

Queensland Government population projections, 2023 edition: LGAs and SA2s

Sources: Queensland Government population projections, 2023 edition data and ABS, *Regional Population by Age and Sex, 2021*

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 and statistical areas level 2 \(SA2s\)](#)² are also available. The base population for these projections is the 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics [preliminary rebased 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 1.46 million and 1.76 million persons by 2046 (Table 1). Gold Coast is expected to remain the LGA with the second-largest population in 2046 (increasing from 634,000 persons to between 849,000 and 1,130,000 persons by 2046), followed by Moreton Bay, Sunshine Coast, Logan, Ipswich and Townsville.

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

Gold Coast LGA is projected to experience the largest population growth between 2021 and 2046, up between +216,000 and +496,000 persons. The population of Brisbane is also projected to grow significantly (between +196,000 and +494,000 persons), followed by Moreton Bay, Ipswich, Sunshine Coast and Logan. Townsville is projected to experience the largest population growth in regional Queensland, followed by Cairns (Table 2).

Considerable population growth is expected for several Queensland SA2s. The largest growth is projected for Ripley (situated in Ipswich), up by +104,000 persons between 2021 and 2046. Other areas where high growth is projected include Rosewood (+66,000), Caloundra West - Baringa (+62,000) and Springfield Lakes (+49,000) (Figure 1). All top 10 SA2s with the largest projected population increases are in SEQ.

¹ www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-projections/regions#current-release-qld-population-projections-region-reports-2023-edn

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

³ www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions#current-release-rebased-estimated-resident-population-regional-qld

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

LGA	2021 ERP	2046 projection series		
		Low	Medium	High
— persons —				
Brisbane	1,264,024	1,459,649	1,603,148	1,757,745
Gold Coast	633,764	849,262	983,004	1,129,670
Moreton Bay	484,428	668,313	796,515	934,678
Sunshine Coast	346,648	464,971	545,523	632,555
Logan	350,740	463,532	539,874	621,735
Ipswich	233,302	399,032	529,064	670,062
Townsville	195,515	225,752	264,899	306,053
Cairns	169,312	205,285	231,164	259,743
Toowoomba	175,316	198,411	211,402	225,042
Redland	161,730	173,098	183,649	194,908

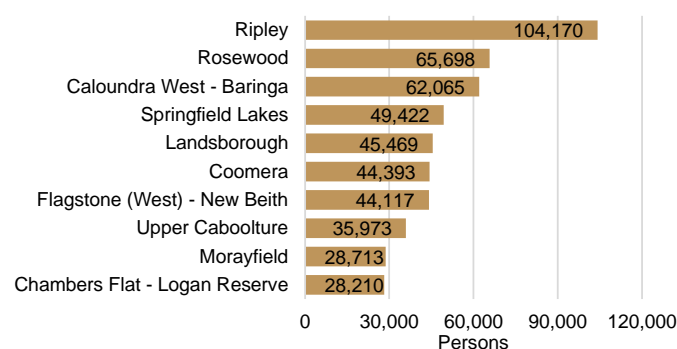
(a) Ranked according to the medium series projected population in 2046.

Table 2 Projected population change, 10 largest growing LGAs^(a), Queensland, 25 years to 2046

LGA	Projection series		
	Low	Medium	High
— persons —			
Gold Coast	215,498	349,240	495,906
Brisbane	195,625	339,124	493,721
Moreton Bay	183,885	312,087	450,250
Ipswich	165,730	295,762	436,760
Sunshine Coast	118,323	198,875	285,907
Logan	112,792	189,134	270,995
Townsville	30,237	69,384	110,538
Cairns	35,973	61,852	90,431
Mackay	26,834	36,178	45,785
Toowoomba	23,095	36,086	49,726

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

Figure 1 Projected population change, 10 largest growing SA2s^(a), Queensland, 25 years to 2046, medium series



(a) Based on medium series projected population growth between 2021 and 2046.