

Community report

Western Downs (R)

Prepared from Community Explorer topic selections for briefing, planning and reporting use.

AREA

Western Downs (R)

COMPARISON

Regional Qld

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

7 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Industry sector of employment

Sources and method

- Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 and, where available, 2016 comparison data.
- Percentages are calculated from the denominator supplied for each topic. Change (pp) is the 2021 percentage minus the 2016 percentage when the topic is comparable across years.
- Usual residence topics describe where people usually live, rather than where they were counted on Census night.

Industry sector of employment

Western Downs (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, Agriculture Forestry And Fishing was the most common industry of employment among employed residents in Western Downs (R), accounting for 18.4% (2,780 people). This share was higher than Regional Qld (4.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Health Care And Social Assistance, which increased by 273 people and 1.4 percentage points.

About this topic

Industry sector of employment shows the industry in which employed residents work, based on the main business activity of their employer. It describes the sectors residents are connected to through work, whether they work locally or commute elsewhere.

This topic helps explain the economic profile and skill base of a resident workforce. It is best read together with occupations, employment status, and travel to work, because it reflects resident employment rather than the number of jobs located in the area.

Interpretation notes

- Industry describes the main business activity of the employer in a person's main job, not the occupation they perform.
- It applies to employed people aged 15 years and over and reflects resident workers, not the number of jobs located in the area.

Industry sector of employment

Western Downs (R) – Employed persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Agriculture Forestry And Fishing	2,780	18.4%	4.3%	2,788	19.3%	4.7%	-8	-0.9
Mining	581	3.8%	3.5%	595	4.1%	3.5%	-14	-0.3
Manufacturing	726	4.8%	5.4%	727	5.0%	5.5%	-1	-0.2
Electricity Gas Water And Waste Services	457	3.0%	1.2%	410	2.8%	1.1%	+47	+0.2
Construction	1,295	8.6%	9.6%	1,309	9.1%	9.3%	-14	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	388	2.6%	2.1%	410	2.8%	2.3%	-22	-0.2
Retail Trade	1,435	9.5%	9.6%	1,332	9.2%	10.3%	+103	+0.3
Accommodation And Food Services	891	5.9%	8.0%	844	5.9%	8.2%	+47	0.0
Transport Postal And Warehousing	625	4.1%	4.1%	569	3.9%	4.5%	+56	+0.2
Information Media And Telecommunications	29	0.2%	0.8%	57	0.4%	1.0%	-28	-0.2
Financial And Insurance Services	142	0.9%	1.8%	174	1.2%	1.9%	-32	-0.3

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regiona
Rental Hiring And Real Estate Services	163	1.1%	1.7%	164	1.1%	
Professional Scientific And Technical Services	448	3.0%	4.8%	464	3.2%	
Administrative And Support Services	371	2.5%	3.3%	324	2.2%	
Public Administration And Safety	790	5.2%	5.6%	801	5.6%	
Education And Training	1,229	8.1%	8.7%	1,176	8.2%	
Health Care And Social Assistance	1,348	8.9%	15.4%	1,075	7.5%	
Arts And Recreation Services	83	0.5%	1.6%	72	0.5%	
Other Services	573	3.8%	4.1%	521	3.6%	
Inadequately Described Not Stated	748	5.0%	4.4%	612	4.2%	
Total	15,105	100.0%	100.0%	14,418	100.0%	100.0%

Data basis: usual residence.