

Regional Profile

The Barkly Region covers 283,606 square kilometres, some 21% of the Northern Territory. It covers the Tablelands, Alpurrurulam, Elliott District, Tennant Creek Town and Tennant Creek Balance statistical areas.

Tennant Creek is the service centre for a rural population more than half the size of the town itself and for the tourist population passing through the area. The region supports a range of industries: tourism, pastoral, mining, construction, retail, community and government services.

The Alice Springs to Darwin railway connects the Top End of the Territory to the rest of Australia through the Barkly Region, and is expected to further enhance the region's economy.

Society

Population

The population of the Barkly region is 5,390* persons.

Tennant Creek (T) was home to 2,920** people, or 54% of the total population in the Barkly Region.

Indigenous persons make up 60% (3,255*) of the Barkly region's total population.

Median Age

The median age for the Barkly region is 28 years and 31 years for Tennant Creek (T).

Working Age

69% (3,696) of the Barkly region's population is of working age (between 15-64 yrs) with 2,006 persons of working age residing in Tennant Creek (T)

Average Number of Household Occupants

Households in the Barkly region have on average 3.4 occupants and 2.9 occupants for households in Tennant Creek (T).

Median Weekly Household Income

The median weekly household income for the Barkly region is \$885 and \$997 for Tennant Creek (T). The Australian median weekly household income is \$1,027.

Median Housing Loan Repayment

Median housing loan repayment for the Barkly region and Tennant Creek (T) is \$650 per month.

Economy

Employment

Barkly region has estimated 3,960 people in the labour force with 2,176 persons residing in Tennant Creek (T).

Employment in Tennant Creek (T) is dominated by Public administration & safety (25%), Health care & social assistance (12%), Construction (9%), Retail trade (8%) and Accommodation & food services (8%).

The major occupation profiles within Tennant Creek (T) include Professionals (17%), Community and personal service workers (15%), Labourers (15%), Technicians & trades workers (14%) and Clerical & administrative workers (13%).

Mining

The value of production from mining in the Barkly region was estimated at about \$28M in 2006-07. Major commodities include manganese, gold iron ore, soil, sand and crushed rock.

Agriculture and Horticulture

The main driver of agriculture production in the Barkly is cattle. In 2006-07, the value of primary industry production (excluding livestock/fisheries) from the Barkly region was estimated at about \$1.0M which was derived solely from seed and hay production.

Tourism

The Barkly region on average receives 100,000 holiday makers per year. Visitors to the Northern Territory spend on average \$1,113 per visit.

(Source: *Tourism Research Australia's - National Visitors Survey (NVS) and International Visitor Survey (IVS)*)

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References

**(2006 Census of Population and Housing - Basic Community Profiles by Location - Barkly).*

*** (2006 Census of Population and Housing - Basic Community Profiles by Location - Tennant Creek(T)).*

(ABS Regional Statistics 1362.7 2007)

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, Australia, March Quarter 2008