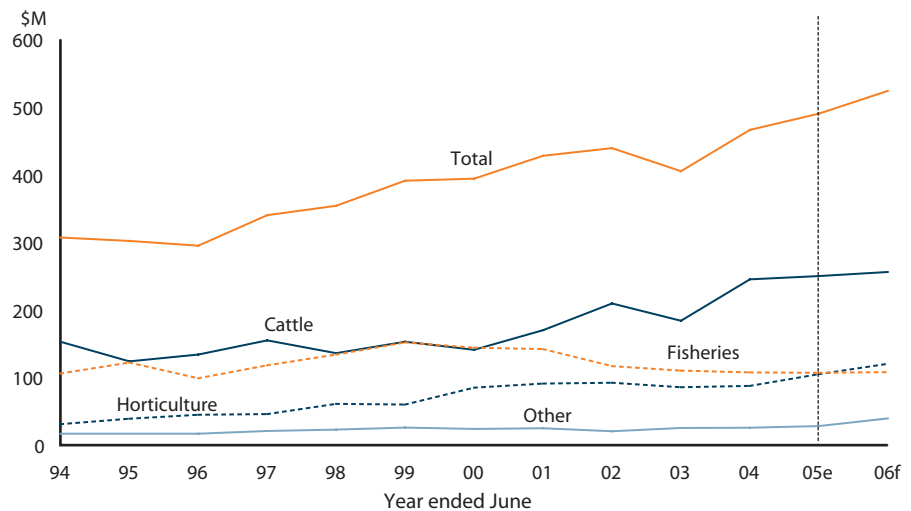


Rural Industries and Fisheries

- Rural industries in the Territory comprise cattle and other livestock (buffalo, crocodiles, poultry, pigs and camels), horticulture (fruit, vegetables, nursery and cut flowers) and mixed farming (field crops, hay and seeds, and forestry). The fisheries industry comprises harvesting of wild catch and aquaculture.
- The Territory enjoys certain comparative advantages due to its capacity to supply markets with a range of early-season and out-of-season produce, and benefits from its 'clean' image.
- Output growth in the industry tends to be volatile due to variable weather conditions, while the exchange rate can have a significant effect on international demand. In the Territory, average annual output growth has been below broader economic growth over the past 10 years.
- Rural industries accounted for 2.9 per cent of Territory GSP in 2003-04, in line with the national proportion.
- The value of rural industries production was estimated at \$490 million in 2004-05, an increase of 5 per cent from 2003-04.
- The value of production is forecast to increase by 7 per cent to \$524 million in 2005-06.

Chart 8: Rural Industries and Fisheries Value of Production



e: estimate, f: forecast
Source: Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development