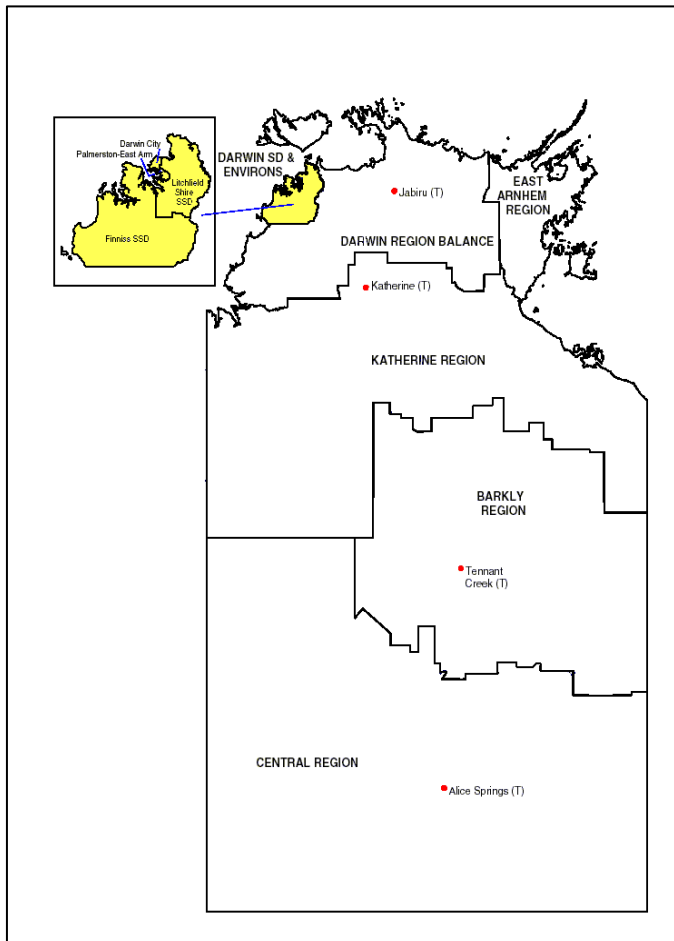


Regional Profile

Darwin Region is located in the tropical north-west of the Northern Territory and is the most densely populated region in the NT. It covers an area of 10 262 square kilometres, 7.6% of the NT. The region includes the city of Darwin, the satellite city of Palmerston and the rural statistical districts of Palmerston-East Arm, Litchfield and Finnis.

Darwin City and Palmerston contain 85% of the region's population, and are the administrative centres of the NT. Darwin is the transport hub of the NT with international shipping and air services arriving and departing from the area.

The region supports a range of industries including government administration and defence, retail and tourism-related businesses, construction and property and business services.



Society

Population

In June 2006, the region was home to about 106,371 persons, approximately 56% of the NT population.

Darwin Region Key Facts 2008

Area		10 262km ²
Population	- Region	106 371
	- Darwin	66 290
	- Palmerston City	23 614
Labour force	- Region	69,485 (Mar 08)
	- Darwin	47 693 (Mar 08)
	- Palmerston City	9 239 (Mar 08)
Unemployment rate	- Region	3.3% (Mar 08)
	- Darwin	2.7% (Mar 08)
	- Palmerston City	2.8% (Mar 08)

Tourist visitor numbers:	718 000*
Number of businesses:	7 599
Mining production value	\$4.2M
Agriculture production value	\$84.1M

*Indicates average tourist numbers for the Top End including Darwin, Darwin Region Balance- 2004-05 to 2006-07

Median Age

The median age for the region is 37 years, 33 years for Darwin and 28 years in Palmerston City.

Working Age

72% (76,753 persons) of the region's population is of working age (between 15-64 yrs), while 74% (48,976 persons) of persons residing in Darwin are of working age with 65% (15,783 persons) of Palmerston city residents are of working age.

Average Number of Household Occupants

The average household in the Darwin region has 2.5 persons, with 2.5 persons per household in Darwin and 2.8 persons per household in Palmerston City.

Median Weekly Household Income

The median weekly household income for the Darwin region is \$1,270; with the median weekly income for Darwin of \$1,286 and \$1,258 for Palmerston City. The median weekly household income for Australia is \$1,027.

Median Housing Loan Repayment

Median housing loan repayment for the region is \$1,300 per month, \$1,343 per month in Darwin and \$1,300 per month for Palmerston City.

The Median Weekly Rent

Median weekly rent for the region is \$178 per week, \$200 per week in Darwin and \$190 per week for Palmerston City.

Economy

Employment

In March 2008 the region had an estimated 69,485 persons in the labour force, with 69% of the labour force residing in Darwin.

Employment by industry in the region is dominated by Public administration & safety (21%), Retail trade (10%), Health care & social assistance (8%), Education & training (8%), and Construction (8%).

The major occupation profiles in the region consist of Professionals (19%), Technicians & trades workers (16%), Clerical & administrative workers (16%), Managers (13%), and Community & personal service workers (12%).

Income

In 2004-05, the estimated mean taxable income for the region was \$44,824, 3% below the Territory average (\$46,081). Darwin residents earned a higher share of the average taxable income (\$47,623) while the average taxable income for Palmerston City was \$44,626.

Number of Businesses

In 2006-07 based on the ABS Business Count the region had 7,599 business entities. The major industries profiles for the business count were Property and Business Services (28%), Construction (26%), Agriculture Forestry and Fishing (8%), Transport and Storage (7%) and Finance and Insurance (6%).

Real Estate

In the June Quarter 2008, the median house sale price in Darwin was \$423,299, up 7.2% on for the year. The median unit sale price was \$328,950, up 17.8% % for the year. In Palmerston, the median house sale price was \$395,000, up 8.2 % on the year. The median unit sale price in Palmerston was \$272,000, up 12.4 % for the year.

In the June Quarter 2008, the vacancy rate for rental properties in Darwin was 0.3% while in Palmerston the vacancy rate was 0.5%.

Construction and Building

The value of non-residential building approvals in the region for 2005-06 was \$354M, with 86% located in Darwin. In 2006 there were 951 approvals cross the region for the construction of residential buildings valued at \$270M.

Mining

In 2006-07, production of non-metallic minerals in the region was valued at \$4.2 million. This consists of crushed rock, dimension stone, gravel, sand and soil. Most this production occurred in Litchfield.

Agriculture

In 2006-07, the value of agricultural production from the region was an estimated \$84.1M. This principally comes from the production of fruits and vegetables and to lesser extent seed and hay production. This represents 57% of the Northern Territory's total horticulture production.

Michael Jean
Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development
2nd Floor, Development House, 76 The Esplanade
GPO. Box 3200, Darwin 0801, NT
June 2008

Disclaimer: *The Northern Territory of Australia gives no warranty of assurance, and makes no representation as to the accuracy of any information or advice contained in this publication, or that it is suitable for your intended use.*

References

2006 Census of Population and Housing - Basic Community Profiles by Location - Darwin.

2006 Census of Population and Housing - Basic Community Profiles by Location - Palmerston - East Arm

2006 Census of Population and Housing - Basic Community Profiles by Location - Litchfield

2006 Census of Population and Housing - Basic Community Profiles by Location - Finnis

2006 Census of Population and Housing - Basic Community Profiles by Location - Australia

Department of Primary Industry, Mining and Fisheries, Mining production data 2006-07.

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

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

Northern Territory Real Estate Local Market Analysis - June Quarter 2008