



Government and professional services

OVERVIEW

Townsville is the established administrative hub of North Queensland, with the largest Queensland Government sector outside of Brisbane.

In 2013 there were approximately 2,015 ongoing employees of the Australian Public Service (APS) in Townsville, accounting for approximately 11.4% of Queensland's APS employees.

Key employers within the CBD include numerous state government departments, Ergon Energy, the Australian Taxation Office and Townsville City Council.

Townsville is also a major private sector services centre, with legal, accounting, financial, and other professional firms servicing the broader North Queensland region.

SECTOR CONTRIBUTION

Townsville generated Gross Regional Product (GRP) of nearly \$11 billion over 2012/13, an 8% increase from 2011-2012.

The Townsville public administration sector contributes over \$500 million annually to GRP.

The professional services sector contributes around \$300 million to GRP, in addition to providing approximately 3,000 jobs in Townsville.

OUTLOOK

With Townsville's population expected to reach almost 300,000 by 2031, broad regional economic and population growth are expected to drive strong expansion in the government and professional services sectors.

Townsville is currently seeking increased public sector roles to be moved from southern bases to Townsville in line with stated state and federal government objectives.

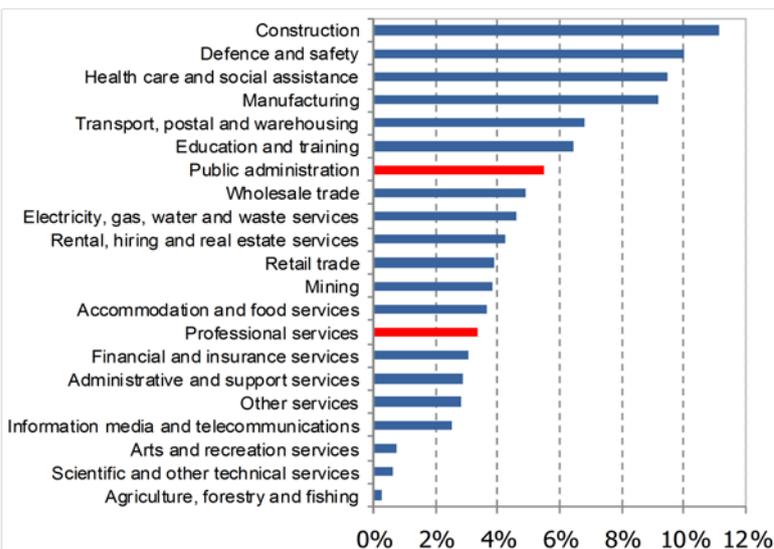
To support an increased professional services and public sector presence, substantial investments are continuing to be made.

There is significant local and state government support to develop the CBD, with a declared target of having 30,000 residents and workers in the city centre by 2030. The city's CBD has the capacity to cater for a far greater concentration of business and government services.

The recent \$57 million Flinders Street Redevelopment has increased business operations and development in the CBD substantially.

Further catalyst projects include The Waterfront project and associated Townsville City Waterfront Priority Development Area.

Figure 1: Industry % contribution to GRP (2012/13)



Note: Estimates based on industry contribution to GRP excluding ownership of dwellings and net taxes.
Source: AEC



These developments are proposed to be completed by 2020 and will have considerable economic benefits for Townsville.

The projects will create substantial capacity and enhanced lifestyle amenity, enabling the city to facilitate a significantly expanded government and professional services sector.

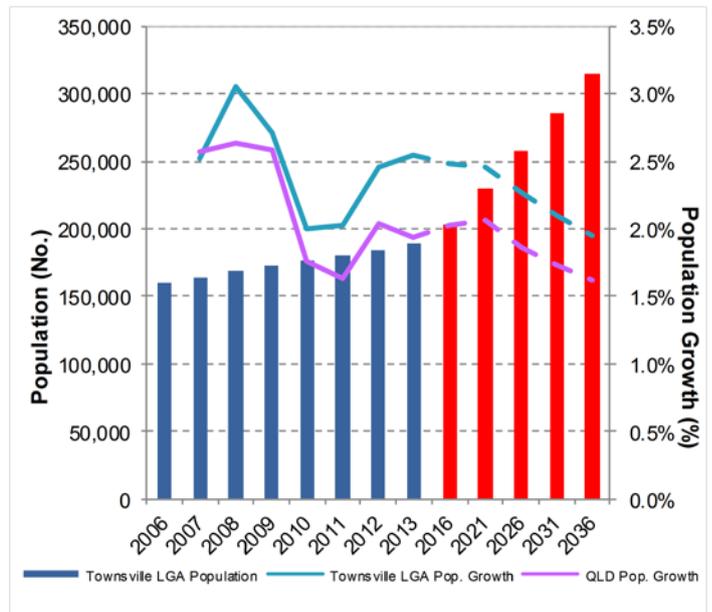
MORE INFORMATION

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Figure 2: Townsville historical and forecast population



Source: ABS (2014), Queensland Treasury (2013)