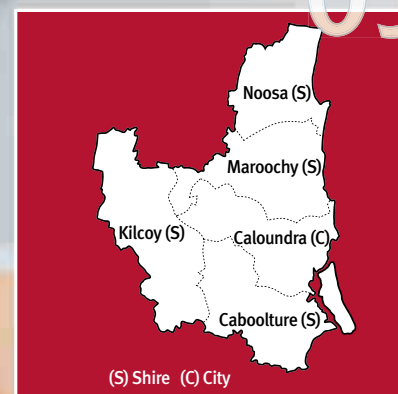




North Coast



Pumicestone Passage view to Glass House Mountains



Premier's Message

My Government is continuing our investment to ensure a positive future for all Queenslanders.

We are committed to work with all to ensure we create opportunities for our regions and to continue building on the Smart State's strong and stable foundations.

This Regional Budget Statement outlines the Government's ongoing investment in the North Coast region and its delivery on key election commitments for 2004-05.

The Government is meeting the needs of the people of North Coast through these initiatives and by improving services, especially in the areas of health, employment, education and child safety.

In 2004-05, our Smart State initiatives in education and training will enable the region to harness the creativity and talent within the community. This Statement demonstrates a significant commitment to a strong and prosperous North Coast region.

My Government will work with the people of North Coast to continue creating opportunities for all Queenslanders to grow and enjoy a better quality of life.

Delivering on our election commitments for the North Coast region, the 2004-05 State Budget highlights include:

- \$19.5 million as part of total Government funding of \$237 million over four years for improvements to the Sunshine Motorway including widening to four lanes between Mooloolaba Road and Pacific Paradise, duplication of the bridge over the Maroochy River and the Pacific Paradise interchange
- \$2 million for a second operating theatre and 10 extra beds at Caloundra Hospital
- \$1 million for additional orthopaedic surgery services at Noosa Hospital
- \$1.4 million for a new fire-fighting vehicle to serve the North Coast
- \$583,000 for visitor facilities at Bribie Island National Park
- \$5.8 million to improve the surface of the Landsborough to Maleny Road between Bald Knob Road and Mountain View Road
- \$1.45 million, including \$101,000 for fit out, for upgrades at Sunshine Beach State High School
- \$112,000, including \$10,000 for fit out, to commence a \$1.12 million major classroom upgrade at Burnside State High School to support middle schooling
- \$3 million for the Boreen Point-Tewantin Road from Kimbah Court towards Noosa.



**Queensland
Government**

North Coast

This Regional Budget Statement for North Coast outlines the Government's State Budget 2004-05 spending commitment to this region and its people. As a Government, we recognise the regions' valuable contributions to making Queensland the Smart State and home for over 3.8 million people. In South East Queensland we will spend \$3.39 billion on capital works.

The North Coast region covers almost 0.3% of the State. It is home to 365,409 Queenslanders, approximately 10% of the State's population. The region is growing at the rate of 2.6% per year, with some areas growing at rates as high as 3.5% per year. Retail trade, property and business services are significant industries for employment and the region's economy. The North Coast is home to 11.7% of the State's construction businesses and 10.7% of the State's accommodation, café and restaurant businesses. These reflect the importance of tourism for the region, which is able to capitalise on its natural beauty and proximity to major urban centres.

Improving health care and strengthening services to the community

We are committed to providing better hospitals, services and health care. Our commitment to improving the standard and accessibility of North Coast hospital, health and emergency services includes spending in 2004-05 on key initiatives such as:

- \$4.5 million to increase surgery services in the region's hospitals, including a second operating theatre for Caloundra, increased orthopaedic surgery services in Noosa and a specialist vascular surgery service for Nambour
- \$3 million as part of the \$9 million project to establish five community-based stroke rehabilitation

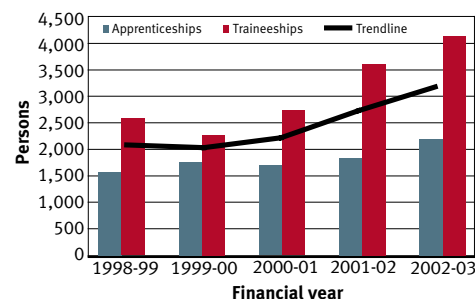
teams in Queensland, with one based in the North Coast region

- \$3 million to increase medical inpatient services to relieve pressure on the emergency department at Caboolture Hospital
- \$1.9 million for breast screening facilities at Nambour
- \$1 million of \$9.7 million for a community health centre at Kawana/Caloundra
- \$1 million for extra radiation oncology services for public patients at Nambour
- approximately \$3.57 million for emergency services on the North Coast, including funding for a replacement ambulance station at Narangba and 10 new fire fighters.

We have committed \$35.9 million over the next three years to recruit an extra 240 paramedics across Queensland. In 2004-05, \$246,000 will provide six new life saving ambulance paramedics in the North Coast region.

Participation in apprenticeships and traineeships

North Coast, Queensland, 1998-99 to 2002-03



Source: DET, Apprenticeships and traineeships (unpublished data)

In 2004-05, \$14.88 million is provided for support and services to people with disabilities and their carers in the North Coast region. This includes approximately \$2.44 million for respite care, including \$1.38 million for the respite facilities at Yandina. Funding of \$4.04 million is provided to assist adults living with disability.

We are working to support low-income families and individuals through providing housing and housing related services.

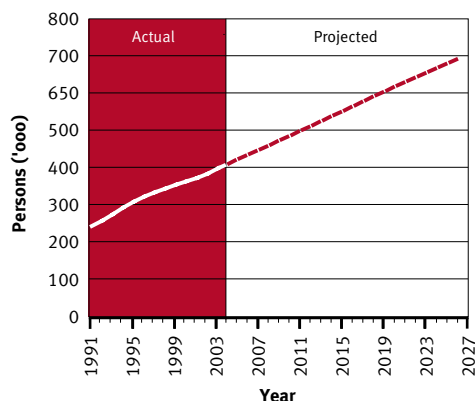


An aerial view of Mooloolah River and Mooloolaba Beach at Mooloolaba on the Sunshine Coast.

The North Coast includes Caloundra City and Caboolture, Kilcoy, Maroochy and Noosa.

Population projections

North Coast, Queensland, 1991 to 2027



Source: Department of Local Government and Planning, Queensland's Future Population, 2003 edition.

Spending in this region in 2004-05 includes:

- \$13.6 million for new construction, upgrades and maintenance of public housing including the renewal of 75 existing houses in Deception Bay
- funding of \$5.7 million for community housing projects and services including \$2.2 million for crisis accommodation and \$1.2 million for Home Assist Secure services.

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

Participation in the Smart State means we encourage and reward ideas, innovation, entrepreneurship and hard work across all sectors of the Queensland community, industry and Government.

We are investing in school infrastructure across the North Coast region for the benefit of the region's young people and their education. In 2004-05, overall funding includes:

- \$23.3 million for a new school at Narangba and the purchase of land to commence planning for two new schools in the North Coast region under the Smart State Building Fund
- \$2 million, including \$200,000 for fit out, for the industrial arts and technology building at Maroochy State High School.

In addition, \$1.4 million is provided for the Triple R program, which will provide

repainting, reticulation and re-roofing for 27 local schools, including reticulation works for Bli Bli and Coolumb and repainting at Caboolture and Eumundi State Schools.

We are promoting lifelong learning and skilling the workforce to meet the needs of industries central to the Smart State vision and Queensland's economic growth. In 2004-05, approximately \$74 million will be invested in 29,000 training places in the region. Of this, \$5.56 million will be for manufacturing industry related training as part of the Making Queensland's Future – A Manufacturing Development Plan initiative.

In addition, \$2.81 million (including an Australian Government contribution of \$703,000) is provided for the development of a new TAFE campus at Tewantin to deliver training in arts and environmental studies, interior design, language, retail, travel, interpretive tourism and business administration.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

The Government is intent on reforming the child protection system. We are increasing the recurrent funding for child protection to at least \$109 million in 2004-05 and at least \$214 million by 2006-07 to build a new, radically improved system for safeguarding the welfare of Queensland children. The North Coast region will benefit from new funding for State-wide initiatives that include:

- an additional 518 service delivery and support staff who will be employed over the next three years with 318 of these to start in 2004-05 and \$11.74 million for additional frontline staff in 2004-05
- 23 new or expanded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child care agencies by 2006-07 and the establishment of a new Indigenous Support Branch
- therapeutic services such as counselling and support for children with a disability
- 134 new alternative care places in 2004-05 for young people who are not suited to conventional foster care
- \$4.17 million in 2004-05 to further support our foster carers
- \$4.19 million for new places and improvements to residential care.

Implementing strategies that contribute to safe communities is a priority. In the North Coast region key initiatives include approximately \$172,000 for Police Beat Shopfronts at Kawana and Buderim, an estimated \$317,000 for a new Neighbourhood Police Beat at Burpengary and \$1.14 million for police facilities, including a new station at Pomona and acquiring land for facilities at Sippy Downs.

In 2004-05, \$7.84 million will be used to purchase land and begin construction of a new courthouse adjacent to the police station and hospital in Caloundra.

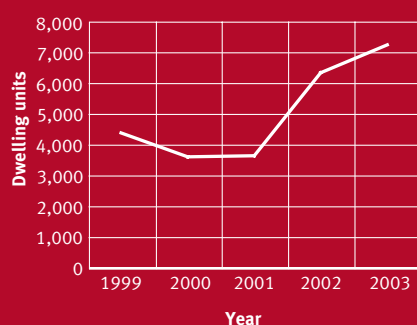
Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

The Office of Urban Management will be established at a cost of \$6.66 million. It will provide leadership to manage urban growth and infrastructure provision effectively in South East Queensland, helping to maintain our high quality of life.

Efficient and integrated transport networks are important for the ongoing development of regional Queensland. In the North Coast region, major initiatives in 2004-05 include:

Residential building approvals

North Coast, Queensland, 1999 to 2003



Source: ABS Building Approvals, Queensland, (8731.3)



- \$6.5 million for improvements to the Landsborough to Maleny Road, including pavement upgrades between Bald Knob and Mountain View Road
- \$5.16 million as part of total funding of \$37 million to improve the D'Aguilar Highway between Caboolture and Kilcoy to reconfigure the Highway as a two lane bypass of Caboolture between the Bruce Highway and Old Gympie Road
- \$1 million as part of total Government funding of \$80 million to widen Caloundra Road to four lanes between Bruce Highway and Pierce Avenue
- \$500,000 as part of total Government funding of \$77 million to widen Maroochydore Road to four lanes between the Bruce Highway and Kunda Park
- \$500,000 as part of total Government funding of \$56 million to build a two lane link between Caloundra Road and Creekside Boulevard at Mooloolaba
- \$500,000 for the Mooloolaba Boat Harbour Dredging Strategy.

During 2004-05, ENERGEX will spend \$8.3 million for a modular substation and feeders in the Tewantin area to commence a broader reinforcement project in the Tewantin/North Coast area. This will help

ensure reliable electricity supply for the North Coast region.

The Queensland Events Regional Events Program will be bolstered with an extra \$1.4 million a year expanding the program to \$2.4 million a year for the next two years and including two new innovative schemes.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

The natural and cultural heritage of the North Coast is valuable for all Queenslanders. To improve its ongoing protection, 2004-05 funding includes:

- \$2.7 million for the Fire Ant Eradication Campaign across South East Queensland
- \$937,000 for fisheries research, including improving our understanding of factors affecting fish stocks and the survival of released fish
- \$41,000 for improved fire management and pest and weed management.

We recognise the value of ecotourism to the region and are spending an estimated \$1.3 million to improve visitor amenities and facilities in parks and natural areas throughout the region. This includes approximately \$477,000 for the Sunshine Coast Hinterland Great Walk in the Blackall Range.



In 2004-05, \$246,000 will provide six new ambulance paramedics to help save lives, maintain emergency response times and enhance the health and safety of paramedics in the North Coast region.

apprenticeship and traineeship incentives to provide jobs in crucial, skills-shortage industries and the public sector.

The potential of the region to take advantage of industrial growth opportunities will be enhanced by the Government's \$21.6 million investment in industrial estate development in Caloundra, Yandina, Narangba and Coolool.

The aquaculture industry across the State will benefit from an estimated \$500,000 investment in the Bribie Island Aquaculture Park.

Delivering responsive government

The Government continues to engage with local communities and businesses to better coordinate service delivery and identify solutions to local issues, including through the regular Ministerial Regional Community Forums and Community Cabinets. Over \$1.3 million is allocated to support regional government offices in working with the North Coast community to develop opportunities and address issues.

Maleny Wood Expo



The Maleny Wood Expo features demonstrations and exhibitions from chainsaw to fine furniture. South East Queensland's finest wood artisans showcase their work in sustainably harvested native, recycled and weed timbers.

Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

The Government continues to work in partnership with the people of the North Coast region to build its social and economic strengths. The North Coast region will receive around \$7.37 million to create an estimated 1,131 jobs in 2004-05 through the Government's

Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative. This includes \$3.39 million allocated to community employment programs and \$3.98 million for

Budget Highlights

2004-05

Budget summary

Sustained economic growth and strong employment conditions

- Queensland is expected to continue to outperform the rest of Australia in both 2003-04 and 2004-05 with economic growth of 4% and 4¼%.
- Employment growth remains substantially higher than the rest of Australia, with growth of 2¼% forecast for 2004-05.
- The State's year-average unemployment rate is 6¼%, the lowest level in more than two decades.

Strong finances

- A General Government net operating surplus of \$646 million and a cash surplus of \$1.059 billion are forecast in 2004-05, following a record estimated actual net operating surplus of \$2.374 billion for 2003-04.
- The State's net worth is budgeted to grow from \$69.4 billion at 30 June 2004, to in excess of \$80 billion by 30 June 2008.

Competitive taxes

- Queensland's competitive tax status has been maintained, with taxpayers in other States and Territories paying on average 27% more state tax than Queenslanders in 2004-05.
- From 1 August 2004, credit card duty will be abolished and the general insurance duty rate will be reduced from 8.5% to 7.5%. In addition, debits tax will be abolished from 1 July 2005.
- From 1 August 2004, the threshold for the principal place of residence transfer duty concession will be increased from \$250,000 to \$300,000, providing home buyers with a saving of up to \$1,250.

Delivering on our priorities

Improving health care and strengthening services to the community

- The Budget includes \$90 million over three years to cut elective surgery waiting lists.
- An additional \$220 million over four years is provided to support people with a disability, their families and carers.

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

- The three year, \$1 billion, SmartVET strategy will introduce a number of new training initiatives and the expansion of high priority programs.
- Funding is provided for the Education and Training Reforms for the Future package including more than \$135 million in 2004-05 and rising to more than \$307 million in 2006-07.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

- Full implementation of child safety reforms will involve additional funding of at least \$214 million per annum by 2006-07.
- Funding of \$35.9 million over three years will employ 240 additional paramedics to address growth in demand, maintain emergency response times and improve services.

Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

- Capital spending will be boosted to over \$6 billion, the first time the capital works program has exceeded that benchmark.
- An additional \$200 million is allocated over four years for the Busway network and \$571 million over four years for a new Arterial Roads Infrastructure Package.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

- An additional \$75 million is allocated over four years, beyond the existing \$75 million commitment, to end the broadscale clearing of remnant native vegetation in Queensland by 2006.
- Funding of \$12.5 million is provided over three years for the acquisition of the strategic parcels of land of high conservation value to add to the protected estate in Cape York and the Daintree.

Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

- The Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative will be extended for another three years at a cost of up to \$278 million.
- A \$20 million State contribution is provided towards construction of the \$60 million Queensland Brain Research facility, located at the University.

Government services in your region

For information on government services and activities in your region contact the primary contact offices listed below or visit the Government gateway at www.qld.gov.au

Maleny

QGAP

27 Coral Street
Maleny QLD 4552
Telephone 5494 3537
Facsimile 5494 3506
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 9am to 12:30pm,
1:30pm to 4:30pm

Caboolture

State Development and Innovation Centre

Level 4, 33 King Street
Caboolture QLD 4570
Telephone 5431 2540
Facsimile 5495 7456
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Mooloolaba

State Development and Innovation Centre

108 Brisbane Road
Mooloolaba QLD 4557
Telephone 5470 9400
Facsimile 5470 9420
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Nambour

Department of Communities - Regional Communities Engagement

91-95 Howard Street
Nambour QLD 5460
Telephone 5470 8700
Facsimile 5470 8703
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Department of Local Government and Planning - Women's InfoLink

91-95 Howard Street
Nambour QLD 5460
Telephone: 5470 8774
Toll Free 1800 177 577
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Brisbane

Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy - LandCentre

Level 2,
Cnr Main and Vulture Streets
Woolloongabba QLD 4102
Telephone 3896 3216
Facsimile 3896 3333
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Office of Economic and Statistical Research

Level 8
33 Charlotte Street
Brisbane QLD 4001
Telephone 3224 5326
Facsimile 3227 7437
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 9.00am to 5pm

Office of Urban Management

Level 4
61 Mary Street
Brisbane QLD 4001
Telephone 3235 4557
Facsimile 3235 4563
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday – 9am to 5pm