persons) of Queensland's new residents, the most of any SA4.

**Logan–Beaudesert** grew the fastest of all SA4s (3.5%).

### NOTE

Statistics in this release include time periods impacted by measures in place to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and disruptions to usual trends, such as population loss to net overseas migration and, in some cases, higher growth due to internal migration. Recovery from disruptions was seen in some regions in 2021–22.

<sup>1</sup> Statistical area level 4, *Australian Statistical Geography Standard, Edition 3*.

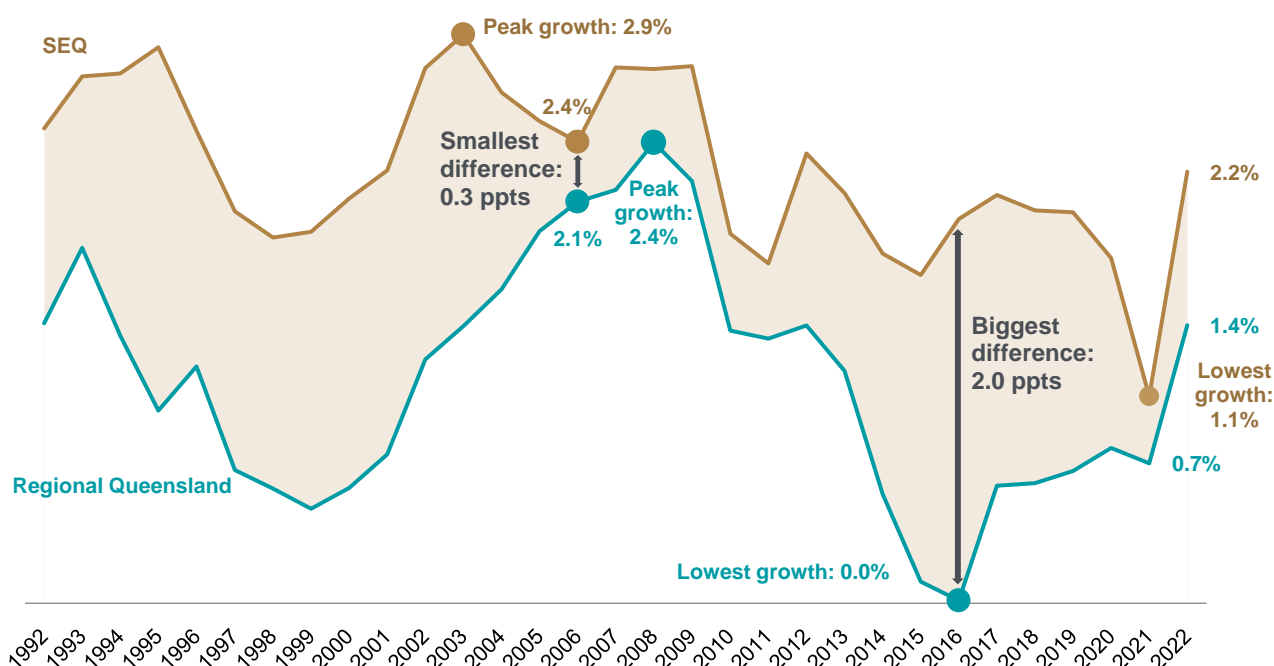
<sup>2</sup> In this section of the report, the South East Queensland (SEQ) region is composed of the following SA4s: Brisbane–East, Brisbane–North, Brisbane–South, Brisbane–West, Brisbane Inner City, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Logan–Beaudesert, Moreton Bay–North, Moreton Bay–South, Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba.

## Overview of Queensland's regions

Population growth in SEQ has been higher than in regional Queensland over the reporting period 1992 to 2022.

Following the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and a drop in growth rates during 2020–21, the growth rate in both SEQ and regional Queensland recovered in 2021–22 to levels higher than in any year recorded in the past decade.

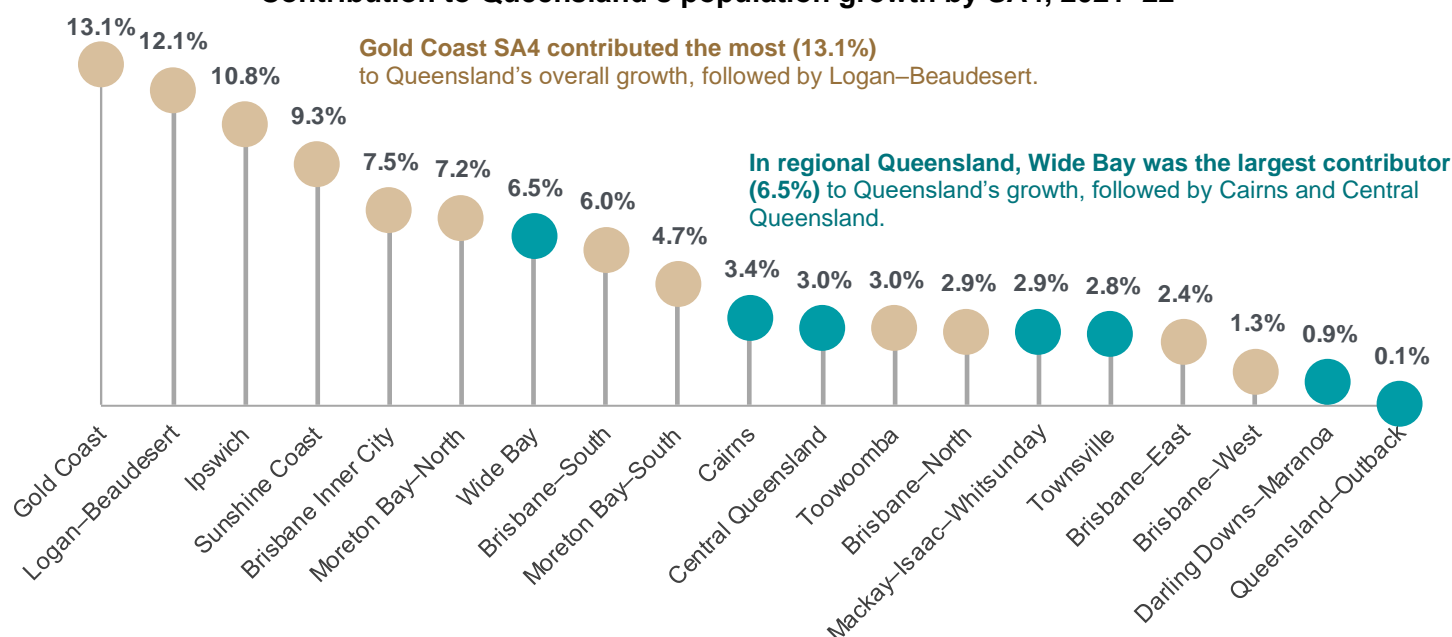
### Annual population growth rate, SEQ and regional Queensland, year to 30 June



In 2021–22, SEQ grew at the fastest rate since 2011–12. The 2021–22 growth rate in SEQ (2.2%) doubled from the previous year (1.1%), when SEQ recorded the slowest growth during the reporting period (since 1991–92).

During the same period, growth rates in regional Queensland varied between zero in 2015–16 and 2.4% in 2007–08. In 2021–22, regional Queensland grew by 1.4%, also twice as fast as in the previous year (0.7%).

### Contribution to Queensland's population growth by SA4, 2021–22



## South East Queensland SA4s

More than **7 in 10** Queenslanders (72.7% or 3.9 million persons) lived in SEQ at 30 June 2022.

Over the 10 years to 30 June 2022, SEQ grew at almost triple the average annual rate (1.9%) of the rest of Queensland (0.7%).

While overall annual SEQ population growth in the five years to 30 June 2022 was 1.8% on average, growth in the most recent year, 2021–22, was 2.2%. This reflects a recovery from the disrupted trends and lower growth experienced since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

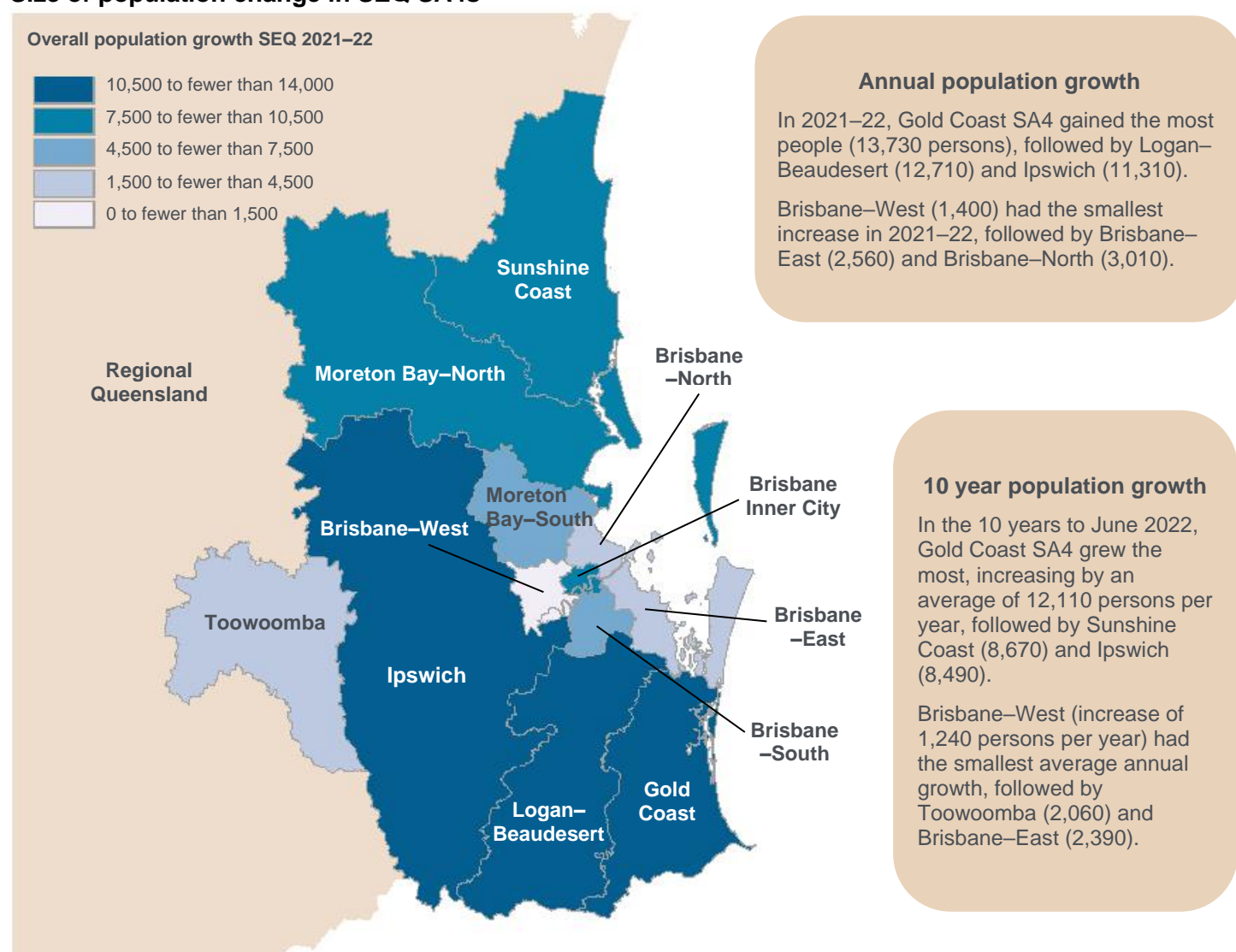
### Rate of population change in SEQ SA4s

Growth rates increased in all Queensland SA4s in 2021–22, with the lowest growth rates for SEQ SA4s occurring in Brisbane–West (0.7%) and Brisbane–East (1.1%).

In the year to 30 June 2022 the fastest growing SEQ SA4s were Logan–Beaudesert (3.5%), followed by Ipswich (3.0%) and Moreton Bay–North (2.8%).

The fastest average annual growth rates over the ten years to June 2022 were recorded in Ipswich (2.5%), followed by Moreton Bay–South (2.4%) and Sunshine Coast (2.4%), then Brisbane Inner City (2.3%).

### Size of population change in SEQ SA4s



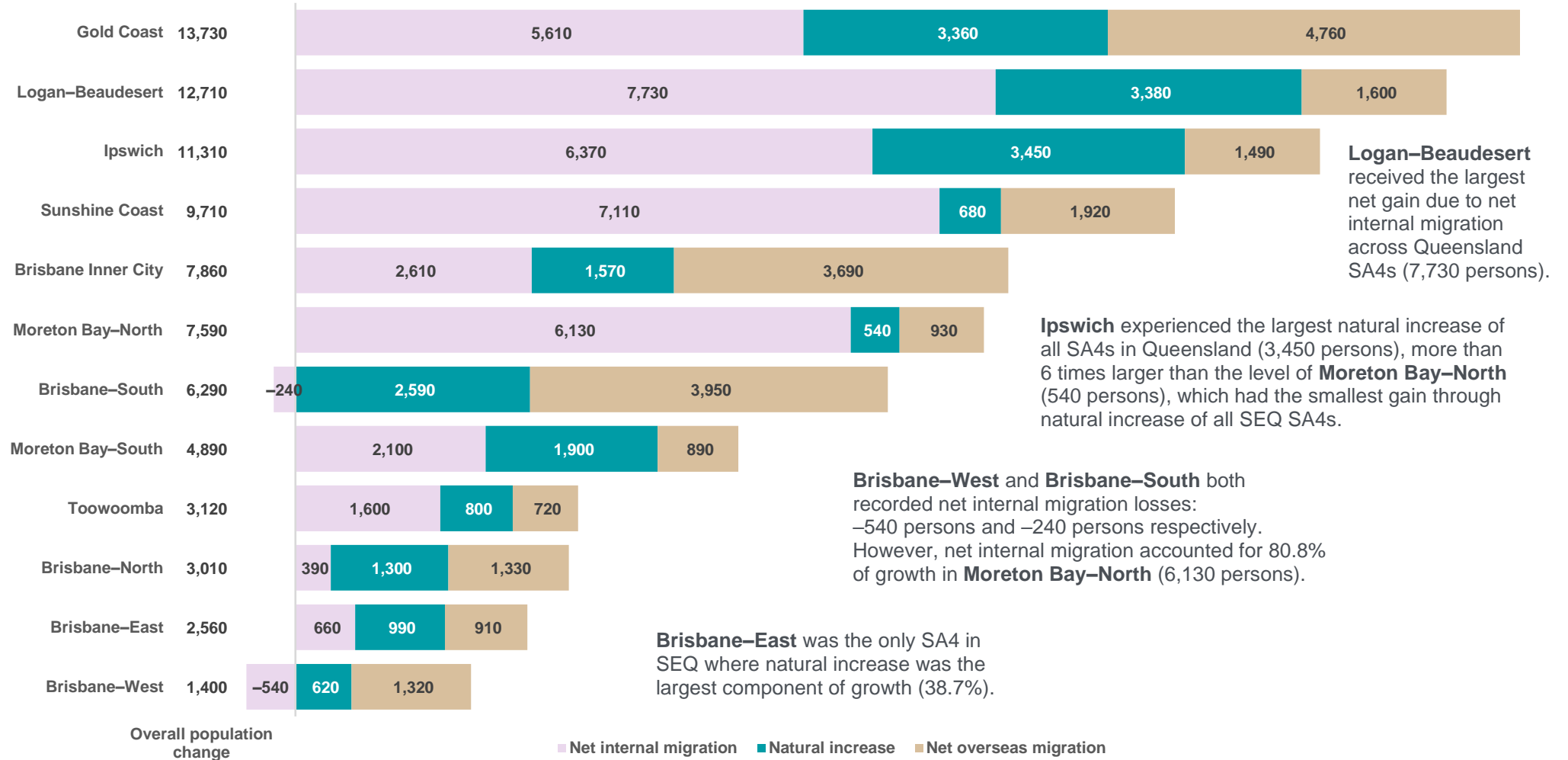


**Average annual population change, 10 years, 5 years and 1 year to 30 June 2022, SEQ SA4s**

SA4	Estimated resident population as at 30 June				Average annual growth			Average annual growth rate		
	2012	2017	2021	2022	2012–2022	2017–2022	2021–22	2012–2022	2017–2022	2021–22
	— persons —				— persons —			— % —		
<b>South East Queensland</b>	<b>3,211,500</b>	<b>3,535,070</b>	<b>3,784,800</b>	<b>3,868,970</b>	<b>65,750</b>	<b>66,780</b>	<b>84,180</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Brisbane–East	222,060	234,450	243,450	246,010	2,390	2,310	2,560	1.0	1.0	1.1
Brisbane–North	202,010	218,200	227,780	230,800	2,880	2,520	3,010	1.3	1.1	1.3
Brisbane–South	335,540	362,710	377,160	383,450	4,790	4,150	6,290	1.3	1.1	1.7
Brisbane–West	180,900	189,260	191,920	193,330	1,240	810	1,400	0.7	0.4	0.7
Brisbane Inner City	242,210	273,710	297,660	305,520	6,330	6,360	7,860	2.3	2.2	2.6
Gold Coast	542,070	604,010	649,490	663,220	12,110	11,840	13,730	2.0	1.9	2.1
Ipswich	300,090	341,060	373,630	384,940	8,490	8,780	11,310	2.5	2.5	3.0
Logan–Beaudesert	306,910	335,530	365,590	378,290	7,140	8,550	12,710	2.1	2.4	3.5
Moreton Bay–North	227,780	248,010	268,980	276,560	4,880	5,710	7,590	2.0	2.2	2.8
Moreton Bay–South	178,800	206,550	221,560	226,440	4,760	3,980	4,890	2.4	1.9	2.2
Sunshine Coast	326,510	366,110	403,510	413,220	8,670	9,420	9,710	2.4	2.5	2.4
Toowoomba	146,630	155,480	164,080	167,200	2,060	2,340	3,120	1.3	1.5	1.9
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>4,568,690</b>	<b>4,926,380</b>	<b>5,215,810</b>	<b>5,320,500</b>	<b>75,180</b>	<b>78,820</b>	<b>104,680</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.0</b>

## Components of population change, SEQ SA4s, year to 30 June 2022

Ranked largest to smallest net growth 2021–22



## Regional Queensland SA4s

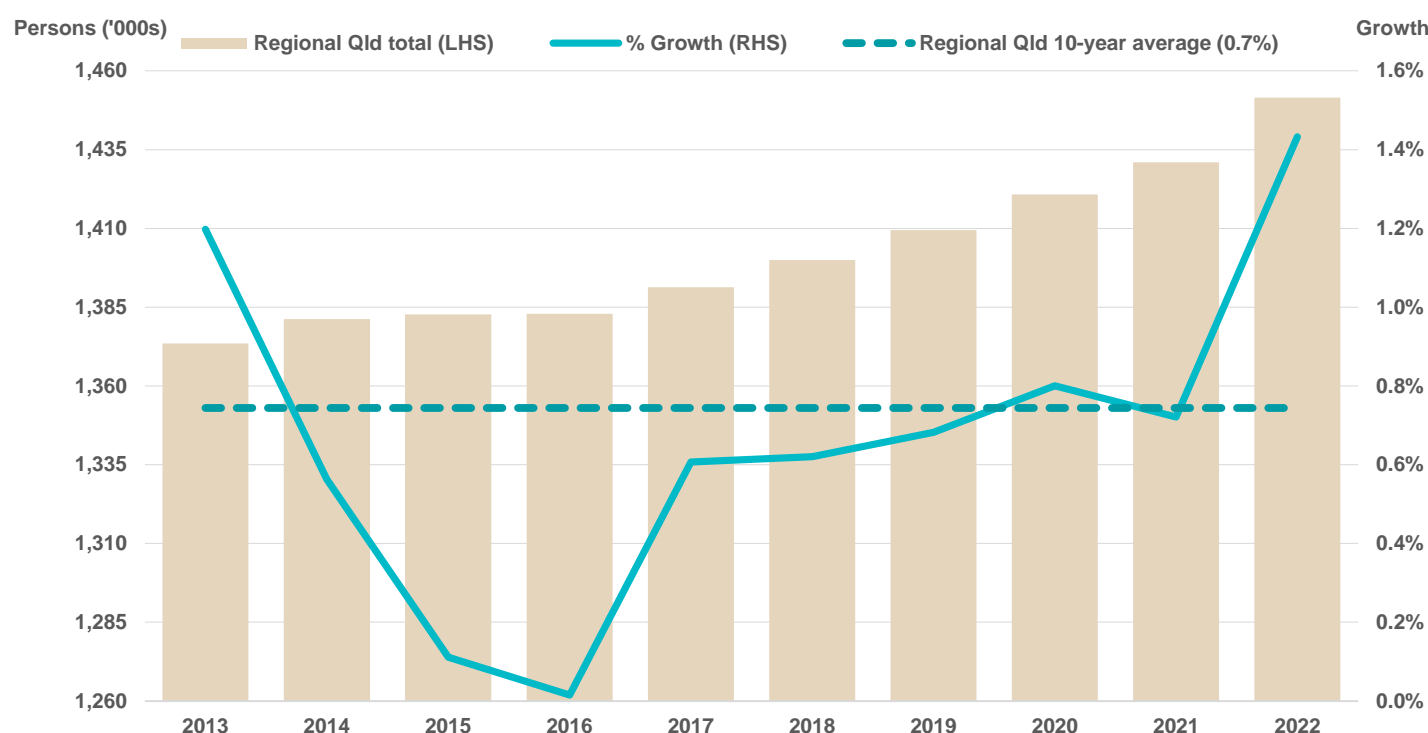
Fewer than **3 in 10** Queenslanders (27.3% or 1.45 million persons) lived in regional Queensland at 30 June 2022.

In 2021–22, Wide Bay SA4 (2.2% growth rate) was the fastest growing SA4 in regional Queensland, followed by Mackay–Isaac–Whitsunday (1.6%), then Cairns and Central Queensland (1.4% each).

Over the 10 years to 30 June 2022, regional Queensland's population increased by an average of 0.7% per year, less than half of the SEQ average annual growth rate (1.9%). However, in 2021–22, regional Queensland's growth rate was twice as fast (1.4%) as the average annual rate recorded during the 10 years to June 2022, and was the fastest annual growth rate of the past decade. This reflects a recovery from the lower level of growth experienced in 2020–21, during the COVID-19 pandemic, when various restrictions on interstate and international movements were in place at times.

In 2021–22, Queensland–Outback experienced growth (0.1%) for the first time in the 10 years to June 2022, although recorded a lower population in 2022 than in 2012, reflecting a 10-year annual average change of –0.6%.

### Population change in regional Queensland, 10 years to 30 June 2022



Wide Bay had the fastest average annual growth rate in regional Queensland for the 10 years to June 2022 (1.1%), followed by Cairns (1.0%) and Mackay–Isaac–Whitsunday (0.7%).

In the five years to June 2022, compared with the five years to June 2017, the average annual rate of population growth increased in some regional SA4s, but moderated in Cairns (0.9% compared with 1.1%), Darling Downs–Maranoa (0.3% compared with 0.4%) and Townsville (0.4% compared with 0.6%). Queensland–Outback was the only SA4 to experience population loss during both five-year periods of 2012–13 to 2016–17 (–1.0%) and 2017–18 to 2021–22 (–0.1%).

The fastest growing regional SA4s over 2017–18 to 2021–22 were Wide Bay and Mackay–Isaac–Whitsunday, both growing at 1.4% per year, on average. This was followed by Cairns (0.9%) and Central Queensland (0.7%). In contrast, during the five years prior to this, Mackay–Isaac–Whitsunday did not experience any annual average change (0.0%).



## Size of population change in regional Queensland SA4s

In the year to 30 June 2022:

- Wide Bay SA4 again experienced the largest increase of the regional Queensland SA4s (up by 6,810 persons), followed by Cairns (3,580 persons) and Central Queensland (3,150 persons).
- This compares with a year earlier when Wide Bay (4,470 person increase) was followed by Mackay–Isaac–Whitsunday (2,570 persons), and Central Queensland (1,450 persons).
- The smallest SA4 population gain in 2021–22 was in Queensland–Outback (90 persons).

Over the 10 years to 30 June 2022:

- The largest average annual population increases were in:
  - Wide Bay (3,340 persons per year)
  - Cairns (2,400)
  - Central Queensland (1,320).
- Queensland–Outback SA4 experienced the only average annual population decrease (–480 persons per year).

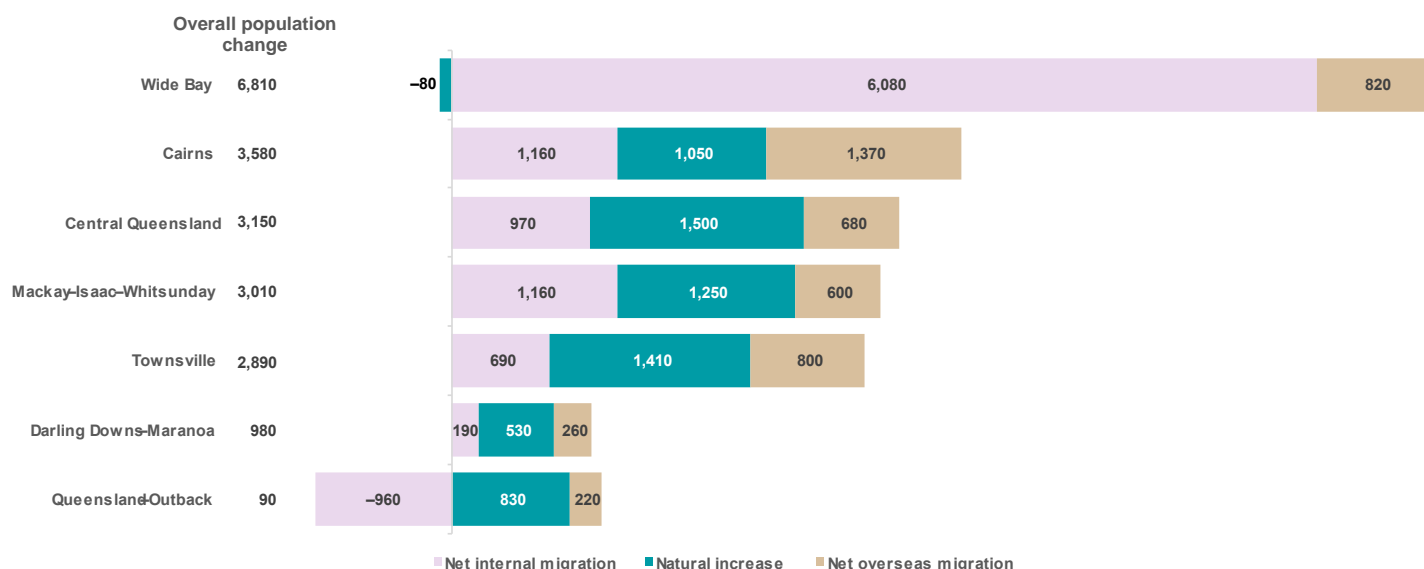
### Average annual population change, 10 years, 5 years and 1 year to 30 June 2022, regional Queensland SA4s

SA4	Estimated resident population at 30 June				Average annual growth			Average annual growth		
	2012	2017	2021	2022	2012–2022	2017–2022	2021–22	2012–2022	2017–2022	2021–22
	— persons —				— persons —			— % —		
<b>Regional Queensland</b>	<b>1,357,190</b>	<b>1,391,310</b>	<b>1,431,020</b>	<b>1,451,520</b>	<b>9,430</b>	<b>12,040</b>	<b>20,500</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Cairns	236,700	249,680	257,070	260,650	2,400	2,190	3,580	1.0	0.9	1.4
Darling Downs–Maranoa	126,470	129,110	130,040	131,010	450	380	980	0.4	0.3	0.7
Central Queensland	221,030	225,780	231,030	234,180	1,320	1,680	3,150	0.6	0.7	1.4
Mackay–Isaac–Whitsunday	174,240	174,080	183,210	186,220	1,200	2,430	3,010	0.7	1.4	1.6
Queensland–Outback	86,440	82,050	81,610	81,690	–480	–70	90	–0.6	–0.1	0.1
Townsville	228,180	235,140	237,380	240,280	1,210	1,030	2,890	0.5	0.4	1.2
Wide Bay	284,130	295,490	310,690	317,500	3,340	4,400	6,810	1.1	1.4	2.2
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>4,568,690</b>	<b>4,926,380</b>	<b>5,215,810</b>	<b>5,320,500</b>	<b>75,180</b>	<b>78,820</b>	<b>104,680</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.0</b>

## Components of population change, regional Queensland SA4s, year to 30 June 2022

- Wide Bay SA4 had both the largest and fastest growth (6,810 persons and 2.2%) of the regional Queensland SA4s, driven primarily by a large gain through net internal migration (6,080 persons). The gain through net internal migration recorded for Wide Bay was almost double that of the other regional SA4s combined (3,210 persons).
- Queensland–Outback was the only regional Queensland SA4 to record a net loss due to internal migration (–960 persons), although this was offset by natural increase (830) and overseas migration (220) combined.
- Cairns experienced the greatest net overseas migration of all regional SA4s (1,370 persons), and 28.8% of the total net overseas migration to regional Queensland.
- With the exception of Wide Bay, all regional SA4s recorded a net gain from natural increase (births exceeded deaths) in 2021–22. Central Queensland recorded the largest gain from natural increase (1,500 persons), with net gains in other regional SA4s ranging from 530 to 1,410 persons.
- Natural increase was the largest component of growth for all regional SA4s, except for Wide Bay and Cairns.

## Components of population change, regional Queensland SA4s, year to June 2022





## South East Queensland LGAs<sup>3</sup>

- At 30 June 2022, around **1 in 4** Queenslanders (1.28 million persons) lived in Brisbane, the most populous local government area (LGA) both in SEQ and Queensland.
- Gold Coast had the second-largest population (647,080 persons) followed by:
  - Moreton Bay (496,780 persons)
  - Logan (363,060 persons)
  - Sunshine Coast (355,890 persons).

These LGAs also had the largest populations in all of Queensland.

- In the 10 years to June 2022, Sunshine Coast and Ipswich had the largest increase in their share of the Queensland population, both up by 0.7 percentage points. This was followed by Gold Coast and Moreton Bay (both up 0.6 percentage points), and Logan (up by 0.4 percentage points).
- Brisbane experienced the region's biggest decline in share of Queensland's population over the period, decreasing by 0.2 percentage points.

### Estimated resident population, SEQ local government areas, at 30 June 2022

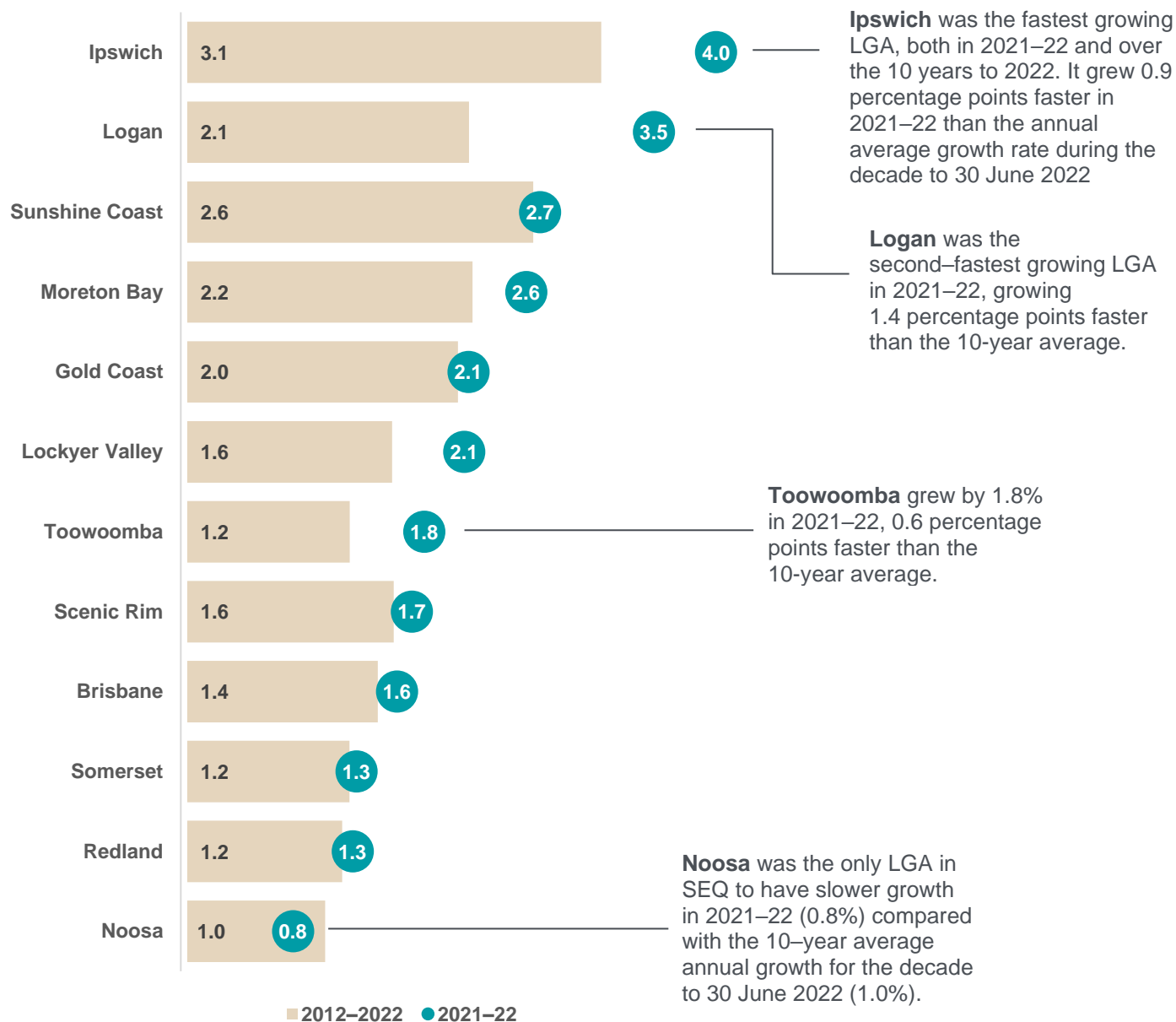
LGA	State ranking (a)	Estimated resident population as at 30 June				Estimated resident population as at 30 June			
		2012	2017	2021	2022	2012	2017	2021	2022
		— persons —				— % of Qld —			
Brisbane	1	1,111,800	1,206,960	1,262,970	1,283,000	24.3	24.5	24.2	24.1
Gold Coast	2	528,340	589,100	633,600	647,080	11.6	12.0	12.1	12.2
Moreton Bay	3	401,190	448,560	484,350	496,780	8.8	9.1	9.3	9.3
Logan	4	293,970	321,100	350,670	363,060	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.8
Sunshine Coast	5	274,830	311,430	346,630	355,890	6.0	6.3	6.6	6.7
Ipswich	6	178,220	205,590	233,310	242,650	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.6
Toowoomba	8	157,880	166,900	175,260	178,400	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4
Redland	10	145,720	154,660	161,710	163,730	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1
Noosa	16	51,680	54,690	56,870	57,330	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Scenic Rim	18	37,970	41,640	43,590	44,330	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Lockyer Valley	19	36,550	40,000	41,750	42,630	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Somerset	28	22,760	25,290	25,390	25,710	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
<b>South East Queensland</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>3,240,900</b>	<b>3,565,910</b>	<b>3,816,110</b>	<b>3,900,590</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>73.3</b>

(a) Ranked based on population size at 30 June 2022

<sup>3</sup> For the purposes of this publication, Toowoomba LGA has been included in South East Queensland.

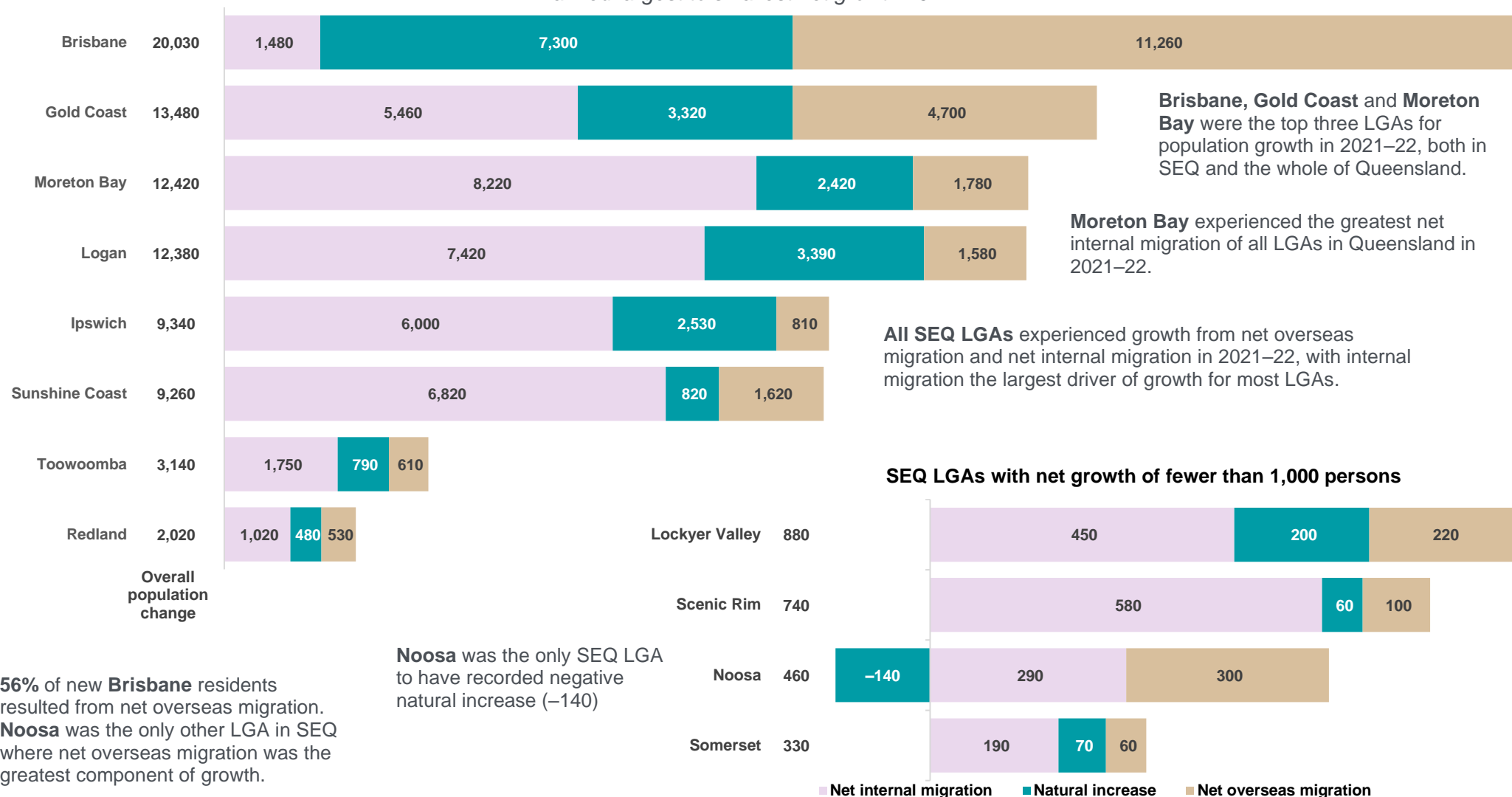
## Average annual growth rate, SEQ local government areas, 10 years to 30 June 2022, and 2021–22

Ranked fastest to slowest % **growth** in 2021–22



## Components of population growth, SEQ local government areas, year to June 2022

Ranked largest to smallest net growth 2021–22



## Regional Queensland LGAs

The analysis in this section is limited to regional LGAs with a population of greater than 10,000 persons at 30 June 2022.

- At 30 June 2022, Townsville had the largest population of all LGAs in regional Queensland with 198,140 persons, representing 3.7% of Queensland's population.
- Cairns had the second-largest population (171,970 persons), followed by Mackay (124,960 persons).
- Excluding Fraser Coast, the seven largest LGAs in regional Queensland saw their relative share of the total Queensland population at 30 June 2022 decline compared with their respective share at 30 June 2012.

### Estimated resident population, regional Queensland local government areas<sup>(a)</sup>, at 30 June 2022

LGA	State ranking	Estimated resident population at 30 June				Estimated resident population at 30 June			
		2012	2017	2021	2022	2012	2017	2021	2022
		— persons —				— % of Qld —			
Townsville	7	183,610	192,480	195,460	198,140	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.7
Cairns	9	154,040	163,810	169,250	171,970	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2
Mackay	11	117,500	117,510	123,150	124,960	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.3
Fraser Coast	12	99,020	104,510	112,070	115,080	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2
Bundaberg	13	93,290	95,350	100,100	102,080	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Rockhampton	14	80,560	81,320	82,880	83,600	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6
Gladstone	15	60,520	62,860	64,280	65,300	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2
Gympie	17	47,790	51,110	53,850	55,110	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Livingstone	20	34,380	37,450	39,880	40,910	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Whitsunday	21	33,400	35,080	37,640	38,510	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
<b>Regional Queensland</b>	..	<b>1,327,790</b>	<b>1,360,470</b>	<b>1,399,710</b>	<b>1,419,910</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>26.7</b>

(a) Top 10 regional Queensland LGAs based on population size at 30 June 2022.

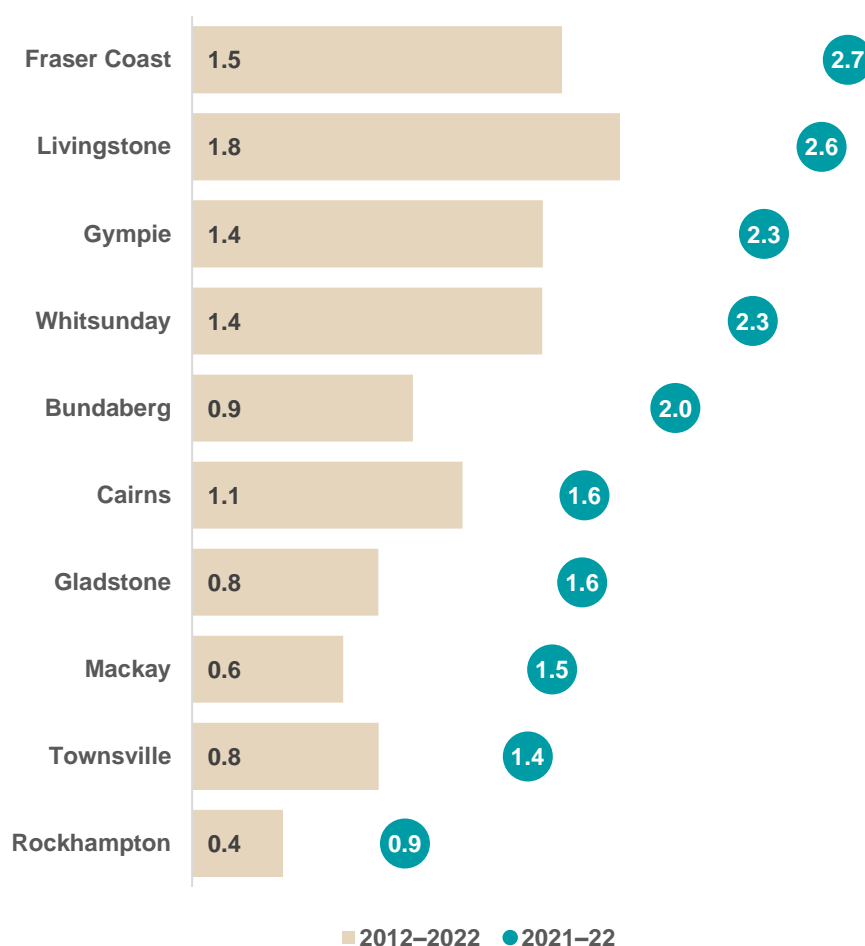
## Fastest population growth

*The analyses in this section are limited to regional LGAs with a population of greater than 10,000 persons at 30 June 2022.*

- The LGAs of Fraser Coast (2.7%), Livingstone (2.6%) and both Gympie and Whitsunday (2.3%) had the fastest population growth rates in regional Queensland in 2021–22.
- All LGAs in regional Queensland grew faster in 2021–22 than the 10 years to 2022.
- Among the top 10 LGAs, Fraser Coast recorded the greatest disparity between growth rates in 2021–22 (2.7%) and the 10-year annual average growth rate (1.5% per year over the decade to 2022), followed by Bundaberg (2.0% and 0.9% respectively).

### Population growth rates, top 10 regional Queensland local government areas, 10 years to 30 June 2022, and 2021–22

*Ranked fastest to slowest % growth 2021–22*



## Largest population growth

*The analyses in this section are limited to the top 10 regional LGAs with largest growth in 2021–22.*

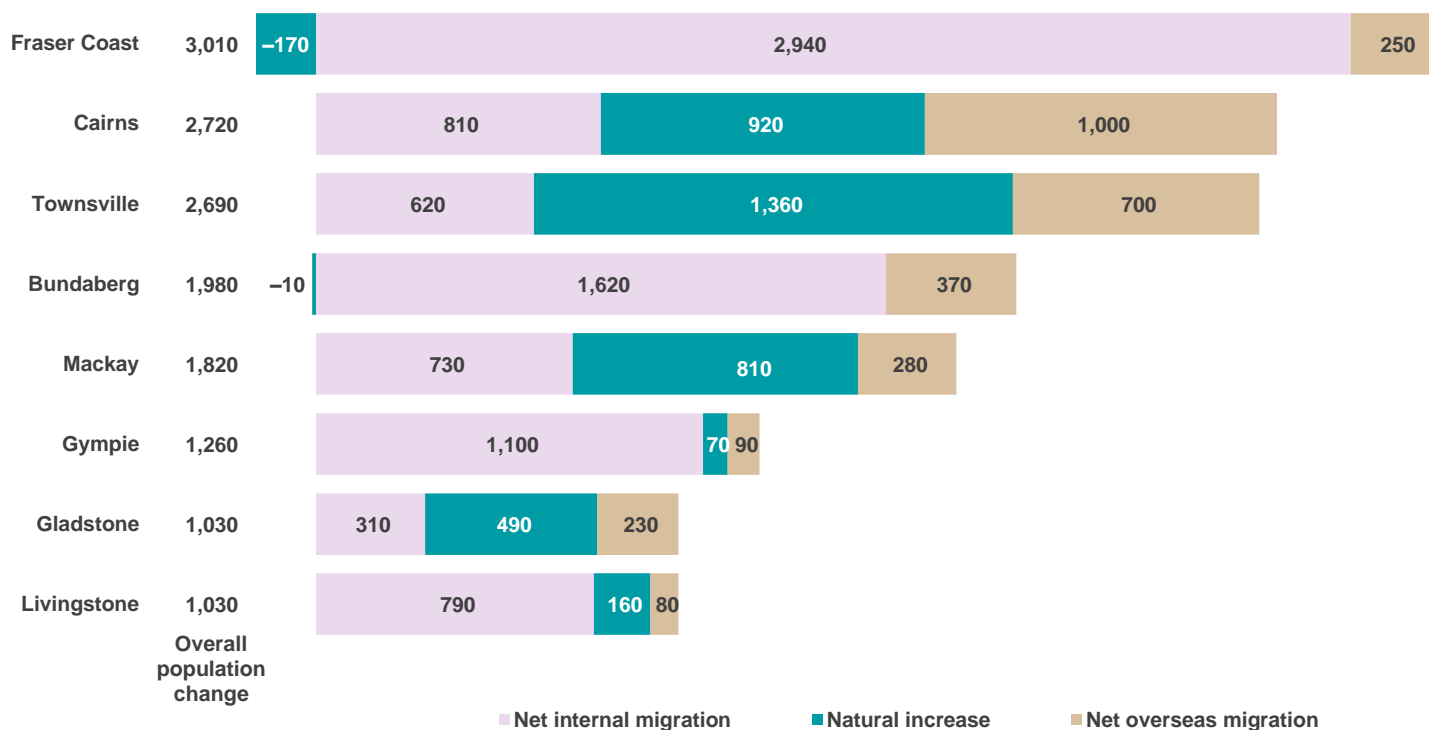
- Fraser Coast had the largest population growth of all LGAs in regional Queensland (up 3,010 persons) in 2021–22.
- The largest average annual population change in the 10 years to 30 June 2022 occurred in:
  - Cairns (1,790 persons per year)
  - Fraser Coast (1,610 persons per year)
  - Townsville (1,450 persons per year).
- Of the 10 regional LGAs with the largest growth in 2021–22, all had growth in 2021–22 that was higher than the average annual 10-year growth. The population gain in both Mackay and Rockhampton in 2021–22 was 2.4 times larger than the average annual change for 2012–2022.

### Average annual growth, top 10 regional Queensland local government areas to June 30 2022

*Ranked largest to smallest growth 2021–22*

LGA	State ranking <sup>(a)</sup>	Estimated resident population at 30 June				Average annual growth		
		2012	2017	2021	2022	2012–2022	2017–2022	2021–22
		— persons —				— persons —		
Fraser Coast	8	99,020	104,510	112,070	115,080	1,610	2,110	3,010
Cairns	9	154,040	163,810	169,250	171,970	1,790	1,630	2,720
Townsville	10	183,610	192,480	195,460	198,140	1,450	1,130	2,690
Bundaberg	12	93,290	95,350	100,100	102,080	880	1,340	1,980
Mackay	13	117,500	117,510	123,150	124,960	750	1,490	1,820
Gympie	14	47,790	51,110	53,850	55,110	730	800	1,260
Livingstone	15	34,380	37,450	39,880	40,910	650	690	1,030
Gladstone	16	60,520	62,860	64,280	65,300	480	490	1,030
Whitsunday	18	33,400	35,080	37,640	38,510	510	680	860
Rockhampton	20	80,560	81,320	82,880	83,600	300	460	720
<b>Regional Queensland</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>1,327,790</b>	<b>1,360,470</b>	<b>1,399,710</b>	<b>1,419,910</b>	<b>9,210</b>	<b>11,890</b>	<b>20,200</b>

(a) Ranked by largest growth 2021–22

**Components of population growth, regional Queensland LGAs with growth greater than 1,000 in 2021–22***Ranked largest to smallest growth 2021–22*

- In the year to June 2022, Fraser Coast recorded the largest net internal migration (2,940 persons) among all regional LGAs. Net internal migration accounted for 98% of its total population change. Notably, Fraser Coast also recorded the largest natural decrease (–170 persons).
- Similar to Fraser Coast, Bundaberg's growth was overwhelmingly due to net internal migration and it experienced natural decrease. Bundaberg received the second largest net internal migration of all regional LGAs (1,620 persons).
- Natural increase (1,360 persons) accounted for more than half of Townsville's population growth, and it recorded the greatest natural increase of all regional LGAs.
- Natural increase was also the greatest component of change for both Mackay and Gladstone.
- Cairns received the most growth from net overseas migration (1,000 persons) of all regional LGAs. It was the only LGA among this group where net overseas migration was the greatest component of change.



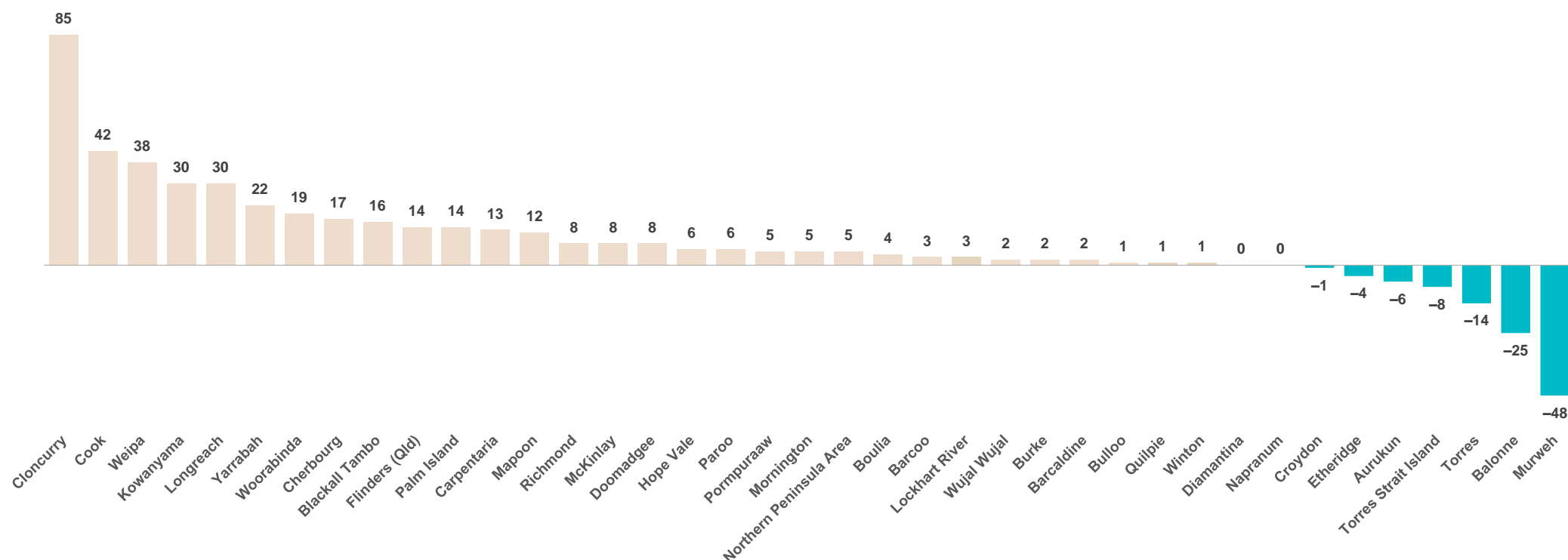
## Population change in regional Queensland LGAs

For regional Queensland LGAs with a population of fewer than 10,000 persons at 30 June 2022

- At 30 June 2022, there were 39 LGAs in Queensland with an estimated resident population of fewer than 10,000 persons, ranging from 270 persons in Diamantina and Croydon to 4,670 persons in Cook.
- In the year to 30 June 2022, there were 30 LGAs which had a small population increase of 90 persons or less. Seven LGAs recorded estimated population losses, with Murweh estimated to have the largest loss (–50 persons) of the smaller LGAs in Queensland.

### Population change in regional Queensland LGAs in the year to 30 June 2022

LGAs with population less than 10,000 at 30 June 2022



## Technical notes

Population data used in this publication were the most recent available at the time of preparation and have been sourced from the ABS publication *Regional population (2021–22)*, with the latest updates to this publication released on 31 August 2023.

The status of estimated resident population (ERP) data changes over time from preliminary to revised to final as new component data become available, and subsequently to preliminary rebased and final rebased following a Census. Users should exercise caution when analysing and interpreting the most recent annual and quarterly estimates for all components of ERP, particularly when making time series comparisons. Complete accuracy of ERP figures is not claimed by the ABS and should not be assumed.

### Status of quarterly ERP data

- All ERP data up to and including June 2021 are final rebased. ERPs for June 2022 are revised.
- ERP data for years 2017 through 2021 were updated to final rebased status based on the 2021 Census, however not all component estimates for periods 2016–17 through 2020–21 have been similarly revised. As a result, the published components for this period do not sum to annual change in final rebased ERP. Caution should be applied when using both components and population estimates prior to June 2021.
- This publication features substate component data only for the period 2021–22. This data sums to annual change in ERP during 2021–22. While substate component data are available for periods prior to 2021–22, they have not been updated to be consistent with the final rebased substate population estimates for 30 June 2021 and earlier, which are featured in this publication. Caution should be applied when comparing component data before and after 30 June 2021.
- Natural increase data for June 2021 are final (based on date of occurrence), for June 2022 they are preliminary (based on date of registration).
- Net overseas migration data for June 2021 are final (based on actual traveller behaviour), for June 2022 they are revised (based on modelled traveller behaviour).
- Net interstate migration data for June 2021 are final, for June 2022 they are preliminary (based on expansion factors from the 2021 Census).
- See *Regional population methodology, 2021–22* for additional details relating to the status of each of the component indicators.

Regional-level (SA4, LGA) population estimates in this report were produced by the ABS using census data and administrative by-product data and are subject to some error. A degree of caution should be exercised when using the estimates, especially for areas with very small populations.

A new method was introduced to estimate total sub-state populations out from the 2016 Census base, with population change estimated using births, deaths, and internal and overseas migration. For further information see ABS feature article: 'New methodology used to prepare sub-state population estimates' (ABS, 3218.0, released 24 April 2018). Figures included in the text throughout this report are rounded to the nearest 10, although all calculations and percentages are based on unrounded data.

A range of supporting data tables is available on the QGSO website ([www.qgso.qld.gov.au](http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au)).

## Glossary

### Average annual rate of population change

Also known as the average annual population growth rate. It is calculated as a percentage using the formula below, where  $P_0$  is the population at the start of the period,  $P_n$  is the population at the end of the period and  $n$  is the length of the period between  $P_n$  and  $P_0$  in years.

$$\left[ \left( \frac{P_n}{P_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1 \right] \times 100$$

For example, to calculate the average annual rate of population change from 2012 to 2022,  $n$  is 10,  $P_0$  is the population in 2012 and  $P_n$  is the population in 2022.

### Estimated resident population (ERP)

The official measure of the population of Australia is based on the concept of residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality, citizenship or legal status, who usually live in Australia, except for foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for less than 12 out of the preceding 16 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for less than 12 out of the preceding 16 months.

### Natural increase

The excess of births over deaths in each area. Although usually positive, a natural decrease may occur where deaths are greater than births. This is most likely to occur if the population has an older age structure.

### Net internal migration

The movement of people across a specified boundary within Australia due to changing their place of usual residence. This figure is calculated using ABS' official estimate of internal migration for sub-state areas—regional internal migration estimates (RIME)—including intra and interstate migration, prepared on an annual (year ending 30 June) basis.

### Net overseas migration

The difference between the number of people settling in an area from overseas and the number of people departing that area to live overseas. This figure is calculated using ABS' official estimate of overseas migration for sub-state areas—regional overseas migration estimates (ROME)—prepared on an annual (year ending 30 June) basis.