

Central and Western Queensland

A regional powerhouse driving future jobs and prosperity

Central and Western Queensland (CWQ) is a region of significant potential, with the ability to combine its people, natural assets, economic opportunity and lifestyle advantages to deliver a significant contribution to the state and national economy.

It is the geographic advantages, productive land, resource deposits and suitable industrial land which attract investment to CWQ. The region and its ports are ideally positioned to support growth of key export industries compared to relatively constrained capital cities.

The Regional Development Australia Central and Western Queensland (RDACWQ) and its 12 local government members have collaborated to define the priority industries and transformational investments to realise the potential of the region. These investments seek to enable agriculture, resources, defence, tourism and manufacturing.

The RDACWQ and its members recognise the value of a shared regional approach. The local governments in the region have collaborated to ensure that new projects are considered with an integrated view; highlighting the interdependencies between the investments across the region. The projects identified are part of a long term program of investment required to support regional supply chains and our community.



The region is home to

1 in 6

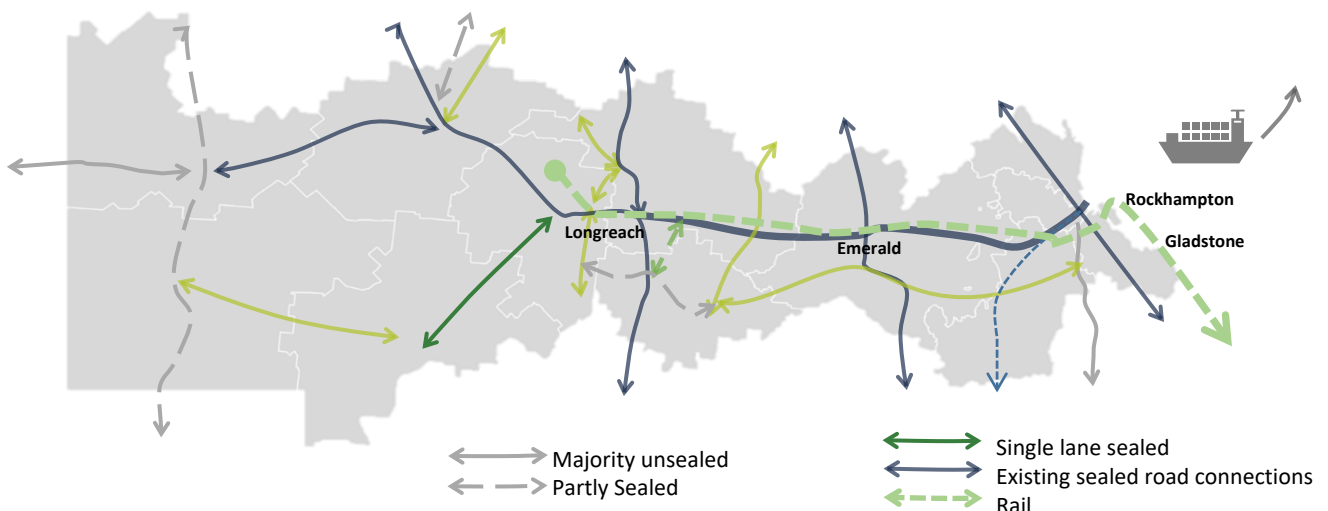
regional Queenslanders

The region contributed an estimated

\$17.7b

to the state economy in 2018²

Our integrated regional supply chain network needs investment to improve productivity and support the opportunities for long term economic growth.



Our key regional advantages and priorities to transform the region

Central and Western Queensland is champion of the **agricultural** industry in Queensland and Australia. With an abundance of productive land the region is famous for high quality beef, a growing sheep heard and horticulture industry.

37%

of Qlds cattle herd³



\$1.661b

generated by livestock combined⁵

Agriculture is underpinned by beef, sheep, goats, horticulture & forestry

26%

of Queensland productive land²

\$310m

in gross value added from cotton, chickpeas, mung beans, mangoes, grapes, and macadamias⁵

Key projects for investment to grow agriculture:

- Eyre Developmental Road
- Tambo- Springsure Road
- Blackall-Capricorn Hwy
- Dawson-Development Road
- Alpha-Tambo Road
- Skilled workforce
- Continued investment in the cluster fencing initiative
- Feasibility study for wool handling centre
- Grow skilled workforce, particularly shearers

One fifth



of Queensland's export task departs from the region's ports at Gladstone and Rockhampton⁷

The region is driving Queensland's exports through **resources**. The large export volume of 96.7 million tonnes is generated by the area's productive mining areas, with coal mining activity accounting for an estimated 49 million tonnes alone⁷.

\$7.359b

in GVA from mining activities (2018) ⁶



\$3.53b

private sector investment in 2017/18⁸

Unlocking productivity in the resources sector through:

- Inland Rail – Toowoomba to Gladstone
- Tertiary school of mining and manufacturing in Central Qld

Central and Western Queensland has a nationally significant **defence** industry with established regional supply chains. Central Queensland has the existing assets and locational advantages to support a major logistical base to complement the existing Australian Defence Force (ADF) activities.

Shoalwater Bay Training Area is the ADF's **largest permanent training area.**



Up to \$2 billion

will be invested in Central and North Queensland over the life of the Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative.

Key investment to grow a nationally significant defence industry includes:

- Major logistical base for Australian Defence Force activities
- Workforce skill development
- Heavy vehicle maintenance facility

A region with diverse natural beauty from red deserts of the outback to the Great Barrier Reef, with enormous potential grow.



1,890,000

overnight visits to the region (2018)⁹

11

Airport with passenger services



CWQ is diversifying the regional economy with **tourism** through Indigenous and special interest tourism offerings relating to dinosaurs, astrology, marine parks, mining trails and outback landscapes.

Building on a strong tourism foundation made up of over

20 attractions & 14 events

across the region.

Growing Tourism through investment in new attractions and connectivity including:

- Eyre Developmental Road
- Air connectivity
- Black's Palace
- Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum Expansion
- Livingstone Convention Centre
- Revitalising Great Keppel Island
- Integrated tourism offering

Exploring opportunities to grow one of Queensland's dominant **manufacturing** hubs through a focus on rail manufacturing and technology, resource processing, advanced technologies for metal production and food product innovation.



Gladstone State Development Area and the Hub Rockhampton are key manufacturing centres of excellence.

Key projects to grow manufacturing:

- Gladstone Port Access Road (stages 2 and 3)
- Inland Rail – Toowoomba to Gladstone



Thriving communities attract and retain a workforce that enable the region's business to grow.

Supporting our **thriving communities** through greater connectivity, more affordable living, better access to education, and improved coordination of community-enabling infrastructure and services.

Key investments for our communities:

- Centre of excellence for rural and remote evacuee medicine (feasibility underway)
- Channel Country Institute – university research
- Longreach and Emerald Agricultural College re-development
- Senate enquiry into regional airfares – to consider de-regulation, additional services and new routes
- West – East flights to Rockhampton
- Additional aged care beds
- Improve aging in place options
- Digital connectivity
- Zonal taxation review



Regional Development Australia Central and Western Queensland (RDACWQ)

RDACWQ provides evidence-based advice to the Australian Government on critical regional development issues positively and negatively affecting our region.

For further information visit our website: <https://rdacw.com.au>

1	Population Total (no.)	ABS. Census of Population and Housing, 2016, Table Builder
2	GRP Total (\$m)	National economic indicators for local government areas, 2017/2018,
3	Geography - Total Geographical Area (km2)	ABS. Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2018,
4	Meat and Livestock Australia Market Information - Total cattle (no.)	MLA Market Information, Cattle Numbers Natural Resource Management Regions, June 2018. Total of the Fitzroy Basin and Dessert Channel natural resource management regions.
5	GVA from agriculture	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Australian Agricultural Census 2015-16, h
6	GVA from mining activities	Queensland Resource Council, Economic Impact of the Minerals & Energy Sector on the Queensland Economy 2017-18,
7	Exports - Gladstone Port Total Cargo Exports	Gladstone Ports Corporation. Origin & Destination of Cargoes. Total for Financial Year 2018 (Gladstone)
8	Mining - Total direct spending by mining companies (\$m)	Economic Impact of the Minerals & Energy Sector on the Queensland Economy 2017-18, Direct Impacts of QLD Minerals and Energy Sector Spending by LGA, 2017/18(a)
9	Tourism - Overnight visits to region (no)	Tourism Research Australia, Summation Options by Stopover Local Government Area (LGA) then Stopover state/region/SA2 by Calendar year