

11 CAIRNS TRC

The Cairns TRC consists of the main urban centre of Cairns and several smaller surrounding urban centres including those of the Northern Beaches, Gordonvale, Kuranda and Smithfield.

BUSINESS PROFILES

Location and Use of Ports

Table 11.1 shows the number of license holders within the Cairns TRC and the number of survey respondents who reported having homeports within the TRC. On the basis of the sample count it is estimated that there are 40 commercial charter operators within this TRC and a 95% certainty that the correct population count of commercial charter operators within the TRC is between 29 and 51. Respondents reported that they used Cairns (90%), the Daintree (7%) and Deeral (3%) as their homeports. Figure 1 shows the geographic location of the Cairns TRC.

Table 11.1 Location of Homeports

Town	Adj. Database Count	Sample Count	Estimated Count	Percent within TRC
Cairns	21	27	36	90.0
Daintree	0	2	3	7.0
Deeral	1	1	1	3.0
Clifton Beach	2	0	0	0.0
Edmonton	3	0	0	0.0
Kuranda	1	0	0	0.0
Midge Point	1	0	0	0.0
Mossman	3	0	0	0.0
Palm Beach	1	0	0	0.0
Trinity Beach	4	0	0	0.0
Yungaburra	1	0	0	0.0
Total TRC	40	30	40	100.0
95% Confidence Interval for Estimated TRC Count				29-51
Percent of Total Active License Holders in QLD				15.1%

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

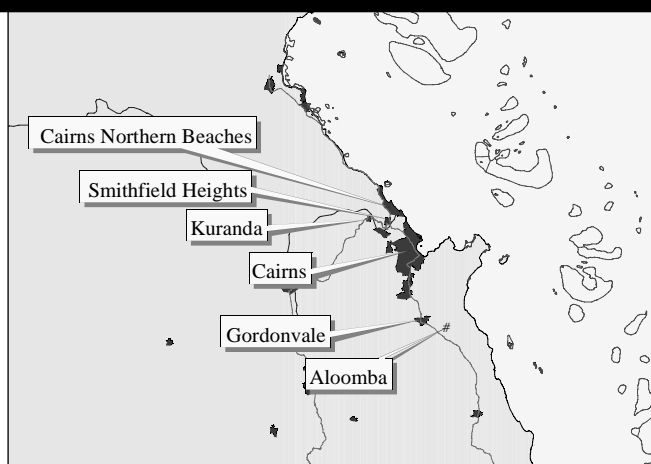


Figure 11.1 Location of the Cairns TRC

Fishing Activity

Table 11.2 shows the types of fishing activity on charters from the Cairns TRC for the previous year. The main fishing activities on day trips were estuarine (39.8%), game fishing (37.6%) and reef fishing (13.7%). These activities were also the most prevalent on overnight trips (22.7%, 44.4% and 30.5% respectively) and on extended trips (19.7%, 49.9% and 30.4% respectively).

Table 11.3 shows the number of trips chartered from the Cairns TRC and the percentage that were chartered primarily for fishing. Most trips were day trips (4,046 days) and 78.6% of these were fishing-only trips. There were 228 days spent on overnight trips and 68.4% were fishing-only trips. Some 1,066 days were spent on extended trips, and 38.9% were fishing-only trips, which is lower than the Queensland average for extended trips (66.1%).

Table 11.4 shows the percentage of time spent fishing and doing other activities such as diving and cruising, for trips where fishing was not the only activity. On day trips, fishing was the main activity (66.3%), although time was also spent diving and snorkeling (12.4%), cruising and sightseeing (13.1%), sailing (2.4%), whale watching (0.8%) and doing other activities (5.1%). On overnight and extended trips fishing was the major activity (69.7% and 51.2% respectively).

Table 11.5 shows that the peak months for charter activity within the Cairns TRC were July to November, similar to that of the Queensland peak season.

Table 11.2 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)	13.7	47.5	30.5	66.0	30.4	51.2
Game (pelagic)	37.6	18.8	44.4	20.3	49.9	31.1
Estuary	39.8	26.8	22.7	11.6	19.7	12.5
Crabbing	1.8	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.5
Other	7.1	6.4	1.8	2.0	0.0	4.6
Total Sample	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 11.3 Number of Charter Trips (during the last 12 months)

Type	Mean within TRC	QLD Mean
Day Trips		
Mean number of day-trips (per business)	134.9	85.3
Mean number of fishing-only day-trips	105.97	59.9
Total number of day-trips	4,046	16,976
Total number of fishing-only day-trips	3,179	11,919
Percent fishing-only trips	78.6%	70.2%
Overnight Trips		
Mean number of overnight trips (per business)	3.8	5.39
Mean number of fishing-only overnight-trips	2.6	3.34
Total number of days on overnight trips	228	1,072
Total number of fishing-only days on overnight trips	156	665
Percent fishing-only trips	68.4%	62.0%
Extended Trips		
Mean number of extended-trips	8.13	6.9
Mean number of fishing-only extended-trips	3.17	4.49
Total number of days on extended trips	1066	6,881
Total number of fishing-only days on extended trips	415	4,385
Percent fishing-only trips	38.9%	66.1%
Mean number of days away (per business)	1,78.3	121.3
TOTAL days charter	5,340	16,969
Percent charter- fishing only	70.2%	68.1%

Table 11.4 Other Activities on Charters (during the last 12 months)

Type	Within TRC	QLD Mean
Day Trips		
% time spent fishing	66.3	52.9
% time spent diving/snorkeling	12.4	13.1
% time spent cruising/sightseeing	13.1	17.5
% time spent sailing	2.4	0.4
% time spent whale & dolphin watching	0.8	4.2
% time spent doing other activities	5.1	11.9
Overnight Trips		
% time spent fishing	69.7	51.2
% time spent diving/snorkeling	8.3	22.9
% time spent cruising/sightseeing	22.0	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	51.2	51.2
% time spent diving/snorkeling	14.0	31.1
% time spent cruising/sightseeing	30.8	12.5
% time spent sailing	0.0	0.6
% time spent whale & dolphin watching	0.0	0.0
% time spent doing other activities	4.0	4.6

Table 11.5 Peak Charter Months During Past 12 Months

Months	Sample Count	Percent within TRC	Percent of QLD Fishery
January	7	23.3	21.8
February	3	10.0	6.2
March	4	13.3	8.8
April	5	16.7	16.6
May	5	16.7	17.6
June	8	26.7	26.9
July	14	46.7	37.3
August	14	46.7	37.3
September	15	50.0	44.0
October	15	50.0	48.7
November	13	43.3	35.2
December	8	26.7	25.9

Location of Resource Use

Figure 11.2 shows the location of resource use by commercial charter operators in the Cairns TRC. The location of resource use is predominately on the reefs closest to Cairns as well as around Lizard Island. The secondary resource catchment extends from Princess Charlotte Bay in the north to Lucinda in the South.

Charter Industry Businesses

Table 11.6 displays the number of charter operators within the Cairns TRC. The majority of businesses had between 1-3 fulltime employees, and an average of 1.5 fulltime equivalent employees. In summary it is estimated that there were 86 people employed in the charter industry.

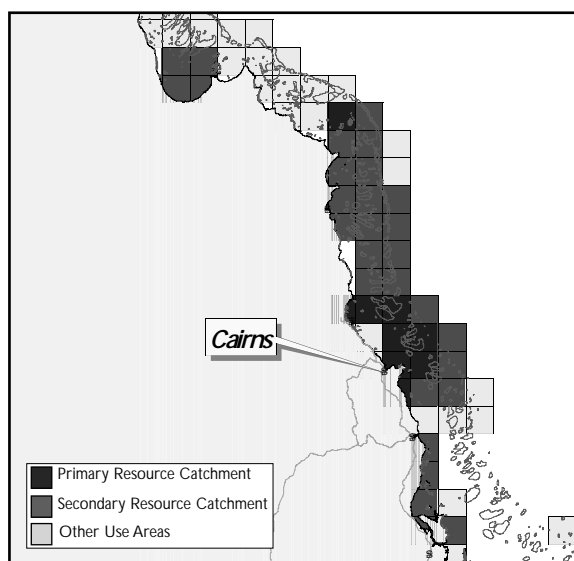


Figure 11.2 Cairns TRC: Location of Resource Use

Table 11.6 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	3.3	23	76.7	16	53.3
1	17	56.7	5	16.7	7	23.3
2-3	11	36.6	2	6.7	6	20.0
4-5	1	3.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
5+	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	3.3
Total Businesses	30	100.0	30	100.0	30	100.0
Total Employees	44		9		33	
Mean Number of Employees per Business				2.2		
Mean Number of Full-time Employees per Business				1.5		
Mean Number of Part-time & Casual Employees per Business				3.8		
Estimated Number Employed within the TRC				86		

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

Business Ownership and Size

Table 11.7 shows the number of years the current owner or operator had owned the charter business. Most businesses had been owned between 1-5 years, and 80% of businesses had been owned for less than 10 years. On average, businesses within the Cairns TRC had been owned for 7.5 years, which was similar to the average Queensland business (7 years).

Table 11.7 Number of Years of Current Ownership of the Charter Business

Number of Years	Sample Count	Percent within TRC	Cumulative Percent
1-5	13	43.3	43.3
6-10	11	36.3	80.0
11-15	4	13.3	93.3
15+	2	6.6	100.0
Total	30	100.0	100.0

Mean Number of Years owned or operated 7.5
Difference of TRC Mean to QLD Population Mean (7.0) +.05

Note: Standard errors for number of years ownership (sample = 0.9; QLD population = 0.5).

Table 11.8 shows that the average number of years the charter business had been operating was 7.7 years, which was only 0.6 years less than the average Queensland charter businesses (8.3 years).

Table 11.8 Number of Years Business has been Operating

Number of Years	Sample Count	Percent within TRC	Cumulative Percent
1-5	13	46.7	46.7
6-10	10	33.0	80.0
11-15	4	13.2	93.3
15+	2	6.6	100.0
Total	29	100.0	100.0

Mean Number of Years owned or operated 7.7
Difference of Mean to Population Mean (8.3) -0.6

Note: Standard errors for number of years operated (sample = 1.1; QLD population = 0.6)

Table 11.9 shows the number of boats owned by businesses in the Cairns TRC. The majority of charter businesses operated one boat (80.0%), and 6.7% owned three vessels. The average number of boats owned in the Cairns TRC (1.3 boats) was the same as the Queensland average (1.3 boats).

Table 11.9 Number of Boats Operated by Charter Businesses

Number of Boats	Sample Count	Percent TRC
1	24	80.0
2	4	13.3
3	2	6.7
4+	0	0.0
Total Number of Businesses	30	100.0

Mean Number of Boats Operated 1.3
Difference of Mean to QLD Population Mean (1.3) 0

Note: Standard errors for number of boats operated (sample = 0.1; QLD population = 0.06)

Source: CRC Reef (2000)

Table 11.10 shows the frequency distribution of the length of boats within the Cairns TRC. Most boats were less than six metres in length (44.7%), and 5.2% of boats were greater than 24m in length. The average boat from the Cairns TRC (9.7m) was 1.7m shorter than the average Queensland boat.

Table 11.10 Length of Vessels Operated by Charter Businesses

Length of Boat (metres)	Sample Count	Percent TRC
2-6	17	44.7
7-10	5	13.2
11-14	10	26.3
15-18	3	7.9
18-24	1	2.6
24+	2	5.2
Total Number of Boats	38	100.0

Mean Length of Boats Operated (metres) 9.7
Difference of Mean to QLD Population Mean (11.4) -1.7
Mean Length of Largest Boat Operated (metres) 10.7
Difference of Mean to QLD Population Mean (11.7) -1.0

Note: Standard errors for mean length of boats (sample = 0.9; QLD population=0.4) and mean length of largest boats (sample = 1.4; QLD population=0.5).

Value of Production and Location of Sales

Table 11.11 shows the value of charter operations within the Cairns TRC for the twelve months prior to the survey. The profile was similar to the overall profile for Queensland. Some 63.3% of businesses earned less than \$100,000, and the remaining 36.4% earned between \$100-500,000. The estimated Gross Value of Production (GVP) for this TRC was \$4.8 million, representing 14% of the Queensland value.

Table 11.11 Business Income (Annual value)

Value (\$,000)	Sample Count	Sample Percent	Queensland Percent
Less than \$100	19	63.3	65.8
\$101 - \$200	3	10.0	11.5
\$201 - \$300	3	10.0	7.5
\$301 - \$400	3	10.0	4.0
\$401 - \$500	2	6.7	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	30	100.0	100.0

Mean GVP for TRC	\$122,000
Estimated Total GVP for TRC	\$4,818,000
Estimated Total GVP for QLD	\$34,419,000
Percent of Total Queensland Production	14.0%

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

Table 11.12 provides an estimate of the number of customers that chartered trips from the Cairns TRC over the previous 12 months. There were approximately 47,300 customers of the charter industry for this TRC, representing some 13.8% of Queensland's customers.

Table 11.12 Number of Customers per Year

Origin	Mean Customers per Business	Sample Count	Estimated Total
Cairns TRC	1,182	31,900	47,300
QLD	1,335	259,930	343,100

Percent of Queensland	13.8%
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Table 11.13 shows the origin and associated value of customers visiting the Cairns TRC for the sample of businesses. It is estimated that the industry was worth \$4.8 million over the year, and the majority of this income was derived from overseas visitors (48.5%).

Table 11.13 Origin and Value of Customers

	Sample Value of Sales	Mean Percent of Sample	Est. Value of all Sales
Local area	394,200	10.8	520,344
Queensland area	616,850	16.9	814,242
Australians	868,700	23.8	1,146,684
Overseas	1,770,250	48.5	2,336,730
Total Sales	\$3,650,000	100.0	\$4,818,000

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

Business Expenditure

Table 11.14 shows that approximately \$6.4 million was spent by businesses in the Cairns TRC on business goods and services (excluding salaries and wages) over the previous year. The majority of this expenditure occurred in Cairns (85.4% or \$5.4 million). Several other towns in Queensland, other parts of Australia and locations overseas were also recipients of this expenditure.

Table 11.14 Town Location of Business Expenditure (All costs, excluding salaries and wages)

Location of Expenditure	Sample Value of Expenditure	Percent of Sample	Est. Value Expenditure
Cairns	4,114,572	85.4	5,431,269
Townsville	197,538	4.1	260,752
Mossman	144,540	3.0	190,794
Atherton	77,088	1.6	101,757
Brisbane	62,634	1.3	82,677
Mackay	52,998	1.1	69,958
Cooktown	24,090	0.5	31,799
Deeral	4,818	0.1	6,360
Ingham	14,454	0.3	19,079
Innisfail	4,818	0.1	6,360
New South Wales	38,544	0.8	50,878
Overseas	4,818	0.1	6,360
Port Douglas	9,636	0.2	12,720
Proserpine	9,636	0.2	12,720
South Australia	4,818	0.1	6,360
Babinda	4,818	0.1	6,360
Tasmania	38,544	0.8	50,878
Victoria	4,818	0.1	6,360
Total Expenditure	\$4,818,000	100.0	\$6,359,800

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 11.15 shows the primary towns of residence for operators within the Cairns TRC. Most charter operators resided within Cairns (76.7%), although some operators lived as far away as Tasmania (3.3%).

Table 11.15 Towns of Residence

Town of Residence	Sample Count	Percent of Sample
Cairns	23	76.7
Miriwinni	1	3.3
Midge Point	1	3.3
Edmonton	1	3.3
Tasmania	1	3.3
Daintree	1	3.3
Deeral	1	3.3
Yungaburra	1	3.3
Total	30	100.0

Months Employed in the Charter Industry

Table 11.16 indicates that the majority of owner-operators within the Cairns TRC were employed during most months of the year, and that all operators were employed in November.

Table 11.16 Months Employed in the Charter Industry During Past 12 Months

Months	Owner Operators %	All QLD Operators
January	90.0	81.0
February	90.0	81.5
March	93.3	85.7
April	93.3	89.4
May	93.3	92.6
June	93.3	92.6
July	93.3	92.6
August	93.3	93.7
September	93.3	95.2
October	96.7	93.7
November	100.0	91.5
December	96.7	86.8

Table 11.17 shows the location of household expenditure by operators and their families from the Cairns TRC. It is estimated that \$782,000 was spent on household commodities and services, and as expected, most of this was spent in Cairns (82.2%). Several other towns in Queensland and Australia benefited from this expenditure, such as Mossman (\$38,000), Townsville (\$27,000) and Mackay (\$15,000).

School and Employment Locations of Family Members

The town locations in which family members attended school or were employed are shown in Table 11.18. Most family members attended school or were employed in Cairns (56%) as well as several other Queensland towns, including Townsville (5.2%), Brisbane (3.9%), Cooktown (2.6%), and Gold Coast (1.3%).

Table 11.17 Town Location of Household Expenditure (All commodities and services)

Location of Household Expenditure	Sample Value of Expenditure	Percent of Sample	Est. Value Expenditure
Cairns	487,035	82.2	642,804
Mossman	29,033	4.9	38,318
Townsville	20,738	3.5	27,370
Mackay	11,258	1.9	14,858
Atherton	9,480	1.6	12,512
Babinda	7,110	1.2	9,384
Innisfail	5,925	1.0	7,820
Proserpine	5,333	0.9	7,038
Brisbane	3,555	0.6	4,692
Yungaburra	2,370	0.4	3,128
Ingham	2,370	0.4	3,128
Gordonvale	1,185	0.2	1,564
Miriwinni	1,185	0.2	1,564
Tasmania	1,778	0.3	2,346
Midge Point	593	0.1	782
Airlie Beach	593	0.1	782
NSW	593	0.1	782
Port Douglas	593	0.1	782
Total Expenditure	\$592,500	100.0	\$782,000

Note: The sample total personal income for the Cairns TRC was \$974,000. 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 \$592,500. Estimated value of expenditure was calculated by multiplying the sample value of expenditure by 1.32.

Source: CRC Reef (2000).

Table 11.18 School and Employment Locations of Family Members

Location of Employment or School	Sample Count	Percent of Sample
Cairns	56	72.7
Miriwinni	5	6.5
Townsville	4	5.2
Brisbane	3	3.9
Wonga	3	3.9
Cooktown	2	2.6
Midge Point	2	2.6
Edmonton	1	1.3
Gold Coast	1	1.3
Total Family Members	77	100.0

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

Social and Demographic Profiles

Table 11.19 provides profile information for owner-operators from the Cairns TRC. These operators tended to work longer hours per week, were less likely to be employed in another industry, were more likely to have a mortgage and earned more than the average Queensland charter operator.

Table 11.19 Owner-Operator Profiles for the Cairns TRC

Profile	Owner-Operators ^a	All QLD Charter operators
Estimated Number of Charter-owners	30	191
Mean age of operators	42.2	45.4
Age range	20-58	20-76
Percent males	90.0	93.8
Mean years resident in town	18.7	19.1
Mean number of years in charter industry	12.8	11.0
Mean hours per week in charter industry	65.0	50.7
Percent moved town to retain employment	16.7	14.0
Percent currently employed in other industry	26.7	46.1
Percent previously employed in other industry	96.7	93.7
Housing tenure (%)		
Rent	16.7	14.1
Mortgage	40.0	33.0
Own home	36.7	50.8
Other (eg, live with parents, on boat)	6.6	2.0
Educational		
Year completed school (%)		
Primary school	0.0	3.2
Year 8	0.0	3.2
Year 9	10.3	4.7
Year 10	17.2	32.6
Year 11	31.0	10.5
Year 12	41.4	45.8
Percent completed trade or TAFE certificate	51.9	52.2
Percent completed industry or business course	46.4	55.6
Percent with business plan	40.0	53.4
Marital Status		
Percent married or relationship	83.3	88.1
Partner's Income*		
Full-time employment	45.8	52.2
Part-time employment	29.2	23.3
Casual employment	4.2	8.8
Not employed	20.8	15.7
Family Composition		
Mean family size	2.9	3.2
Estimated number of total family members	83	596
Dependency Ratios		
Age Dependency Ratio*	22.9	21.7
Elderly Dependency Ratio	0.0	1.2
Child Dependency Ratio	22.9	20.6
Family Member Industry Dependency Ratio**	17.9	20.4
Gross Individual Income (%)		
Less than \$16,000	16.7	39.2
\$16,000 - \$26,000	33.3	22.2
\$26,000 - \$36,000	0.0	9.5
\$36,000 - \$52,000	33.3	13.3
\$52,000 - \$78,000	16.7	9.5
Over \$78,000	0.0	6.3
Average Income (\$)	33,800	28,000

Note: ^aPercentage 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.