

Queensland's future LGA populations

Queensland Government projections, 2025 edition

Sources: Queensland Government population, household and dwelling projections, 2025 edition data; ABS, *Regional Population, 2024–25*

More detailed information on the projected total populations for Queensland's local government areas (LGAs) is available in the [LGA Snapshot](#)¹. [Data tables for LGAs](#)² are also available. The base population for these projections is the 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics [final estimated resident population \(ERP\)](#)³. Figures in the commentary below have been rounded for ease of interpretation. Rankings of LGAs and associated comments are based on the medium series. All year references in this publication are "at 30 June".

Main findings

Brisbane is projected to remain the most populous LGA in Queensland, increasing from 1.26 million persons in 2021 to between 1.56 million and 1.79 million persons by 2046 (Table 1). Gold Coast is projected to remain the LGA with the second-largest population in 2046 (increasing from 633,600 persons to between 880,700 and 1.05 million persons), followed by Moreton Bay, Logan, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, and Townsville.

Of Queensland's top 10 LGAs by population size in 2046, eight are in South East Queensland. The remaining two LGAs, Townsville and Cairns, are in regional Queensland.

Brisbane is also projected to experience the largest population growth between 2021 and 2046, up between 301,400 and 529,900 persons. The population of Gold Coast is also projected to grow significantly (between 247,100 and 416,100 persons), followed by Moreton Bay, Ipswich, Logan, and Sunshine Coast. Cairns is projected to experience the largest population growth in regional Queensland, followed by Townsville (Table 2).

Table 1 Projected population, 10 largest LGAs^(a), Queensland

LGA	2021		2046	
	ERP	Low	Medium	High
	— persons —			
Brisbane	1,262,968	1,564,405	1,669,124	1,792,898
Gold Coast	633,598	880,695	956,775	1,049,666
Moreton Bay	484,353	683,473	760,607	851,756
Logan	350,673	522,390	585,060	659,014
Sunshine Coast	346,634	461,425	516,692	580,646
Ipswich	233,314	403,561	480,856	572,948
Townsville	195,457	225,959	237,567	252,190
Toowoomba	175,255	200,970	218,616	239,622
Cairns	169,250	200,276	218,181	240,667
Redland	161,709	193,857	204,449	216,906

(a) Ranked according to the medium series projected population in 2046.

Table 2 Projected population change, 10 largest projected growth LGAs^(a), Queensland

LGA	Projected change 2021–2046		
	Low	Medium	High
	— persons —		
Brisbane	301,437	406,156	529,930
Gold Coast	247,097	323,177	416,068
Moreton Bay	199,120	276,254	367,403
Ipswich	170,247	247,542	339,634
Logan	171,717	234,387	308,341
Sunshine Coast	114,791	170,058	234,012
Cairns	31,026	48,931	71,417
Toowoomba	25,715	43,361	64,367
Redland	32,148	42,740	55,197
Townsville	30,502	42,110	56,733

(a) Ranked according to medium series projected population growth between 2021 and 2046.

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¹ <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-projections/regions>

² <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-projections/regions#current-release-qld-population-projections-regions-tables>

³ <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/regional-population/latest-release>