LGAs of South East Queensland: Toowoomba
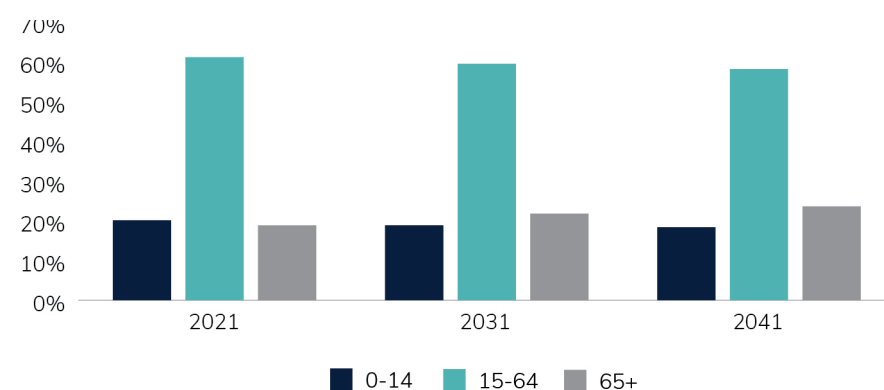
Population

170,356 population in 2020, to increase by **19.9%** to **204,332** in 2041.

By 2041, the 65+ population cohort will make up a greater share of the population than people under the age of 15 (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Toowoomba LGA population projection by age cohort

Legend: ■ 0-14 ■ 15-64 ■ 65+

Source: BCARR analysis of Queensland Government population projections, 2018.

Housing

Dwelling approvals: Accounted for **3.0%** of 12 LGA's new dwelling approvals between 2016 and 2021. **76.9%** of these approvals were new houses.

Housing affordability: In 2016, **5.1%** of households experienced mortgage stress (**12th**), whilst **11.1%** experienced rental stress (**8th**).

Employment

Accounted for **4.7%** of employed persons by LGA of work in 2016 (**6th**).

Largest employing industries: Health care and social assistance (**15.6%**), Retail trade (**11.2%**).

Skills

Occupations: Professionals is the largest occupation (**19.5%**), followed by Clerical and administrative workers (**14.2%**).

Education: 23.9% of the working population has a Bachelor's degree or higher qualification (**4th**).

Transport

- **87.3%** private vehicle (2nd)
- **1.0%** public transport (12th)
- **4.6%** active transport (2nd)
- **6.4%** worked at home (7th)

Connectivity

Average commuting distance for residents of **16.8km**.

88.6% of people work in the same LGA (**highest in SEQ**).

Lowest 45-minute job access, providing employed residents with access to **4.4%** of SEQ jobs in 2019.

Liveability

Social infrastructure measures

- Health infrastructure (3rd)
- Education (2nd)
- Arts and culture (2nd)
- Community and sports (3rd)

7th highest walkability score.

Access to public space is **42.1%**, the **4th lowest** in SEQ in 2018.

Implications

High access to social infrastructure will be attractive to future residents. However, due to the distance from the centre of the SEQ job market, employment opportunities for new residents may be concentrated in the Toowoomba area.

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