

7 WEIPA TRC

The Weipa TRC consists of the town of Weipa located on the eastern coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

BUSINESS PROFILES

Location and Use of Ports

Table 7.1 shows the number of license holders within the Weipa TRC and the number of survey respondents who reported having homeports within the TRC. All respondents used Weipa as their homeport. On the basis of the sample count it is estimated that there are 8 commercial charter operators within this TRC and we can be 95% confident that the correct population count of commercial charter operators within the TRC is between 3 and 13. Figure 1 shows the geographic location of the Weipa TRC.

Table 7.1 Location of Homeports

Town	Adj. Database Count	Sample Count	Estimated Count	Percent within TRC
Weipa	6	6	8	100
Total TRC	6	6	8	100
95% Confidence Interval for Estimated TRC Count				3-13
Percent of Total Active License Holders in QLD				3.0%

Note: Adjusted database count is based on the postal address as recorded in the licensing information, which may not be the homeport of the charter business. The count is adjusted for latent license holders (8.6%).

The estimated count adjusts the sample count by the sampling fraction of 1.32

Fishing Activity

Table 7.2 shows the types of fishing activity on fishing-charter operations from the Weipa TRC over the previous year. On day trips, the main fishing activities were reef fishing (45.0%) and estuary fishing (45.0%). There were no overnight trips that were predominately fishing trips. On all extended trips, estuary fishing was the only fishing employed.

Table 7.3 shows the number of charters and the number of fishing-only charters from for the Weipa TRC. Most charters were day trips (433 days) and 72.3% of day trips were mainly fishing charters. There were no overnight trips from the Weipa TRC, and 6 days only spent on extended trips. No extended trips were chartered especially for fishing purposes.

Table 7.2 Type of Fishing Activity during the last 12 months

Fishing Type	Day trips		Overnight trips		Extended trips	
	Mean % Time within TRC	Mean % Time QLD	Mean % Time within TRC	Mean % Time QLD	Mean % Time within TRC	Mean % Time QLD
Reef (bottom fishing)	45.0	47.5	0.0	66.0	0.0	51.2
Game (pelagic)	1.7	18.8	0.0	20.3	0.0	31.1
Estuary	45.0	26.8	0.0	11.6	100.0	12.5
Crabbing	5.0	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.5
Other	3.3	6.4	0.0	2.0	0.0	4.6
Total Sample	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: Sample size n=6.

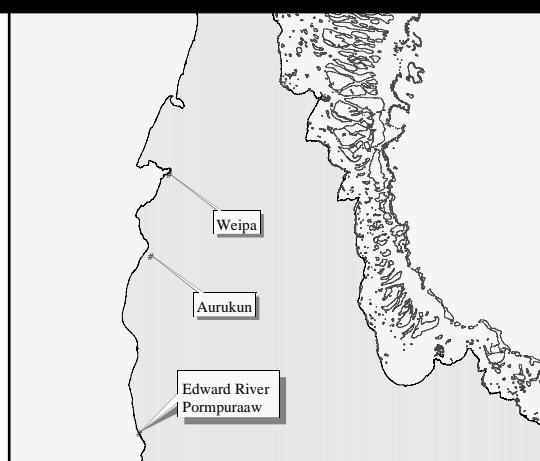


Figure 7.1 Location of the Weipa TRC

Table 7.4 shows the percentage of time spent fishing and doing other activities such as diving and cruising, for charters where fishing was not the only activity. On day trips fishing was the main activity (90%), and cruising and sightseeing made up 10% of the charter. No fishing was undertaken on overnight or extended trips.

Table 7.4 Activities on Charters (during the last 12 months)

Type	Within TRC	QLD
Day Trips		
% time spent fishing	90.0	52.9
% time spent diving/snorkeling	0.0	13.1
% time spent cruising/sightseeing	10.0	17.5
% time spent sailing	0.0	0.4
% time spent whale & dolphin watching	0.0	4.2
% time spent doing other activities	0.0	11.9
Overnight Trips		
% time spent fishing	0.0	51.2
% time spent diving/snorkeling	0.0	22.9
% time spent cruising/sightseeing	0.0	15.9
% time spent sailing	0.0	0.0
% time spent whale & dolphin watching	0.0	0.0
% time spent doing other activities	0.0	10.0
Extended Trips		
% time spent fishing	0.0	51.2
% time spent diving/snorkeling	0.0	31.1
% time spent cruising/sightseeing	0.0	12.5
% time spent sailing	0.0	0.6
% time spent whale & dolphin watching	0.0	0.0
% time spent doing other activities	0.0	4.6

Table 7.5 shows that the peak months for charter activity within the Weipa TRC were April, October and November.

Table 7.3 Number of Charter Trips (during the last 12 months)

Type	Mean within TRC	QLD
Day Trips		
Mean number of day-trips (per business)	72.2	85.3
Mean number of fishing-only day-trips	52.2	59.9
Total number of day-trips	433	16,976
Total number of fishing-only day-trips	313	11,919
Percentage fishing-only trips	72.3%	70.2%
Overnight Trips		
Mean number of overnight trips (per business)	0.0	5.4
Mean number of fishing-only overnight-trips	0.0	3.3
Total number of overnight trips (x2 days per trip)	0.0	1,072
Total number of fishing-only days on overnight trips	0.0	665
Percentage fishing-only trips	0%	62.0%
Extended Trips		
Mean number of extended-trips	0.3	6.8
Mean number of fishing-only extended-trips	0.0	4.5
Total number of days on extended-trips	6.0	6,881
Total number of days on fishing-only extended trips	0.0	4,385
Percentage fishing-only trips	0.0%	66.1%
Mean number of days away (per business)	73.8	121.3
TOTAL days charter	439	24,929
Percentage of charters that were fishing only	98.8%	68.1%

Table 7.5 Peak Charter Months During Past 12 Months

Months	Sample Count	Percent within TRC	Percent of QLD Fishery
January	0	0.0	21.8
February	0	0.0	6.2
March	1	16.7	8.8
April	3	50.0	16.6
May	1	16.7	17.6
June	1	16.7	26.9
July	1	16.7	37.3
August	1	16.7	37.3
September	2	33.3	44.0
October	3	50.0	48.7
November	3	50.0	35.2
December	2	33.3	25.9

Location of Resource Use

Figure 7.2 shows the location of resource use by commercial charter operators in the Karumba TRC. The primary resource catchment is located directly in Albatross Bay, adjacent to Weipa.

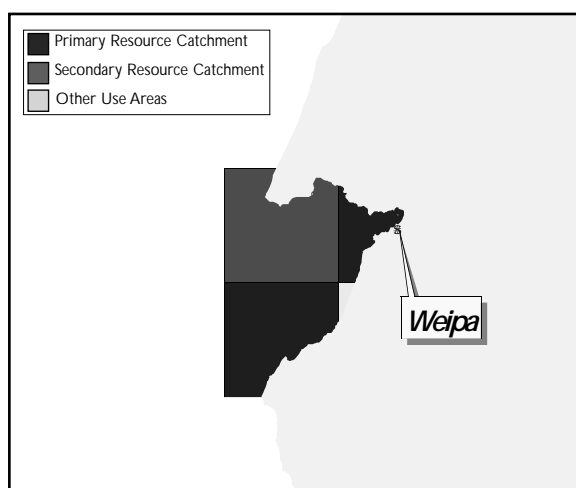


Figure 7.2 Weipa TRC: Location of Resource Use

Charter Industry Businesses

Table 7.6 identifies the number of charter employees within the Weipa TRC. The majority of businesses had between 1 and 3 fulltime (83.3%) and part-time (66.7%) employees, and 33.3% of businesses had between 1 and 3 casual employees. On average, there were 1.2 fulltime equivalent employees per business. In summary it is estimated that there were 15 people employed in the charter industry within the Weipa TRC over the previous year.

Business Ownership and Size

Table 7.7 shows the number of years the current owner or operator had owned the charter business. On average, businesses within the Weipa TRC had been owned for 1.6 years, and all businesses had been owned for less than 5 years. Businesses in the Weipa TRC are significantly younger than the average Queensland charter businesses (mean 7.0 years).

Table 7.7 Number of Years of Current Ownership of the Charter Business

Number of Years	Sample Count	Percent within TRC	Cumulative Percent
1-5	6	100.0	100.0
6-10	0	0.0	0.0
11-15	0	0.0	0.0
15+	0	0.0	0.0
Total	6	100.0	100.0

Mean Number of Years owned or operated 1.6
 Difference of TRC Mean to QLD Population Mean (7.0) -5.4

Note: Standard errors for number of years ownership (sample = 0.2; QLD population = 0.5).

Table 7.8 shows that the average number of years the charter business had been operating was 1.6 years, which is the same as the number of years of current ownership of the business. Businesses in this TRC are much younger than those in other parts of Queensland (mean 8.3 years).

Table 7.6 Number of Employees

Number of Charter Employees	Full-Time Count	Full-Time Percent	Part-Time Count	Part-Time Percent	Casual Count	Casual Percent
Nil	1	16.7	2	33.3	4	66.7
1	3	50.0	3	50.0	1	16.7
2-3	2	33.3	1	16.7	1	16.7
4-5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total Businesses	6	100.0	6	0.0	6	100.0
Total Charter operators	7		5		3	
Mean Number of Employees per Business				1.8		
Mean Number of Full-time Employees per Business				1.2		
Mean Number of Part-time & Casual Employees per Business				1.3		
Estimated Number Employed within the TRC				15		

Note: Part-time and casual employment was recorded as 0.5 when contributing to total employment. Total number of employees includes the respondent.

Table 7.8 Number of Years Business has been Operating

Number of Years	Sample Count	Percent within TRC	Cumulative Percent
1-5	6	100.0	100.0
6-10	0	0.0	0.0
11-15	0	0.0	0.0
15+0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	6	100.0	100.0
Mean Number of Years owned or operated			1.6
Difference of Mean to Population Mean (8.3)			-6.7

Note: Standard errors for number of years operated (sample = 0.2; QLD population = 0.6)

Table 7.9 shows that all charter businesses within the Weipa TRC operated with one boat only. This was less than the Queensland average (1.3 boats).

Table 7.9 Number of Boats Operated by Charter Businesses

Number of Boats	Sample Count	Percent TRC
1	6	100.0
2	0	0.0
3	0	0.0
4+	0	0.0
Total Number of Businesses	6	100.0
Mean Number of Boats Operated		1.0
Difference of Mean to QLD Population Mean (1.3)		-0.3

Note: Standard errors for number of boats operated (sample = 0.0; QLD population = 0.06)

Table 7.10 shows the frequency distribution of the length of boats within the Weipa TRC. Most boats (57.1%) were less than 6m in length. Nearly 29% of boats were between 7-10m and 14.3% were between 15-18m. The average boat in the Weipa TRC was around 5m shorter than the average Queensland charter vessel, and the length of the largest boats in Weipa (average 7.7m) were around 4m shorter than the average largest Queensland owned vessels (11.7m).

Table 7.10 Length of Vessels Operated

Length of Boat (metres)	Sample Count	Percent TRC
2-6	4	57.1
7-10	2	28.6
11-14	0	0.0
15-18	1	14.3
18-24	0	0.0
24+	0	0.0
Total Number of Boats	7	100.0
Mean Length of Boats Operated (metres)		7.4
Difference of Mean to QLD Population Mean (11.4)		-5.0
Mean Length of Largest Boat Operated (metres)		7.7
Difference of Mean to QLD Population Mean (11.7)		-4.0

Note: Standard errors for mean length of boats (sample = 1.4; QLD population=0.4) and mean length of largest boats (sample = 1.7; QLD population=0.5).

Value of Production and Location of Sales

Table 7.11 shows the income of charter operations within the Weipa TRC for the twelve months prior to the survey. The profile was markedly different to the overall profile for Queensland. In the Weipa TRC all businesses earned less than \$100,000, whereas only 65.8% of Queensland businesses earned less than \$100,000. The estimated total income from charter operations for the Weipa TRC was \$396,000, which represents 1.2% of the Queensland income.

Table 7.11 Business Income (Annual value)

Value (\$,000)	Sample Count	Sample Percent	Queensland Percent
Less than \$100	6	100.0	65.8
\$101 - \$200	0	0.0	11.5
\$201 - \$300	0	0.0	7.5
\$301 - \$400	0	0.0	4.0
\$401 - \$500	0	0.0	6.0
\$501 - \$600	0	0.0	2.0
\$601 - \$700	0	0.0	2.5
\$701 - \$800	0	0.0	0.0
\$801 - \$900	0	0.0	0.0
\$901 - \$1,000	0	0.0	0.0
Over \$1,000	0	0.0	0.5
Total	6	100.0	100.0
Mean GVP for TRC			\$50,000
Estimated Total GVP for TRC			\$396,000
Estimated Total GVP for QLD Population			\$ 34,419,000
Percent of Total Queensland Production			1.2%

Note: Estimated GVP is based on the sample GVP multiplied by the sampling fraction of 1.32

Table 7.12 shows the number of customers over the previous year for the Weipa TRC. There was an estimated 1,600 customers, representing approximately 0.5% of the Queensland industry

Table 7.12 Number of Customers per Business per Year

	Mean per Business	Sample Total	Estimated Total
Weipa TRC	203.8	1,223	1,631
QLD	1,335	259,930	343,108

Percent of Queensland 0.5%

Note: The estimated QLD count is based on an estimated 257 businesses.

Table 7.13 shows the value and the origin of customers visiting the Weipa TRC. Most customers came from Queensland (29.2% or \$116,000), and other parts of Australia (40.7% or \$161,000). Only a small percentage of customers were from the local area (16.7%) or overseas (13.5%).

Table 7.13 Origin and Value of Customers

Origin	Sample Value of Sales	Mean Percent of Sample	Est. Value of all Sales
Local area	50,100	16.7	66,132
Queensland area	87,600	29.2	115,632
Outside Queensland	122,100	40.7	161,172
Overseas	40,500	13.5	53,460
Total Sales	\$300,000	100.0	\$396,000

Note: The sample value of sales is based on GVP as reported by businesses in the survey

Business Expenditure

Table 7.14 shows that approximately \$0.2 million was spent by businesses in the Weipa TRC on business goods and services (excluding salaries and wages) over the previous year. The majority of this expenditure occurred in Weipa (62% or \$0.13 million) and Cairns (27.8% or \$57,000).

Table 7.14 Town Location of Business Expenditure (All costs, excluding salaries and wages)

Location of Expenditure	Sample Value of Expenditure	Percent of Sample	Estimated Expenditure
Weipa	96,906	62.0	127,906
Cairns	43,451	27.8	57,351
Brisbane	4,220	2.7	5,570
Nwe South Wales	3,908	2.5	5,158
Victoria	2,970	1.9	3,920
Princess Charlotte Bay	2,032	1.3	2,682
Townsville	1,719	1.1	2,269
Yeppoon	938	0.6	1,238
Total Expenditure	\$156,300	100.0	\$206,300

Note: Business expenditure includes all non-labour expenditure (ie. fuel, equipment, repairs etc)
Coefficients from the QLD input-output table for 1992-1993 indicate that expenditure on local intermediate purchases and imports, accounted for 52.1% of total revenue. The amount of business expenditure occurring within specific locations is based on 52.1% of the estimated GVP for the business.

CHARTER-OPERATOR PROFILES

Town of Residence

Table 7.15 shows the primary town of residence for charter-owners within the Weipa TRC. The majority of owners resided in Weipa (83.3%) and 16.7% lived in Cairns.

Table 7.15 Town of Residence

Town of Residence	Sample Count	Percent of Sample
Weipa	5	83.3
Cairns	1	16.7
Total	6	100.0

Months Employed in the Charter Industry

Table 7.16 indicates that all owner-operators within the Cairns TRC were employed in the charter industry between September and November, and that only 50% of owners were employed during January and February.

Table 7.16 Months Employed in the Charter Industry During Past 12 Months

Months	Owner Operators (%)	All QLD Operators
January	50.0	81.0
February	50.0	81.5
March	66.7	85.7
April	66.7	89.4
May	66.7	92.6
June	66.7	92.6
July	66.7	92.6
August	66.7	93.7
September	100.0	95.2
October	100.0	93.7
November	100.0	91.5
December	83.3	86.8

Table 7.17 shows the location of household expenditure derived from employment in the charter industry. Weipa (72.3%) received the majority of household expenditure, and Cairns received 25.6%. The value of household expenditure was estimated at \$103,600.

Table 7.17 Town Location of Household Expenditure (all commodities and services)

Location of Household Expenditure	Sample Value of Expenditure	Percent of Sample	Est. Value Expenditure
Weipa	56,756	72.3	74,903
Cairns	20,096	25.6	26,522
Brisbane	1,099	1.4	1,450
VIC	550	0.7	725
Total Expenditure	\$78,500	100.0	\$103,600

Note: The sample total personal income for the Weipa TRC was \$129,000. The Household Expenditure Survey for Queensland: 1993-1994 (ABS, 1996) indicates that for households in non-metropolitan areas 79% of gross weekly income was related to commodity and service purchases. Furthermore, of the total expenditure on commodities and services purchased by households, Queensland Input-Output tables indicate that 77% of expenditure occurs within Queensland, with the balance contributing to taxes and imports from outside Queensland. The sample value of expenditure was therefore calculated to be \$78,500. Estimated value of expenditure was calculated by multiplying the sample value of expenditure by 1.32

School and Employment Locations of Family Members

The town locations in which family members attended school or were employed are shown in Table 7.18. Weipa (75.0%) was the main town for schooling and employment of family members, and 25% of family members were employed or attended school in Cairns.

Table 7.18 School and Employment Locations of Family Members

Location of Employment or School	Sample Count	Percent of Sample
Cairns	4	25.0
Weipa	12	75.0
Total Family Members	41	100.0

Note: Counts and percentages based on all immediate family members.

Social and Demographic Profiles

Table 7.19 provides owner-operator profile information for the Weipa TRC. For comparative purposes, information is also provided for all charter operators throughout Queensland. Charter owner-operators in the Weipa TRC were all male, newer residents to their town, worked less hours per week and were more likely to have moved to gain employment in the industry. They were also more likely to rent, were more likely to have completed a business course and have a business plan, and had a higher ratio of children and elderly dependency than the average Queensland charter operator. These operators also had a reduced income compared to the Queensland average.

Table 7.19 Owner-Operator Profiles for the Weipa TRC

Profile	Owner-Operators	All QLD Operators
Estimated Number of Charter-owners	6	199
Mean age of fisher	44.3	45.4
Age range	31-62	20-76
Percent males	100.0	93.8
Mean years resident in town	9.9	19.1
Mean number of years in charter industry	10.3	11.0
Mean hours per week in charter industry	36.2	50.7
Percent moved town to retain employment	33.3	14.0
Percent currently employed in other industry	100.0	46.1
Percent previously employed in other industry	83.3	93.7
Housing tenure (%)		
Rent	83.3	14.1
Mortgage	16.7	33.0
Own home	0.0	50.8
Other (eg, live with parents, on boat)	0.0	2.0
Educational		
Year completed school (%)		
Primary school	0.0	3.2
Year 8	0.0	3.2
Year 9	0.0	4.7
Year 10	66.7	32.6
Year 11	0.0	10.5
Year 12	33.3	45.8
Percent completed trade or TAFE certificate	60.0	52.2
Percent completed industry or business course	83.3	55.6
Percent with business plan	83.3	53.4
Marital Status		
Percent married or relationship	83.3	88.1
Partner's Income*		
Full-time employment	60.0	52.2
Part-time employment	40.0	23.3
Casual employment	0.0	8.8
Not employed	0.0	15.7
Family Composition		
Mean family size	2.5	3.2
Estimated number of total family members	15	596
Dependency Ratios		
Age Dependency Ratio**	33.3	21.7
Elderly Dependency Ratio	0.0	1.2
Child Dependency Ratio	33.3	20.6
Family Member Industry Dependency Ratio***	12.5	20.4
Gross Individual Income (%)		
Less than \$16,000	66.7	39.2
\$16,000 - \$26,000	16.7	22.2
\$26,000 - \$36,000	0.0	9.5
\$36,000 - \$52,000	16.7	13.3
\$52,000 - \$78,000	0.0	9.5
Over \$78,000	0.0	6.3
Average Income (\$)	16,000	28,000

Note: * Percentage based on those charter operators with partners. Includes partners income from all sources.

**The age dependency ratio is the number of children (below 15 years) and elderly persons (above 65 years) to every 100 persons in the population

***The industry dependency ratio is the number of persons in the family who are over 15 years of age and working in the charter industry as a proportion of all family members over 15 years of age.