

# Rebased estimated resident population, regional Queensland, 2021

Source: ABS *Regional population*, released 26 July 2022

Following each census, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) revises its official estimates of the resident population (ERP) to improve their accuracy. On 26 July 2022, the ABS released preliminary rebased ERP for sub-state regions based on 2021 Census results for 2017 to 2021. The difference between the rebased ERP and the unrebased ERP is known as the intercensal difference.

**Please note:** ERP figures are different to the Census count of persons by place of usual residence. ERP figures include adjustments to account for: Census undercount/overcount; people overseas at Census time; and births and deaths that occurred between 30 June and the Census date (10 August).

## Summary

- Preliminary rebased ERPs at 30 June 2021 were smaller than the previously released ERPs (on 29 March 2022) for 40 out of 78 local government areas (LGAs) in Queensland.
- The largest intercensal differences for 30 June 2021 were recorded for Gold Coast (−9,697 or −1.5%) followed by Brisbane (−8,437 or −0.7%).
- Ipswich and Sunshine Coast remained as the LGAs with the fastest average annual growth over the five years to 2021 (3.1% and 2.7% respectively).
- Four LGAs in South East Queensland<sup>(a)</sup> had rebased populations that were higher at 30 June 2021 than previously estimated: Sunshine Coast (+3,058), Logan (+2,720), Redland (+267) and Noosa (+77).
- The preliminary rebased ERP figures show that 69.8% of the Queensland population lived in South East Queensland at 30 June 2021 (Table 1). This was a slightly smaller proportion compared with the previous estimate of 70.1%.
- The largest downward intercensal adjustment in regional Queensland was experienced in Townsville (−2,477), while Mackay (+4,460) and Toowoomba (+4,181) recorded the largest upward adjustments.
- Among LGAs with populations greater than 10,000 persons, five LGAs shifted from average annual losses to average annual gains with the rebasing. These included Isaac, Southern Downs, Banana, Maranoa and Hinchinbrook.
- North Burnett was the only LGA (>10,000 persons) to change from an average annual gain to an average annual loss with the rebased ERP.
- Whitsunday became the regional LGA (>10,000 persons) with the fastest average annual growth.

**Table 1 ERP at 30 June, LGAs in Queensland**

	Rebased <sup>(b)</sup> ERP 2021	Intercensal difference 2021	Rebased average annual growth rate 2016 to 2021
	— persons —		%
<b>South East Queensland<sup>(a)</sup></b>			
Brisbane	1,264,024	−8,437	1.3
Gold Coast	633,764	−9,697	2.0
Moreton Bay	484,428	−2,217	2.0
Logan	350,740	2,720	2.2
Sunshine Coast	346,648	3,058	2.7
Ipswich	233,302	−3,406	3.1
Redland	161,730	267	1.2
Noosa	56,873	77	1.1
Scenic Rim	43,595	−432	1.2
Lockyer Valley	41,762	−1,078	1.1
Somerset	25,391	−1,162	0.2
<b>Other local government areas with ERP &gt; 10,000</b>			
Townsville	195,515	−2,477	0.4
Toowoomba	175,316	4,181	1.3
Cairns	169,312	459	0.9
Mackay	123,183	4,460	1.0
Fraser Coast	112,078	2,222	1.7
Bundaberg	100,118	3,204	1.2
Rockhampton	82,904	593	0.4
Gladstone	64,304	118	0.4
Gympie	53,851	125	1.4
Livingstone	39,881	756	1.5
Whitsunday	37,660	1,506	1.7
Southern Downs	36,641	1,208	0.6
Western Downs	34,360	−200	0.2
South Burnett	33,325	405	0.4
Cassowary Coast	29,525	−375	0.2
Central Highlands (Qld)	28,311	−237	−0.3
Tablelands	26,488	791	1.0
Mareeba	23,174	−135	1.0
Isaac	22,426	1,461	0.8
Mount Isa	19,226	955	−0.4
Burdekin	16,842	−2	−0.6
Banana	14,663	678	0.1
Maranoa	12,960	254	0.1
Douglas	12,445	−74	0.6
Charters Towers	11,923	247	−0.3
Hinchinbrook	10,992	336	0.0
Goondiwindi	10,404	−373	−0.8
North Burnett	10,144	−558	−1.0
<b>Smaller LGAs</b>	<b>67,425</b>	<b>−2,801</b>	<b>−0.4</b>
<b>Queensland<sup>(c)</sup></b>	<b>5,217,653</b>	<b>−3,580</b>	<b>1.5</b>

(a) LGA geographies are defined under the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), July 2021. For the purposes of this information brief, Toowoomba has not been included in South East Queensland.

(b) Preliminary, rebased using 2021 Census results and subject to revision.

(c) Intercensal difference summed for all Queensland LGAs does not match the intercensal difference for Queensland as a whole, due to subsequent revisions made to state-level unrebased ERP that were not applied to the sub-state level unrebased ERP.