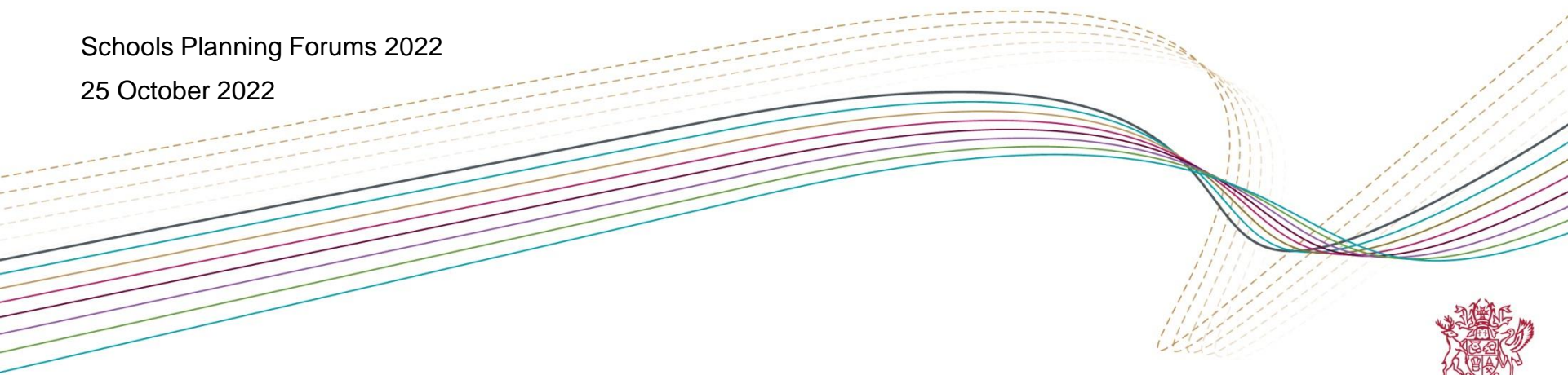


Population change in Qld during COVID

Schools Planning Forums 2022

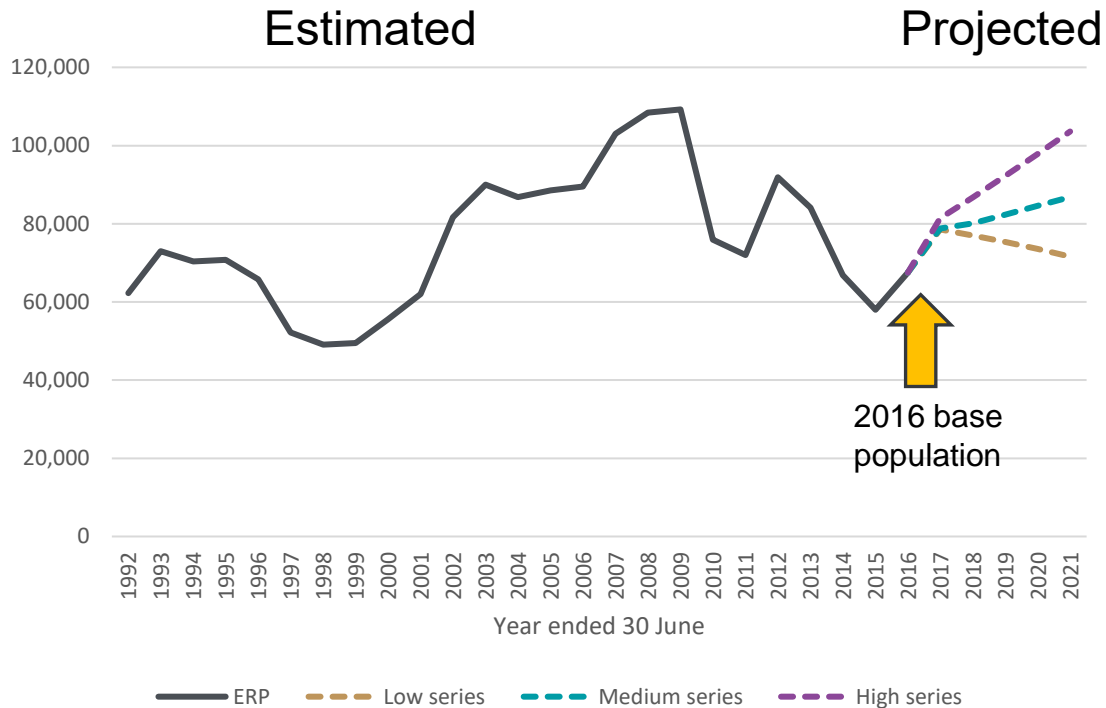
25 October 2022



Presentation summary

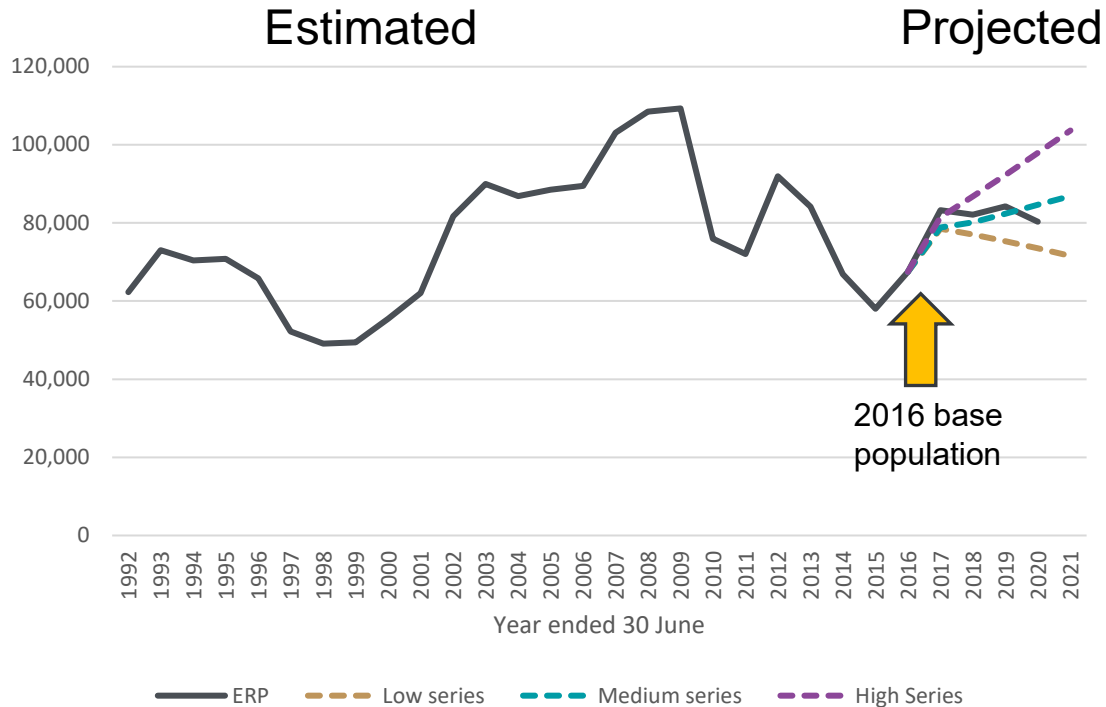
- How different has population change been in **Queensland** during COVID?
 - Comparative analysis of actual and projected population growth
 - Total population change
 - Components of population change
 - School-aged children
- What impacts might this have on the future population?
 - Causal inference
 - COVID and non-COVID factors
 - What implications might these factors have on projecting future populations?

Queensland population – annual change



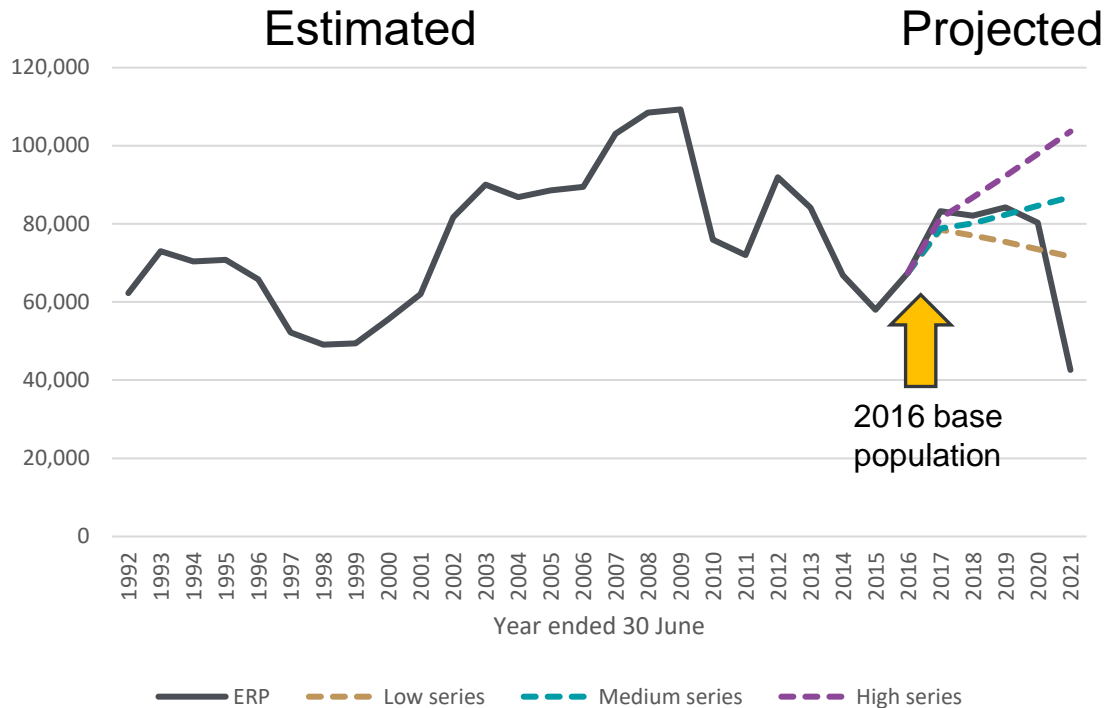
Source: ABS, National, state and territory population; Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition

Queensland population – annual change



Source: ABS, National, state and territory population; Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition

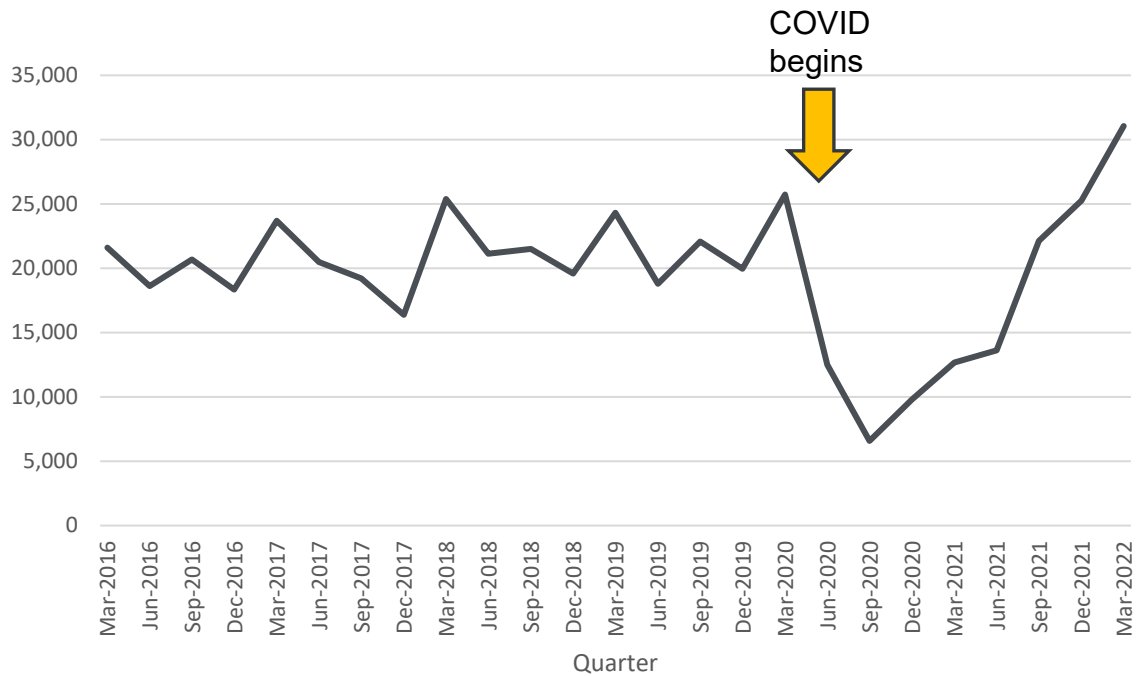
Queensland population – annual change



← ...What actually happened...

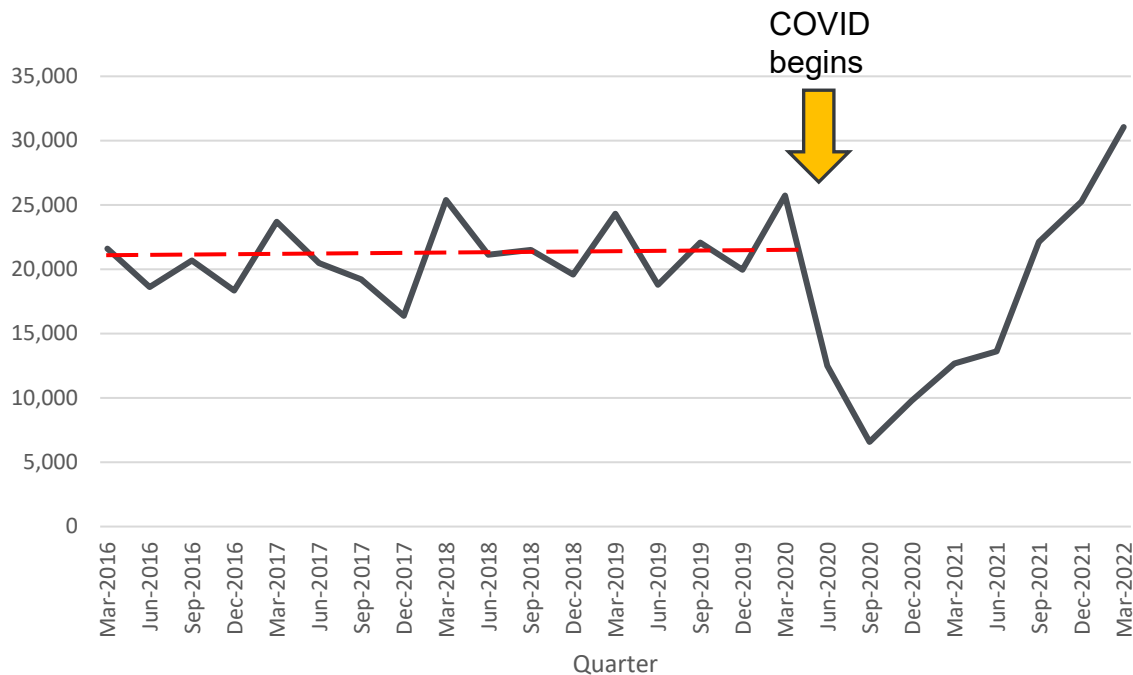
Source: ABS, National, state and territory population; Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition

Queensland population – quarterly change



Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Queensland population – quarterly change



Slower population growth

June qtr 2020 to
June qtr 2021(a)(b)

- – 50,000 persons

Recovering population growth

Sep qtr 2021 to
Mar qtr 2022(a)(b)

- +15,000 persons

Overall difference in
population growth

June qtr 2020 to
Mar qtr 2022(a)(b)

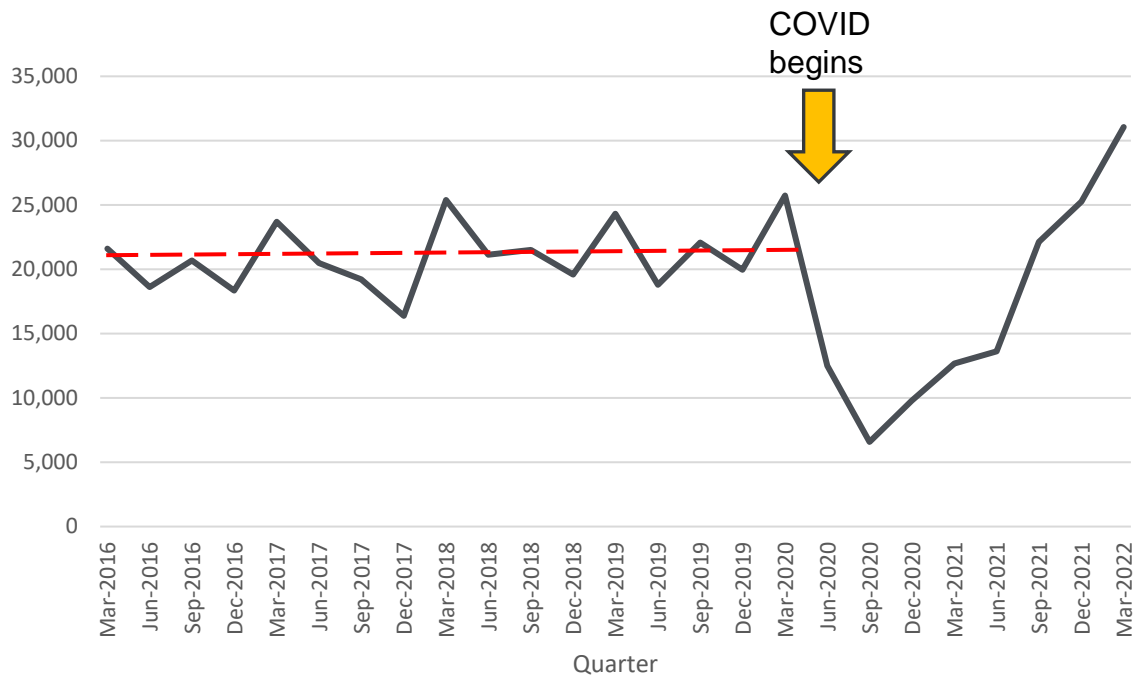
- – **35,000 persons**

(a) Compared with average quarterly population change from March 2016 to March 2020.

(b) Incorporates ABS rebasing of population change between 2016 and 2021.

Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Queensland population – quarterly change



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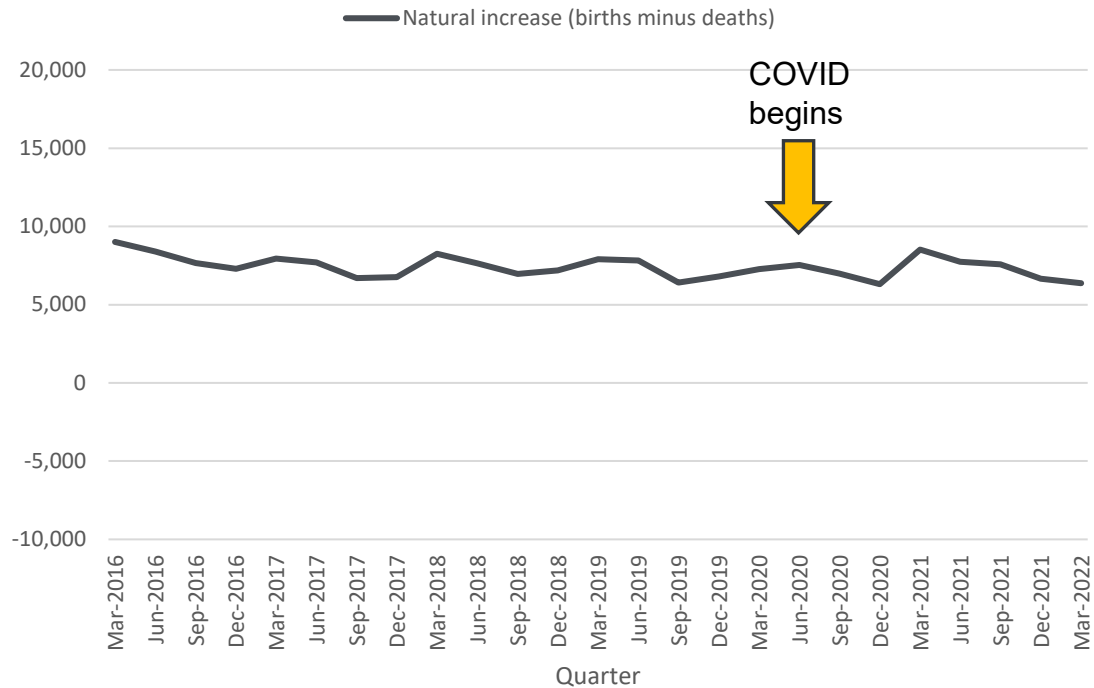
- – **35,000 persons**

(a) Compared with average quarterly population change from March 2016 to March 2020.

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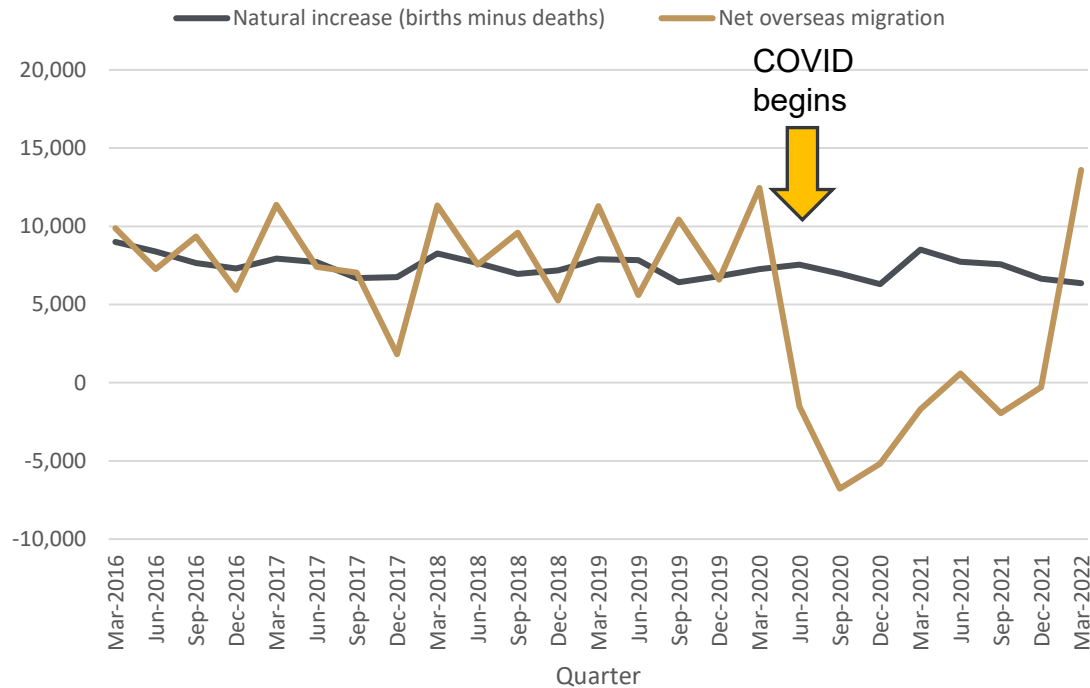
Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Queensland population change: natural increase



Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Queensland population change: NOM

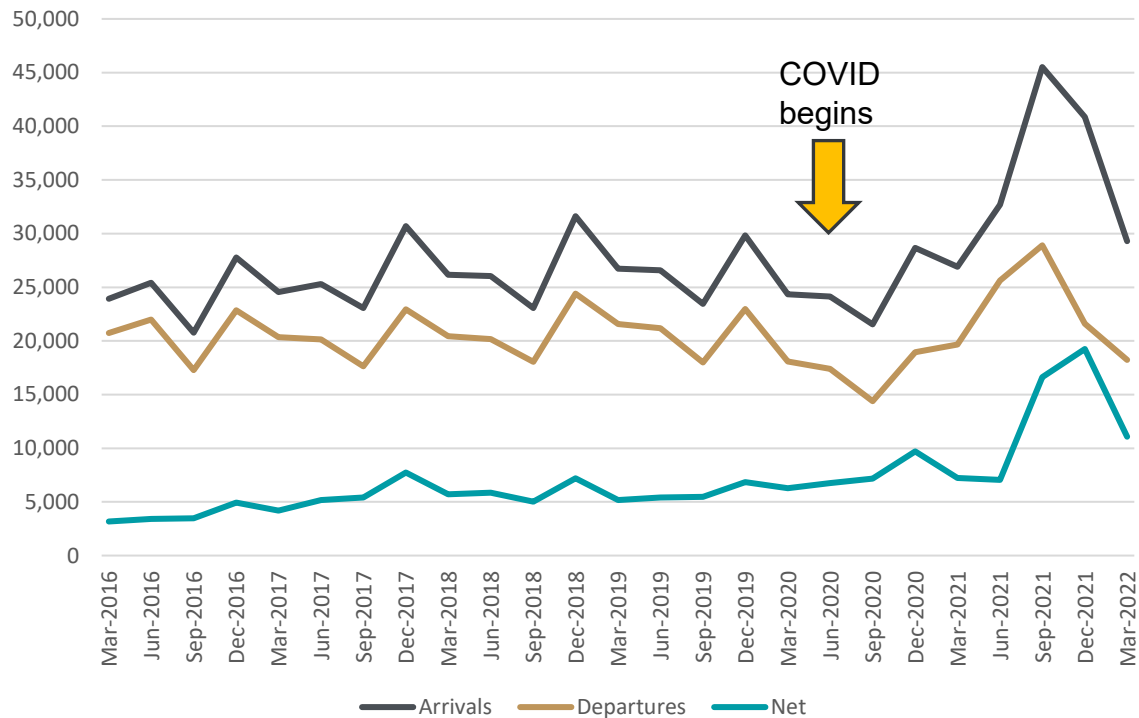


Net overseas migration

- Recovery in March Qtr 2022 following negative quarters during height of COVID

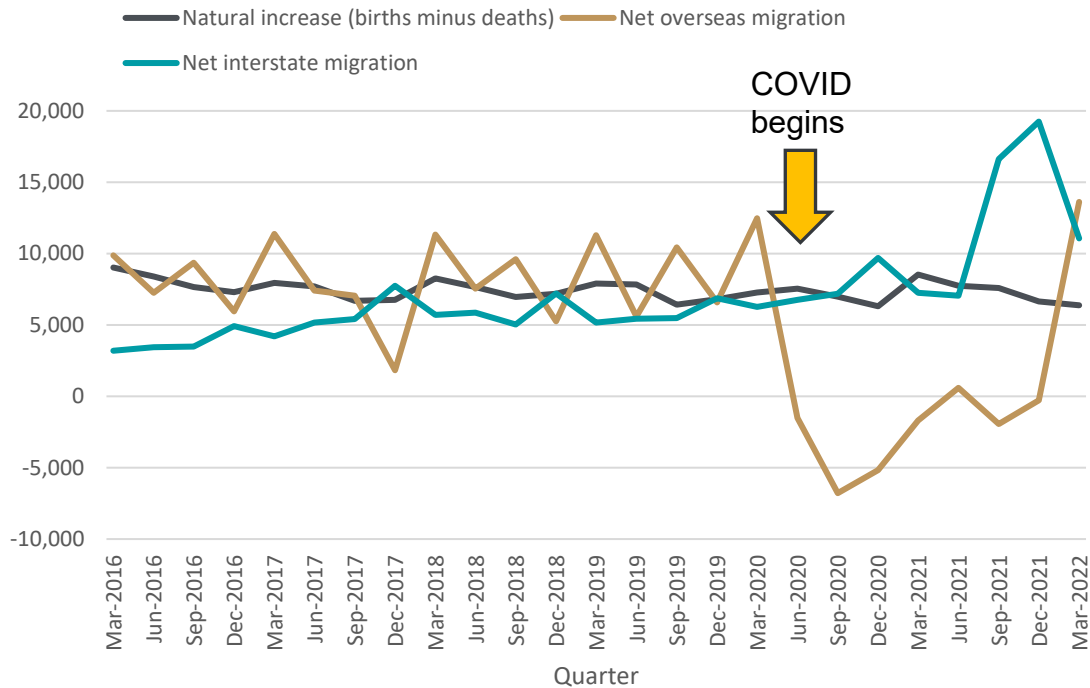
Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Interstate migration



Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Queensland population change: NI, NOM, NIM

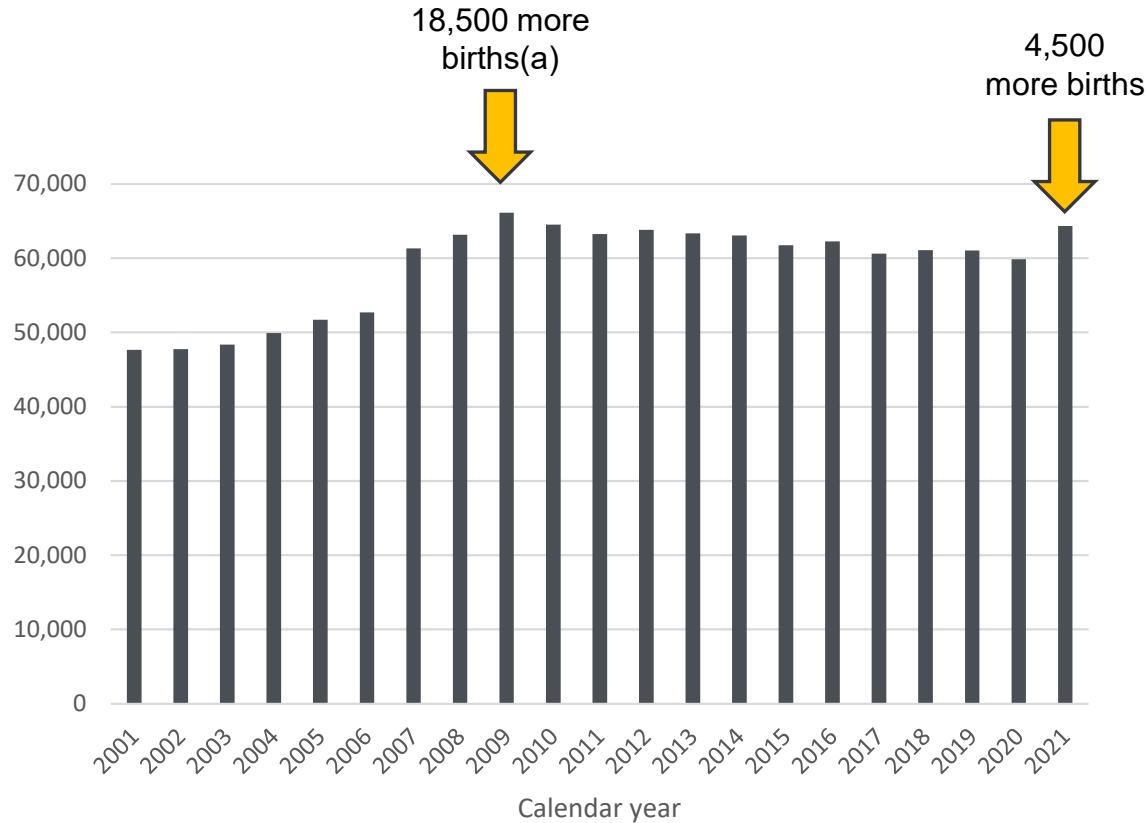


Net interstate migration

- Dec Qtr 2020 figure highest since Dec Qtr 2003
- Sep and Dec quarters 2021 highest on record (since current method commenced in 1981)

Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

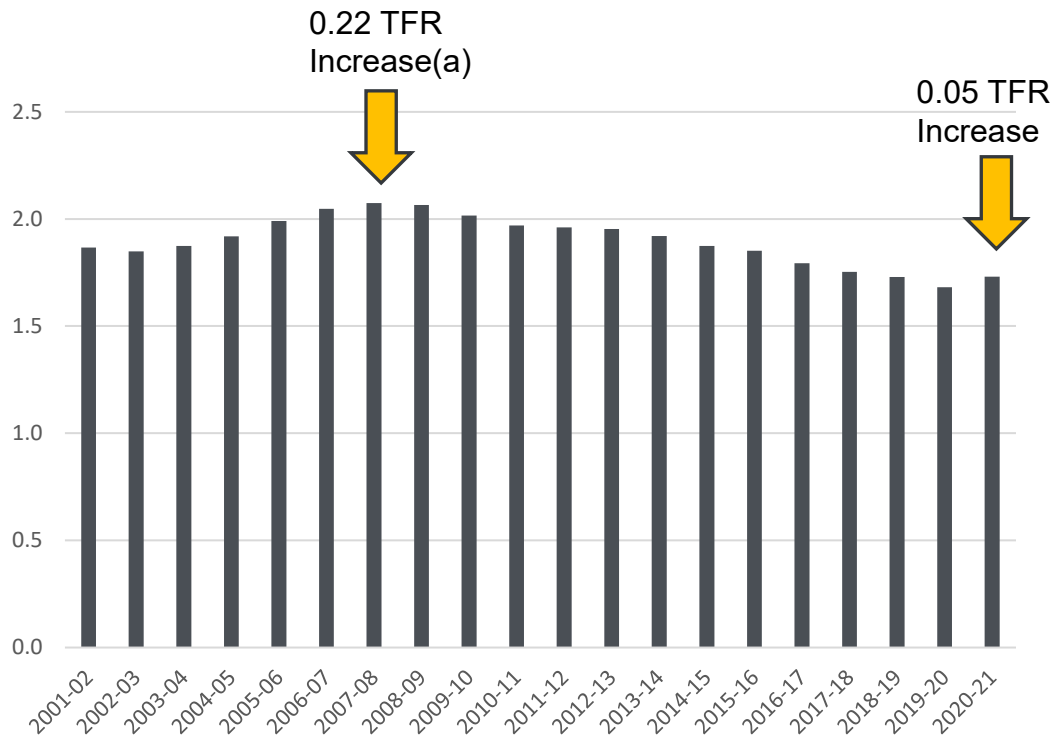
Births, Queensland



Live birth data sourced from Queensland Perinatal Data Collection indicate that recent birth increases may be short lived

(a) Trough to peak (2001–02 to 2008–09)
 Source: ABS, Births, Australia (various issues)

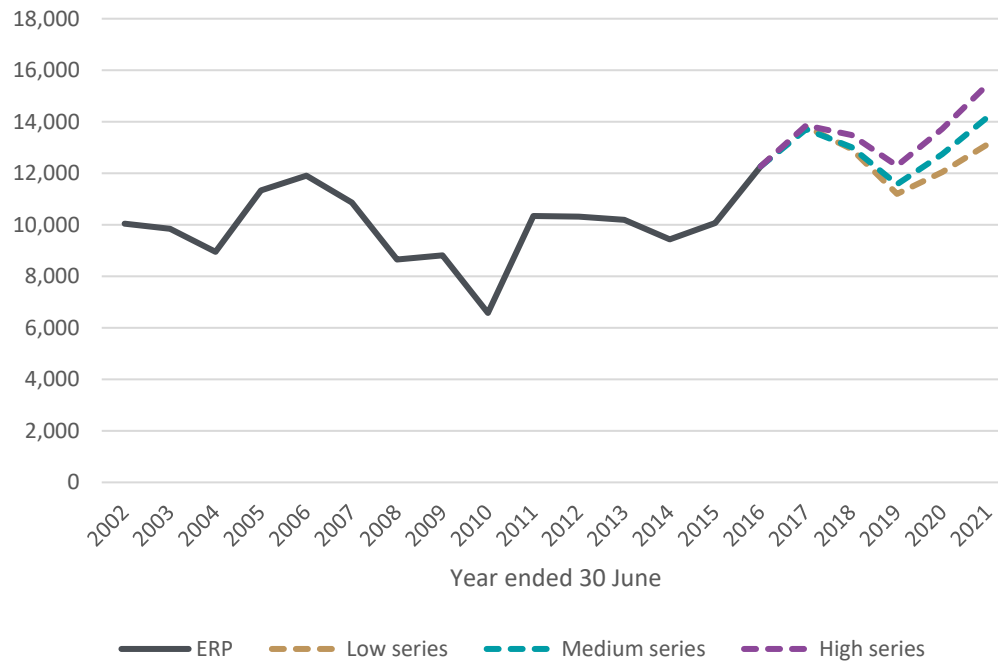
Total fertility rates, Queensland



(a) Trough to peak (2002-03 to 2007-08)

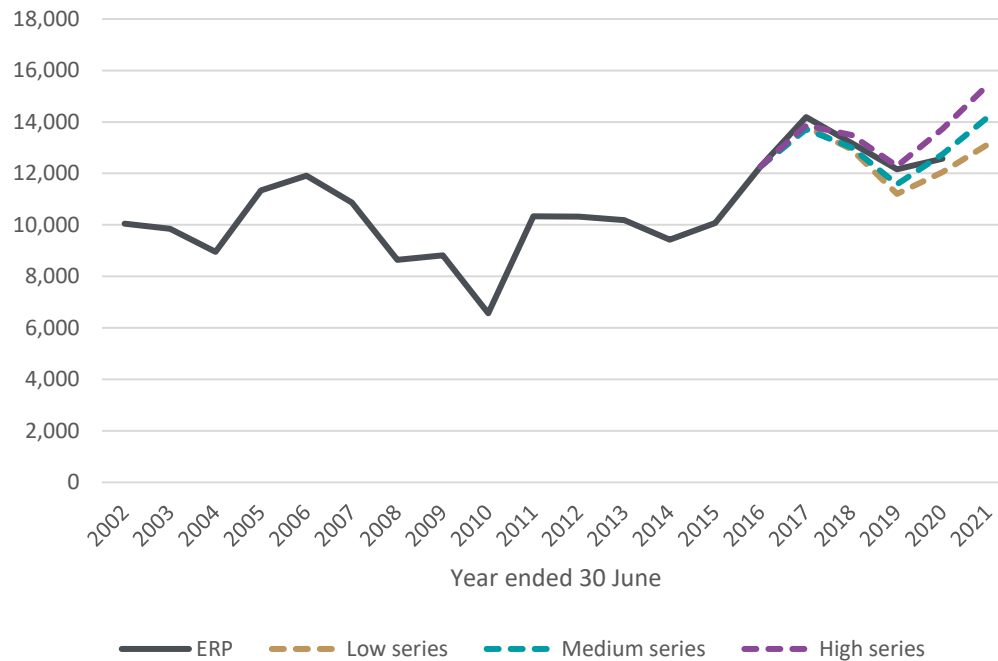
Source: QGSO estimates, based on ABS births data

Queensland population change, 5 to 17 year olds



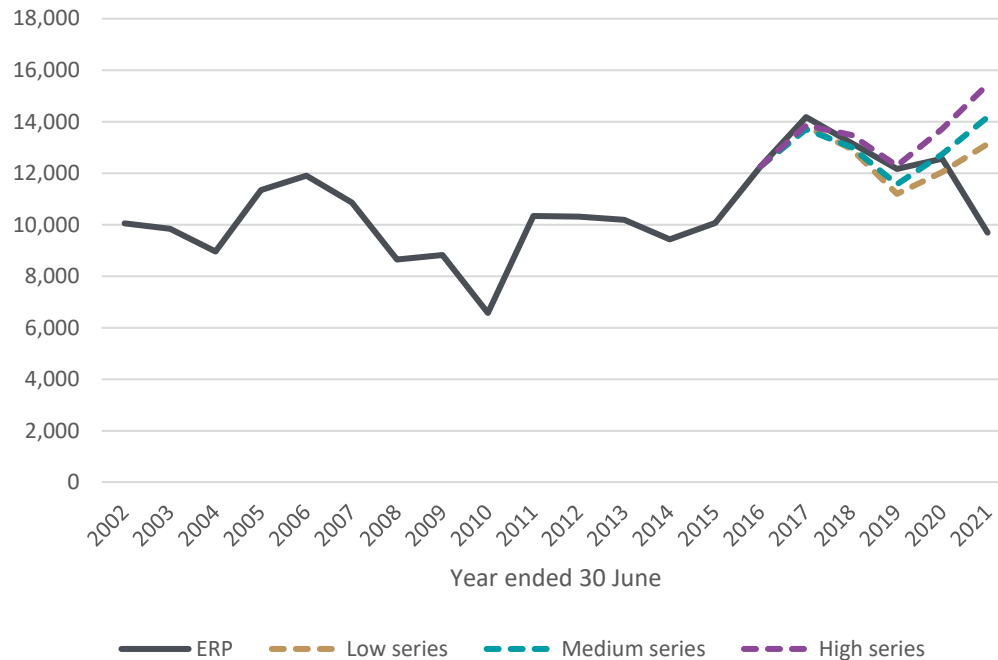
Source: ABS, National, state and territory population; Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition

Queensland population change, 5 to 17 year olds



Source: ABS, National, state and territory population; Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition

Queensland population change, 5 to 17 year olds



Growth in 5-17 year olds in 2020–21 was **4,500 lower** than projected (medium series)

Source: ABS, National, state and territory population; Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition

- Causal inferences
 - COVID (and associated policy measures) will have affected population change
 - Net overseas migration, declines appeared as soon as measures were implemented
 - Net interstate migration, increases appear to align with relative changes to State border restrictions
 - Fertility rates, increases happened 9 months after COVID began (but was contrary to expert opinion)

What impacts might this have on the future population?

- Causal inferences
 - COVID (and associated policy measures) may have created paradigm shifts in personal behaviour and choices
 - There may also have been other unrelated (or related) effects at the same time as COVID
 - Housing affordability, attitudinal changes to place of work (working from home)
 - Increasing competition for global migrants
 - Some of these effects may have been accelerated by COVID

What impacts might this have on the future population?

Effects

- Slower population growth is likely to affect the future total population and its age structure
- There has been **both** faster and slower population growth during COVID in Qld

Order of magnitude

- NOM and NIM have reached record levels since onset of COVID, in Qld
- Population change (growth) has not (greatly) exceeded record levels
 - e.g. Qld population grew by 42,650 persons in 2020–21, compared with 49,067 persons in 1997–98
 - e.g. 4,500 less growth in school-aged children during COVID, compared with 18,500 more births in 2008–09 compared with 2001–02 (baby bounce)

What impacts might this have on the future population?

Implications for projecting future populations

- COVID-only effects are likely to be short lived
- Non-COVID effects or paradigm shifts (caused by COVID) are likely to result in more permanent changes
- Setting projection assumptions becomes more of a challenge

