

Population growth, regional Queensland, 2020–21

Source: ABS 3218.0, released 26 July 2022

Key data

Fastest growing local government area (LGA)¹ in 2020–21:

Ipswich (C)..... ↑ 2.7%

Fastest growing statistical area level 2 (SA2)¹ in 2020–21:

Pimpama - North..... ↑ 21.4%

¹ Based on the LGAs with 5,000 persons or more and SA2s with 2,000 persons or more as at 30 June 2021.

Main findings

Notes:

This brief is based on estimated resident population (ERP) rebased by the ABS according to Census 2021 results (known as preliminary rebased estimates). It replaces the previous 2020–21 edition which used ERP prior to rebasing. SA2 and LGA geographies are defined under the ASGS, July 2021.

- At 30 June 2021, Brisbane (C), Gold Coast (C) and Moreton Bay (R) were the largest LGAs by population size in both Queensland and Australia (Table 1).
- Seven of Queensland's top 10 LGAs by population size at 30 June 2021 were located in South East Queensland (SEQ). Townsville (C), Toowoomba (R) and Cairns (R) (ranked 7th, 8th and 9th respectively) were located outside SEQ.
- The largest population increases over the year to 30 June 2021 in Queensland LGAs occurred in Sunshine Coast (R) (7,727 persons), Moreton Bay (R) (7,013 persons) and Logan (C) (6,342 persons) (Table 2).
- Of Queensland LGAs with populations of 5,000 or more, Ipswich (C) recorded the fastest growth rate in the year to 30 June 2021 with 2.7%, followed by Sunshine Coast (R) with 2.3% (Table 3).
- The most populous SA2 in Queensland was Redbank Plains (located in Ipswich SA4) with 24,922 people (ranked 17th most populous of all SA2s within Australia).
- The largest increases in population for Queensland SA2s in the year to June 2021 occurred in Ripley SA2 (located in Ipswich SA4) (up 2,150 persons), Caloundra West - Baringa SA2 (located in Sunshine Coast SA4) (up 2,034 persons) and Boronia Heights - Park Ridge SA2 (located in Logan - Beaudesert SA4) (up 1,834 persons).
- For Queensland SA2s with populations of 2,000 or more at 30 June 2021, Pimpama - North SA2 (located in Gold Coast SA4) recorded the fastest annual growth rate to 30 June 2021 (21.4% or an additional 1,773 persons).

Table 1 Ten largest LGAs, at 30 June 2021, Queensland

Qld ranking	Aust. ranking	LGA	Population number
1	1	Brisbane (C)	1,264,024
2	2	Gold Coast (C)	633,764
3	3	Moreton Bay (R)	484,428
4	7	Logan (C)	350,740
5	9	Sunshine Coast (R)	346,648
6	18	Ipswich (C)	233,302
7	28	Townsville (C)	195,515
8	36	Toowoomba (R)	175,316
9	42	Cairns (R)	169,312
10	44	Redland (C)	161,730

Table 2 Ten largest growing LGAs(a), Queensland

Qld ranking	LGA	Population increase	
		2019–20	2020–21
		— number —	
1	Sunshine Coast (R)	8,656	7,727
2	Moreton Bay (R)	9,617	7,013
3	Logan (C)	8,090	6,342
4	Gold Coast (C)	12,320	6,334
5	Ipswich (C)	7,026	6,185
6	Fraser Coast (R)	1,862	1,965
7	Mackay (R)	1,947	1,571
8	Toowoomba (R)	2,118	1,439
9	Bundaberg (R)	1,147	1,065
10	Redland (C)	1,583	1,048

(a) Based on the ten largest growing LGAs during 2020–21.

Table 3 Ten fastest growing LGAs(a), Queensland

Qld ranking	LGA	Annual growth	
		2019–20	2020–21
		— % —	
1	Ipswich (C)	3.2	2.7
2	Sunshine Coast (R)	2.6	2.3
3	Logan (C)	2.4	1.8
4	Fraser Coast (R)	1.7	1.8
5	Livingstone (S)	1.8	1.6
6	Moreton Bay (R)	2.1	1.5
7	Gympie (R)	1.1	1.4
8	Whitsunday (R)	2.4	1.3
9	Mackay (R)	1.6	1.3
10	Isaac (R)	1.8	1.1

(a) Based on LGAs with 5,000 persons or more as at 30 June 2021.

C = City, R = Regional Council, S = Shire