



# Mackay Isaac Whitsunday - a major regional economic powerhouse.



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# SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN KEY INDUSTRY **OUTPUTS HAVE RESULTED IN A MORE POSITIVE** AND BUOYANT REGIONAL ECONOMY OVER THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS.



**Gross Regional Product** 



**Regional Unemployment Rate**  Led by the mining sector, which recorded a staggering \$4.45B increase in GRP output in 2018-2019, all key industry sectors have maintained or recorded GRP growth. The regional unemployment rate remains low and well below the Queensland average, indicating that the regional economy is performing strongly.

The region's continued strong performance across most industry sectors reinforces our position as a major regional economic powerhouse and validates the region's focus on exploring new industries, whilst proactively supporting key traditional sectors.

This report emphasises the strong economic changes that have occurred across all industries. Gross Regional Product increased by over 39% to \$22.28B (up from \$15.96B). Strong commodity prices, a continued weak Australian dollar and improved consumer confidence has created a much more positive regional economy and this trend is expected to continue into the next financial year.



17.15%

Increase in **Residential Building Approvals** 

The real estate sector is bouncing back across the entire region, with Mackay and Isaac reporting solid increases in growth in median house price. Unit prices have increased in all LGAs, indicating more confidence in the region. This increased real estate activity has also positively flowed through to the number of residential building approvals, particularly in the Mackay Regional Council area.

The information in this report is a representation of the 12-month period from June 2018 to June 2019.

# 2. Region Overview



# A. Map

# **Greater Whitsunday region spans**

90,354 km<sup>2</sup>



# B. Area (km²)

The Greater Whitsunday region spans an area of 90,354 km² from St Lawrence in the south, to Bowen in the north and beyond Clermont in the west.

23,863km<sup>2</sup> Whitsunday 7,622km<sup>2</sup> Mackay 58,869km<sup>2</sup> Isaac

### C. LGAs

# **Mackay**

The Mackay region is home to a diverse and vibrant community with rural and coastal living opportunities in 30 townships, small rural settlements and rural residential areas. The Mackay regional local government area is one of the fastest growing in Queensland, with a population of over 116,000 people. The region's prosperous economy is expected to continue to drive strong population growth over the next 20 years.

Only an hour's flight from Brisbane, the Mackay region boasts an enviable lifestyle and a buoyant economy with the benefits of a fast-growing coastal city. Its coastal location is complemented by its spectacular natural environment. This includes 31 beautiful beaches, a picturesque blue river and a pristine rainforest hinterland.





31 beautiful beaches

## **Isaac**



36,675 estimated full-time equivalent population



25 operating coal mines

The Isaac local government spans an area of 58,869 km² in Central Queensland, from the coast area to the coalfields. Located 1,000km north-west of Brisbane and 900km south of Cairns, with access to world class export infrastructure, the area is strategically placed to capitalise on the economic opportunities associated with the rise of Asia.

The estimated resident population is 20,941, although with an additional 15,734 resource sector workers housed in temporary accommodation at any one time, the full-time equivalent population is estimated at 36,675. The Isaac LGA hosts 25 operating coal mines, with a further two under construction and 27 in advanced development phase. Agriculture is also another key industry for the region, with a growing livestock sector.

# Whitsunday

The Whitsunday region encompasses a total land area of 23,863 km² and includes the major townships of Airlie Beach, Bowen, Cannonvale, Collinsville and Proserpine and is home to approximately 35,500 permanent residents. As the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and the magnificent 74 Whitsunday Islands, the Whitsunday region has one of the fastest growing populations in Queensland. Boasting a strong and diverse economy driven by the agriculture, construction, mining and tourism industries; the Whitsunday region is on track to becoming an economic powerhouse in Queensland.

Renowned for its relaxed lifestyle, the region boasts beaches, rainforests and large tracts of national parkland. While the region is rural and coastal in its nature, residents and visitors alike enjoy access to contemporary facilities including museums, art galleries, cafes, hotels, restaurants and entertainment facilities.



35,500 permanent residents



74 Whitsunday Islands

# D. Population

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region has a higher percentage of youth and working aged residents compared to Queensland.

### i. Age

Age Report (2016 Census - Place of Usual Residence - People)



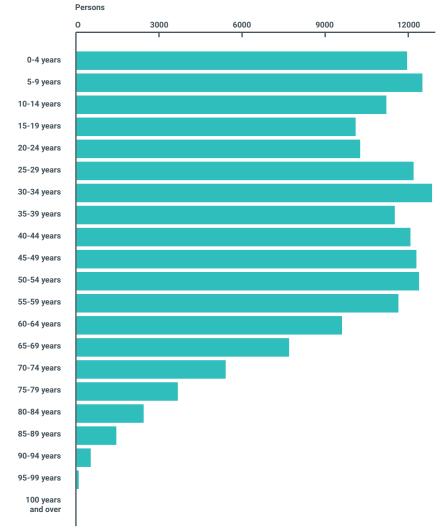


The total number of people usually resident in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) zones in all Age cohorts on Census Night 2016 was

169,693

### **Population by Age**

	Whitsund	Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) (2016) zones					
Age	Persons	%					
0-4 years	11,791	6.95%					
5-9 years	12,335	7.27%					
10-14 years	11,053	6.51%					
15-19 years	9,962	5.87%					
20-24 years	10,123	5.97%					
25-29 years	12,021	7.08%					
30-34 years	12,678	7.47%					
35-39 years	11,353	6.69%					
40-44 years	11,910	7.02%					
45-49 years	12,121	7.14%					
50-54 years	12,215	7.20%					
55-59 years	11,482	6.77%					
60-64 years	9,477	5.58%					
65-69 years	7,599	4.48%					
70-74 years	5,345	3.15%					
75-79 years	3,645	2.15%					
80-84 years	2,431	1.43%					
85-89 years	1,460	0.86%					
90-94 years	550	0.32%					
95-99 years	125	0.07%					
100 years and over	17	0.01%					
Total	169,693						



SOURCE: REMPLAN

### ii. % of Qld

### Age Report (2016 Census - Place of Usual Residence - People)





The total number of people usually resident in Queensland (State) zones in all Age cohorts on Census Night 2016 was

4,703,192

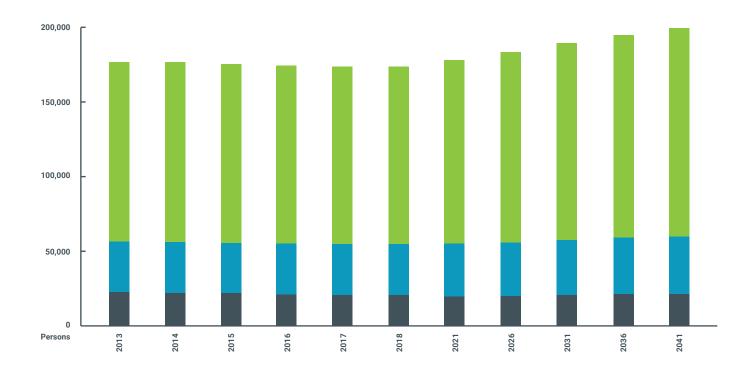
## **Population by Age**

					Persor	IS				
	Queenslar	nd (2016)	Macka Whitsund (20		0-4 years	0	50000	100000	200000	300000
Age			Persons	%	5-9 years					
0-4 years	296,458	6.30%	11,791	6.95%	10-14 years					
5-9 years	317,135	6.74%	12,335	7.27%	15-19 years					
10-14 years	299,090	6.36%	11,053	6.51%	,					
15-19 years	296,289	6.30%	9,962	5.87%	20-24 years					
20-24 years	316,864	6.74%	10,123	5.97%	25-29 years					
25-29 years	320,750	6.82%	12,021	7.08%	30-34 years					
30-34 years	325,935	6.93%	12,678	7.47%	35-39 years					
35-39 years	305,216	6.49%	11,353	6.69%	40-44 years					
40-44 years	322,905	6.87%	11,910	7.02%	,					
45-49 years	322,980	6.87%	12,121	7.14%	45-49 years					
50-54 years	308,725	6.56%	12,215	7.20%	50-54 years					
55-59 years	292,198	6.21%	11,482	6.77%	55-59 years					
60-64 years	260,691	5.54%	9,477	5.58%	60-64 years					
65-69 years	242,194	5.15%	7,599	4.48%	65-69 years					
70-74 years	180,418	3.84%	5,345	3.15%	70-74 years					
75-79 years	126,078	2.68%	3,645	2.15%						
80-84 years	83,736	1.78%	2,431	1.43%	75-79 years					
85-89 years	54,550	1.16%	1,460	0.86%	80-84 years					
90-94 years	24,271	0.52%	550	0.32%	85-89 years					
95-99 years	5,997	0.13%	125	0.07%	90-94 years					
100 years and over	712	0.02%	17	0.01%	95-99 years					
			169,693		100 years and over					

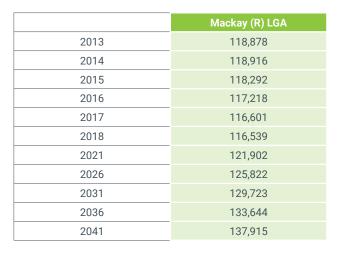
SOURCE: REMPLAN

### iii. Growth and projection rates

### Population and projection by region



	Isaac (R) LGA
2013	23,284
2014	22,786
2015	22,173
2016	21,543
2017	21,182
2018	20,934
2021	20,402
2026	20,579
2031	21,144
2036	21,649
2041	21,446





Graph depicts nice steady gradual growth expectancy on low risk scale. In this low scale population projection, 2041 is expected to reach

198,844

This projection would see a 15% increase over 23 years in population across the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region.

	Whitsunday (R) LGA
2013	34,113
2014	34,362
2015	34,509
2016	34,538
2017	34,774
2018	35,050
2021	35,237
2026	36,289
2031	37,664
2036	38,628
2041	39,483



Gross Regional Product (GRP) is one of the primary indicators used to gauge the health of a region's economy. It represents the total dollar value of all goods and services produced over a specific time period. Think of it as the size of the economy.



# **B. By industry**

### i. Key Industry Output Report

This report shows the gross revenue in prices generated by businesses and organisations in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4).

Output data represents the gross revenue generated by businesses/organisations in each of the industry sectors in a defined region. Gross revenue is also referred to as total sales or total income.

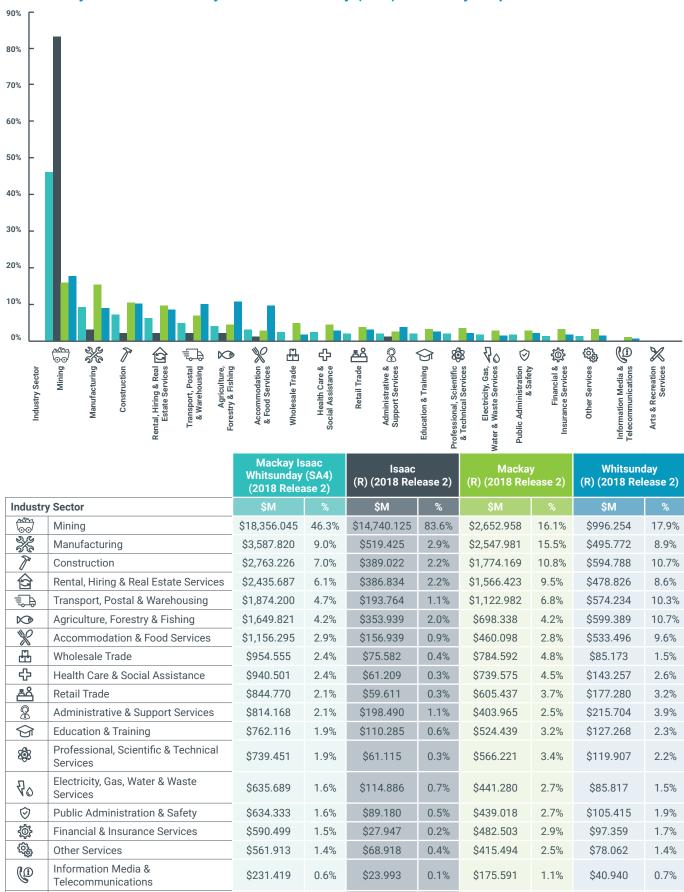
Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) represents 5.75% of the \$689.862 billion in output generated in Queensland and 1.09% of the \$3.643 trillion in output generated in Australia.



The output generated by the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) economy is estimated at

\$39.648 billion

### All industry sectors in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) ranked by output



SOURCE: REMPLAN

Arts & Recreation Services

X

Total

\$115.364

\$39,647.871

0.3%

\$9.765

\$17,641.029

0.1%

\$76.340

\$16,477.403

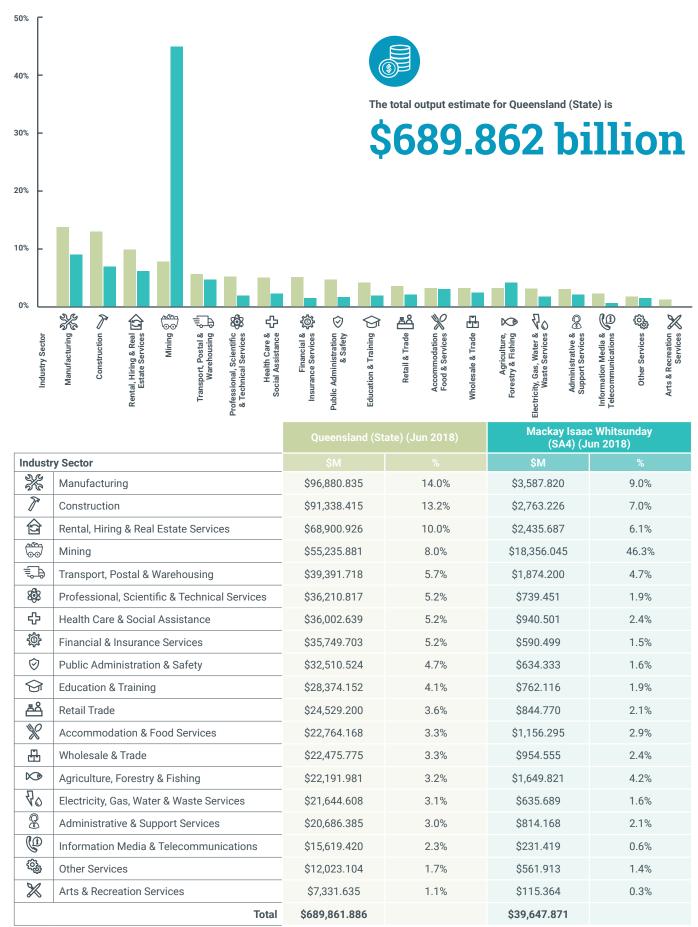
0.5%

\$27.370

\$5,576.312

0.5%

### ii. All industry (Comparison to Queensland)



SOURCE: REMPLAN



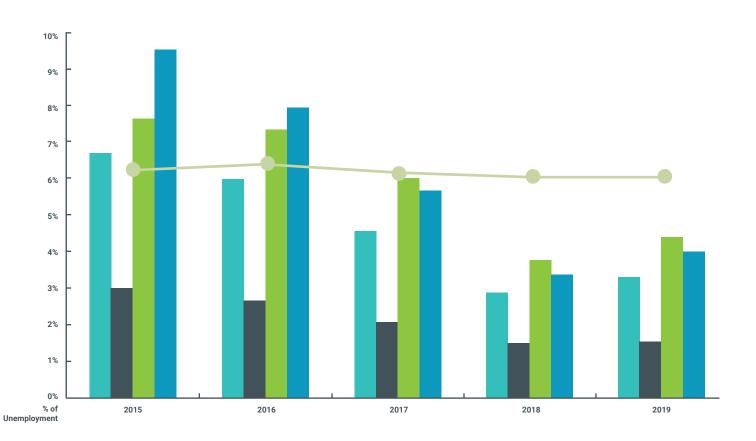
# A. Employment

## i. Unemployment rate

# **LGA Unemployment Rate MIW - QLD**

Local Government Area (LGA)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Mackay Isaac Whitsunday	6.7%	6.0%	4.6%	2.9%	3.3%
Isaac (R)	3.0%	2.7%	2.1%	1.5%	1.6%
Mackay (R)	7.6%	7.3%	6.0%	3.8%	4.4%
Whitsunday (R)	9.5%	7.9%	5.7%	3.4%	4.0%
Queensland	6.3%	6.5%	6.2%	6.1%	6.1%

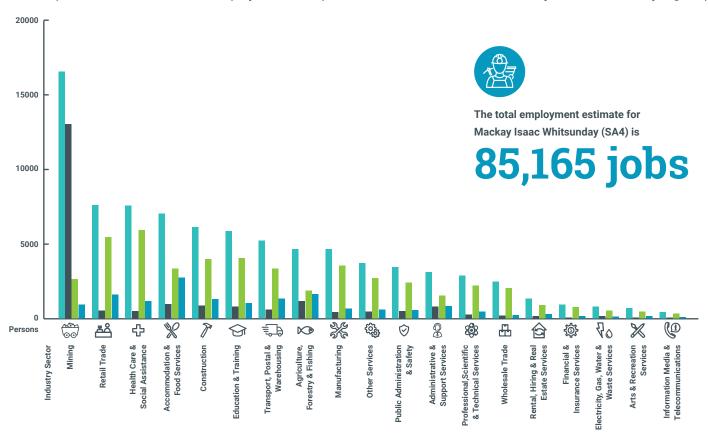
SOURCE: https://docs.jobs.gov.au/documents/lga-data-tables-small-area-labour-markets-march-quarter-2019



### ii. Industry

### **Employment Report**

This report shows the number of employees whose place of work is located within Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region (SA4).



				Isaac (R) (Jun 2018)		Mackay (R) (Jun 2018)		day (R) 018)	
Industry	Sector	Jobs	%	Jobs	%	Jobs	%	Jobs	%
(00)	Mining	16,591	19.5%	13,080	60.9%	2,623	5.5%	924	5.8%
æ	Retail Trade	7,610	8.9%	537	2.5%	5,454	11.4%	1,597	10.1%
슈	Health Care & Social Assistance	7,576	8.9%	492	2.3%	5,948	12.4%	1,164	7.4%
*	Accommodation & Food Services	7,050	8.3%	947	4.4%	3,337	7.0%	2,727	17.3%
F	Construction	6,135	7.2%	848	4.0%	3,988	8.3%	1,295	8.2%
$\Theta$	Education & Training	5,881	6.9%	806	3.8%	4,038	8.4%	1,035	6.5%
<b></b>	Transport, Postal & Warehousing	5,235	6.1%	591	2.8%	3,357	7.0%	1,325	8.4%
K.	Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	4,672	5.5%	1,160	5.4%	1,873	3.9%	1,646	10.4%
<b>%</b>	Manufacturing	4,669	5.5%	423	2.0%	3,542	7.4%	666	4.2%
<b>€</b>	Other Services	3,730	4.4%	440	2.1%	2,715	5.7%	585	3.7%
♡	Public Administration & Safety	3,461	4.1%	488	2.3%	2,407	5.0%	563	3.6%
8	Administrative & Support Services	3,101	3.6%	777	3.6%	1,536	3.2%	808	5.1%
<b>36</b> 33	Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	2,868	3.4%	237	1.1%	2,199	4.6%	463	2.9%
#	Wholesale Trade	2,488	2.9%	197	0.9%	2,045	4.3%	222	1.4%
硷	Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	1,316	1.5%	146	0.7%	883	1.8%	277	1.8%
<b>\$\$</b>	Financial & Insurance Services	912	1.1%	39	0.2%	758	1.6%	144	0.9%
40	Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste Services	777	0.9%	158	0.7%	517	1.1%	119	0.8%
×	Arts & Recreation Services	680	0.8%	62	0.3%	446	0.9%	159	1.0%
<b>@</b>	Information Media & Telecommunications	413	0.5%	34	0.2%	309	0.6%	86	0.5%
	Total	85,165		21,462		47,975		15,805	

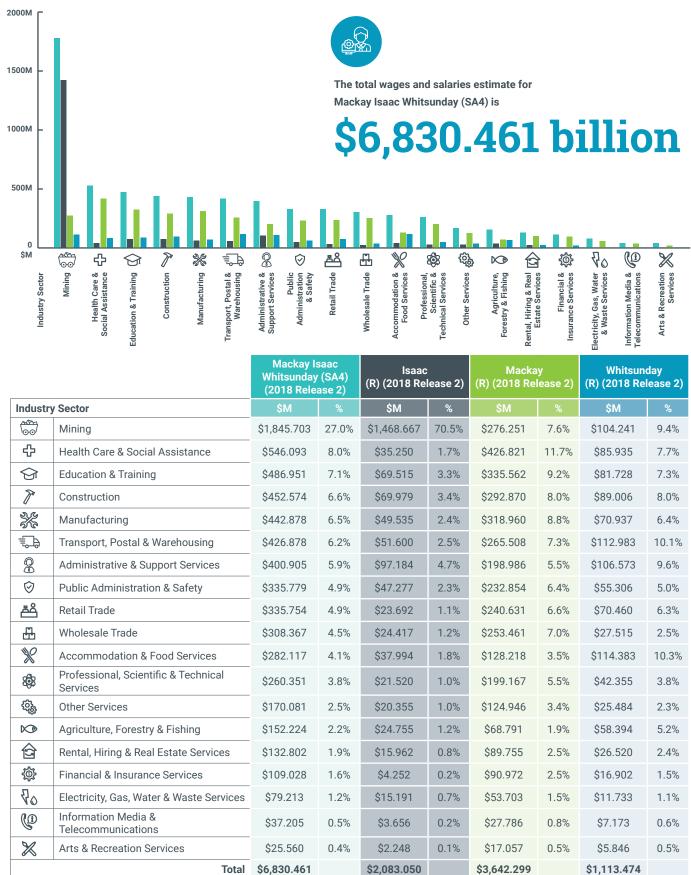
SOURCE: REMPLAN

### iii. Income

### By industry

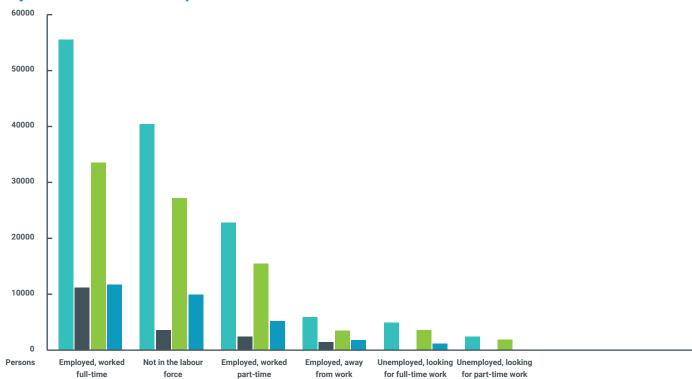
### **Wages and Salaries Report**

This report shows the wages and salaries in prices paid to employees who work in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4).



### iv. Employment status

### By labour force status report



	Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) (2016) zones		day Isaac (R) (2016) Mackay (R		Mackay (R) (2016)		Whitsunday (	(R) (2016)
Labour Force Status	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Employed, worked full-time	54,779	36.48%	10,773	43.63%	32,745	36.74%	11,261	30.99%
Not in the labour force	39,664	26.42%	3,271	13.25%	26,743	30.01%	9,650	26.56%
Employed, worked part-time	22,318	14.86%	2,400	9.72%	15,086	16.93%	4,832	13.30%
Employed, away from work	5,385	3.59%	963	3.90%	3,027	3.40%	1,395	3.84%
Unemployed, looking for full-time work	4,537	3.02%	358	1.45%	3,313	3.72%	866	2.38%
Unemployed, looking for part-time work	2,153	1.43%	188	0.76%	1,646	1.85%	319	0.88%
Sub-Total	128,836	85.80%	17,953	72.71%	82,560	92.63%	28,323	77.96%
Other	21,316	14.20%	6,739	27.29%	6,568	7.37%	8,009	22.04%
Total	150,152	100.00%	24,692	100.00%	89,128	100.00%	36,332	100.00%

This report excludes 35,555 people categorised as "Not applicable". SOURCE: REMPLAN

The total number of people enumerated in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) zones in the 6 selected Labour Force Status cohorts on Census Night 2016 was 128,836. This represents 85.80% of the total number of applicable people enumerated in Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday (SA4) zones.

### **Labour Force Status**

This variable records a person's labour force status for the week prior to Census Night. People aged 15 years and over who are neither employed nor unemployed are classified as not in the labour force. This includes people who are retired, pensioners and people engaged solely in home duties. Information about employment type is important for a wide range of social and economic policy and planning purposes. The Census of Population and Housing and the Labour Force Survey (LFS) both measure information about the labour market activity of people aged 15 years and over. The Census provides a five yearly snapshot with social-economic data at a small area level, while the Labour Force Survey is based on a monthly household survey.

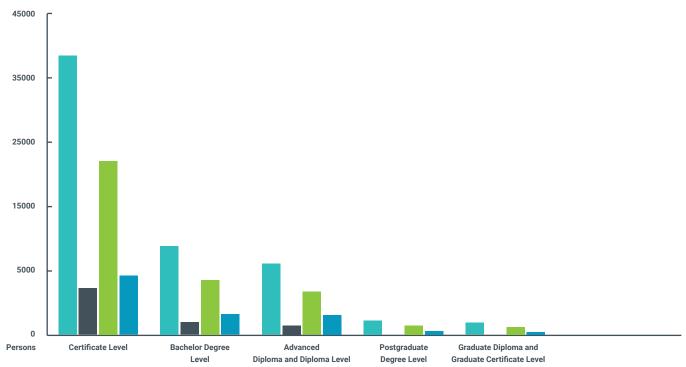
This variable is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over. It includes a 'Not applicable' category, which comprises:

· Persons aged under 15 years

Labour Force Status corresponds with the ABS Census variable 'LFSP Labour Force Status'. SOURCE: REMPLAN

### v. Education qualifications

### **Qualifications (2016 Census - Place of Usual Residence - People)**



	Whitsu	Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) (2016) zones		Isaac (R) (2016) Mackay (R) (2016)		) (2016)	Whitsunday (	(R) (2016)
Level	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Certificate Level	37,667	42.11%	6,316	37.30%	23,488	47.95%	7,863	33.41%
Bachelor Degree Level	11,983	13.40%	1,692	9.99%	7,494	15.30%	2,797	11.88%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level	9,650	10.79%	1,183	6.99%	5,780	11.80%	2,687	11.42%
Postgraduate Degree Level	1,946	2.18%	259	1.53%	1,171	2.39%	516	2.19%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	1,613	1.80%	184	1.09%	1,044	2.13%	385	1.64%
Sub-Total	62,859	70.27%	9,634	56.90%	38,977	79.57%	14,248	60.53%
Other	26,594	29.73%	7,297	43.10%	10,008	20.43%	9,289	39.47%
Total	89,453	100.00%	16,931	100.00%	48,985	100.00%	23,537	100.00%

This report excludes 96,254 people categorised as "Not applicable". SOURCE: REMPLAN

The total number of people enumerated in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) zones in the 5 selected Qualification cohorts on Census Night 2016 was 62,859. This represents 70.27% of the total number of applicable people enumerated in Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday (SA4) zones.

### **Oualifications**

This variable describes the level of a person's highest completed non-school qualification (i.e. educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education). Qualifications are coded using the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001. This data provides a resource to investigate the relationship between levels of education and employment outcomes, income and other socioeconomic variables; and as a proxy measure of socioeconomic status\*.

This variable is applicable to persons aged 15 years and over who stated a completed qualification. It includes a 'Not applicable' category, which comprises:

- · Persons who have a qualification that is out of scope of this classification
- · Persons with no qualification
- · Persons still studying for a first qualification
- Persons aged under 15 years

Qualifications corresponds with the ABS Census variable 'QALLP Non-School Qualification: Level of Education' SOURCE: REMPLAN

# Housing and Liveability

# A. Housing

### i. Median house prices

The housing sector is continuing to improve across the region, with growth in unit values a particularly strong highlight. This strong demand has started to flow across into the construction sector, also contributing to the low regional unemployment figures.

### **Annual Median Sales Price Houses, Units, Land**

Region	Houses (<2400m²)		Units		Land (<2400m²)		
	Annual Median Sale	1 Yr Change	Annual Median Sale	1 Yr Change	Annual Median Sale	1 Yr Change	
Isaac	\$172,500	27.3%	\$154,000	18.5%	N/A	N/A	
Mackay	\$339,000	1.0%	\$237,500	10.5%	\$169,000	2.4%	
Whitsunday	\$340,000	-2.9%	\$250,000	5.0%	\$147,000	-5.8%	

N/A Not available due to insufficient sales numbers

### **Mortgage Repayment**

This data provides insights to the amount of money spent on monthly mortgage repayments, by loan repayment range and refers only to occupied dwellings being purchased. This provides informative data when combined with income data and then analysed at smaller geographic boundaries to provide powerful insights into areas that may be experiencing mortgage stress.

This variable is applicable to occupied private dwellings that are owned with a mortgage (including being purchased under a rent/buy scheme). It includes a 'Not applicable' category, which comprises:

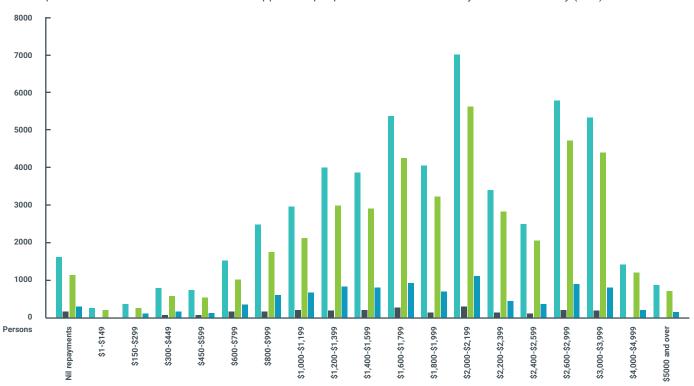
- Occupied private dwellings with Tenure Type (TEND) of Owned outright, Rented, Being occupied rent free, Being occupied under a life tenure scheme, Other and Not stated
- Unoccupied private dwellings
- Non-private dwellings
- · Migratory, off-shore and shipping SA1s

Mortgage Repayment corresponds with the ABS Census variable 'MRERD Mortgage Repayment (monthly) Ranges'. SOURCE: REMPLAN

### ii. Population by mortgage payments

The total number of people enumerated in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) zones in the 19 selected Mortgage Repayment cohorts on Census Night 2016 was 53,600.

This represents 95.43% of the total number of applicable people enumerated in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (SA4) zones.



Mackay Isaac

	Whitsunda (201			(Jun 2016)		(Jun 2016)		(Jun 2016)	
Repayment	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%	
Nil repayments	1,575	2.80%	161	5.98%	1,130	2.58%	284	2.92%	
\$1-\$149	248	0.44%	5	0.19%	184	0.42%	59	0.61%	
\$150-\$299	350	0.62%	30	1.11%	240	0.55%	80	0.82%	
\$300-\$449	776	1.38%	65	2.41%	569	1.30%	142	1.46%	
\$450-\$599	716	1.27%	67	2.49%	518	1.18%	131	1.35%	
\$600-\$799	1,475	2.63%	141	5.24%	1,003	2.29%	331	3.41%	
\$800-\$999	2,455	4.37%	167	6.20%	1,711	3.91%	577	5.94%	
\$1,000-\$1,199	2,926	5.21%	190	7.06%	2,092	4.78%	644	6.63%	
\$1,200-\$1,399	3,954	7.04%	194	7.20%	2,946	6.73%	814	8.37%	
\$1,400-\$1,599	3,808	6.78%	191	7.09%	2,851	6.52%	766	7.88%	
\$1,600-\$1,799	5,305	9.44%	226	8.39%	4,198	9.59%	881	9.06%	
\$1,800-\$1,999	4,021	7.16%	129	4.79%	3,205	7.32%	687	7.07%	
\$2,000-\$2,199	6,941	12.36%	274	10.17%	5,568	12.73%	1,099	11.31%	
\$2,200-\$2,399	3,351	5.97%	126	4.68%	2,787	6.37%	438	4.51%	
\$2,400-\$2,599	2,450	4.36%	82	3.04%	2,021	4.62%	347	3.57%	
\$2,600-\$2,999	5,727	10.20%	200	7.43%	4,654	10.64%	873	8.98%	
\$3,000-\$3,999	5,273	9.39%	168	6.24%	4,349	9.94%	756	7.78%	
\$4,000-\$4,999	1,409	2.51%	48	1.78%	1,197	2.74%	164	1.69%	
\$5000 and over	840	1.50%	26	0.97%	675	1.54%	139	1.43%	
Sub-Total	53,600	95.43%	2,490	92.46%	41,898	95.76%	9,212	94.77%	
Other	2,568	4.57%	203	7.54%	1,857	4.24%	508	5.23%	
Total	56,168	100.00%	2,693	100.00%	43,755	100.00%	9,720	100.00%	
Not applicable	129,539		27,245		69,108		33,186		

This report excludes 129,539 people categorised as "Not applicable". SOURCE: REMPLAN



# Strongest (sales) performer by LGA for the past 12 months (Top 10)

Houses (<2400m<sup>2</sup>) #2 in Queensland - Isaac + 27.3%

Units #1 in Oueensland - Isaac + 18.5%

Units #2 in Queensland - Mackay + 10.5%

Units #6 in Queensland - Whitsunday + 5.0%



# Most affordable LGA's for the past 12 months (Top 10)

Units #2 Isaac





### iii. Rental prices

The regional rental market continues to strengthen or hold 2018 gains.

### **Rental Market - 3 Bedroom Houses**

	Mar-19	Mar-18	Trending
Region	\$/week	\$/week	
Isaac	\$280	\$250	
Mackay	\$350	\$320	
Whitsunday	\$350	NA	

### **Rental Market - 2 Bedroom Units**

	Mar-19	Mar-18	Trending
Region	\$/week	\$/week	
Isaac	\$200	\$190	
Mackay	\$270	\$230	
Whitsunday	\$310	NA	

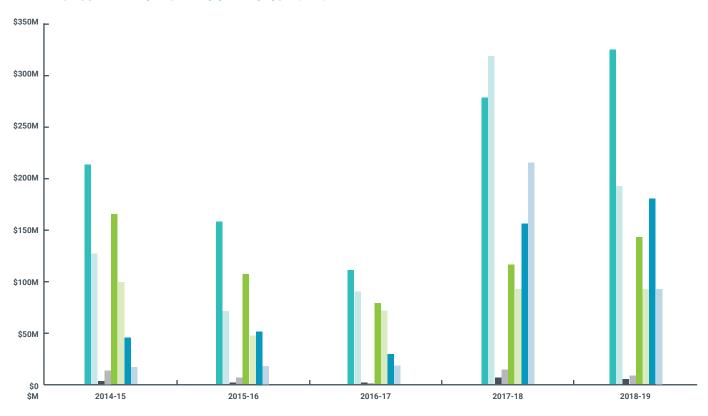
SOURCE: REIQ QUEENSLAND MARKET MONITOR JUNE 2019 N/A Not available due to insufficient sales numbers



### iv. Building approvals

Building approvals and the construction sector were one of the biggest victims from the fall in commodity prices post 2012. Indicators over the last twelve months have been more positive in this sector than they have been for some time. Whitsundays has experienced significant growth in building approvals and spend, however this is most likely due to impacts of Cyclone Debbie in March 2017.

### Building Approvals, by region, by year, by type (\$'M)



		Macka Whitsund		Isaac		Mackay		Whitsunday	
Туре	Year	Approvals \$M	% Change	Approvals \$M	% Change	Approvals \$M	% Change	Approvals \$M	% Change
Residential	2015-16	\$158.919	-26.18%	\$1.758	-36.28%	\$106.075	-36.14%	\$51.086	10.08%
	2016-17	\$110.514	-30.46%	\$1.974	12.29%	\$79.534	-25.02%	\$29.006	-43.22%
	2017-18	\$280.374	153.70%	\$5.348	170.92%	\$117.321	47.51%	\$157.705	443.70%
	2018-19	\$328.455	17.15%	\$4.063	-24.03%	\$142.866	21.77%	\$181.526	15.10%
Non- Residential	2015-16	\$72.129	-43.77%	\$5.989	-48.42%	\$47.623	-52.49%	\$18.516	12.72%
	2016-17	\$91.531	26.90%	\$1.332	-77.76%	\$71.214	49.54%	\$18.984	2.53%
	2017-18	\$321.847	251.63%	\$12.971	873.80%	\$92.426	29.79%	\$216.450	1040.17%
	2018-19	\$194.316	-39.62%	\$7.795	-39.90%	\$92.906	0.52%	\$93.615	-56.75%

SOURCE: REMPLAN

# **B.** Liveability

### i. Connectivity

Passenger numbers by airport			TOTAL PASSENGERS			
AIRPORTS	LGA	Year	INBOUND	OUTBOUND	TOTAL	
HAMILTON ISLAND	Whitsunday	2018	212,496	214,888	427,384	
MACKAY	Mackay	2018	403,304	404,662	807,966	
MORANBAH	Isaac	2018	51,895	51,843	103,738	
PROSERPINE	Whitsunday	2018	222,860	225,715	448,575	

SOURCE: https://www.bitre.gov.au/publications/ongoing/airport\_traffic\_data.aspx

# Total throughput by port

Financial Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Abbot Point	22,895,551	28,730,365	27,053,965	25,407,736	27,992,820
Hay Point	108,307,702	114,976,504	115,768,354	106,454,734	120,439,077
Mackay	3,073,517	2,899,806	2,829,464	2,906,955	3,007,779

SOURCE: https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Transport-sectors/Ports/Port-governance/Trade-statistics-for-Queensland-ports.



### ii. Arts, culture and events

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region boasts a thriving art, cultural and events scene. The region is diverse and rich, and offers residents and visitors alike a range of sights, activities and opportunities to enjoy.



# Mackay

Some of regional Queensland's best-preserved examples of art deco buildings proudly reside in Mackay. These beautiful buildings sit alongside a collection of public art installations, which pay tribute to Mackay's historical and

The city has a thriving arts scene, including the wildly popular annual Festival of Arts event. The Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre and public gallery Artspace precinct, is the epicentre for many of the city's cultural activities, including performances from local and renowned national and international artists, eisteddfods and touring exhibitions.

cafes (who can survive without coffee) have blossomed intersection is home to fun night spots for the young and the young-at-heart.

### Isaac

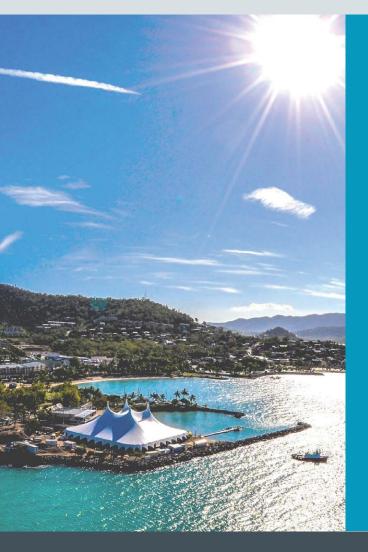
Isaac has a vibrant and active culture which values its arts, history and community. The charm of Isaac is greatly influenced by its art galleries, libraries and museums, and supported by an annual stream of arts and cultural activities.

Every year, the region comes alive with local and regional events and community programs. Celebrations occur each year commemorating Australia Day, Clean up Australia Day, Anzac Day, International Women's Day, NAIDOC Week, Youth Week, Senior's Week and during the Christmas holiday period. Other events such as market days, outdoor movie evenings, fetes, rodeos, race days, and camp drafts, also occur frequently throughout the year.

The region's history is also proudly on show and visits to the Clermont Historical Centre, Nebo Museum, Coalface Art Gallery or Dysart Art Space are well worth the time.



### ii. Arts, culture and events (cont)



# Whitsunday

The Whitsunday region's four town centres are diverse and provide unique opportunities in the art, culture and events spheres. If you can drag yourself away from enjoying some of the best outdoor leisure activities in Australia, then you'll be sure to enjoy a huge range of cultural pursuits.

Airlie Beach is a colourful, cosmopolitan and inviting holiday town. It has developed into a busy retail and major tourism and hospitality hub and provides a gateway to the Whitsunday Islands and Great Barrier Reef. Every year, a range of events including Airlie Beach Race Week and music festivals entertains locals and visitors alike.

Bowen surprises visitors with its beautiful buildings and quality lifestyle features, including eight Tidy Town Awardwinning beautiful beaches, parkland and social infrastructure. Make sure you check out its unique public art murals. Collinsville, situated in the region's west, is passionate about its heritage and a visit to the Coalface Museum is well worth it. Proserpine has a lively retail scene and houses the area's main entertainment centre. The main street's well preserved art deco shop architecture is a reminder of how life used to be.

### iii. Education; schools and tertiary

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region has a well developed education sector and includes a good range of quality educational facilities, ranging from day care facilities to tertiary education campuses, including CQ University and James Cook University and vocational pathway institutions including the Mackay Engineering College.

	Schools	Tertiary Institutions (campus')
Isaac	18	
Mackay	58	2
Whitsunday	13	
Total	89	2

### iv. Health services; hospitals

The region has a comprehensive range of hospitals and health services, including the new \$408 million Mackay Base Hospital featuring; 300 beds and a range of speciality medical services, including general surgery, orthopaedics, gynaecology and obstetrics, urology and emergency medicine. This facility is complemented by hospitals located in Proserpine, Bowen, Collinsville and Moranbah. These services are supported by additional occupational and allied health services across the region.

	Hospitals & Health Services
Isaac	4
Mackay	6
Whitsunday	2
Total	12

### v. Nature



Mackay offers an enviable lifestyle, including a combination of fresh air, ambient temperatures and stunning natural attractions.

# Mackay

The region's 66,484 square kilometres encompass a diverse natural environment, which includes a picturesque blue-water river, 31 secluded beaches, a seaside marina and pristine rainforest hinterland. In addition to spectacular scenery, the Mackay region has some of the most amazing nature experiences in Australia, ranging from wallabies on the beach at beautiful Cape Hillsborough National Park, to spying a platypus in the Pioneer Valley. Mackay is a nature lover's dream location. The Mackay region's tropical warm summers and mild, sunny winters, make its climate one of the best in the world. Average daily temperatures range from just over 22°c in the winter months of June to August and up to 30°C during the summer months from December to February. Mackay experiences on average, approximately 261 days of sunshine a year.

### Isaac

The Isaac coast reveals quaint beach communities nestled along one of the last remaining relatively undeveloped, yet accessible stretches of shoreline on the east coast. Dugong sanctuaries, remote turtle nesting grounds and uninhabited islands, offer a unique opportunity to get back to nature and re-energise the mind. The Mining Trail will introduce you to wide, beautiful landscapes, historic towns, vibrant mining communities and impressive manmade works. Follow the Great Inland Way, where golden sunflowers line the road, while majestic mountains and lava plugs in National Parks, form spectacular backdrops on the horizon. The Isaac region covers 58,862 square kilometres of fertile plains, rich soils, beaches and coal mines in the mineral rich Bowen Basin. The best time to explore Isaac is during the cooler months of May to October.



Issac is a region unique in charm and character and is a growing attraction for visitors keen to explore the road less travelled on their journeys.



The Whitsunday region lays claim to the 74 Whitsunday Islands and is a world renowned tourism destination.

# Whitsunday

Most of the Whitsunday Islands are beautiful, tropical deserted islands with Hamilton, Hayman, Daydream, Long, and South Molle Island offering a variety of resort accommodation, with access to the Great Barrier Reef and fringing coral reefs. Much of the region's natural environment is protected, with approximately 50% of the Whitsundays being National Park. There are several National Park walks to explore on the mainland of the Whitsunday region and all offer a variety of flora and fauna to discover, most with stunning views of the ocean and islands or hinterland. The Whitsundays enjoys a tropical climate of hot summers, warm winters and bright spring and autumn days. Average daily temperatures range from just over 23°C in the winter months of June and July and up to 30.5°C in January during the height of summer.



### A. Location

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region is ideally located in the strategic heart of Northern Australia, a key focus area for policy from the Commonwealth Government. Northern Australia accounts for over half of Australia's total sea exports (Ports Australia, 2014) and a large percentage of that comes from the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region. Our unique location means that the region has a thriving and diverse export market in energy, agriculture and tourism, all future key driver industries which underpin Australia's income.

### **B. Natural Assets**

Undoubtedly one of Australia's biggest natural assets, the Great Barrier Reef, is located squarely off the coast of the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region. The total value of tourism output across the region is more than \$1.6b annually, much of it generated through the Whitsunday region. In addition to the Great Barrier Reef and Whitsunday Islands, the region is home to many magnificent national parks and natural waterways, plus hundreds of kilometres of untouched coastline. The entire Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region has an abundant supply of water, due in part to our enviable location in the tropics, significant annual rainfall and also through a mature network of dams, weirs, bores and channels. The Bowen Basin in the north of the region boasts Australia's largest metallurgical coal reserves, which are exported across the globe.

### C. Infrastructure

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region boasts a modern, connected infrastructure network. The region actively collaborates to pursue funding for enabling infrastructure to support the regional economy and improve liveability for residents and community.



### Roads

The regional road network is critical to the economic development of the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region as it facilitates the transport of export goods to market and enables the movement of critical materials and technology across the region (fuel; mining equipment etc). The road network is also a vital connector for growth in the tourism sector. The region is supported by a number of national roads, including the Bruce Highway and the Peak Downs Highway, as well as an extensive network of strategic state and district roads. There has been significant investment in the region's road network over the past decade to support growth in the resources sector and to enhance 'port to pit' connectivity. Stage 1 of the Mackay Ring Road is due for completion in 2020 at a cost of some \$540M, and the region is actively lobbying for ongoing investment to Bruce Highway improvements.

### **Ports**

The region is home to a number of major ports including coal ports at both Hay Point in the south of the region and Abbot Point in the north. The Port of Mackav is vital for fuel distribution into resource areas as well as agricultural exports. Over the next 20 years, the Queensland coal industry will be increasing production to around 340 million tonnes per year with Abbot Point meeting a large portion of the required port capacity.

### Rail

The rail network is particularly critical to the economy of the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region. It serves the agriculture, resources and tourism industry sectors but also plays a significant role in containerised freight transport. Aurizon's Central Queensland Coal Network is one of the world's largest and most complex rail supply chains, and connects domestic coal users to the export terminals at Abbot Point, Dalrymple Bay and Hay Point.

### Air

The region is home to three regional airports servicing more than 1.3 million passengers annually. Mackay Airport, Moranbah Airport and Whitsunday Coast Airport in Proserpine are serviced by major airlines with convenient destinations and connections. Agribusiness has opportunities in air freight for high value agri-food product in the future. Mackay has also been announced as the location for the second Qantas Group Flight Training Academy, with construction due to commence in 2020.

# D. Innovation & Technology

Mackay has been given the opportunity to create history with construction underway on the 'Resources Centre of Excellence'. This centre, when complete, will feature 300m of underground mining simulation and a range of training facilities and research laboratories to further our region's expertise in the mining and METS sector.

Innovation is occurring across our region at a steady rate. Due to this, there is an importance for mapping those people in our region who are travelling along the innovation journey. Continuing to advocate for regional programs that support the journey will have a big impact on the success of our region for years to come.

# E. Liveability

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region offers an enviable lifestyle: fresh air; stunning natural attractions and a thriving cultural scene. The regional infrastructure is robust and the economy stable. The workforce of Mackay Isaac Whitsunday is almost fully employed, suggesting that jobs are plentiful. This fact, coupled with the region's lifestyle attributes, makes inter-region migration an important factor to achieve ongoing economic growth.







# Regional Economic Drivers

### A. Resources

The region's proximity to the Galilee, Bowen and Surat Basins make it one of Queensland's largest areas of coal, energy and gas production. The region's mining and resource activity includes underground and opencut thermal and metallurgical, minerals and coal seam gas (CSG). The dominant minerals commodity is coal and comes from the Bowen Basin region.

### **B. METS**

The region is home to one of Australia's most advanced Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS) sectors. This sector focuses on innovation, precision and highly technical skills which have a global focus and a myriad of export opportunities.

# C. Agriculture

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region has the capability to competitively produce some of the world's most energy dense and productive feedstocks, such as sugar cane, eucalypts and algae, to fuel the emerging Biofutures sector. In recent years, global interest in reducing waste, creating circular economy opportunities and producing Biofuels is increasing at an incredible rate. Bioproducts offer a renewable and environmentally beneficial alternative to existing conventional chemical and fossil fuel refining processes.

# D. Tourism

The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region offers an abundance of natural attractions including national parks, gorges, the Great Barrier Reef, numerous tropical islands and beaches. The region also boasts presents strong opportunities in the adventure, heritage, ecotourism, grey nomad and agritourism space.

The Mackay region continues to grow a strong reputation as a fast emerging tourism destination with an extensive nature based offering. Nature has been

established as the region's core hero experience and, as a result, locations such as the Eungella and Cape Hillsborough National Parks have gained strong national and international exposure - particularly around the themes of the platypus and the Sunrise Wallaby Experience.

The Isaac region has a mix of authentic inland and coastal experiences. The inland towns of Moranbah and Clermont have rich cultural and heritage stories to share, and Clairview provides a stunning coastal scene ideal for fishing and crabbing - home to a Dugong Sanctuary and close to the St Lawrence Wetlands.

The Whitsundays is truly a world class destination and is recognised as a key marine and coastal playground for both the region and Queensland. The Whitsunday region offers numerous unspoilt and reef fringed islands to explore; great sailing; a place to unwind and party; luxury resorts and a romance destination. Not to mention its growing popularity as a winter escape for grey nomads from the south who flock to fill caravan parks and enjoy coastal activities (particularly fishing).

### E. Construction

The construction sector is a fundamental component in building the infrastructure of an economy and community. In the Mackay and Whitsunday region, this activity has mainly focused on residential and commercial construction. However, engineering construction such as enabling transport infrastructure such as roads, rail and port also plays a significant role across all three government areas. The Isaac region boasts a large number of mining construction projects and this will be an ongoing integral component of the regional economy.



Not only is our region's economy supported by three key industries: mining and METS; agriculture and tourism, but our region's collaborative approach to embedding industry 4.0 and diversification means other key sectors such as education; biofutures and agtech is on the rise.

Innovation and transformation are key themes in all strategies to build a dynamic, resilient, sustainable and prosperous regional economy. Regionally, we are working hard to create a culture of not just asking why? But why not?

A tangible example of this 'why not' approach is the decision by Qantas to award Mackay as the second location of the Qantas Group Flight Training Academy. With construction due to commence in 2020, this project is a prime example of leveraging regional technical skills and capability with great natural resources, topped off with a strong regional desire to value add to our economy.



Over the coming twelve months, Greater Whitsunday Alliance will focus on five key priority areas to continue to drive economic development in the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region:

### **DIVERSIFY THE REGIONAL ECONOMY** A regional economy where growth is driven by multiple and emerging industries.

- · Agribusiness supply chain mapping project
- Biofutures subREAP project
- Qantas Group Flight Training Academy
- Advancing Regional Innovation Program (ARIP)

### PREPARING FOR WORKFORCES OF THE FUTURE

A regional workforce across traditional and emerging industries that is skilled and prepared for the changing nature of work.

- Mackay Isaac Whitsunday Workforces of the Future education delivery
- Mackay Isaac Whitsunday Digital Infrastructure Study and recommendations
- Mackay Isaac Whitsunday Regional Workforces Study and recommendations
- Mackay Isaac Whitsunday Youth innovation program and festival

A reliable, safe and sustainable water and energy supply for use by communities and industries.

- Continued advocacy for Urannah Water Scheme
- · Mackay Isaac Whitsunday Regional Water Strategy

### KEY INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT Secure the region's economic future through key

infrastructure development and connecting our region's industries through road, rail, air and sea.

- · Continued advocacy for Mackay Port Access Road
- Continued advocacy for flood mitigation projects on Bruce Highway in Whitsundays
- Continued advocacy for supply chain efficiency projects on Peak Downs Highway

### SUPPLY CHAIN ENHANCEMENT

Create, maximise and extend supply chain become globally competitive

- Mackay Isaac Whitsunday METS SME Export Hub supply chain capability mapping
- Continue to pursue defence opportunities to add value to METS sector

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