

Main Features

Registered births, 2010

	Number	Annual change (%)
Queensland	64,467	↓ 2.5%
Australia	297,903	↑ 0.7%

Commentary

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

- A total of 64,467 births were registered in Queensland in 2010, comprising 32,998 males (51.2%) and 31,469 females (48.8%). This was a decrease of 2.5% over the previous year (66,097 births) (Figure 1). Australia had an increase of 0.7% from 295,738 registered births in 2009 to 297,903 registered births in 2010.
- The total fertility rate¹ in Queensland decreased to 2.029 in 2010, compared with 2.118 in the previous year. The rate is higher than Australia's total fertility rate of 1.886, which decreased from 1.903 in 2009. (Figure 2).
- In 2010, Queensland women in the 30–34 years age group had the highest fertility rate (122.2 births per 1,000 women), higher than in the 25–29 years age group (111.1 births per 1,000 women). For Australia as a whole, women aged 30–34 years had the highest fertility rate (123.3 births per 1,000 women). Fertility rates for Queensland Indigenous women peaked in the 20–24 years age group (182.8 per 1,000 women).
- The median age of Queensland mothers has increased from 29.1 years in 2000 to 29.7 years in 2010. This is reflected in the movement of the highest age-specific rate from the 25–29 years age group in 2000 to the 30–34 years age group in 2010 (Figure 3).
- The median age of Queensland mothers who registered a birth in 2010 was 29.7 years. The median age of Queensland fathers (where age was known) was higher at 32.1 years. Both Queensland figures are lower than the national median ages of 30.7 years for mothers and 33.1 years for fathers.
- The number of registered Indigenous births in Queensland in 2010 was 5,291. This was an increase of 1.7% over the previous year. Australia recorded 16,129 registered Indigenous births in 2010, up 1.9% from 2009. Of the total Queensland registered births, 8.2% were to an Indigenous mother or father, compared with 5.4% for Australia.

Figure 1: Registered births, Queensland

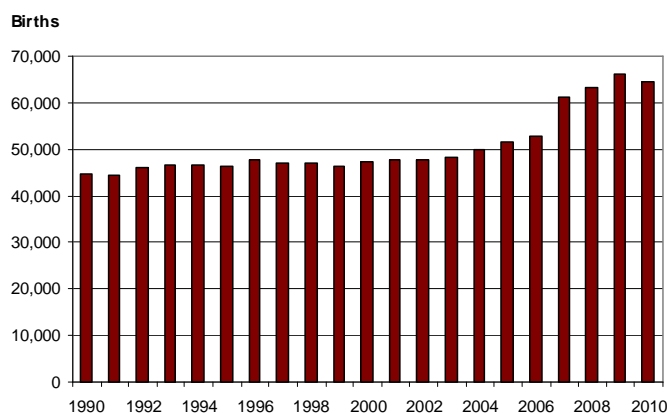


Figure 2: Total fertility rate

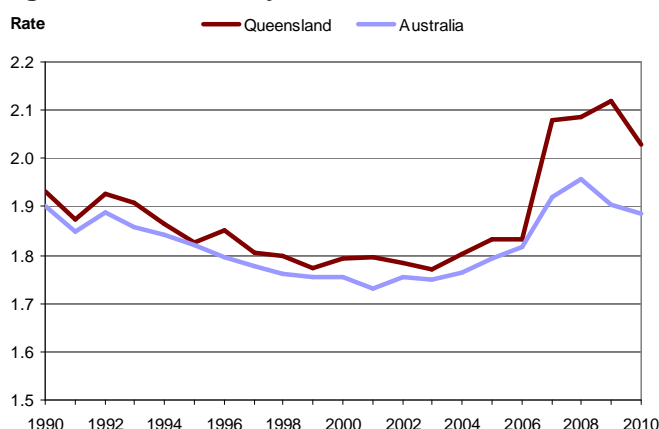
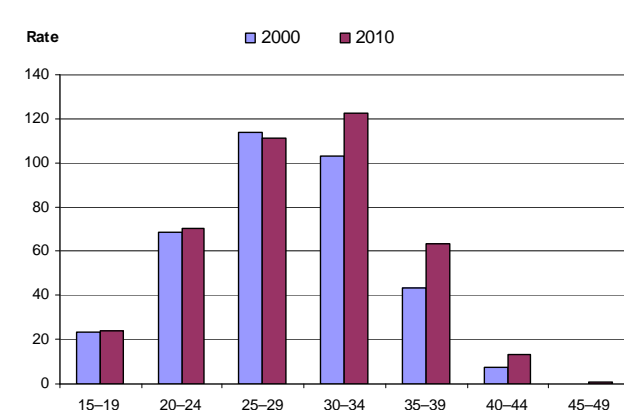


Figure 3: Age-specific fertility rates, Queensland



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.