



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Trade and investment opportunities

QUEENSLAND
of OPPORTUNITY



Queensland
Government
Australia





A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



The Honourable Ros Bates MP

Minister for Finance, Trade,
Employment and Training

Queensland's food and agriculture sector is recognised globally for its quality, reliability and scale. From premium beef and horticulture to seafood, grains and value-added food, beverage and health and wellness products, Queensland producers deliver food security for domestic consumers and help feed growing populations across the world.

Our proximity to key international markets, particularly throughout the Asia-Pacific region, enables streamlined export access and strengthens Queensland's reputation as a trusted supplier of safe, high-quality food and agricultural products.

This is supported by stable governance, world-class biosecurity systems, advanced supply chains and a skilled workforce. Queensland's climate and vast agricultural land holdings support year-round production across a diverse range of commodities.

As global demand grows for premium food, sustainable production and agricultural innovation, Queensland is a natural choice for new trade and investment opportunities across the sector.

Trade and Investment Queensland (TIQ) plays an important role in connecting global partners with opportunities across our state. Through its international network and market expertise, TIQ supports businesses to trade, invest and grow in Queensland.

I encourage you to explore our QueensLand of Opportunity and discover why Queensland is a trusted global partner for food and agriculture.



WELCOME TO QUEENSLAND

Located in northeastern Australia, Queensland is recognised as the sixth-largest state in the world by land area – comparable in size to Indonesia and larger than Western Europe or any state in the United States.

Queensland's primary industries contribute to an expansive, national sector. Australia is the world's 12th-largest agricultural exporter and accounts for 3% of total global agricultural trade.

The sector spans the full value chain – from on-farm production and agribusiness services to advanced food processing, AgTech and global export markets.

The state's 5.7 million residents enjoy a great lifestyle, with ample employment opportunities in food and agriculture.



TIQ is the Queensland Government's global trade and investment agency, with a network that currently spans 30 locations in 21 international markets across Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East. TIQ plays a vital role in connecting the world to Queensland.





QUEENSLAND OF OPPORTUNITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Food and agriculture is big business in Queensland. Primary industries exports contribute \$15.6 billion to the state economy each year and export to more than 130 markets. Queensland agribusinesses have a wide reach in global markets and ongoing investment opportunities.

Queensland is a recognised global leader in food safety and biosecurity, and a trusted source of premium, ethically produced food for domestic and international markets.

In 2025, the Queensland Government launched *Primary Industries Prosper 2050*, a 25-year blueprint for the agriculture sector to set a strong foundation for future prosperity, ensure food security and build resilient regional communities.

Trade and investment opportunities in Queensland are backed by stable governance, pro-business policies and a competitive payroll tax rate. The state offers one of the most enviable business environments in the southern hemisphere, with low sovereign risk.

Queensland offers a stable business environment, with economic growth that has generally outperformed the national average over the past two decades.

With a strong reputation for sophisticated, high-quality food production, Queensland is your trusted partner for business success in food and agriculture.

At a glance



386,000 people working across the supply chain – 13% of Queensland's workforce

41,500 primary industry businesses



Nearly half of Australia's 30 million cattle herd are raised in Queensland

1.35 million km² of agricultural land



\$15.6 billion in annual food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry exports

Australia is the world's **12th-largest agricultural exporter**





THE QUEENSLAND OF OPPORTUNITY



Meat and livestock

- Queensland is targeting \$30 billion in agricultural production by 2030.
- Beef is the state's largest agricultural export, valued at \$8.4 billion.
- The state's 14 million beef cattle are recognised for their superior quality, robust food safety standards and advanced supply chain traceability.
- Queensland is a key driver of Australia's rapidly expanding goat meat industry, supported by extensive rangeland and farmed goat production systems.
- The state's livestock industries also include sheep, goat, pork, poultry and dairy.



Grains, pulses and forestry

- Summer crops include sorghum, maize, cotton, soybeans, mung beans and sesame.
- Winter crops include chickpeas, wheat, barley, canola and faba beans.
- Abundant cereals, pulses, peanuts, sunflower and canola.
- Queensland is seeking to increase its local forestry output to reduce reliance on imported timber.
- Queensland produces \$1.5 billion of cotton annually and the product is in demand across Asia and Eastern Europe.



Health and wellness

- Queensland's dynamic health and wellness sector is well positioned to capitalise on growing global demand for complementary medicines, with the market projected to reach \$418 billion by 2027.
- Australian-made complementary medicines enjoy a reputation of high quality, safety and regulatory integrity.
- Rising demand is driven by ageing populations and a fast-growing middle class across Southeast Asia.
- Australian exports of complementary medicines exceed \$1.2 billion, led by Asia and the Middle East.



AgTech

- Queensland is home to a robust and fast growing AgTech ecosystem.
- The state is a leader in agricultural technology and a 'test bed' for international AgTech solutions.
- Queensland's cutting-edge research and development sector is naturally complemented by its long-standing agricultural heritage.
- Australia's growing agrifood tech ecosystem attracts around \$800 million in investment annually, creating new opportunities for innovation and commercialisation.



Horticulture

- More than 100 fruit, vegetable and nut commodities are grown in Queensland.
- Horticulture is the state's second-largest primary industry, contributing more than \$6 billion to the state economy and producing a wide range of fruit, vegetables and nuts.
- Counter-seasonal production capability enables off-season supply to the northern hemisphere.
- Opportunities exist to increase exports including citrus, macadamias, grains, mangoes, melons and avocados.



Processed food and beverages

- Queensland's thriving food and beverage manufacturing sector is the state's largest manufacturing sub-sector.
- Australian-processed food exports are recognised for their high food safety standards.
- The global packaged food market is expected to experience continued growth, led by trends including convenient, ready-to-go options and healthy snacking.
- Southeast Asia represents promising opportunities for packaged food exporters, with retail sales projected to reach \$234 billion by 2028.

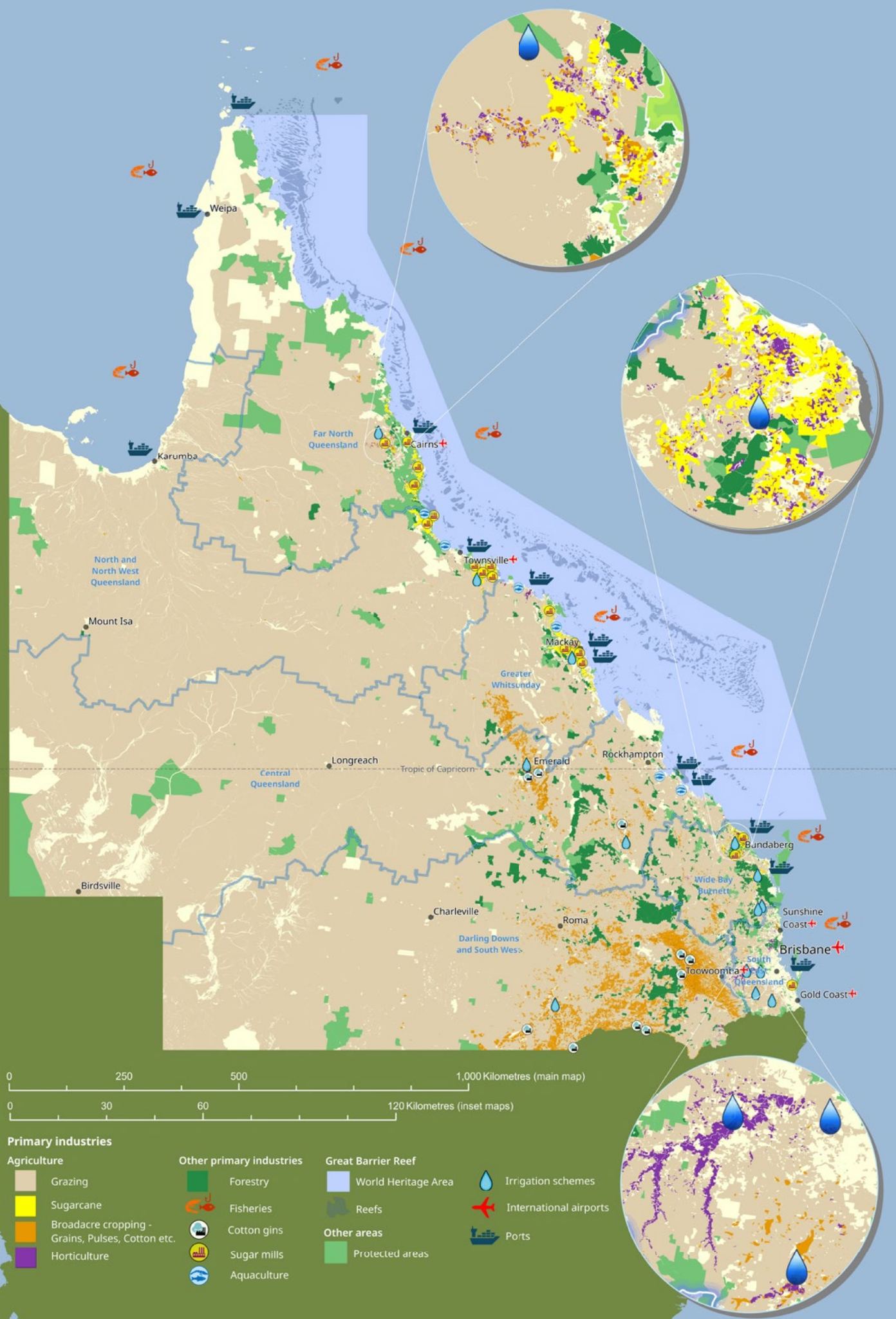


Seafood

- Queensland's aquaculture industry generates \$270 million in gross value of production annually, led by prawns (shrimp) and barramundi (fish).
- Queensland commercial fisheries produce \$251 million in annual value.
- Queensland waters produce more than 100 commercial seafood species, reflecting the state's diverse marine environment.
- From 2021-22 to 2022-23, the gross value of Queensland's aquaculture industry increased by 17%, reaching a record high.
- Large stock of tropical rock lobster and coral trout are in popular demand in global seafood markets.



Primary resource industries







A skilled and growing workforce

Queensland's food and agriculture industry directly and indirectly employs 386,000 people – 13% of Queensland's workforce – and continues to attract a new generation of talent. The state has six universities in the world's top 500, and more than 360 education and training providers. By 2028–29, 2.3 million Queensland workers – representing three quarters of the workforce – will have a post-secondary qualification.

The state's skilled workforce is further strengthened by widespread use of advanced food production and automation technologies, and is supported by established professional and technical services hubs across the state.

Backed by a \$5 billion investment, the Queensland Government's *Right Skills Strategy 2025–2028* brings together government, industry, registered training providers, educators and students to further strengthen the state's capacity to meet industry demands.

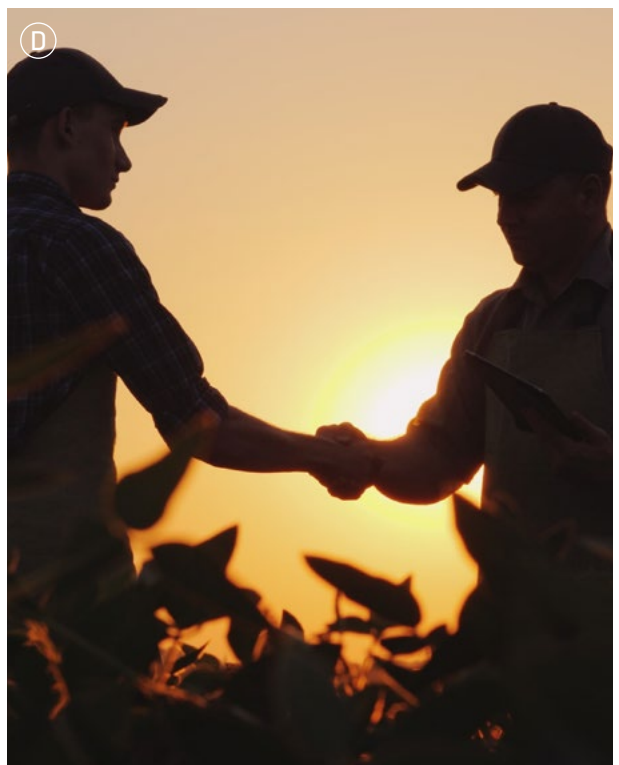
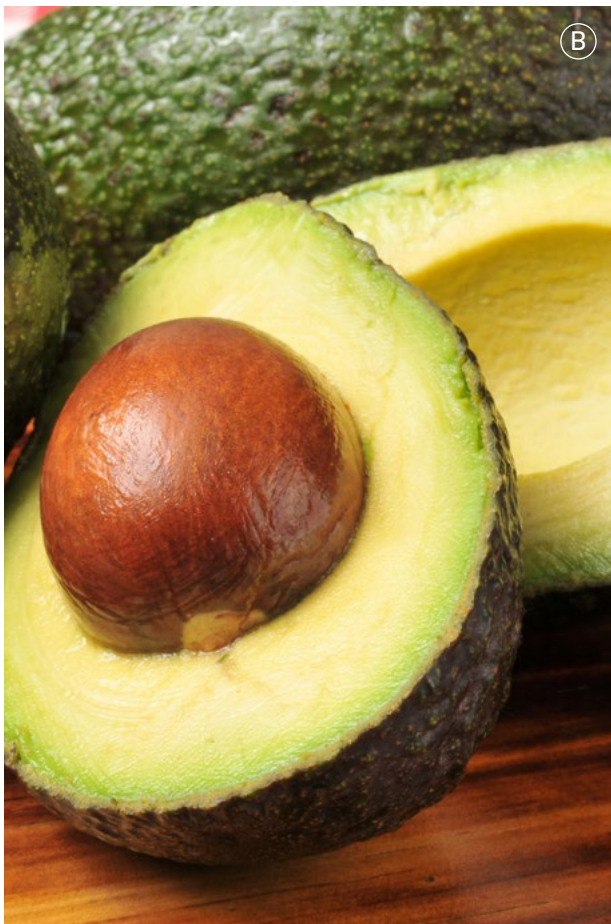
For businesses and investors requiring additional international expertise, Queensland offers tailored support to attract global talent. The Queensland Government offers dedicated assistance to international employers and investors, guiding them through workforce migration options and helping secure the specialist skills to grow their operations in Queensland.

Biosecurity, food safety, environmental stewardship, sustainability and governance

Queensland industry demonstrates an unwavering commitment to excellence in food safety, biosecurity, environmental stewardship and agricultural sustainability. Rigorous food safety standards ensure products meet the highest levels of consumer protection and market readiness, while the farm sector leads in environmental responsibility through regenerative practices and resource-efficient technologies that preserve natural ecosystems.

Equally vital is Queensland's proactive approach to biosecurity, integrated across every stage of the supply chain to safeguard biodiversity, maintain consumer confidence and ensure continuity of trade.

These position Queensland as a trusted source of premium, ethically produced food for domestic and international markets. Complementing this is a strong Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) framework. Fair and safe working conditions and local community engagement also reinforce Queensland's reputation as a responsible, future-focused partner.



- A. Queensland cattle
- B. Hass avocados
- C. Vineyard, Granite Belt region
- D. Farmers, Queensland

Efficient infrastructure network

Queensland's capacity to move people, freight and data efficiently makes connecting with the world seamless.



Six international airports, more than 50 regional airports and 13 seaports, connecting to the world's fastest-growing Asia-Pacific markets and beyond



Extensive rail network including 8,370 km of regional freight rail



184,000 km public road network comprising national, state and regional highways



Electricity transmission network of more than 15,000 circuit kilometres with 147 substations to deliver affordable, reliable and sustainable energy



Fastest submarine telecommunications connection from eastern Australia to Asia

Support and incentives

The Queensland Government actively backs industry growth through a coordinated suite of programs, strategic partnerships and tailored investment facilitation. This whole-of-government approach brings together policy, infrastructure, funding and industry capability to support global companies doing business with and within Queensland.

The Queensland Government's *Primary Industries Prosper 2050* strategy demonstrates this commitment. This long-term, strategic plan will ensure the longstanding backbone of the Queensland economy is strengthened.



GET GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR DOING BUSINESS WITH QUEENSLAND

TIQ is the Queensland Government's global business agency, facilitating high-value partnerships and guiding businesses to navigate the unique opportunities our state offers.

Whether you are new to Queensland or looking to expand your business or investment across the state, TIQ can help you find the right business opportunity to help meet your objectives.

TIQ supports potential business partners by helping you:

- 1 connect with export-ready businesses and investment-ready projects
- 2 access sector-specific market intelligence and regulatory insights to inform decisions
- 3 engage through site visits, missions and strategic introductions
- 4 leverage government programs and cross-agency support
- 5 access tailored assistance for business case development, market entry and expansion

TIQ offers these services at no cost to you.





Is your business ready to take advantage
of the QueensLand of Opportunity?

**Learn more about support for
your future success through
Trade and Investment Queensland.**



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