

**Population: Rebased Estimates, Regional Queensland 2007 to 2011**

Source: ABS 3218.0, released 31 July 2012, 11.30 am AEST

Introduction

Following each Census, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) revises its official estimates of population, known as the estimated resident population (ERP).

The ABS released preliminary 'rebased' ERP figures for each of the states and territories on 20 June 2012 and for sub-state regions on 31 July 2012. All ERP values for dates after 30 June 2006 have been revised based on 2011 Census counts.

The difference between the rebased ERP and the ERP prior to rebasing is known as the intercensal error. Queensland's rebased ERP for 30 June 2011 was 106,184, or 2.3%, lower than the previously released ERP. In many local government areas (LGAs), the rebased ERP was also lower than the previously released ERP.

Commentary

Preliminary rebased ERPs at 30 June 2011 were smaller than the ERPs previously released on 30 March 2012 for 47 out of 74 LGAs in Queensland.

The largest intercensal errors at 30 June 2011 by population size were recorded for Gold Coast (C) (-22,526) followed by the Sunshine Coast (R) (-18,415).

The preliminary rebased ERP for 30 June 2011 for Brisbane (C) was 1,089,743. This was larger than the ERP reported prior to rebasing (1,079,392), with an intercensal error of 10,351 persons or 1.0%.

Rebasing resulted in a significant change in ERP for some smaller LGAs. Expressed as a proportion of the population, the largest intercensal errors for 30 June 2011 were recorded for Hope Vale (-24.8%), Aurukun (20.4%), Wujal Wujal (-19.6%) and Croydon (S) (19.3%).

Rebased ERP figures indicate that 67.2% of Queensland's population lived in South East Queensland, as defined in Table 1, at 30 June 2011. This was a slightly larger proportion compared with the previous estimate of 66.5%. Population growth rates for LGAs in SEQ over the five years to 30 June 2011 ranged from 1.4% per year in Sunshine Coast (R) up to 3.9% per year in Ipswich (C).

For many LGAs, population growth rates derived from rebased estimates were lower than rates previously estimated.

Table 1: Estimated resident population (ERP) at 30 June, local government areas in Queensland

	Rebased ¹ ERP 2011	Intercensal error 2011	Average annual growth rate 2006 to 2011
	— persons —		%
South East Queensland			
Brisbane (C)	1,089,743	10,351	1.9
Gold Coast (C)	513,954	-22,526	2.0
Moreton Bay (R)	389,661	-23	3.2
Sunshine Coast (R)	316,858	-18,415	1.4
Logan (C)	287,517	45	2.0
Ipswich (C)	172,147	-591	3.9
Redland (C)	143,628	-1,308	1.8
Scenic Rim (R)	37,415	-1,202	1.5
Lockyer Valley (R)	35,795	-1,572	2.3
Somerset (R)	22,062	-1,075	2.3
Other local government areas with ERP > 10,000			
Townsville (C)	180,389	-9,542	1.8
Cairns (R)	162,740	-7,846	2.0
Toowoomba (R)	154,931	-9,005	0.5
Mackay (R)	115,677	-5,395	1.5
Rockhampton (R)	112,383	-4,339	0.9
Fraser Coast (R)	97,296	-6,062	1.7
Bundaberg (R)	91,858	-5,904	0.9
Gladstone (R)	59,402	-2,917	1.9
Gympie (R)	46,668	-3,343	1.1
Tablelands (R)	45,243	-2,039	0.8
Southern Downs (R)	34,619	-1,748	0.6
Whitsunday (R)	32,408	-2,657	0.7
Western Downs (R)	32,355	-476	1.4
South Burnett (R)	31,765	-1,641	0.6
Central Highlands (R)	29,533	-2,251	0.9
Cassowary Coast (R)	28,627	-2,636	-0.7
Isaac (R)	23,212	256	1.9
Mount Isa (C)	22,255	164	1.1
Burdekin (S)	17,784	-751	-0.3
Banana (S)	14,861	-732	-0.9
Maranoa (R)	13,464	42	0.6
Charters Towers (R)	12,461	-517	0.5
Hinchinbrook (S)	11,852	-406	-0.6
Goondiwindi (R)	10,840	-597	0.2
North Burnett (R)	10,342	-490	-0.8
Smaller LGAs	72,353	964	1.0
Queensland	4,474,098	-106,184	1.8

1 Preliminary rebased using 2011 Census results and subject to revision.

