

**Commentary**

- The Brisbane, Gold Coast, Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast local government areas have the largest populations in both Queensland and Australia (Table 1). Seven of the top ten local government areas by population size in Queensland at 30 June 2010 were located in South East Queensland (SEQ). Only Townsville City, Cairns Regional Council and Toowoomba Regional Council (ranked 6th, 7th and 9th respectively) were located outside SEQ.
- Of the local government areas in Queensland, the largest population increases over the year to 30 June 2010 occurred in Brisbane City (14,841 persons), followed by Gold Coast City (12,943) and Moreton Bay Regional Council (11,125). Population increases moderated between 2008–09 and 2009–10 in each of the local government areas which recorded the ten largest population increases in the 12-month period to 30 June 2010 (Table 2).
- Somerset Regional Council (4.2%) recorded the fastest growth rate in Queensland in the 12 months ending 30 June 2010, followed by Ipswich City (Table 3). Of the ten fastest growing local government areas, only Torres Strait Island Regional Council experienced higher population growth in the 12-month period ending 30 June 2010 compared with the previous 12-month period. Population growth was lower in the other local government areas.
- Population growth in the Brisbane capital city statistical division moderated in the 12-month period to 30 June 2010 compared with the previous 12-month period (from 2.7% to 1.9%). This trend was evident in a number of Australian state capital cities with the exception of Adelaide and Greater Hobart (Table 4).

**Table 1: Ten largest local government areas by population at 30 June 2010, Queensland**

Qld ranking	Aust ranking	Local government area	Population (number)
1	1	Brisbane (C)	1,067,279
2	2	Gold Coast (C)	527,828
3	3	Moreton Bay (R)	382,280
4	4	Sunshine Coast (R)	330,934
5	6	Logan (C)	282,673
6	17	Townsville (C)	185,768
7	25	Cairns (R)	168,251
8	27	Ipswich (C)	168,131
9	31	Toowoomba (R)	162,057
10	46	Redland (C)	142,822

**Table 2: Ten largest population increases by local government area, 12 months to 30 June 2010, Queensland**

Qld ranking	Local government area	Increase 2008–09	Increase 2009–10
		number	number
1	Brisbane (C)	21,141	14,841
2	Gold Coast (C)	15,371	12,943
3	Moreton Bay (R)	13,253	11,125
4	Sunshine Coast (R)	9,568	7,515
5	Ipswich (C)	7,712	5,750
6	Logan (C)	6,672	5,113
7	Townsville (C)	5,603	4,028
8	Cairns (R)	5,170	3,897
9	Toowoomba (R)	3,453	2,960
10	Mackay (R)	3,137	2,721

**Table 3: Ten fastest population increases\* by local government area, 12 months to 30 June 2010, Queensland**

Qld ranking	Local government area	Increase 2008–09	Increase 2009–10
		%	%
1	Somerset (R)	4.5	4.2
2	Ipswich (C)	5.0	3.5
3	Torres Strait Island (R)	0.4	3.4
4	Moreton Bay (R)	3.7	3.0
5	Lockyer Valley (R)	4.6	2.7
6	Fraser Coast (R)	3.6	2.6
7	Gold Coast (C)	3.1	2.5
=8	Cairns (R)	3.2	2.4
=8	Scenic Rim (R)	3.1	2.4
=10	Mackay (R)	2.8	2.3
=10	Sunshine Coast (R)	3.0	2.3

**Table 4: State capital city statistical division populations and growth rates**

	Estimated resident population at 30 June			Change	
	2008	2009	2010	2008–09	2009–10
	— (000's) —			— % —	
Sydney	4,419	4,500	4,576	1.8	1.7
Melbourne	3,902	3,998	4,077	2.5	2.0
Brisbane	1,952	2,004	2,043	2.7	1.9
Adelaide	1,173	1,188	1,203	1.3	1.3
Perth	1,607	1,659	1,696	3.2	2.3
Greater Hobart	209	212	215	1.2	1.3

C = City, R = Regional Council

\* Populations of less than 5,000 people at 30 June 2010 have been excluded from the fastest growth rankings.