

Population growth, Queensland, March quarter 2026

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *National, state and territory population*, released 17 September 2026, 11:30 am (AEST)

Key data

Preliminary ERP as at 31 Mar 26:

Queensland..... 5,739,461

Australia 27,921,150

Queensland share of national population20.6%

Annual population growth to 31 Mar 26:

Queensland.....↑ 1.6%

Australia↑ 1.4%

Queensland share of national growth22.9%

Main findings

Population statistics are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting Australian Government closure of the international border from March 2020.

ERP = estimated resident population.

- Queensland's preliminary ERP at 31 March 2026 was 5,739,461 persons (20.6% of the Australian population). This reflects an increase of 90,078 persons over the 12 months, and 26,135 persons since 31 December 2025.
- Queensland recorded a population growth rate of 1.6% in the 12 months to 31 March 2026, above the national average (1.4%) and below Western Australia (2.1%) (Figure 2).
- Net overseas migration made the largest contribution to population growth in Queensland in the 12 months to 31 March 2026 (61.3%) (Table 1).
- In the 12 months to 31 March 2026, Queensland's natural increase (births minus deaths) was 20,143 persons, a decrease from the 20,377 persons recorded during the 12 months to 31 December 2025.
- Net overseas migration to Queensland in the 12 months to 31 March 2026 was 55,217 persons, a decrease from the 56,022 persons recorded during the 12 months to 31 December 2025.
- Net interstate migration contributed 14,718 persons to population change in Queensland over the 12 months to 31 March 2026, a decrease from the 16,528 persons recorded during the 12 months to 31 December 2025.

Table 1 Components of population increase, Queensland

	12 months to 31 Mar 26	Share of growth
	persons	%
Natural increase	20,143	22.4
Net overseas migration	55,217	61.3
Net interstate migration	14,718	16.3
Total	90,078	100.0

Figure 1 Population increase by components of population change, Queensland, year ending

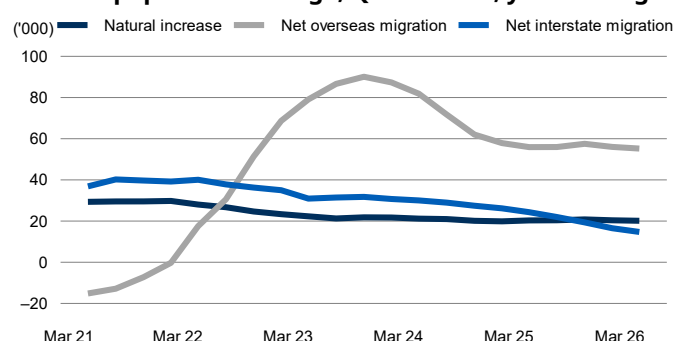


Figure 2 Population growth rate, Australia and states and territories, year ending 31 Mar 26

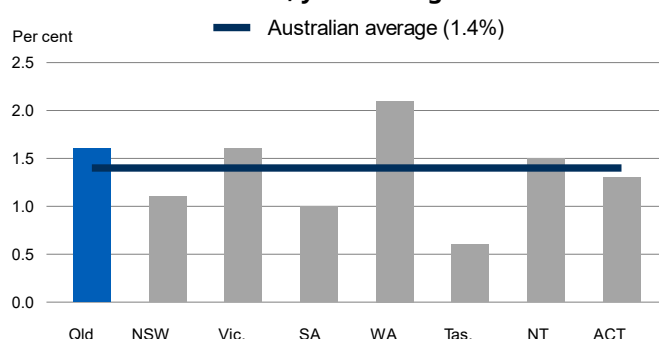
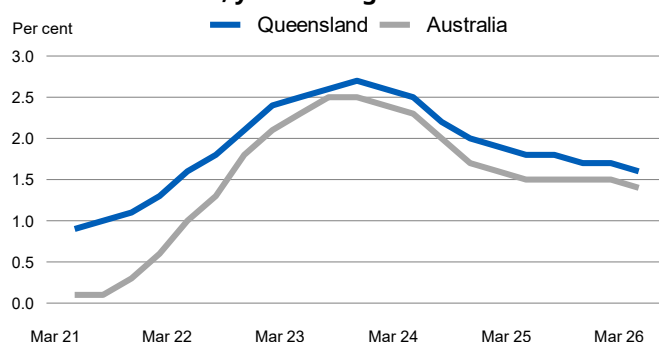


Figure 3 Population growth rate, Queensland and Australia, year ending



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