The Premier of Queensland

The Role of the Premier

Following a general election, the Premier, who is the elected leader of the party or coalition of parties holding a majority in the Legislative Assembly, is commissioned by the Governor to form a government.

The position of the Premier is not recognised constitutionally but is mentioned in statutes and parliamentary standing orders. The Premier's power and authority largely depend on their relationship with parliamentary colleagues; with their political party; and the electorate in general.

The role of the Premier includes:

- leading the government and being the most dominant political figure in the state
- being the main channel of communication between:
  - the Governor and cabinet
  - the Queensland Government and other Australian state and territory governments; and
  - the Queensland Government and the Commonwealth Government and overseas governments.
- providing advice to Her Majesty The Queen on the exercise of Her Majesty’s powers and functions in respect of the State of Queensland eg. the appointment and termination of appointment of the Governor;
- choosing ministers
- determining the administrative arrangements setting out the principal ministerial responsibilities of ministers and the acts which they administer;
- being the Chief Minister, chair of cabinet and having the authority to form cabinet committees
- authorising the absences of ministers from the state for up to 14 days
- authorising a minister to perform the duties and functions of another minister
- having the authority to determine when an election is to be called
- ensuring that there is adherence to the caretaker conventions and practices after a general election has been announced; and
- representing their electorate.

Portraits of some of the former Premiers of Queensland as displayed in the Premiers’ Hall, Parliamentary Annexe, Brisbane
Premiers of Queensland, 1859 - present

10.12.1859 - 01.02.1866  Sir Robert George Wyndam HERBERT
01.02.1866 - 20.07.1866  Arthur MACALISTER
20.07.1866 - 07.08.1866  Sir Robert George Wyndam HERBERT
07.08.1866 - 15.08.1867  Arthur MACALISTER
15.08.1867 - 25.11.1868  Sir Robert Ramsay MACKENZIE
25.11.1868 - 03.05.1870  Sir Charles LILLEY
03.05.1870 - 08.01.1874  Sir Arthur Hunter PALMER
08.01.1874 - 05.06.1876  Arthur MACALISTER
05.06.1876 - 08.03.1877  George (Jnr) THORN
08.03.1877 - 21.01.1879  John DOUGLAS
21.01.1879 - 13.11.1883  Sir Thomas McILWRAITH  Ministerialist
13.11.1883 - 13.06.1888  Sir Samuel Walker GRIFFITH  Ministerialist
13.06.1888 - 30.11.1888  Sir Thomas McILWRAITH  Ministerialist
30.11.1888 - 12.08.1890  Boyd Dunlop MOREHEAD  Ministerialist
12.08.1890 - 27.03.1893  Sir Samuel Walker GRIFFITH  Ministerialist
27.03.1893 - 27.10.1893  Sir Thomas McILWRAITH  Ministerialist
27.10.1893 - 13.04.1898  Sir Hugh Muir NELSON  Ministerialist
13.04.1898 - 01.10.1898  Thomas Joseph BYRNES  Ministerialist
01.10.1898 - 01.12.1899  Sir James Robert DICKSON  Ministerialist
01.12.1899 - 07.12.1899  Andrew (Anderson) DAWSON  Australian Labor Party
07.12.1899 - 17.09.1903  Sir Robert PHILP  Ministerialist
17.09.1903 - 19.01.1906  Sir Arthur MORGAN  Ministerialist
19.01.1906 - 19.11.1907  William KIDSTON  Australian Labor Party
19.11.1907 - 18.02.1908  Sir Robert PHILP  Ministerialist
18.02.1908 - 07.02.1911  William KIDSTON  Australian Labor Party
07.02.1911 - 01.06.1915  Digby Frank DENHAM  Ministerialist
01.06.1915 - 22.10.1919  Thomas Joseph RYAN  Australian Labor Party
22.10.1919 - 26.02.1925  Edgar Granville THEODORE  Australian Labor Party
22.10.1925 - 21.05.1929  William McCORMACK  Australian Labor Party
21.05.1929 - 17.06.1932  Arthur Edward MOORE  Nationalist
17.06.1932 - 16.09.1942  William Forgan SMITH  Australian Labor Party
16.09.1942 - 07.03.1946  Frank Arthur COOPER  Australian Labor Party
07.03.1946 - 17.01.1952  Edward Michael HANLON  Australian Labor Party
17.01.1952 - 07.09.1958  Robert John JOHNSON  Nationalist
07.09.1958 - 07.02.1965  J J G Lyster  Nationalist
19.01.1977 - 21.02.1983  Sir Donald RAE  Nationalist
23.04.1987 - 20.05.1991  Sir Russell COBBUTT  Nationalist
20.05.1991 - 25.02.1996  Sir Peter BRODIE  Nationalist
25.02.1996 - 01.05.1999  Sir Jackie ROBERTS  Nationalist
01.05.1999 - 01.07.2009  Peter GORDON  Nationalist
01.07.2009 - 01.07.2015  Anna Bligh  Labor
01.07.2015 - 01.07.2019  Annastacia PALaszczuk  Labor
01.07.2019 - 22.07.2021  Peter DUNN  Nationalist
22.07.2021 - 12.07.2022  Steven MURPHY  Independent
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Person Name</th>
<th>Party</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17.01.1952 - 12.08.1957</td>
<td>Vincent Clair GAIR</td>
<td>Australian Labor Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.08.1957 - 17.01.1968</td>
<td>Sir George Francis Reuben NICKLIN</td>
<td>Country Party</td>
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<td>17.01.1968 - 01.08.1968</td>
<td>Jack Charles Allan PIZZEY</td>
<td>Country Party</td>
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<td>01.08.1968 - 08.08.1968</td>
<td>Sir Gordon William Wesley CHALK</td>
<td>Liberal Party</td>
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<td>08.08.1968 - 01.12.1987</td>
<td>Sir Johannes BJELKE-PETERSEN</td>
<td>National Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.09.2007 - 24.03.2012</td>
<td>Anna Maria BLIGH</td>
<td>Australian Labor Party</td>
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<td>24.03.2012 - 16.02.2015</td>
<td>Campbell NEWMAN</td>
<td>Liberal National Party</td>
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<td>16.02.2015 - present</td>
<td>Annastacia PALASZCZUK</td>
<td>Australian Labor Party</td>
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