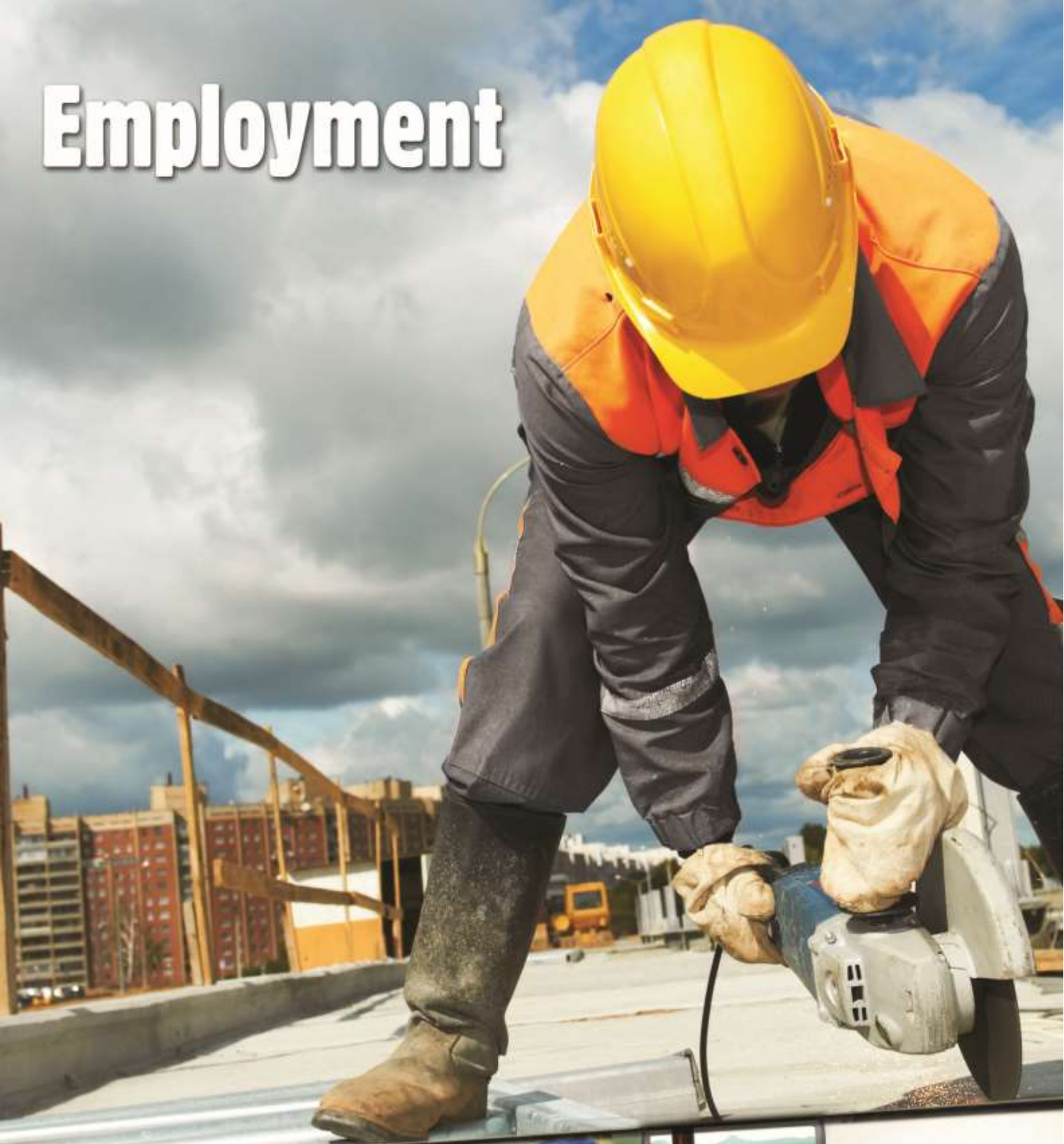


Employment



LIVE-PLAY-WORK-INVEST

Observations

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region includes the Rockhampton Regional Council and Livingstone Shire Council areas.

In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, qualifications received outside of primary and high school increased from 54.1 per cent in 2016 to 56.6 per cent of residents aged 15 years and over in 2021. Engineering and related technologies remained the most common field of qualification.

Health care and social assistance was the largest industry in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in 2021, employing almost one in every six workers and experienced the highest percentage growth of employed persons (29.6%).

The largest occupational group in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in 2021 was professionals. The community and personal service workers occupational group experienced highest growth rate of 46.8%.

The median weekly personal income in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region was \$761 in 2021. For households, the median income was \$1,927 and \$1,512 was the median income for families.

In the June quarter 2023, the labour force of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region was estimated to be 68,943 persons compared to 57,638 counted in the 2021 Census. At the time of the 2021 Census, the labour force participation rate was 59.1 per cent in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. This was lower for females (57.7%), and higher for males (60.4%) and persons with non-school qualifications (higher education) (77.6%) while the participation rate for persons without qualifications was 52.0 per cent.

Over two in five (43.9%) of agriculture, forestry and fishing workers were aged over 55 years at the time of the 2021 Census in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. Conversely, approximately one in ten accommodation and food services workers was aged over 55 years (11.9%).

In the week prior to Census night 2021, 86.3 per cent of the employed usual residents of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region worked in the local government area, while the remainder worked elsewhere in the state or country. The majority of jobs in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region were held by people who lived in the region (96.1%), with a small proportion held by people residing elsewhere.

In the June quarter 2023 the unemployment rate was 3.8 per cent in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. At the time of the 2021 Census, 5.3 per cent of persons stated that they were unemployed, but rates were higher for those without a non-school qualification (7.9%).

NOTE: The Central Queensland Region is the Statistical Area Level 4 of Central Queensland, includes the local government areas of Banana, Central Highlands, Gladstone, Livingstone, Rockhampton and Woorabinda. Australia's Census was held in August 2021 and included new questions. Data collected in the Census helps government, businesses and organisations to make informed decisions. The first data release was June 2022 with additional location variables and employment data released in October 2022.

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Introduction

Employment statistics are an indicator of socio-economic status with employment levels reflecting the strength and diversity of the local economy and society. For most people, regular income is necessary to maintain a reasonable standard of living. As unemployment or non-participation in the workforce increases, for example, income generally decreases.

Education is important for economic development in an environment where new technologies limit low-skilled jobs and create jobs requiring higher qualifications. Workers with lower schooling levels generally do not fare as well as workers with non-school qualifications in the workforce.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) collects data on the labour force as part of the national Census every five years, last conducted in 2021. Data is also collected as part of the monthly labour force survey.

Education

Non-school qualifications relate to further education beyond the level of primary or high school. These are important indicators of socio-economic status due to the close relationships between levels of education, employment opportunities and levels of occupation achieved. They can be an indication of changes in the labour market.

At the time of the 2021 Census, 56.6 per cent of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region residents aged 15 years and over held a non-school educational qualification in comparison to 57.3 per cent of Central Queensland. While the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region population overall represents 53.9 per cent of the Central Queensland region, the proportion of persons with a Bachelor degree or higher and advanced diploma and diploma was more than that of Central Queensland.

Table 1 Non-school educational qualification (a), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2021

Educational qualification	Capricorn	Central Queensland	Region as a % of Central Queensland
	— persons —		%
Bachelor degree or higher	13,567	23,149	58.6
Advanced diploma and diploma	6,762	12,169	55.6
Certificate	24,333	47,899	50.8
Total (b)	55,192	180,921	53.2
Persons 15 years and over	97,589	180,921	53.9
Proportion with qualifications	56.6	57.3	..

.. not applicable

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

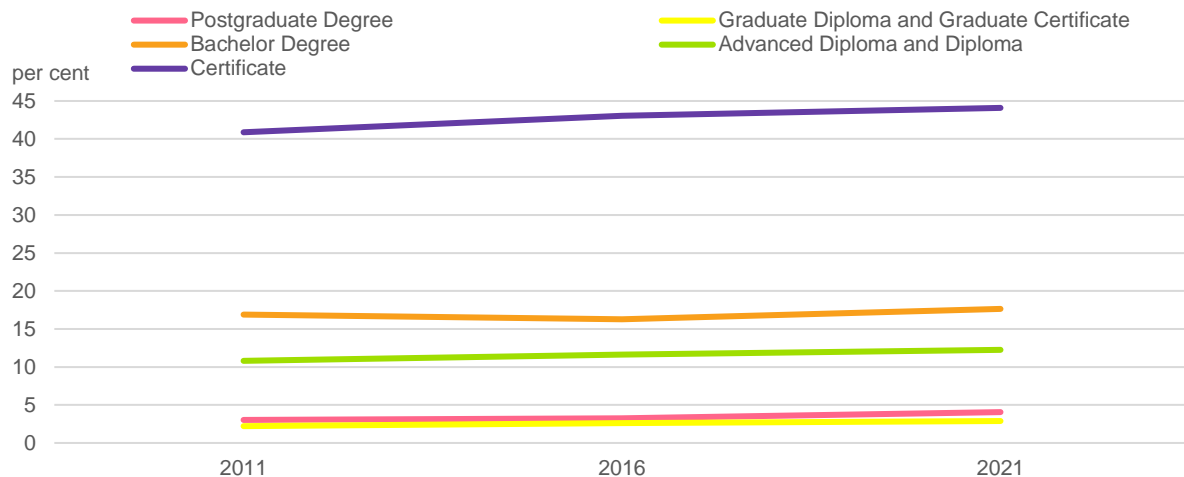
(b) Includes inadequately described and not stated responses.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *General Community Profile – G40*.

The population over 15 years increased by 5.4 percent between 2016 and 2021 in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region; however, the proportion of the population with a non-school qualification increased at a much higher rate (10.2%). During this time period, the proportion of Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region residents with a non-school qualification increased from 54.1 per cent to 56.6 per cent. The number of residents with postgraduate degrees increased by 71.0 per cent or 930 persons, while the number of residents with certificates increased by 37.8 per cent or 6,676 persons.

In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, the proportion of persons with non-school qualification has increased since 2011. Over the 10 year period, the number of persons with postgraduate degrees increased by 71 per cent, from 1,309 persons in 2011 to 2,239 persons in 2021. The number of persons with a Bachelor degree increased by 33.6 per cent, from 9,552 persons to 13,567 persons over the 10 years.

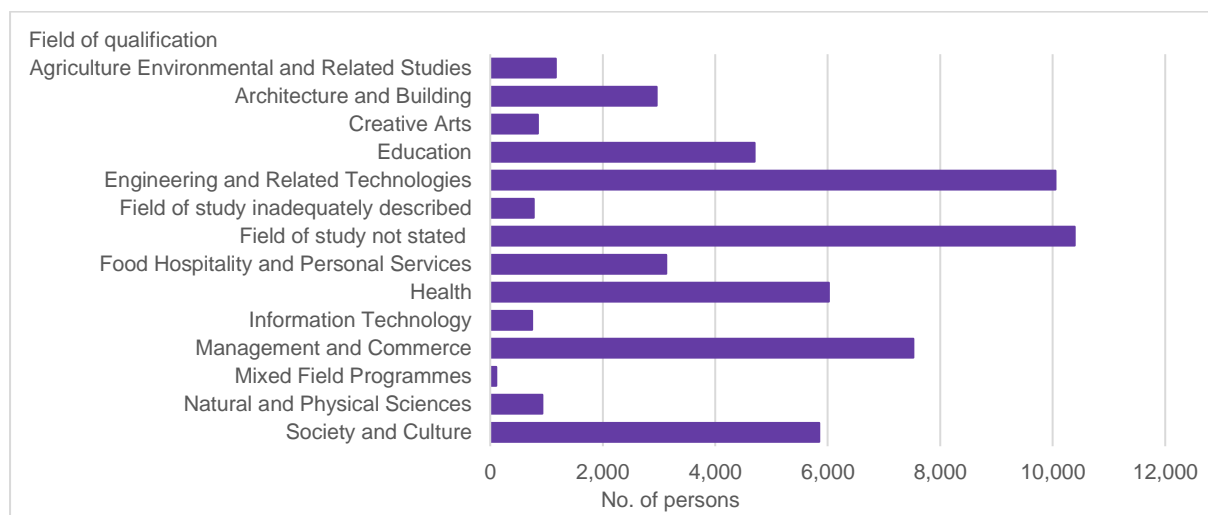
Figure 1 Non-school educational qualification (a), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2011, 2016 and 2021



(a) Count of persons aged 15 years and over with a qualification and based on place of usual residence. Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *Time Series Profile*.

In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region at the time of the 2021 Census, the most common field of qualification was in engineering and related technologies (19.5%). Management and commerce was the second most popular field of study for the region (13.2%), followed by health (9.8%).

Figure 2 Field of study, non-school qualification (a), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021



(a) Persons aged 15 years and over and based on place of usual residence. Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *General Community Profile*.

Particular fields of study are dominated by the different sexes. Over the ten year period 2011 to 2021, the field of study with the highest proportion of males was architecture and building studies (96.2%), followed by engineering and related technologies (94.9%) and information technology (74.5%). The field of study with the highest proportion of females during this time

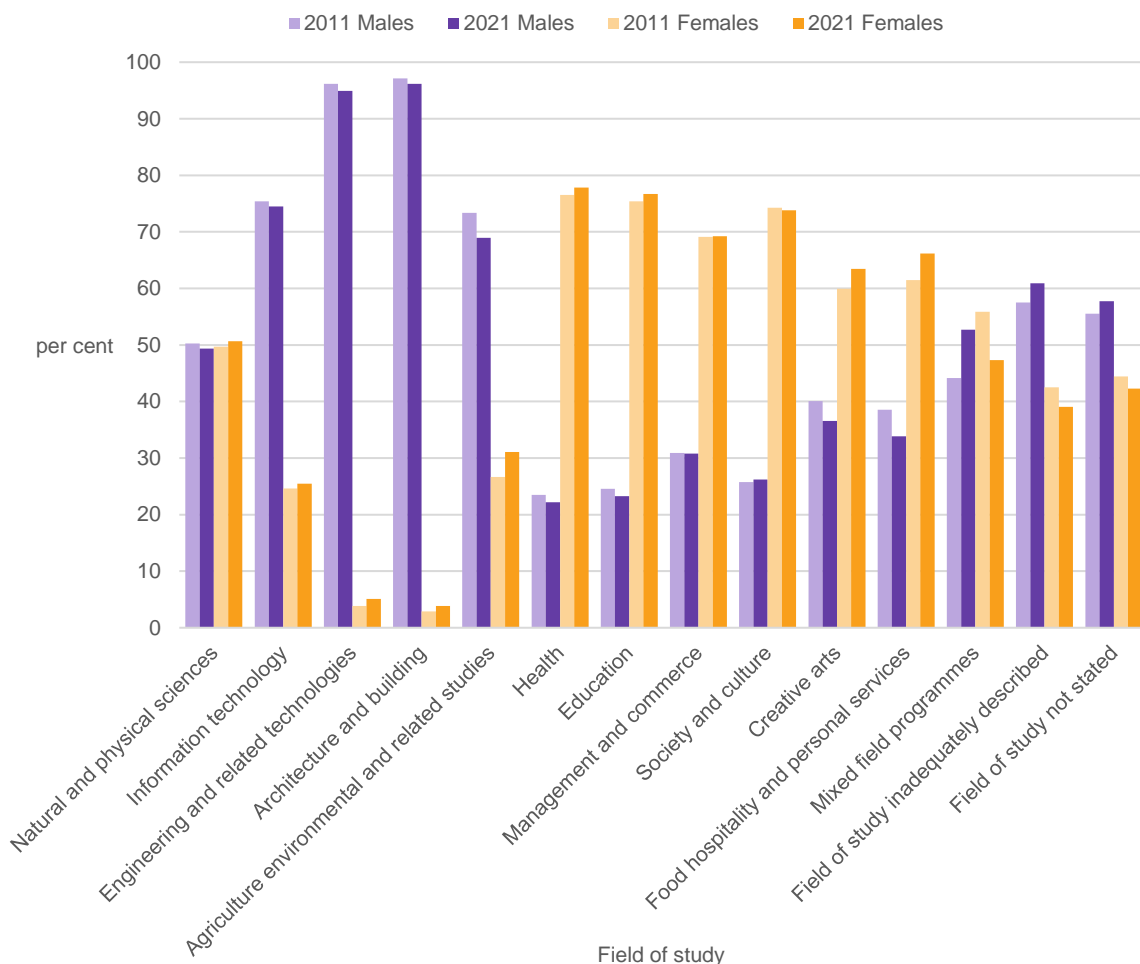
period was health (77.8%), followed by education (76.7%). Other fields dominated by females include management and commerce, society and culture and creative arts.

Nature and physical sciences is one of the few fields of study that is relatively balance between males and females across the time period; however, in 2021 there was a higher proportion of females than males, in contrast to 2011 and 2016 when there were more males than females.

Between 2011 and 2021, there were increases in the proportion of males with qualifications in health (21.7% to 23.0%) and mixed field programmes (43.5% to 50.7%).

Between 2011 and 2021, there were increases in the proportion of females in most fields, with the exception of management and commerce where the proportion of males increased by 0.4 percentage points and mixed field programmes where the proportion of males increased by 8.5 percentage points. The proportion of females in food hospitality and personal services and in agriculture, environmental and related studies increased by 4.7 and 4.4 percentage points respectively.

Figure 3 Field of study, non-school qualifications (a), by sex, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2011 and 2021



(a) Persons aged 15 years and over with a qualification (excludes overseas visitors) by place of usual residence. Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *Time Series Profile*.

Employment

Employment and unemployment data are used as social indicators and indicators of economic activity. Paid work allows people to meet their day-to-day living and longer term financial needs. It helps people to build skills and social networks and contributes to economic growth and development.

Employment by industry

The significance of an industry can be gauged by its proportion of total employment. In 2021, more than 54,000 of Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region usual residents reported their industry of employment. The industry with the largest number of people was health care and social assistance in both the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region (16.5%) and Central Queensland (12.7%), employing more than one in every ten workers. The next largest industry was retail trade (9.3% and 8.9% respectively), followed by education and training (10.2% and 9.1%). In addition to these industries, the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had a higher proportion of employed persons in health care and social assistance, education and training, retail trade, public administration and safety, other services, professional, scientific and technical services, wholesale trade, financial and insurance services, arts and recreation services and information media and telecommunications than the proportion of employed persons living in Central Queensland (52.2%).

Table 2 Employed persons (a)(b) by industry, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2021

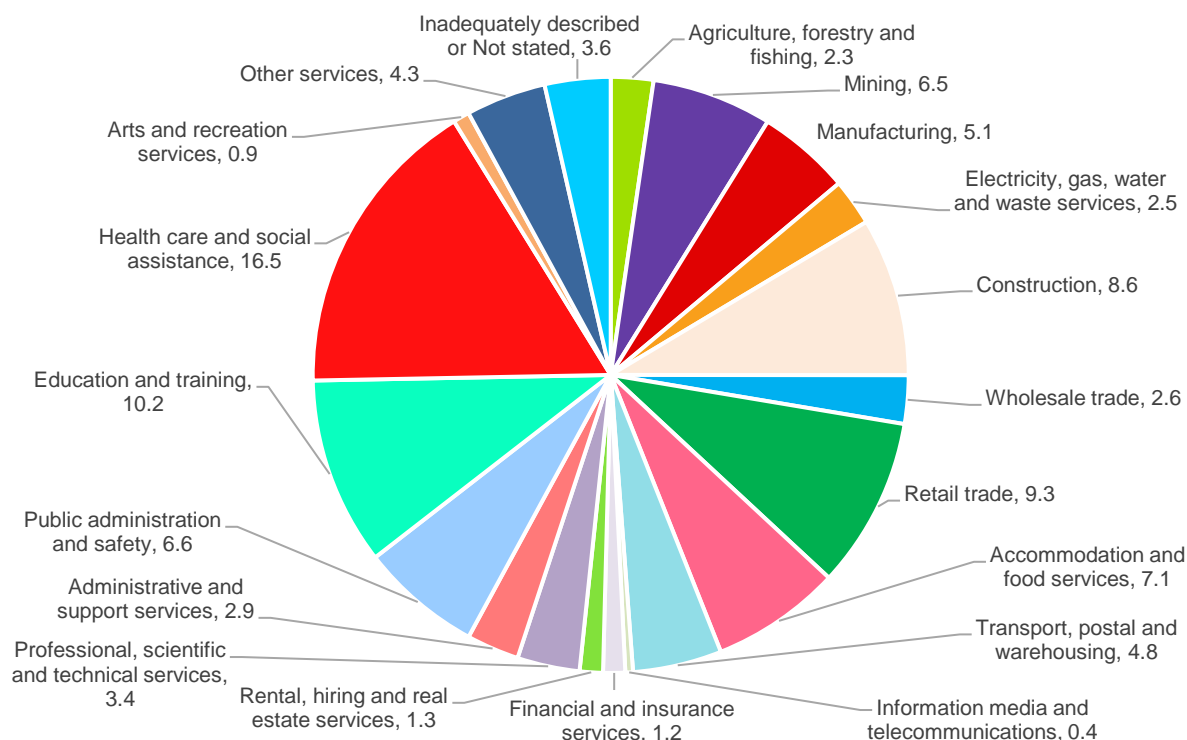
Industry (c)	Capricorn		Central Queensland		Region as a proportion of Central Queensland
	number	%	number	%	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,260	2.3	4,905	4.7	25.7
Mining	3,562	6.5	8,812	8.4	40.4
Manufacturing	2,760	5.1	7,505	7.2	36.8
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1,383	2.5	2,690	2.6	51.4
Construction	4,695	8.6	9,075	8.7	51.7
Wholesale trade	1,434	2.6	2,392	2.3	59.9
Retail trade	5,067	9.3	9,263	8.9	54.7
Accommodation and food services	3,851	7.1	7,211	6.9	53.4
Transport, postal and warehousing	2,637	4.8	5,614	5.4	47.0
Information media and telecommunications	226	0.4	374	0.4	60.4
Financial and insurance services	652	1.2	989	0.9	65.9
Rental, hiring and real estate services	688	1.3	1,310	1.3	52.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,851	3.4	3,317	3.2	55.8
Administrative and Support Services	1,558	2.9	3,221	3.1	48.4
Public Administration and Safety	3,600	6.6	5,910	5.7	60.9
Education and Training	5,566	10.2	9,548	9.1	58.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	9,005	16.5	13,304	12.7	67.7
Arts and Recreation Services	486	0.9	767	0.7	63.4
Other Services	2,375	4.3	4,262	4.1	55.7
Inadequately described/Not stated	1,949	3.6	4,129	3.9	47.2
Total	54,606	100.0	104,599	100.0	52.2

(a) Based on usual residence.

(b) Aged 15 years and over.

(c) Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

Figure 4 Industry of employment (a)(b)(c), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021



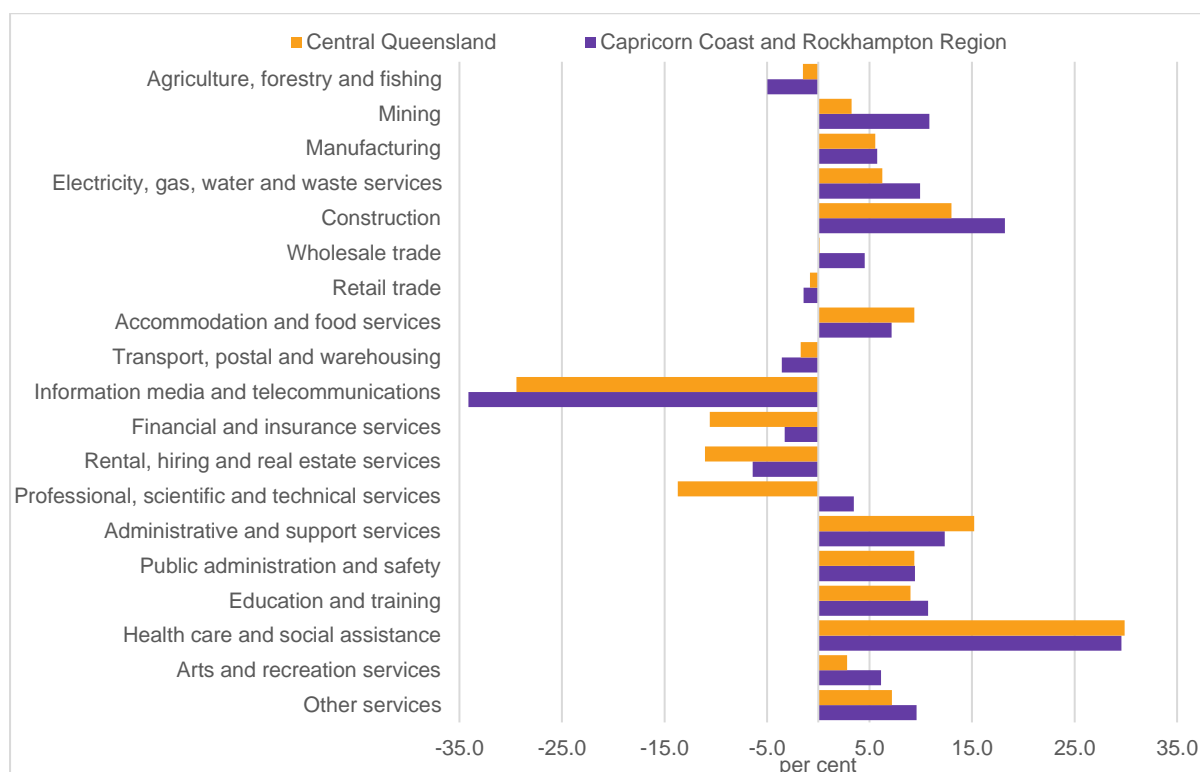
(a) Based on usual residence.
 (b) Aged 15 years and over.
 (c) Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006 (Revision 1.0).
 Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *General Community Profile*.

The economy changes in response to domestic and international forces. The mining industry, for example, expanded between 2006 and 2011 in response to world demand for commodities, while many the health care industry has boomed from 2020 in response to COVID-19. Improvements in technology can have large effects on industries such as financial and insurance services, wholesale trade and information media and telecommunications. Demographic changes including the ageing of the population and a slowing growth rate have implications for health services and dwelling construction.

In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, health care and social assistance experienced the highest percentage growth of employed persons by industry at 29.6 per cent and by 29.9% in Central Queensland between 2016 and 2021. The construction industry in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region increased by 18.2 per cent and by 13.0 per cent in the Central Queensland region. The third largest increase was in administration and support services with a 12.3 per cent increase in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and 15.2 per cent in Central Queensland.

Between 2016 and 2021, the proportion of employed persons in information media and telecommunications had the largest decline, 34.1 per cent in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and 29.1 per cent in Central Queensland. This was followed by a decline in rental, hiring and real estate services, 6.4 per cent and 11.1 per cent respectively. The third largest decrease was in agriculture, forestry and fishing with a decline of 5.0 per cent in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and 1.2 per cent in Central Queensland.

Figure 5 Percentage change in employed persons (a)(b) by industry (c), Capricorn and Central Queensland, 2016 and 2021



(a) Based on place of usual residence.

(b) Aged 15 years and over.

(c) Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing 2021, *Time Series Profile*.

Occupation

Occupation data informs labour market analysis and policy formation with changes in occupational composition important for planning by industry and regions.

At the time of the 2021 Census, the largest occupational group of residents in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region was professionals (9,089 persons), followed by technicians and trades workers (8,938 persons) and community and personal service workers (7,489 persons). Technicians and trades workers and professionals were also the largest occupational groups in Central Queensland, followed by labourers.

In 2021, the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's share of employed persons in Central Queensland was 52.2 per cent, while its share of the Central Queensland region's population was 52.4 per cent. The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had proportionally more professionals, community and personal service workers, clerical and

administrative workers and sales workers than the Central Queensland region. The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had a smaller proportion of machinery operators and drivers.

Table 3 Employed persons (a)(b) by occupation, Capricorn and Central Queensland, 2021

Occupation (c)	Capricorn		Central Queensland		Region as a proportion of Central Queensland
	number	%	number	%	%
Managers	5,209	9.5	11,379	10.9	45.8
Professionals	9,089	16.6	15,592	14.9	58.3
Technicians and trades workers	8,938	16.4	18,302	17.5	48.8
Community and personal service workers	7,489	13.7	12,192	11.7	61.4
Clerical and administrative workers	6,626	12.1	11,589	11.1	57.2
Sales workers	4,692	8.6	8,472	8.1	55.4
Machinery operators and drivers	5,272	9.7	12,265	11.7	43.0
Labourers	6,255	11.5	12,690	12.1	49.3
Inadequately described/Not Stated	1,028	1.9	2,125	2.0	48.4
Total	54,606	100.0	104,599	100.0	52.2

(a) Based on place of usual residence.

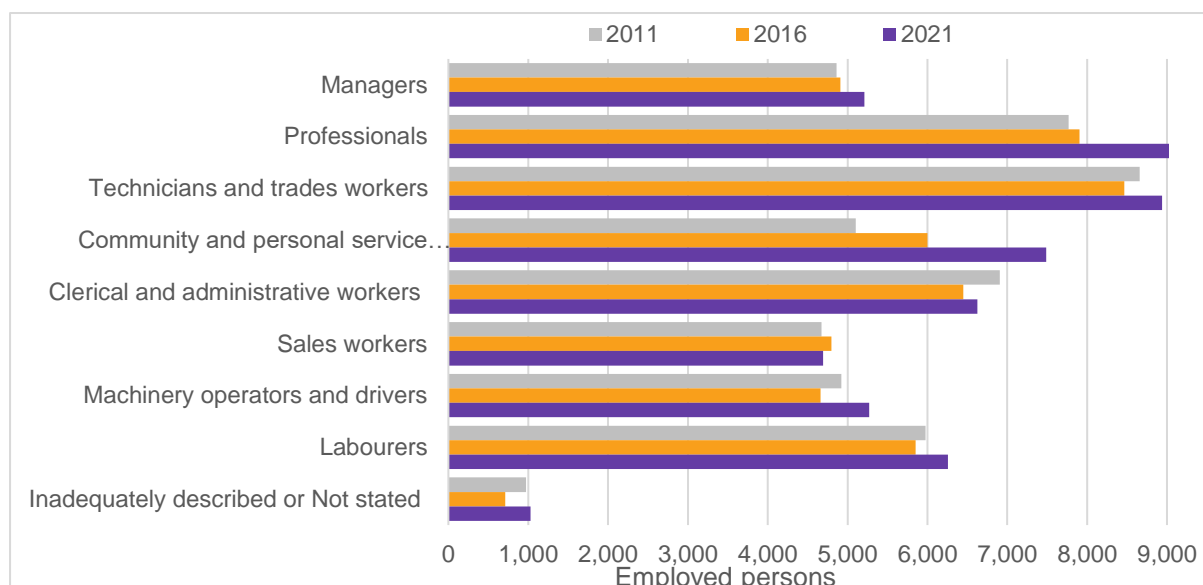
(b) Aged 15 years and over.

(c) Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Standard Classification of Occupations.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *General Community Profile*.

Not all occupations experienced growth between the 2011 and 2021 censuses. The greatest increases were community and personal service workers (46.8%) and professionals (17.0%). The only decrease that occurred between 2011 and 2021 was in clerical and administrative workers (107 persons).

Figure 6 Employed persons (a)(b) by occupation (c), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2011, 2016 and 2021



(a) Based on place of usual residence.

(b) Aged 15 years and over.

(c) Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Version 1.2.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *Time Series Profile*.

Income

Persons aged 15 years and over were asked in the Census to indicate the range in which their total income fell. Total income includes wages, salaries, overtime, business or farm income, rents, dividends, interest, superannuation, government pensions and allowances and other sources of income. Although incomes tend to be slightly understated in the Census, they are a useful indicator of relative advantage or disadvantage and economic wellbeing.

In Australia, one in eight people is estimated to live below the poverty line. Unemployed people, children (particularly those in lone parent families) and those receiving social security payments are at the most at risk of living below the poverty line. Poverty lines vary with household types and provide a benchmark for the income needed to support the household type. For example, a family with two children will need a higher income than a single person if they are not to fall below the poverty line. Selected poverty lines for the time of the 2021 Census are listed below.

Table 4 Poverty lines (a)(b), Australia, June Quarter, 2021

Household type	Including housing \$ per week	Other than housing \$ per week
One person working		
Couple	775.33	567.08
Couple with 1 child	931.99	704.90
Couple with 2 children	1088.64	842.72
Single person	579.59	390.06
Single parent with 1 child	744.09	535.72
Single parent with 2 children	900.64	673.54
Household type	Including housing	Other than housing
No one working	\$ per week	\$ per week
Couple	665.71	457.34
Couple with 1 child	822.36	595.27
Couple with 2 children	979.02	733.09
Single person	469.97	280.43
Single parent with 1 child	634.35	426.10
Single parent with 2 children	791.01	563.92

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted household disposable income per head per week for the June quarter 2021 of \$925.32.

(b) All figures refer to after tax income.

Source: Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, *Poverty lines: Australia*, June quarter 2021.

Median weekly personal and household income

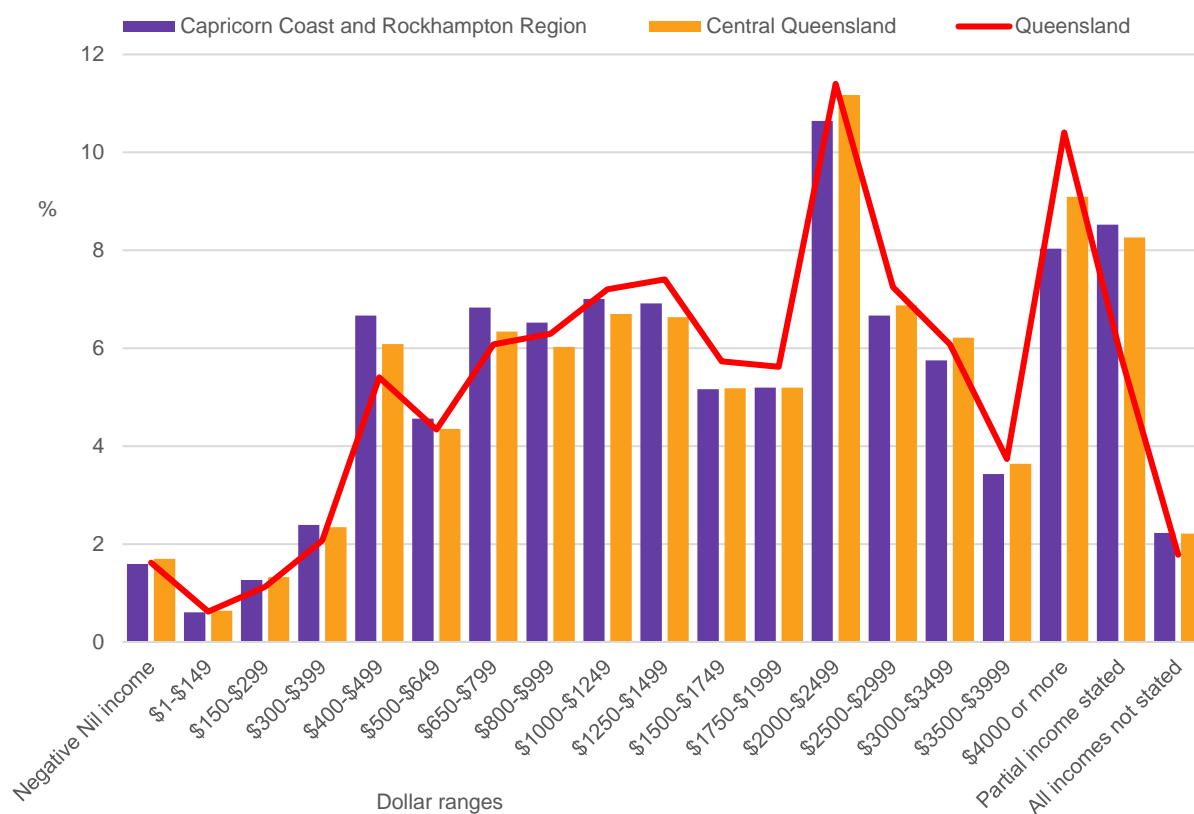
In 2021, the median weekly personal income in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region for all persons aged 15 years and over was \$761. It was lower than Central Queensland, \$786, and Queensland, \$787. Where a household relied on a single income, the household may have been at risk of being below the poverty line.

The mean total personal income excluding Government pensions and allowances in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in the 2018-19 financial year was \$64,113, an increase of 3.6 per cent from the previous financial year. In comparison, the median total income excluding Government pensions and allowances in 2018-19 was \$53,397, an increase of 3.8 per cent from the previous financial year.

The median weekly personal income at the time of the 2021 Census for the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region was \$761 with higher median household (\$1,512) and family incomes (\$1,927). Households that earned the median household weekly income were likely to be above the poverty line. At this time, median incomes were higher in Central Queensland: personal incomes were \$786, household incomes were \$1,626 and family income was also higher at \$2,035.

Many households have more than one person with a weekly personal income. The incomes of those living in the same household are used to derive a median weekly household income.

Figure 7 Median weekly household income (a)(b)(c), Capricorn, Central Queensland and Queensland, 2021



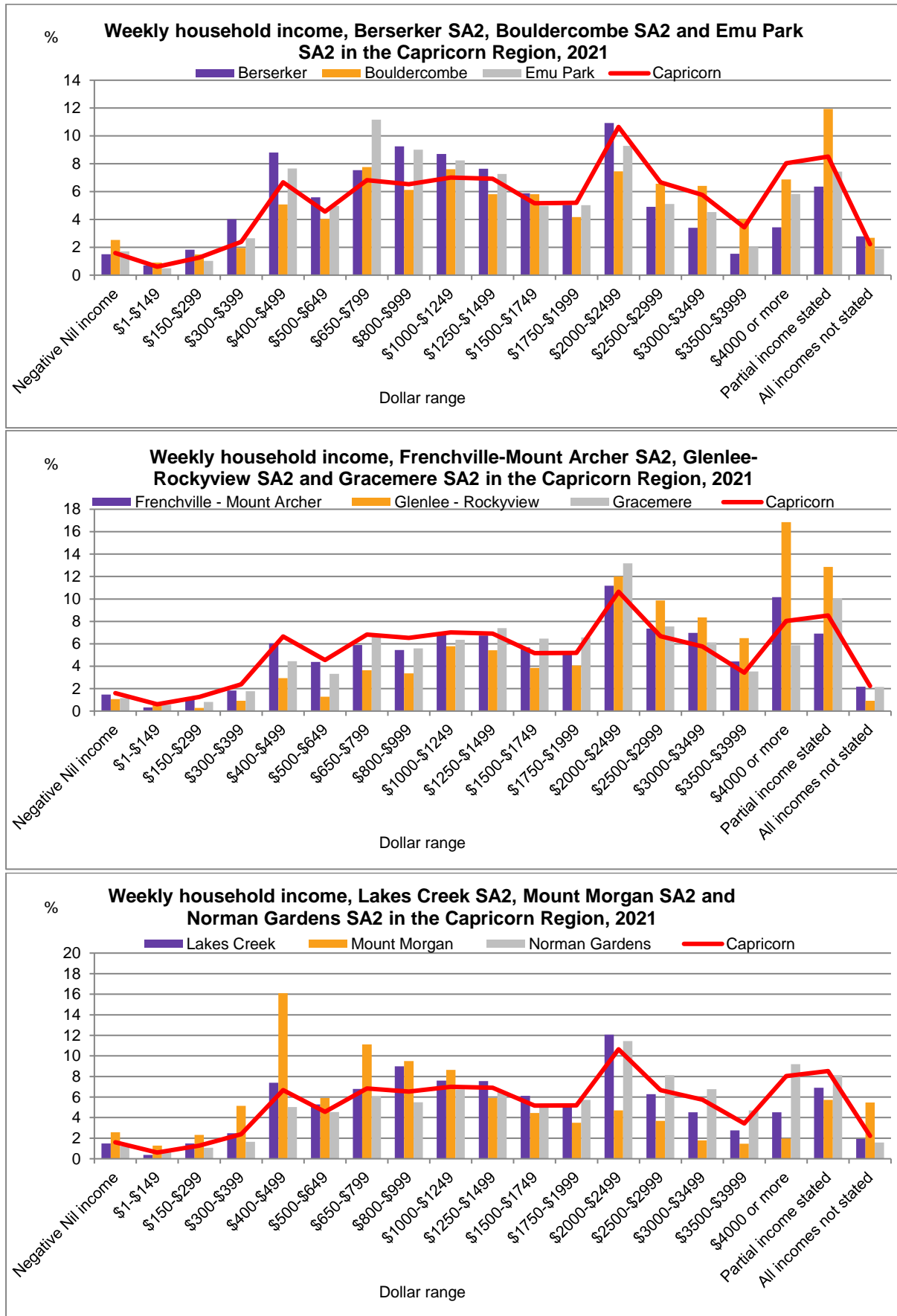
(a) Based on persons aged 15 years and over by place of enumeration.
 (b) Partial income stated comprises households where at least one, but not all, member(s) aged 15 years and over did not state an income.
 (c) All incomes not stated comprises households where no members present stated an income.
 Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021, General Community Profile*.

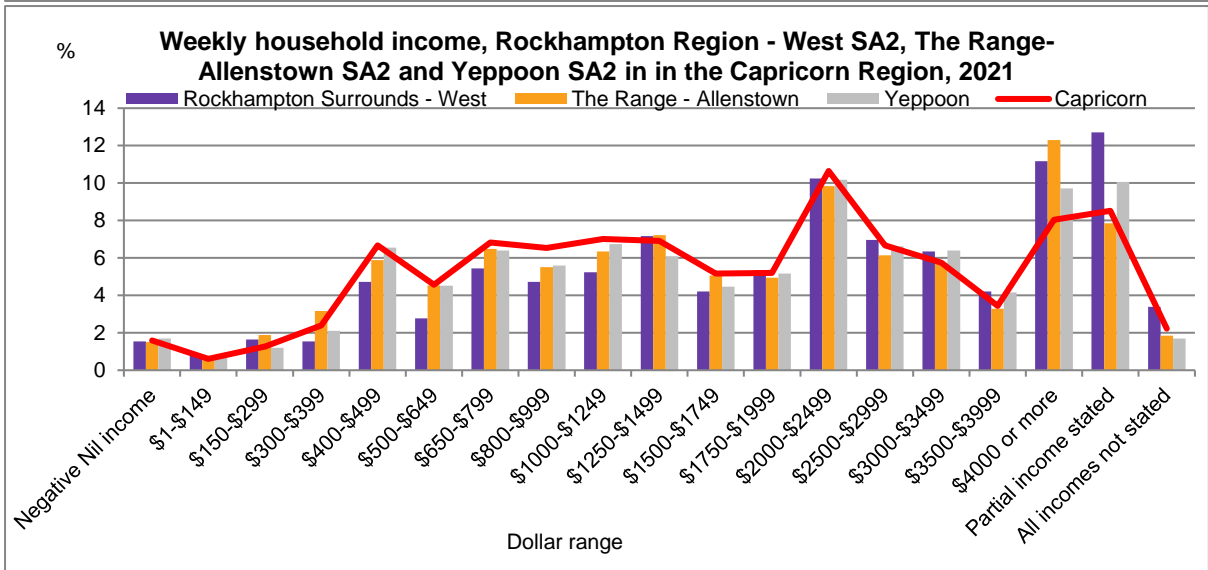
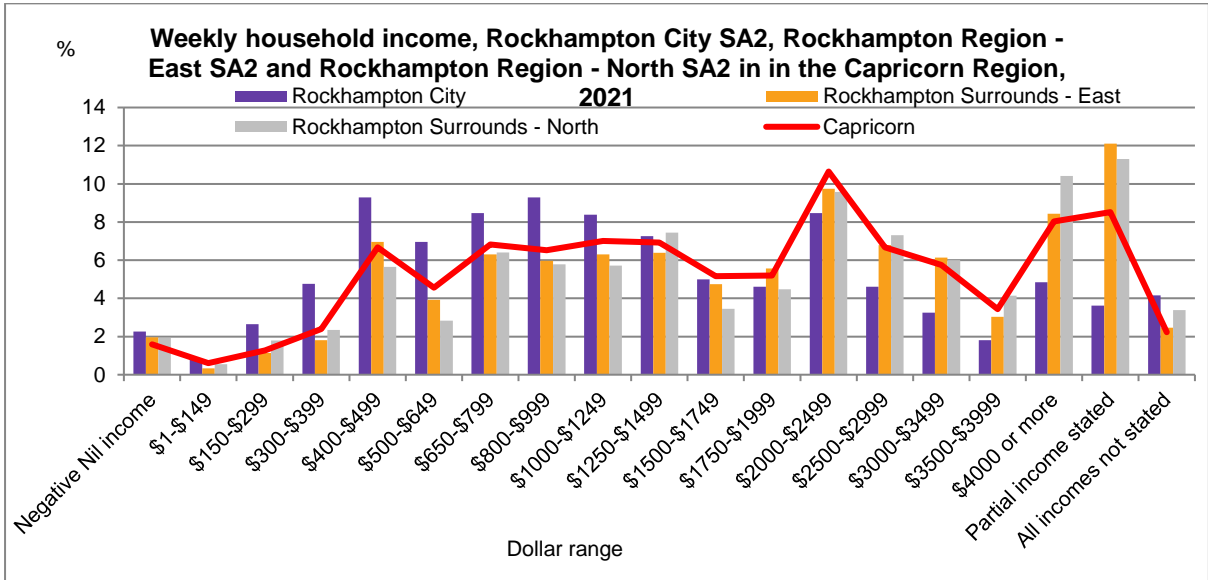
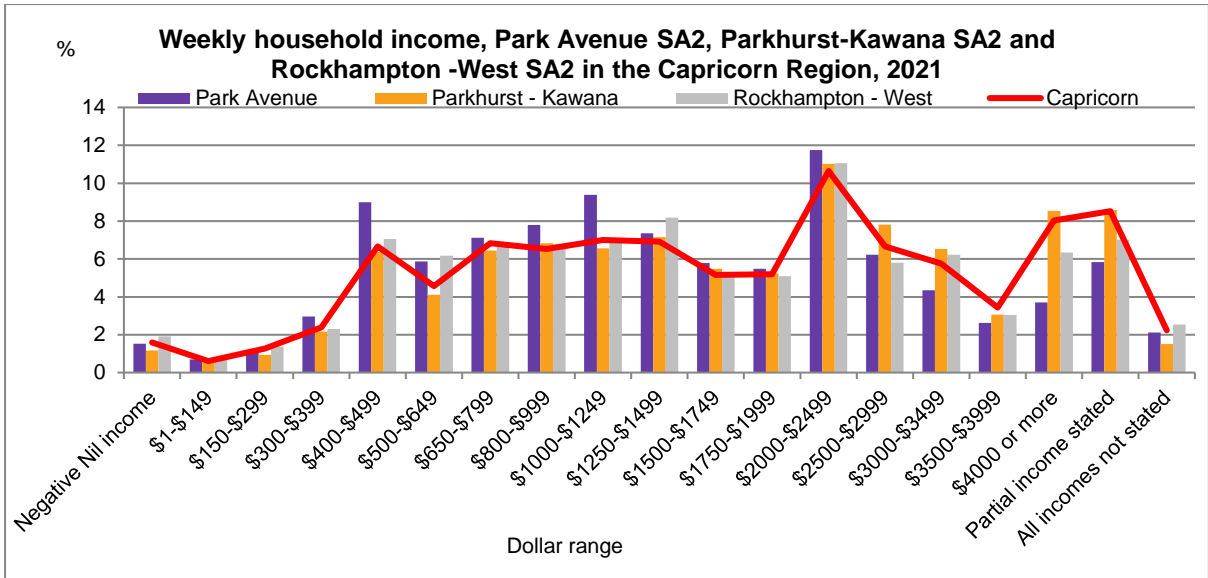
What’s happening in your neighbourhood?

Income ranges across the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region varied considerably with some regions having higher or lower proportions of persons in the higher income ranges.

In 2021, Glenlee – Rockyview SA2 (31.7%) had the highest proportions of household incomes of \$3000 or more each week, while a number of suburbs had more than one in five households in this income range: Rockhampton Surrounds – West (21.7%), Frenchville-Mount Archer (21.5%), The Range – Allenstown (21.3%), Norman Gardens (20.7%), Rockhampton Surrounds – North (20.5%) and Yeppoon (20.3%). More than two in five households in Mount Morgan (44.4%) had an income of less than \$800 with Berserker (30.0%) and Rockhampton City (35.2%) also having higher proportions of lower income households. Areas with higher numbers of retired residents, for example, will tend have lower median incomes.

Figure 7 Weekly household income, SA2 in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region (a)(b), 2021





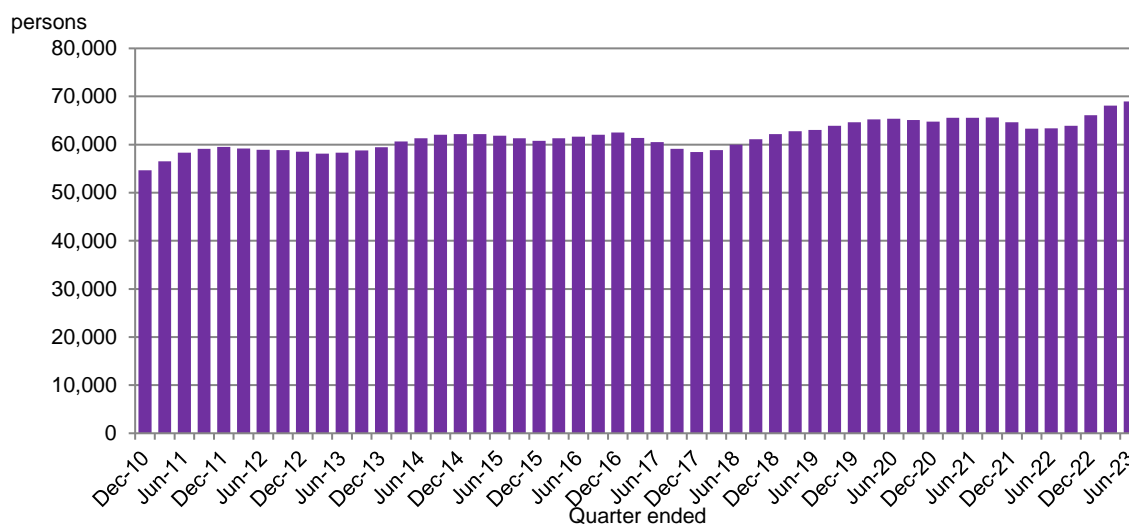
(a) Based on persons aged 15 years and over by place of usual residence.
 (b) Shoalwater Bay SA2 not included due to low population counts.
 Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021, *General Community Profile*.

Labour force

The labour force of an area consists of those people who are employed either full time or part time and those who are looking for either full time or part time work. Labour force participation varies with age, gender and educational qualifications. Some people are not part of the labour force, including students, retirees and stay at home parents or others who have been discouraged from seeking employment. Data is collected on employment for people over 15 years of age as those younger are generally engaged in education. While there is no upper age limit, labour force participation decreases with age and the working population is generally considered to be over 15 years and under 65 years.

The Australian Government National Skills Commission produces the *Small Area Labour Markets Australia* report and data tables quarterly. These present estimates of the number of unemployed persons and unemployment rates. The total estimated labour force in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region for the June quarter 2023 was 68,943 persons (Figure 10). The labour force increased by 1.3 per cent from the previous quarter.

Figure 8 Labour force (a)(b), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2010 to 2023



(a) Small Area Labour Force data can exhibit considerable variability at the regional level and care should be taken when interpreting these values. (b) Based on smoothed (four quarter average) data.

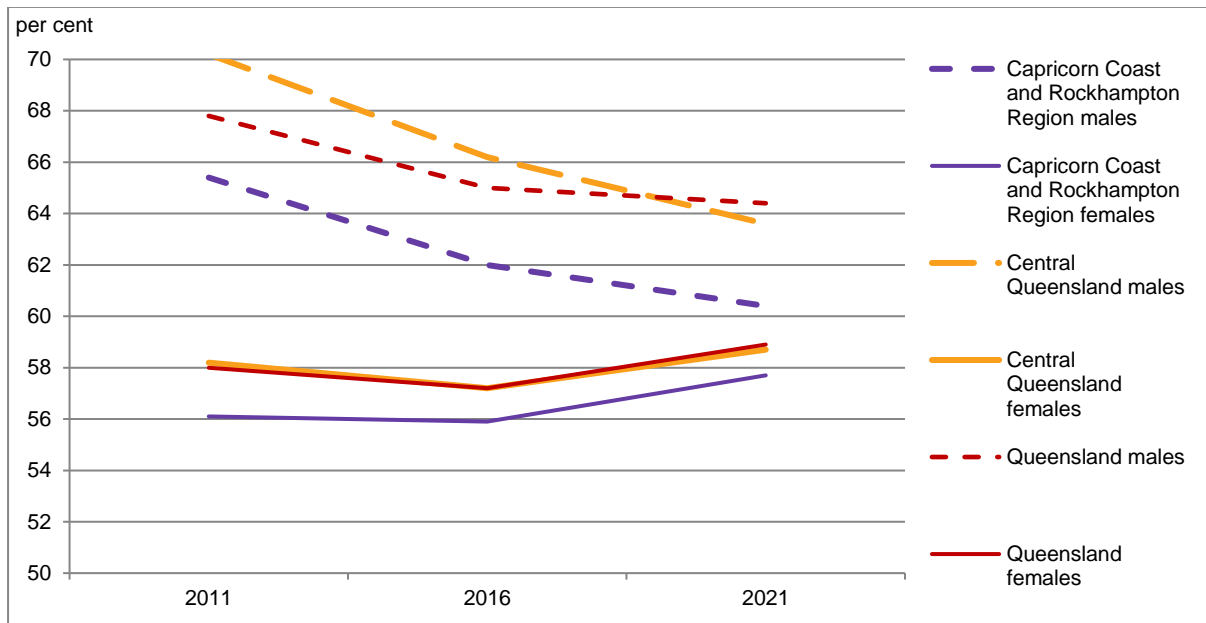
Source: Australian Department of Employment, *Small Area Labour Markets Australia* various editions.

Labour force participation

Participation in the labour force varies for males and females, between localities and with age and educational qualifications. In 2021, in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 57,640 people reported that they were in the labour force, either employed or unemployed. At the time of the 2021 Census, the participation rates for the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland Region were 59.1 and 61.2 per cent respectively, compared to the participation rates in 2016, 58.9 and 61.8 per cent respectively. Female participation in the labour force rates increased across the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, Central Queensland and Queensland while male participation decreased. Lower participation rates may be an indication of discouragement, with people unable to gain employment no longer participating in the labour force by looking for employment and instead entering other roles such as study, parenting or retirement.

Male participation rates in 2021 were lower than rates in 2011, while rates for females were higher in 2021 than in 2011. Participation rates for both males and females were higher in Central Queensland and Queensland than in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region.

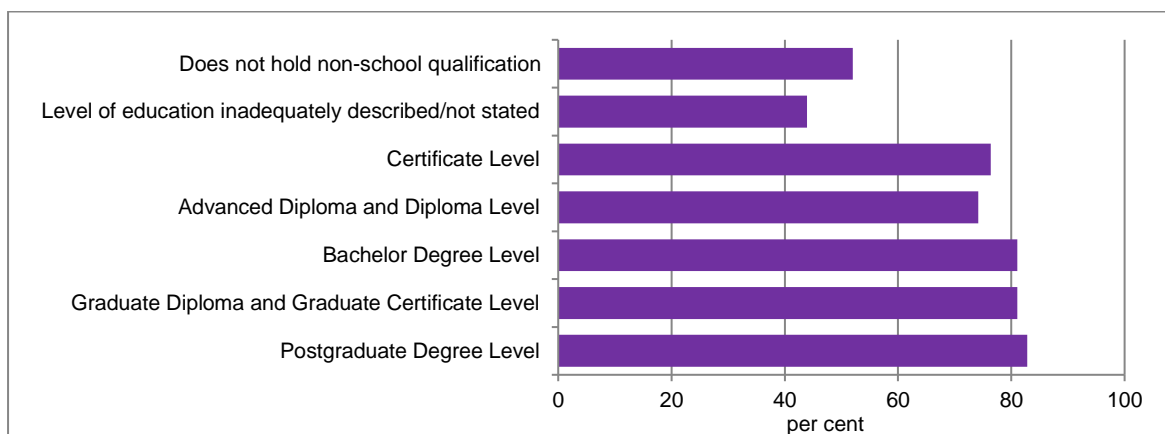
Figure 9 Labour force participation rate by sex (a), Capricorn, Central Queensland and Queensland, 2011-2021



(a) Count of persons aged 15 years and over and based on place of enumeration.
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing 2021, *Time Series Profile*.

Labour force participation varies with educational qualifications. People who did not hold qualifications from institutions other than primary or high schools had lower participation rates than people with qualifications. In 2021 in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 77.6 per cent of persons with a non-school qualification were in the labour force. The proportion of persons in the labour force with only primary or high school qualifications was considerably lower at 52.0 per cent.

Figure 10 Labour force participation rate by non-school qualification (a), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021



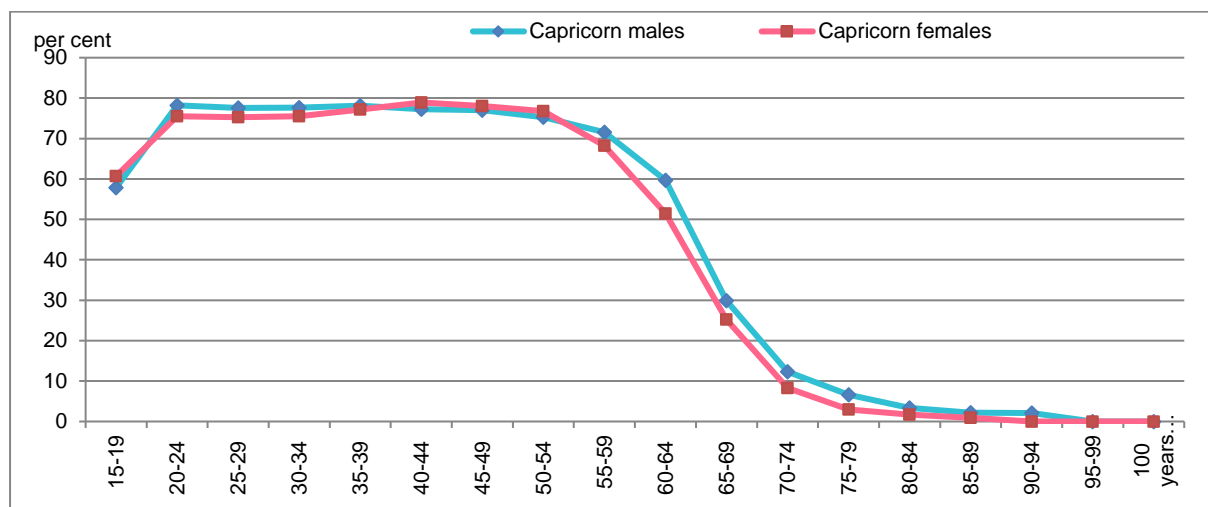
(a) Count of persons aged 15 years and over, based on place of usual residence.
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

Participation in the labour force also varies with age. As people age, participation in the labour force declines. In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, both male and female participation in the labour force experiences a significant decline in the 55 to 64 year age group. A small percentage of older persons continued to work past the early or traditional retirement ages.

In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in 2021, female participation in the labour force was initially higher than male participation for the 15 to 19 year age group (60.7% and 57.8% respectively). For the first time, female participation rates exceeded male participation rates for women between the ages of 40 and 54 years. Participation for males increased from the 20 to 24 year age group, possibly reflecting the completion of education and training and peaked in the 35 to 39 year age ranges at 78.1 per cent. Female participation rose in the 20 to 24 year age group before increasing again from 35 years, reflecting the likelihood of births and child rearing. Participation rates for women were the highest between 35 and 54 years of age, peaking at 78.9 per cent between 40 and 44 years of age.

Participation rates for the different age groups in Central Queensland were generally higher for males than those in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region while female participation was generally lower.

Figure 11 Labour force participation (a) by age by sex, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021



(a) Based on place of usual residence.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing 2021, *General Community Profile*.

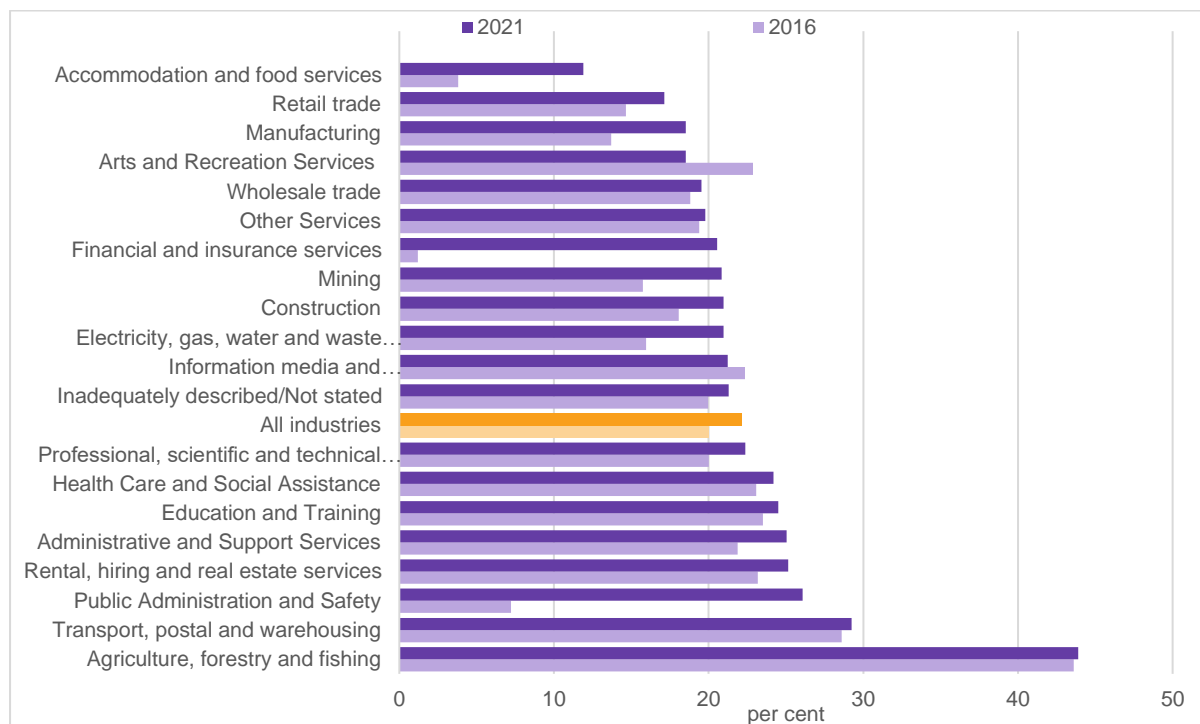
Age profile

There were 54,606 usual residents of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region who reported they were employed at the time of the 2021 Census. Of these, 9,441 were mature aged 55 years and over and accounted for approximately one in five workers (22.2%). While mature workers generally start retiring between 55 and 65 years of age, the first of the large baby boomer (born in 1946) generation reached 75 years and the last (born in 1964) reached 57 years in 2021.

There have been major changes in the number of persons employed in industries across the region, with a significant increase in actual numbers of persons employed in the health care and social assistance industry (2,056 persons) as well as construction (728 persons) and education and training (539 persons), while information media and telecommunications and retail trade declined (114 and 74 persons respectively). In the financial and insurance services and public administration and safety industries, the proportion of mature aged workers increased in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region (from 1.2% to 20.6% and 7.2% to 26.1% respectively). The agriculture, forestry and fishing industry had the highest proportion of workers aged 55 years and over (43.9%) but this was only slightly higher than in 2016 (43.6%). In comparison, approximately one in ten workers (11.9%) in the accommodation and food services industry was mature aged.

Between 2016 and 2021 in most industries of employment in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, the actual numbers of mature aged workers increased with the exception of agriculture, forestry and fishing (down by 68 people), retail trade (down by 74 people), transport, postal and warehousing (down by 98 people), information media and telecommunications (down by 114 people) and rental, hiring and real estate services (down by 50 people).

Figure 12 Industry of employment by workers aged over 55 years (a)(b), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region 2016 and 2021



(a) Based on count of persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Based on usual place of residence.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing 2021, *General Community Profile*.

Journey to work

Workers who usually live in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region may not have worked in Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in the week prior to Census in 2021. Similarly, workers who usually live in another local government area may have worked in Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region at that time. Information about the origin and destination of workers assists us in developing a picture of the region's workforce.

In the week prior to Census night 2021, 86.3 per cent of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's employed usual residents worked in the region. While 3.9 per cent had no fixed address for their place of work, 9.0 per cent working in Queensland and 0.6 per cent worked elsewhere in Australia. The largest numbers of Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region residents working outside the local government area were in Central Highlands (R), Isaac (R), Banana (S) and Brisbane (R).

In 2021, 96.1 per cent of jobs in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region were held by people who lived in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. Small percentages of people from elsewhere worked in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in the week prior to Census, including 446 persons from the Sunshine Coast (R). In comparison 76.7 per

cent of Banana (S) jobs were held by residents of Banana (S), 70.6 per cent in the Central Highlands and 41.0 per cent in Isaac (R).

Table 5 Journey to work summary (a), employed usual residents, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and select local government areas, 2021

Place of usual residence	Place of work							Total
	Capricorn Region	Banana (S)	Central Highlands (R)	Gladstone (R)	Isaac (R)	Rest of QLD	Other (b)	
Capricorn Region	47,148	481	1,972	205	1,283	3,160	363	54,619
Banana (S)	76	6,422	89	15	39	388	24	7,045
Central Highlands (R)	105	49	12,681	5	461	819	63	14,181
Gladstone (R)	200	267	283	25,621	226	1,684	281	28,561
Isaac (R)	32	40	132	6	9,523	853	38	10,616
Rest of QLD	1,351	1,053	2,674	925	11,289
Other	159	57	133	157	384
Total	49,075	8,369	17,964	26,934	23,205

(a) Place of work relates to where the person worked in the week prior to Census night and is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Includes other states and territories and place of work not stated.

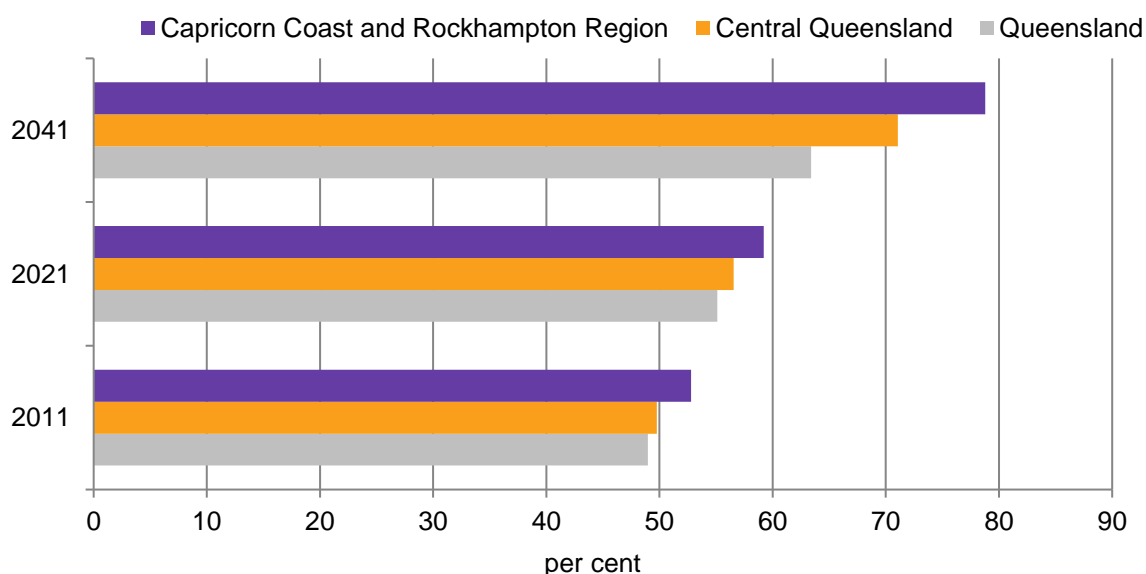
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021

Of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region employed persons who worked in Banana (S), Central Highlands (R) and Isaac (R), the majority worked in the mining industry (53.9%, 69.3% and 72.5% respectively).

Dependency ratio

The dependency ratio compares the proportion of the population that could be in the labour force (the productive population) to the proportion of the population that is economically dependent upon them, generally considered to be those under 15 years or over 65 years. The dependency ratio increases as the population ages with less people in the workforce to support the other members of the society.

Figure 13 Dependency ratio (a), Capricorn, Central Queensland and Queensland, 2011-2041



Source: ABS 3235.0, *Population by age and sex, Regions of Australia* and Queensland Government, *Queensland Government Population Projections*, 2018 edition.

In 2011, the dependency ratio in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region was 52.8 per cent which was higher than for Central Queensland and Queensland (49.8% and 49.0% respectively). This means that for every hundred persons of working age, there were approximately 53 residents not of working age. In the ten years to 2021, this increased to 59.2 per cent for the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, and the dependency rate remained higher than Central Queensland and Queensland (56.5% and 55.1% respectively). As the population ages over the years to 2041, it is projected that the dependency ratio could increase to 78.8 per cent in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. This will be a higher rate than in Central Queensland (71.0%) and Queensland (63.4%).

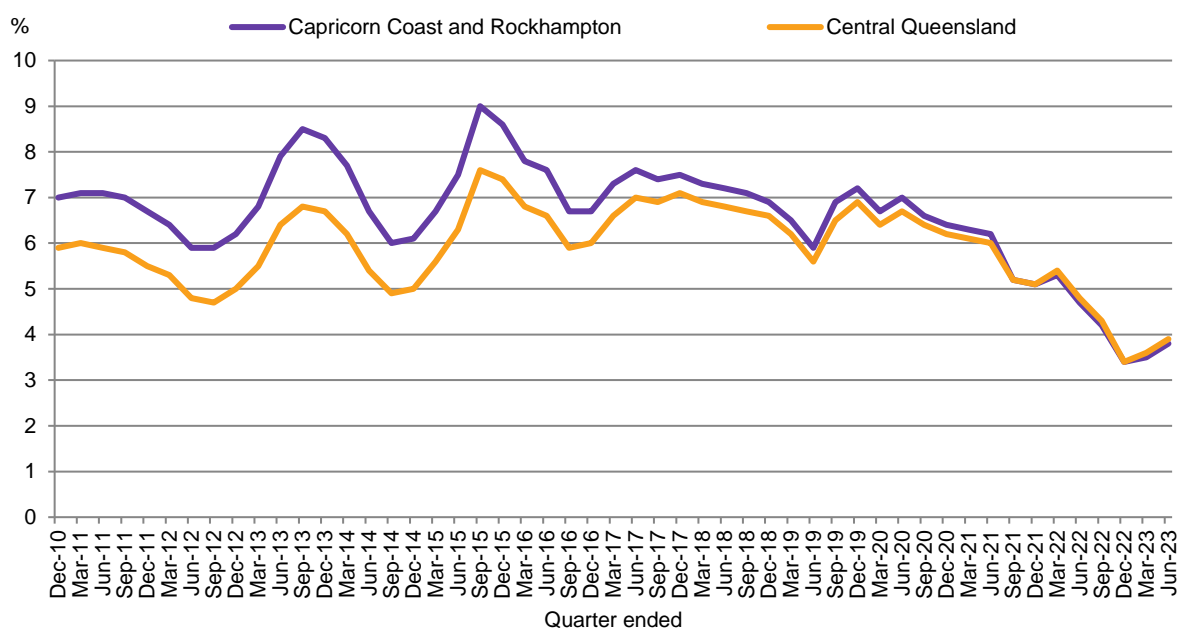
The rate of dependency in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region is projected to increase at a faster rate than in Central Queensland or Queensland.

Unemployment

The unemployment rate is defined as the number of people in the region actively looking for a job, either full-time or part-time, as a percentage of the labour force.

The unemployment rate in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in the June quarter 2023 was 0.1 percentage point lower than the Central Queensland region. The unemployment rate in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region was 3.8% in the June quarter 2023, 0.3 percentage points higher than the previous quarter and 0.9 percentage points lower than the June quarter in 2022. It was 0.1 percentage points higher than the Queensland rate of 3.7%.

Figure 14 Unemployment rate (a), Capricorn and Central Queensland, December 2010 –June 2023



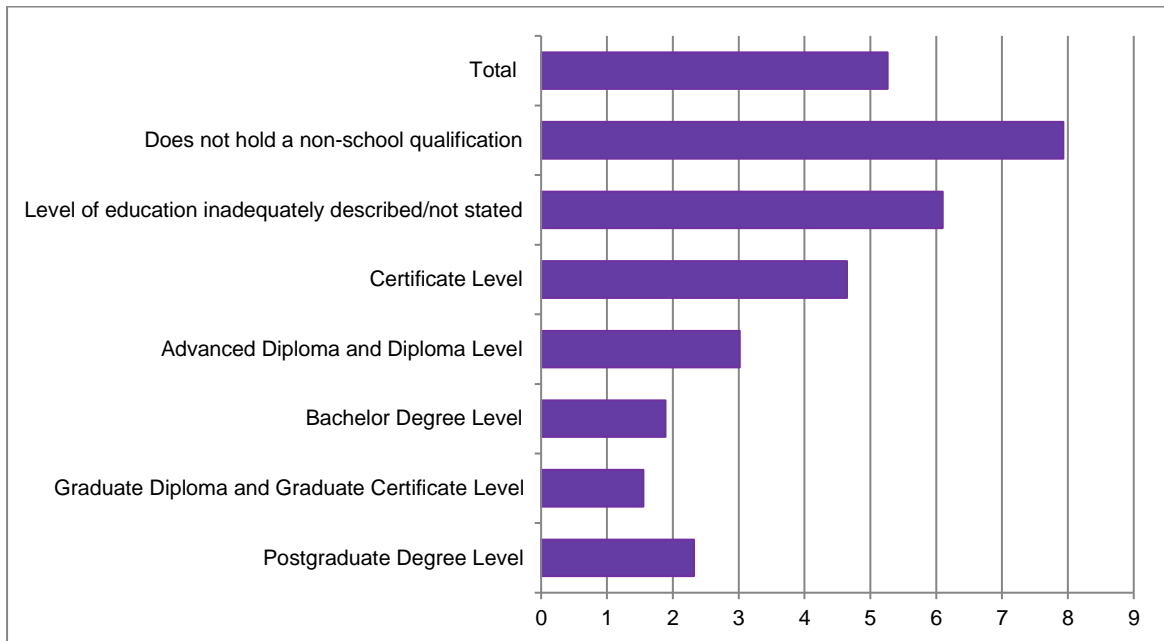
(a) Smoothed data (Data based on four quarter average) is not available prior to December quarter 2010. Estimates of unemployment and the unemployment rate at the regional level can display significant variability and should be viewed with caution. Quarter-to-quarter comparisons may not be indicative of actual movements in the labour market.

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment, *Small Area Labour Markets Australia*, various editions.

Unemployment rates also vary with educational qualifications. At the time of the 2021 Census, 5.3 per cent of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region residents stated that they were unemployed and looking for part-time or full-time work. In comparison, less than

2.3 per cent of persons with an advanced diploma or diploma or higher were unemployed while 7.9 per cent of persons without a non-school qualification were unemployed.

Figure 15 Unemployment rate by non-school qualification (a), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021



(a) Count of persons aged 15 years and over, based on place of usual residence.
 Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

Disclaimer

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