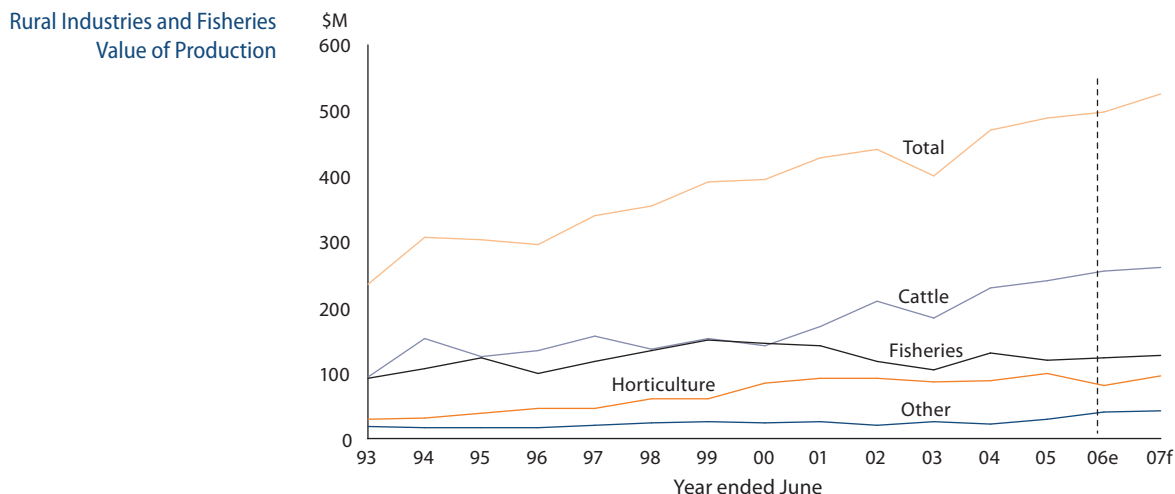


Rural Industries and Fisheries

- Rural industries and fisheries accounted for 2.8 per cent of Territory gross state product (GSP) in 2004-05 and 2.6 per cent of resident employment.
- 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 due to an environmentally 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.
- The value of rural industries production was estimated at \$496 million in 2005-06, an increase of 1.6 per cent from 2004-05.
- The value of production is forecast to increase by 5.5 per cent to \$524 million in 2006-07.



e: estimate; f: forecast

Source: Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development