Data notes, sources and issues
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The data presented in this report were sourced from readily available sources in light of the scope of this project.

Data presented covers Queensland and where available, all Australian States and Territories. The data for 'undefined Queensland' and 'off-shore areas and migratory' are not detailed specifically, but are included in the Queensland totals. As such, the sum of Statistical Division components may not be equivalent to the Queensland total.

Chapter 3 – Population trends in Queensland
The data sources in this chapter are identified below:
1) Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
- ABS 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population and Housing
- ABS Population by Age and Sex for 2006 and 2007
- ABS Australian Demographics Statistics – December Quarter 2008
- ABS Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2007-08
- Experimental Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, June 2006
- Brisbane: A Social Atlas - 2006 Census of Population and Housing.
- ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing SEIFA IRSD index (ABS, 2006a): Census Collection District (CD); Statistical Local Area (SLA); and Local Government Area (LGA).
- An interactive spreadsheet for SEIFA population distributions for the following larger areas was also accessed (ABS, 2006a(iv)): State; Statistical Division (SD); and Statistical Sub-Division (SSD).

2) Data from Queensland Treasury, Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR) was also accessed which were primarily based on the ABS Census 2006 and Population by Age and Sex data and the Queensland Government population projections to 2056.

Chapter 4 – SEIFA Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage
The data sourced in this section primarily came from the ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing SEIFA IRSD (ABS, 2006a): Census Collection District (CD); Statistical Local Area (SLA); and Local Government Area (LGA).

ABS Measure of Socioeconomic Disadvantage
The ABS has produced four Socioeconomic Indexes for Areas[1] (SEIFA) based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. Each index summarises a different aspect of the socioeconomic conditions and contextual information of people living in an area from different set of social and economic variables. Scores[2] are provided to areas for each SEIFA index with ranks, deciles and percentiles created based on their scores (showing an area as being relatively more, or less, disadvantaged than other areas in Australia and within the State/Territory).

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[1] The four indexes in 2006 SEIFA are: 1 Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (focussing on disadvantage from Census variables like low income, low educational attainment, unemployment, and dwellings without motor vehicles); 2 Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage (focussing on a continuum of advantage to disadvantage from Census variables related to both advantage and disadvantage); 3 Index of Economic Resources (focussing on financial aspects of advantage and disadvantage, using Census variables relating to residents' incomes, housing expenditure and assets); and 4 Index of Education and Occupation (Census variables relating to the educational attainment, employment and vocational skills).

[2] "A SEIFA score is created using information about people and households in a particular area. A CD score is standardised against a mean of 1,000 with a standard deviation of 100. This means that the average SEIFA CD score will be 1,000 and the middle two-thirds of SEIFA scores will fall between 900 and 1,100 (approximately)" (ABS, 2006b).

SEIFA uses a broad definition of relative socioeconomic disadvantage in terms of people's access to material and social resources, and their ability to participate in society (ABS, 2006f: 5). It is important to note that whilst SEIFA represents an average of all people living in an area, it does not represent the individual situation of each person as larger areas are more likely to have greater diversity of people and households. The ABS notes that "*area level disadvantage depends on the socioeconomic conditions of a community or neighbourhood as a whole. These are primarily characteristics of the area's residents, such as indicators of income, education or employment. They may also be characteristics of the area itself, such as a lack of public resources, transport infrastructure or high levels of pollution. The social and economic dimensions included in 2006 SEIFA are guided by international research and based on the information collected in the 2006 Census. The census collects information on the key dimensions of income, education, employment, occupation and housing*" (ABS, 2006f: 3).

SEIFA IRSD Scores for Queensland Areas
The SEIFA Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage (IRSD) scores for the Queensland geographic areas are used in this report as a proxy for relative socioeconomic disadvantage and socioeconomic status both at small and larger area levels. The IRSD measures relative disadvantage using a set of 17 variables including low income earners, relatively lower educational attainment and high unemployment at the small area level (or Collection Districts) derived from the 2006 ABS Census. These are then ranked from lowest score (relatively most disadvantaged) to the highest (relatively least disadvantaged). The variable and weights for 2006 SEIFA IRSD is provided at Appendix 1.

It is important to note the risk of "ecological fallacy" when comparing geographic areas using area level measures such as the SEIFA IRSD (Kennedy and Firman 2004, and Baker & Adhikari 2007). Analyses using the SEIFA indexes inherently assume that all people in an area are homogenous (have the same socioeconomic status) whereas heterogeneous areas may contain individuals with very different characteristics to the overall population of the area.

In 2006, about 215 CDs in Queensland were excluded from the analysis. These CDs had very low populations (<10); high levels of non-response to certain Census questions; five or fewer people employed; high proportion of non-private dwellings; and/or offshore/migratory categories. For more on the type of CDs excluded see SEIFA Technical paper Section 4.2.3 Exclusion of some areas (ABS, 2006f: 22).

1) SEIFA IRSD Scores for Queensland areas
   a) Census Collection Districts, Data Cube only, 2006 (ABS, 2006a(i))
   b) Statistical Local Areas, Data Cube only, 2006 (ABS, 2006a(ii))
   c) Local Government Areas, Data Cube only, 2006 (ABS, 2006a(iii))

2) SEIFA IRSD Scores for Queensland Statistical Districts
   In 2006, the ABS did not produce indexes for SDs. For method used for creating population weighted SEIFA IRSD Scores for Queensland SDs is provided in the Methodology section of the report – SEIFA IRSD Geographic Areas.

3) SEIFA IRSD Quintiles
   In order for SEIFA scores to be meaningful for area level variables and analysis, Quintiles were calculated using data at the Census Collection District level (ABS, 2006a(i)). Also see Methodology section of this report - SEIFA IRSD Quintiles and Distribution of Queensland CDs.

4) Further notes for the data sources in this chapter are provided below:
   a) ABS sourced SEIFA IRSD

- The following data cubes for the SEIFA IRSD index were accessed (ABS, 2006a): Census Collection District (CD); Statistical Local Area (SLA); and Local Government Area (LGA).
- An interactive spreadsheet for SEIFA population distributions for the following larger areas was also accessed to verify total population count for the State and larger areas (ABS, 2006a(iv)): State; Statistical Division (SD); and Statistical Sub-Division (SSD).
- SEIFA IRSD scores for SDs were verified with those provided by OESR. It is important to note that the SD level scores were not standardised and so does not have a mean of 1,000 or standard deviation of 100.
- SEIFA IRSD scores for SDs sourced from the PHIDU data package were not used as these were not population weighted. The data packaged available from PHIDU was gathered for the Social Health Atlas of Australia (Third Edition), 2008.

b) OESR Sourced Data
- The SEIFA IRSD data was also sourced from the OESR, Information Products and Services. SEIFA IRSD data provided was based a number of standard geographies including Queensland CDs, SLAs, LGAs, and SDs.
- The OESR data set also included concordances to the new LGA Reform regions.
- The OESR sourced the SEIFA data package and other ABS 2006 Census information through the ABS Basic Community Profiles dataset that are available through the QRISIS database.

c) PHIDU Sourced Data
- Queensland SLA level SEIFA IRSD scores were also sourced through the Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU) www.publichealth.gov.au. The data packaged available from PHIDU was gathered for the *Social Health Atlas of Australia (Third Edition), 2008 (online)*.
- SEIFA IRSD data provided was based a number of standard geographies including Queensland SLAs, SSDs, SDs, and Metropolitan/ Country and State/ Territory.
- Additionally, PHIDU grouped 285 Queensland SLAs located in the Brisbane, Gold Coast and Northern SDs to form 120 areas of larger population. The SLA group name does not in all cases include the names of all suburbs (SLAs) in the group.
- Index scores for SDs from the PHIDU data package were not used as these were not population weighted.
- SLAs with counts of less than 20 are not included in this data set.
- For some variables, numbers from 1 to 4, or 0 to 19, or where population is less than 100, are not shown

Chapter 5 – Indicators of Socioeconomic disadvantage
The data for socioeconomic indicators were accessed from a number of readily available sources. The following are the issues and notes related to data used for the indicators of socioeconomic disadvantage. The notes on the data sourced from PHIDU have been presented directly from the PHIDU *Notes on the Data: Social Health Atlas of Australia (Third Edition), 2008 (online)*. The notes on data sourced from OESR have been presented directly from the QRSIS database.

The data presented in this section are primarily provided at Queensland SD and SLA levels. Comparisons of some indicators of Queensland against other Australian States and Territories are also provided. For some indicators, SEIFA IRSD Scores for Queensland SLAs were overlayed to provide an indication of relative disadvantage. However, it is important to note that a number of the socioeconomic indicators highlighted in this report will have a high correlation with SEIFA IRSD, namely income, labor force, education, employment, housing, single parent families, people with a disability and people who do not speak English well.

1) 2006 SEIFA IRSD for SDs and SLAs

- The data for individual socioeconomic indicators sourced through PHIDU were overlayed with 2006 SEIFA IRSD scores which were also provided as part of the PHIDU data package. See section 4(c) above.
- Index scores for the larger geographic areas of Queensland SDs were calculated using population weighted averaging (see section 2 above). Index scores for SDs from the PHIDU data package were not used as these were not population weighted.

2) Income and Income support
   a) Median household income in Queensland
      - Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006, Time Series Profile - T02 and Collection: C06 - T02 Selected Averages and Medians (QRSIS database maintained by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR)).
      - Data is applicable to occupied private dwellings. Excludes 'Other not classifiable' households. 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.
   b) Proportion of Weekly Household Income below $500 (ABS, 2006i and 2006j from QRSIS)
      - Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006, Time Series Profile - T02 and Collection : C06 - T02 Selected Averages and Medians (QRSIS database maintained by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR)).
      - ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile - B28 (QRSIS database maintained by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR)).
      - Count of occupied private dwellings (excludes 'Visitors only' and 'Other non classifiable' households.)
        o Comprises 'Lone person' and 'Group households'.
        o Comprises households where at least one, but not all, member(s) aged 15 years and over did not state an income and/or was temporarily absent on Census Night.
        o Comprises households where no members present stated an income.
      - The proportion includes cases where total family income was stated, and excludes cases where either all incomes were not stated or only partial income was stated or nil/negative.
   c) Age pensioners
      - Data compiled by PHIDU using data from 1) Centrelink, June 2006; 2) Department of Veterans' Affairs, 1 July 2006; and ABS Estimated Resident Population, 30 June 2006
      - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
      - People eligible for an Age Pension from Centrelink comprise females aged 63 years and over and males aged 65 years and over; the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) provides a Service Pension (Age) to eligible males at the age of 60 years and females' at age 55 years.
      - The data show a number of SLAs as having proportions in excess of 100%: these are clearly not accurate. The reason for this is not clear, but this indicates that it is possible that other percentages less than 100% may also be overstated. It is unlikely to be the result of people claiming both the Age Pension and a DVA Service Pension (Age), as checks are made each year to ensure such events do not occur; however, a contributing factor could be the process of conversion from postcode SLA, using a converter produced by the ABS.
   d) Disability Support pensioners
      - Data compiled by PHIDU using data from 1) Centrelink, June 2006; 2) Department of Veterans' Affairs, 1 July 2006; and ABS Estimated Resident Population, 30 June 2006

- ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
- Details of males under 65 years of age and females under 60 years of age receiving DVA Service Pension (permanently incapacitated) – an income support pension – have been combined with the Disability Support Pension (DSP) data : people above these ages receive an Age Pension / Service Pension (Age)

e) Female Sole Parent Pensioners
- Data compiled by PHIDU using data from 1) Centrelink, June 2006; and 2) ABS Estimated Resident Population, 30 June 2006
- ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
- Note: People eligible for Parenting Payment Single paid by Centrelink comprise female and male sole parents with at least one child under 16 years of age (who meet certain qualifications, or the child attracts a child disability allowance). Only female sole parent pensioners have been included because females comprise the majority of sole parent pensioners.

f) Unemployment beneficiaries
- Data compiled by PHIDU using data from 1) Centrelink, June 2006; and 2) ABS Estimated Resident Population, 30 June 2006
- ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
- People receiving an unemployment benefit are shown as a percentage of the eligible population (of males aged 15 to 64 years and females aged 15 to 62 years). The data shown are the proportion of the population receiving 'unemployment benefits' they include the Newstart or Youth Allowance (other) paid by Centrelink. Youth Allowance (other) is largely comprised of people aged 16 to 24 years and studying part time (including undertaking an apprenticeship fulltime) or aged 16 to 24 and looking for work fulltime.

3) Unemployment
   a) Estimated Unemployment June 2007
- Data compiled by PHIDU from 1) Unemployed people and Labour force: Small Area Labour Markets – Australia Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, June 2007; and 2) CDEP Participants: Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA), June Quarter 2007;
- ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
- Centrelink data on people in receipt of Newstart or Youth Allowance (other) by postcode (do not include people in receipt of payments under the Community Development Employment Project scheme; this component has been added by PHIDU – see PHIDU data for "Estimated unemployment, including CDEP, June 2007)
- ABS Labour Force Survey data at the ABS Labour Force Region level
- 2006 Census of Population and Housing labour force data at the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level.
- The data show a number of SLAs as having proportions in excess of 100%: these are clearly not accurate. The reason for this is not clear, but this indicates that it is possible that other percentages less than 100% may also be overstated.
   b) Queensland unemployment rate December 2006 to December 2008
- Data for Queensland unemployment rate December 2006 to December 2008 was sourced from the QRSIS database maintained by the OESR
- DEEWR, Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets Australia. (QRSIS database maintained by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR)).
- Small Area Labour Force data may have high standard errors associated with it. Care should be taken in the interpretation of regional estimates. The estimates in this collection have not been adjusted to take account of seasonal or other variations and can thus exhibit irregular movements. In addition, quarter-to-quarter comparisons may not be indicative of actual movements in the labour market. Year-on-year comparisons may therefore be more appropriate.

- Figures are synthetic estimates based on ABS Employment, Centrelink unemployment numbers and labour force data from the 1996 and 2001 Estimates Census of Population and Housing. It is therefore inappropriate to derive employment estimates from these statistics.
- The State total generated in QRSIS is the sum of the individual regions and this may not match other DEWR published figures. State published estimates from DEWR are now calculated using revised ABS data. (d) Smoothed figures prior to September Qtr 2003 are unavailable because the are calculated using a four Quarterly average of unsmoothed data, which are only available from December Qtr 2002.
- *Note: The ABS reduced the sample size of this survey by 24% (or 13,300 persons nationally) in the July 2008 survey month, citing "a tight budget situation in 2008-09, which has led to a range in reductions in the ABS work program". This raised the sample standard error, and the volatility of the series. Hence, particular caution should be used when interpreting labour force data from July 2008. This follows an 11% reduction (6,800 persons) between November 2007 and June 2008.

4) Education
   Highest Year of School Completed, 2006
   Data sourced from the QRSIS database maintained by the OESR (ABS, 2006h from QRSIS).
   - ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing, 2006, Basic Community Profile - B15.
   - ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile Table 12 - Second Release.
   - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from the ABS (ABS, 2006a(ii)).
   - Count of persons aged 15 years and over.
   - Based on place of usual residence.

5) Household type
   a) Queensland Household Projections
      - Data on Queensland population and households projections were sourced through the OESR.
      - Queensland Centre for Population Research (2008), Queensland State and Regional Household and Dwelling Projections 2006 to 2031 (2008 release), University of Queensland.

6) Families
   a) Families, 2006
      Single Parent Families with Children Aged Under 15 years, 2006
      - ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing sourced from PHIDU
      Jobless Families with Children Aged Under 15 years, 2006
      - ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing (unpublished) sourced from PHIDU
      - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
      Welfare dependent and other low income families with children
      - Data compiled by PHIDU from: 1) Low income families: Centrelink, June 2006; and Families: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing
      - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
      - For 2006, families included are those with children and with income under $22,966 p.a. in receipt of the Family Tax Benefit (A) (whether receiving income support payments or not). These families would all receive the Family Tax Benefit (A) at the maximum level.
      - The level of income used for these analyses was based on the Poverty Lines: Australia, June Quarter 2006 which contains a weekly income for single parent with two children, including housing costs. Poverty Lines: Australia is a quarterly newsletter that updates the Henderson Poverty Line as defined in the 1973

Commonwealth Commission of Inquiry into Poverty. Poverty lines are presented for a range of family sizes, in order to avoid situation of poverty. The updated Poverty Lines take into account changes in the average income level of all Australians, reflecting the idea that poverty is relative. For further information see *Poverty Lines: Australia Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research.*

7) Older People
   a) Numbers and proportion of total in QLD
      • Queensland Treasury Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR) (2008a), Queensland Government population projections to 2056: Queensland and statistical divisions, 2008 edition, Brisbane.
      • Australian Bureau of Statistics, (2006c), Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, June 2006, Cat. no. 3201.0, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra.
      • Queensland maps sourced from OESR from the QRSIS database maintained by the OESR: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing, 2006, Basic Community Profile – B01.
   b) Proficiency in Spoken English (ENGP)
      • ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing sourced from CDATA Online Statistical Division (SD) and Age 5 Year Age Groups (AGEP) by Proficiency in Spoken English (ENGP)
      • Countries designated as predominantly non-English speaking exclude the following counties that are designated as "English speaking" Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.
   c) Lone person household (living alone)
      • ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile - B22 (QRSIS database maintained by the OESR).
   d) Housing Stress and Older People – older low income households in unaffordable private rental
      • Data for low income households in unaffordable private rental was sourced from the Department of Communities: Department of Family & Community Services, Housing Dataset of Centrelink recipients unit record file at 30 June 2008.
      • ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from the ABS (ABS, 2006a(ii)).
      • Based on actual private rents paid by Centrelink beneficiaries less Commonwealth Rent Assistance, expressed as a proportion of declared gross income. Centrelink beneficiaries include all households receiving benefits or allowances from Centrelink, including Family Allowance Part B recipients. This Centrelink file is provided under strict conditions for statistical analysis only.
      • The Department of Communities considers that rents exceeding 30% of gross income are unaffordable to low income households, and those who exceed this rate are considered to be in "housing stress". Note that the numbers of low income households here represent only those that receive Centrelink benefits, excluding some low income households without children, but provides excellent comparative information on affordability. The number of households shown in these tables will undercount actual numbers due to various administrative limitations.
      • The Housing Dataset records income units (families and single persons) rather than households, so circumstances relate to these units and do not relate to the combined circumstances of group households.
      • Counts of less than 20 are not included to protect confidentiality.

8) People from Non English Speaking Backgrounds, 2006

a) Data for People from Non-English Speaking Background resident in Australia for less than five years and People from Non-English Speaking Background reporting poor proficiency in English:
- ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing sourced from PHIDU
- ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
- Countries designated as predominantly non-English speaking exclude the following counties that are designated as "English speaking" Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

9) People with Profound or Severe Disability
   a) Data for People with Profound or Severe Disability includes data for living in long term residential accommodation and people living in the community:
   - Data compiled by PHIDU from 1) Total: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing; 2) people living in long term residential accommodation (subtracted from total to produce people living in the community): ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing (unpublished)
   - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
   - Disability: Need for assistance data – the 'Core Activity Need for Assistance' variable was developed by the ABS to measure the number of people with a profound or severe disability. A person with profound or severe limitation needs help or supervision always (profound) or sometimes (severe) to perform activities that most people undertake at least daily, that is the core activities in self-care, mobility and/or communication, as a result of a disability, long-term health condition (lasting six months or more), and/or older age.
   - The ABS figures include people living in long term residential accommodation in nursing homes, accommodation for the retired or aged (not self-contained), hostels for the disabled and psychiatric hospitals: the 'total' figure includes people living in these accommodation types, whereas the figure for 'living in the community' excludes them.
   - Details of the total number of people with a disability including those with a moderate or mild disability are not included.

10) Housing
   a) Dwellings rented from Government Housing Authority
   - ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing sourced from PHIDU
   - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
   b) Household in dwellings receiving rent assistance
   - Data was compiled by PHIDU using data from 1) National Renters; Centrelink, March Quarter 2006; and 2) Dwellings: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing
   - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
   c) Housing Stress – Renters
   - ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing (unpublished) sourced from PHIDU
   - ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
   - PHIDU Data for Housing Stress has been defined as including households in bottom 40% of income distribution (with less than 80% of median income) spending more than 30% of income on rent.
   d) Housing Stress – Mortgage
   - ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing (unpublished) sourced from PHIDU

11) Health Data
   Health Data Definitions
   - Average annual rate
     Calculated on the indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population, over the reported period
   - Data counts

Data was not shown for SLAs with numbers from 1 to 4, 0 to 19, or where population is less than 100

- Chronic disease and risk factor estimates not produced for a number of 59 remote areas

Age-standardised ratios and Statistical significance

SR - Indirectly age-standardised ratio. The indirectly age-standardised rate is per 100 population

SDR - Indirectly age-standardised death ratio. The indirectly age-standardised rate is per 100,000 population

Sig. – Statistical Significance. Where a ratio varies significantly from the expected level, the degree of statistical significance is indicated by asterisks. A single asterisk (*) indicates that the ratio is statistically significant at the 95% confidence level; that is, that the likelihood of the observed ratio being due to chance or random error is five per cent. A double asterisk (**) indicates that the observed ratio is statistically significant at the 99% confidence level or that there is a smaller, one per cent chance of that SR occurring by chance.. A separate test has been applied to the rate ratios, with the results reported as described above.

Premature Mortality, 2002 to 2006 - Total Deaths aged 15 to 64 years of age

- Data compiled by Prometheus from ABS Deaths, 2002 to 2006; and ABS Estimated Resident Population, 30 June 2002 to 2006
- ABS 2006 Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) sourced from PHIDU
- These data are collected in Australia by the Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each State and Territory. The data are then compiled nationally by the Australian Bureau of Statistics who codes the data according the International Classification of Diseases (ICD).
- In this analysis premature mortality is being examined as deaths in the 15-64 year age group. The selection of this age group was due to the life expectancy in 2006 for Queensland males was 78.5 years and for females 83.4 years. Additionally, the 15 to 64 year age group is also considered to be of 'working' age and therefore a loss of life has a large impact on society.
- There are limitations with the available data for premature mortality for remote Queensland areas. Estimates were not collected for a number of areas by remoteness - 22 SLAs classified as very remote not counted; 2 SLAs in remote areas not counted; and 1 each in Outer Regional and Major Cities - which may include a number of the lower quintile SLAs. Therefore, calculations for average annual rates and age-standardised death ratios by quintiles may not be a true representation due to missing data for a number of areas.