



Population growth – highlights and trends

Central Queensland
A New Millennium
Region 2004



Welcome to
Central Queensland

Population:

1 8 7 7 6 1



Queensland Government

Department of Local Government, Planning,
Sport and Recreation

Central Queensland A New Millennium Region

Minister's message

Welcome to this first edition of *Population growth – highlights and trends, Central Queensland A New Millennium Region 2004*. This report covers the Fitzroy Statistical Division and Taroom Shire, from Livingstone Shire in the north to Banana Shire in the south, stretching westward to include Jericho and Emerald Shires.

Queensland's population has continued its rapid climb over the past year, with average growth in the year to June 2003 a massive 30% higher than in the previous four years. Of course with growth come challenges. But, growth can also bring economic prosperity and opportunity.

Taking advantage of the opportunities presented by growth requires not only careful planning, but also information. As businesses involved in development, housing, banking, tourism, and investment make decisions about their future directions, I hope this report has an integral role to play.

The report shows clearly that opportunities and challenges are not limited to the State's south-east. Queensland's major regional centres also continue to grow. Population in the Central Queensland region grew by more than 3,000 people in the last two years, with last year's growth more than double average levels in the late 1990s.

Interestingly, the largest contributor to Queensland's record population growth is net interstate migration – 39,000 people in the last year, or 46% of our growth in the year to June 2003. In the same period, assumed net migration accounted for 12% of the population growth in the Central Queensland region.

In recent years, the biggest increases in population have been in the 45 to 64 year age group and this is expected to continue until at least 2011. After that a rapid shift is projected, with increases in the 65 years and over range outpacing all other age groups.

This is the sort of hard information that businesses and governments at all levels need to make decisions about where to provide hospitals, schools, water, roads, and other infrastructure, jobs, and services.

I trust you will find it useful.

Desley Boyle MP

Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women

Central Queensland A New Millennium Region

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Technical notes: The latest estimates available below the State level are preliminary estimates for LGAs and Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) as at 30 June 2003. These latest estimates also include revised estimates for June 2002. These estimates are available as Appendix A of the report "Population growth – highlights and trends, Queensland 2004" and may be downloaded from the PIFU website <http://www.lgp.qld.gov.au/pifu> at no cost. Much of the analysis in this report is based on population estimates for the year to June 2003. However, latest estimates available only at the State level are reported for the year to December 2003.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has not been able to estimate population change for Aboriginal Councils (ACs) and Island Councils (ICs) in Queensland from 30 June 2002 to 30 June 2003. A significant change occurred in a previously used data source limiting its suitability for estimating population change for ACs and ICs during 2002-03. As a result, populations for these areas have been held constant for the year to June 2003.

Central Queensland A New Millennium Region

Summary of report

Population growth – highlights and trends, the Central Queensland A New Millennium Region 2004 contains analysis of the latest available estimates of the resident population of the Central Queensland A New Millennium Region (CQANM). CQANM covers the Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Banana, Bauhinia, Calliope, Duaringa, Emerald, Fitzroy, Gladstone, Jericho, Livingstone, Mount Morgan, Peak Downs, Rockhampton and Woorabinda Aboriginal Council in the Fitzroy Statistical Division, and Taroom Shire.

This report complements other more detailed reports produced by the Department's Planning Information and Forecasting Unit (PIFU) such as *Population growth – highlights and trends, Queensland 2004*, *Recent Population and Housing Trends in Queensland 2003* and *Queensland's Future Population 2003*. These latter reports contain more detailed analysis of both recent and projected population trends as well as discussion of the implications of these trends. Population growth – highlights and trends reports for other regions will be released progressively during 2004.

Key findings from this report include:

- CQANM's population grew by 1,618 people to almost 188,000 people by June 2003, more than double the average annual growth in the five years to June 2001;
- Livingstone Shire grew by 689 people in the year to June 2003, making it the eighth largest growth LGA outside South East Queensland (SEQ); and
- In the year to June 2004 dwelling approvals in CQANM were up slightly on the previous year and were the highest since the mid 1990s. Rockhampton City and Livingstone Shire together accounted for more than half of the region's dwelling approvals in the year to June 2004.

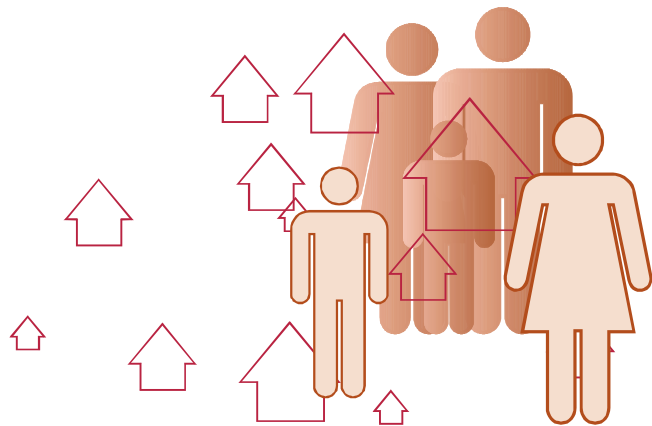
Queensland was the fastest growing Australian state or territory in the year to June 2003, a position held for more than a decade. The population increase in 2003 was the highest annual population growth recorded since 1989 and was substantially above levels of growth in the second half of the 1990s. Growth in the regions has also recovered from the subdued levels of the latter 1990s but has not yet regained the peak levels of the first half of the decade.

Due to the variable nature of population change, it is vital that the most recent data are assessed when they become available. Population change is also location specific, requiring any such changes to be considered at a local scale. Identifying the highlights and trends in these data will contribute to more efficient planning for future infrastructure and services by providing the fundamental information necessary to address the challenges and capitalise on the opportunities created by Queensland's future population growth.

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Queensland in the Australian context

The most recent estimate for Queensland indicates that the population grew to 3.84 million people by December 2003. This equates to an increase of nearly 86,000 people over the year to December 2003, up slightly from growth of 85,300 people in the previous year. Queensland continues to maintain its status as Australia's fastest growing state with a growth rate of 2.3% in the year to December 2003.

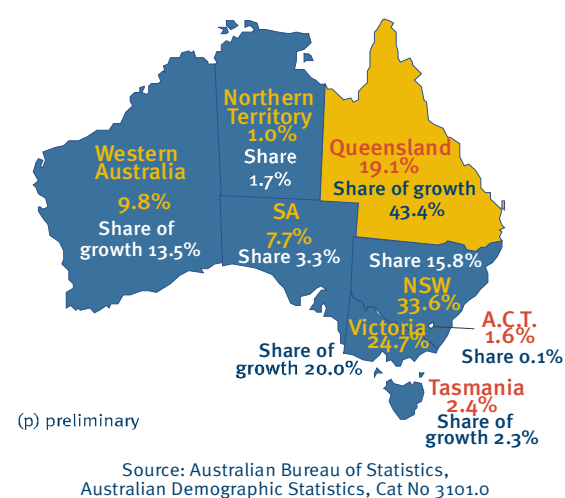


By December 2003, Australia's population reached 20 million people. This represents a doubling of the population since 1959.

New South Wales retains the largest share of the Australian population (33.6%), followed by Victoria (24.7%) with Queensland the third largest state in terms of population share (19.1%) (Figure 1).

Queensland's share of the Australian population continues to increase having risen from 18.6% in 2000 to 19.1% by 2003. However, Queensland accounted for a much larger share of population growth, with more than one-third (43.4%) of Australia's total growth over the year to June 2003 occurring in Queensland.

Figure 1: Proportion of national resident population at 30 June 2003(p) and share of national population growth for year to 30 June 2003(p)



Just the Facts...

Queensland's current population

Size (31 December 2003) 3,844,405

Growth rate (year to 31 Dec 2003) 2.3%

Increase in year (31 Dec 2003) 85,721

Source: ABS, Australian Demographic Statistics, Cat No 3101.0

Central Queensland A New Millennium Region

CQANM in the Queensland context

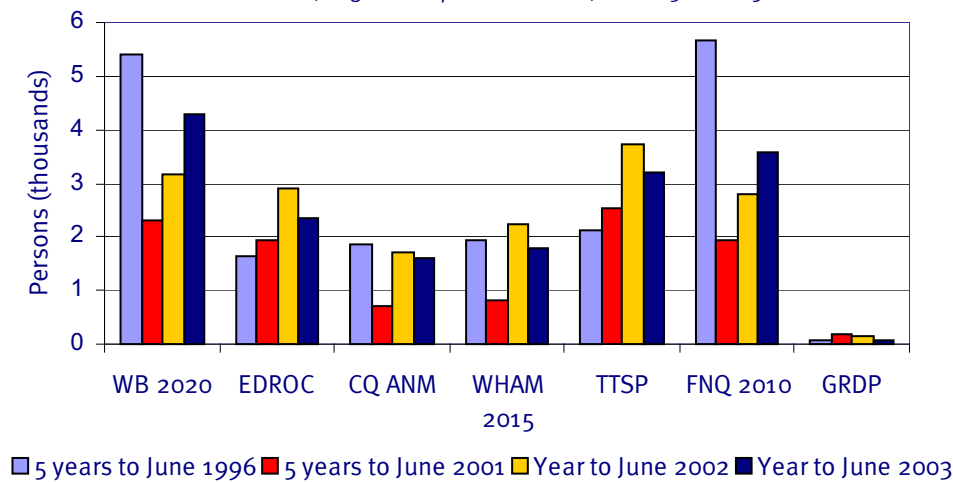
Regional Comparisons

This report compares Queensland regions as defined by the Queensland Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation's regional planning project areas (refer to <http://www.lgp.qld.gov.au/?ID=1249> for a list of these areas). In almost all planning areas, population change in the year to June 2003 exceeded average annual change in the five years to June 2001.

Most of Queensland's growth occurred in the south-east corner of the State. The SEQ2021 region recorded the fastest rate of growth and the largest amount of growth of any of Queensland's regions. Outside South East Queensland, growth rates in both Wide Bay (WB 2020) and Townsville Thuringowa (TTSP) exceeded 2%, with Far North Queensland (FNQ 2010) the next fastest growing region. WB 2020 grew by more than 4,200 people in the year to June 2003 and was the largest growing region, followed by FNQ 2010 with almost 3,600 people (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Average annual population change, regional planning project areas excluding SEQ 2021

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0.65.001



CQANM's population increased from 186,143 to 187,761 people in the year to June 2003, an increase of 1,618 people or 0.9%. This was lower than growth in the previous year (1,732), but more than double the average annual growth in the latter 1990s (719 people).

Just the Facts...

CQANM's current population

Size (30 June 2003)	187,761
Growth rate (year to 30 June 2003)	0.9%
Increase in year (30 June 2003)	1,618

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0.65.001

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CQANM accounted for 1.9% of Queensland's growth in the year to June 2003, smaller than its share of the State's population (4.9%). In the same period, CQANM experienced a lower average annual growth rate (0.9%) than Queensland as a whole (2.3%).

The CQANM region has consistently recorded growth rates below the State average over the past decade (Figure 3). Regional growth has been strongest in South East Queensland, exceeding the State average in all periods. Growth in CQANM over the past two years was considerably above average growth rates recorded by the region in the latter 1990s.

Just the facts...

CQANM's share of Queensland's growth

Share of Queensland's population (30 June 2003) 4.9%

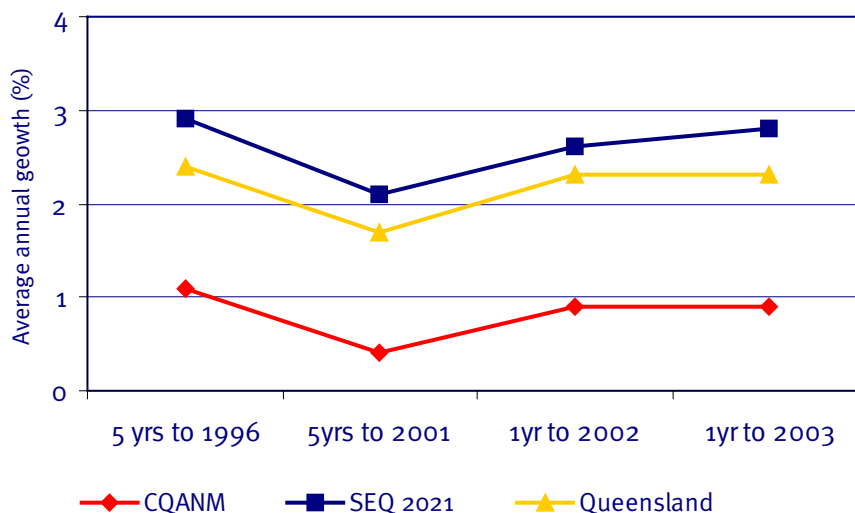
Share of Queensland's population growth (year ending 30 June 2003) 1.9%

Average annual growth rate (year ending 30 June 2003)
 Queensland 2.3%
 CQANM 0.9%

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0.65.001

Figure 3: Average annual rates of growth, CQANM region, SEQ 2021 and Queensland

Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3239.0.55.001, and unpublished data

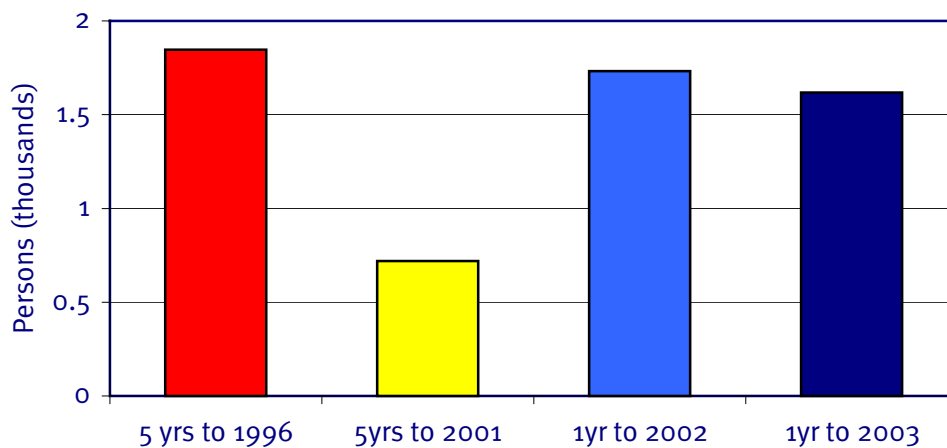


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Population growth in the CQANM region remained at almost 2,000 people each year during the early 1990s (Figure 4). Growth then slumped in the second half of the decade in line with slower growth throughout Queensland. However, the past two years have seen a return to the stronger levels of growth recorded in the region during the early 1990s. An increase of 1,732 people in the year to June 2002 was followed by slightly lower growth of about 1,600 people in the past year.

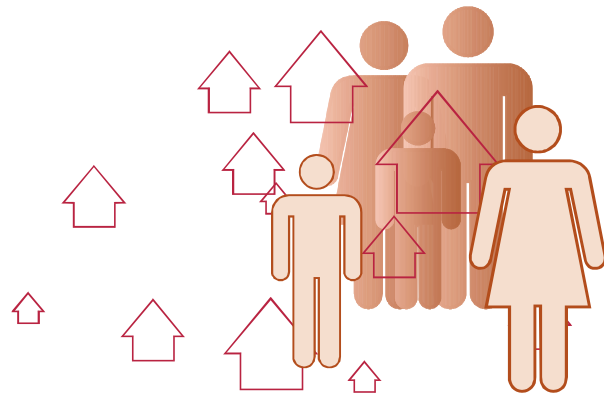
Figure 4: Average annual population change, CQANM region

Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3239.0.55.001, and unpublished data



Components of change

Natural increase and net migration are the two main components of population change. Annual migration statistics are not available for areas within Queensland, though migration movements may be assumed from other information on natural increase (excess of births over deaths) and the change in the estimated resident population.



In the ten years to June 2003, CQANM's population increased from 172,529 to 187,761, an increase of more than 15,200 people or 0.8% growth per year. Natural increase contributed around 1,700 people a year to this growth but this was offset by losses of around 160 people a year due to assumed net migration. Assumed net migration is the difference between estimated total population change and natural increase over the same time.

Natural increase has declined steadily from 1,960 people in 1994 to 1,422 in 2003 (Figure 5). In the same period, the number of births declined from 2,973 to 2,529 while the number of deaths increased from 1,013 to 1,107.

In contrast to the steady change in natural increase, assumed net migration has fluctuated considerably from year to year, with the largest apparent increase in 2003 (196 people). Between 1994 and 2001, assumed net migration for the CQANM region was negative. In other words, more people left the region than moved there. However, this situation reversed from 2002, when migration resulted in a positive contribution of 117 people to population growth. In the year ending June 2003, the contribution from assumed net migration increased by two thirds to 196 people. The increase in the total population in 2003 (1,618 people) was higher than the average increase over the ten-year period (1,216 people) (Table 1).

Just the Facts...

Natural increase, CQANM

	Year ending 30 June 2003	% change over last 10 years
Births	2,529	-14.9
Deaths	1,107	9.3
Natural increase	1,422	-27.4

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, unpublished data

Central Queensland A New Millennium Region

Figure 5: Natural increase and assumed net migration, CQANM region, years ending June 1994 to June 2003

Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3239.0.55.001, and unpublished data

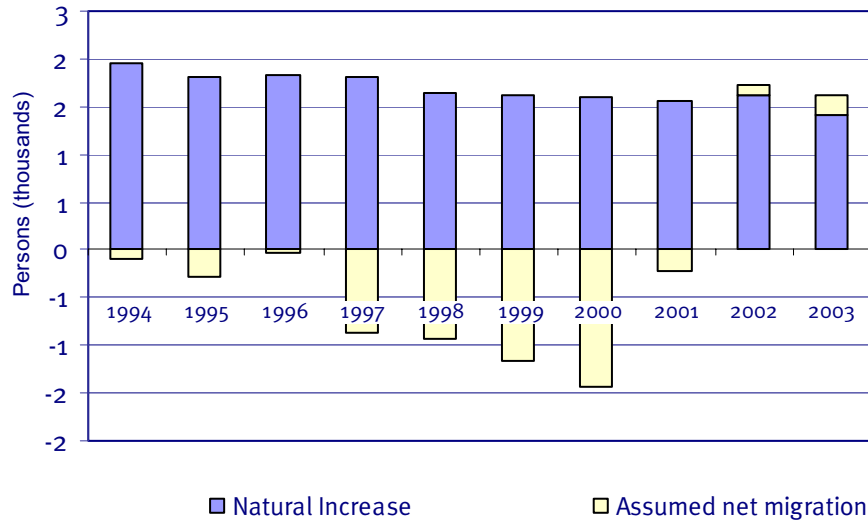


Table 1: Natural increase, assumed net migration and total population change, CQANM region, years ending 30 June 1994 to 2003 (p)

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0.65.001, and unpublished data

Year to 30 June	Natural Increase	Assumed net migration	Total population change	Natural Increase	Assumed net migration	Total population change
				No.	%	%
1994	1,960	-89	1,871	104.8	-4.8	100.0
1995	1,809	-274	1,535	117.9	-17.9	100.0
1996	1,833	-26	1,807	101.4	-1.5	100.0
1997	1,818	-864	954	190.6	-90.6	100.0
1998	1,646	-943	703	234.1	-134.1	100.0
1999	1,613	-1,173	440	366.6	-266.6	100.0
2000	1,590	-1,442	148	1074.3	-974.3	100.0
2001	1,562	-211	1,351	115.6	-15.6	100.0
2002	1,615	117	1,732	93.2	6.8	100.0
2003	1,422	196	1,618	87.9	12.1	100.0

10 year average

1,687

-471

1,216

138.7

-339.6

100.0

(p) preliminary

(r) revised

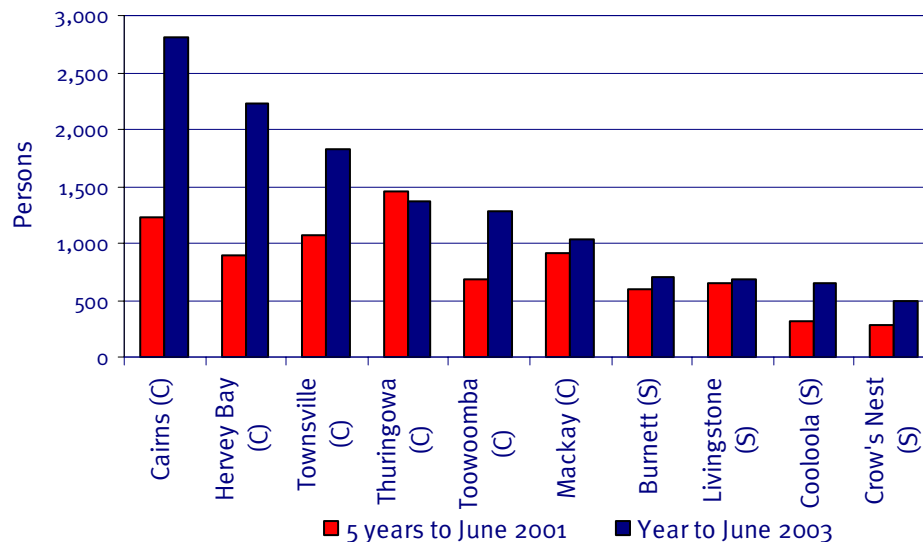
Local population trends

Outside South East Queensland (SEQ), the largest growth Local Government Areas (LGAs) were the major centres along the coast, while Toowoomba City and Crow's Nest Shire were also in the top ten (Figure 6). Both Cairns and Hervey Bay Cities recorded population increases of more than 2,200 people each in the year to June 2003. In contrast, Cairns City grew by an average of around 1,200 people a year in the five years to June 2001 and Hervey Bay City by about 900 people annually in the same period. Thuringowa City, which recorded the largest increase (1,460 people) in the region in the five years to June 2001, was the only LGA in the top ten to record a decline in its level of growth compared with the earlier period.

For population estimates and population growth rates for all Statistical Local Areas, LGAs and regional planning areas in Queensland for the five years to 30 June 2001 and the year to June 2003 refer to PIFU's website at <http://www.lgp.qld.gov.au/?ID=1249> and choose Appendix A. Similar information for all LGAs in the CQANM region is shown in Table 2 of this report.

Figure 6: Average annual population change, top ten largest growth LGAs in Regional Queensland

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.o.65.001



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CQANM

In terms of its annual population change, Livingstone Shire recorded the eighth largest amount of growth of any Local Government Area outside SEQ in the year to June 2003 (Figure 6). In comparison, average annual growth in Livingstone Shire in the five years to June 2001 (642) made it the sixth largest growing LGA in the State outside SEQ. Gladstone City's growth in the year to June 2003 made it one of the top twelve growth LGAs in regional Queensland.

Just the Facts...

CQANM and Queensland: growth and decline

Year ending 30 June 2003(a)

Growth rate	CQANM LGAs		Qld LGAs	
	No.	%	No.	%
2.0% or above	2	14.3	27	21.4
>0.5% and <2.0%	5	35.7	46	36.5
>-0.5% and <0.5%	3	21.4	29	23.0
Less than -0.5%	4	28.6	24	19.0
Total	14	100.0	126	100.0

(a) ABS was unable to estimate population change for the 32 ICs and ACs to 30 June 2003. These populations have been held constant (no growth or decline).

In the year to June 2003, the coastal LGAs of Calliope and Livingstone grew by more than 2.0%. At 2.6%, Livingstone's growth was the highest in the region. Duaranga, Emerald, Fitzroy, Gladstone and Mt Morgan LGAs recorded growth rates in the range from 0.5 to 2.0%. Growth in Rockhampton City, Taroom Shire and Woorabinda Aboriginal Council was in the range between -0.5% and 0.5%. Banana, Bauhinia, Jericho and Peak Downs Shires recorded growth of less than -0.5% in the year to June 2003.

Table 2 (see page 12) shows that average annual population growth in the CQANM region was more than 1,600 people in the year to June 2003. Growth was down from the previous year (1,732 people), but more than double the average annual gain (719 people) in the five years to June 2001. By comparison, Queensland's growth in the year to June 2003 was almost 50% higher than its growth in the five years to 2001.

In the latest year, Livingstone Shire grew by 689 people, the largest increase of all LGAs in the region. Gladstone City recorded the second largest growth in CQANM in the year to June 2003, adding 461 people to the previous year's total. Calliope's growth was almost as large, with an additional 381 people. The region's three coastal LGAs - Calliope, Gladstone and Livingstone - accounted for almost all (94.6%) of the region's growth in the latest year.

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Table 2: Estimated resident population and average annual population change, Local Government Areas (LGAs) in CQANM region

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.o.65.001

LGA	Average annual population change			Estimated resident population at June 2003
	5 yrs to June 2001	Year to June 2002	Year to June 2003	
Livingstone (S)	642	520	689	27,577
Gladstone (C)	51	484	461	27,776
Calliope (S)	296	339	381	15,774
Emerald (S)	98	209	93	13,358
Fitzroy (S)	34	95	88	10,173
Rockhampton (C)	-187	111	85	59,120
Duaringa (S)	-294	-70	50	6,588
Mount Morgan (S)	-4	20	20	2,983
Taroom (S)	-25	-42	-5	2,617
Bauhinia (S)	3	6	-14	2,244
Jericho (S)	11	6	-30	1,070
Banana (S)	113	-59	-90	14,299
Peak Downs (S)	4	112	-110	3,147
Woorabinda (AC)	-24	1	n.p.	n.p.
CQANM	719	1,732	1,618	187,761
Queensland	58,051	82,026	85,803	3,796,775

Of the fourteen LGAs in CQANM, Livingstone and Calliope Shires grew more strongly in the year to June 2003 than in the previous year (Figure 7). Also, Livingstone, Calliope and Fitzroy recorded higher growth in the latest year than their average increase in the five years to June 2001. In particular, Gladstone City's growth in the year to June 2003 (461 people) was significantly above its average increase in the five years to 2001 (51 people). With the exception of Banana, Bauhinia, Jericho, Peak Downs and Taroom, all LGAs recorded positive growth in the year to June 2003.

Rockhampton City grew by 85 people in the latest year, reversing its decline in the five years to June 2001 (187 people a year). Duaringa Shire's population growth during 2003 (50 people) reversed a decline of 70 people in the previous year and 294 people a year in the five years to June 2001.

In the year to June 2003, Banana, Bauhinia, Jericho, and Peak Downs Shires recorded a population decline compared with an increase in the five years to June 2001 (Figure 8). The population of Taroom Shire continued to decline in the latest year, but more slowly than in previous years. In the latest year, Peak Downs Shire lost almost all of the population increase (110 people) it gained in the previous year.

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In the year to June 2003, no population growth was recorded for Woorabinda Aboriginal Council. As the ABS was unable to estimate population change for Aboriginal and Island Councils for the year to June 2003, these populations have been held constant.

Figure 7: Average annual population change, Gladstone City and Livingstone and Calliope Shires

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat. No. 3218.o.65.001

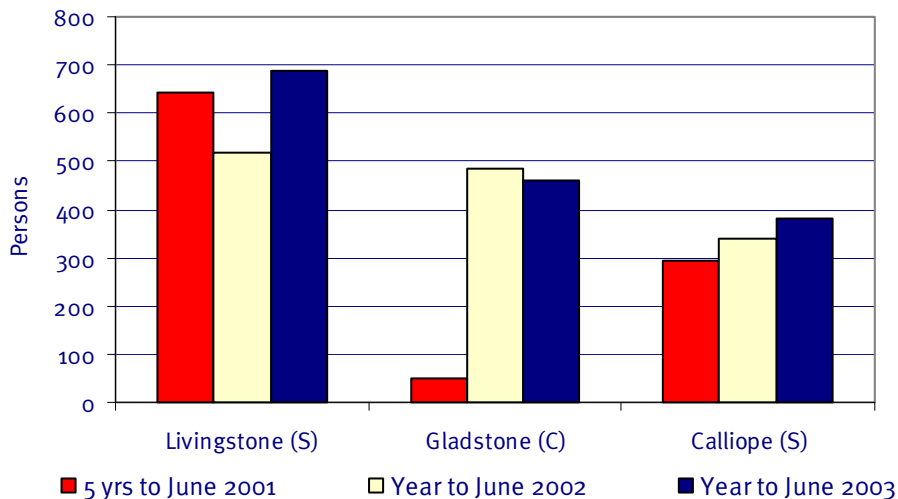
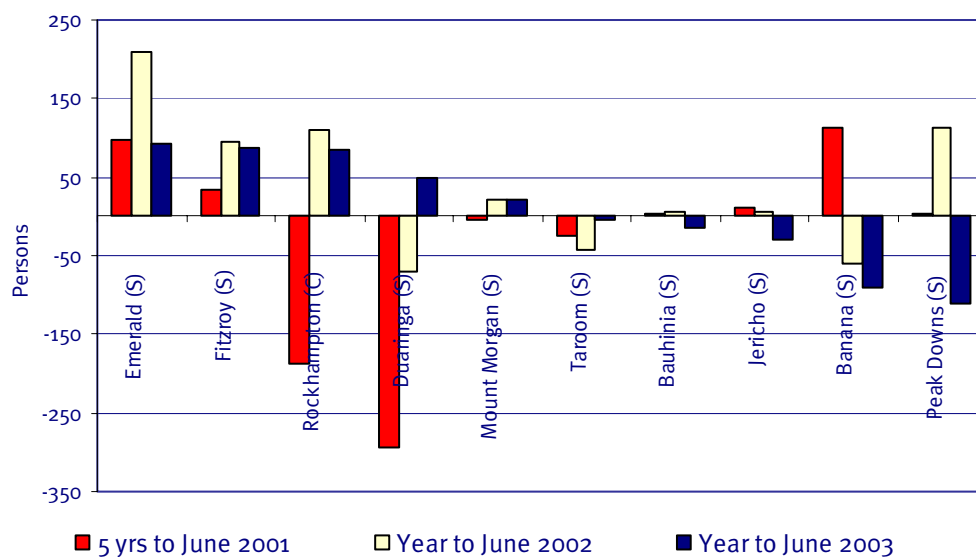


Figure 8: Average annual population change, other CQANM LGAs

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat. No. 3218.o.65.001

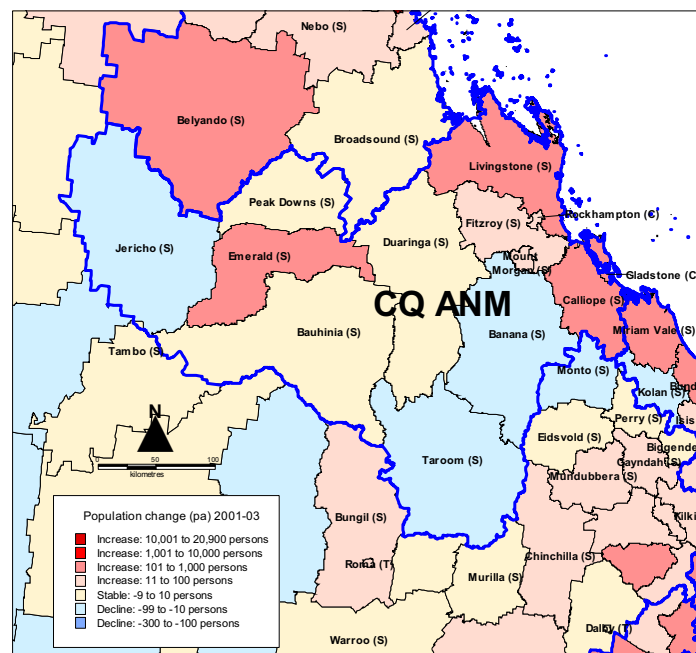


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Figure 9 shows that CQANM's three coastal LGAs – Calliope, Gladstone and Livingstone – recorded the largest average population change in the last two years. With the exception of two LGAs, the top ten largest growth LGAs in Queensland in the latest year were all coastal LGAs (Figure 6). The growth of Emerald Shire between 2001 and 2003 (302 people) placed it in the same category as the coastal LGAs. Emerald Shire is the hub of the transport routes that service Central West Queensland, Peak Downs, the Central Highlands and the Queensland Bowen Basin coal-mining region. In the last two years, the populations of all the near-coastal LGAs of Fitzroy, Mount Morgan and Rockhampton grew between 11 and 100 people. The populations of other LGAs in the region were stable or declined in the last two years.

Figure 9: Average population change, Local Government Areas in CQANM region, two years to June 2003

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.o.65.001



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Dwelling activity

Dwelling approvals in CQANM have fluctuated considerably since 1996 (Figure 10). Between 1996 and 2000, approvals exceeded 800 dwellings in all financial years, with a peak of 1,115 in the year to June 1998. In the year to June 2001, dwelling approvals fell to 533 with the introduction of the GST. In the following year, approvals almost doubled to 1,045. During this year the Commonwealth Government extended the eligibility period for the First Home Owners Grant Scheme but only for purchasers of new homes. With stronger population growth, approvals

increased to 1,150 in the year to June 2003 and further to 1,172 in the most recent year (to June 2004). This comprised 944 separate houses, 152 townhouses, and 76 low-rise units. No high-rise units were approved in the latest year.

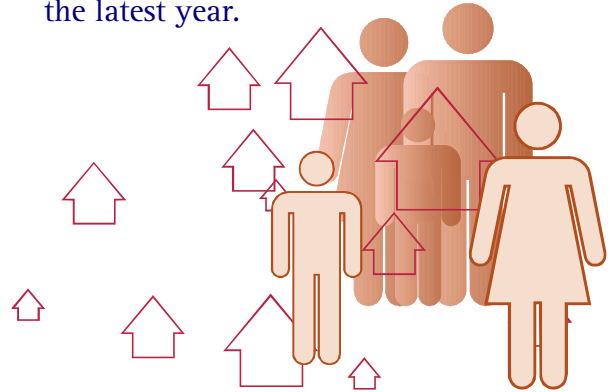
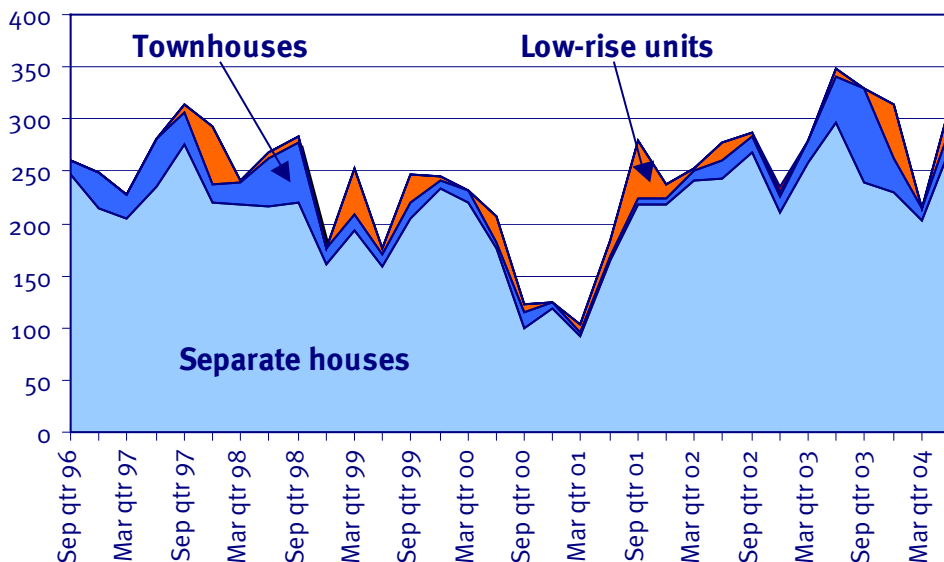


Figure 10: Dwelling approvals, CQANM, Sep qtr 1996 to Jun qtr 2004

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, unpublished data



The significant number of townhouses approved in the year to December 1998 and again in calendar year 2003 was predominantly in Gladstone City and Livingstone Shire. Low-rise development has occurred most frequently in Rockhampton City, which accounted for nearly half (45%) of approvals from 1996 to 2001 and 83% of those approved since then.

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In all quarters, separate houses have predominated among dwelling types. However, in the year to June 2004, the 152 townhouses approved contributed significantly to total approvals and more than in the other years shown in Table 3. In the year to June 2001, the number of houses approved declined sharply from the levels recorded in the latter 1990s, while in the year to June 2004 they reached 944, comprising more than 80% of all approvals in the CQANM region.

Table 3: Dwelling approvals by type, years ending June, CQANM region

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, unpublished data

	1998		2001		2004	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Separate houses	930	83.4	472	88.6	944	80.5
Townhouses	117	10.5	30	5.6	152	13.0
Low-rise units	68	6.1	31	5.8	76	6.5
High-rise units	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total approvals	1,115	100	533	100	1,172	100

Livingstone Shire accounted for 29% of dwelling approvals in CQANM in the year to June 2004, slightly less than its share (30%) of approvals in the five years to June 2001 (Table 4). Rockhampton City, which adjoins Livingstone Shire, accounted for 24% of CQANM's dwelling approvals in the year to June 2004, larger than its share in the five years to June 2001 (17%). Approvals of dwellings other than houses were highest in the three Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Gladstone, Livingstone and Rockhampton, which together accounted for 211 approvals in the year to June 2004, representing 93% of all approvals for dwellings other than houses in CQANM.

Table 4: Average annual dwelling approvals, 1996 to 2004, CQANM region

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, unpublished data

LGA	5 yrs to June 2001		2 yrs to June 2003		Year to June 2004	
	Houses	Other	Houses	Other	Houses	Other
Banana (S)	33	2	19	3	21	2
Bauhinia (S)	2	2	4	0	5	0
Calliope (S)	109	4	190	4	148	13
Duaringa (S)	4	1	3	0	3	0
Emerald (S)	71	15	48	3	89	2
Fitzroy (S)	41	1	62	1	48	0
Gladstone (C)	149	24	217	34	140	76
Jericho (S)	2	0	1	0	0	0
Livingstone (S)	231	38	254	21	293	45
Mount Morgan (S)	4	0	6	0	1	0
Peak Downs (S)	4	1	3	0	7	0
Rockhampton (C)	123	30	171	54	189	90
Taroom (S)	3	2	3	1	0	0
Woorabinda (AC)	0	0	0	0	0	0
CQANM	774	122	978	120	944	228

More detail on these topics is available from the Planning Information and Forecasting Unit

The Planning Information and Forecasting Unit (PIFU) is a business unit located in the Queensland Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation. PIFU provides a comprehensive range of professional products and services in the areas of:

- demographic analysis and forecasting
- Geographical Information System applications
- residential building activity
- urban land supply analysis
- high quality customised mapping

PIFU's clients include State Government agencies, local government and private sector businesses.

PIFU also publishes a range of reports on population and housing trends and projections, and urban land supply for Queensland.

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Visit the Planning Information and Forecasting Unit on the web:

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Free Population and Housing Fact Sheets and Residential and Land Activity Fact Sheets are also available for every Local Government Area in Queensland.