

Darling Downs has a total population of **279,801*** which is expected to reach **365,000** by 2036

* persons as at 30 June 2014 growing at an annual average rate of 1.4% over the past 10 years

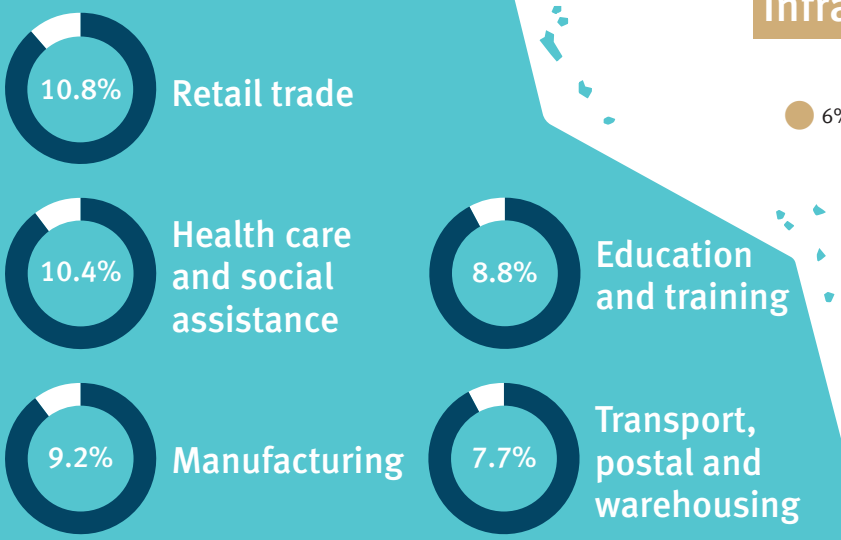
Agricultural production
\$3.18 billion
2012-13

1,922 residential buildings approved for construction
in the 12 months ending 31 March 2015

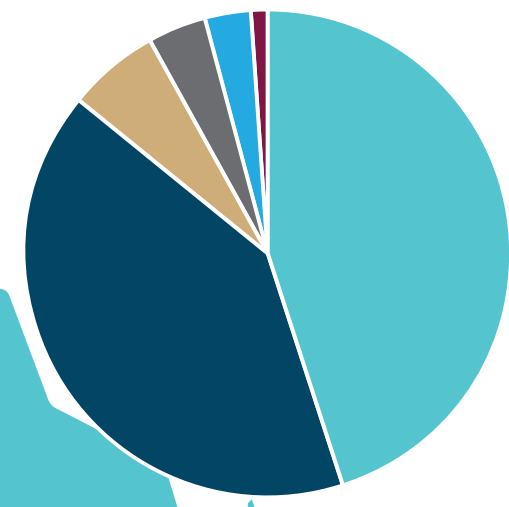
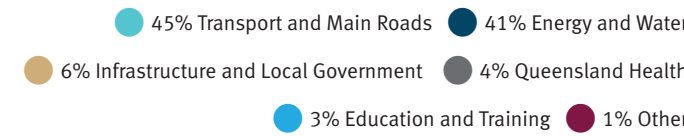
Top 5 Industries
by number of workers

6,088 residential dwellings sold
in the 12 months ending 31 December 2014

30,643 businesses in Darling Downs in 2013-14



Infrastructure improvement budget



Major private sector investment projects currently under construction
\$500 million
Redevelopment and amalgamation of Gardentown and Grand Central Shopping Centres in Toowoomba by QIC
Daandine Expansion Project in Surat Basin by Arrow Energy



JOBS NOW, JOBS FOR THE FUTURE
for Darling Downs

\$764.6M health budget in 2015-16
for the Darling Downs and South West Hospital and Health Services, the primary providers

\$58.9M over the next four years
for maintenance in Darling Downs schools

\$53.7M for disaster relief in 2015-16
in partnership with the Australian Government

3,000 JOBS estimated to be supported by the infrastructure program

Infrastructure improvement budget

\$1.126 billion budgeted for infrastructure improvements in 2015-16, including:

\$511M for transport	\$46.2M for health
\$463.3M for energy and water	\$30.8M for education and training
\$62M for infrastructure, local government and planning	

The Queensland Government employs 14,810 people in Darling Downs and they support:

2,493 km ² of national and regional parks	1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnership regional office
181 state heritage sites	37 fire stations
25 hospitals and health facilities	577 police officers
21 customer service centres and 6,270 km of roads	12 courthouses

Jobs now, jobs for the future for Darling Downs

The Darling Downs region encompasses the local government areas of Maranoa, Balonne, Goondiwindi, Toowoomba, Western Downs, Southern Downs and part of Lockyer Valley, as well as the major regional towns of Warwick, Roma, Chinchilla and Stanthorpe.

Statewide Initiatives

Drought relief

\$45 million of \$52.1 million over four years for the Drought Assistance Package including \$4.1 million for rebates for land rental and waiving the water license fee for struggling landholders and lessees.

Controlling feral animals

\$5 million over three years to control wild dog and cat populations to protect Queensland's agriculture.

Resilient communities

\$40 million to establish the Community Resilience Fund to help local governments protect the infrastructure of communities vulnerable to natural disasters.

1 Enhancing Regional Hospitals

\$20.6 million statewide to commence a \$180 million Enhancing Regional Hospitals Program, including Roma Hospital.

Darling Downs Initiatives

Kogan Creek Power Station

\$48.7 million for Kogan Creek Power Station to support reliability and efficiency of power supply.

Social housing

\$19 million to expand and improve social housing.

Disaster relief and recovery

\$53.7 million, in partnership with the Australian Government, for local government recovery and reconstruction projects.

Sustainable agriculture and water quality

\$1.6 million for agricultural productivity, water quality, weed and feral animal control. \$970,000 to protect and enhance agriculture through pest and weed control. \$230,000 to help irrigators achieve more productive on-farm water use.

Children's literacy

\$308,000 of \$1.2 million over four years to public libraries to support parents in their child's (0-5) literacy development.

Ophthalmology surgery

\$1.4 million for ophthalmology surgery.

Public library grants

\$1.4 million for new resources for public libraries in Western and Southern Downs, Lockyer Valley, Toowoomba, Balonne, Goondiwindi and Maranoa.

2 Research and development

\$2 million over two years to upgrade Hermitage Research Facility at Warwick to improve its grains research outcomes.

3 Elderly parent carers

\$100,000 of \$1 million over three years for the Elderly Parent Carer Innovation Trial, for older parents with adult sons and daughters with disabilities.

4 Schools capital works

\$4.1 million of \$15.7 million over two years for new school facilities.

5 Glen Niven Dam

\$1 million to upgrade Glen Niven Dam.

6 Roma fire and rescue

\$600,000 of \$3.6 million over two years to upgrade Roma's auxiliary fire and rescue station.



7 Drought support for stock routes

\$210,000 for stock owners during periods of drought, including upgrades of priority windmills, water tanks, dams, troughs and other infrastructure.

8 Cobb & Co Museum

\$150,000 for educational programs at the Cobb & Co Museum, including the Have a go! Festival.

9 Warrego Highway works

\$107.8 million, in partnership with the Australian Government, for Warrego Highway improvements to the west of Toowoomba, including duplication and improved intersections.

10 Toowoomba Second Range Crossing

State funding of \$321 million of \$1.606 billion over three years, in partnership with the Australian Government.

11 Chinchilla-Tarra Road

\$13.9 million to widen the road and undertake bridge replacement.

12 MRI for Toowoomba

\$9.6 million to establish an MRI service at Toowoomba Hospital.

13 Dalby-Kogan Road

\$11.4 million to widen the road and undertake bridge replacement.

