



Queensland
Government

MIGRATION, QUEENSLAND

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Office of Economic and Statistical Research, Queensland Treasury

This bulletin examines migration between Queensland and other states and territories of Australia and overseas, and between regions within Queensland. A critical analysis of the temporal and spatial nature of these migration flows is presented, together with information on the age, occupation, qualifications, and labour force status characteristics of these migrants compared with the resident Queensland population. The data have been extracted from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census of Population and Housing and ABS Australian Demographic Statistics publication.

See the Technical Note at the end of this bulletin for information on data sources, the methodology used to derive estimates of migration from the Census of Population and Housing, and for information on the quality of these estimates.

Key points

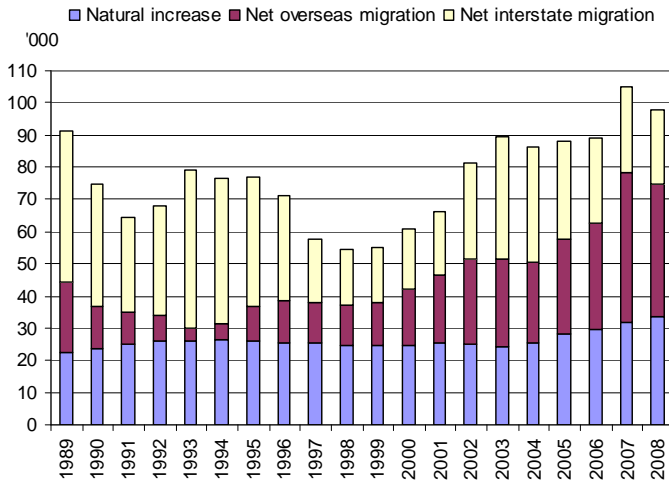
- In the past twenty years, two-thirds of Queensland's population increase can be attributed to migration (40% from net interstate migration and 26% from net overseas migration), with the remaining 34% from natural increase (births minus deaths).
- The Queensland population is highly mobile. At the time of the 2006 Census, 1 in 5 persons had a different usual address one year before census night compared with census night, and nearly 1 in 2 persons had a different usual address five years before census night compared with census night.
- Of the Queensland population at the time of the 2006 Census, 2.2% lived at an interstate address one year earlier and 1.5% lived at an overseas address one year earlier.
- The number of interstate arrivals was greater than the number of interstate departures in all statistical divisions, with the exception of the Central West and South West regions.
- Brisbane Statistical Division was the main destination for interstate arrivals to Queensland (37.9% of the total), followed by the Gold Coast (19.1%), the Sunshine Coast (8.1%) and the Far North (6.8%).
- More than one-half (57.4%) of overseas arrivals to Queensland moved to the Brisbane Statistical Division, followed by the Gold Coast (17.7%), the Sunshine Coast (7.1%) and the Far North (4.4%).
- The main country of birth of overseas arrivals to Queensland (in the five year period prior to census night in 2006) was New Zealand (30,763 persons or 19.3% of the total), followed by the United Kingdom (24,048 persons or 15.1% of the total).
- In the five years before census night in 2006, there were 289,068 Queenslanders who moved address between statistical divisions. The largest net gain occurred in Wide Bay-Burnett (5,644 persons), while the Far North (-3,490 persons) and North West (-3,481 persons) regions recorded the largest net losses.
- Compared with the resident population, proportionally more interstate arrivals:
 - were professionals, community and personal service workers, and technicians and trades workers, and
 - had a non-school qualification (especially bachelor degree and certificate qualifications).
- Compared with the resident population, proportionally more overseas arrivals:
 - were professionals, community and personal service workers, and labourers, and
 - had a non-school qualification (especially postgraduate and bachelor degree qualifications).
- At the time of 2006 Census, 63.5% of the resident population were employed, with:
 - 63.9% of interstate arrivals employed (based on the address of usual residence one year prior to census night), with this increasing to 65.3% based on address of usual residence five years prior to census night, and
 - 55.8% of overseas arrivals employed (based on the address of usual residence one year prior to census night), with this increasing to 62.5% based on address of usual residence five years prior to census night.

Introduction

Estimates of the number of interstate and overseas arrivals and departures are published quarterly by the ABS in Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0). These estimates show that migration is a major contributor to population change in Queensland. Approximately two-thirds of Queensland's population increase in the past twenty years can be attributed to migration, with the remainder the result of natural increase (births minus deaths) (see Figure 1).

During this period, interstate migration has generally made a larger contribution to population increase in Queensland compared with overseas migration. However, this trend has reversed in recent years, with overseas migration making the largest contribution to population change in each of the three years to 2007–08.

Figure 1: Components of population increase, Queensland, year ending 30 June



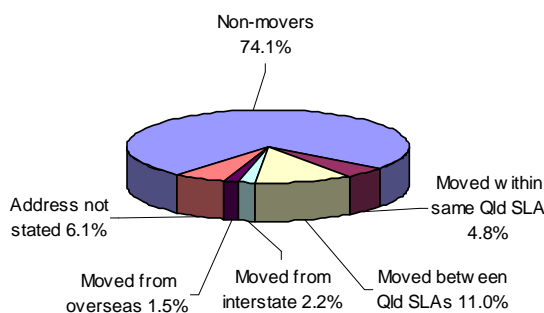
Source: ABS, Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 2008, cat. no. 3101.0

Population mobility

Data from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing reveal significant mobility within the Queensland population. One in five persons had a different usual address one year before census night (2005) compared with census night (2006). Nearly one-half of the Queensland population on census night (2006) had a different address five years before census night (2001).

Queensland’s usual resident population aged one year and over was 3,851,522 at the time of the 2006 Census. Nearly three-quarters (74.1%) were living at the same usual address one year before census night, and 4.8% of the population moved but were in the same statistical local area as in 2005. However, there was a significant proportion of the population (11.0%) who had moved between statistical local areas in Queensland, and 2.2% and 1.5% had moved to Queensland from interstate and overseas locations respectively (see Figure 2).

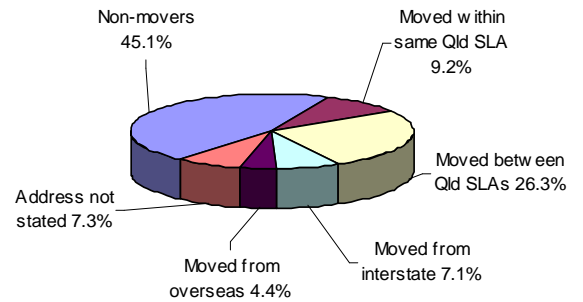
Figure 2: Usual residents aged one year and over by usual address one year earlier, Queensland, 2006



Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Queensland’s usual resident population aged five years and over was 3,647,455 at the time of the 2006 Census. Less than one-half (45.1%) were living at the same usual address five years before census night, with 9.2% having moved a relatively short distance within the same statistical local area. A significant proportion of the population (26.3%) had moved between statistical local areas in Queensland, and 7.1% and 4.4% had moved to Queensland from interstate and overseas locations respectively (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Usual residents aged five years and over by usual address five years earlier, Queensland, 2006



Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

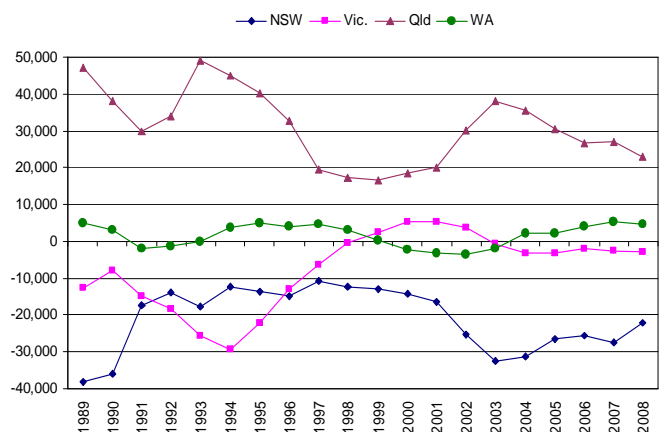
Interstate migration

Introduction

Driven by high levels of net interstate migration, Queensland has historically recorded stronger population growth compared with other states and territories in Australia. In the past twenty years, net interstate migration has contributed around 40% of Queensland’s population growth (see Figure 1).

Figure 4 shows that Queensland has historically recorded significant positive net interstate migration compared with New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia (the figures for the remaining states and territories are not significant). The net interstate migration component is volatile, driven largely by changing economic differentials between Queensland and the rest of Australia.

Figure 4: Net interstate migration, selected states, year ending 30 June



Source: ABS, Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 2008, cat. no. 3101.0

Sources and destinations of Queensland interstate migrants

Due to population size and geographical proximity, New South Wales is the main source of interstate arrivals to Queensland and destination for interstate departures from Queensland (see Table 1). In 2007–08 there were 50,439 interstate arrivals from New South Wales, representing one-half of all arrivals to Queensland. Victoria was the source for about one in five arrivals (22,048 persons, 21.9%) to Queensland, and was also the second largest destination for Queensland interstate departures.

Table 1: Interstate migration by state / territory of arrival and departure, Queensland, 2007–08

State / territory	Arrivals to		Departures		Net
	Qld from	from Qld to	from Qld to	from Qld to	
NSW	50,439		35,505		14,934
Vic.	22,048		17,679		4,369
SA	6,533		4,575		1,958
WA	9,196		8,952		244
Tas.	3,461		3,560		-99
NT	5,281		4,441		840
ACT	3,596		2,754		842
Total	100,554		77,466		23,088

Source: ABS, Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 2008, cat. no. 3101.0

Interstate migration by statistical division

Data on the regional destinations of interstate migrants are collected in the Census of Population and Housing. Addresses of usual residence on census night and five years before census night can be used to derive interstate arrival and departure estimates. Table 2 compares the resident Queensland population on census night in 2006 in each statistical division with derived interstate arrival and departure estimates (in the five year period before census night in 2006). Persons aged less than five years are excluded, as they were not born in 2001 and therefore did not have an address of usual residence in 2001.

Table 2: Interstate arrivals (a) and departures by statistical division, Queensland, 2001 to 2006, and resident population (b), 2006

Statistical division	Interstate in-migrants (a)		Interstate out-migrants		Resident population (b)	
	number	% of total	number	% of total	number	% of total
Brisbane	98,124	38.2	51,847	39.6	1,246,292	47.6
Gold Coast	52,171	20.3	21,339	16.3	296,740	11.3
Sunshine Coast	25,021	9.7	9,019	6.9	174,316	6.7
West Moreton	3,139	1.2	1,984	1.5	42,245	1.6
Wide Bay-Burnett	18,098	7.0	7,554	5.8	166,886	6.4
Darling Downs	10,443	4.1	6,939	5.3	146,229	5.6
South West	889	0.3	942	0.7	16,539	0.6
Fitzroy	8,587	3.3	5,350	4.1	126,893	4.8
Central West	420	0.2	475	0.4	6,927	0.3
Mackay	9,606	3.7	4,832	3.7	94,672	3.6
Northern	13,204	5.1	9,912	7.6	130,148	5.0
Far North	15,530	6.0	9,047	6.9	152,972	5.8
North West	1,765	0.7	1,640	1.3	16,662	0.6

(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address five years before census night question, and off-shore areas and migratory and Queensland no usual address responses to the address on census night question.

(b) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence on census night and five years before census night in the same statistical division.

Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

The number of interstate arrivals was greater than the number of interstate departures in all statistical divisions, with the exception of the Central West and South West regions.

Brisbane Statistical Division was the main destination for interstate arrivals to Queensland (38.2% of the total), followed by the Gold Coast (20.3%), the Sunshine Coast (9.7%), Wide Bay-Burnett (7.0%), Far North (6.0%) and Northern (5.1%). The distribution of interstate arrivals within Queensland correlates strongly with the resident population, except in South East Queensland, where there is a dearth of movement to Brisbane

(the proportion of arrivals is 9.4 percentage points lower than resident population share) and an over-representation (the proportion of arrivals is 9.0 percentage points higher than resident population share) of movement to the Gold Coast. The latter is probably a function of proximity to the New South Wales border, at least in part.

Overseas migration

Introduction

In the past two decades, overseas migration has contributed 26% of Queensland's population growth, significantly less than interstate migration (40%) and natural increase (34%). However, net overseas migration to Queensland has reached record levels in recent years, due to higher national gains and a greater Queensland share. Net overseas migration was the largest component of Queensland's population growth in each of the three years from 2005–06 to 2007–08 (see Figure 1).

Birthplace of overseas arrivals

Addresses of usual residence on census night and five years before census night collected in the Census of Population and Housing can be used to derive overseas in-migrant estimates for the five year period prior to census night. Departure estimates can not be derived from this source, as persons who were overseas on census night are out of scope of the census.

Table 3 reveals that the main country of birth for overseas arrivals to Queensland was New Zealand (19.1%). In the rest of Australia, only 6.6% of overseas arrivals were born in New Zealand. The New Zealand born arrivals to Queensland (30,763 persons) comprised 41.2% of the national total. Other significant birthplaces for overseas arrivals to Queensland were the United Kingdom (15.1%), South Africa (5.1%), China (3.7%) and South Korea (2.6%).

Table 3: Overseas arrivals (a) by main countries of birth, Queensland and rest of Australia, 2001 to 2006

Country of birth	Queensland		Rest of Australia			
	Arrivals		Country of birth		Arrivals	
	number	% of total	number	% of total	number	% of total
New Zealand	30,763	19.3	United Kingdom (b)	83,672	12.6	
United Kingdom (b)	24,048	15.1	China (c)	59,546	9.0	
South Africa	8,113	5.1	India	49,734	7.5	
China (c)	5,924	3.7	New Zealand	43,895	6.6	
South Korea	4,127	2.6	South Africa	21,006	3.2	
India	3,964	2.5	Malaysia	20,114	3.0	
Japan	3,673	2.3	South Korea	16,464	2.5	
Philippines	3,213	2.0	Philippines	16,276	2.5	
USA	3,056	1.9	Indonesia	13,657	2.1	
Taiwan	2,874	1.8	USA	13,333	2.0	
Zimbabwe	2,590	1.6	Hong Kong (d)	12,246	1.8	
Malaysia	2,229	1.4	Singapore	11,408	1.7	
Canada	1,975	1.2	Sri Lanka	10,903	1.6	
Germany	1,974	1.2	Japan	9,399	1.4	
Hong Kong (d)	1,956	1.2	Viet Nam	9,224	1.4	
Singapore	1,636	1.0	Sudan	8,451	1.3	
Fiji	1,570	1.0	Iraq	8,187	1.2	
Papua New Guinea	1,546	1.0	Thailand	8,185	1.2	
Thailand	1,487	0.9	Germany	6,867	1.0	
Sudan	1,486	0.9	Bangladesh	6,539	1.0	
Other / Not stated	51,337	32.2	Other / Not stated	233,869	35.3	
Total (e)	159,541	100.0	Total (e)	662,975	100.0	

(a) Excludes temporary visitors.

(b) Comprises 'United Kingdom, not further defined', 'Channel Islands', 'England', 'Isle of Man', 'Northern Ireland', 'Scotland' and 'Wales'.

(c) Excludes the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, and Taiwan Province.

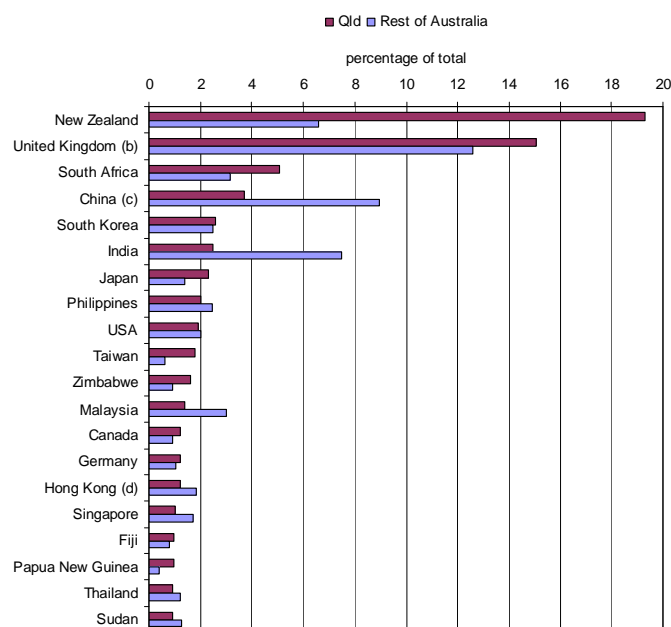
(d) Special Administrative Region of China.

(e) Includes other countries of birth, and persons born in Australia (who returned to Australia from overseas between 2001 and 2006).

Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 5 shows that the country of birth composition of overseas arrivals is significantly different for Queensland compared with the rest of Australia. Queensland attracts a much higher proportional share of arrivals from New Zealand, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Japan, Taiwan and Zimbabwe. However, the opposite is true for arrivals from China and India.

Figure 5: Overseas arrivals (a) by main country of birth, by proportion of total, Queensland and rest of Australia, 2001 to 2006



(a) Excludes temporary visitors.
 (b) Comprises 'United Kingdom, not further defined', 'Channel Islands', 'England', 'Isle of Man', 'Northern Ireland', 'Scotland' and 'Wales'.
 (c) Excludes the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, and Taiwan Province.
 (d) Special Administrative Region of China.
 Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Regional destinations of overseas arrivals

In the five years before census night in 2006, more than one-half (57.4%) of overseas arrivals to Queensland moved to the Brisbane Statistical Division. The Gold Coast received 17.7% of the total, followed by the Sunshine Coast (7.1%), the Far North (4.4%), Northern (2.8%) and the Darling Downs (2.7%) (see Table 4).

Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast were the only statistical divisions to record overseas in-migrant shares greater than resident population shares. Shares were lower than resident population shares in all other regions.

Interstate and overseas arrivals have a different destination focus. Overseas arrivals concentrate in Brisbane and the Gold Coast (with 75.0% of all arrivals), compared with 58.5% of interstate arrivals (see Table 2). Wide Bay-Burnett attracted just 2.3% of all overseas arrivals compared with 7.0% of interstate arrivals.

Table 4: Overseas arrivals (a)(b) by statistical division, Queensland, 2001 to 2006, and resident population (c), 2006

Statistical division	Overseas in-migrants (a)(b)		Resident population (c)	
	number	% of total	number	% of total
Brisbane	90,788	57.4	1,246,292	47.6
Gold Coast	27,957	17.7	296,740	11.3
Sunshine Coast	11,213	7.1	174,316	6.7
West Moreton	974	0.6	42,245	1.6
Wide Bay-Burnett	3,694	2.3	166,886	6.4
Darling Downs	4,286	2.7	146,229	5.6
South West	221	0.1	16,539	0.6
Fitzroy	3,443	2.2	126,893	4.8
Central West	108	0.1	6,927	0.3
Mackay	3,464	2.2	94,672	3.6
Northern	4,412	2.8	130,148	5.0
Far North	6,954	4.4	152,972	5.8
North West	726	0.5	16,662	0.6

(a) Excludes temporary visitors.
 (b) Excludes off-shore areas and migratory and Queensland no usual address responses to the address on census night question.
 (c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence on census night and five years before census night in the same statistical division.
 Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Intrastate migration by region

Migration between regions within Queensland has a considerable impact on the population size and demographic structure of Queensland's regions. Together with interstate and overseas movements, these flows are important in altering the spatial distribution of settlement in Queensland.

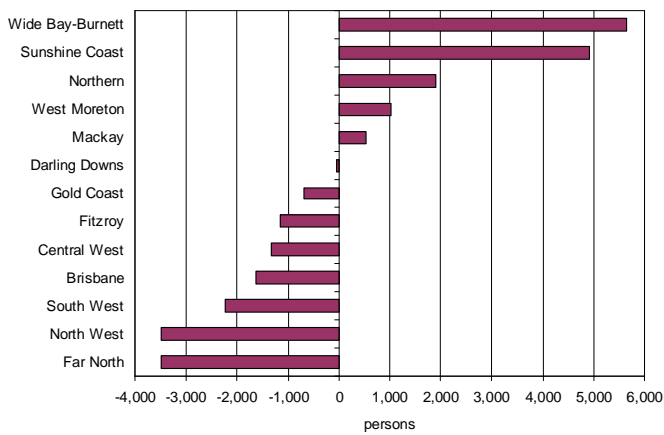
At the time of the 2006 Census, there were 289,068 Queensland usual residents who stated an address of usual residence five years before census night in a different Queensland statistical division (see Table 5). Figure 6 reinforces that net flows were highest in Wide Bay-Burnett, followed by Sunshine Coast, Northern, West Moreton and Mackay. All other regions experienced negative net intrastate flows. The negative net flows for the three western statistical divisions are significant in relation to the relatively small populations in these areas.

Table 5: Intrastate migration, Queensland statistical divisions, 2001 to 2006

Statistical division	Inward (a)	Outward (b)		Net
		— number —		
Brisbane	81,412	83,051		-1,639
Gold Coast	29,858	30,531		-673
Sunshine Coast	29,562	24,640		4,922
West Moreton	12,883	11,854		1,029
Wide Bay-Burnett	32,214	26,570		5,644
Darling Downs	23,056	23,096		-40
South West	3,364	5,600		-2,236
Fitzroy	19,934	21,078		-1,144
Central West	1,749	3,076		-1,327
Mackay	16,450	15,915		535
Northern	19,467	17,567		1,900
Far North	14,547	18,037		-3,490
North West	4,572	8,053		-3,481
Total	289,068	289,068		0

(a) Excludes Queensland undefined and not stated responses to the address of usual residence five years before census night question.
 (b) Excludes off-shore areas and migratory, and Queensland no usual address responses to the address of usual residence on census night question.
 Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 6: Net intrastate migration, Queensland statistical divisions, 2001 to 2006



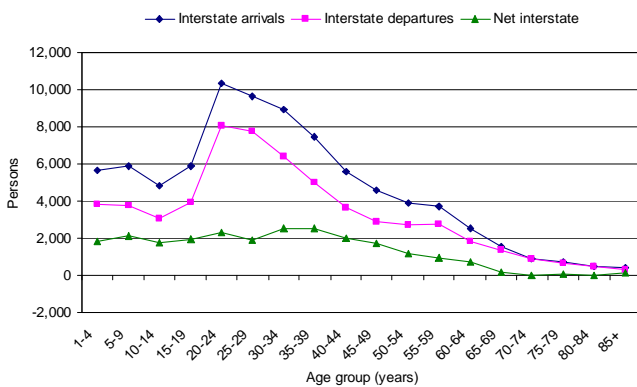
Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Age profile of migrants

Interstate migrants

At the time of the 2006 Census, based on the one year question, the age structure of interstate arrivals and departures was heavily weighted toward the younger working age groups (see Figure 7). The 20-24 years age group recorded the largest number of arrivals and departures. The number of arrivals and departures then decreased until the numbers in the 40-44 and 45-49 years age groups were similar to those measured in the under 15 years age groups. The number of arrivals and departures in the older age groups was comparatively small. This was contrary to the sometimes popularly held view that a large number of interstate migrants to Queensland are older people.

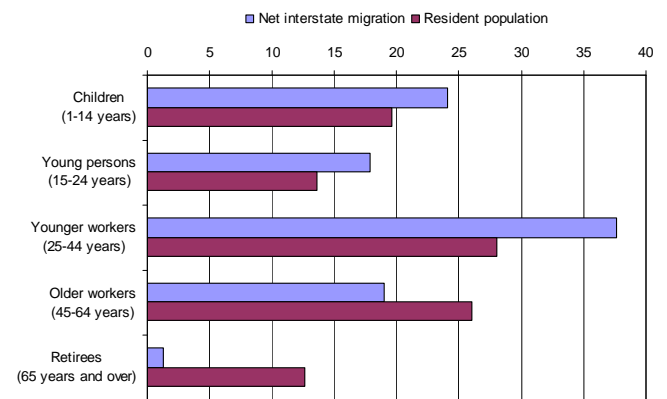
Figure 7: Interstate migration by age group, Queensland, 2005 to 2006



Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 8 compares net interstate migration and the resident population by broad age groups. The data show that interstate migration is heavily weighted toward the children, young person and younger worker age groups. Net movements of the older worker and retiree age groups are significantly under-represented compared with the resident population. This is especially evident with the retiree age group.

Figure 8: Net interstate migration (2005 to 2006) and resident population (a) (2006), proportion by broad age group, Queensland



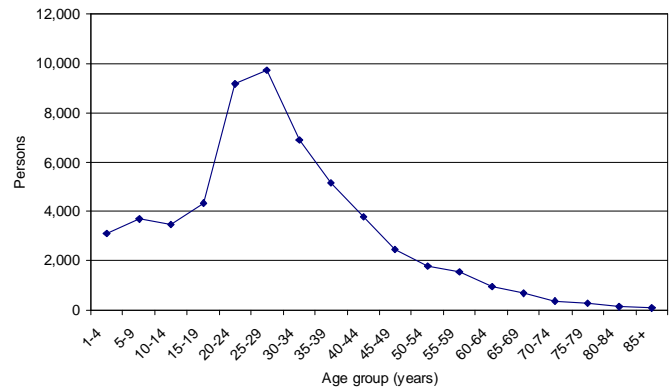
(a) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.

Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Overseas migrants

At the time of the 2006 Census, based on the one year question, the age structure of overseas arrivals was significantly weighted toward the younger working age groups (see Figure 9). The data in Figure 9 can be directly compared with the interstate migration data in Figure 7. This comparison shows that the numbers of overseas arrivals aged 20-24 and 25-29 years were similar to the number of interstate arrivals in these age groups. However, there were substantially less overseas arrivals in all other age groups.

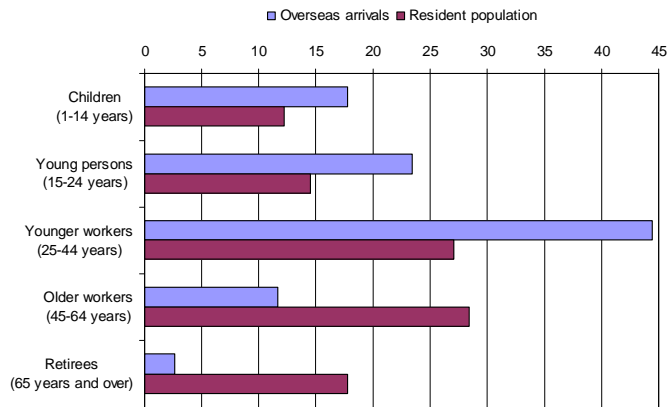
Figure 9: Overseas arrivals by age group, Queensland, 2005 to 2006



Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 10 compares overseas arrivals and the resident population by broad age groups. The data show that the age profile of overseas in-migrants is heavily weighted toward the younger worker, young person, and children age groups. Overseas in-migrants in the older worker and retiree age groups are significantly under-represented compared with the resident population. This is especially evident with the retiree age group.

Figure 10: Overseas arrivals (2005 to 2006) and resident population (a) (2006), proportion by broad age group, Queensland



(a) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.
Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

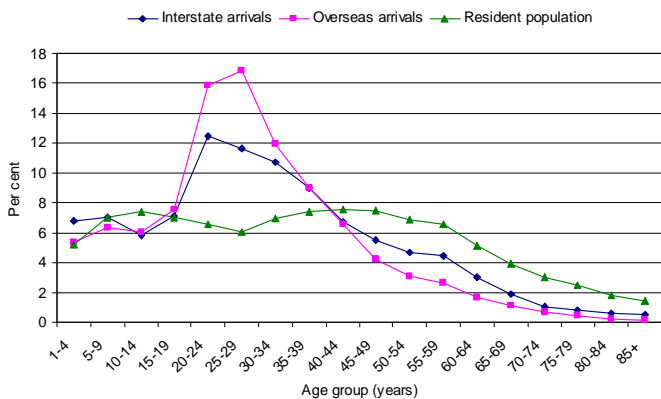
Age profiles: a comparison of interstate and overseas arrivals with the resident Queensland population

The age profiles of interstate and overseas arrivals to Queensland (based on address of usual residence on census night and one year before census night) differed markedly from the resident Queensland population in 2006 (see Figure 11). In comparison to the resident population, interstate arrivals were represented strongly in the younger working ages, but under-represented in all age groups older than 40 years.

For overseas arrivals, the age profile was more strongly weighted toward the 20-24 and 25-29 years age groups, and even more under-represented in the older age groups. Proportionally, one in three overseas arrivals was aged between 20 and 29 years, while only one in four interstate arrivals and one in eight Queenslanders were in this age group.

These younger interstate and overseas in-migrant age profiles have the effect of lowering the overall age profile of the Queensland population.

Figure 11: Age structure of overseas and interstate arrivals, Queensland, 2005 to 2006, and resident population (a) (2006)



(a) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.
Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Intrastate migrants

Data from the 2006 Census (based on address of usual residence on census night and one year before census night) reveal that there were 107,759 persons who moved between statistical divisions in Queensland in the year before census night. Figure 12 shows that the peak age group for intrastate moves was 20-24 years, with 13.7% of all movers. This proportion was significantly higher than the proportion of the resident 2006 population in this age group (6.3%). Intrastate movers aged 40 years and over were under-represented relative to the resident population.

Figure 12: Intrastate movers by age group, Queensland, 2005 to 2006, and resident population (a), 2006



(a) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence on census night and five years before census night in the same statistical division.
Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Migrant occupations

The Census of Population and Housing collects information on the main job held in the week prior to census night, for persons who had a full-time or part-time job of any kind in the week prior to census night. An occupation code is then assigned based on the response given. It should be noted that the occupation of persons who were usually resident in Queensland on census night (but who had an interstate or overseas address of usual residence one year before census night) may not be equivalent to the actual occupation at the time of movement to Queensland.

Table 6 and Figure 13 compare the occupational distribution of interstate and overseas arrivals (based on the address of usual residence on census night and address one year before census night questions) with the resident Queensland population on census night in 2006. The scope of these data is employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Compared with the resident population, a higher proportion of interstate arrivals were employed as professionals (19.5% compared with 17.3%) and community and personal service workers (11.4% compared with 9.2%).

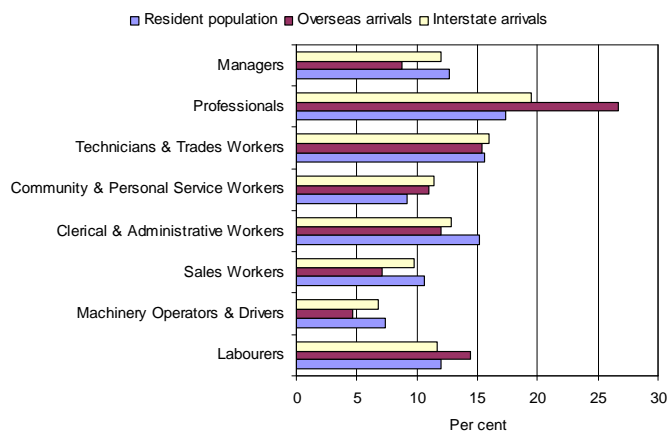
A significantly higher proportion of overseas arrivals were employed as professionals (26.7% compared with 17.3%), followed by labourers (14.4% compared with 12.0%) and community and personal service workers (11.0% compared with 9.2%).

Table 6: Interstate and overseas arrivals (a)(b) (2005 to 2006) and resident population in 2006 (b)(c) by occupation, Queensland

Occupation (d)	Arrivals from				Resident population (c) % of total
	Interstate		Overseas		
	number	% of total	number	% of total	
Managers	4,976	12.0	2,228	8.7	12.7
Professionals	8,092	19.5	6,807	26.7	17.3
Technicians & trades workers	6,617	15.9	3,930	15.4	15.6
Community & personal service workers	4,735	11.4	2,797	11.0	9.2
Clerical & administrative workers	5,341	12.9	3,044	11.9	15.2
Sales workers	4,044	9.7	1,805	7.1	10.6
Machinery operators & drivers	2,825	6.8	1,201	4.7	7.4
Labourers	4,859	11.7	3,664	14.4	12.0
Total (e)	41,489	100.0	25,476	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address of usual residence one year before census night question.
 (b) Employed persons aged 15 years and over.
 (c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.
 (d) Based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO).
 (e) Excludes inadequately described and not stated responses.
 Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 13: Interstate and overseas arrivals (a)(b) (2005 to 2006) and resident population (b)(c) in 2006 by occupation (d), Queensland



(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address of usual residence one year before census night question.
 (b) Employed persons aged 15 years and over.
 (c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.
 (d) Based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO).
 Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Migrant qualifications

The Census of Population and Housing collects data on highest level of educational achievement. This information can be used to determine whether a person has a non-school qualification and the level of this qualification. It should be noted that the level of educational achievement of persons who were usually resident in Queensland on census night (but who had an interstate or overseas address of usual residence one year before census night) may not be equivalent to the actual level of educational achievement at the time of movement to Queensland.

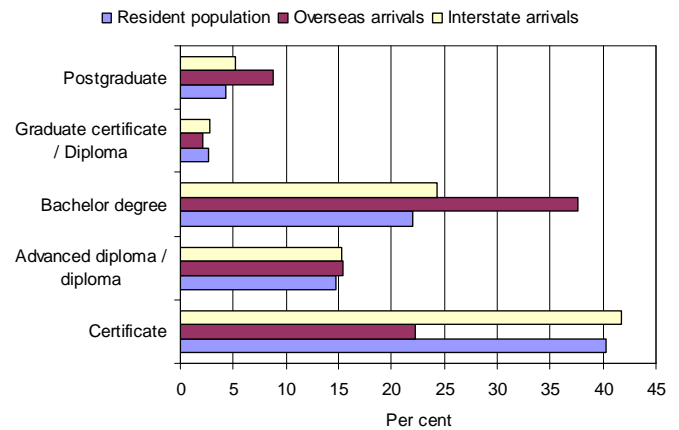
Table 7 and Figure 14 compare the qualification distribution of interstate and overseas arrivals (based on the address of usual residence on census night and address one year before census night questions) with the resident Queensland population on census night in 2006. The scope of these data is persons aged 15 years and over.

Table 7: Interstate and overseas arrivals (a)(b) (2005 to 2006) and resident population (b)(c) in 2006 by non-school qualification, Queensland

Qualification level (d)	Arrivals from				Resident population (c) % of total
	Interstate		Overseas		
	number	% of total	number	% of total	
Postgraduate	1,914	5.2	2,574	8.8	4.3
Graduate certificate / diploma	1,012	2.8	632	2.2	2.6
Bachelor degree	8,928	24.3	11,001	37.6	22.0
Advanced diploma / diploma	5,583	15.2	4,482	15.3	14.7
Certificate	15,300	41.6	6,525	22.3	40.3
Total with non-school qualification (e)	36,746	100.0	29,256	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address of usual residence one year before census night question.
 (b) Persons aged 15 years and over.
 (c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.
 (d) Based on the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) Level of Education Classification.
 (e) Includes inadequately described and not stated responses.
 Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 14: Interstate and overseas arrivals (a)(b) (2005 to 2006) and resident population (b)(c) in 2006 by non-school qualification (d), Queensland



(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address of usual residence one year before census night question.
 (b) Persons aged 15 years and over.
 (c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.
 (d) Based on the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) Level of Education Classification.
 Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

For persons with a non-school qualification, a significantly higher proportion of overseas arrivals (8.8%) had a postgraduate qualification compared with interstate arrivals (5.2%) and the resident population (4.3%). A high proportion of overseas arrivals had a bachelor degree (37.6%) compared with interstate arrivals (24.3%) and the resident population (22.0%). Overseas arrivals were under-represented in certificate qualifications (22.3%) compared with interstate arrivals (41.6%) and the resident population (40.3%).

Migrant labour force status

A person's labour force status is derived from responses to the Census of Population and Housing on full/part-time job, job last week, hours worked, transport to work, looking for work, and availability to start work. It should be noted that the labour force status of persons who were usually resident in Queensland on census night (but who had an interstate or overseas address of usual residence one year before census

night) may not be equivalent to the actual status at the time of movement to Queensland.

Table 8 and Figure 15 compare the labour force status distribution of interstate and overseas arrivals (based on the address of usual residence on census night and address one year before census night questions) with the resident Queensland population on census night in 2006. The scope of these data is persons aged 15 years and over.

Compared with the resident population, there were proportionally more interstate arrivals who were employed (63.9% compared with 63.7%) and unemployed (7.9% compared with 2.9%). Only 28.2% of interstate arrivals were not in the labour force compared with 33.4% of the resident population. Proportionally, overseas arrivals were under-represented in employment (55.8% compared with 63.7%) and over-represented in unemployment (8.7% compared with 2.9%).

Table 8: Interstate and overseas arrivals (a)(b) (2005 to 2006) and resident population (b)(c) in 2006 by labour force status, Queensland

Labour force status	Arrivals from				Resident population (c) % of total
	Interstate		Overseas		
	number	% of total	number	% of total	
Employed	42,102	63.9	25,955	55.8	63.7
Unemployed	5,216	7.9	4,029	8.7	2.9
Not in the labour force	18,575	28.2	16,523	35.5	33.4
Total (d)	65,893	100.0	46,507	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address of usual residence one year before census night question.

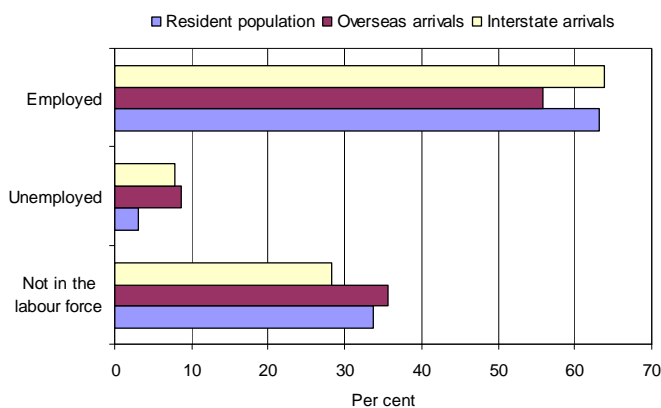
(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.

(d) Excludes not stated responses.

Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 15: Interstate and overseas arrivals (a)(b) (2005 to 2006) and resident population (b)(c) in 2006 by labour force status, Queensland



(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address of usual residence one year before census night question.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and one year before census night.

Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

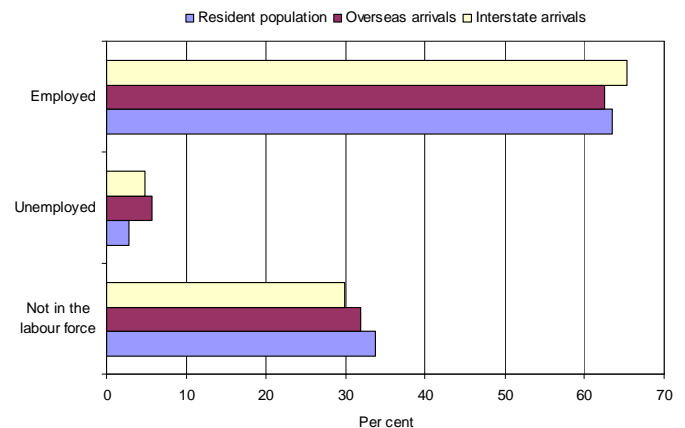
Figure 16 compares the labour force status of the resident Queensland population on census night in 2006 with interstate and overseas arrivals to Queensland based on the address of usual residence on census night and address five years before census night questions. The scope of these data is persons aged 15 years and over.

Compared with the data from the one year ago question, the five years ago question reveals an improved labour force status for both interstate and overseas migrants, relative to the resident population. These data suggest that while migrants may have higher unemployment in the early period after arrival, their economic position does improve between one year and five years after arrival in Queensland.

For interstate arrivals, the proportion employed increased to 65.3% compared with 63.9% from the one year ago question and 63.5% for the resident population. The proportion unemployed declined considerably from 7.9% (from the one year ago question) to 4.9% (from the five years ago question), but was still higher than the 2.8% for the resident population.

For overseas arrivals, the proportion employed increased significantly to 62.5% compared with 55.8% from the one year ago question, but is still lower than for the resident population (63.5%). The proportion unemployed declined considerably from 8.7% (from the one year ago question) to 5.6% (from the five years ago question), but is still much higher than the 2.8% for the resident population.

Figure 16: Interstate and overseas arrivals (a)(b) (2001 to 2006) and resident population (b)(c) in 2006 by labour force status, Queensland



(a) Excludes not stated responses to the address of usual residence five years before census night question.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Defined as persons with an address of usual residence in Queensland on both census night and five years before census night.

Source: ABS, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Technical note

Data sources

The definitive source for small area data on migration flows and migrant characteristics is the Census of Population and Housing conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) once every five years. The majority of data in this bulletin have been sourced from the census conducted in 2006. It should be noted that census figures quoted in this bulletin may differ slightly from those published elsewhere, as the application of confidentiality rules to the data will cause small random changes in some data cells.

Estimates of migration based on administrative sources are released by ABS on a quarterly basis in Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0). The sources for statistics of overseas arrivals are incoming and outgoing passenger cards (for persons arriving in, or departing from, Australia), and visa applications also provide information on incoming persons. Interstate migration estimates are modelled using administrative by-product data on interstate changes of address advised to Medicare Australia and to the Department of Defence in the case of the military. These data sources do not provide the rich detail on migrant characteristics collected in the census. However, these estimates are released on a quarterly basis and are more timely than those sourced from the census. As such, where possible, these estimates have been included in this bulletin.

Methodology

The five-yearly Census of Population and Housing conducted by the ABS collects usual address information at three points in time: census night, one year before census night and five years before census night. These responses can be used to derive estimates of interstate arrivals and departures and overseas arrivals in the one year and five year periods before census night.

Data from the five year question are less affected by the annual fluctuations inherent in data from the one year question. As such, estimates derived from the five year question more reliably measure migration patterns, and are used in this bulletin to describe overall levels of overseas, interstate and intrastate migration. However, estimates derived from the one year question have also been used in this bulletin to provide a clearer picture of migrant characteristics (age, occupation, qualifications and labour force status), because there is less time for characteristics to have changed between the time of migration and the point at which they are measured, over a one year period. The exception is the analysis of labour force status in this bulletin, which is based on both the one and five year questions, to gauge the improvement in labour force outcomes over the five year period compared with the one year period before census night.

Overseas arrival statistics presented in this bulletin exclude persons who were overseas visitors at the time of the census. Also note that persons overseas on census night are out of scope of the census.

This bulletin compares the age, occupation, qualifications, and labour force status characteristics of migrants with the resident Queensland population. The resident Queensland population has been defined as those persons who did not migrate, and this definition varies depending on the type of migration. For example, when comparing interstate arrivals based on the five years question, the resident population is defined as those persons with a Queensland address of usual residence on both census night and five years before census night. When comparing intrastate movers (between Queensland statistical divisions based on the five years question), the resident population is defined as persons with an address of usual residence on both census night and five years before census night in the same statistical division.

Persons who did not state their address of usual residence one year or five years before census night have been excluded from the migrant and resident population derivations, as it is not possible to determine their migration status.

Data quality

Arrival and departure estimates derived from addresses of usual residence collected in the census underestimate actual movements. The reasons for this are threefold:

Firstly, some persons are missed completely during the enumeration of the census.

Secondly, usual residence data are collected in the census for census night, and one and five years before census night. While this information can be used to derive proxy measures of migration, data are not available on return movers (persons who migrated interstate or overseas and returned to their home state or country within the year or five years before census night), or for persons who made more than one move in the year or five years before census night.

Thirdly, the data exclude persons aged less than one year of age in 2006 (in the case of the one year question) and persons aged less than five years in 2006 (in the case of the five year question), as these persons had not been born in 2005 or 2001 respectively.

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