



BRISBANE

INVESTMENT PROSPECTUS

Agriculture

It's the people that make it.

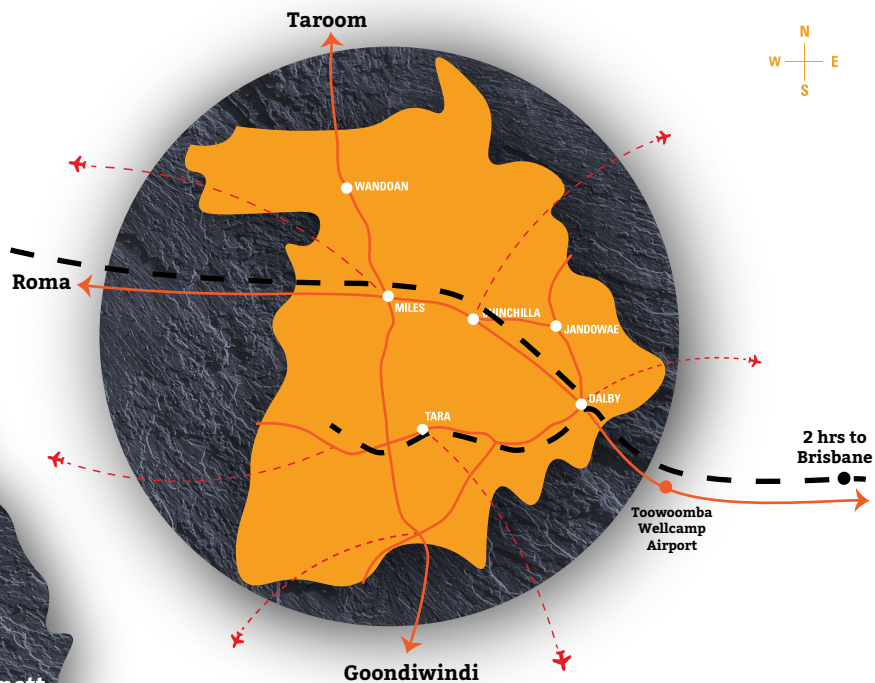
The Western Downs is a fast growing regional economy with a 34% GRP growth over the past 5 years.

Combining country lifestyle with modern living and conveniences, the Western Downs enjoys a well-rounded and diverse economy.

Agriculture is a founding pillar of the Western Downs and it continues to hold its place with a longstanding reputation for being resilient, sustainable and innovative. A strong pool of skilled local workers drives the industry from strength to strength.

It's no coincidence the industry is thriving, given the fact the Western Downs holds some of Queensland's most productive and resource rich soils to support broad acre farming and livestock production. In fact, more than 50% of the agricultural land is classified as strategic cropping land.





CONNECTIVITY IN THE WESTERN DOWNS



This region is located 207km north-west of Brisbane and 83km north-west of Toowoomba. It is connected by major road and rail networks including the Leichhardt, Moonie and Warrego Highways and the West Moreton rail system. Aerodromes are located in Chinchilla, Dalby, Miles, Tara, Meandarra and Moonie.



The region is located strategically with easy connectivity to national and international export markets via The Port of Brisbane and Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport. Access to Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport provides producers a dedicated 747-8F International Freight service to Hong Kong and chartered cargo flights.



The proposed ARTC Inland Rail project will reduce transport costs for producers and improve connectivity to Brisbane and Melbourne.



There are 106 mobile towers positioned across the region. NBN fibre optic runs along the Warrego Highway and connects Dalby (business grade), Chinchilla and Miles. Other localities are serviced by fixed wireless and satellite services.



Rural land acquisition costs in the Western Downs are significantly less than neighbouring regions. This provides opportunities for large volume movements of goods and produce in and out of the region.

PRODUCTIVITY



57 Feedlots
161,406 SCU



14 Piggeries
163,359 SPU



505,000
tonnes of
wheat ***



420,000
tonnes of
sorghum ***



262,000
bales of
cotton ***

Western Downs Agricultural Production – Commodity GVP**

Commodity	GVP 2020-21 (\$M)	GVP 2021-22 (\$M)	Estimated Percentage Change
Beef (Cattle/Calves)	335.24	396.33	+ 18.2%
Cotton	120.15	336.89	+ 180.37%
Wheat	80.75	171.31	+ 112.14%
Sorghum	85.62	128.72	+ 50.34%
Pork	95.86	97.17	+ 1.36%
Chickpeas	51.24	70.02	+ 36.67%
Barley	20.83	42.88	+ 105.85%
Other Cereal Grains	34.59	35.72	+ 3.36%
Other Crops	26.39	32.82	+ 24.35%
Melons	7.44	8.21	+ 10.25%
Vegetables (Lettuce)	6.5	7.52	+ 15.67%
Wool	2.73	3.16	+ 15.75%
Sheep/Lamb	2.32	2.95	+ 26.98%
Horticulture	2.2	2.2	No change
Milk	1.45	1.49	+ 1.3%

The agricultural sector in the Western Downs is known for its diversity, resilience and sustainability.

In 2020-21, the total output of the agricultural industry was \$1.05B, with a total export value of \$821.6M.*

The region is at the heart of the intensive agricultural industry and grain production. Forty-two percent of the national feedlot occupancy is located within a 200km radius of Dalby.

The Dalby Regional Saleyards is the largest same-day prime and store cattle yards in Australia and the second largest selling and auctioning centre. More than 200,000 cattle are sold annually through the yards.

Agriculture is the second-largest employer in the Western Downs, employing nearly 3,000 persons (13.8% of the total workforce).*

*Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) Economy ID 2020-21

** Source: Qld Primary Industry 2021-2022 Commodity Forecast

*** Source: Estimates only based on forecasted commodity prices.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Western Downs is Open for Business and have identified the following opportunities worthy of investment:

**Abattoir &
Meat Processing**

**Advanced
Manufacturing**

Poultry

**Agriculture
Support Services**

Aquaponics

Agri-tourism



WESTERN
DOWNS

BRISBANE



Western Downs Regional Council has a concise and innovative 5-year Economic Development Strategy which includes one of Queensland's most progressive Planning Schemes, and we remain committed to attracting and enabling development.

**Planning
scheme makes
investment
simple**

**A pragmatic
approach to
assessment**

**Highly
competitive
application
fees**

**Support
through the
process**

This Prospectus offers only a glimpse of what our great Region has to offer. For more information on Western Downs Regional Council visit www.wdrc.qld.gov.au or contact the Economic Development Team Ph. 07 4679 4000 | E. info@wdrc.qld.gov.au

Western Downs Regional Council partners with...

Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise (TSBE)
TSBE is the go-to organisation linking business with opportunity to create sustainable growth and diversity for the region.
Find out more via www.tsbe.com.au

Active Chambers of Commerce located in Chinchilla, Dalby, Jandowae, Miles, Tara and Wandoan foster a business network and community.
Find out more via www.wdrc.qld.gov.au

