



June 2019

Ref: J3259A

STATISTICAL NOTE
QUEENSLAND STATE BUDGET 2019-20
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ⁽¹⁾ IN THE CAIRNS REGION

The 2019-20 Queensland State Budget has seen a substantial increase in capital expenditure allocated to the Cairns SA4 region compared with previous years. However, the following table indicates that this simply brings expenditure per capita up towards average levels for regional areas.

Table #1: Queensland State Capital Expenditure for Regional Areas ⁽²⁾ Compared

Region	2018-19		2019-20	
	Total Expenditure \$m	Per Capita	Total Expenditure \$m	Per Capita
Toowoomba/ Darling Downs SA4s	\$1,154	\$4,041	\$661	\$2,315
Wide Bay SA4	\$488	\$1,644	\$515	\$1,736
Central Qld SA4	\$918	\$4,070	\$975	\$4,325
Mackay SA4	\$453	\$2,626	\$462	\$2,679
Townsville SA4	\$736	\$3,113	\$765	\$3,234
Cairns SA4	\$412	\$1,635	\$633	\$2,512
Total/ Average	\$4,161	\$2,855	\$4,011	\$2,800

In fact, per capita expenditure in the Cairns region has been running at a very low level for the previous 5 years and well below the regional average.

The following table indicates that over the past 6 years, the Cairns SA4 region is about \$1 billion below what it would have been at regional per capita averages.

Table #2: Cairns SA4 Region Budgeted Capital Expenditure Compared with Averages for Queensland Regional Areas ⁽²⁾

Year	Cairns SA4 Region Actual \$m	Cairns SA4 Region Per Capita	Regional Average Per Capita	Cairns SA4 Region If at Regional Average	Cairns SA4 Regional Deficit \$m
2014-15	\$480	\$1,979	\$2,675	\$649	(-\$169)
2015-16	\$330	\$1,351	\$2,298	\$562	(-\$232)
2016-17	\$352	\$1,428	\$2,462	\$607	(-\$255)
2017-18	\$451	\$1,808	\$2,351	\$587	(-\$136)
2018-19	\$412	\$1,634	\$2,855	\$720	(-\$308)
2019-20	\$633	\$2,512	\$2,800	\$706	(-\$73)
Total deficit \$					\$1,173

Note (1): Queensland Budget Paper 3 Capital Statement – Table 2 Capital Purchases by Region.

Note (2): Excludes Greater Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast & Outback Queensland.