



State of Australian Cities 2013

Brisbane



Population and Settlement

- Brisbane's population grew by 12.1% between 2006 and 2011, to 2,065,996 with Brisbane remaining the third largest city in Australia by population.
- Between 2011 and 2012 the population of Brisbane grew by 2.0%, slightly higher than average for Australia's capital cities (1.8%) and higher than for the remainder of Australia (1.2%).
- In 2010–11, Brisbane had a negative rate of net internal migration with 825 more domestic migrants leaving the city for other parts of Australia than arriving from other parts of Australia; growth still occurred between 2010–11 due to births (30,235) significantly exceeding deaths (11,568) and international migration.
- International education has grown to become Australia's fourth largest export industry. Brisbane has the third highest international student population of the major cities. In Brisbane there were 35,569 international higher education students enrolled in the vocational education and training and higher sectors in 2011, 1.7% of the city's population. It is estimated that international students in higher education, vocational and English language courses spend an average of \$42,531 per annum while studying in Australia.

Productivity

- In Brisbane in 2011, 81.9% of employed men worked full-time in 2011, up from 79.7% in 2001, and slightly above the national average of 81.7%. The proportion of employed women in full-time employment (55.5%) is higher than in 2001 (52.5%) and was above the national average of 53.0%.
- The mining sector's contribution to Gross Regional Product in Brisbane was almost equal to the amount that the mining sector contributed to Gross Regional Product in the rest of Queensland (\$24,125 million versus \$24,250 million in 2012).
- In 2011 Brisbane had approximately 7% of Australia's mining sector employees residing in the city and the fifth largest number of people who work in the mining sector (10,229) of any Australian town or city.
- In 2011 overall 74.5% of Brisbane residents travelled to work by private vehicle and 15% by mass transit. All areas of Brisbane see more private vehicle use for the purposes of travel to work than other modes. However, this ranges from a dominant 82.7% of trips in the outer suburbs to 46.4% of trips in inner suburbs.
- Mass transit use for travel to work in 2011 was highest in Brisbane's inner suburbs, accounting for almost a quarter of all trips (23.1%) and lowest in Brisbane's outer suburbs accounting for less than one tenth of all trips (9.2%).
- Average incomes for users of mass transit in Brisbane are about 10% higher than those who travel by private vehicle. In Brisbane 54% of mass transit users earn more than \$52,000 per year and almost 20% of mass transit users in Brisbane earn more than \$104,000 per year.

- The Night Time Economy in Australia has been valued at \$92 billion and employed approximately 8.4% of all Australian employees in 2011 – an increase of 6.9% since 2009. Brisbane’s LGA has seen the largest growth in the Night Time Economy of all the capital city LGAs.

Sustainability

- Across the 1300 square kilometres of Brisbane’s local government area, 51% is covered by tree canopy, with the average Brisbane residential suburb having 31% tree canopy cover.
- Brisbane has the highest biodiversity of all the major capital cities in Australia with the city’s natural areas, waterway corridors and private outer urban areas supporting over 2,500 flora species and 550 vertebrate fauna species.

Liveability

- Brisbane has been rated as more liveable in 2012 than in 2011 and 2010, although ranking 6th, in the Property Council’s Liveability Index of 11 of Australia’s major cities. The survey is one of a number of efforts to measure wellbeing and quality of life in cities using more than simply economic factors. Across the 11 cities, participants rated safety, cost of living, health, employment and quality of the environment as the most important attributes for liveability.
- The proportion of Brisbane’s population aged 65 and over is 11.1%, compared to the national average of 13.3%. In line with national trends, this age group is projected to nearly double by 2056.
- On reported numbers, 21% of young people aged between 15 and 19 years in Brisbane are not in education or employment, this is higher than both the capital city average of 17.7% and the national average of 19.9%.
- Low-income households whose housing costs take up more than 30% of household income are regarded as experiencing housing stress. In Brisbane in 2011, 24.5% of low income private rental households, and 8.5% of low income mortgaged households, were in housing stress.
- Homelessness is a complex social challenge and an extreme form of housing insecurity, social disadvantage and social exclusion. Brisbane had an estimated homeless population of 7,299 in 2011, approximately 0.35% of the population.
- Active travel can improve liveability in cities by increasing health and wellbeing and reducing traffic congestion. In 2011, 4.7% of Brisbane commuters walked or cycled to work.
- Active travel for commutes to work is increasing in Brisbane’s inner suburbs and decreasing in Brisbane’s outer suburbs. In the inner suburbs 20.7% of people walk to work, an increase of 6.8% since 2001. In outer suburbs 1.9% of people walked to work, a decrease of 0.1% since 2001, while in the inner suburbs 3.8% of people cycled to work, an increase of 0.9%. In outer suburbs 0.5% of people cycle to work, a decrease of 0.1% during this period.
- Brisbane had 4.4 male bicycle commuters for every female bicycle commuter in 2011, above the average ratio of 3.3 male bicycle commuters for every female bicycle commuter across the major cities.

Governance

- The *Brisbane City Plan 2000* directs all building and development in the Brisbane City Council area. This plan was reviewed and approved by the Planning Minister. The Plan is currently under review by Brisbane City Council with anticipated completion in late 2013.