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## Young blood floods state

James O'Loan

GENERATION Y is streaming across our borders at unprecedented levels, seeking opportunities and a lifestyle that rival states are finding hard to match.

The latest Australian Bureau of Statistics report reveals a significant shift in interstate migration, with more 20-somethings than any other age group flocking to Queensland.

Since 2001, more than 160,000 Australians have moved to Queensland, which is the only state to have boosted its population through migration from

interstate.

It is now our most significant source of population growth, outstripping gains from overseas migration and births.

Former Perth woman Liz Quinn, 29, chose Brisbane over southern capitals because of its "easy-going vibe", affordability and relatively small size.

"It's just a great climate and it's a great town so I thought it would be fantastic," said Ms Quinn, who runs a Paddington pilates and physiotherapy centre.

And she is just one in a mobile, swelling wave of Generation Y — those born from 1978 to 1999 —

migrants who now nominate Queensland as their "state of choice".

ABS figures show that since 2001 there has been a 4 per cent increase in total interstate migration of those aged 26 and younger, with 33,426 moving here last year.

In 2001, Queensland had a net loss of 170 residents aged 20 to 24. Last year there was a net gain of 2611.

Statistics show that last year, 30.2 per cent of people living within 5km of the CBD were aged 20 to 26.



Y not ... Liz Quinn, front, Jody Falzdeen, left, Anthony Kingston and Hayley Crealy. Picture: Mark Calleja

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