

Births, Queensland, 2020

Source: ABS 3301.0, released 8 December 2021, 10:30 am (AEST)

Key data

Registered births, 2020:

Queensland	59,490
Australia.....	294,369

Annual change:

Queensland	↓ 3.6%
Australia.....	↓ 3.7%

Main findings

Note: Commentary is based on year of birth registration and state of usual residence of the mother, regardless of where in Australia the birth occurred. Year of registration can be different to year of occurrence due to lags in the registration process. It should also be noted that date of registration is not uniform across states and territories. Both these factors should be kept in mind when analysing births data.

- In 2020, there were 59,490 births in Queensland, comprising 30,520 males (51.3%) and 28,970 females (48.7%). This was a decrease of 3.6% over the previous year (61,735 births) (Figure 1). In Australia, the number of births decreased 3.7% over the year, to 294,369 registered births in 2020.
- The total fertility rate¹ in Queensland decreased from 1.724 in 2019 to 1.643 in 2020. The rate remains higher than Australia's total fertility rate of 1.581 (Figure 2).
- In 2020, Queensland women aged 30–34 years had the highest fertility rate (107.6 births per 1,000 women). Fertility rates for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women peaked in the 25–29 years age group (127.9 births per 1,000 women) (Figure 3). Australian women aged 30–34 years had the highest fertility rate (110.0 births per 1,000 women).
- The median age of Queensland mothers increased from 29.7 years in 2010 to 30.8 years in 2020. Over the same period, the median age of Queensland fathers has increased from 32.1 years to 32.7 years. Both Queensland figures are lower than Australia's median age of mothers and fathers (31.6 years and 33.6 years respectively).
- The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births in Queensland in 2020 was 6,435. This was a decrease of 6.1% from 2019. Australia recorded 22,016 registered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births in 2020. Of the total Queensland births, 10.8% were to an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parent, compared with 7.5% for Australia.

Figure 1: Registered births, Queensland²

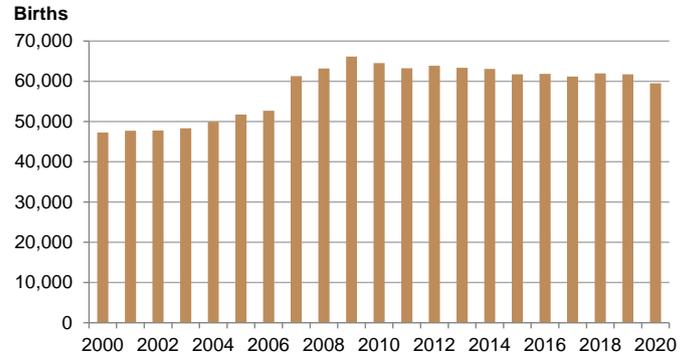


Figure 2: Total fertility rate

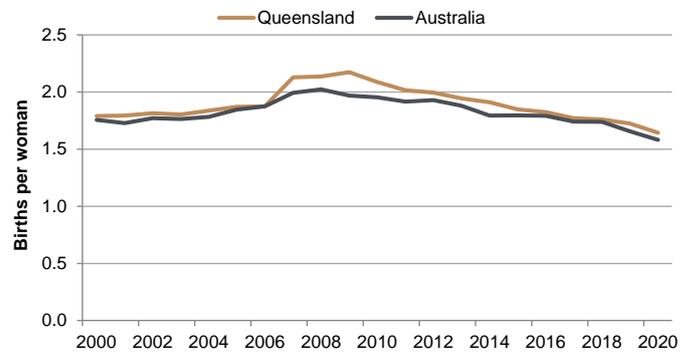
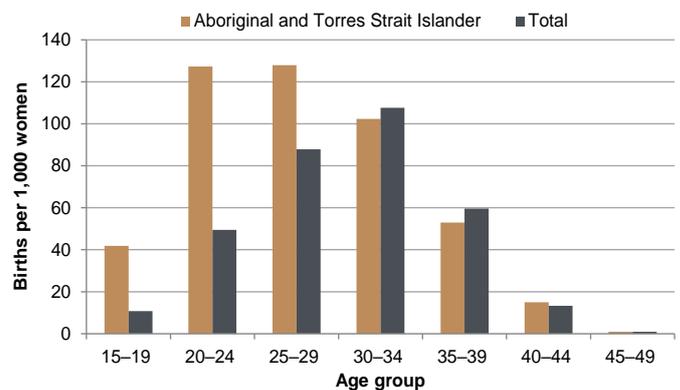


Figure 3: Age-specific fertility rates, Queensland, 2020



¹ The number of children a woman would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates at each age of her reproductive life.

² Caution should be exercised when interpreting changes in Queensland births between 2005 and 2010. In 2009, a 'Retrospective Births Project' resulted in the registration of births where there was previously incomplete information. For further information please refer to the Australian Bureau of Statistics website.