

CUMMINGS ECONOMICS

38 Grafton St (PO Box 2148) CAIRNS Q 4870

ABN 99 734 489 175

Tel 07 4031 2888 Fax 07 4031 1108

Email cummings@cummings.net.au

Website : www.cummings.net.au



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Note on Manufacturing in the Cairns Region

Introduction

Australian Bureau of Statistics data has recently become available for 2001/02 on manufacturing at a regional level that throws light on the position of manufacturing in the Cairns region. Most recent previous data was for 1996/97.

By and large, total manufacturing turnover and employment has not been seen as a strong sector in the Cairns region's economy in comparison with other Queensland regional areas. And this continues to be so.

Table #1 – Manufacturing Income, Wages & Salaries, Major Q'ld Regions, 2001/02

<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>	<u>Wages & Salaries</u>
Far North	\$1,121 m	\$192 m
Northern	\$1,726 m	261 m
Mackay	Np	Np
Fitzroy	\$4,047 m	410 m
Wide Bay Burnett	\$1,755 m	274 m
Darling Downs	\$2,286 m	324 m

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

A Leading Regional Role in Light & Skills Based Manufacturing

However, a further look at the data available indicates that the region's relatively lower performance in manufacturing is in large part due to a low presence of mineral processing plants in the region such as the copper and zinc refineries at Townsville and the alumina and aluminium smelting at Gladstone in the Fitzroy region.

In fact, a further look at the figures indicates a vibrancy in small and skills based manufacturing that leads Queensland's regional areas.

This is reflected especially in the number of manufacturing locations recorded. On this measure, the Cairns/Far North region leads the northern regions by a wide margin and the State's regional areas overall.

Table #2 – Manufacturing Locations, Major Q'ld Regions, 2001/02

<u>Statistical Division</u>	
Far North	1,320
Northern	981
Mackay	778
Fitzroy	779
Wide Bay Burnett	1,201
Darling Downs	1,250

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

Analysis by Types of Manufacturing

The following looks at the regional figures and identifies the types of manufacturing in which the region is particularly strong.

Table #3 – Printing, Publishing & Recorded Media		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	128	\$72.4 m
Northern	76	\$58.1 m
Mackay	52	\$34.5 m
Fitzroy	42	\$29.2 m
Wide Bay Burnett	82	\$66.9 m
Darling Downs	85	\$45.6 m

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

The Far North leads all regions in both locations and income.

Table #4 – Other Manufacturing		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	214	\$55.9 m
Northern	133	\$41.4 m
Mackay	96	\$22.4 m
Fitzroy	113	\$26.0 m
Wide Bay Burnett	192	\$51.2 m
Darling Downs	176	np

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

The Far North leads all regions in both locations and income.

Table #5 – Machinery & Equipment Manufacturing		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	299	\$178.3 m
Northern	206	\$190.9 m
Mackay	201	\$172.8 m
Fitzroy	170	\$181.2 m
Wide Bay Burnett	248	\$321.8 m
Darling Downs	270	\$284.9 m

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

The Far North leads all regions in locations but not income.

Table #6 – Wood & Paper Product Manufacturing		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	96	\$25.3 m
Northern	53	np
Mackay	56	\$15.4 m
Fitzroy	46	\$34.8 m
Wide Bay Burnett	162	\$341.0 m
Darling Downs	108	\$56.1 m

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

The Far North region leads in the north in locations.

Table #7 – Food, Beverage & Tobacco Manufacturing		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	109	\$506 m
Northern	54	np
Mackay	74	\$676 m
Fitzroy	62	\$885 m
Wide Bay Burnett	123	\$762 m
Darling Downs	129	\$1,424 m

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

The Far North leads in locations in the north but under the influence of sugar manufacturing operations not in income.

Table #8 –Textile, Clothing & Footwear Manufacturing		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	100	\$14.6 m
Northern	76	\$18.4 m
Mackay	61	\$6.7 m
Fitzroy	52	\$3.3 m
Wide Bay Burnett	95	\$64.5 m
Darling Downs	100	np

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

The Far North (along with the Darling Downs), leads in locations.

Table #9 – Metal Products Manufacturing		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	259	\$125.2 m
Northern	271	\$508.7 m
Mackay	129	np
Fitzroy	214	\$2358.4 m
Wide Bay Burnett	228	\$88.0 m
Darling Downs	244	np

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

In metal product manufacturing, the region is exceeded only by the Townsville/Northern region in number of locations but leads the other regions in number of locations. However, it is low in income, especially compared with the Fitzroy and Northern regions that have large mineral processing operations.

Table #10 –Petroleum, Coal, Chemical & Assoc Product Manufacturing		
<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	55	\$30.5 m
Northern	52	\$67.6 m
Mackay	59	\$71.2 m
Fitzroy	38	\$263.2 m
Wide Bay Burnett	56	\$24.1 m
Darling Downs	45	\$91.8 m

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

Given the fact there is no coal mining in the region, the number of locations is quite strong.

Table #11 –Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing

<u>Statistical Division</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>Sales & Service Income</u>
Far North	60	\$113.9 m
Northern	60	\$125.2 m
Mackay	50	\$43.7 m
Fitzroy	42	\$266.1 m
Wide Bay Burnett	61	\$55.7 m
Darling Downs	47	\$50.5 m

Source : Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 8221.3.55.001.

The region is strong in locations being on a par with Wide Bay and the Northern region and third behind the Fitzroy and Northern regions in income.

Growth

Unfortunately, the 2001/02 series uses different definitions to those used in the previous data available for 1996/97 and it is not valid to make comparisons.