

Population change in Queensland to Census 2016

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, various editions.

At the time of the 2016 Census, 4,703,193 persons were counted as usual residents of Queensland, representing 20.1% of Australia's total population. Compared with the intercensal growth over the five years to the 2011 Census (11.0%), Queensland's usual resident population grew more slowly in the five years to 2016, increasing by 8.6% (or 370,456 persons).

Population growth, Queensland

Growth	2006–2011	2011–2016
persons	428,206	370,456
%	11.0%	8.6%

Age structure

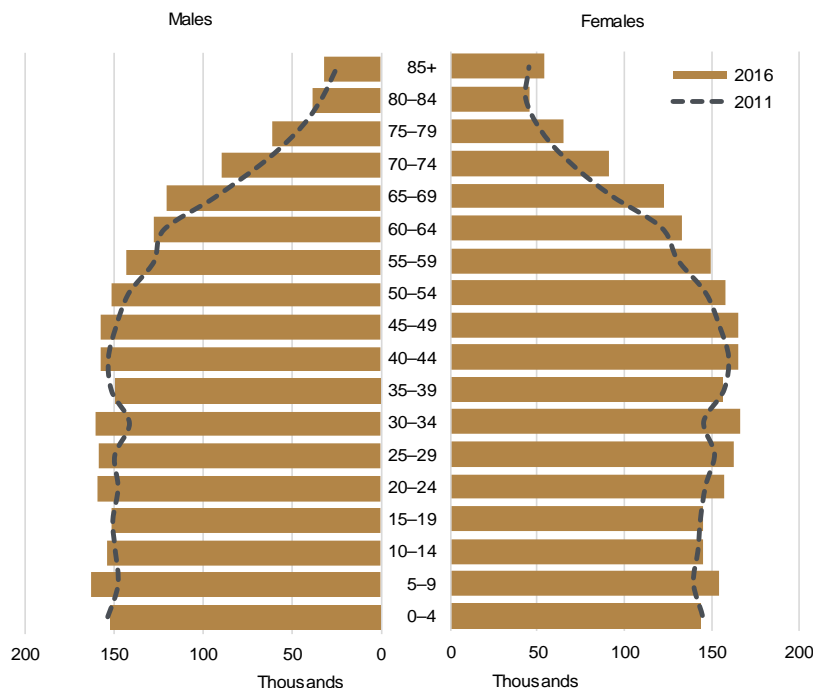
The median age of Queensland's population increased from 36 years in 2011 to 37 years in 2016, reflecting the overall ageing of Queensland's population, with the largest proportional increases occurring in older age groups.

In 2011, the cohort of 40–44 year old persons was the most populous age group at 312,568 persons (Figure 1). By 2016, this cohort had aged to 45–49 years, but at 322,982 persons, was no longer the largest age cohort. There were more persons in the 30–34 year old age group in 2016 than in any other cohort, with this group increasing by 39,247 persons (or 13.7%) from 2011 to 325,943 persons in 2016.

The 65–69 years age group, which includes 'early' baby boomers¹ born between 1947 and 1951, had the largest increase in population size between 2011 and 2016, up by 56,434 persons (or 30.4%), followed by the 70–74 years age group, up by 43,522 persons. Notably, this latter group also had the largest increase in population proportion, with the number of people increasing by 31.8% over the same timeframe. Population ageing is also reflected in the changing age distribution of the population with persons aged 65 years and older accounting for 15.3% of the total population in 2016, up from 13.1% in 2011.

The sex distribution in older age groups has also changed over time: 62.9% of persons aged 85 years and over in 2016 were female, compared with 64.7% in 2011, reflecting improvements in male life expectancy.

Figure 1 Population by age group and sex, Queensland



Population distribution

While Queensland grew by 370,455 usual residents overall between 2011 and 2016, 85.3% of these residents were in South East Queensland, where the usual resident population grew by 316,060 persons (or 10.5%). Outside of South East Queensland, in Rest of Queensland², the population count increased by 54,395 persons (or 4.1%), representing 14.7% of Queensland's intercensal growth.

¹ Source: ABS 4149.0 Queensland's Baby Boomers: A Profile of Persons Born 1946–1965, published 2005.

² For the purposes of this report, the Rest of Queensland includes the Statistical Areas Level 4 of Cairns, Darling Downs - Maranoa, Central Queensland, Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday, Queensland - Outback, Townsville and Wide Bay in addition to persons with no usual residence and in Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Qld) areas.

Population mobility

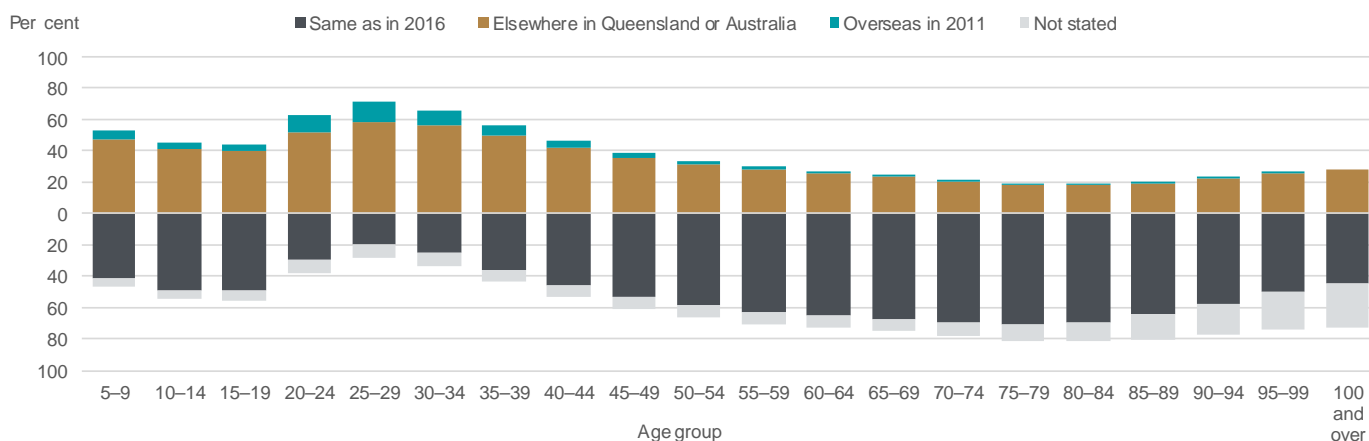
Around 48.1% (2,118,156) of Queenslanders in 2016 were living at the same address as in 2011. A further 44.1% said they were living elsewhere in 2011, comprising 5.2% overseas and 38.9% in Australia. There was very little difference in the mobility distribution between 2011 and 2016 when compared with 2006 to 2011 (Table 1).

Queenslanders aged 25–29 years were the most mobile age group, with fewer than 1 in 5 (19.5%) living at the same address in 2011 (Figure 2). This group was also most likely to have been living overseas in 2011 (13.1%), followed by those aged 20–24 years (10.5%) and 30–34 years (10.2%).

Table 1 Usual residence, five years prior to 2011 and 2016, Queensland

Census year	Residence five years prior to Census year				Total
	Queensland address unchanged	Elsewhere in Qld or Australia	Overseas	Not stated	
	— % —				
2016	48.1%	38.9%	5.2%	7.8%	4,406,728
2011	48.5%	39.1%	5.9%	6.5%	4,034,842

Figure 2 Usual residence five years prior to 2016 by age group, Queensland



Cultural diversity

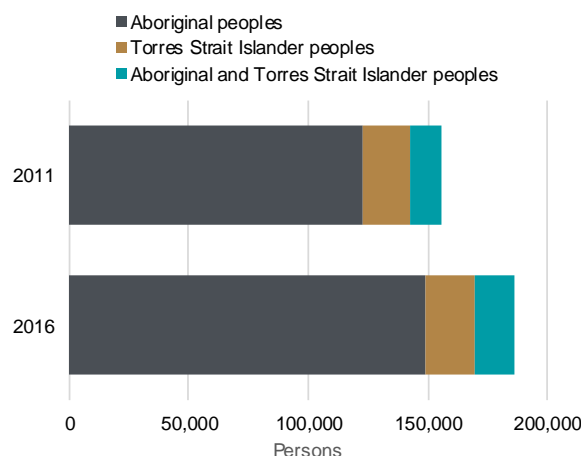
Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders

During the 2016 Census, 186,482 persons or 4.0% of Queensland's usual residents identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin, up from 3.6% in 2011 (Figure 3). This equated to an increase of 30,656 or 19.7% over the five years to 2016.

More than 1 in 3 (37.9%) of Queensland's Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders lived in the Brisbane Indigenous Region in 2016, with the region growing from 53,271 persons in 2011 to 70,734 persons. The Brisbane Indigenous Region was also home to around 1 in 10 (10.9%) of Australia's Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders in 2016, up from 9.7% in 2011.

The number of Torres Strait Islander peoples in Queensland increased by 4.6% between 2011 and 2016 to 21,053 people, while the number of persons identifying as being of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin increased by 28.5% over the same period to 16,489 people.

Figure 3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander usual residents of Queensland



More people are identifying as having Australian South Sea Islander ancestry

More than twice as many Queenslanders stated they had Australian South Sea Islander ancestry (6,826 persons) in 2016 than in 2011 (3,093 persons). This increase may indicate an increased willingness by respondents to identify strongly with this ancestry, or new knowledge of this ancestry, following the 150th celebration in 2013 of Australian South Sea Islanders' contribution to Queensland and Australia. Two in every three (66.7%) Queenslanders with Australian South Sea Islander ancestry also identified as Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples in 2016, compared with 60.9% in 2011.

Proportionally more Queenslanders were born overseas

Between 2011 and 2016, the proportion of overseas-born Queenslanders increased from 20.5% to 21.6%. Queensland's population diversity is illustrated by the number of different countries in which people were born — in 2016, 247 separate birthplaces were recorded for the total population.

The top 10 overseas countries of birth for Queensland residents remained mostly unchanged compared with 2011, although the ranking of half of these countries changed (Table 2). New Zealand and England remained the top two overseas countries of birth for Queensland residents, accounting for 4.3% and 3.8% of Queensland residents respectively in 2016. The Republic of South Korea was ranked in the top 10 (10th) for the first time in 2016, up from 15th in 2011.

The largest increase since 2011 was for people born in China (up 20,075 people), followed by India (18,885), and the Philippines (12,620).

1 in 6 recent arrivals were from New Zealand

The largest proportion of recent arrivals to Queensland (arriving between 2010 and the 2016 Census) comprised people born in New Zealand (16.6%), followed by those born in China (9.3%), England (8.5%), India (8.4%) and the Philippines (5.3%).

There was a more diverse range of overseas-born recent arrivals to Queensland making the 'top 20' country of birth list compared with those who arrived between 2000 and 2009. Two countries from two world regions not previously represented made Queensland's top 20 list of arrivals between 2010 and 2016:

- 3,761 recent arrivals born in Iran (North Africa and the Middle East world region) (ranked 12th)
- 3,365 recent arrivals born in Brazil (South America world region) (ranked 15th).

Table 2 Top 10 overseas countries of birth for all usual residents of Queensland

Country of birth	Census year					
	2011			2016		
	number	%	rank	number	%	rank
New Zealand	192,036	4.4	1	201,202	4.3	1
England	179,495	4.1	2	180,775	3.8	2
India	30,259	0.7	4	49,144	1.0	3
China	27,036	0.6	6	47,111	1.0	4
South Africa	35,549	0.8	3	40,133	0.9	5
Philippines	29,462	0.7	5	39,656	0.8	6
Scotland	24,057	0.6	7	21,881	0.5	7
Germany	21,027	0.5	8	20,387	0.4	8
Vietnam	16,269	0.4	9	19,547	0.4	9
Korea, Republic of (South)	12,552	0.3	15	18,331	0.4	10
Other ^(a)	317,510	7.3		377,707	8.0	
Total overseas born	888,511	20.5		1,015,874	21.6	
Australian born^(b)	3,192,238	73.7		3,343,819	71.1	
Total persons^(c)	4,332,737	100.0		4,703,192	100.0	

(a) Includes countries not identified individually, 'Inadequately described' and 'At sea' responses.

(b) Includes 'Australia, (includes External Territories), nfd', 'Norfolk Island' and 'Australian External Territories, nec'.

(c) Includes not stated responses.

Families and other households

Household composition in 2011 and 2016

Between 2011 and 2016, the number of households in Queensland increased by 8.7%, from 1.65 million to 1.79 million. The number of family households, group households and lone person households increased by 6.2%, 6.8% and 10.1% respectively over the five years to 2016.

There were 1.19 million family households in 2016. This represented 66.4% of all households, slightly less than in 2011 (68.0%). The proportion of lone person households increased slightly between 2011 and 2016 from 21.4% to 21.7%.

Group households represented 4.4% of all households in 2011 and 4.3% in 2016.

A **household** is defined by the ABS as one or more persons, at least one of whom is at least 15 years of age, usually resident in the same private dwelling.

A **family** is defined as two or more related persons who are usually resident in the same household. Some households contain more than one family.

Families

The number of families in Queensland increased by 6.4% from 1.15 million to 1.22 million between 2011 and 2016.

Couple families

- 'Couple families with children' were the predominant family type in both 2011 and 2016:
 - there were 518,494 families in 2016, an increase of 5.6% from 491,198 in 2011.
- 'Couple families with no children' comprised 481,451 families in 2016, up by 6.3% from 453,101 in 2011.

One parent families

- There were 201,303 one parent families in 2016, an increase of 9.1% over the five years from 2011.
 - 18.5% (or 37,194) of one parent families were headed by male lone parents, up from 17.9% in 2011.
- 8.7% of one parent families in 2016, were living with other families, down slightly from 9.5% in 2011.

Children

- Almost all (97.9%) of the 845,241 children aged under 15 years who lived in families in 2016 were the natural, step-children or adopted children of their parents or a lone parent.
- The number of children under 15 years living with a relative/s other than their parents increased by 22.6%, from 10,328 to 12,665 children over the period.
- The number of foster children and children under 15 years living in families with non-relatives increased by 12.7%, from 4,870 to 5,487 children between 2011 and 2016.

Income

Personal income

The median weekly personal incomes of all Queenslanders aged 15 years and older increased by 12.4% in the five years 2011 to 2016, from \$587 to \$660. When broken down by age, small declines in median income were observed among 15–19 year olds over the five-year period for both males and females. In comparison, while increases in median weekly incomes occurred across all other age groups for both males and females, there was considerable variation in the magnitude and proportion of these increases.

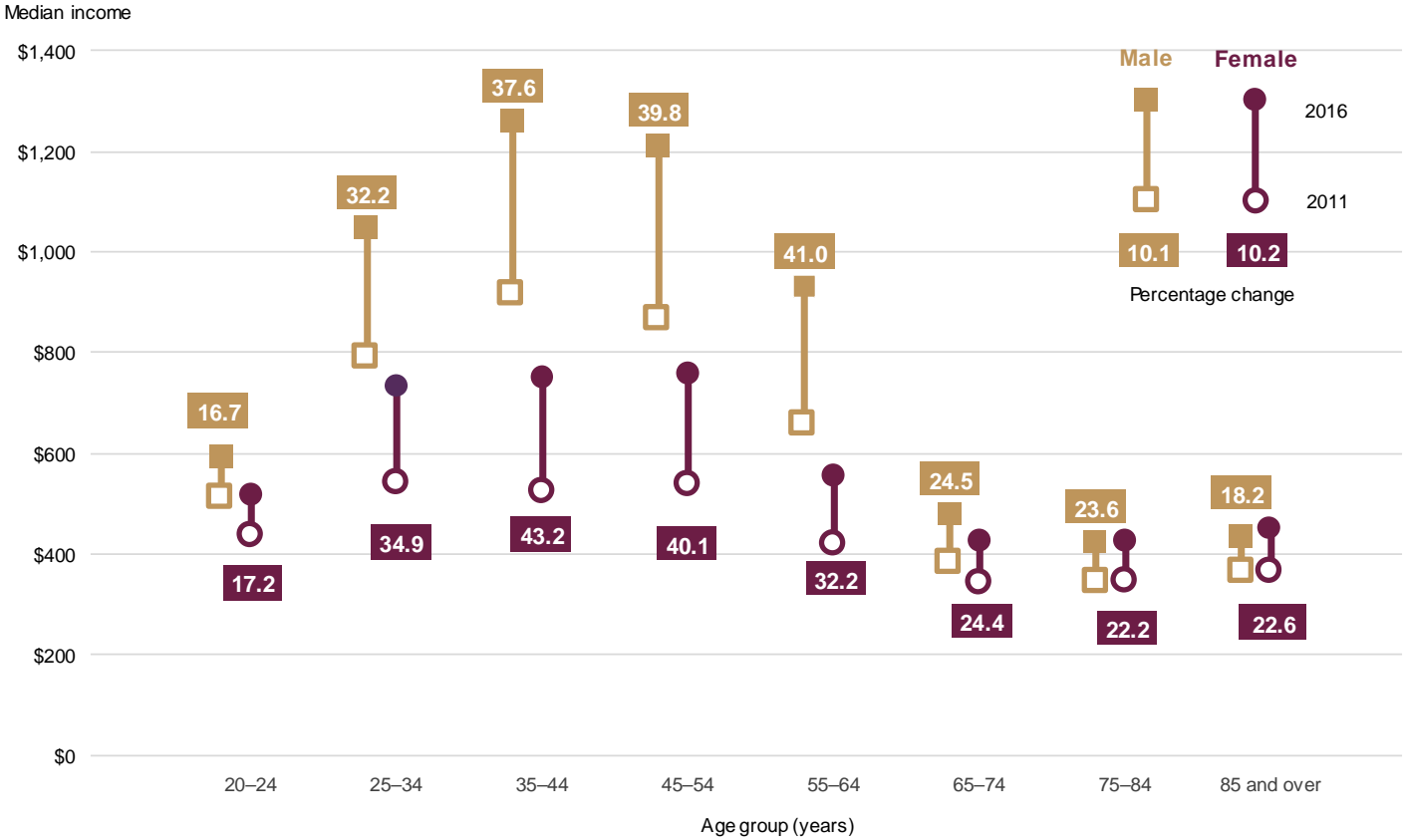
Males had higher median weekly incomes than females across all age groups under 75 years in both 2011 and 2016 (Figure 4). In 2016, median weekly income was highest (\$1,260) among 35–44 year olds for males, whereas for females, median weekly income was highest (\$756) in the 45–54 years age group.

The largest proportional increase in median weekly income for males between 2011 and 2016 was recorded for 55–64 year olds. Median weekly income in this age group increased by 41.0% from \$660 to \$931 for males, compared with 32.2% for females (from \$421 to \$556).

Median weekly income growth for women between 2011 and 2016 was **greatest** in the **35–44 years** age group.

Among females, the largest increase in median weekly income, both in magnitude and proportion, over the five years was recorded for 35–44 year olds. In this age group, median weekly female income increased by 43.2% from \$525 to \$752. While males in this age group had a higher median income than females in both 2011 and 2016, their median income increased by a smaller proportion — 37.6% (from \$915 to \$1260); 35–44 years was also the age group with the greatest disparity in median weekly income between males and females, with a difference of \$508 per week.

Figure 4 Median weekly personal income and percentage change in median weekly personal income, by age group and sex, Queensland



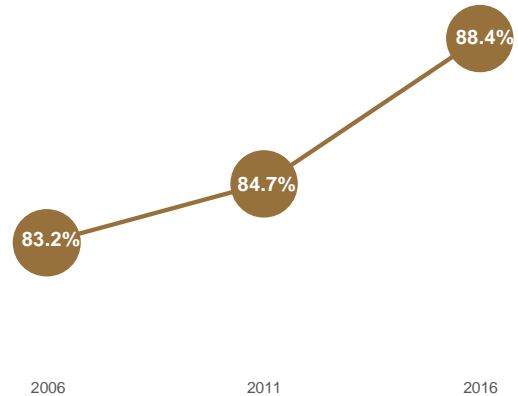
Educational attainment and participation in higher education³

Attainment of year 12 equivalent or above

Over the 10 years to 2016, the proportion of young adults aged 20 to 24 years who had completed qualifications in year 12 (or equivalent) and above increased significantly, from 83.2% in 2006 to 88.4% in 2016 (Figure 5). Improvements in these attainment rates were greater for Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples than for non-Indigenous people in Queensland. Attainment rates increased from:

- 57.8% to 71.2% for Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders
- 84.1% to 89.4% for non-Indigenous persons.

Figure 5 Attainment in year 12 (or equivalent) and above, 20–24 year olds^(a), Queensland

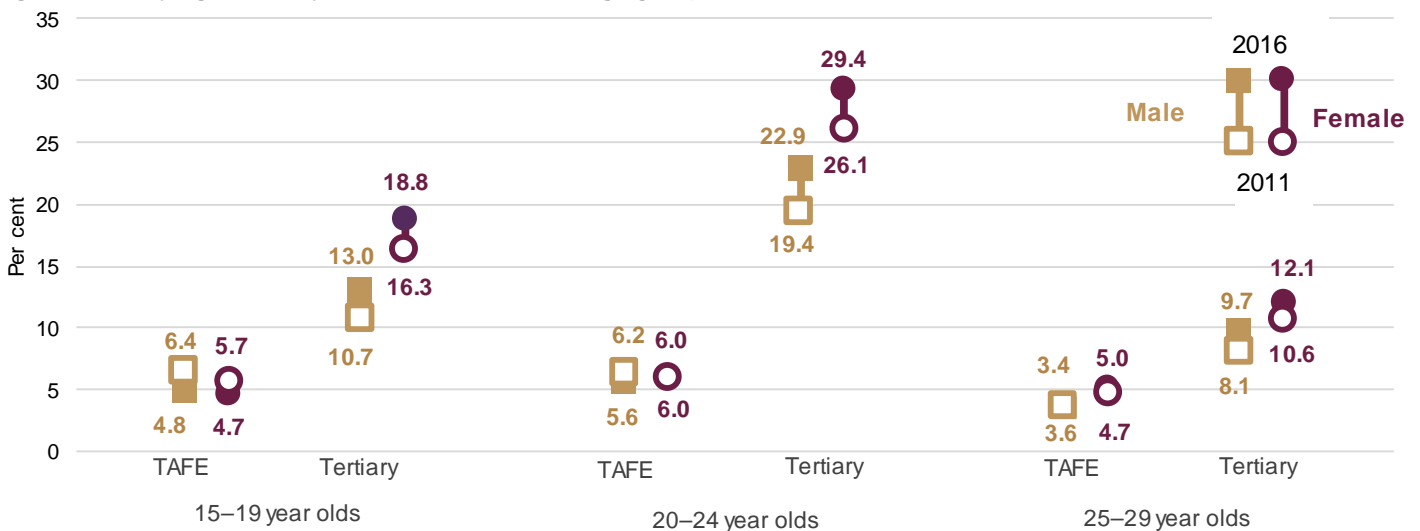


(a) Excludes inadequately described and not stated responses

Participation in higher education

- In 2011, 173,432 or 5.4% of Queenslanders aged 15 years and older were studying at a university or other tertiary institution. By 2016, the number of people studying at these institutions increased to 213,221 and represented 6.1% of persons aged 15 years and older. The highest participation rates were among women aged 20–24 years—26.1% in 2011 increasing to 29.4% in 2016 (Figure 6).
- Within each of the age groups 15–19 years, 20–24 years and 25–29 years, a higher proportion of young women than young men were attending a university or other tertiary institution in 2011. While this pattern persisted in 2016, participation rates increased for both males and females in each age group by up to 3.6 percentage points (male 20–24 year olds).

Figure 6 Studying at tertiary or TAFE institutions^(a) age group and sex, Queensland



(a) Total used to derive percentages excludes not stated responses.

³ Readers should note that, in 2016, around 25% of Queensland respondents who stated they were attending an educational institution (from preschool to higher education) did not specify what type of educational institution they were attending. Further, respondents were requested to mark only one educational institution. If more than one was marked, only the first was accepted. As a result, it is possible that participation in higher education may be under-reported.

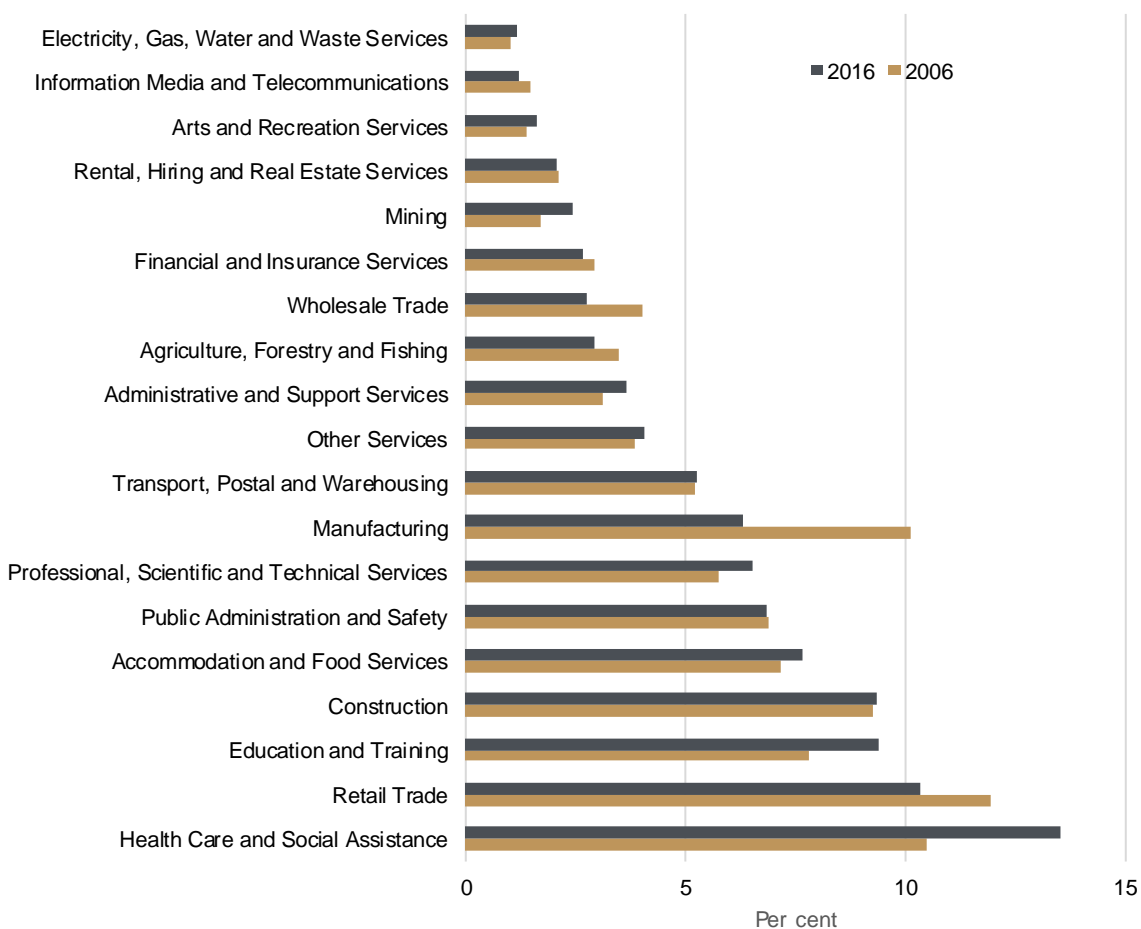
- The number of students attending a technical and further educational (TAFE) institution decreased slightly between 2011 and 2016, from 79,243 to 76,989. This represented a decrease in the proportion of Queenslanders aged 15 years and over studying at TAFE institutions from 2.0% to 1.8%.
- In contrast to tertiary participation rates among 15–29 year olds, there were smaller differentials between males and females in TAFE participation in both 2011 and 2016, and rates declined over time among males in each of the 15–19 (–1.6 points), 20–24 (–0.7 points) and 25–29 years (–0.1 points) age cohorts.

Labour force

Industry

- In 2016, more than one in 10 (13.5%) employed Queenslanders were employed in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry, up from 10.5% in 2006 (Figure 7).
- In 2006, the Retail Trade industry was Queensland's largest employer (12.0%), however the proportion declined to 10.4% in 2016.
- Manufacturing was the industry with the largest proportional change between 2006 and 2016. Its share of the employed population fell from 10.1% to 6.3%.

Figure 7 Employment by industry^(a), Queensland

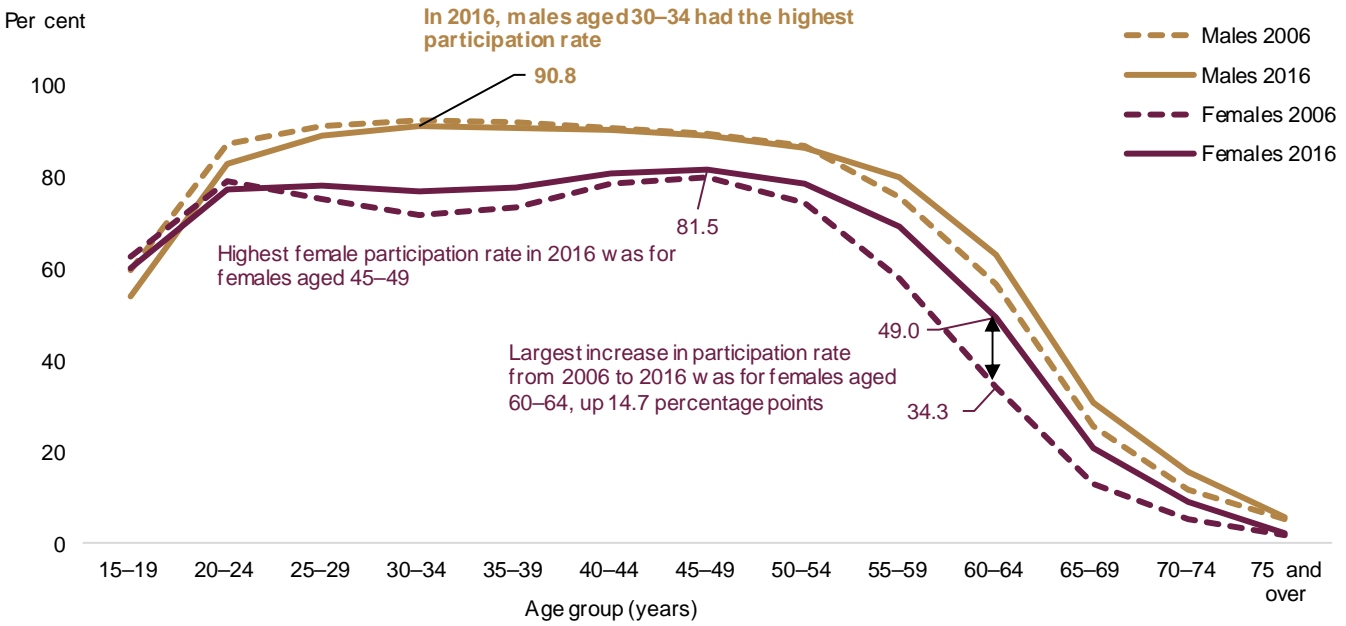


(a) Total used to derive percentages excludes inadequately described and not stated responses

Labour force participation

Between 2006 and 2016, labour force participation rates increased for males in cohorts aged 55 years and over by up to 6.3 percentage points, but decreased slightly in younger age groups, particularly those under 25 years. Participation rates for females increased in most age groups, particularly the 60–64 years age group (14.7 percentage points) (Figure 8). While the noticeable dip in female participation rates in the peak child bearing years in 2006 had moderated considerably by 2016, female participation rates were highest among 40–44 and 45–49 year olds in both 2006 and 2016. In contrast, male participation rates were highest among 30–34 and 35–39 year olds.

Figure 8 Labour force participation rates^(a) by age group and sex, Queensland



(a) Labour force as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same age group, excluding 'Not stated' responses.