Townsville has a total population of 236,629* which is expected to reach 362,000 by 2036. 

* persons as at 30 June 2014 growing at an annual average rate of 2.0% over the past 10 years

Agricultural production $657 million 2012-13

1,626 residential buildings approved for construction in the 12 months ending 31 March 2015

3,841 residential dwellings sold in the 12 months ending 31 December 2014

16,680 businesses in Townsville in 2013-14

Top 5 Industries by number of workers

- Health care and social assistance 16.6%
- Retail trade 11.6%
- Accommodation and food services 9.2%
- Construction 9%
- Education and training 8.3%

Major private sector investment projects currently under construction

- $24 million Stage Two development of Fairfield Central Shopping Centre by Lancini Group and Fairfield Land Pty Ltd
- $80 million The Science Place, a research and education centre at James Cook University (partly funded by Australian Government and CSIRO)

The Queensland Government employs 14,013 people in Townsville and they support:

- 3,331.4 km² of national and regional parks
- 150 state heritage sites
- 8 hospitals and health facilities
- 4 customer service centres and 1,764 km of roads
- 1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnership regional office
- 12 fire stations
- 633 police officers
- 5 courthouses

For more details visit www.budget.qld.gov.au

JOBS NOW, JOBS FOR THE FUTURE for Townsville

Infrastructure improvement budget

- $804.6M for the Townsville Hospital and Health Service, the primary provider
- $542.9 million budgeted for infrastructure improvements in 2015-16, including:
  - $262M for transport
  - $51.3M for health
  - $60.3M for education and training
  - $43.3M for maintenance in Townsville schools
  - $21.2M in partnership with the Australian Government

Health care and social assistance 16.6%
Retail trade 11.6%
Accommodation and food services 9.2%
Construction 9%
Education and training 8.3%

$24 million
Stage Two development of Fairfield Central Shopping Centre by Lancini Group and Fairfield Land Pty Ltd

$80 million
The Science Place, a research and education centre at James Cook University (partly funded by Australian Government and CSIRO).

Economic Snapshot Townsville

The Queensland Government employs 14,013 people in Townsville and they support:

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Jobs now, jobs for the future for Townsville

The Townsville region encompasses the local government areas of Burdekin, Charters Towers, Hinchinbrook, Palm Island and Townsville, and the major regional towns of Charters Towers and Townsville.

Statewide Initiatives

- **Reef Plan response (Sustainable Agriculture)**
  - $3.2 million of $15 million over 5 years to implement the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan, including identifying farm management practices, coordinating extension services, providing technical and economic support and monitoring adoption.

- **Saving the Great Barrier Reef**
  - $100 million over 5 years including $10 million to establish net free fishing zones, in addition to the $15 million per year currently spent across State Government agencies. Funding will protect the Great Barrier Reef by investing in water quality initiatives and scientific research, as well as helping businesses to transition to better environmental practices in the primary production, mining and fishing industries.

- **Public amenities**
  - $231,628 over two years for two new public amenities blocks in Townsville’s CBD, in partnership with local government.

- **Public safety**
  - $2.8 million of $11.8 million over four years for intensive mental healthcare for young people in Townsville, including additional day services and expanded youth residential service.

Townsville Initiatives

- **Homelessness**
  - $13 million for specialist homelessness services.

- **Croc management**
  - $480,000 of $920,000 over two years to continue crocodile management through a balance of community safety and crocodile conservation approaches.

- **Disaster relief and recovery**
  - $21.2 million, in partnership with the Australian Government, for local government recovery and reconstruction projects.

- **Social housing**
  - $70.8 million for social housing, including $9.1 million for a facility at Pimlico for people from Indigenous communities pursuing employment, education and training opportunities.

- **Public library grants**
  - $1 million for new resources for public libraries.

- **Indigenous Land and Sea Rangers**
  - $700,000 for the Queensland Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program to protect the region’s environmental and Indigenous cultural heritage.

- **Public amenities**
  - $231,628 over two years for two new public amenities blocks in Townsville’s CBD, in partnership with local government.

- **Bohle River Bridge**
  - $10.5 million of $25 million towards a bridge on Dalrymple Road, at the Bohle River Crossing. This project is due for completion in September 2016, in partnership with the Australian Government and Townsville Regional Council.

- **Stormwater works for Ayr**
  - $560,000 of $800,000 over two years for stormwater works in Ayr’s residential and commercial catchments, in partnership with local government.

- **Schools capital works**
  - $2 million of $4.9 million for additional classrooms at Townsville Community Learning Centre.

- **Elderly parent carers**
  - $617,000 of $771,000 over three years for the Elderly Parent Carer Innovation Trial in Townsville, for older parents with adult sons and daughters with disabilities.

- **Tropical health and medicine**
  - $14.9 million of $29.3 million over four years to James Cook University to establish the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine.

- **Townsville Ring Road**
  - $72.2 million of $200 million, in partnership with the Australian Government, for a high-speed bypass for heavy and commercial vehicles due for completion in March 2017.

- **Yellow Gin Creek Bridge upgrade**
  - $20.8 million of $45 million, in partnership with the Australian Government, for a bridge and approaches at Yellow Gin Creek, on the Bruce Highway at Inkerman, due for completion in January 2017.

- **Crisis shelter**
  - $4 million for a 72-hour crisis shelter for women and children.

- **Spyglass Research Facility**
  - $650,000 for a new dam to enhance drought preparedness at the Spyglass Reef Research Facility at Charters Towers.

- **Port of Townsville upgrade**
  - $19.9 million of $69.9 million to redevelop the Berth 4 facility (completion in June 2018) and demolish existing Berths 6 and 7 (completion in June 2016).

- **Reef and natural resources management**
  - $840,000 to improve reef water quality, control pests and weeds and promote and enhance sustainable agriculture in the Burdekin region.

- **Townsville Mental Healthcare**
  - $2.8 million of $11.8 million over four years for intensive mental healthcare for young people in Townsville, including additional day services and expanded youth residential service.

- **Reef Plan response (Sustainable Agriculture)**
  - $3.2 million of $15 million over 5 years to implement the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan, including identifying farm management practices, coordinating extension services, providing technical and economic support and monitoring adoption.

- **Tackling crown of thorns starfish**
  - $220,950 of $491,000 over three years to the Australian Institute of Marine Science for research and development to help tackle crown of thorns starfish outbreaks on the Great Barrier Reef.

- **New primary and high Schools**
  - $90 million over four years for the construction of a new primary school in north-west Townsville and master planning works for a new high school in Townsville.

- **Sports stadium**
  - $100 million over four years towards a world class sports stadium in Townsville.

- **Palm Island Power Station**
  - $13.7 million of $17.9 million to build a Renewable Energy Ready Power Station on Palm Island.