



# ECONOMIC REPORT

Rockhampton Regional Council

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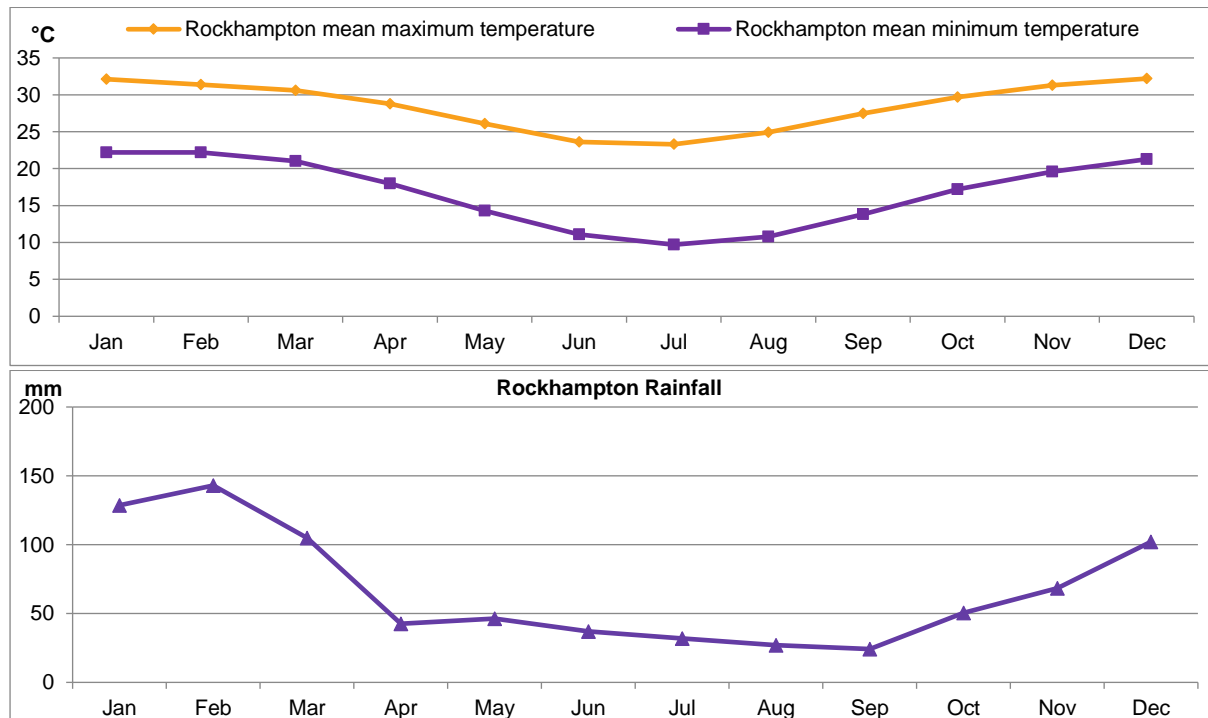
# Overview

## Key indicators at a glance

- GRP - \$5.7b (2021-22)
- Population – 83,723 persons
- Ave annual population growth – 0.6%
- Population projection – 96,380 in 2046
- Labour force – 46,140
- Unemployment rate 4.1%

## Climate

The Rockhampton Regional Council area enjoys a subtropical climate with wet summers and low winter rainfall. The highest mean monthly maximum temperature in Rockhampton is in December, with 32.2°C. August has the lowest mean monthly minimum temperature, with 9.7°C. Rockhampton has its highest mean monthly rainfall in February (143.0 mm) and the lowest mean monthly rainfall is in September, with just 24.2 mm.



Based on observations recorded at Rockhampton Airport from 1939 to 2022.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology, Jan 20



## Rockhampton Regional Council Area

The Rockhampton (R) is within the Fitzroy Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4). It covers a total area of 6,581.1 km<sup>2</sup> and accounts for 0.4% of the state.

There are 13 Statistical Area Level 2s (SA2) within the Rockhampton (R). Rockhampton (R) includes the urban centres of Gracemere, Mount Morgan and Rockhampton.

Source: QGSO, Queensland Treasury 2016

**Note:** maps of SA2 areas can be downloaded from *Queensland Statistical Areas, Level 2 (SA2), 2021*, <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/geographies-maps/maps/queensland-statistical-areas-level-2-sa2-2021>

# Demographics

## Quick stats

- 2022 estimated resident population – 83,723 persons
- 2016-2021 average annual increase in population – 0.6%
- Greater proportion of persons aged 0 to 19 years than Queensland
- Greater proportion of persons aged 80 years and over than Queensland
- 2046 population projection – 96,380 persons
- 2021-46 average annual increase in population – 539 persons

## Population change by Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2)

The estimated resident population of the Rockhampton Regional Council area at 30 June 2022 was 83,723 persons, 1.6 % of the total Queensland population. Between 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2022, the population in the Rockhampton Regional Council area increased by a 0.6% per annum average growth rate, a slower growth rate than Queensland, which increased by an average of 1.6% per annum.

While the population of the region remained relatively stable between 2017 and 2022, population change varied significantly by Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2). The fastest population growth over the five-year period occurred in Parkhurst – Kawana SA2 (an average of 1.7% per annum), followed by Gracemere SA2 and Rockhampton Surrounds – West SA2 (both an average of 1.2% per annum).

Statistical Area Level 2(b)	Area	Estimated resident population as at 30 June			Change (c)	
	km <sup>2</sup>	2017	2021	2022	2017–2022	
		— number —			%	persons
Berserker	10.0	6,976	7,113	7,176	0.6	40
Bouldercombe	1,338.7	1,869	1,965	1,966	1.0	19
Frenchville - Mount Archer	30.2	9,157	9,154	9,248	0.2	18
Gracemere	154.1	12,056	12,582	12,810	1.2	151
Lakes Creek	16.8	4,967	4,944	4,963	0.0	-1
Mount Morgan	490.7	2,935	2,960	2,990	0.4	11
Norman Gardens	36.1	10,489	10,828	10,938	0.8	90
Park Avenue	5.0	5,183	5,343	5,372	0.7	38
Parkhurst - Kawana	28.4	7,109	7,559	7,741	1.7	126
Rockhampton - West	34.5	6,003	5,954	5,971	-0.1	-6
Rockhampton City	51.2	3,376	3,402	3,419	0.3	9
Rockhampton Region - West	4,359.0	2,915	3,025	3,094	1.2	36
The Range - Allentown	5.5	8,319	8,075	8,035	-0.7	-57
<b>Rockhampton (R)</b>	<b>6,560.2</b>	<b>81,354</b>	<b>122,785</b>	<b>83,723</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>473</b>
Queensland	1,729,958.1	4,928,374	5,217,653	5,326,622	1.6	79,650
Rockhampton (R) as % of Queensland	0.4	1.7	1.7	1.6	..	..

.. = not applicable

(a) Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2011.

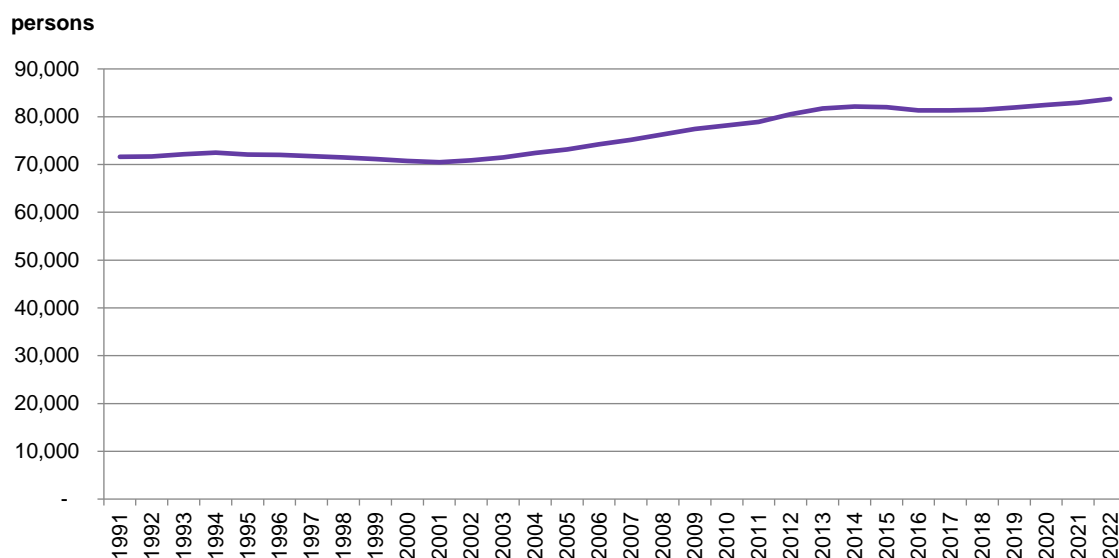
(b) A map detailing boundaries for Statistical Area Level 2 can be found in the Introduction of this profile.

(c) Average annual growth rate.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Regional Population Growth, Australia*, cat. no. 3218.0.

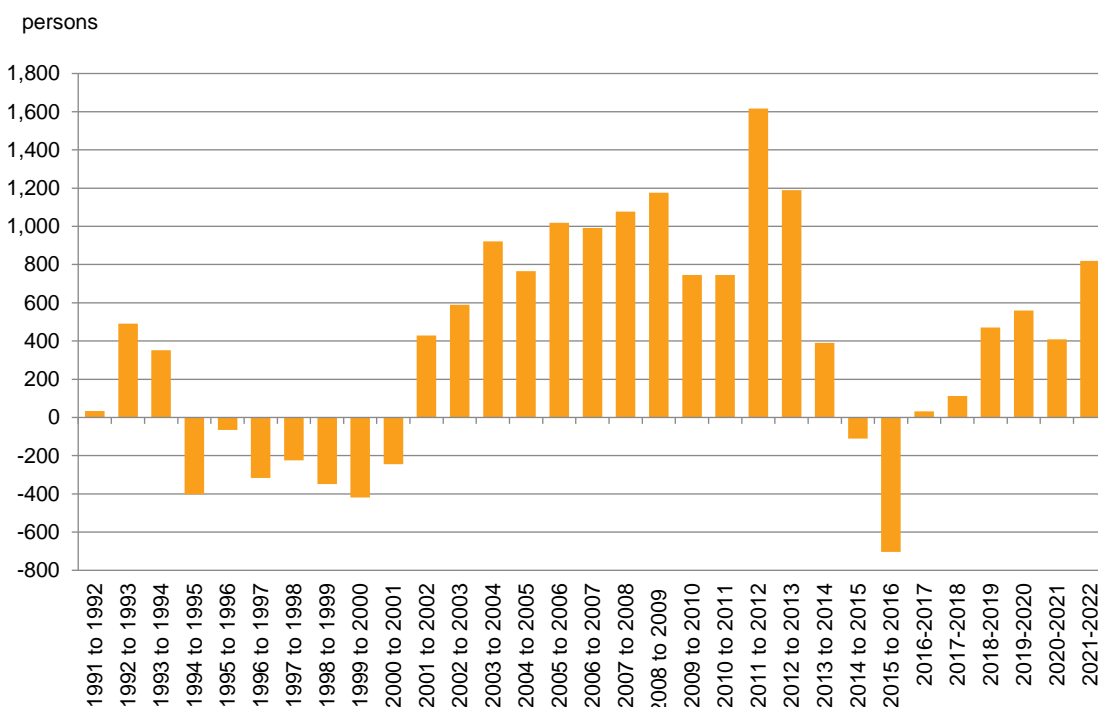
## Population

Longer-term historical estimated resident population data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicate that the population of the Rockhampton (R) area has increased since 1991. The population increased from 71,626 persons in 1991 to 83,723 persons in 2022. This was an increase of 12,097 persons at an average annual growth rate of 0.5%.



Source: ABS, Estimated Resident Population, 3218.0

Annual population change for the Rockhampton Regional Council area has varied considerably between 1991 and 2022. The largest population change was between 2011 and 2012, with an increase of 1,616 persons.

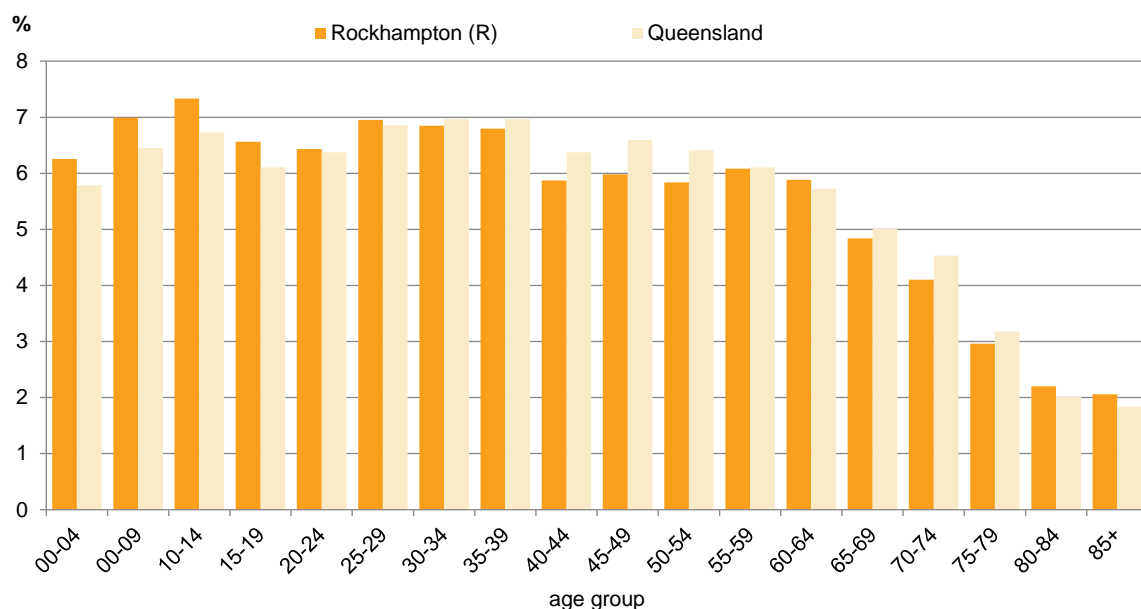


2022 figures are preliminary.

Source: ABS, Estimated Resident Population, 3218.

## Age characteristics

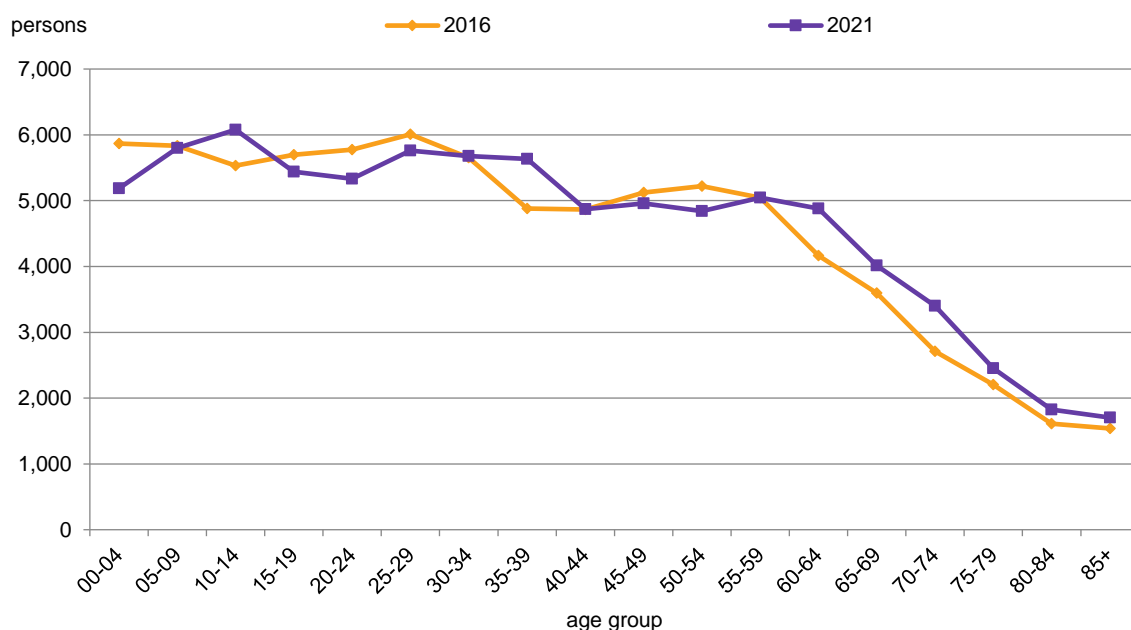
Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicate that the Rockhampton (R), at 30 June 2021, had a greater proportion of persons aged 0 to 19 years and 80 years and over when compared with Queensland. The largest percentage difference between the Regional Council area and Queensland was those persons aged 10 to 14 years (0.6 percentage point higher); the median age for Rockhampton (R) was 36.9 years compared to 38.4 years across Queensland.



(a) 2021 figures are preliminary.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Population Estimates by Age and Sex, Australia and States*, cat. no. 3235.0.

Between 2016 and 2021, the greatest increase in population in the Rockhampton (R) area was persons aged 35 to 39 years (754), followed by persons aged 60 to 65 years (717) and 70 to 74 years (692). The number of persons aged 0 to 4 years decreased between 2016 and 2021 by 682 persons.



(a) 2001 to 2016 figures are final. 2019 figures are revised. 2021 figures are preliminary.

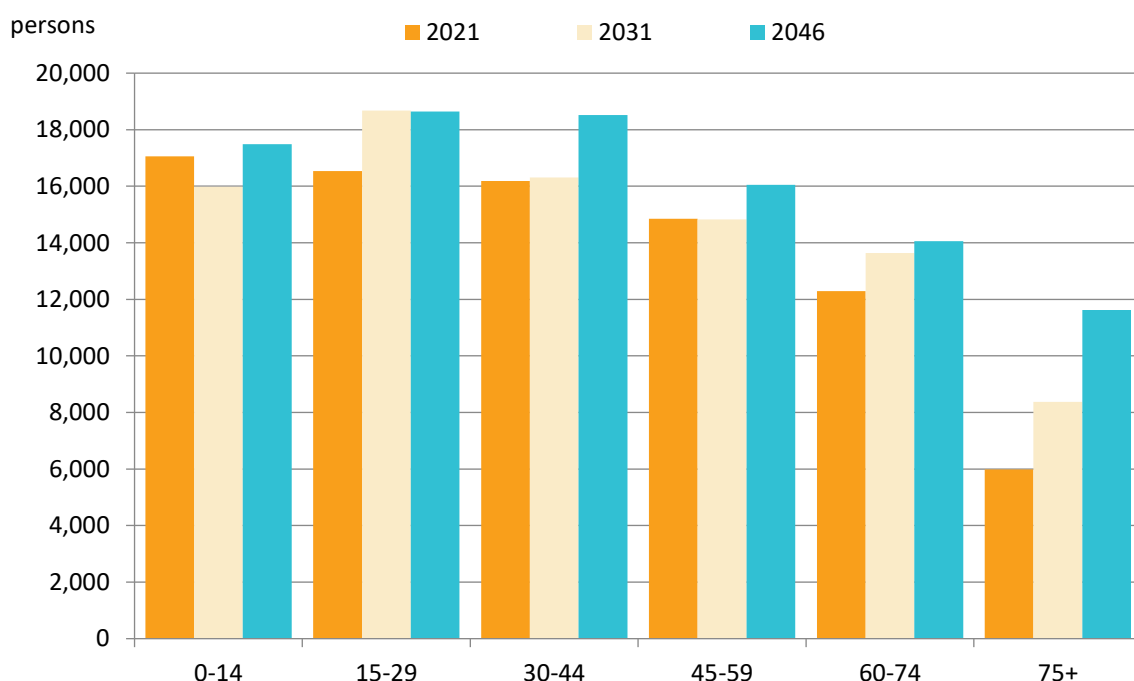
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Population Estimates by Age and Sex, Australia and States*, cat. no. 3235.0.

## Population projections

Queensland Government population projections, 2021 edition (medium series), indicate that the population of the Rockhampton (R) is projected to grow to 96,380 persons by the year 2046. The Regional Council area is projected to have a lower rate of growth (0.6%) than the Central Queensland SA4 (0.8%) and Queensland (1.4%). It is predicted the region will grow on average by 539 persons per year between 2021 and 2046.

Area	Estimated resident population 2021	- Projected resident population -					Average annual growth	
		2026	2031	2036	2041	2046	2021 to 2046	
		— number —					persons	%
<b>Rockhampton (R)</b>	<b>82,904</b>	<b>85,511</b>	<b>87,805</b>	<b>90,217</b>	<b>92,862</b>	<b>96,380</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Central Queensland SA4	231,104	241,129	251,855	262,592	272,990	282,790	1,666	0.8
Queensland	5,217,653	5,663,247	6,079,887	6,492,441	6,899,969	7,299,934	65,467	1.4
Rockhampton (R) as a % of Central Qld SA4	35.9	35.5	34.9	34.4	34.0	34.1	..	..
Rockhampton (R) as a % of Queensland	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	..	..

All age groups are projected to experience growth, however, the greatest percentage growth is being projected in the 30 to 44 years (14.4%) and over 75 years age groups (94.3%).



Source: *Queensland Government population projections, 2021 edition (medium series)*, Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury and Trade.



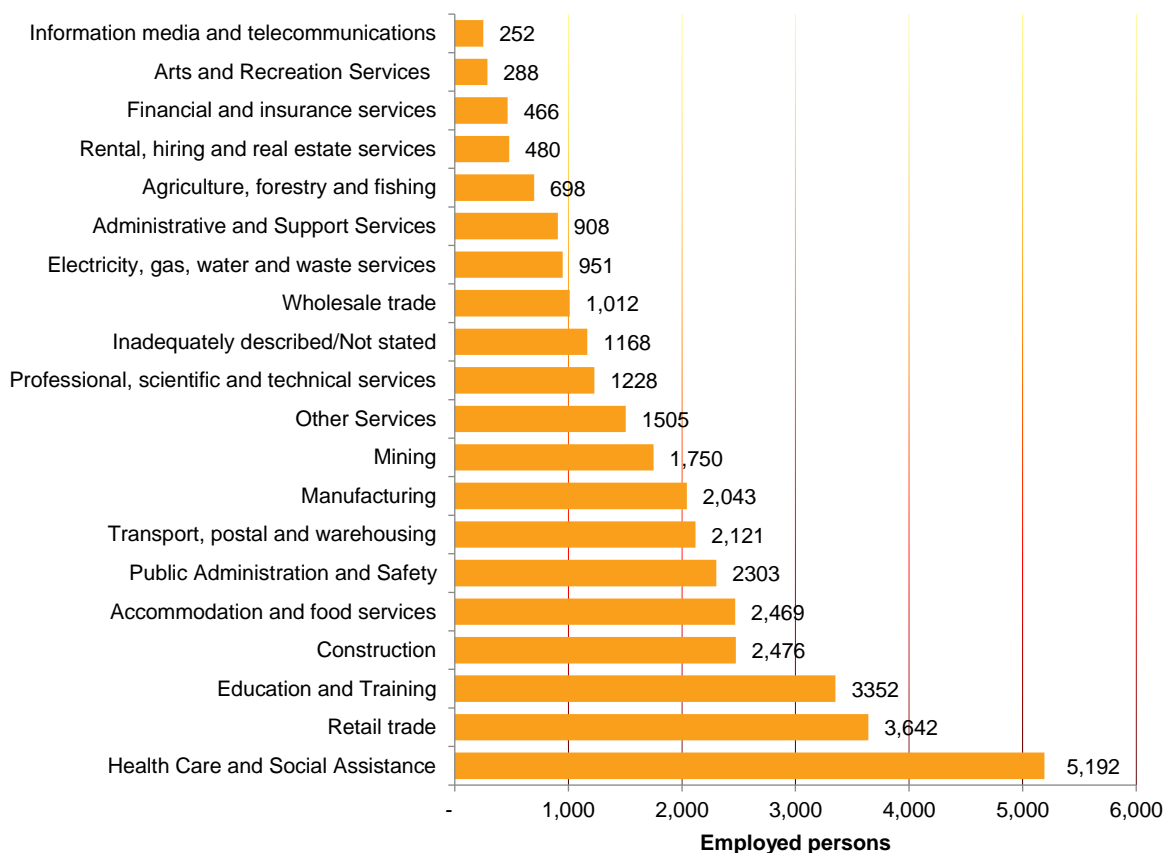
# Employment

## Quick stats

- 2021 Census largest employing industry – health care and social assistance 18.0%
- 2016-21 highest percentage growth of employed persons – health care and social assistance
- 2016-21 highest increase in number of employed persons – health care and social assistance
- 2021 Census largest occupational group – professionals
- 2021 Census 7,865 workers in Rockhampton (R) resided in another local government area
- 2021 Census 84.4% of employed residents worked in Rockhampton (R)
- March quarter 2023 labour force – 46,140 persons
- March quarter 2023 unemployment rate – 4.1%
- March quarter 2023 estimated number of unemployed persons – 1,897 persons
- 2018-19 mean total personal income - \$63,024
- 2018-19 median total personal income - \$53,565
- 2018-19 mean employee income - \$62,089

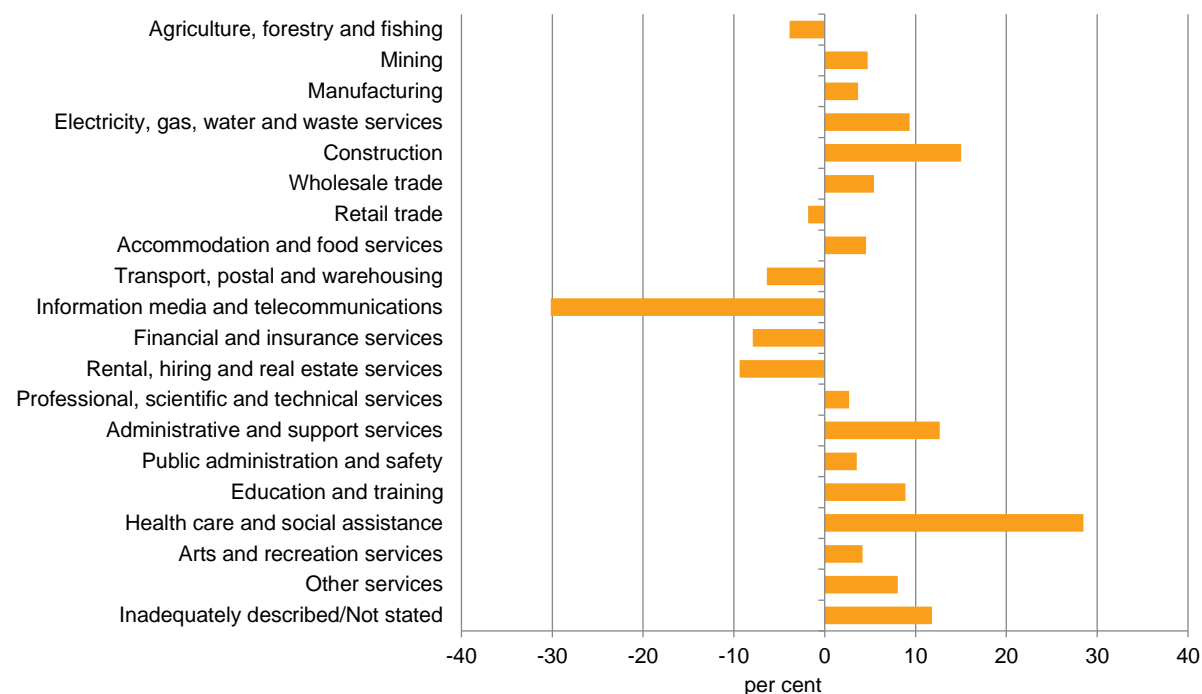
## Employment

At the time of the 2021 Census, 36,979 persons in the Rockhampton (R) identified their industry of employment. Health care and social assistance was the largest employing industry, accounting for 6,670 (18.0%) of these people. Other significant industries were education and training (9.9%) and retail trade (9.7%).



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

Health care and social assistance experienced the highest percentage growth of employed persons by industry between 2016 and 2021 (28.5%), followed by construction (15.0%) and administrative and support services (12.7%). Persons employed in information media and telecommunications experienced the largest decline (30.2%). Health care and social assistance had the greatest increase in the number of persons employed of all industries (1,478 persons). Transport, postal and warehousing had the largest decrease in persons employed of all industries (135 persons).



Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

## Occupation

At the time of the 2021 Census, the largest occupational group of residents in the Rockhampton (R) was professionals (6,157 persons), followed by technicians and trade workers (5,772 persons) and community and personal service workers (5,316 persons).

Most occupations experienced growth between the 2011 and 2021 censuses. The greatest increase was community and personal service workers (44.5%) while clerical and administrative workers decreased (9.1%).

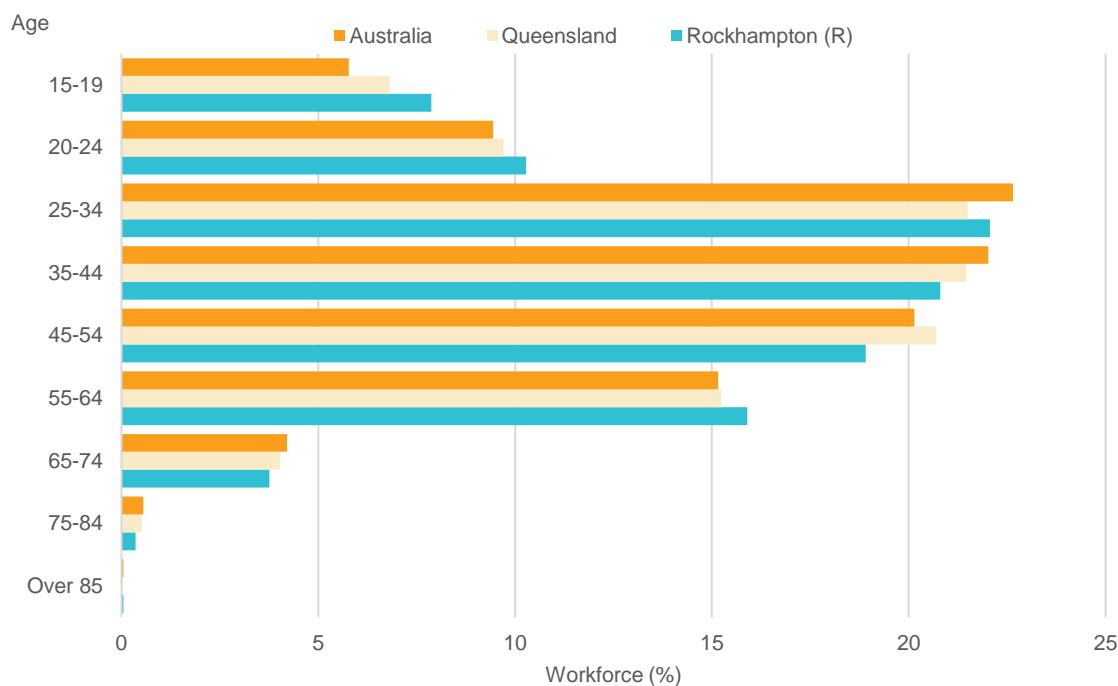


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021

## Age

The workforce profile for the Rockhampton (R) in 2021 showed a higher proportion of workers in the younger age groups (15-24 years) compared to State and National averages.

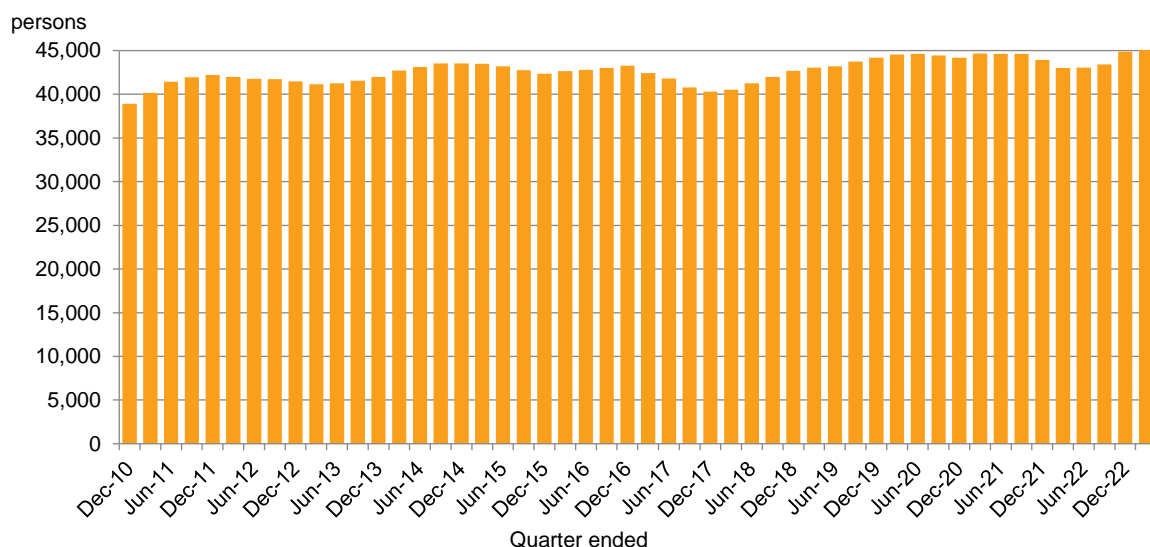
The proportion of workers in the 35-54 years age groups was lower in Rockhampton (R) than State or National averages.



Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021*

## Labour force

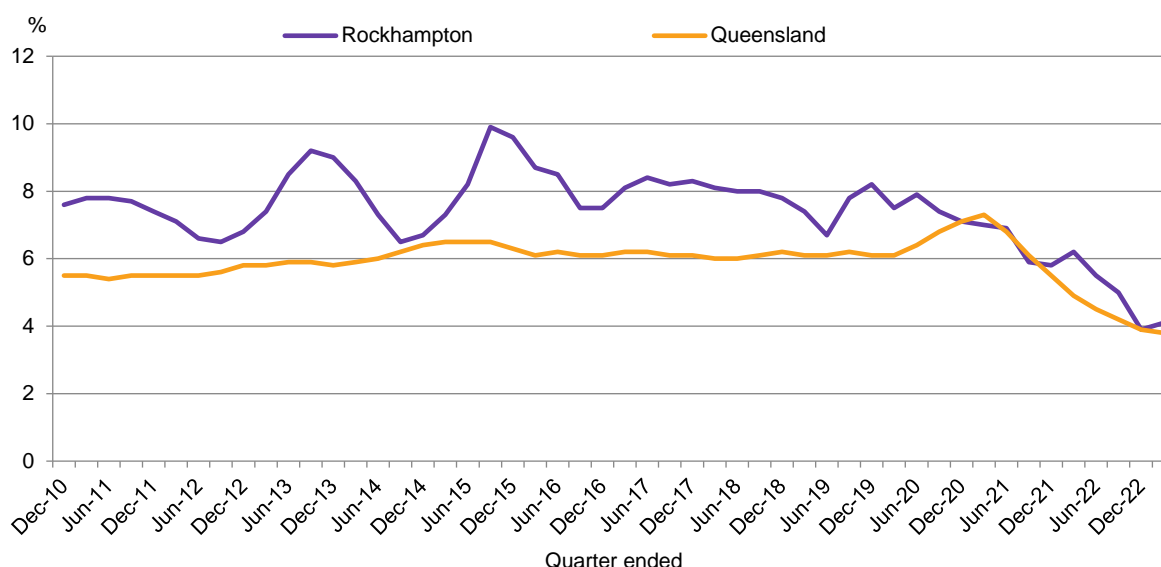
The total estimated labour force in the Rockhampton (R) for the March quarter 2023 was 46,140 persons. Between the December quarter 2010 and March quarter 2023, the average annual growth rate of the labour force in the Rockhampton (R) was 1.5%.



Source: Australian Government National Skills Commission, *Small Area Labour Markets Australia*, various editions.

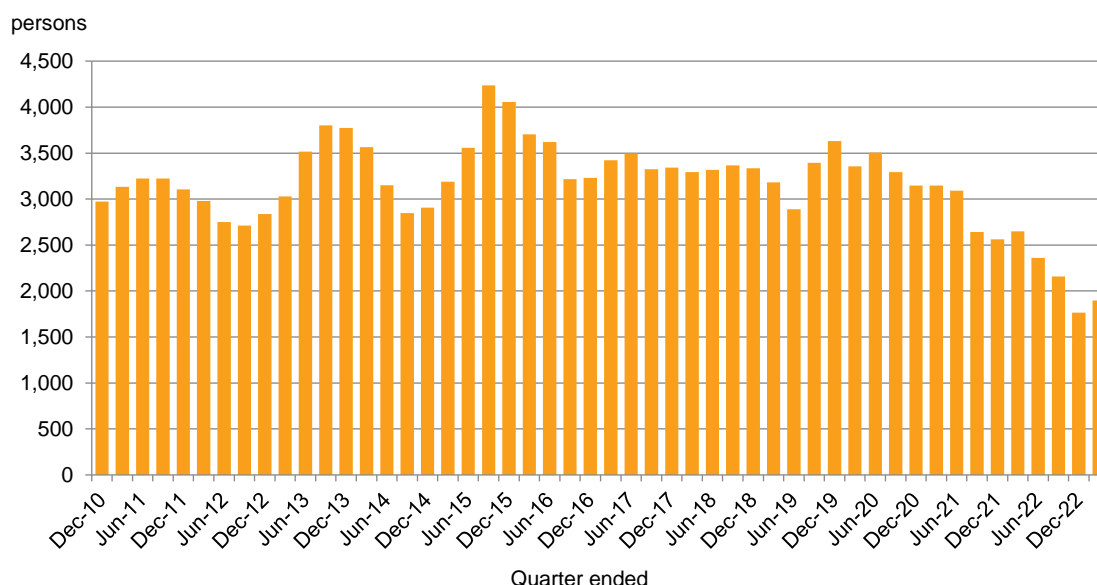
## Unemployment

Synthetic estimates from the Australian National Skills Commission indicate the unemployment rate in the Rockhampton (R) in the March quarter 2023 was 4.1%, a 2.1 percentage points decrease from the same quarter in 2022. Unemployment rates fluctuated during 2020-21 in response to changing conditions as a consequence of COVID-19 and declined in 2022. The unemployment rate for the region in the March quarter 2023 was 0.3 percentage points higher than the rate for Queensland.



Source: Australian Government National Skills Commission, *Small Area Labour Markets Australia* various editions.

The estimated number of unemployed persons in the Rockhampton (R) for the March quarter 2023 was 1,897 persons. This was an increase of 131 unemployed persons since the previous quarter.



Source: Australian Government National Skills Commission, *Small Area Labour Markets Australia* various editions.

## Journey to work

At the time of the 2021 Census, 39,124 people worked in the Rockhampton (R). Of these persons, 79.8% (31,224 persons) resided in the Regional Council area, while 16.0% (6,249 persons) resided in Livingstone Shire. Four hundred and thirty-six persons usually resided in the Sunshine Coast (R) and

worked in the Rockhampton (R) at the time of the Census, while 131 persons resided in other states and territories and worked in the region.

Place of usual residence	Persons	%
Rockhampton Regional Council area	31,224	79.8
Livingstone (S)	6,249	16.0
Sunshine Coast (R)	436	1.1
Gladstone (R)	184	0.5
Gold Coast (C)	160	0.4
Brisbane (C)	139	0.4
Central Highlands (R)	84	0.2
Moreton Bay (R)	63	0.2
Banana (S)	62	0.2
Bundaberg (R)	57	0.1
Mackay (R)	53	0.1
Logan (C)	40	0.1
Fraser Coast (R)	21	0.1
Townsville (C)	20	0.1
Elsewhere in Queensland	166	0.4
Elsewhere in Australia	131	0.3
<i>Total persons residing outside Rockhampton Regional Council area</i>	<i>7,865</i>	<i>20.1</i>
No usual address	35	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,124</b>	<b>100.0</b>

C = City R = Regional Council S = Shire Council

Place of usual residence is based on local government areas as per Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Statistical Geographic Standard.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

At the time of the 2021 Census, 36,981 employed persons resided in the Rockhampton (R). Of these persons, 84.4 % worked within the Council area, while 12.2% (4,525 persons) worked outside the region. This included 1,561 persons who worked in the Livingstone Shire, 1,026 persons who worked in the Central Highlands (R) and 209 usual residents of the region who worked in other states and territories.

Place of work	Persons	%
Rockhampton Regional Council area	31,224	84.4
Livingstone (S)	1,561	4.2
Central Highlands (R)	1,026	2.8
Isaac (R)	648	1.8
Banana (S)	284	0.8
Brisbane (C)	224	0.6
Gladstone (R)	150	0.4
Mackay (R)	107	0.3
Sunshine Coast (R)	24	0.1
Townsville (C)	23	0.1
Woorabinda (S)	23	0.1
Gold Coast (C)	17	0.0
Elsewhere in Queensland	229	0.6
Elsewhere in Australia	209	0.6
<i>Total persons with place of work outside Rockhampton Regional Council area</i>	<i>4,525</i>	<i>12.2</i>
No fixed address	1,232	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,981</b>	<b>100.0</b>

C = City R = Regional Council S = Shire Council

Place of work is based on local government areas as per Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Statistical Geographic Standard.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

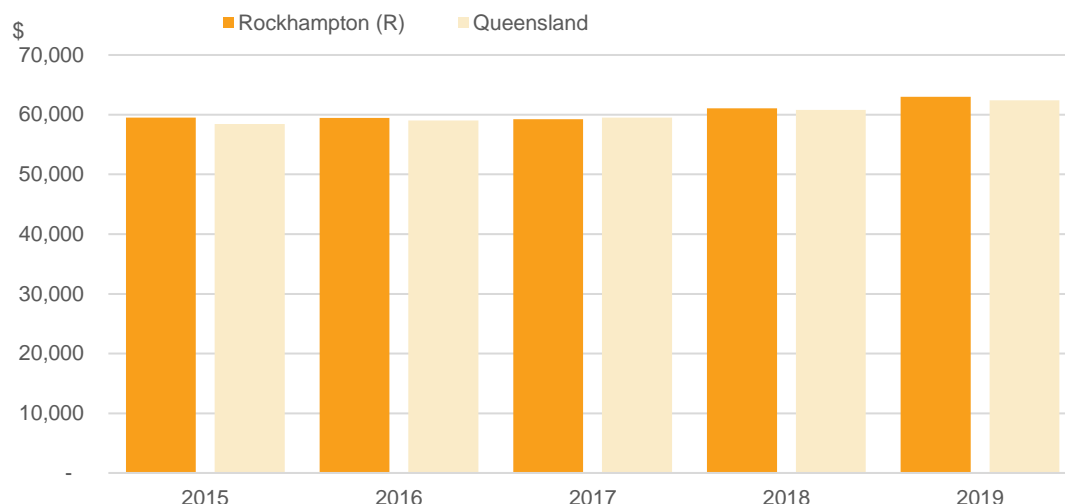
## Mean income - taxpayers

Estimates of personal income show that the mean total personal income (excluding Government pensions and allowances) in the Rockhampton (R) for the year ended 30 June 2019 was \$63,024. This was \$615 more than the mean total income for Queensland (\$62,409). The mean employee



income in the Rockhampton (R) for the year ended 30 June 2018 was \$62,089. This was \$1625 more than the mean employee income for Queensland (\$60,464).

Between the years ended 30 June 2015 and 2019, the mean total personal income (excluding Government pensions and allowances) in the Rockhampton (R) increased by \$3,486 (5.9%). This was less than Queensland for the same period (\$3,976 or 6.8%).

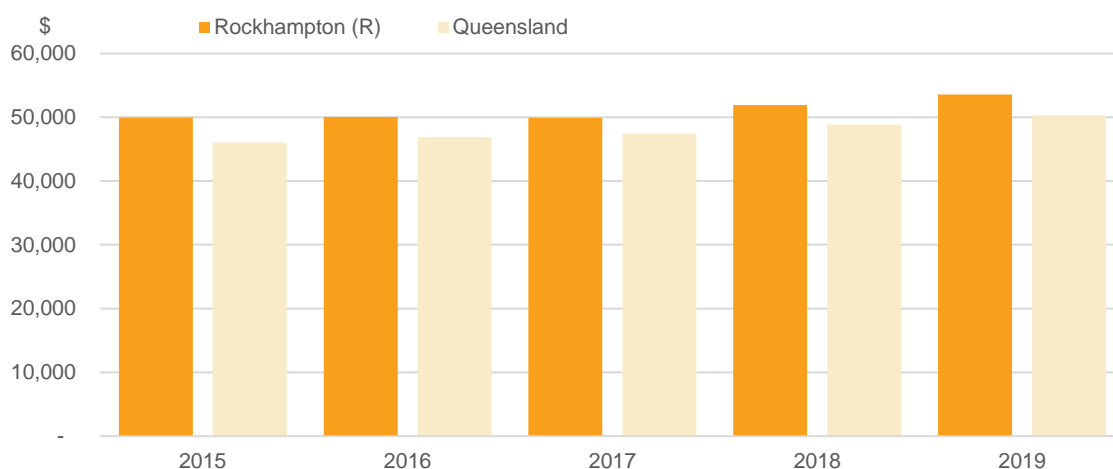


(a) Wage and salary income, as reported on the income tax return, includes gross income as well as allowances, commissions, bonuses, tips, gratuities, consultation fees, honoraria, termination pays, lumps sums and other payments for services.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas*, 2019 cat. no. 6524.0.55.002.

The mean measures the total income divided by the number of income earners. Because income is not equally distributed, as there are generally more low income earners with fewer high income earners, using medians can be a more accurate reflection of income data.

The median total personal income (excluding Government pensions and allowances) in the Rockhampton (R) for the year ended 30 June 2019 was \$53,565. This was \$3,267 more than the median total income for Queensland (\$50,298). Between years ended 30 June 2015 and 2019, the median total personal income (excluding Government pensions and allowances) in the Rockhampton (R) increased by \$3,634 (7.3%). This was less than Queensland for the same period (\$4,246 or 9.2%).



(a) Wage and salary income, as reported on the income tax return, includes gross income as well as allowances, commissions, bonuses, tips, gratuities, consultation fees, honoraria, termination pays, lumps sums and other payments for services.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas*, 2019 cat. no. 6524.0.55.002.

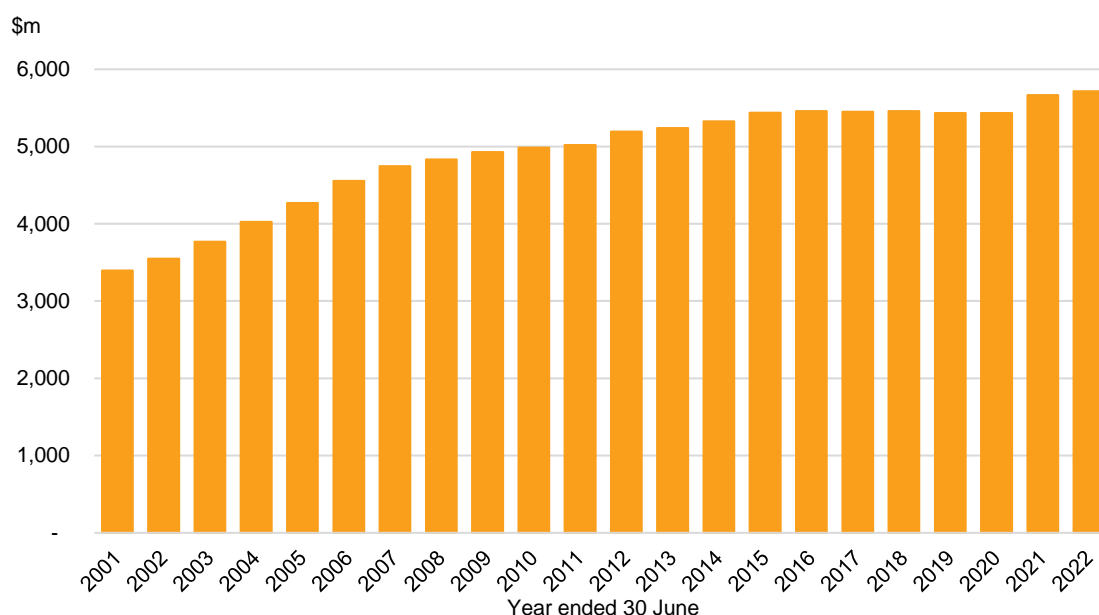
# Industry

## Quick stats

- 2021--22 gross regional product – \$5.7b
- Resources contribution to the economy \$1,900m

## Gross regional product

The gross regional product (GRP) in the Rockhampton (R) was estimated to be \$5,714 million in 2021-22, an increase of 0.8% from the previous year.



Data is based on 2018-19 price base for all years.  
Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) 2023.

Over the ten years to 2021-22, the Rockhampton Regional Council GRP recorded an average annual growth of 1.0%. Between 2000-01 to 2020-21, the average annual growth rate was 3.0%.

Other local government areas in Queensland have also experienced a slowing of the GRP average annual growth rate.

	2001-02	2011-12	2021-22
Bundaberg	2,883	4,320	5,072
Cairns	5,537	8,506	10,216
Livingstone	803	1,228	1,611
Rockhampton	3,547	5,195	5,714

Data are based on a 2018-19 price base for all years. NEIR-ID data are inflation adjusted each year to allow direct comparison, and annual data releases adjust previous years' figures to a new base year.  
Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2018. Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id , the population experts.

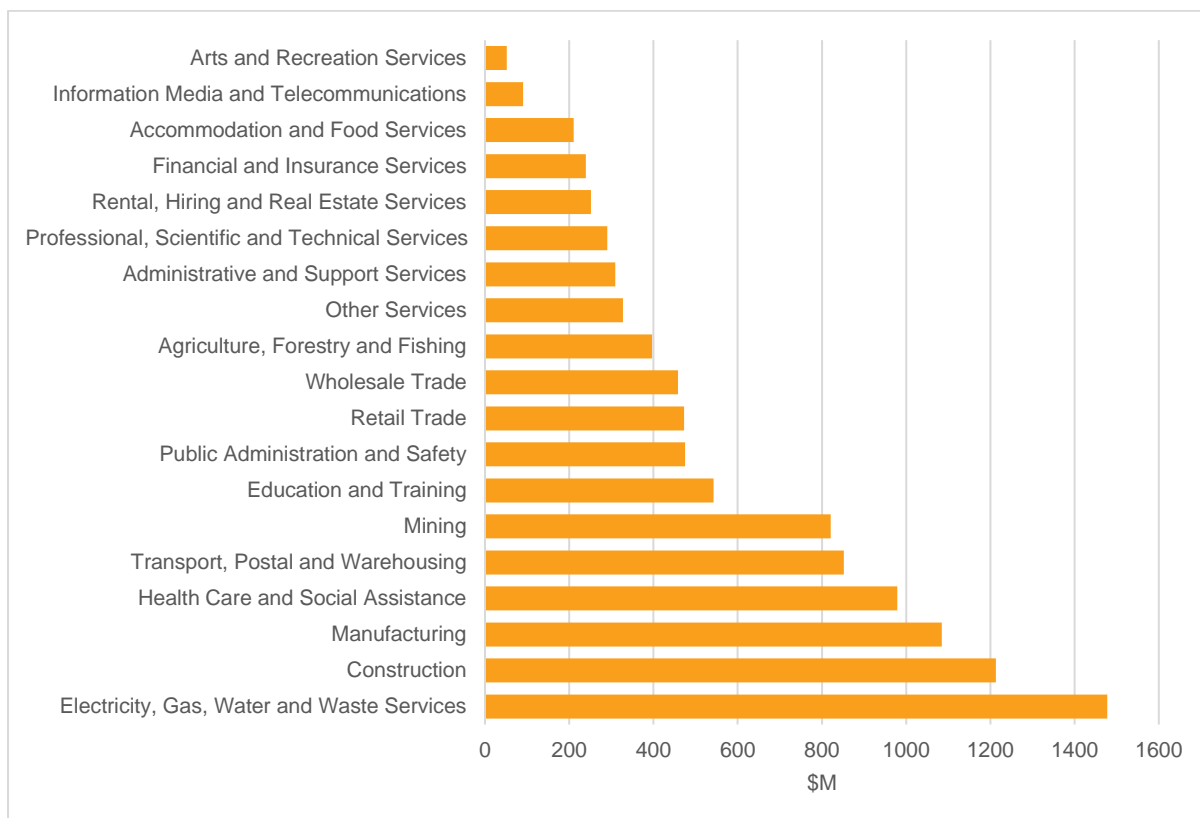
In 2021-22, the Queensland Resources sector provided \$371m in wages paid directly to 2,403 full time employees and \$501m for goods and services purchased locally in the Rockhampton (R) area.

	Banana (S)	Central Highlands (R)	Gladstone (R)	Livingstone (R)	Rockhampton (R)	Fitzroy
<b>Direct Contributions</b>						
Wages (\$M)	198	461	383	290	371	1,800
Goods and Services purchased locally (\$M)	349	823	1,600	153	501	3,500
<b>Gross Regional Product (\$M)</b>	1,100	2,200	3,200	927	1,900	11,000
<b>Royalties (\$M) shared across Queensland</b>						2,500

Source: Queensland Resources Council, *What are Resources Worth* (various locations), 2023

## Output

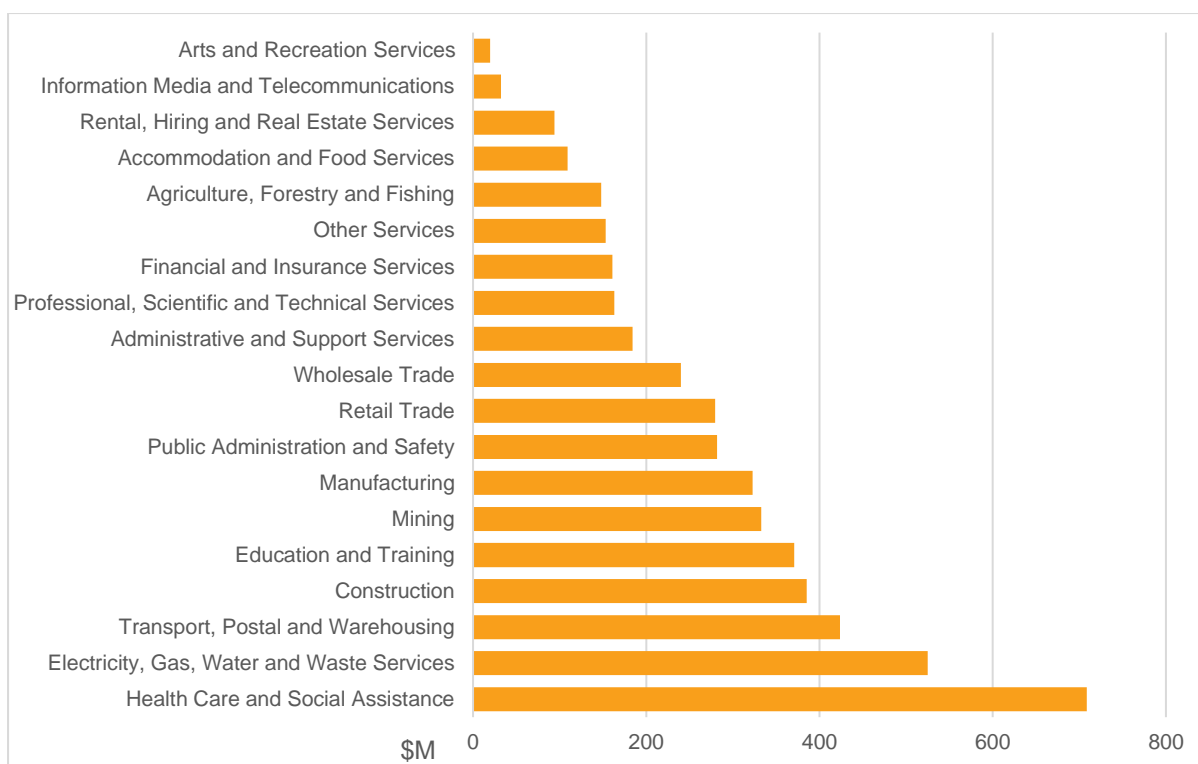
Output is the gross revenue generated by businesses and organisation in each industry sector in the Rockhampton (R). This was estimated at \$10,544.9 million for Rockhampton (R) in 2021-22 with electricity, gas, water and waste services output accounting for \$1,477.8 million, followed by construction, \$1,213.2 million.



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) 2023. Based on 2020-21 price base for all years.

## Value added

The value added by each industry sector can be calculated by adding wages and salaries paid to local employees, the gross operating surplus and taxes on products and production. In the Rockhampton (R) economy, the total value add was estimated at \$4,934.4 million in 2021-22, with health care and social assistance accounting for \$708.7 million, followed by electricity, gas, water and waste services, \$524.9million.



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) 2023. Based on 2020-21 price base for all years.

Health care and social assistance was the prominent industry in Rockhampton (R), accounting for 13.2% of value added in 2020-21, up 3.6 percentage points from 2010-11. Electricity, gas and water supply, 10.7%, and mining, 8.6%, were the next largest contributors to the economy. The largest change in composition was observed in mining, up 5.3 percentage points from 2010-11. Transport, postal and warehousing recorded the largest fall in its share of value added.

Industry	Composition		Change in composition
	2010-11	2020-21	
	— % —		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2.5	3.9	1.5
Mining	3.2	8.6	5.3
Manufacturing	8.4	7.5	-0.9
Electricity, gas and water supply	11.1	10.7	-0.4
Construction	8.2	7.4	-0.9
Wholesale trade	4.4	3.6	-0.8
Retail trade	6.2	5.8	-0.4
Accommodation and food services	2.9	2.3	-0.7
Transport, postal and warehousing	8.2	5.5	-2.7
Information media and telecommunications	1.1	0.7	-0.4
Financial and insurance services	5.9	3.7	-2.2
Rental, hiring and real estate services	1.9	2.5	0.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	3.9	3.9	0.1
Administrative and support services	2.7	3.2	0.5
Public administration and safety	7.7	6.1	-1.5
Education and training	8.4	7.8	-0.6
Health care and social assistance	9.6	13.2	3.6
Arts and recreational services	0.5	0.5	0.0
Other services	3.2	3.0	-0.2
<b>Gross value added</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>..</b>

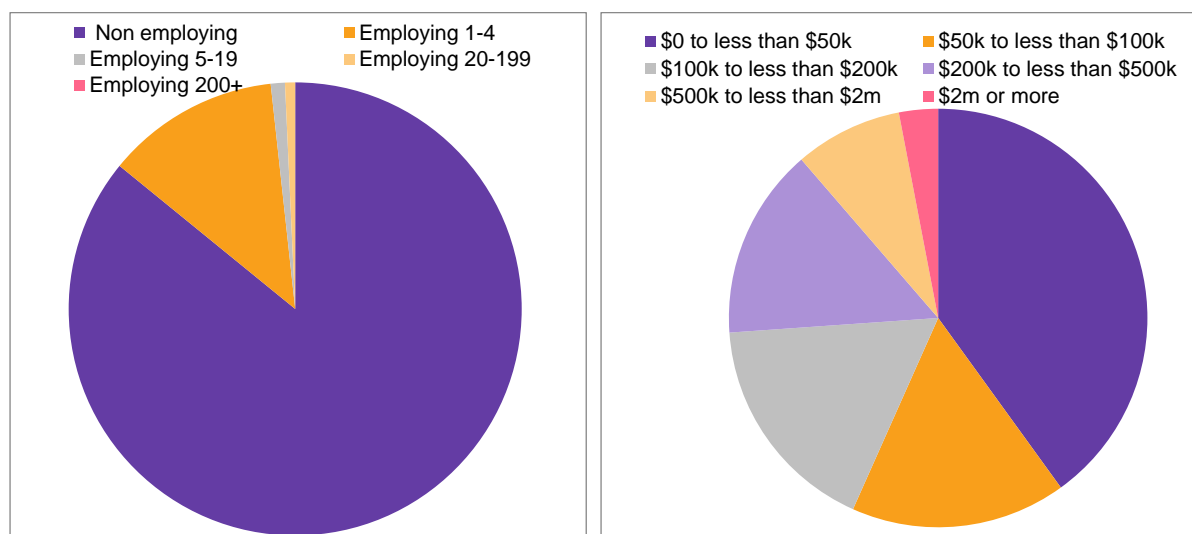
.. = not applicable

Data based on 2019-20 price base for all years.

Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) 2022.

## Agricultural production

Agriculture, forestry and fishing accounted for 13.4% of all businesses registered in the Rockhampton (R) as at 30 June 2021. The majority (86.3%) of these businesses were non-employed and approximately two-fifths (40.4%) had a turnover of less than \$50,000.



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 8165.0, *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits*, various editions.

# Business

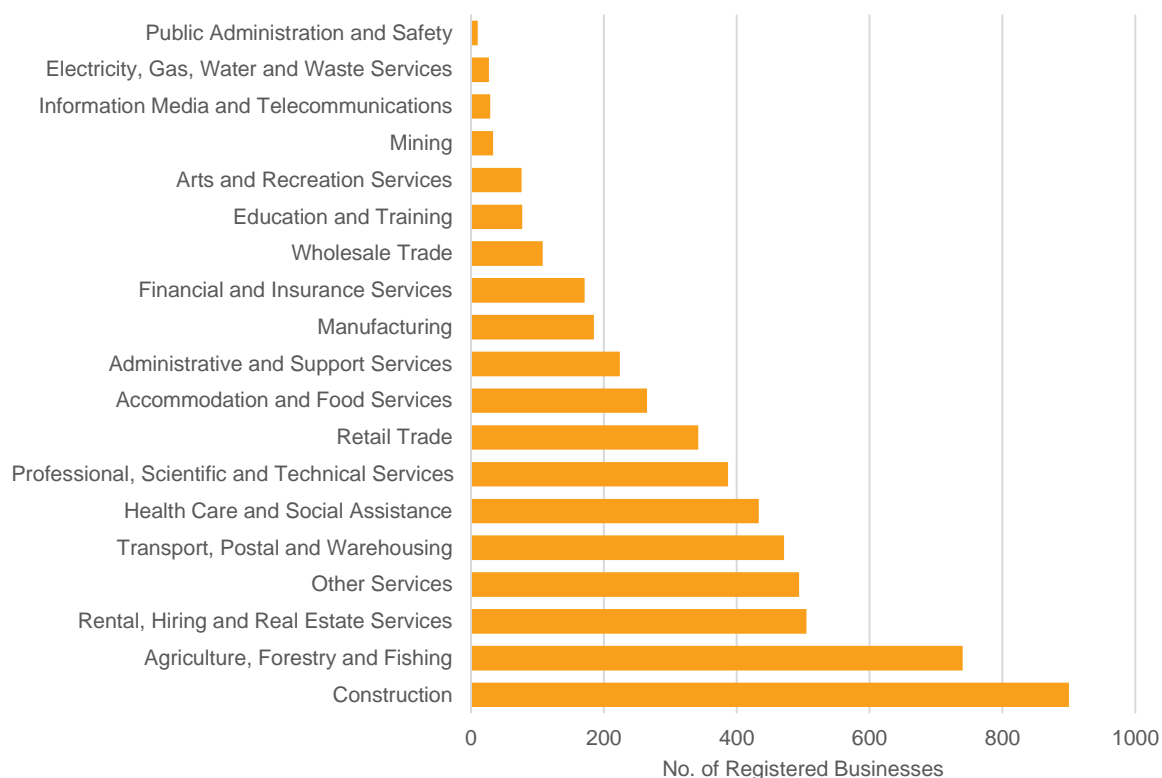
## Quick stats

- 5,483 businesses registered, Rockhampton (R) in 2021-22
- 16.4% of registered businesses were in construction
- 24.7% of businesses reported turnover \$0 < \$50k

## Business counts

In 2021-22, there were 5,483 businesses registered in the Rockhampton (R). The largest industry was construction (16.4%), followed by agriculture, forestry and fishing (13.5%) and rental, hiring and real estate services (9.2%).





Source: ABS, *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, various editions*, cat. no. 8165.0.

Between the 2017-18 financial year and 2021-22, the number of registered businesses that recorded turnover increased by 12.1% from 5,170 to 5,483.

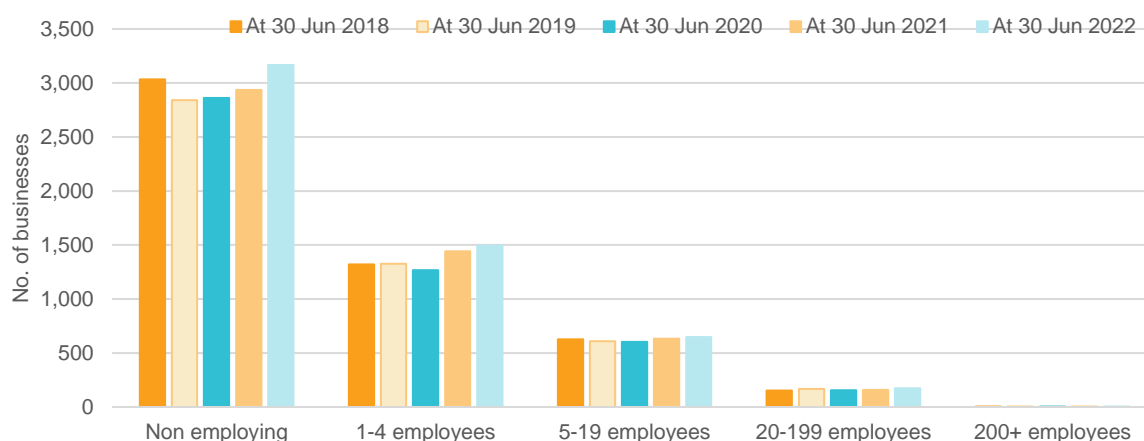
Workforce size	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
Non employing	3,034	59.1	2,842	57.5	2,862	58.5	2,936	56.8	3,166	57.7
1-4 employees	1,321	25.7	1,325	26.8	1,268	25.9	1,442	27.9	1,495	27.3
5-19 employees	625	12.2	608	12.3	604	12.3	633	12.2	648	11.8
20-199 employees	151	2.9	168	3.4	155	3.2	157	3.0	172	3.1
200+ employees	3	0.1	3	0.1	3	0.1	3	0.1	3	0.1
Total	5,135	100.0	4,944	100.0	4,892	100.0	5,170	100.0	5,483	100.0

Turnover Range	2019-20		2020-21		2021-22	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
\$0 to \$50k	1,261	25.8	1,375	26.6	1,353	24.7
\$50k < \$100k	1,445	29.5	1,558	30.1	1,658	30.2
\$100k < \$200	1,822	37.2	1,843	35.6	2,036	37.1
\$200k < \$500k	232	4.7	249	4.8	281	5.1
\$500k < \$2m	79	1.6	79	1.5	86	1.6
>\$2m	53	1.1	66	1.3	69	1.3
Total	4,892	100.0	5,170	100.0	5,483	100.0

Source: ABS, *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, various editions*, cat. no. 8165.0.

## Workforce

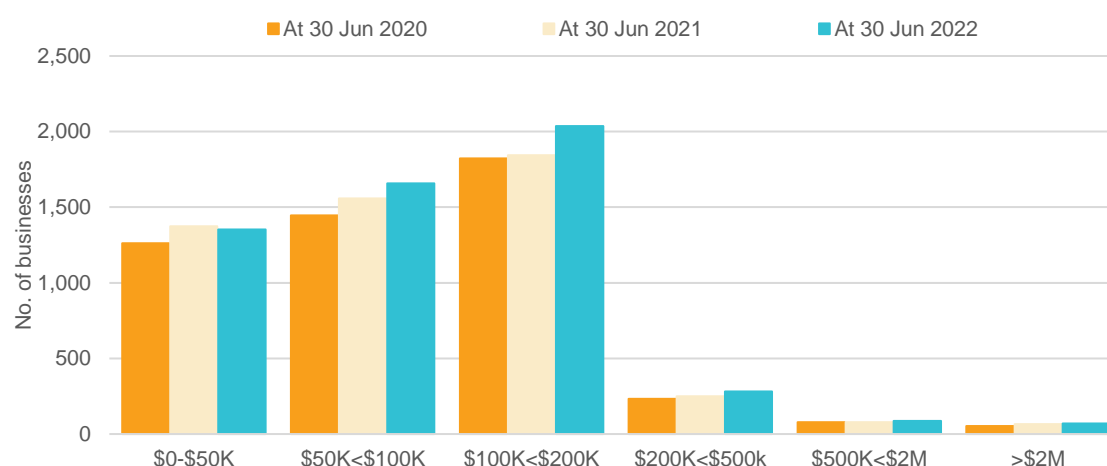
Non-employing businesses made up 57.7% of all registered businesses, followed by businesses employing between one and four people (27.3%). Between 2017-18 and 2021-22, the number of businesses that were non-employing increased by 4.4%.



Source: ABS, *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, various editions*, cat. no. 8165.0.

## Turnover

Of the 5,483 businesses registered in the Rockhampton (R) that had turnover in 2021-22, 24.7% reported a turnover of between \$0 and less than \$50,000, while 30.2% had between \$50,000 and less than \$200,000. A further 37.1% reported a turnover between \$200,000 and less than \$2 million. Turnover of \$2 million or more was reported by 8.0% of businesses.



Source: ABS, *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, various editions*, cat. no. 8165.0.

# Housing

## Quick stats

- Median house price, year to March 2023 - \$350,000
- Median unit and townhouse price, year to March 2023 - \$305,000
- Median vacant urban land price, year to March 2023 - \$153,000
- Median weekly rent, June quarter 2023
  - \$310, 2 bedroom flats or units
  - \$420, 3 bedroom houses
  - \$480, 4 bedroom houses
- 201 residential dwelling approvals, year to December 2022
- \$115.6 million – residential building value
- \$96.3 million – non-residential building value
- 296 lots approved in the year to December 2022

## Median house, unit/townhouse and urban vacant land prices

The median house price for the Rockhampton (R) area in the 12 months to the end of March 2023 was \$350,000. This median price was less than that of Gladstone, Mackay and Cairns Regional Councils, and Townsville and Brisbane Cities.

The median unit and townhouse price for Rockhampton (R) was \$305,000. The median unit/townhouse price increased 3.4% over the year. The median vacant urban land price was \$153,000, a decrease of 19.4% over the year since March 2022.

There was considerable variability in medians between suburbs.

Local government area	Median house prices		Median unit/townhouse prices		Median vacant urban land prices	
	12 months to end of Mar 2023 \$	Change over 1 year %	12 months to end of Mar 2023 \$	Change over 1 year %	12 months to end of Mar 2023 \$	Change over 1 year %
Rockhampton (R)	350,000	9.4	305,000	3.4	153,000	-19.4
<i>Norman Gardens</i>	480,500	14.4	295,500	-3.1	198,450	2.1
<i>Berserker</i>	267,500	9.2	277,500	20.9	n.a.	n.a.
<i>Rockhampton City</i>	200,000	20.1	475,000	1.8	n.a.	n.a.
Livingstone (S)	600,000	17.0	355,000	6.0	245,000	22.5
Bundaberg (R)	445,000	20.3	330,000	14.2	225,000	28.6
Gladstone (R)	405,000	3.8	245,000	-2.0	159,000	13.0
Central Highlands (R)	287,000	0.7	210,000	-1.9	35,000	63.6
Mackay (R)	437,000	4.3	295,000	9.5	189,250	-3.9
Townsville (C)	400,000	6.7	275,000	-3.5	192,000	10.3
Cairns (R)	565,000	13.0	295,000	11.3	245,000	8.9
Brisbane (C)	990,000	5.3	515,000	5.3	650,000	49.4

R = Regional Council    C = City

n.a. = not available

Source: Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Office of the Valuer-General, Property Sales, 2023.

## Median weekly rent

During the June quarter 2023, the Rockhampton (R) recorded a median weekly rental price of \$310 for two-bedroom flats/units, \$420 for three-bedroom houses and \$480 for four-bedroom houses.

### Median weekly rent for two-bedroom flats/units

Local government area	Jun qtr 2022	Sep qtr 2022	Dec qtr 2022	Mar qtr 2023	Jun qtr 2023
	— \$ —				
Rockhampton (R)	280	290	300	300	310
Bundaberg (R)	285	300	315	320	330
Central Highlands (R)	270	270	288	300	300
Gladstone (R)	260	270	280	293	295
Livingstone (S)	370	380	385	393	395
Mackay (R)	325	340	350	350	360
Townsville (C)	320	330	330	340	350
Cairns (R)	370	375	385	398	400
Brisbane (C)	460	475	495	520	550

### Median weekly rent for three-bedroom houses

Local government area	Jun qtr 2022	Sep qtr 2022	Dec qtr 2022	Mar qtr 2023	Jun qtr 2023
	— \$ —				
Rockhampton (R)	380	380	400	400	420
Bundaberg (R)	375	400	410	425	450
Central Highlands (R)	320	320	325	350	350
Gladstone (R)	340	350	370	380	390
Livingstone (S)	450	480	480	483	500
Mackay (R)	425	450	450	460	470
Townsville (C)	380	390	400	400	410
Cairns (R)	460	475	490	500	510
Brisbane (C)	510	530	550	560	580

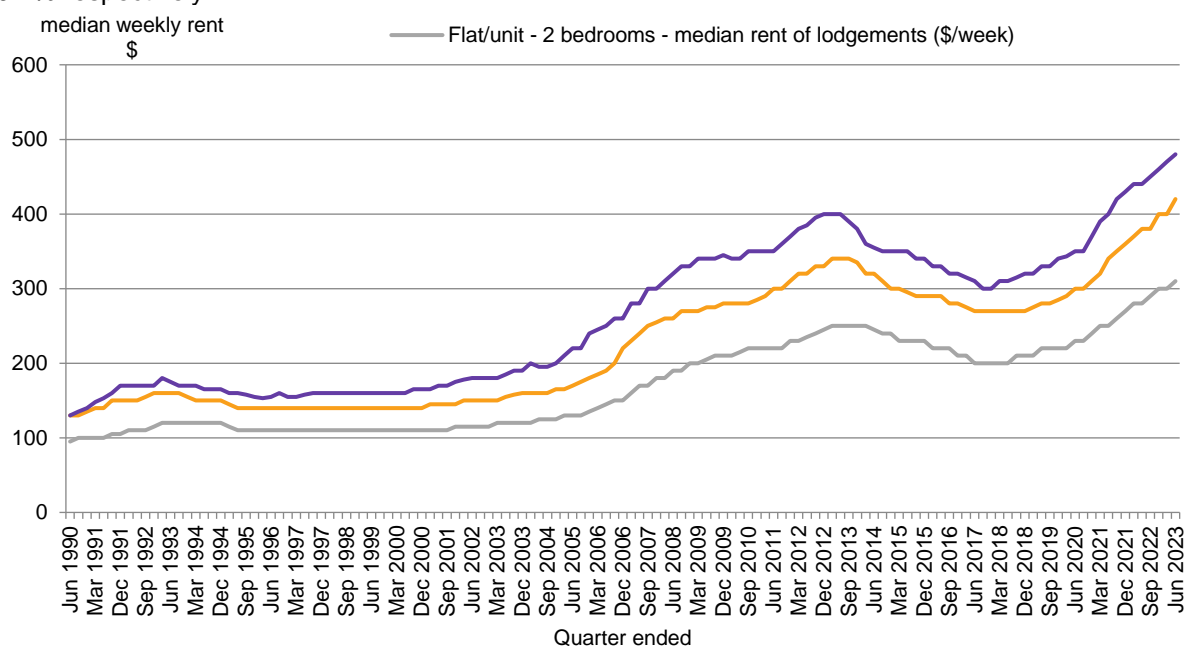
### Median weekly rent for four-bedroom houses

Local government area	Jun qtr 2022	Sep qtr 2022	Dec qtr 2022	Mar qtr 2023	Jun qtr 2023
	— \$ —				
Rockhampton (R)	440	450	460	470	480
Bundaberg (R)	450	470	480	490	500
Central Highlands (R)	450	485	500	500	520
Gladstone (R)	420	430	450	460	460
Livingstone (S)	510	525	550	570	590
Mackay (R)	480	500	500	520	540
Townsville (C)	450	450	470	480	490
Cairns (R)	550	550	570	595	600
Brisbane (C)	620	650	650	675	690

R = Regional Council C = City

Source: Residential Tenancies Authority, 2023

Between June quarter 2022 and June quarter 2023, median weekly rents for two-bedroom flats or units, three-bedroom and four-bedroom houses in Rockhampton (R) increased by 10.7%, 10.5% and 9.1% respectively.



Source: Residential Tenancies Authority, 2023

## Building approvals

In the 12 months ending 30 June 2023, there were 201 new residential dwelling approvals in the Rockhampton (R). Rockhampton City SA 2 accounted for 25.9% of all new residential dwelling units followed by Parkhurst – Kawana SA2 and Gracemere SA2 with 17.4%. Total residential building value in the year ending June 2023 for the region was \$115.6 million and accounted for 0.6% of residential building value in Queensland. Total building value for Rockhampton (R) decreased by 4.6% between the year ended June 2022 and the year ended June 2023.

Statistical area level 2 (a)(b)	New residential dwelling units no.	New residential building value (c)	Total residential building value (d)	Non-residential building value (d)	Total building value (d)
			- \$m -		
Berserker	2	0.7	3.8	3.8	7.6
Bouldercombe	2	0.6	1.4	0.7	2.2
Frenchville - Mount Archer	2	1.0	5.5	14.2	19.7
Gracemere	35	11.3	14.0	3.5	17.5
Lakes Creek	5	0.9	2.5	1.1	3.6
Mount Morgan	2	0.6	2.5	1.0	3.5
Norman Gardens	20	7.8	12.5	2.9	15.3
Park Avenue	0	0.0	1.9	6.7	8.6
Parkhurst - Kawana	48	22.9	25.1	29.2	54.2
Rockhampton - West	22	5.8	9.3	6.7	16.0
Rockhampton City	52	23.0	24.1	12.5	36.6
Rockhampton Region - West	6	2.2	3.1	1.0	4.1
The Range - Allenstown	5	2.7	9.9	12.9	22.8
<b>Rockhampton Regional Council</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>79.6</b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>96.3</b>	<b>211.8</b>
Queensland	35,222	16,542.2	19,157.1	15,444.4	34,601.5
Rockhampton (R) as % of Qld	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6

Quarterly figures are based on June 2023 release of ABS cat. no. 8731.0. The entire time period is fully revised at each quarterly release; therefore, figures may be different from those presented in the past.

(a) Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2016.

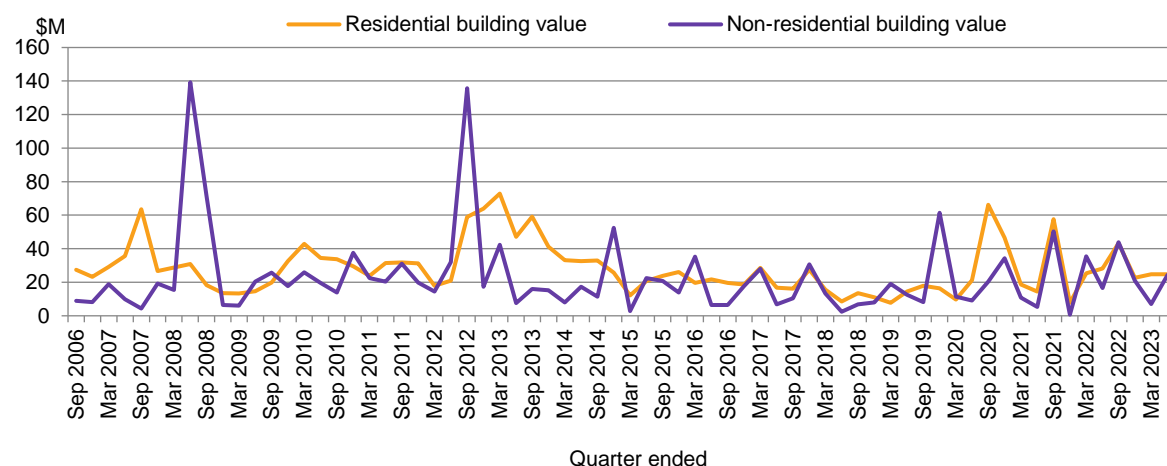
(b) A map detailing boundaries for statistical area level 2 localities can be found in the Introduction section of this profile.

(c) Excludes alterations, additions and conversions.

(d) Includes alterations, additions and conversions.

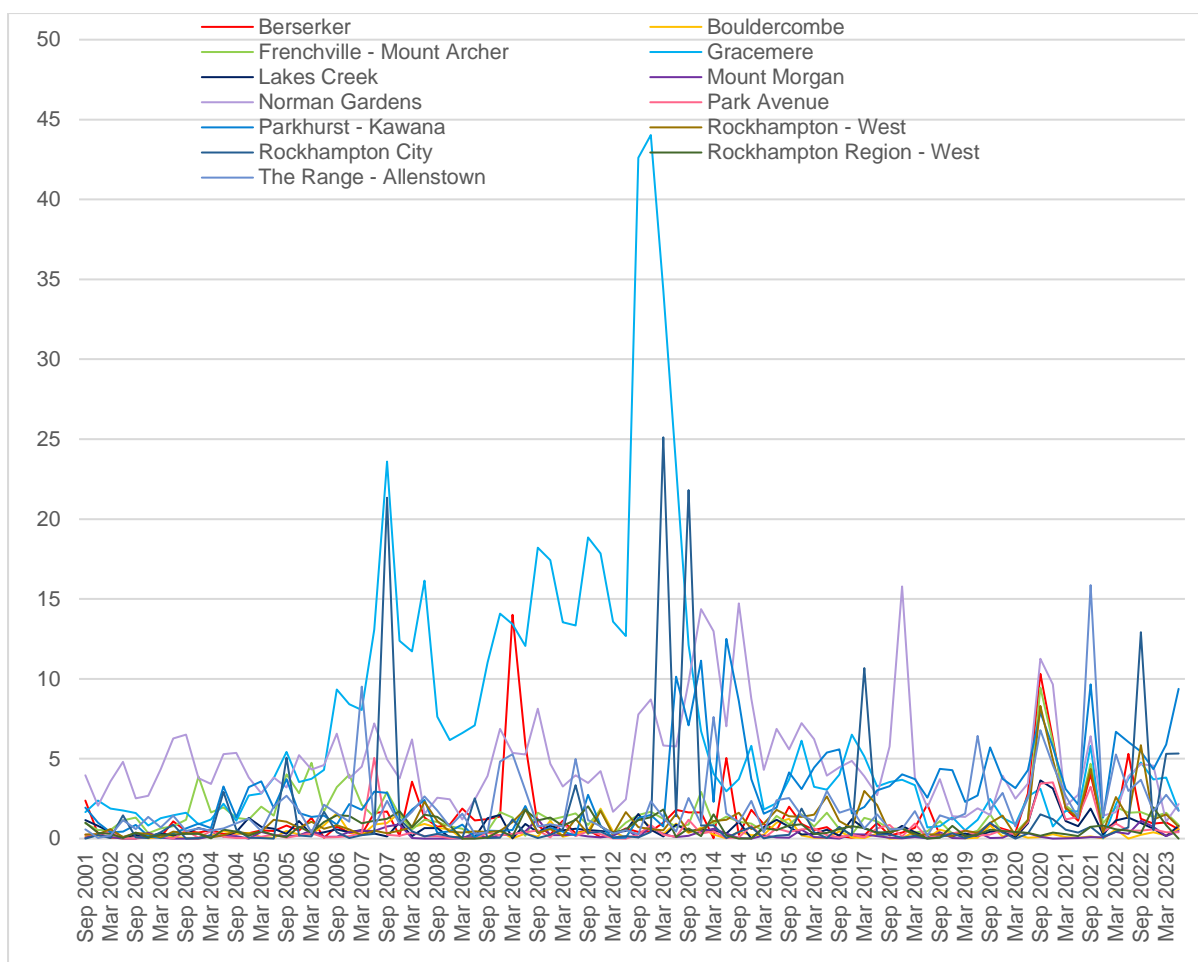
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Building Approvals, Australia*, cat. no. 8731.0.

The value of residential building approvals in the Rockhampton Regional Council area during the June quarter 2023 (\$24.8 million) was more than the March quarter 2023 (\$24.7 million). The value of non-residential buildings approved in the June quarter 2023 was \$24.5 million, \$17.5 million more than the previous quarter (\$6.9 million).



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Building Approvals, Australia*, cat. no. 8731.0.





Includes alterations, additions and conversions.

Quarterly figures are based on June 2023 release of ABS cat. no. 8731.0. The entire time period is fully revised at each quarterly release. Therefore, figures may be different from those presented in the past.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Building Approvals, Australia*, cat. no. 8731.0.

At the SA2 level, from the September quarter 2001 to the June quarter 2023 residential building has varied across Rockhampton (R) with significant peaks in Gracemere SA2 and Rockhampton City SA2. In the June quarter 2023, Parkhurst – Kawana SA2 residential building value of \$9.4 million, followed by Rockhampton City SA2 (\$5.3 million) and Norman Gardens SA2 (\$2.2 million).

## Land activity

In the Rockhampton (R), 296 residential lots were approved in year ending December 2022. This was more than the number of lots for the same period ending December 2021 (79 lots).

Year ending 31 December	Lot approvals (a)(b)	Lots certified (a)	Lot registration (c)(d)	Volume of sales (e)	Total dwelling approvals
2019	45	66	na	121	na
2020	54	41	76	271	164
2021	79	174	136	272	171
2022	296	74	117	206	172

na = not available

(a) Includes urban and rural residential.

(b) Lot approvals are the number of residential allotments, in a subdivision plan, which have been approved by a local government.

(c) Includes 60 m<sup>2</sup> to 50,000 m<sup>2</sup> lots.

(d) Lot registrations are the final stage in the development of allotments where the lots have been registered with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

(e) Includes 140 m<sup>2</sup> to 2,500 m<sup>2</sup> lots.

Source: Queensland Treasury and Trade, *Residential Land Development Activity Profile*, Rockhampton Regional Council, Dec quarter 2022.

# Education

## Quick stats

- 1,317 apprentices and trainees, June quarter 2021
- 146 school-based apprentices and trainees, June quarter 2021
- 4,309 students completed vocational education and training, 2020
- 7,199 students enrolled at CQUniversity, Rockhampton Campuses, 2020
- 55.6% of persons 15 years and over held a non-school qualification, 2021 Census
- Society and culture - most common field of qualification
- 28 primary schools, 7 secondary schools and 5 combined schools
- 53.7% of 15,830 school students attended government schools.

## Apprentices and trainees

During the June quarter 2021, a total of 1,317 apprentices and trainees were in training in the Rockhampton (R). The largest industry group was construction (300 persons), followed by other services (205 persons). The industry group with the largest increase in apprentice and trainee numbers between the June quarter 2020 and the June quarter 2021 was construction (58 persons). Accommodation experienced the largest decline in apprentice and trainee numbers between the two periods (23 persons).

Employer Industry	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13	12	9	6	4	5
Mining	56	59	76	118	121	98
Manufacturing	180	170	148	151	157	167
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	39	52	54	44	46	45
Construction	248	227	204	221	242	300
Wholesale trade	27	20	26	27	19	24
Retail trade	76	65	55	48	57	54
Accommodation	101	96	87	86	99	76
Transport, postal and warehousing	58	38	43	40	29	33
Information media and telecommunications	5	6	9	9	12	12
Financial and insurance services	4	7	6	5	2	4
Rental, hiring and real estate services	4	1	2	1	2	4
Professional, scientific and technical services	22	15	29	34	38	46
Administrative and support services	114	134	98	68	80	85
Public administration and safety	55	38	37	46	48	40
Education and training	7	6	7	7	8	22
Health care and social assistance	41	46	47	57	57	85
Arts and recreation services	18	12	10	13	17	13
Other services	138	152	162	201	217	205
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,206</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>1,317</b>

Source: National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), VOCSTATS, 2022

During the June quarter 2021, 146 school-based apprentices and trainees were in training in the Rockhampton (R). The largest group of school-based apprentices and trainees was in construction (20.8%) followed by accommodation (18.8%). The largest increase in school-based apprentices and

trainees between 2020 and 2021 was in construction (4 persons). The industry training group with the largest decline was accommodation (19 persons).

Employer Industry	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	5	4	6	3	2	2
Mining	0	1	1	1	1	0
Manufacturing	23	22	19	18	14	17
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	0	0	2	1	2	3
Construction	22	16	12	16	27	30
Wholesale trade	2	2	2	5	4	4
Retail trade	16	11	9	12	23	16
Accommodation	35	36	31	37	47	28
Transport, postal and warehousing	11	3	8	4	2	2
Information media and telecommunications	0	1	3	2	2	2
Financial and insurance services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rental, hiring and real estate services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Professional, scientific and technical services	4	3	4	1	1	5
Administrative and support services	28	34	21	11	4	5
Public administration and safety	1	0	3	1	0	0
Education and training	3	2	0	2	2	1
Health care and social assistance	7	6	9	13	10	12
Arts and recreation services	3	2	4	6	13	3
Other services	20	13	17	22	25	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>146</b>

Source: National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), VOCSTATS, 2022

## Vocational education and training students

In 2020, 4,309 students completed vocational education and training in the Rockhampton (R). Society and culture had the largest number of vocational education and training students in the area (815 students), followed by engineering and related technologies (635 students) and management and commerce (520 students).

Field of qualification	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Natural and physical sciences	15	18	2	3	6
Information technology	123	80	101	75	91
Engineering and related technologies	1,004	1,089	750	618	635
Architecture and building	180	196	156	114	84
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	86	74	98	84	60
Health	503	298	404	220	144
Education	150	180	75	266	161
Management and commerce	549	590	687	627	520
Society and culture	772	835	829	746	815
Creative arts	16	14	15	7	13
Food, hospitality and personal services	310	287	264	234	235
Mixed field programmes	215	211	243	287	528
Not known	439	1,161	1,135	1,163	1,005
<b>Total completions</b>	<b>4,363</b>	<b>5,036</b>	<b>4,753</b>	<b>4,452</b>	<b>4,309</b>

P = preliminary

Source: National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), VOCSTATS, 2022.

## CQUniversity

The main campus of CQUniversity is situated in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton area. In 2020, there were 7,199 students enrolled at Rockhampton campuses.

**Table 1 CQUniversity student numbers by campus, 2014 to 2020**

Campus	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Australian campuses		No. of students					
Brisbane	3,279	3,333	3,362	3,491	3,722	3,944	3,853
Bundaberg	1,575	1,712	1,870	1,884	1,979	2,035	2,058
Cairns	543	642	900	1,107	1,419	1,780	2,132
Emerald	721	930	822	805	820	987	987
Gladstone	1,950	2,215	2,308	2,330	2,223	2,469	2,723
Mackay	4,470	4,952	5,036	4,697	4,593	4,833	4,593
Melbourne	1,908	2,180	2,336	3,156	4,050	4,974	3,625
Noosa	1,105	969	926	870	978	1,035	931
Rockhampton	6,333	7,780	7,909	6,653	6,514	6,888	7,199
Sydney	2,583	2,790	3,001	3,407	3,588	3,618	2,538
Townsville	528	624	811	987	1,314	1,390	1,632
Distance education	2,160	2,224	2,293	2,289	2,337	2,533	2,993
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>27,118</b>	<b>30,033</b>	<b>31,195</b>	<b>31,386</b>	<b>33,231</b>	<b>36,220</b>	<b>35,226</b>

(a) Total includes students on other campuses

Source: CQUniversity Annual Report

The equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL) determines the total study load of equivalent full-time students, recognising that many students do not study full time. The EFTSL at the Rockhampton Campuses of CQUniversity was 3,341.8 in 2020.

**Table 2 Student load (EFTSL) by education sector and year, Rockhampton Campuses**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Higher education	2,148.1	2,140.5	2,170.4	2,073.2	2,044.2	2,037.4	1,956.2
VET	949.3	1,475.9	1,334.5	1,087.5	962.5	1,163.8	1,385.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,097.4</b>	<b>3,616.4</b>	<b>3,504.9</b>	<b>3,160.7</b>	<b>3,006.7</b>	<b>3,201.2</b>	<b>3,341.8</b>

Source: CQUniversity Annual Report

## Educational qualifications

Of persons aged 15 years and over in the Rockhampton (R) at the time of the 2021 Census, 55.6% (33,184 persons) held a non-school educational qualification, compared with 62.5% (2,618,666 persons) in Queensland.

Educational qualification	Rockhampton (R)	Queensland	Region as % of Queensland
	— persons —		%
Bachelor degree or higher	8,973	918,468	0.8
Advanced diploma and diploma	4,315	395,615	1.1
Certificate	15,960	927,894	1.0
<b>Total (b)</b>	<b>36,314</b>	<b>2,618,666</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Persons 15 years and over	65,325	4,191,820	4.0
Proportion with qualifications	55.6	62.5	..

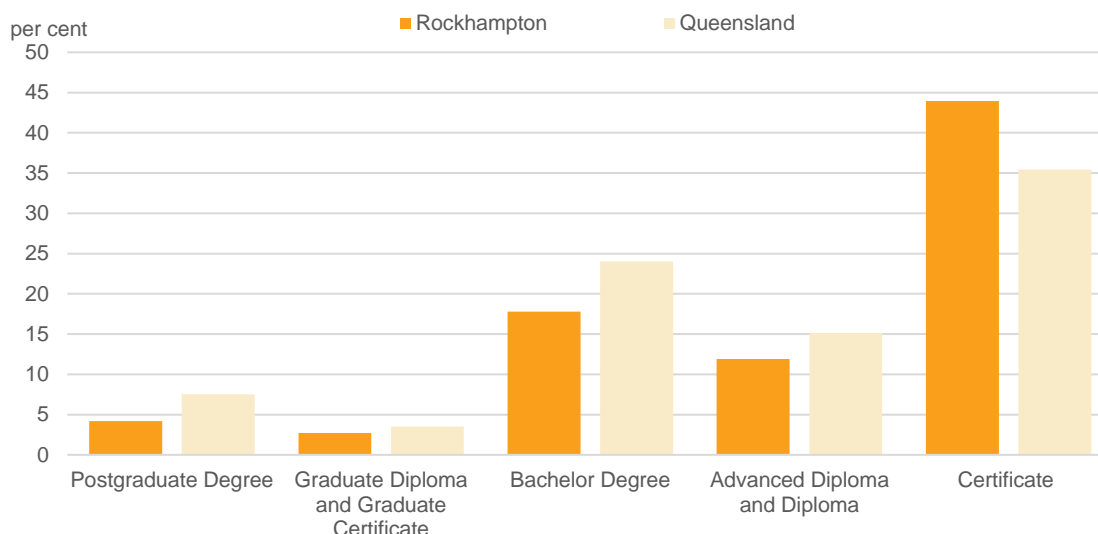
.. = not applicable

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over and based on place of usual residence.

(b) Includes inadequately described and not stated responses.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

In the region, the proportion of persons with a non-school qualification was less than that of Queensland for Bachelor degree or higher and advanced diploma and diploma. The proportion of Rockhampton (R) residents with a certificate was higher than in Queensland.



(a) Persons aged 15 years and over and based on place of usual residence.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

In the Rockhampton (R) at the time of the 2021 Census, the most common field of qualification was in engineering and related technologies (17.6%). This was also the second most popular field of study for Queensland (14.5%). Management and commerce was the second most popular field of study for the Rockhampton (R) (13.8%), followed by health (11.5%).

Field of qualification	Rockhampton (R)			Queensland		
	number	%	rank	number	%	rank
Engineering and related technologies	6,382	17.6	1	380,136	14.5	2
Management and commerce	5,027	13.8	2	480,526	18.4	1
Health	4,177	11.5	3	285,611	10.9	4
Society and culture	4,056	11.2	4	309,683	11.8	3
Education	2,910	8.0	5	205,309	7.8	5
Architecture and building	2,077	5.7	6	146,167	5.6	7
Food, hospitality and personal services	1,724	4.7	7	151,067	5.8	6
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	714	2.0	8	49,434	1.9	11
Information technology	573	1.6	9	63,861	2.4	10
Natural and physical sciences	567	1.6	10	64,750	2.5	9
Creative arts	546	1.5	11	86,519	3.3	8
Mixed field programs	89	0.2	12	4,427	0.2	12
Field of study not stated or inadequately described	7,465	20.6	..	391,177	14.9	..
<b>Total (b)</b>	<b>36,314</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>2,618,666</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>..</b>

.. = not applicable

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over and based on place of usual residence.

(b) Includes inadequately described and not stated responses. Variations may occur in totals due to rounding.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

## Primary and secondary education

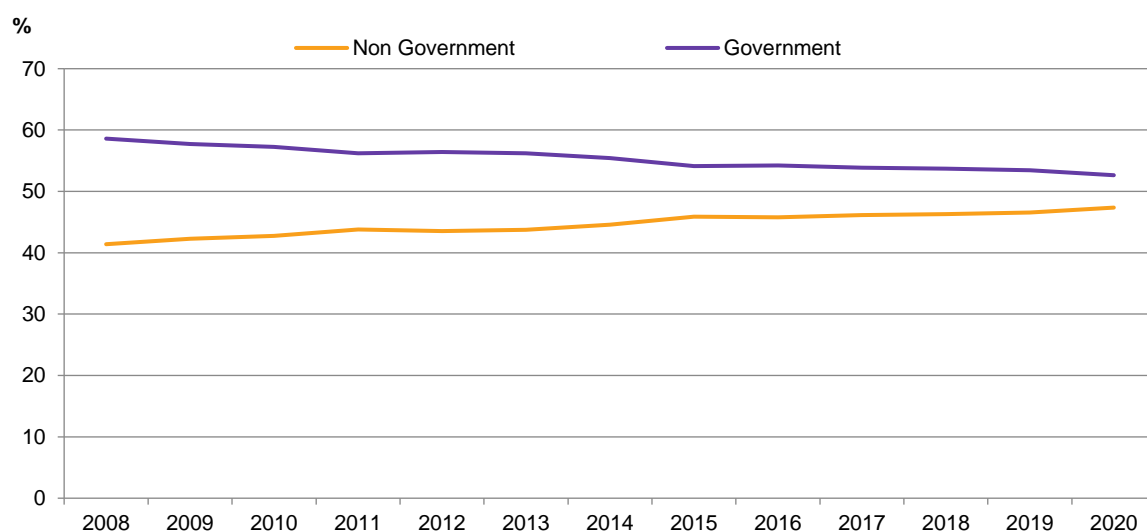
There is a wide variety of primary and secondary school options in the Rockhampton (R). In 2021, the region's schools comprised 28 primary schools, seven (7) secondary schools, two (2) special schools and five (5) schools that combine both primary and secondary schooling.

Type of school	Number
Primary state schools	22
Primary non-state schools	6
Secondary state schools	4
Secondary non-state schools	3
Combined primary and secondary non-state schools	5
Special schools	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>

Source: Department of Education and Training, Education Directory.

Of the 16,355 enrolled primary and secondary school students in the Rockhampton (R) in 2020, 52.6% (8,609 students) were in government schools and 47.4% (7,746 students) were in non-government schools. The majority of students attended government primary schools (71.8%), while attendance by students at non-government secondary schools was higher than for primary schools (47.5%). In Rockhampton, 14.5% of students attended a combined primary and secondary school, being predominantly non-government schools.

Between 2008 and 2020, students attending government schools in the Rockhampton (R) declined from 58.6% of total students to 52.6% in 2020. Conversely, students attending non-government schools increased from 41.4% of total students in 2008 to 47.4% in 2020.



Source: Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2021

# Transport

## Quick stats

- Highest average daily traffic movements 11,373 vehicles - Yeppoon Rd, 2020.
- Highest average daily number of heavy vehicles 1,520 vehicles – Bruce Highway north of Scrubby Creek, 2020
- Highest number of light vehicles, 10,476 vehicles – Yeppoon Rd 2020
- Average monthly unleaded petrol prices lower than Brisbane
- During 2022, a total of 484,711 passengers passed through Rockhampton Airport

## Roads

Five major roads provide access to and from Rockhampton. In 2020, the Yeppoon Road at Iron Pot Creek had the highest average daily traffic movements (11,373 vehicles), while the Emu Park Road had the lowest average daily traffic movements (4,739 vehicles).

**Table 3 Average annual daily traffic count (a), Bruce Highway, Capricorn Highway, Yeppoon Road and Emu Park Road, 2014-20**

Location	Average annual daily traffic (no. of vehicles)						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bruce Highway (b)	10,063	8,606	9,723	10,113	9,210	10,113	10,113
Bruce Highway (c)	7,342	7,495	7,426	7,426	7,426	7,458	7,426
Capricorn Highway (d)	5,039	5,321	4,868	4,938	4,938	4,938	4,938
Emu Park Road (e)	5,242	5,468	4,774	4,739	4,739	4,739	4,739
Yeppoon Road (f)	10,913	11,077	11,249	11,373	11,558	11,149	11,373

(a) All directions.

(b) Bruce Highway, south of Rockhampton, 30m north of Scrubby Creek (road section 10E).

(c) Bruce Highway, north of Rockhampton, 150 m north of Terra Nova Drive (road section 10F).

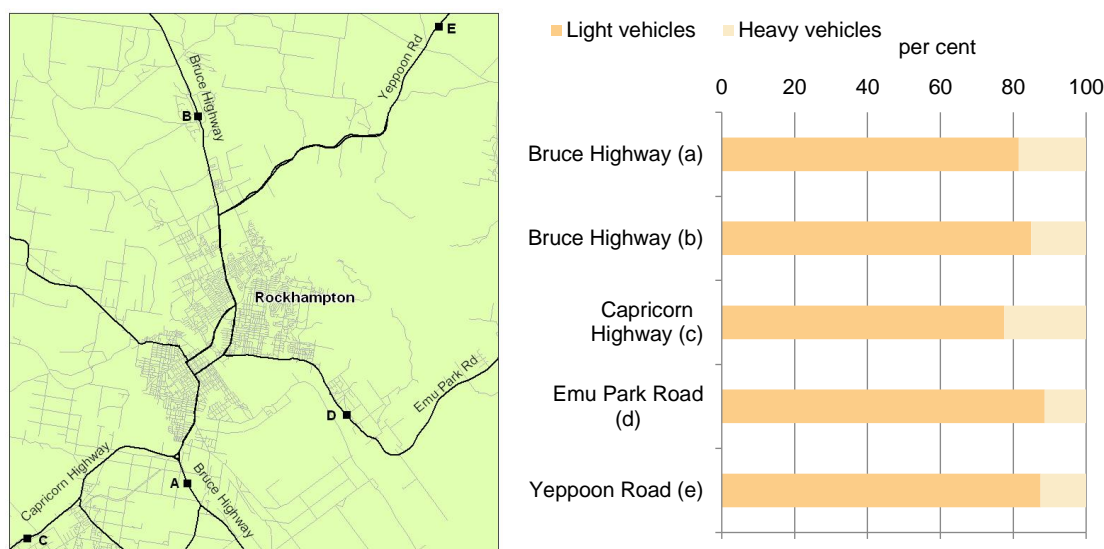
(d) Capricorn Highway, 3 km west of Gracemere (road section 16A).

(e) Emu Park Road, Hartington St, Nerimbera (road section 194).

(f) Yeppoon Road, Iron Pot Creek (road section 196).

Source: Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, 2020 traffic census data.

Of the five locations selected, the Bruce Highway north of Scrubby Creek had the highest number of heavy vehicles (1,520). The Yeppoon Road at Iron Pot Creek had the highest number of light vehicles (10,476) and Emu Park Road had the highest percentage of light vehicle traffic (88.7%).



Note: heavy vehicles comprise trucks and buses, articulated vehicles and road trains.

(a) Bruce Highway, 1 km north of Scrubby Creek (road section 10E).

(b) Bruce Highway, 150 m north of Terra Nova Drive (road section 10F).

(c) Capricorn Highway, 3 km west of Gracemere (road section 16A).

(d) Emu Park Road, Hartington St, Nerimbera (road section 194).

(e) Yeppoon Road, Iron Pot Creek (road section 196).

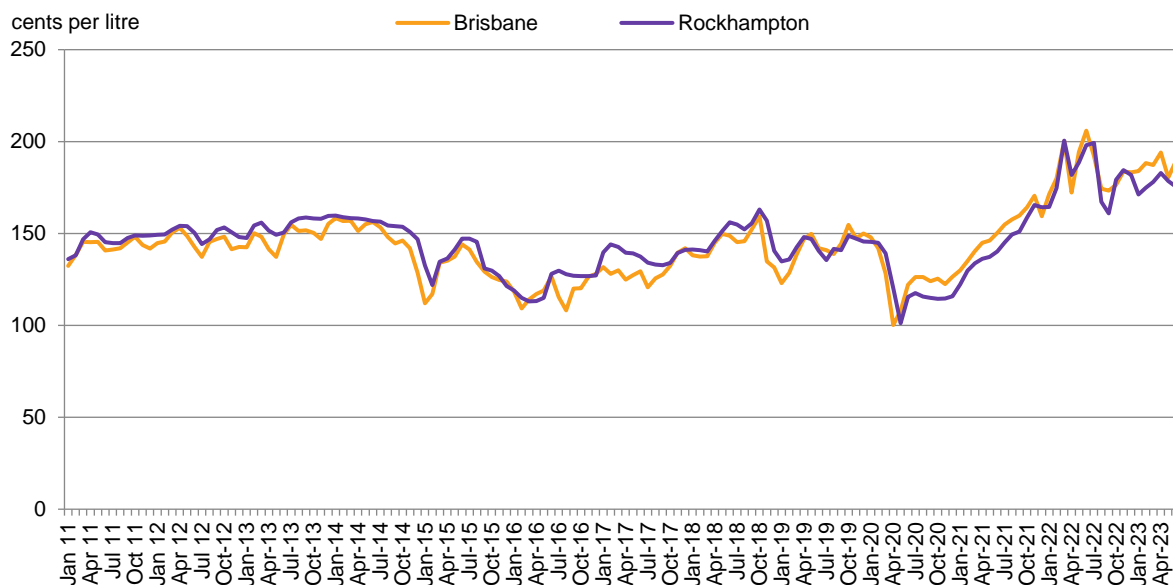
Source: Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads 2020

Within Rockhampton in 2020, the Bruce Highway, 100m south of Knight Street, had the highest annual average daily traffic count of 33,053 vehicles, followed by the segment collected at the Rockhampton-Yeppoon Road on the Fitzroy Bridge at East Street with 32,032 vehicles.

## Fuel prices

In Rockhampton, between January 2011 and June 2023, most average monthly unleaded petrol prices were generally higher than Brisbane; however, averages since June 2020 have frequently been lower in Rockhampton and Yeppoon. Rockhampton's average monthly unleaded petrol prices have increased from a low of 160.9 cents per litre in September 2022 to a high of 182.9 cents per litre in April 2023 before decreasing to 175.5 cents per litre in June 2023.

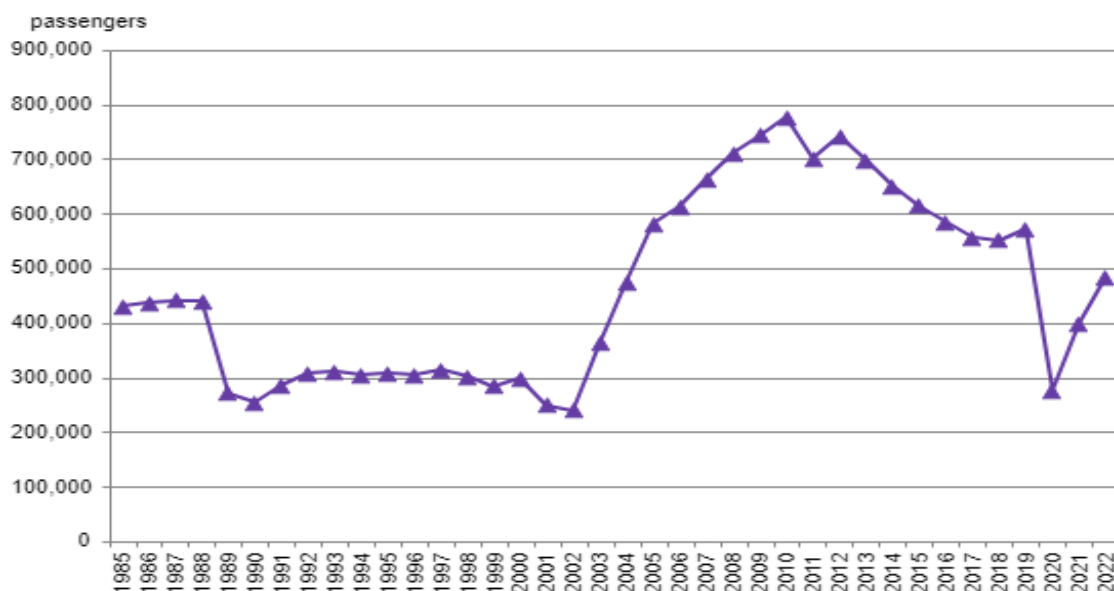




Source: RACQ, *Annual Fuel Price Report*, various years.

## Air travel

Rockhampton Airport is the major air transport facility servicing the region. Expanded facilities at the airport cater for both domestic and international airlines. During 2022, a total of 484,711 passengers passed through Rockhampton Airport. This was an increase of 21.2% from the 400,082 passengers in 2021 and reflects the continued recovery of domestic travel from COVID-19 closures. The average annual rate of change in passenger movements between 2012-13 and 2021-22 was a decrease 3.0%, or an average of 21,179 passengers per year.



Note: Regional airlines data cannot be separately identified from 2013 and onwards.

Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Communications, Airport Traffic Data 1985 to 2022

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