



Black Ross Water Quality Improvement Plan

Socio-Demographic Profile

June 2009



Acknowledgement

This document was prepared for Creek to Coral as background information for the Black Ross Water Quality Improvement Plan. Creek to Coral gratefully acknowledges the efforts of Julie Cardiff in preparing the document.



Document disclaimer statement



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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Creek to Coral is the manager of the Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI) project for the Black and Ross River Basins and along with its many partners is responsible for the preparation of a Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP).

The Black Ross WQIP area covers most waterways within the Townsville City local government area (LGA) with the exception of the Reid River and Major Creek catchments, which are part of the Haughton River Basin. The WQIP area includes the Black River (No. 17) and Ross River (No. 18) Australian Water Resource Council (AWR) Basins and a small part of the Haughton River Basin (No. 19) where the waterways flow to Cleveland Bay. It also includes Magnetic Island, as well as the coastal and marine waters of Cleveland Bay and Halifax Bay.

1.2 Socio-economic Information for Black Ross WQIP Area

Statistical and descriptive information is not readily available for the overall Black Ross WQIP area so a number of aggregations and desegregations were required to provide a relevant overview.

The demographic overview for the Black Ross Basin is based primarily on the Reform Townsville City LGA, which consists of the now combined Townsville and Thuringowa local government areas. The amalgamated city covers an area of 3,736 square kilometres.

Ten (10) sub-catchments for the Black Ross basin are identified. These are: Alligator Creek; Black River; Bluewater Creek; Bohle River; Lower Ross; Magnetic Island Rollingstone Creek; Stuart Creek and the Upper Ross sub-catchments.

1.2.1 Estimated resident population

In 2005, the base year for the Black Ross WQIP, the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for Townsville stood at 160,220, representing an annual increase of 3.1% from 2004. During the years 2004-2006, Townsville experienced strong population growth, evidenced by a high percentage of average annual change, as shown in Tables 1-1 and 1-2. The rate of growth has tapered slightly since that time.

In March 2009, the Planning Information Forecasting Unit (PIFU) of the Queensland Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP) reported the preliminary estimated resident population of Townsville City Council at 30 June 2007 to be 169,484 people. In the year to June 2007 natural increase (births minus deaths) accounted for an increase of 1,589 people while assumed net migration resulted in a gain of 2,617 people.

Table 1-1, sourced via the Queensland Department of Infrastructure Planning (PIFU), is based on early release 2007 ERP data. The Table shows an increase of 4,206 people or 2.5 per cent over the year to June 2007. This compares with an increase of 5,058 people or 3.2 per cent in the year to June 2006.

Table 1-1 Estimated Resident Population**Early Release - Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for Townsville**

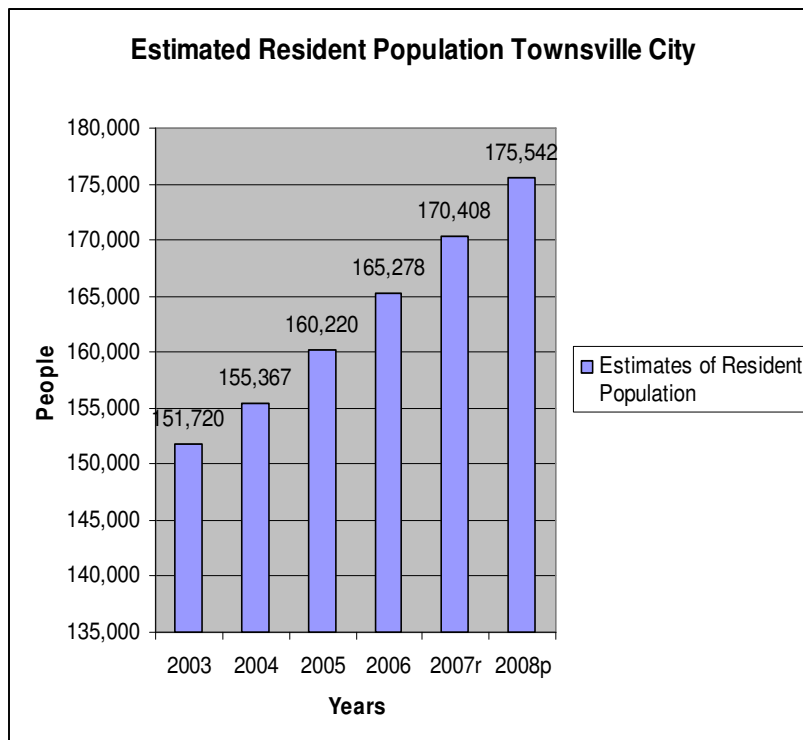
Year at 30-Jun	Est. resident population	Year to 30-Jun	Natural increase	Assumed net migration	Annual change Total	Per cent
2001	144,789	2002	1,264	2,382	3,646	2.5%
2002	148,435	2003	1,383	1,902	3,285	2.2%
2003	151,720	2004	1,249	2,398	3,647	2.4%
2004	155,367	2005	1,434	3,419	4,853	3.1%
2005	160,220	2006	1,554	3,504	5,058	3.2%
2006	165,278	2007	1,589	2,617	4,206	2.5%
2007p	169,484					

Source: ABS Cat Nos: 3218.0 and 3235.3 quoted in the *Population and Housing Fact Sheet* released by the Planning Information Forecasting Unit of the Queensland Department of Infrastructure and Planning, in March 2009.

However most recent release ERP data for 2008 (see Table 1-2) (ABS data, released 23 April 2009) shows stronger growth estimates for the year ending June 2008. As at 30 June 2008, the Estimated Resident Population was 175,542 people, or 4.1% of Queensland's total population.

The annual increase of 5,134 people over the year to June 2008 represents a 3% annual rate of change in population. This compares with an increase of 5130 people or 3.1% for the year to 30 June 2007.

The average annual rate of change in population in the Townsville local government area, between 30 June 2003 and 30 June 2008 was 3%, compared with 2.4% for the State.

Figure 1-1 Estimated Resident Population

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Catalogue Number : 3218.0 - Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2007-08; released 23 April 2009

Table 1-2 April 2009 ERP Data

Year	Number	Year to 30 June	Change	
			Number	Percent
2003	151,720			
2004	155,367	2004	3647	2.40%
2005	160,220	2005	4853	3.10%
2006	165,278	2006	5058	3.20%
2007r	170,408	2007r	5130	3.10%
2008p	175,542	2008p	5134	3.00%
2003-08p			2003-08p	3.00%

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2007-08 (cat. no. 3218.0). The estimates in the above table are final for 2003 to 2006 and revised for 2007 (denoted 2007r) to align with new June 2007 state totals which were released in September 2008 issue of Australian Demographic Statistics (ABS cat. no. 3101.0). Estimates for 2008 are preliminary (and denoted 2008p).

1.3 Selected Medians

The Census of Population and Housing 2006 offers a comprehensive and applicable reference for population characteristics for the Creek to Coral project. While it is possible to use data from the 2001 Census, 2006 data is closer in time to the project base year, and considered to provide a 'better fit'. Selected median data is taken from the 2006 Census, from a specially compiled Basic Community Profile provided by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research, within Queensland Treasury.

1.3.1 Median Age

The 1996 Census indicated a median age for Townsville of 31 years. At the 2006 Census¹, the median age for Townsville increased to 33 years, still significantly younger than the median age for Queensland (36 years) and for Australia (37 years).

In the 2006 Census (held on August 8 2006), 21.7% of the population usually resident in the new Townsville City were children aged between 0 to 14 years, compared with Queensland where 20.7% of the population were aged 0 to 14 years.

In Townsville City, 18.9% were people aged 55 years and over, compared with Queensland where 23.6 % of the population were aged 55 years and above (see

¹ Median age of persons excludes overseas visitors.

Table 1-3).

Projections from the Queensland Department of Infrastructure and Planning indicate the median age of Townsville City Council's population increasing by 6 years from a median age of 33 years in 2006 up to a median age of 39 years in 2031.²

² QDIP Queensland's future population 2008 edition. Queensland government population projections 2008. Copyright 2008 Planning Information and Forecasting Unit, QDIP, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Table 1-3 Persons by Age by Sex – Census 2006

	Townsville				Queensland			
	Males	Females	People	% of Total people	Males	Females	People	% of Total people
Total people	77,757	76,870	154,627	100	1,935,381	1,969,153	3,904,534	100
Age groups:								
0-4 years	5,494	5,317	10,811	7	132,171	124,909	257,080	6.6
5-14 years	11,778	10,923	22,701	14.7	281,714	267,742	549,456	14.1
15-19 years	6,037	6,026	12,063	7.8	138,175	132,124	270,299	6.9
20-24 years	6,794	6,390	13,184	8.5	135,241	133,661	268,902	6.9
25-34 years	11,553	11,526	23,079	14.9	258,405	265,192	523,597	13.4
35-44 years	11,352	11,560	22,912	14.8	280,410	295,158	575,568	14.7
45-54 years	10,437	10,267	20,704	13.4	265,750	273,434	539,184	13.8
55-64 years	7,710	7,073	14,783	9.6	220,859	216,694	437,553	11.2
65-74 years	3,970	4,010	7,980	5.2	129,382	130,044	259,426	6.6
75-84 years	2,102	2,704	4,806	3.1	74,092	92,717	166,809	4.3
≥ 85 years	530	1,074	1,604	1	19,182	37,475	56,657	1.5

(a) Based on place of usual residence.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 Census of Population & Housing, Community Profile Series (Cat No: 2001.0)

1.3.2 Median Income:

The median weekly income³ for Townsville at the 2006 Census for individual income was \$ 531.00; household income \$1,101.00 and family income \$ 1237.00. Median household income levels in Townsville were significantly higher than the medians for Queensland and Australia.

1.3.3 Average Household Size:

The 2006 Census showed the average household size for Townsville City to be 2.8 people per dwelling. This is high in comparison with the average household size for Queensland (2.6 people) and for Australia (2.6 people). It is likely that the young population profile for Townsville, which includes significant numbers of families with children, is a factor contributing to the higher than average household occupancy.

³ **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median family income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes families where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and families where at least one member aged 15 years and over was temporarily absent on Census Night. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households where at least one member aged 15 years and over was temporarily absent on Census Night. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

1.4 Employment and Labour Force

The labour force in the Northern labour force region, encompassing the City of Townsville, grew by 3.2% in the 2005 calendar year, while the labour force participation rate was generally higher than participation rates for Australia and Queensland.

At the time of 2006 Census of Population and Housing in Townsville City Council, there were 3,523 unemployed persons. With a labour force consisting of 79,849 persons, this corresponded to an unemployment rate of 4.4 per cent. The unemployment rate in Queensland as a whole was 4.7 per cent (see Table 1-4).

Table 1-4 Labour Force Figures

Characteristics	Townsville	Queensland
Based on place of usual residence	People	People
People aged 15 years and over	121,120	3,097,998
Labour force status(a):		
Employed, worked full-time(b)	51,262	1,180,889
Employed, worked part-time	19,797	530,501
Employed, away from work(c)	5,278	113,607
Unemployed, looking for work	3,513	90,950
<i>Total labour force</i>	<i>79,849</i>	<i>1,915,947</i>
Not in the labour force	33,326	971,829
Unemployment rate(d)	4.4%	4.7
Labour force participation rate(e)	65.9%	61.8
Employment to population rate(f)	63.0%	58.9

Table 1-5 Industry of Employment (a)(b), Townsville (C), 2006

Industry	%
Public Administration & Safety	12.6
Retail Trade	11.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	10.9
Construction	9.9
Manufacturing	8.2
Education & Training	8.0
Accommodation & Food Services	6.8
Transport, Postal & Warehousing	5.1
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	4.3
Other Services	3.5
Wholesale Trade	3.2
Administrative & Support Services	2.8
Mining	2.6
Financial & Insurance Services	1.8
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	1.8
Information Media & Telecommunications	1.6
Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste Services	1.4
Arts & Recreation Services	1.3
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	0.8

(a) Based on place of usual residence.

(b) Based on 2006 ANZSIC

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2006.

In the 2006 Census, the most common industries of employment for people aged 15 years and over and usually resident in the Townsville Local Government area were Public Administration and Safety (12.6%), Retail Trade (11%), Health Care and Social assistance (10.9%), Construction (9.9%) and Manufacturing(8.2%). The industry of employment data reflects Townsville's role as a centre with a diverse economy servicing a wide hinterland. Townsville offers key government and administrative services but also higher-level retail shopping, health, construction, manufacturing and other industries of employment.

Table 1-6 Business Numbers, Townsville (C), 2006/2007

Industry	Non employing	Employing Persons			Total
		1 to 4	5 to 19	20+	
Agriculture Forestry and Fishing	435	90	27	21	573
Mining	39	12	9	9	69
Manufacturing	249	147	108	51	555
Electricity Gas and Water Supply	12	0	3	0	15
Construction	1,419	798	354	117	2,688
Wholesale Trade	117	141	72	24	354
Retail Trade	513	480	327	111	1,431
Accommodation, Cafes, Restaurants	90	78	87	78	333
Transport and Storage	615	135	54	30	834
Communication Services	48	51	6	0	105
Finance and Insurance	336	102	51	9	498
Property and Business Services	1,743	627	243	90	2,703
Education	78	24	9	3	114
Health and Community Services	288	228	84	42	642
Cultural and Recreational Services	135	45	21	21	222
Personal and Other Services	246	126	87	24	483
Total	6,363	3,084	1,542	624	11,619

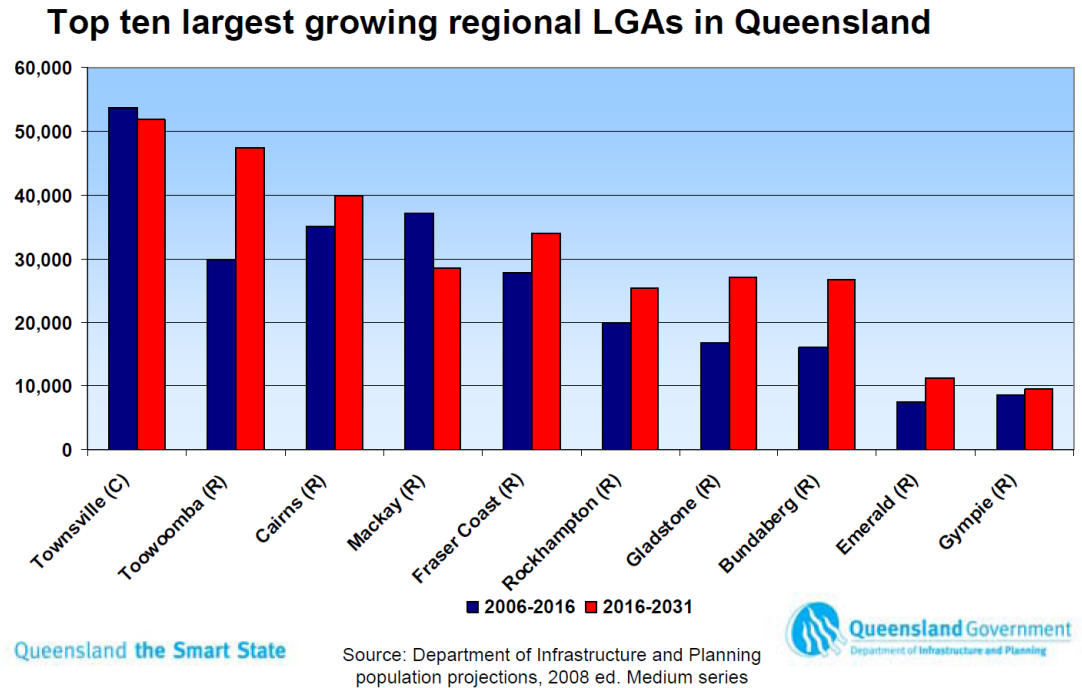
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2003 to Jun 2007, (Cat no. 8165.0).

1.5 Townsville Growth

Townsville's location as a coastal port City on the Ross River has placed it to become a focus for the region. Townsville's role as the primary urban centre serving the Northern Region (it is often termed 'the capital of North Queensland') has helped the City develop its diverse economy. The strength and diversity of the Townsville economy is reflected in the Business Number statistics and the broad range of industries of employment, which are indicated in the tables in the earlier sections.

Due to its status as a strong and vital regional centre, Townsville attracts and continues to attract population growth, making it one of the top ten largest growing regional local government areas in the state.

Figure 1-2 Growth Centres in Qld



1.6 Residential Land Activity

Residential land activity data is a strong indicator of population growth and expansion of the urban footprint. Townsville has shown itself to be a strong performer in terms of residential land activity, over recent years.

In the year to the June quarter 2005, Townsville produced 1743 residential lots. Lot production has continued to be strong through the years to 2008. However the current economic downturn has acted to dampen the volume of recent land sales. Land sales for the year to June 2008 were down significantly from previous years. Lot consumption – dwellings being constructed – continued to record strong growth during 2008.

Table 1-7 Land Development Pipeline Data

Year to June	Lot approval ¹	Op works approval [^]	Un completed lots *	Lot production ¹	Lot registration ²	Lot consumption	Median value land sales ³	Volume of land sales ³
2000	1,215	N/A	N/A	1,075	1,107	1,506	52,400	769
2001	723	N/A	N/A	623	728	724	53,500	685
2002	729	N/A	N/A	1,038	1,329	1,323	57,200	1,031
2003	771	N/A	N/A	749	890	991	65,800	1,062
2004	2,309	N/A	N/A	1,238	1,455	1,430	71,000	1,821
2005	2,261	N/A	2,503	1,743	1,870	1,395	106,400	1,618
2006	2,470	N/A	3,500	1,321	1,547	1,492	115,800	1,650
2007	2,611	N/A	4,604	1,435	1,772	1,470	137,700	1,977
2008	3,063	1,544	5,839	1,785	2,154	1,731	162,500	1,470
Sept qtr07	1,579	751	5,596	571	718	396	156,000	538
Dec qtr07	585	426	5,803	372	504	463	166,000	486
Mar qtr08	650	293	5,980	473	497	469	167,500	283
Jun qtr08	249	74	5,839	369	435	404	165,000	163

Source: Queensland Department of Infrastructure and Planning – June QTR 2008

¹: includes urban and rural residential

²: includes 250-50000 m2 lots.

³: includes 250-2500 m2 lots.

[^]: no of lots with planning permit approval, but not yet produced (survey plan signing)

1.7 Building Approvals

Coupled with residential land activity, Building Approval data offers a key indicator for population growth.

In the year ended March 2009, there were 1,575 residential dwelling unit approvals in Townsville City Council. These approvals were valued at \$495.8 million and represented 5.0 per cent of the overall total for the State.

The value of non-residential building approvals in Townsville City Council in the year ended March 2009 was \$265.2 million. This represented 3.3 per cent of the value of these approvals in Queensland.

Table 1-8 Residential and non-residential building approvals, by local government area, Townsville City Council, 12 months ending 31 March 2009

Local Government Area	Dwelling units in new residential buildings	(a) Residential building value	(a)Total residential building value	(b)Total non-residential building value	(b)Total building value	Proportion of total value that is residential (c)
				number — \$000 —	number — \$000 —	%
Townsville CC	1,575	457,455	495,802	265,209	761,011	65.2
Queensland	32,170	8,767,555	9,973,341	7,935,870	17,909,210	55.7
Townsville as % of Qld	4.9	5.2	5.0	3.3	4.2	..

.. = not applicable – = nil or rounded to zero

C = City S = Shire T = Town AC = Aboriginal Council IC = Island Council

(a) Excludes alterations, additions and conversions.

(b) Including alterations, additions and conversions.

(c) Represents total residential building value as a proportion of total building value.

Note: Based on ASGC 2006.

Data for Reformed Local Government Area(s) are based on concordant Statistical Local Area data (ASGC 2006). The concordance is population based and has been derived from Planning Information and Forecasting Unit within the Department of Infrastructure and Planning.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Building Approvals, Queensland (Cat. no. 8731.3)

1.8 Future Trends

Projections published by the Department of Local Government and Planning in 2006 indicate that the population of the new Townsville City will increase from 144,789 in 2001 to 220,136 in 2026.

The annual average growth rate between 2001 and 2026 in the new Townsville City is projected to be 1.7 per cent. This compares with an annual average growth rate of 1.7 per cent for the State. As a result, Townsville's share of Queensland's population is projected to be 3.9 per cent in 2026 compared with 4.0 per cent in 2001. The graph overleaf illustrates past, plus projected future growth of Townsville.

Table 1-9 Population Projections

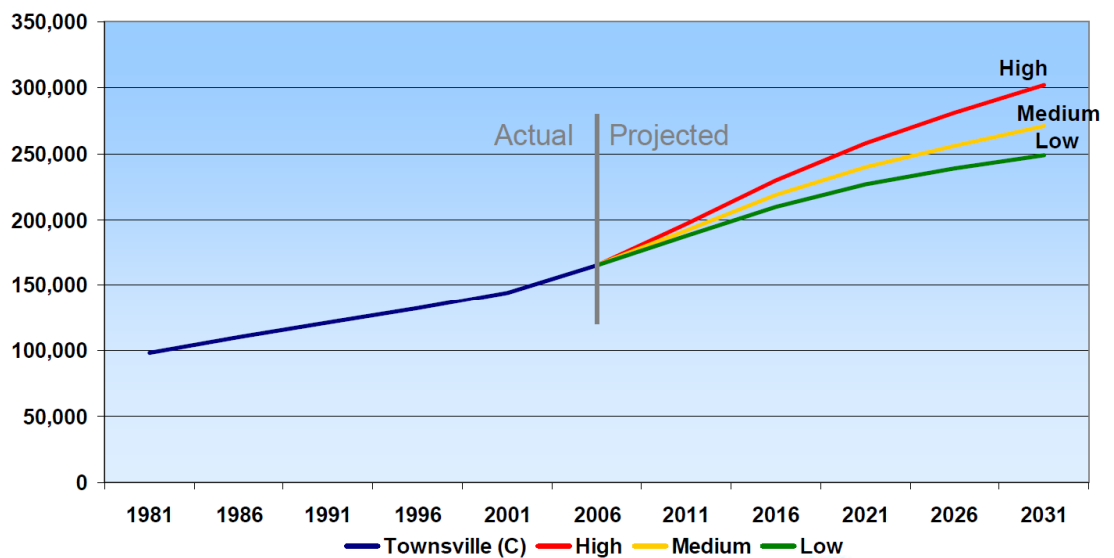
Population projections, Townsville City and Queensland, 2011 to 2031					
Year	Townsville			Five Years to 30- June	Average Annual Change (medium series)
	Low	Medium	High		
2011	187,441	191,329	196,145	2011	3.0%
2016	210,078	218,660	229,941	2016	2.7%
2021	226,401	239,619	257,722	2021	1.8%
2026	238,451	255,986	280,736	2026	1.3%
2031	248,487	270,500	302,044	2031	1.1%

Note: Future Trends data is not comparable to Estimated Resident Population (ERP) due to ERP using more up to date/revised data. For regions within the Fitzroy and Mackay statistical divisions, the Department of Local Government and Planning have recommended the use of the high series.

Source: State and Statistical Divisions: Queensland Government, Queensland Government Population Projections (2006 edition). LGA: Department of Local Government and Planning, Queensland's Future Population (2006 edition), 2001 Geographical Boundaries

Figure 1-3 Past and Projected Growth

Past and future growth, Townsville (C)



Queensland the Smart State

Source: Department of Infrastructure and Planning population projections. 2008 ed.



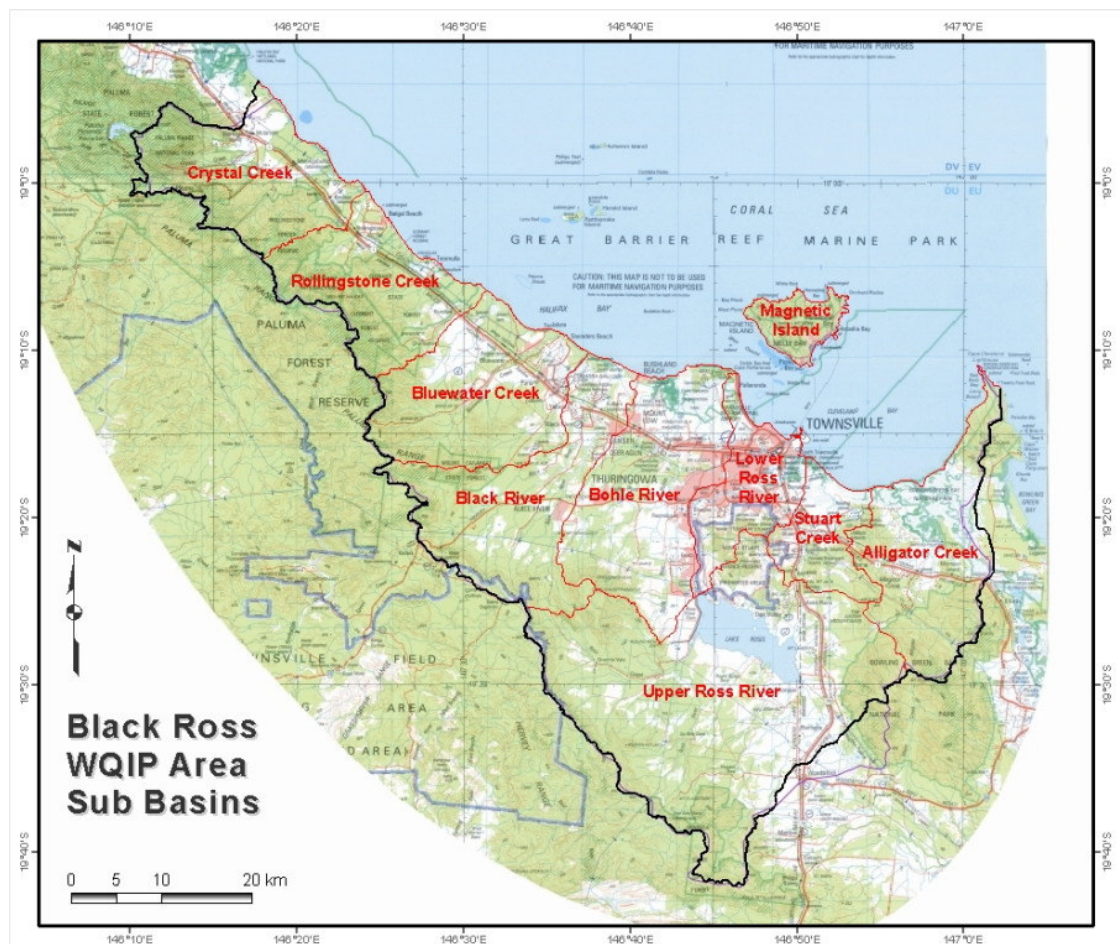
2. Sub Basins

Introduction

Socio-demographic information for each of the sub basins in the Black Ross WQIP area is provided in the following sections. The Black Ross WQIP sub basins are (see Figure 2-1):

1. Crystal Creek;
2. Rollingsstone Creek;
3. Bluewater Creek;
4. Black River;
5. Bohle River;
6. Lower Ross River (below the dam);
7. Upper Ross River (the dam and upstream);
8. Stuart Creek; Alligator Creek;
9. Alligator Creek; and
10. Magnetic Island.

Figure 2-1 Sub Basins of the Black Ross WQIP Area



2.1 Crystal Creek Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 339 people resident within the Crystal Creek sub-basin area.

Settlement in the basin is mainly confined to the hamlets of Paluma (142 people, 2006 Census) and Mutarnee (Census count not available). Dispersed settlement is associated with small scale rural land holdings on the coastal plain, including cane, exotic fruits and other crops. Pastoral Industry, with grazing on natural vegetation, rather than widespread improved pasture, is also evident, particularly in the Lorna Creek and Ollera Creek catchments. Uplands within the Crystal Creek sub-basin are predominantly used for nature conservation purposes, with limited, low-impact land use. These lands are generally held as National Park or other conserved area.

Settlement in Crystal Creek sub basin is predominantly single family dwellings (80% of total dwelling stock comprises separate dwellings, which is to be expected in an outlying area with a predominantly small settlements, rural small holdings and nature conservation lands) 105 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 131 dwellings in the area).

Crystal Creek sub-basin has a mature age population, particularly older couples, reflected in the high median age and the average household size, which at 2.5 persons is below the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area.⁴

A significant number of Crystal Creek sub basin residents reported that they worked from home (31 people), possibly reflecting employment on farms and small holdings and owner-resident tourism industries.⁵

The location and geography, along with current land zonings for the area indicate that significant urban expansion is unlikely within the Crystal Creek sub-basin, however expanded or intensified rural activity, including grazing, small holdings, and tourist industry development may occur in the future.

Future settlement patterns related to tourist development potentially may include caravan or cabin style accommodation, buildings housing tourist attractions, function or meeting spaces and hardstand car parking and access ways.

⁴ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

⁵ 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile (method of travel to work)

Table 2-1 Crystal Creek – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

CRYSTAL CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES⁶

Based on place of usual residence

	CRYSTAL CREEK	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons (years)	47	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	330	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	843	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	629	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	2,000	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	124	190
Average household size	2.5	2.8

⁶ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-2 Crystal Creek Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of
Population and Housing

DWELLING STRUCTURE

CRYSTAL CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	105	247
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	0	0
Two or more storeys	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	0	0
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	19	35
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	7	8
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>43</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	131	290

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.2 Rollingstone Creek Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 863 people resident within the Rollingstone Creek sub-basin area.

Settlement in the basin is mainly confined to the townships of Rollingstone and Balgal Beach (723 people 2006 Census) and the beachside area of Toomulla (141 – 2006 Census). Residential development, with urban allotments ranging in size from around 600m² through to 2000m², plus rural residential holdings make up the bulk of the settlement type.

Dispersed settlement is associated with small scale rural cropping on the coastal plain, including pineapples, exotic fruits and other crops. Significant areas of the catchment are used for nature conservation purposes, with limited-impact land use and little or no settlement. These lands are generally held as National park or other conserved area. Pockets of plantation forestry occur between Station Cree and Saltwater Creek and on toward the lower reaches of Leichhardt Creek.

Settlement in Rollingstone Creek sub basin is predominantly single family dwellings (98.5% of total dwelling stock comprises separate dwellings, reflecting the low density nature of residential land use. 351 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 356 dwellings in the area).

Rollingstone Creek sub-basin has a mature age population, reflected in the high median age of 53 years, with a high percentage of couple families without children (67.8%). The average household size at 2.4 persons is below the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area.⁷

A very limited number of Rollingstone Creek sub basin residents reported that they worked from home (9 people out of a total of 282 respondents), with a very high proportion (64.5%) reliant on private vehicle (as the driver) for their journey to work.⁸

The location and geography, along with current land zonings for the area indicate that urban expansion for residential land use may occur in and around current centres.

The Urban Growth Boundaries identified in the Planning Scheme for the City of Thuringowa, which accommodate the City's future urban growth, include a very large area encompassing the hinterland surrounding Rollingstone and Balgal Beach, plus an area surrounding the settlement of Toomulla.

Inclusion within the Urban Growth boundary identifies land as being “suitable for residential development and supporting community and commercial facilities, and can be effectively provided with infrastructure services.”

Rollingstone's distance from established urban areas and reliance on the national arterial route for connection to Townsville's centres of employment and service, are important development considerations contraindicating the priority for urban growth implied by the planning regime's Urban Growth boundary.

⁷ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

⁸ 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile (method of travel to work)

At Balgal Beach there are large land parcels with potential for future development, either for tourist or possibly residential use. However, lack of infrastructure services, particularly reticulated sewerage and costs associated with supply represent barriers for urban residential development. Demand in the tourism industry, fuel costs and future availability of public transport will be key factors affecting the pace of future development, for an area remote from the main Townsville urban centre and its service and employment opportunities.

Future settlement patterns related to tourist development potentially may include caravan or cabin style accommodation, buildings housing tourist attractions, function or meeting spaces and hardstand car parking and access ways.

Tenure and ongoing use for nature conservation restrict future urban settlement for significant areas (almost 90%) of the Rollingstone Creel sub-basin.

Table 2-3 Rollingstone Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

ROLLINGSTONE CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES ⁹

Based on place of usual residence

	ROLLINGSTONE CREEK	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	53	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	351	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	795	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	614	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	973	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	151	190
Average household size	2.4	2.8

⁹ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-4 Rollingstone Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006
Census of Population and Housing

ROLLINGSTONE CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	351	734
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	0	0
Two or more storeys	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	0	0
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	5	3
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	0	0
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>3</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	356	737

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.3 Bluewater Creek Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 2,876 people resident within the Bluewater Creek sub-basin area.

The sub-basin includes beachside settlements, rural residential development and parts of the Queensland Nickel Industry Yabulu manufacturing and refining plant.

Small urban residential settlement in the basin occurs at Toolakea and Saunders Beach, with significant rural residential style development between Toolakea and Bluewater Park and at Yabulu. Rural residential development largely adopts a linear pattern taking advantage of existing road infrastructure. This is particularly evident along Forestry Road, which for part of its length parallels Bluewater Creek.

Housing style in Bluewater Creek sub basin is predominantly single family dwellings – 936 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 1,022 dwellings in the area.

The median age of the Bluewater Creek sub-basin population is reported at 38 years at the 2006 Census. There is a high percentage of couple families without children (41%) however average household size at 2.8 persons is on par with the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area, reflecting a number of larger households in the area. Overall, 26% of Bluewater households are comprised of four people, or above.¹⁰

At the 2006 Census, very few Bluewater Creek sub basin residents reported that they worked from home, with a significant percentage (68%) reporting they travelled to work as the driver of a private motor vehicle, indicating a strong commuter trend.¹¹

The location of the Bluewater sub basin, distant from Townsville's established employment and service centres suggests that significant urban residential development is unlikely to occur within the near future, however expanded or intensified rural residential activity may be seen.

The Urban Growth Boundaries identified in the Planning Scheme for the City of Thuringowa, to accommodate the City's future urban growth, include a significant area to the north of Toolakea Beach.

Inclusion within the Urban Growth boundary identifies land as being "suitable for residential development and supporting community and commercial facilities, and can be effectively provided with infrastructure services."

However, Toolakea's distance from established urban areas and reliance on the Bruce Highway for connection to Townsville's centres of employment and service, mitigate the indicated priority for urban growth implied by the planning regime's Urban Growth boundary.

Future development related to intensification at the existing refinery and nickel processing site may occur within the Bluewater sub-basin, despite a current winding back of activity and operations during the current economic downturn.

¹⁰ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

¹¹ 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile (method of travel to work)

Table 2-5 Bluewater Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

BLUEWATER CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES¹²

Based on place of usual residence

	BLUEWATER CREEK	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	38	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	502	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,156	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	1,086	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,195	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	195	190
Average household size	2.8	2.8

¹² ¹² **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-6 Bluewater Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing
BLUEWATER CK CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	936	2,541
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	5	0
Two or more storeys	0	0
<i>Total</i>	5	0
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	13	34
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	0	0
<i>Total</i>	13	34
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	57	110
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	8	19
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	65	129
Dwelling structure not stated	3	0
Total	1,022	2,704

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.4 Black River Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 4,917 people resident within the Black River sub-basin area.

The sub-basin stretches from Herveys Range to the coast including northern parts of the Bushland Beach residential suburb, the majority of the Queensland Nickel Industry Yabulu manufacturing and refining plant, and rural residential estates including most of Rupertswood (Alice River)

Small urban residential settlement in the basin occurs at Toolakea and Saunders Beach, with significant rural residential style development between Toolakea and Black River Park and at Yabulu. Rural residential development largely adopts a linear pattern taking advantage of existing road infrastructure. This is particularly evident along Forestry Road, which for part of its length parallels Black River.

Housing style in Black River sub basin is predominantly single family dwellings – 1602 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 1619 dwellings in the area.

The median age of the Black River sub-basin population is reported at 36 years at the 2006 Census. There is a high percentage of couple families without children (38%) but an equally a high percentage (38%) with children under 15 years old.

Average household size at 3.2 people per household is high - well above the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area (2.8 people), reflecting a number of larger households in the area. Overall, 36% of Black River households are comprised of four people, or more.¹³

At the 2006 Census, the majority of employed Black River sub basin residents reported that they travelled to work as the driver of a private motor vehicle, indicating a very strong commuter trend.¹⁴

Current development approvals suggest that significant urban residential development is likely to occur in the Black River sub basin, within the very near future, particularly in and around Bushland Beach / Beachholm area, with expansion to the north of Mt Low Parkway.

Expansion and/or intensification of existing rural residential use, may occur along the Black River Road area and at Alice River.

The Urban Growth Boundaries identified in the Planning Scheme for the City of Thuringowa, to accommodate the City's future urban growth, include areas north to Beachholm, but do not encompass the suburb of Black River, with the exception of linear development along the Bruce Highway in the Purono Park vicinity.

Inclusion within the Urban Growth boundary identifies land as being “suitable for residential development and supporting community and commercial facilities, and can be effectively provided with infrastructure services.”

¹³ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

¹⁴ 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile (method of travel to work)

Future intensified development related to the existing refinery and nickel processing site may also occur, despite the winding back of activity during the current economic downturn.

Table 2-7 Black River Sub-Basin Black River Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

BLACK RIVER CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES¹⁵

Based on place of usual residence

	BLACK RIVER	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	36	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	576	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,361	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	1,332	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,273	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	268	190
Average household size	3.2	2.8

¹⁵ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-8 Black River Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

BLACK RIVER CUSTOMISED REGION**DWELLING STRUCTURE****Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings**

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	1,602	4,735
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	3	7
Two or more storeys	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>7</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	0	0
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	11	26
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	3	5
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>31</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	1,619	4,773

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.5 Bohle River Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 62,026 people resident within the Bohle sub-basin area.

The sub basin is remarkable for its diversity of land use which includes a recently declared 5 000 ha National Park in the upper catchment, in addition to significant residential, industrial, commercial, transport and defence lands.

The sub-basin stretches from the Pinnacles to the coast including the bulk of the Bushland Beach residential suburb, plus established residential areas of the Upper Ross, and Townsville's northern suburbs including Mount Louisa, Heatley and Kirwan.

Significant areas of the sub-basin, currently under limited intensity land use with natural or regrowth vegetation, are earmarked for new residential development in the near future. These include a sweep of lands from the Upper Ross through Herveys Range to Burdell, including the planned new suburb of Cosgrove, the proposed 'Greater Ascot' development in the Shaw's Road vicinity, Stockland North Shore development at Burdell, Devine residential estate at Dunlop Street Kelso, and Kalynda Chase.

Significant industry (including heavy industry) and commercial use, defence and airport lands are located at the suburbs of Garbutt and Mount St John, within the lower areas of the sub basin.

Housing style in Bohle sub basin is predominantly single family dwellings – 18,355 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 20,143 dwellings in the area.

The median age of the Bohle River sub-basin population is reported at 31 years at the 2006 Census. Family characteristics vary throughout the sub basin, with higher proportion of couples with children living in suburban areas, including the Upper Ross and Bushland Beach. Almost 15% of total households in the sub basin report only one person usually resident, this may reflect the presence of retirement style housing, and unit development in particular areas.

Average household size at 3.1 people per household is high - above the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area (2.8 people), reflecting a number of larger households in the area. Overall, 33% of Bohle households have four people, or more, usually resident.¹⁶

¹⁶ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile 2006

Table 2-8 Bohle River Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

BOHLE RIVER CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES¹⁷

Based on place of usual residence

	BOHLE RIVER	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	31	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	532	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,227	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	1,152	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,246	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	198	190
Average household size	3.1	2.8

¹⁷ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-9 Bohle Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing
BOHLE CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	18,355	54,771
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	713	1,429
Two or more storeys	46	90
<i>Total</i>	<i>759</i>	<i>1,519</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	855	1,629
In a three storey block	3	7
In a four or more storey block	7	17
Attached to a house	3	17
<i>Total</i>	<i>868</i>	<i>1,670</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	138	230
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	9	22
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	14	24
<i>Total</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>276</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	20,143	58,236

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.6 Lower Ross River Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 76,541 people resident within the Lower Ross River sub-basin area.

The sub basin extends from Pallarenda in the north to the Ross River Dam wall in the south, picking Townsville's major inner urban suburbs, Port and CBD. To the west, the sub basin includes Upper Ross properties fronting the full length of Riverway Drive. It also includes major new residential development in the Fairfield Waters (Idalia) and Douglas areas, plus the Laverack Army Base.

With the exception of some Town Common areas at Rowes Bay and Pallarenda, and lands held by Defence, located on the northern and western slopes of Mt Stuart, the sub basin is intensely settled with a diverse range of land use and urban services commensurate with the City's status as the major centre for the North Queensland region.

Heavy industry use is mainly confined to areas in the vicinity of the Port, however there is older style, smaller scale industry, along with more modern commercial warehouses in those areas of Garbutt located within the sub basin.

Housing style in Lower Ross River sub basin is less predominantly single family dwellings than for other sub basins in the catchment – 19,895 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 27,757 dwellings in the area. 6,025 dwellings are flat, unit or apartment style.

The median age of the Lower Ross River sub-basin population is reported at 34 years at the 2006 Census. Family characteristics vary throughout the sub basin, with higher proportion of families with children living in more recently established suburban areas, including at Douglas. A high proportion of families with children, both couple families and one parent families with children are evident within established suburbs in Townsville's West, such as at Vincent.

Over 26% of total households in the sub basin report only one person usually resident, this may reflect an older median age profile, but would also be attributable to the style of development with greater numbers of flats, unit and apartments.

Average household size at 2.6 people per household is lower than the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area (2.8 people), reflecting a number of smaller households in the area. Overall, 22% of Lower Ross River households have four people, or more, usually resident.¹⁸

Future growth in the Lower Ross sub basin is likely to include brownfield urban infill with intensification of residential densities. No large greenfield sites suitable for significant residential development remain within the sub basin.

Some reclamation works are mooted in the area around the mouth of Ross Creek and Ross River. The proposed Townsville Ocean Terminal Project and the Townsville Marine Precinct involve commercial/residential development and industrial waterfront industry, respectively.

¹⁸ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

Table 2-10 Lower Ross River Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

LOWER ROSS RIVER CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES¹⁹

Based on place of usual residence

	LOWER ROSS RIVER	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	34	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	538	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,270	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	1,067	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,217	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	185	190
Average household size	2.6	2.8

¹⁹ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-11 Lower Ross River Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

LOWER ROSS CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	19,895	54,627
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	1,045	1,624
Two or more storeys	510	903
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,555</i>	<i>2,527</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	4,726	8,033
In a three storey block	631	1,123
In a four or more storey block	661	1,221
Attached to a house	7	26
<i>Total</i>	<i>6,025</i>	<i>10,403</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	193	295
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	41	46
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	37	84
<i>Total</i>	<i>271</i>	<i>425</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	11	14
Total	27,757	67,996

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.7 Upper Ross River Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 1,357 people resident within the Upper Ross River sub-basin area.

The sub basin includes catchments for the Ross River Dam, areas to the west of Mount Stuart, rural lands toward Woodstock but does not include Woodstock township.

Housing style in Upper Ross River sub basin is single family dwellings or 'other dwellings' as defined by the Australian Bureau of Census and Statistics which includes caravans, cabins and improvised dwellings. There are 410 separate houses out of a total 443 dwellings in the area. No dwellings are flat, unit or apartment style.

The median age of the Upper Ross River sub-basin population is reported at 38 years at the 2006 Census. Of the 375 families usually resident in the sub basin at the 2006 Census, 142 were couples without children and 189 were couples with children.

16% of total households in the sub basin report only one person usually resident, this may reflect the median age profile, which is older than that of the Townsville LGA.

Average household size at 3.0 people per household is above the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area (2.8 people). Overall, 33.7% of Upper Ross River households have four people, or more usually resident.²⁰

²⁰ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

Table 2-12 Upper Ross River Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

UPPER ROSS RIVER CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES²¹

Based on place of usual residence

	UPPER ROSS RIVER	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	38	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	471	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,167	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	1,080	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,171	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	134	190
Average household size	3.0	2.8

²¹ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-13 Upper Ross River Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing
 UPPER ROSS CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	410	1,255
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	0	0
Two or more storeys	0	6
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>6</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	0	0
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	20	26
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	13	18
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>44</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	443	1,305

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.8 Stuart Creek Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 1,230 people resident within the Stuart Creek sub-basin area.

The sub basin includes major industrial land use (metal refining, major rail container interchange,) at the suburb of Stuart, and Council's major waste facilities at Cleveland Bay (wastewater treatment) and the Vantassel Street landfill.

Limited residential use occurs at Stuart and Roseneath. Housing style in Stuart Creek sub basin is single family dwellings or 'other dwellings' as defined by the Australian Bureau of Census and Statistics which includes caravans, cabins and improvised dwellings. There are 212 separate houses out of a total 229 dwellings in the area. No dwellings are flat, unit or apartment style. The Stuart detention centre is excluded from these figures.

The median age of the Stuart Creek sub-basin population is reported at 34 years at the 2006 Census. Of the 162 families usually resident in the sub basin at the 2006 Census, 49 were couples without children and 76 were couples with children.

27.5% of total households in the sub basin report only one person usually resident.

Average household size at 2.7 people per household is slightly below the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area (2.8 people). This may be a reflection of the high proportion of one person households in the sub basin.

Overall, 23.7% of Stuart Creek households have four people, or more usually resident.²²

²² All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

Table 2-14 Stuart Creek Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

STUART CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES²³

Based on place of usual residence

	STUART CREEK	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	34	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	460	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,170	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	944	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	869	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	141	190
Average household size	2.7	2.8

²³ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-15 Stuart Creek Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing
 STUART CK CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	212	575
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	0	0
Two or more storeys	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	0	3
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	9	18
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	8	9
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>27</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	229	605

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.9 Alligator Creek Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 2,105 people resident within the Alligator Creek sub-basin area.

Settlement in the basin is currently mainly confined to the rural residential areas of Alligator and Nome, although there is dispersed settlement associated with grazing activity.

Settlement in Alligator Creek sub basin is predominantly single family dwellings, reflecting the low density nature of residential land use. 714 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 764 dwellings in the area).

Alligator Creek sub-basin has a high median age of 41 years, with a high percentage of couple families without children (44.6%). The average household size at 2.8 persons is on par with the average occupancy for the Townsville local government area.²⁴

A small number of Alligator Creek sub basin residents reported that they worked from home (57 people out of a total of 1,124 respondents), with a very high proportion (66%) reliant on private vehicle (as the driver) for their journey to work.²⁵

A major development proposed for the area by the Delfin Lend Lease corporation is the 'Rocky Springs' project which is intended to be home to between 35-38,000 people over a 35 year time horizon. Strategic planning for the Rocky Springs area indicates a potential ultimate population of up to 55,000. The current plans for Rocky Springs are indicative only, but it is envisaged that a full range of community and urban infrastructure services and employment generating activities will be included.

²⁴ All Dwelling, Household, and Median data is sourced from the 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile

²⁵ 2006 Census Population and Housing Customised Basic Community Profile (method of travel to work)

Table 2-16 Alligator Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

ALLIGATOR CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES ²⁶

Based on place of usual residence

	ALLIGATOR CREEK	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	41	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	531	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,324	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	1,154	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,165	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	151	190
Average household size	2.8	2.8

²⁶ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-17 Alligator Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing
 ALLIGATOR CREEK CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	714	1,959
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	0	0
Two or more storeys	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	3	0
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	3	5
<i>Total</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	38	61
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	6	9
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>70</i>
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	764	2,034

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.

2.10 Magnetic Island Sub-Basin

The 2006 Census counted 2,111 people resident within the Magnetic Island Creek sub-basin area. Tourism is a key activity for Magnetic Island and in 2006; visitors swelled the *total* island population to 3246²⁷ people.

In terms of the *total* population (residents and visitors), Census data indicates Magnetic Island experienced a slight population decline from 2001 to 2006, with the downturn attributed to a lower visitor count. However, 2006 Census data may not present an accurate picture for visitor numbers over an annual period, as the Census provides a 'snapshot' for a single night. Data from Tourism Queensland indicates that visitor numbers to Townsville for the year to December 2006 were slightly above 2001 figures.

The patterns of residential population growth for Magnetic Island differ from other areas of Townsville. Population growth for mainland Townsville closely relates closely to local development activity; whereas residential population growth for Magnetic Island does not appear to correlate with strong building approval and residential land activity trends on the Island between 2004 -2006.

The average annual residential population growth rate for Magnetic Island at 1.02% for the five years 2001-2006, is around half the average annual growth rate experienced in Townsville LGA (2.07%) during the same period.

Based on the current Planning Scheme provisions, Magnetic Island has the capacity to accommodate significant future development; however the extent to which development opportunities will translate into permanent population growth, remains to be seen.

Median age of Magnetic Island residents at 45 years is significantly higher than Townsville (34 years) or Thuringowa LGAs (31 years). A significant percentage (14.4%) of Island residents are aged 65 years and above.

Average household size at 2.5 persons is significantly lower for Magnetic Island than for Townsville (2.8). Couple-only households are predominant on the Island.

The above statistics are fairly typical of an area that holds appeal for retirement living.

For Magnetic Island, total numbers of private dwellings increased between 2001 and 2006 - however Census data shows the total number of *occupied* dwellings fell during the same period

At the 2006 Census Magnetic Island housing was predominantly single family dwellings, however recent unit development at Nelly Bay Harbour may not have been captured at this time. 714 dwellings are separate houses out of a total 845 dwellings in the area).

A number of Magnetic Island residents reported that they worked from home (84 people out of a total of 971 respondents), with a further 104 people reporting that they did not go to work.

²⁷ Total population, Magnetic Island SLA, Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Table 2-18 Magnetic Island Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Selected Medians – comparison with Townsville City (Reform Area)

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

MAGNETIC ISLAND CUSTOMISED REGION

SELECTED MEDIANS & AVERAGES ²⁸

Based on place of usual residence

	MAGNETIC ISLAND	TOWNSVILLE
Median age of persons	45	33
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	449	531
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,024	1237
Median household income (\$/weekly)	789	1101
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,321	1231
Median rent (\$/weekly)	186	190
Average household size	2.5	2.8

²⁸ **Median calculations - PLEASE NOTE** - For this customised Basic Community Profile, medians have been calculated from confidentialised and pertebated Census data. Medians have been calculated based on the assumption of a uniform distribution between ranges. Care should be taken when using these figures. **Median age of persons** excludes overseas visitors. **Median individual income** is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. **Median household income** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and households. **Median housing loan repayment** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being purchased and includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Median rent** is applicable to occupied private dwellings being rented. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households. **Average number of persons per bedroom** is applicable to occupied private dwellings. It excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households

Table 2-19 Magnetic Island Sub-Basin – Census 2006 Dwelling Structure

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

MAGNETIC ISLAND CUSTOMISED REGION

DWELLING STRUCTURE

Count of occupied private dwellings(a) and persons in occupied private dwellings

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Separate house	714	1,687
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. with:		
One storey	28	67
Two or more storeys	17	35
<i>Total</i>	45	102
Flat, unit or apartment:		
In a one or two storey block	75	128
In a three storey block	0	0
In a four or more storey block	0	0
Attached to a house	0	0
<i>Total</i>	75	128
Other dwelling:		
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	8	5
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	3	3
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	0	0
<i>Total</i>	11	8
Dwelling structure not stated	0	0
Total	845	1,925

(a) Excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other not classifiable' households.