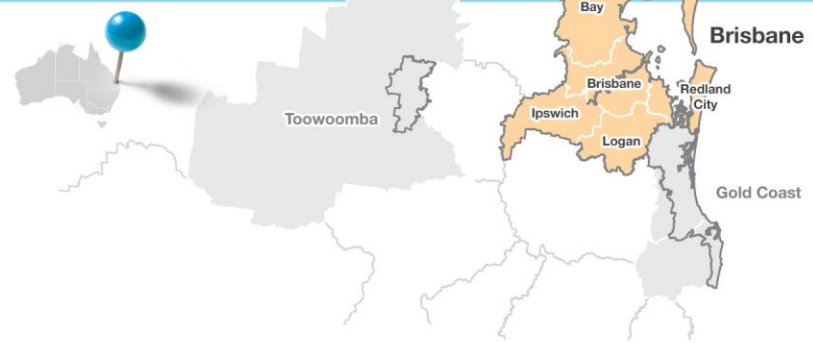




State of Australian Cities 2012

Brisbane



Population and Settlement

- Brisbane's population increased from 1,714,320 in 2001 to 2,146,577 in 2011, a growth rate of 2.3 per cent, well above the national average of 1.5 per cent.
- Brisbane is Australia's third largest city, home to 48 per cent of Queenslanders and 9.6 per cent of Australians.
- Over the five years 2006-11, Brisbane's stock of private dwellings increased by 104,278. With a population increase of 302,864 over the same period, there were 2.9 additional people for each new dwelling constructed. Brisbane's 2011 household occupancy rate was 2.82 people per dwelling, higher than the 2011 average major city occupancy rate of 2.73.
- Of Brisbane's total stock of 790,527 private dwellings in 2011, 7.07 per cent were unoccupied. This is the second lowest rate for any major city behind Sydney and well below the major city average of 9.16 per cent in 2011.
- In the year to March 2012, Brisbane hosted 18.1 million international visitor nights, up from 14 million in 2008. It hosted 16.9 million domestic visitor nights in 2012, up from 15.9 million in 2008, the third highest number for any major city, behind Sydney and Melbourne.

Productivity

- In 2011-12, Brisbane's port handled 12.5 million tonnes of bulk imports and 506,607 containers (TEUs) and 11.4 million tonnes of bulk exports and 499,275 containers.
- In 2011, 16.4 million domestic passengers and 4.5 million international passengers passed through Brisbane Airport. Total passenger movements at Brisbane Airport grew by 4.5 per cent during 2011-12.
- Brisbane has one of the highest labour force participation rates of the major cities at 68.5 per cent, above the major city average of 65.1 per cent. After experiencing one of the strongest growth rates in participation from 2000 to 2008, Brisbane's participation rate has since dropped by about one per cent.
- Brisbane's male labour force participation rate increased by just over one per cent between 2000 and 2012 to 74.7 per cent and its female participation rate rose by 4.5 per cent to 62.5 per cent.

Sustainability

- While the trend for Brisbane's average annual maximum temperature increased slightly between 1952 and 2011, the trend for its average annual minimum temperature decreased slightly.
- Brisbane's average annual rainfall trended down during this time.
- Brisbane is experiencing peak electricity demand issues during heatwaves and consecutive days of higher than normal temperature. The difference in electricity demand that can occur between hot days and cooler days can be as much as 65 per cent. This is mostly attributable to air-conditioner use.

Liveability

- According to the *Australian City Liveability Index* survey of residents in 10 Australian cities:
 - Most Brisbane residents feel their city has 'quality urban design, recreational and cultural opportunities and amenity' (68%) and a 'quality natural environment' (74%).
 - Only 35 per cent of Brisbane residents agree that the city provides 'good transport infrastructure and services', consistent with the views of residents in most capital cities.
- According to the 2012 *AMP NATSEM Income and Wealth Report's* analysis of typical household goods and services, Brisbane is among the most expensive of the capital cities for electricity and other utilities costs.
- Group households comprise 15 per cent of all households living in multi-unit dwellings such as flats, units or apartments in Brisbane, the highest rate of such households in the capital cities.
- A greater proportion of children across all socio-economic groups were reported to be developmentally vulnerable in 'Metropolitan Queensland' (comprising Brisbane, Gold Coast-Tweed and Townsville-Thuringowa) than in other metropolitan areas across Australia in 2009.
- In Brisbane, 75.5 per cent of people travel to work by car and 14.4 per cent by public transport.
- The proportion of people cycling (1.2%) and walking (3.5%) to work is in line with the national average for these modes of transport.

Governance

- The key planning strategy for the greater Brisbane area is the *South East Queensland Regional Plan* which also encompasses the Sunshine Coast, the Gold Coast, Ipswich, Logan and Toowoomba. It is reviewed periodically with the most recent review occurring in 2009 and the next one scheduled for 2013.
- While the South East Queensland Regional Plans inform local-level planning, *the Brisbane City Plan 2000* directs all building and development in the Brisbane City Council area. This plan is under review by Brisbane City Council. The review is anticipated to be completed in 2013.