Population growth – highlights and trends
the Wide Bay - Burnett Region 2005
Minister’s Message


This report clearly shows that opportunities and challenges are not limited to the State’s south-east. Queensland’s popular coastal areas also continue to grow.

Population in the Wide Bay – Burnett region grew by almost 5700 people to 250,500 people in the 12 months to June 30, 2004 – more than double the region’s average growth levels in the late 1990s.

Population growth in the region, and Hervey Bay City in particular, is outpacing other regions. The Local Government Area of Hervey Bay had the second fastest growth rate in Queensland at 5.6 per cent, after Miriam Vale at 6 per cent. With its population growing by more than 2600 people, Hervey Bay boasts the second largest population growth in regional Queensland for the year ending June 2004 after Cairns City which grew by 2804 people in that period.

Population growth in the region is boosting the Wide Bay-Burnett region’s building industry, with 3177 new dwellings approved in the 12 months to June 30, 2005 – continuing a strong growth trend over the past four years.

This growth is an opportunity to showcase how government, industry and the community can work together toward best-practice, environmentally sustainable development in a fast growing region that attracts migrants from near and far.

Desley Boyle MP  
Minister for Environment  
Minister for Local Government and Planning  
Minister for Women
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Technical notes:
The latest available Estimated Resident Population, released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), are preliminary estimates for Local Government Areas (LGAs) and Statistical Local Areas as at 30 June 2004. These latest estimates also include revised estimates for June 2003. These estimates are available as Appendix A of this report and may also be downloaded from the PIFU website (www.lgp.qld.gov.au/pifu).

The 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 2004. A significant change occurred in a previously used data source limiting its suitability for estimating population change for ACs and ICs during 2002-04, and, as a result, populations for these areas have been held constant.

Appendix B contains figures for natural increase in the year to June 2004 for all LGAs in Queensland. This allows an estimate of net migration to be made, which is assumed to be the balance of population growth in each respective area.

Appendix C presents data on labour force and job containment in Queensland LGAs. These data have been selected from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, where respondents were asked where they worked on Census day.

The Census data presented in Appendix D are not comparable to the interstate migration estimates in Table 1 of the report. Table 1 (Source ABS, Cat No 3101.0) presents estimates of annual flows for financial years. In contrast, the Census data provide information on where people stated their place of residence was five years ago. As such, these data refer to the intercensal period of 1996 to 2001. The Census data are limited by a number of factors (for example, there are respondents who did not specify their place of residence five years prior to the Census and there is no record of persons who moved more than once during the five-year period). The Census data are, nevertheless, a most useful source for analysing migration patterns at sub-state levels.
Introduction

Population growth – highlights and trends, Queensland 2005 contains analysis of the latest available Australian Bureau of Statistics estimates of the resident population of the Wide Bay – Burnett (WBB) Statistical Division. These include preliminary estimates of the population as at June 2004 and revised estimates of the population as at June 2003.

The WBB Region is made up of the 22 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of

- Biggenden Shire,
- Bundaberg City,
- Burnett Shire,
- Cherbourg Aboriginal Council,
- Cooloola Shire,
- Eidsvold Shire,
- Gayndah Shire,
- Hervey Bay City,
- Isis Shire,
- Kilkivan Shire,
- Kingaroy Shire,
- Kolan Shire,
- Maryborough City,
- Miriam Vale Shire,
- Monto Shire,
- Mundubbera Shire,
- Murgon Shire,
- Nanango Shire,
- Perry Shire,
- Tiaro Shire,
- Wondai Shire, and
- Woocoo Shire.

This report complements other more detailed reports produced by the Department’s Planning Information and Forecasting Unit (PIFU) such as Recent Population and Housing Trends in Queensland 2003 and Queensland’s Future Population 2003. These earlier 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 all of Queensland and four other Regions have been released during 2005. A more detailed report on migration patterns for the intercensal period 1996 to 2001 will be released later in 2005.
Findings from the report include:

- The WBB Region's population increased by more than 36,000 people in the last 10 years. In the year to June 2004, the population grew by 5,656 people, an increase from 244,847 to 250,503 people.
- In the WBB Region the contribution of net migration has risen significantly over the last four years, accounting for around 87% of growth in the year to June 2004.
- Two LGAs within the WBB Region, Miriam Vale Shire and Hervey Bay City had the fastest growth rates in the State (6.0% and 5.6% respectively).
- Population growth in Hervey Bay City in the year to June 2004 was the second largest of any regional city outside South East Queensland (SEQ).
- Only about half of the labour force in Hervey Bay City worked in the City (labour force containment 50.2%), while few outsiders worked in Hervey Bay City (high job containment 91.9%).
- The WBB Region had more dwellings approved for construction (64.6%) in the four-year period to June 2005 (an annual average of 2,742 dwellings) compared with the dwellings approved in the five years to June 2001 (an annual average of 1,666 dwellings).

Queensland’s population was 3.88 million in June 2004, having recorded an increase of 81,000 people since 2003. Based on current and likely growth trends, PIFU estimates that the population of Queensland will reach 4 million by the end of 2005.

Population growth in Queensland over the past three years was the largest ever recorded for any three-year period. The peak year was 2003, with growth in 2004 easing by 10%. Growth in the year to June 2004 of almost 81,000 people was 40% (or about 23,000 people) higher than average levels of growth recorded during the slower second half of the 1990s (58,000 people each year). It was also slightly higher than the first half of the 1990s, when Queensland grew by an average of 75,000 people each year.

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.
Queensland in the Australian context

The most recent estimated resident population produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), indicates that Queensland’s population grew to 3.88 million people by June 2004 (Appendix A). This equates to an increase of nearly 81,000 people over the year to June 2004, down 10% from growth of approximately 90,000 people in the previous year. Nonetheless, Queensland continued to maintain its status as Australia’s fastest growing State with a growth rate of 2.1% in the year to June 2004.

New South Wales retained the largest share of the Australian population (33.5%), followed by Victoria (24.7%). Queensland’s share of population (19.3%) was the third largest (Figure 1). Queensland’s share of the Australian population continued to increase, rising from 18.6% in 2000 to 19.3% by 2004. In contrast to its share of the population, Queensland accounted for a much larger share of population growth, with more than one-third (33.9%) of Australia’s total growth over the year to June 2004. The shares of Australia’s population growth apportioned to Victoria (25.7%) and Western Australia (13.5%) were also slightly larger than their shares of the Australian population (24.7% in Victoria and 9.9% in Western Australia). In contrast, New South Wales accounted for a smaller share of national growth (20.6%) than its share of population (33.5%).

![Figure 1: Proportion of national resident population at 30 June 2004 and share of national population growth for year to 30 June 2004](image)

Just the facts...

Queensland’s current population

Size (30 June 2004) 3,882,037

Growth rate (year to 30 June 2004) 2.1%

Increase in year (30 June 2004) 80,998

Density [persons per sq km, 30 June 2004] 2.24

Source: ABS, Australian Demographic Statistics, Cat No 3101.0
The WBB Region in the Queensland context
Regional comparisons

This section compares the Wide Bay – Burnett (WBB) Region with Queensland Regions as defined by the Queensland Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation’s Regional planning project areas (Appendix E). In the more populous planning areas, population change in the year to June 2004 exceeded average annual change in the five years to June 2001.

Most of Queensland’s growth occurred in the southeast corner of the State, and the SEQ Region had the largest amount of growth of any of Queensland’s regional planning areas (Appendix A). The SEQ Region recorded the second fastest rate of growth after the adjoining WBB Region. Outside SEQ, the WBB Region had the largest population growth in the year to June 2004, and this was more than double the amount of growth in any of the following regions – Darling Downs Regional Organisation of Councils (DDROC), Central Queensland A New Millennium (CQANM), and Whitsunday, Hinterland and Mackay (WHAM). In this year, population growth in the WBB Region was also much larger than in the Townsville-Thuringowa (TTSP) and Far North Queensland (FNQ) Regions (Figure 2). Population growth in the year to June 2004 was estimated to have been 5,656 people in the WBB Region, 3,473 people in TTSP and 3,137 in FNQ. Population growth in the WBB Region has steadily increased each year since 2001 and by 2004 had reached a similar level to average annual growth recorded between 1991 and 1996.

Figure 2: Average annual population change, regional planning areas, excluding SEQ
Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0

![Average annual population change, regional planning areas, excluding SEQ](chart.png)
The WBB Region’s population increased from 244,847 to 250,503 people in the year to June 2004, an increase of 5,656 people or 2.3%. This was higher than growth in the previous year of 4,855 people or 2.0%, and significantly higher than the average annual growth in the five years ending June 2001 of 2,441 people or 1.1%.

The population in the WBB Region accounted for 6.5% of Queensland’s growth in the year to June 2004. The share of growth was only slightly lower than the Region’s share of the State’s population (7.0%). Between June 2003 and June 2004, the WBB Region experienced a growth rate of 2.3%. This annual growth rate was faster than for Queensland as a whole (2.1%), and significantly faster than the Australian growth rate (1.2%).

The WBB Region growth rate was above the State average in the five years to 1996 and comparable to the growth rate in SEQ (Figure 3). In the late 1990s growth rates in the WBB Region declined faster than in SEQ. The population growth rate in the WBB Region declined from an annual average of 2.8% in the five years to 1996 to 1.1% in the five years to 2001. Thereafter, the WBB Region, the SEQ Region and Queensland as a whole recovered from the slower growth, with the WBB Region showing a faster recovery. The population growth increased faster in the WBB Region in the two years to June 2004 than for other regions in Queensland. By June 2004 the WBB Region had a growth rate similar to SEQ and higher than the Queensland average growth rate.
Population growth in the WBB Region was almost 6,000 people per year during the early 1990s (Figure 4). Average annual growth then decreased significantly to less than 2,500 people each year in the second half of the decade, coinciding with the slower growth experienced throughout Queensland as a whole. The past three years have seen considerably stronger levels of growth in the WBB Region. Population growth was largest in the year to June 2004 with a gain of 5,656 people, and this was a larger growth than in the previous two years (3,500 in the year to June 2002 and 4,855 in the year to June 2003).
Components of change

Natural increase and net migration are the two components of population change. While, annual migration statistics are not available for areas within Queensland, the result of migration movements may be assumed from other information on natural increase (excess of births over deaths) and the change in the estimated resident population. Assumed net migration is the difference between estimated total population change and natural increase over the same time.

In Queensland, in the year ending June 2004, both natural increase and net migration made a positive contribution to population growth, as was the case in Western Australia and Tasmania. In contrast, Australia’s remaining states and territories experienced population losses due to interstate movement. In Queensland, about 70% of population growth was from net migration (more than 56,500 people).

Both the south east corner of the State and regional Queensland gained population from the two components of change, but regional areas grew less from migration than from natural increase. Less than 19% of the net migration gain in Queensland was in regional areas outside SEQ, while almost 35% of Queensland’s natural increase occurred outside SEQ (Appendix B).

In the 10 years to June 2004, the WBB Region’s population increased from 214,031 in June 1994 to 250,503 in June 2004, an average annual increase of 1.6% (Table 1). Assumed net migration was positive each year throughout the 10-year period. Migration contributed 71% of the population growth in the 10 years to June 2004, with the remaining 29% of the growth from natural increase. Assumed net migration was also larger in both the year to June 2003 (4,360 people) and the year to June 2004 (4,904) than any of the previous eight years.
Natural increase declined by more than 40% over the 10 years to 2004. Smaller family sizes and the ageing of the population in Queensland were directly related to this trend. The decline in the WBB Region (40.7%) was, however, faster than in all of Queensland (5.4%) over the 10-year period. In the 10 years to June 2004, the number of births declined by 8.2% from 3,046 to 2,748, while the number of deaths increased 15.7% from 1,775 to 1,996.

As a result of fluctuating net migration and declining natural increase the proportional contribution of natural increase to population growth varied considerably over the 10 years to 2004. The WBB Region experienced a declining contribution from assumed net migration during the mid and late 1990s. During the late 1990s more than half of population growth was attributed to natural increase (Figure 5). In the last two years, the contribution from natural increase to population growth was lower (less than 14%) than any of the previous eight years. Assumed net migration in the year ending June 2004 (4,904 people or 86.7% of growth) was significantly larger than the 10-year average of 2,606 people or 71.5% (Table 1).
Table 1: Natural increase, assumed net migration and total population change, WBB Region, years ending 30 June 1995 to 2004

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0, and unpublished data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year to 30 June</th>
<th>Natural increase no.</th>
<th>Assumed net migration no.</th>
<th>Total population change no.</th>
<th>Natural increase %</th>
<th>Assumed net migration %</th>
<th>Total population change %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>1,271</td>
<td>4,241</td>
<td>5,512</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>76.9</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1,486</td>
<td>3,256</td>
<td>4,742</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>1,305</td>
<td>1,613</td>
<td>2,918</td>
<td>44.7</td>
<td>55.3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>1,238</td>
<td>1,047</td>
<td>2,285</td>
<td>54.2</td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>1,063</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>1,906</td>
<td>55.8</td>
<td>44.2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>976</td>
<td>944</td>
<td>1,920</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>967</td>
<td>2,211</td>
<td>3,178</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>69.6</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>2,644</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 (r)</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>4,360</td>
<td>4,855</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>89.8</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 (p)</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>4,904</td>
<td>5,656</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>86.7</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10 year average 1,041  2,606  3,647  28.5  71.5  100.0

(p) preliminary
(r) revised
Local population trends

Outside SEQ, the LGAs with the largest growth were the major cities along the coast and many coastal shires. Toowoomba City was the only non-coastal LGA in the top 10 in the year to June 2004 (Figure 6). Both Cairns City and Hervey Bay City had population growth of more than 2,600 people. In Cairns, this growth was slightly lower than the year to June 2003. In contrast, Hervey Bay City had higher population growth in the year to June 2004 (2,639) than in the year to June 2003 (2,284). Population growth in Cairns City declined from 2,950 to 2,804 over the same period.

Outside SEQ, three LGAs in the WBB Region were among the top 10 with the largest population growth. Hervey Bay City was second, Cooloola Shire sixth and Burnett Shire seventh in the ranking of regional LGAs with the largest population growth. Both Hervey Bay City and Cooloola Shire had increasing population growth each year since 2001, while Burnett Shire showed a smaller population growth in the year to June 2004. The combined population growth of these three WBB LGAs in the year to June 2004 was more than 4,200 people. This was a larger amount of growth than that estimated for either Cairns City or the cities of Townsville and Thuringowa combined.

Refer to Appendix A 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 2004.
Population growth in the WBB Region was 5,656 people in the year to June 2004. This growth was slightly higher than in the year to June 2003 (4,855 people), and more than twice the average annual gain in the five years to June 2001 (2,441 people). The WBB Region’s population growth in the year ending June 2004 was 132% above the average annual growth during the five years ending June 2001. This was a much larger increase of population growth than for Queensland as a whole, which was almost 40% higher in the year to June 2004 than in the five years to 2001.

Population growth in the WBB Region was very large in Hervey Bay City, with 2,639 people in the year ending June 2004. Bundaberg City and the surrounding Shire of Burnett also had significant population growth, but their combined total increase of just over 1,000 people was still less than that estimated for Hervey Bay City (Figure 7). Cooloola Shire covers the inland centre of Gympie, and the coastal towns of Tin Can Bay and Rainbow Beach. Both Hervey Bay City and Cooloola Shire showed continuously increasing average annual population growth over recent years, while Burnett Shire had a peak in the year to June 2003 and Bundaberg City peaked in the year to June 2002. Most of the population growth for the year ending June 2004 in the WBB Region (82.4%) occurred in these four LGAs (Table 2). The other 18 LGAs in the Region had population growth of less than 1,000 people combined (17.6% of the Regions total population growth).

Figure 7: Average annual population change, Hervey Bay and Bundaberg cities and Burnett and Cooloola shires

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat. No. 3218.0
Apart from the four LGAs with the largest growth, eight LGAs within the WBB Region grew by 50 people or more in the year to June 2004 (Figure 8). The other 10 LGAs within the WBB Region showed population growth or decline of less than 50 people in the year to June 2004. Miriam Vale Shire had the fifth largest population growth in the WBB Region in the year to June 2004 (291 people). Isis Shire also had a continuously increasing population growth, and the Shire’s population growth almost matched that of Kingaroy Shire in the year to June 2004. Population growth in Maryborough City was down by more than half compared with the peak in the year to June 2003.

In the year ending 30 June 2004 the WBB Region had the fastest growing LGAs in Queensland. Miriam Vale Shire had the fastest annual growth rate among Queensland LGAs (6%), and Hervey Bay City the second fastest growth rate (5.6%). Burnett Shire, Cooloola Shire and Isis Shire were also among the top 29 LGAs in Queensland with a growth rate of 2.0% or above. The population growth in Bundaberg City represented an annual growth rate of 1.0%, while the Shires of Woocoo, Tiaro, Kingaroy and Wondai presented growth rates between one and two per cent in the year ending June 2004.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Growth Rate</th>
<th>Queensland LGAs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0% or above</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;0.5% and &lt;2.0%</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;-0.5% and &lt;0.5%</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than -0.5%</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) The ABS was unable to estimate population change for the 32 ICs and ACs between 30 June 2002 and 30 June 2004. These populations have been held constant (no growth or decline), and these LGAs are not included in the table.
In the three-year period to June 2004, 18 of the 22 LGAs in the WBB Region had population growth. Hervey Bay City had the largest average annual growth of more than 2,000 people (Figure 9). Significant population growth, of more than 100 people per year also occurred in the Cities of Bundaberg (417) and Maryborough (157), the coastal Shires of Miriam Vale (210), Burnett (667) and Cooloola (658), and the rural Shire of Kingaroy (165). Of the 18 LGAs with positive growth, Perry Shire accounted for the smallest average annual growth, reaching an estimated resident population of 437 in June 2004, and it no longer had the smallest population among shires in Queensland. Although Kolan and Monto Shires showed population decline, it was at a rate of less than 40 people per year.

Figure 9: Average annual population change, LGAs in the WBB Region, 3 years to June 2004

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0

(p) preliminary
### Table 2: Estimated resident population and average annual population change, LGAs in the WBB Region

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Cat No 3218.0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>Average annual population change</th>
<th>Estimated resident population at 30 June 2004(p)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 years to June 2001</td>
<td>Year to June 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biggenden (S)</td>
<td>-17</td>
<td>-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundaberg (C)</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnett (S)</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherbourg (AC)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooloola (S)</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eidsvold (S)</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gayndah (S)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hervey Bay (C)</td>
<td>898</td>
<td>1150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isis (S)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilkivan (S)</td>
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<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingaroy (S)</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolan (S)</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryborough (C)</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miriam Vale (S)</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monto (S)</td>
<td>-74</td>
<td>-38</td>
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<td>Mundubbera (S)</td>
<td>-27</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murgon (S)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>34</td>
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<td>Nanango (S)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perry (S)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiaro (S)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wondai (S)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woocoo (S)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WBB Region</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Queensland</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(p) = preliminary  
n.a. = not applicable (The ABS was unable to estimate population change for the 32 ICs and ACs between 30 June 2002 and 30 June 2004. The ABS held the population estimates constant.)
Patterns of job and labour force containment

This section analyses job self-sufficiency of LGAs in Queensland by measuring, for each LGA, the proportion of jobs occupied by their own residents (job containment), and the proportion of the labour force working in the home LGA (labour force containment). People often work in a different location from where they live, which requires commuting to work daily. The Census of Population and Housing captures data on these moves by asking where people lived and worked on Census day. Part of peoples’ daily commuting was across the local government boundaries in Queensland.

An examination of data for Queensland LGAs showed that in 2001, at least 22% of labour force participants worked in a different shire or city from where they lived. A further analysis of measures for job containment (the proportion of jobs occupied by residents of the same LGA) and labour force containment (the proportion of an LGA’s labour force having their work place in the same LGA) shows spatial variations throughout Queensland.

Employers in LGAs in the WBB Region were slightly better at providing jobs for their own residents than in other parts of Queensland. On average, the WBB Region had higher job containment (78.0%) than Queensland as a whole (74.7%). The average labour force containment in the WBB Region (55.8%) was only slightly higher than the State average (55.1%) at the 2001 Census.

Job containment

Regional areas, outside SEQ, showed generally higher job containment within LGAs, while areas around the capital city had low job containment. In SEQ, LGAs surrounding Brisbane provided many of the workers for the capital city. These SEQ LGAs, such as Redcliffe City, Logan City and Pine Rivers Shire, had low levels of job containment of less than 70%. Many people crossed LGA boundaries when they commuted to work in the LGAs in SEQ.

In contrast, the local labour force performed most of the jobs in many regional LGAs (high job containment). In Cairns, Hervey Bay, Mount Isa and Mackay Cities and the Queensland Shires of Hinchinbrook, Aurukun, Burdekin, Mornington, Whitsunday, Monto, Warwick and Banana, local residents occupied more than 90% of the jobs in 2001. Queensland’s predominantly rural areas had, in general, higher job containment measures.
Monto (92.0%) recorded the seventh highest job containment in the State, and Hervey Bay City (91.9%) recorded the eighth highest job containment among the LGAs in Queensland. Job containment figures exceeded the State average of around 75% in 12 of the 21 LGAs in the WBB Region in 2001 (Figure 10).

Conversely, nine LGAs experienced lower job containment than the Queensland average in 2001. Job containment was lowest in rural Biggenden Shire (62.9%), but the cities of Bundaberg (69.5%) and Maryborough (72.7%) also recorded low job containment. For example, of 8,452 jobs in Maryborough City outsiders performed 2,305 of these jobs on the census day. This compares to just 640 outsiders working in Hervey Bay City out of a total 7,936 jobs in the City. More than 1,100 of the journeys to work in Maryborough City were actually from Hervey Bay City, while commuting in the other direction was less common (327). Low job containment in Maryborough City was likely due to its role as a regional centre and the proximity of a large resident labour force in nearby LGAs, such as Hervey Bay City and Woocoo Shire.

The WBB Region as a whole had a high level of job containment. People living in the same LGA as they worked performed 50,948 jobs of the 65,281 jobs available (78.0%) in the WBB Region.
Labour force containment

In Queensland 930,000 people reported that they worked in the same LGA in which they were resident. This means that 55% of the total labour force worked in their home LGA (i.e. location of usual residence). About 368,500 people in the labour force (22%) reported that they travelled to work to another LGA in Queensland, while others did not go to work, were unemployed or travelled to work in other locations.

Regional and remote shires generally displayed high labour force containment measures. For example, in Aurukun and Torres Shires more than 80% of the local labour force worked in the home LGA. The lowest labour force containment measures were for dormitory LGAs that surrounded major cities. Apart from a few LGAs close to regional centres, such as Fitzroy Shire and Thuringowa City, most LGAs with low labour force containment were in and around SEQ in 2001.

Figure 11: Labour force containment(1), Local Government Areas in the WBB Region(2), 2001

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing 2001, Unpublished data

(i) Labour force containment here represents the proportion of a LGA’s labour force having their workplace in the same LGA.
(2) The data excludes Cherbourg (AC).
Out of a total labour force of 91,234 people in the WBB Region, 50,948 people (55.8%) worked within their home LGA in 2001. Of the 21 LGAs in the WBB Region, 12 LGAs had labour force containment figures that exceeded the State average of around 55%. Mundubbera Shire (77.9%) and Gayndah Shire (77.8%) had the highest labour force containment of the WBB Region LGAs in 2001, with almost eight out of 10 people in the labour force working within their home shire (Figure 11). These high labour force containment figures put these two LGAs among the top 10 in Queensland. In, for example, Gayndah Shire 1,102 people, out of its labour force of 1,417 people, worked within the Shire at the 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Conversely, Burnett Shire (21.3%) and Woocoo Shire (19.4%) experienced much lower labour force containment than the Queensland average in 2001. In Burnett Shire, only around 2,070 people of almost 9,700 in the labour force worked within the LGA. Similarly, in Woocoo Shire less than one in five of the residents in the Shire that worked on Census day 2001 remained in the Shire to work. Most commuters from Burnett Shire worked in Bundaberg City (85.5%), and most commuters from Woocoo Shire worked in Maryborough City (84.0%). In Hervey Bay City only about half (50.2%) of the resident labour force worked in the City. About two in five of the commuters in Hervey Bay City who crossed LGA boundaries worked in Maryborough City. The proximity of employment opportunities in an urban centre is a key reason for the low labour force containment figures in these LGAs.
Dwelling activity

Dwelling approvals for the WBB Region were down 6.6% on the previous year, with a total of 3,177 detached and attached dwellings approved in the year to June 2005 compared to 3,402 dwellings approved in the year to June 2004. However, the number of dwellings approved in the year to June 2005 was 22.3% higher than the annual average for the three years ending June 2004 (2,597 dwellings per year).

In the past four years, dwelling approvals in the WBB Region recovered from the lower levels in the late 1990s, and the decline in 2000 and 2001 (Figure 12). The number of dwellings approved declined by 59.1% over four quarters, between March quarter 2000 (543 dwellings) and March quarter 2001 (222 dwellings). Conversely, the dwellings approved increased threefold from March quarter 2001 (222 dwellings) to December quarter 2003 (908 dwellings). Building activity in the WBB Region, measured by residential dwelling approvals, eased off slightly during the period between December quarter 2003 and June quarter 2005. However, more dwellings were approved in each of the quarters during this period than during any of the quarters in the five years to June 2001. In the year ending June 2005, there were 2,491 separate houses, 358 townhouses, 190 low-rise units and 138 high-rise units approved in the WBB Region (Table 3).

### Table 3: Dwelling approvals by type, 1996 to 2005, WBB Region

Source: ABS, unpublished data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual average, 5 years to June 2001</th>
<th>Annual average, 3 years to June 2004</th>
<th>One year to June 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>no.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>no.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separate houses</td>
<td>1,459</td>
<td>87.6</td>
<td>2,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townhouses</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-rise units</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-rise units</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total approvals</td>
<td>1,666</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>2,597</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2005, separate houses continued to be the most common dwelling type approved for construction in the WBB Region. Accordingly, separate houses accounted for over three-quarters (78.4%) of all dwellings approved in the year to June 2005. The number of separate houses approved increased by 14.0% in the year to June 2005 compared with the annual average during the three years to June 2004. The market for separate houses recovered in late 2003 and into the first half of 2004, from the low levels (less than 500 approvals per quarter) between 1998 and 2002, to an average of more than 700 approvals in the four quarters to June 2004. In the year to June 2005, dwelling activity in separate houses remained high with between 570 and 660 houses approved each quarter.

Approvals for other types of dwellings increased, and the proportions of approvals attributed to townhouses, low-rise units and high-rise units increased slightly over the nine-year period. Other dwellings accounted for less than 16% in the eight years since mid 1996 to mid 2004. In the year to June 2005, townhouses, low-rise units and high-rise units made up 21.6% of the total number of dwelling approved in the WBB Region (Table 3).

Townhouses made up 11.3% (358 dwellings) of all dwellings approved (3,177) in the year to June 2005, similar to 10.3% (an average of 268 dwellings annually) across the three years to June 2004. Approvals for low-rise units increased to 6.0% (190 units) of all dwellings approved in the year to June 2005, up from 3.1% (81 units) in the three years to June 2004. High-rise units accounted for only 4.3% (138 units approved) of dwellings approved in the year to June 2005. However, annual numbers fluctuate significantly for this type of dwelling, with no high-rise dwellings approved in several quarters since 1996, and peaks of more than 100 units approved in the June 2002 and December 2004 quarters (Figure 12).
Of the LGAs within the WBB Region, Hervey Bay City accounted for more than one-third of all dwelling approvals (34.5% or 1,096 dwellings approved) in the year to June 2005. The LGAs of Hervey Bay City, Bundaberg City, Burnett Shire, Cooloola Shire and Miriam Vale Shire together accounted for more than three quarters of dwelling approvals (76.6% of dwelling approved in the 22 LGAs). These five LGAs had an even larger share of approvals for other dwellings (excluding separate houses) with 94.2% of these types of dwellings (Table 4).

In the year to June 2005, approvals for houses in Hervey Bay City (839) were similar to the annual average in the three years to June 2004 (837). Approvals for other dwellings were up more than 50% to 257 dwellings in the year to June 2005. The number of other dwellings approved in the WBB Region as a whole was also significantly higher (67%) than the average in the three years to June 2004.

Across the WBB Region, the number of dwellings approved increased in the four-year period to June 2005. Many LGAs had more than double the number of dwellings approved in the end of the period than in the beginning of the period. The Shires of Kolan, Monto and Mundubbera were among the few areas in the Region that did not present signs of increased dwelling activity in the dwelling approvals statistics to June 2005.
## Table 4: Dwellings approved by location per year, 1996 to 2005, WBB Region

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, unpublished data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>Annual average, 5 years to June 2001</th>
<th>Annual average, 3 years to June 2004</th>
<th>One year to June 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Houses(^{(1)})</td>
<td>Other(^{(2)})</td>
<td>Houses(^{(1)})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biggenden (S)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundaberg (C)</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnett (S)</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherbourg (AC)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooloola (S)</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eidsvold (S)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gayndah (S)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hervey Bay (C)</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isis (S)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilkivan (S)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingaroy (S)</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolan (S)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryborough (C)</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miriam Vale (S)</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monto (S)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mundubbera (S)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murgon (S)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanango (S)</td>
<td>47</td>
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<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry (S)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiaro (S)</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wondai (S)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woocoo (S)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total approved**: 1,459 \(\text{Houses}^{(1)}\) 207 \(\text{Other}^{(2)}\) 2,186 \(\text{Houses}^{(1)}\) 411 \(\text{Other}^{(2)}\) 2,491 \(\text{Houses}^{(1)}\) 686 \(\text{Other}^{(2)}\)

n.a. = not applicable

\(^{(1)}\) Includes separate house, kit house, transportable house

\(^{(2)}\) Includes low-rise, high-rise, townhouses and all other attached dwellings
More detail on these topics is available from the Planning Information and Forecasting Unit

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- residential building activity
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