

Central West Region Profile



Population: 12,357

Local Councils:

- » **Barcaldine Regional Council**
- » **Barcoo Shire Council**
- » **Blackall-Tambo Regional Council**
- » **Boulia Shire Council**
- » **Diamantina Shire Council**
- » **Longreach Regional Council**
- » **Winton Shire Council**

Estimated population

- As at 30 June 2007, the estimated population of the region was 12,357, representing 0.3% of the state's population.

Age profiles

- In June 2007, 20.5% of persons were aged 0 to 14 years, 66.1% were aged 15 to 64 years and 13.4% were aged 65 years and over.

Urban centres and localities*

- The region comprises eight urban centres and localities.
- Longreach had the largest population at 30 June 2007, with 3,144 persons.
- Longreach also had the highest population density in the region, with 404.1 persons per square kilometre.

*An urban centre is a population cluster of 1,000 or more people while a locality is a population cluster of between 200 and 999 people (Source: www.oesr.qld.gov.au).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons

- At the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, the region had 755 persons of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.
- This represents 6.4% of the region's total population.

Overseas-born persons

- At the 2006 Census, 581 persons were born overseas (4.9% of the total population).
- 10,344 persons were Australian-born (87.9% of the total population).
- Longreach had the largest number of overseas-born persons (248), followed by Barcaldine (151).

Proficiency in spoken English

- At the 2006 Census, 108 persons born overseas stated that they spoke a language other than English at home (18.6% of the overseas-born population).
- Of these persons, three stated that they spoke English not well, or not at all.

One-parent families

- At the 2006 Census, there were 373 one-parent families in the region, representing 12.4% of all families.

School students

- In the 12 months ending 31 December 2006, there were 1,936 school students in the region.
- Longreach had the largest number of school students (905), followed by Barcaldine with 514 school students.

Post-school qualifications

- At the 2006 Census, there were 3,829 persons aged 15 years and over with a qualification.
- This represents 41.5% of the population in this age group, which was lower than that for Queensland (50.4%).

Unemployment rate and labour force

- At the 2006 Census, the region had 178 unemployed persons, representing an unemployment rate of 2.8%.
- The unemployment rate in Queensland was 4.7%.
- Within the region, the highest unemployment rate was recorded in Boulia (6.1%), followed by Diamantina (4.8%).

Building approvals

- In the 12 months ending 30 September 2008, 28 dwelling units in new residential buildings were approved in the region.
- Valued at \$4.7 million, the approvals represented 0.0% of the total value of state's approvals.
- The value of non-residential building approvals was \$8.2 million, which represented 0.1% of the state's approvals.

Reference: www.oesr.qld.gov.au