

Population and Dwelling Profile

Cairns Regional Council

Updated April 2012

Estimated resident population

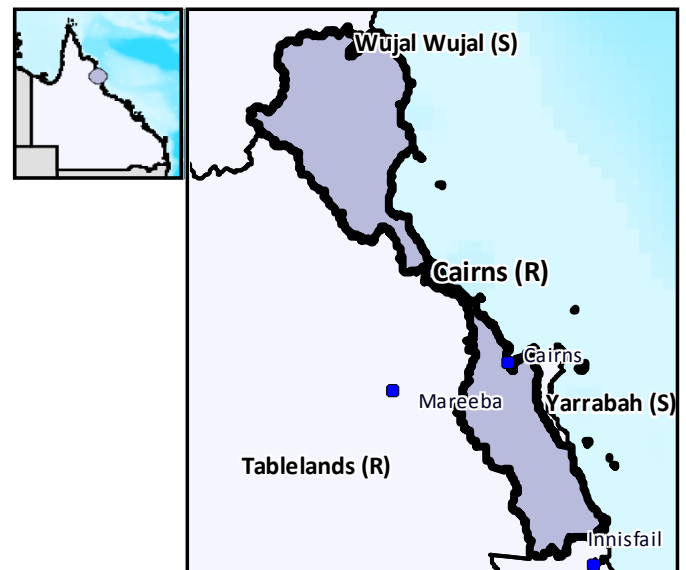
The preliminary estimated resident population of Cairns Regional Council at 30 June 2011 was 170,586 persons, an increase of 2,647 persons or 1.6 per cent over the year. This compares with an increase of 3,585 persons or 2.2 per cent in the year to June 2010 (Table 1 and Figure 1).

Components of population change

In the year to June 2009, natural increase (births minus deaths) accounted for an increase of 1,984 persons while assumed net migration resulted in a gain of 3,186 persons (Table 1 and Figure 2).

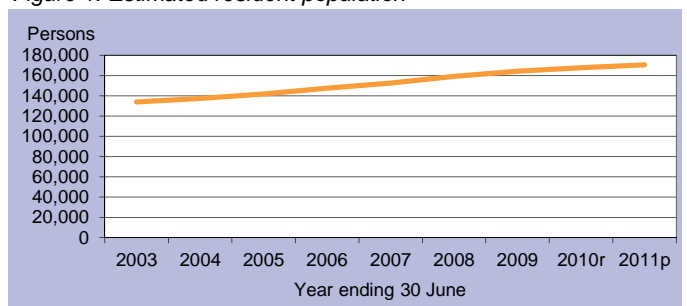
Population projections

Projections released in 2011 indicate that by 2016 the expected population of Cairns Regional Council will be between 183,814 and 196,094 persons (Table 2 and Figure 3). By 2031 this is expected to change to between 215,805 and 264,208 persons (low and high series).



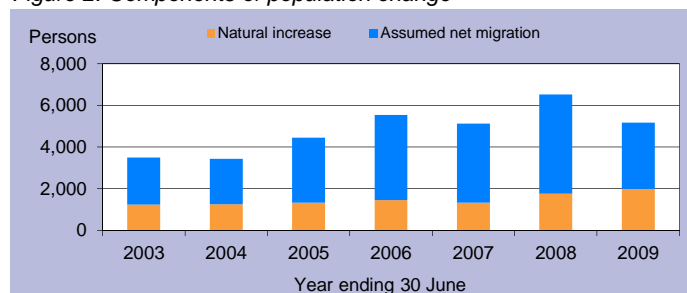
C = City S = Shire R = Regional Council T = Town

Figure 1: Estimated resident population



p = preliminary r = revised

Figure 2: Components of population change



p = preliminary r = revised

Figure 3: Population projections

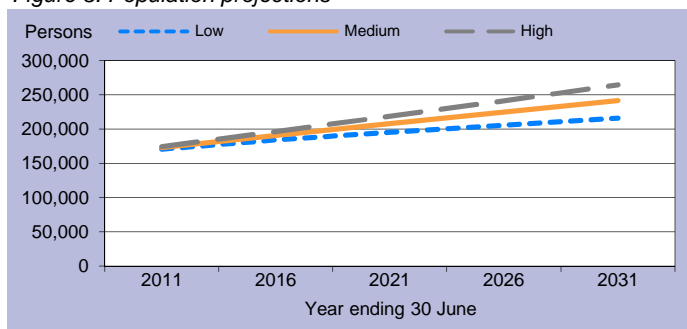


Table 1: Estimated resident population and components of change

Population trends		Annual population change				
As at 30 Jun	Est. resident population	Year to 30 Jun	Natural increase	Assumed net migration	Annual change Total	Per cent
2003	134,122	2,003	1,232	2,268	3,500	2.7
2004	137,549	2004	1,247	2,180	3,427	2.6
2005	141,993	2005	1,334	3,110	4,444	3.2
2006	147,538	2006	1,459	4,086	5,545	3.9
2007	152,668	2007	1,329	3,801	5,130	3.5
2008	159,184	2008	1,767	4,749	6,516	4.3
2009	164,354	2009	1,984	3,186	5,170	3.2
2010r	167,939	2010r	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	3,585	2.2
2011p	170,586	2011p	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	2,647	1.6

p = preliminary r = revised n.y.a. = not available

Table 2: Population projections

	Projected population			Average annual change (medium series)	
	Low series	Medium series	High series	Number	Per cent
2011	170,595	172,890	173,980	5,070	3.2
2016	183,814	190,657	196,094	3,553	2.0
2021	195,195	207,756	218,740	3,420	1.7
2026	205,563	224,426	241,195	3,334	1.6
2031	215,805	241,494	264,208	3,414	1.5

Table 3: Population by age group, Cairns (R)

	Age group					Median age
	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	
2006	31,735	19,287	47,106	36,517	12,893	35.0
	21.5%	13.1%	31.9%	24.8%	8.7%	
2031*	42,130	27,807	66,462	62,105	42,988	40.4
	17.4%	11.5%	27.5%	25.7%	17.8%	

* Medium series

Age structure

The median age of Cairns Regional Council's population is projected to increase by 5.4 years from a median age of 35.0 years in 2006 to a median age of 40.4 years in 2031 (Table 3 and Figure 4). The median age of Queensland in 2031 is projected to be 40.2 years, under the medium series (Table 4).

Dwelling approvals

There were 399 new dwelling approvals in Cairns Regional Council over the year ending December 2011, a decrease of 49.2 per cent from the previous year (786) (Table 5). Separate houses made up 96.2 per cent of all new dwelling approvals over the year ending December 2011 (Figure 5).

Table 5: New dwelling approvals*

Year ending	New dwelling approvals		
	Houses	Other	Total
December			
2005	1,121	663	1,784
2006	1,360	826	2,186
2007	1,604	1,003	2,607
2008	1,027	407	1,434
2009	754	176	930
2010	576	210	786
2011	384	15	399
Mar qtr 2011	97	5	102
Jun qtr 2011	100	2	102
Sep qtr 2011	94	8	102
Dec qtr 2011	93	0	93

* Excludes alterations/additions

Figure 5: Dwelling approvals

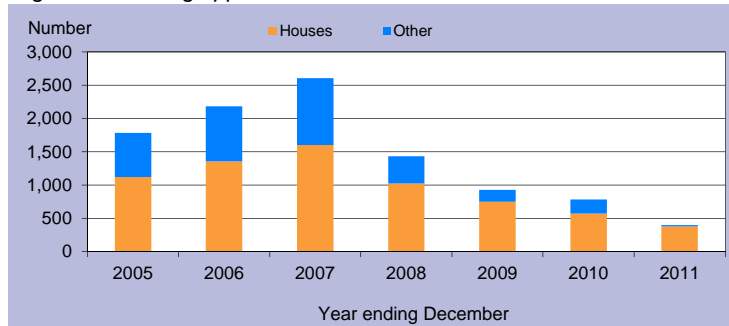
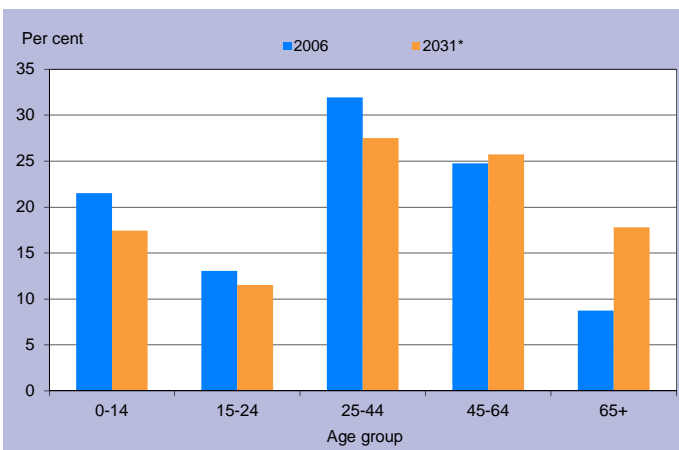


Table 4: Population by age group, Queensland

	Age group					Median age
	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	
2006	834,682	578,600	1,169,244	1,013,986	494,396	36.1
	20.4%	14.1%	28.6%	24.8%	12.1%	
2031*	1,205,836	814,688	1,703,235	1,578,741	1,290,350	40.2
	18.3%	12.4%	25.8%	23.9%	19.6%	

* Medium series

Figure 4: Age distribution, Cairns (R), 2006 and 2031*



* Medium series

Household size

In 2006, the average household size for all occupied private dwellings in Cairns Regional Council was 2.5 persons. This compares with an average household size of 2.6 for all of Queensland in the same year (Table 6).

Table 6: Average household size by dwelling type

Dwelling type	Average household size			
	Cairns (R)			Qld
	1996	2001	2006	2006
Separate house	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8
Semi-detached, flats, etc	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.8
Other dwellings inc caravans	1.8	1.7	2.0	1.8
All occupied private dwellings	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.6

Sources for the Population and Dwelling Profile:

ABS cat nos 3201.3, 3218.0, 3235.3, 8731.0 (preliminary as at December 2011); ABS unpublished births and deaths data, Census of Population and Housing, 1996, 2001 and 2006; Queensland Government Population Projections, 2011.

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