

An Economic Framework for Local Government in Western Australia

Appendix A: Regional Profiles

Key economic indicators for each of WA's 10 regions,
including exports and Location Quotients

Updated December 2023



WALGA

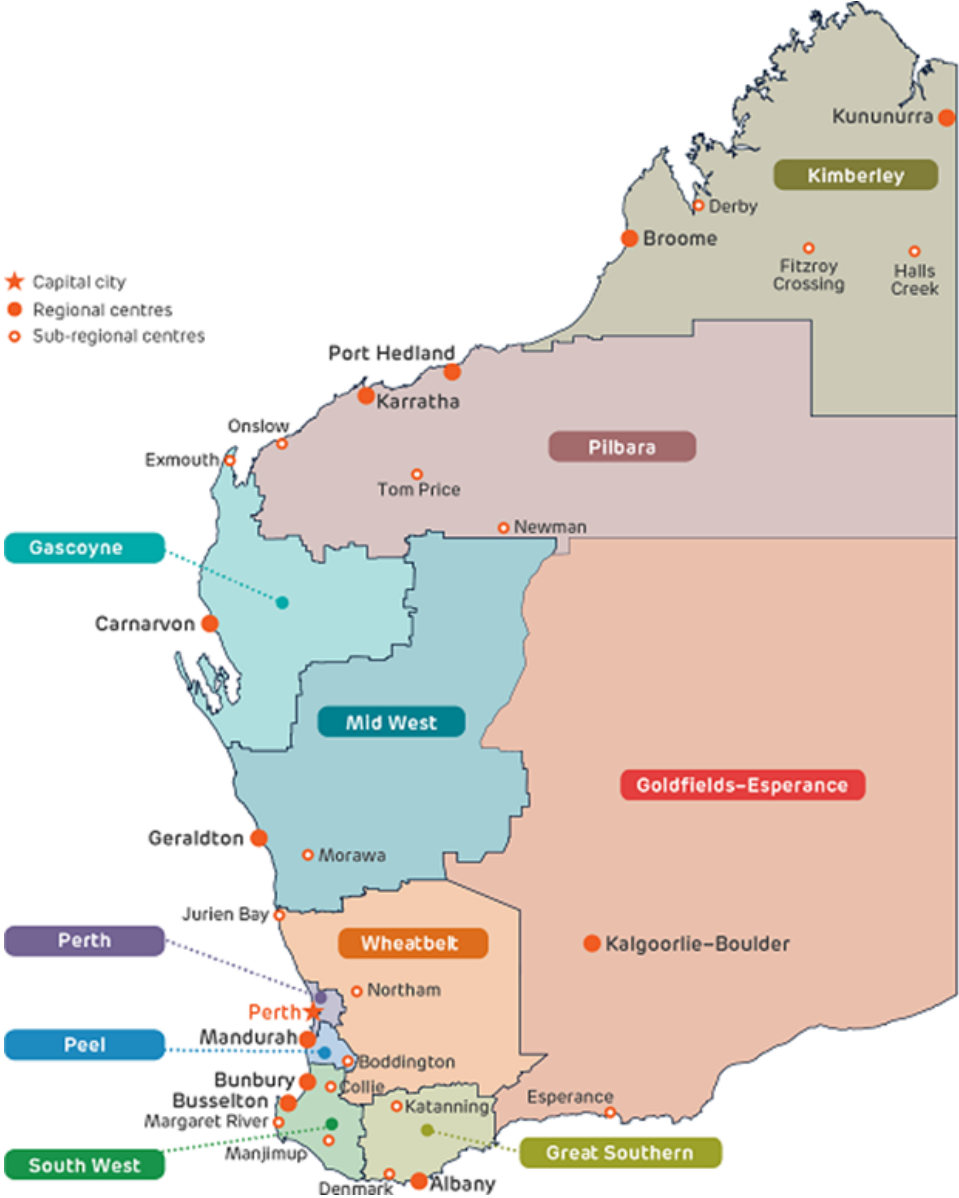
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Appendix A

Regional Profiles

Key economic indicators for each of WA's 10 regions, including exports and Location Quotients, are shown in the following pages.

Figure 1 Western Australia's 10 regions



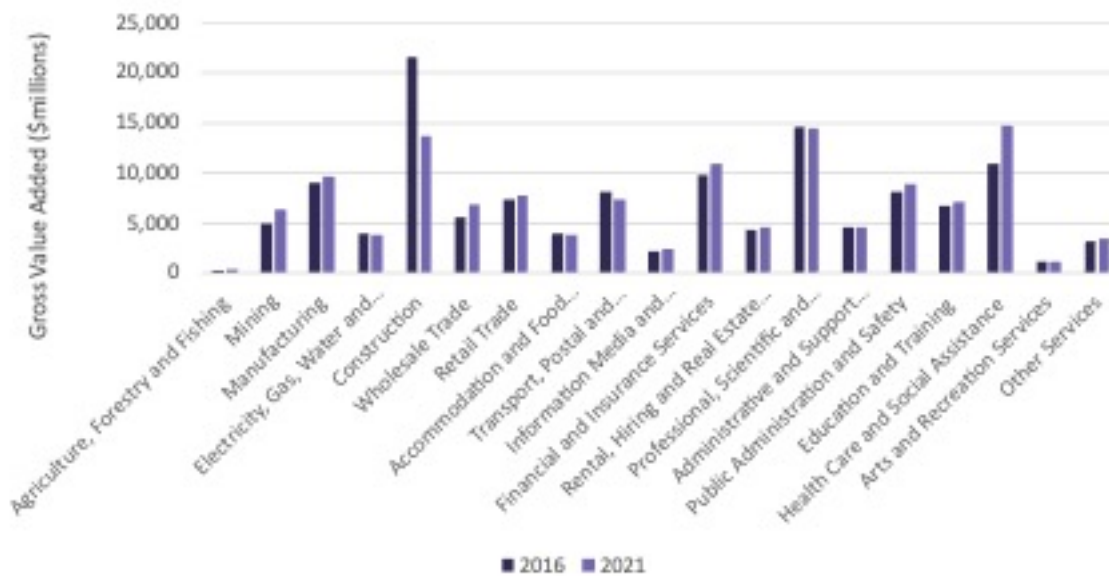
Perth Region

Structure of the Perth Economy

Economic structure refers to the sector breakdown of the economy with particular attention to those parts of the economy that are driving in income and jobs. Ways to measure this could be in terms of total output, trade (i.e., exports/imports), total income being profits plus wages and salaries or gross value added (GVA) or employment. Typically, economic structure is discussed in terms of GVA by ANZSIC industries (an Australian Bureau of Statistics categorisation system).

In the Perth region, the top three industries by GVA in 2021 were Health Care and Social Assistance, Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, and Construction. The Financial and Insurance Services Industry also makes a significant contribution. The Perth region is the most highly urbanised region in WA and its key industries reflect this. Overall in 2021 the Perth region's economy was worth around \$128.5 billion measured by GRP.

Figure 2 Gross Value Added by Industry, Perth (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

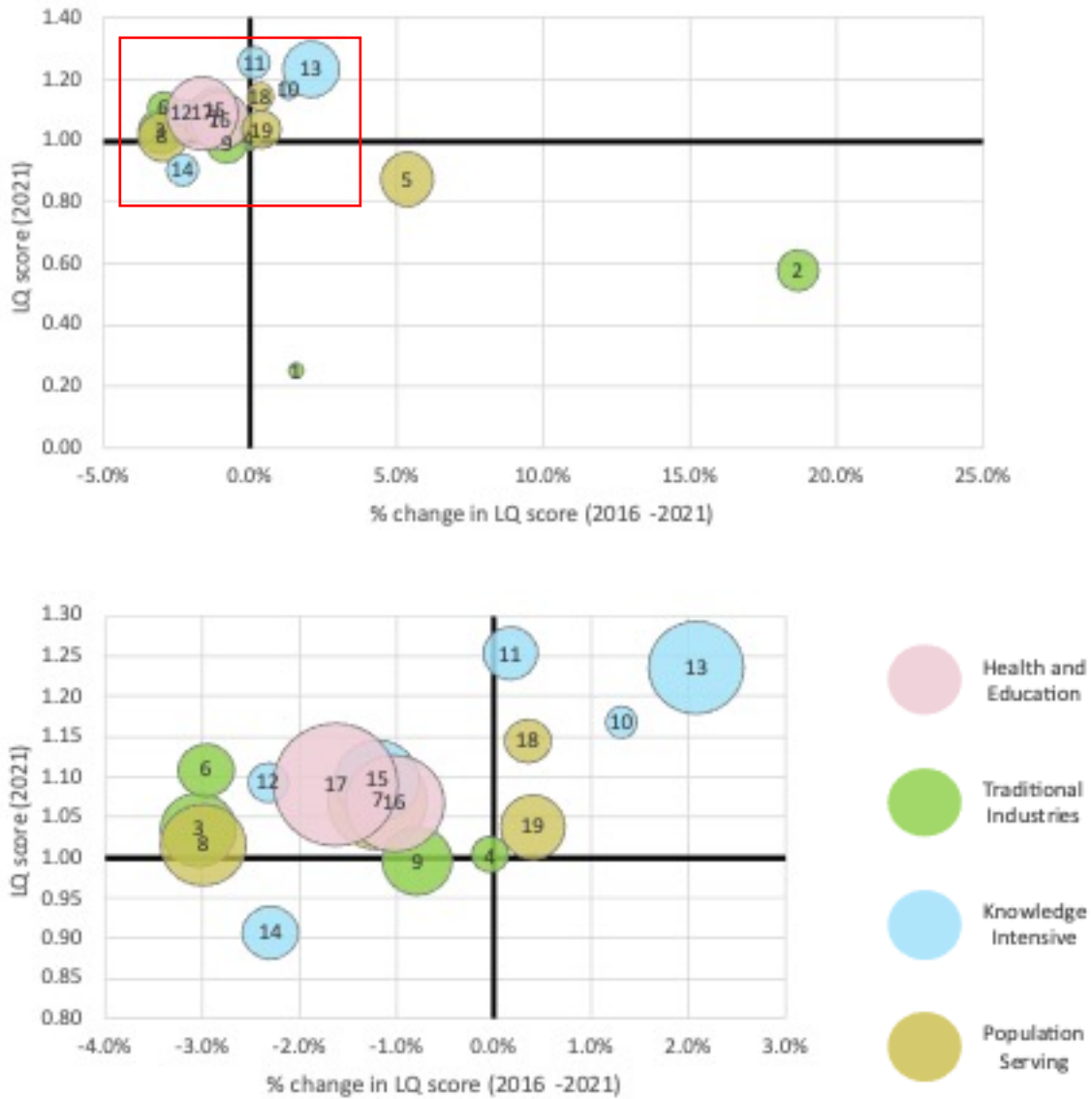
A location quotient (LQ) analysis is shown in the following figures. LQ provides insight into some of the competitive strengths and weaknesses of the region's economic structure. The LQ score for a sector is given by its proportional representation in the region divided by its proportional representation in Western Australia. A detailed description of Location Quotient analysis and how to read these charts is provided in the Economic Development Strategy template.

The first LQ chart below shows all the ANZSIC industries. The second contains a closer look at clustered area marked in red.

It is evident that Perth specialises heavily in knowledge-intensive industries. The exception to this is Administration and support services, which has an LQ score lower than one and is also decreasing.

The emerging industries in the Perth region are in Mining, Agriculture, and Construction. This is because these industries have a smaller share of employment in Perth when compared to WA, but they are growing faster when compared to WA.

Figure 3 LQ Analysis of Perth compared to Western Australia



ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

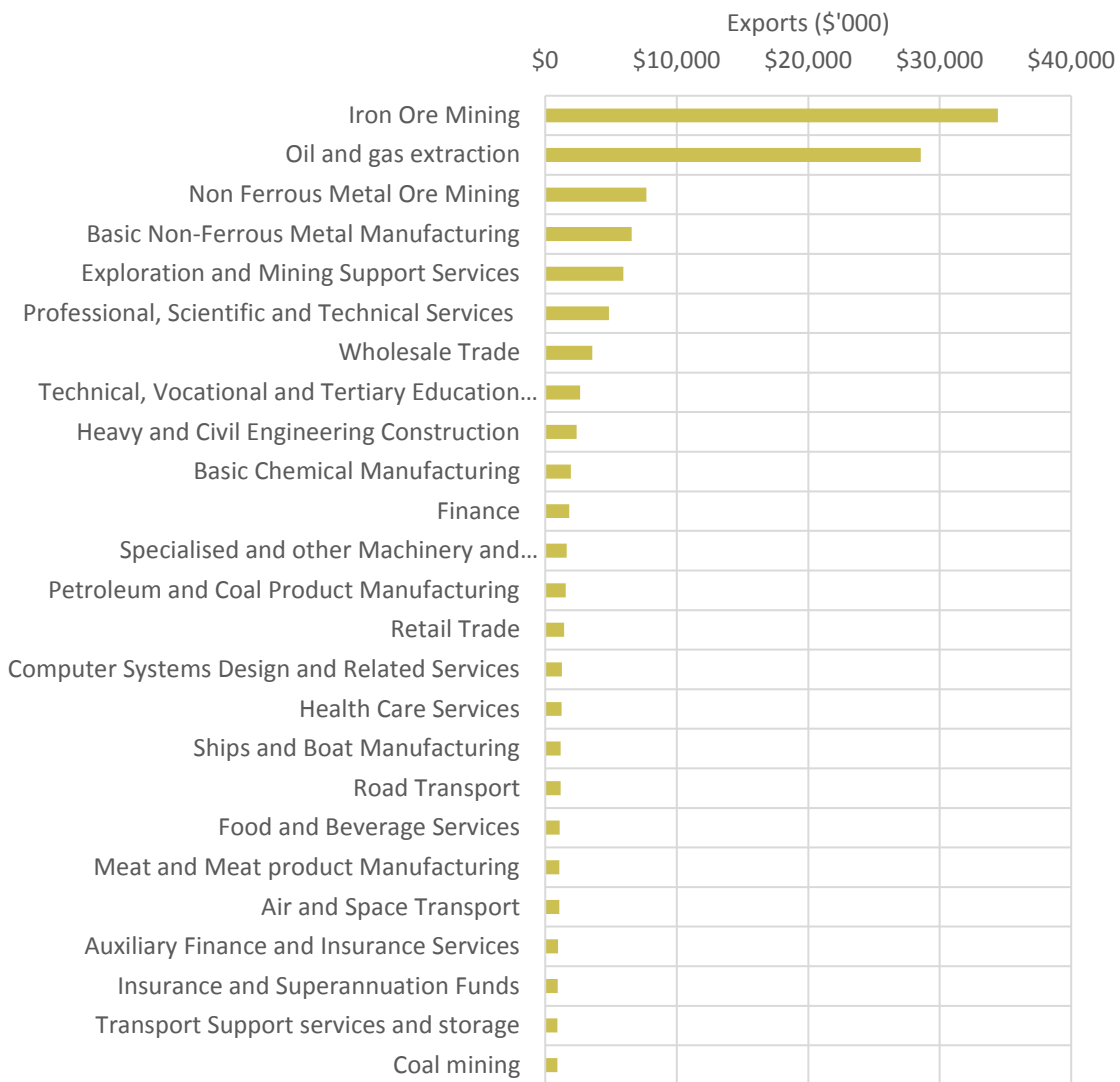
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

Exports are a major player in economic performance and prosperity. Income injected into the local economy creates a multiplier effect as exporting firms draw on local suppliers and workers to meet the demand from external customers. The data reveals that the Perth region's largest-value exports are centred around mining and extracting industries. The next largest-value exporter is Professional, Scientific and Technical Services pointing to the importance of Perth's growing skilled services industries.

The figure below shows the region's top 20 sub-industries by value of exports.

Figure 4 Perth's Exports: Injections of income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

The Perth region's population comprises 74 per cent of the total WA population. Because of this, WA's and the Perth region's population trends are closely aligned. The 2019-20 period saw a significant decrease in the population growth rate. This has since rebounded yet remains below pre-pandemic levels. Despite this, over the last 10 years, the Perth region's population growth has accounted for 81 per cent of WA's total population growth.

Table 2 Population growth of Perth (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Perth	1,384,441	1,492,995	1,727,594	1,891,980	2,047,515	319,921	81%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

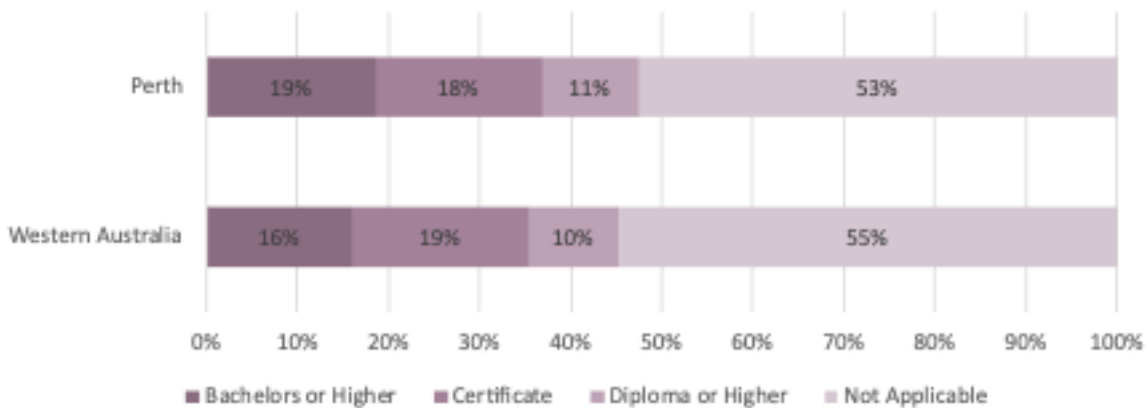
Figure 5 Annual Growth Rate of Perth's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

The stock of knowledge, experience and skills in the economy is critical to economic performance. This is often referred to as 'human capital'. Without a stock of knowledgeable and skilled people, businesses cannot function. An undersupply of skilled labour will impede economic growth and development. Generally, the Perth region's population has higher educational attainment levels across most post-schooling qualification levels, pointing to a highly educated workforce.

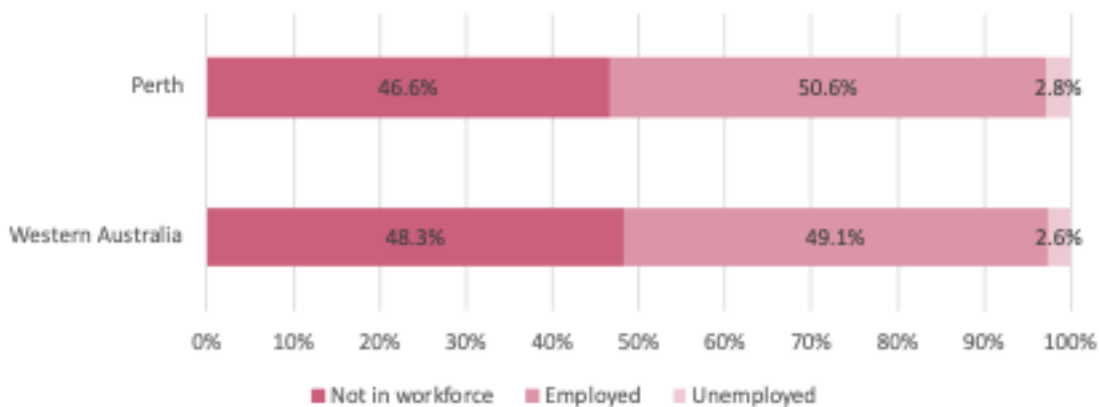
Figure 6 Education in Perth Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed workers expressed as a percentage of the labour force. A low unemployment rate is a core aim of economic development. In 2021, unemployment rates in the Perth Region, and across WA were low.

Figure 7 Unemployment in Perth Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

One of the outcomes of sound economic development is job creation. The table below shows the growth in employment in the Perth region between 2011 to 2021 compared to WA. 75 per cent of employment growth has occurred in the Perth region over the last 10 years.

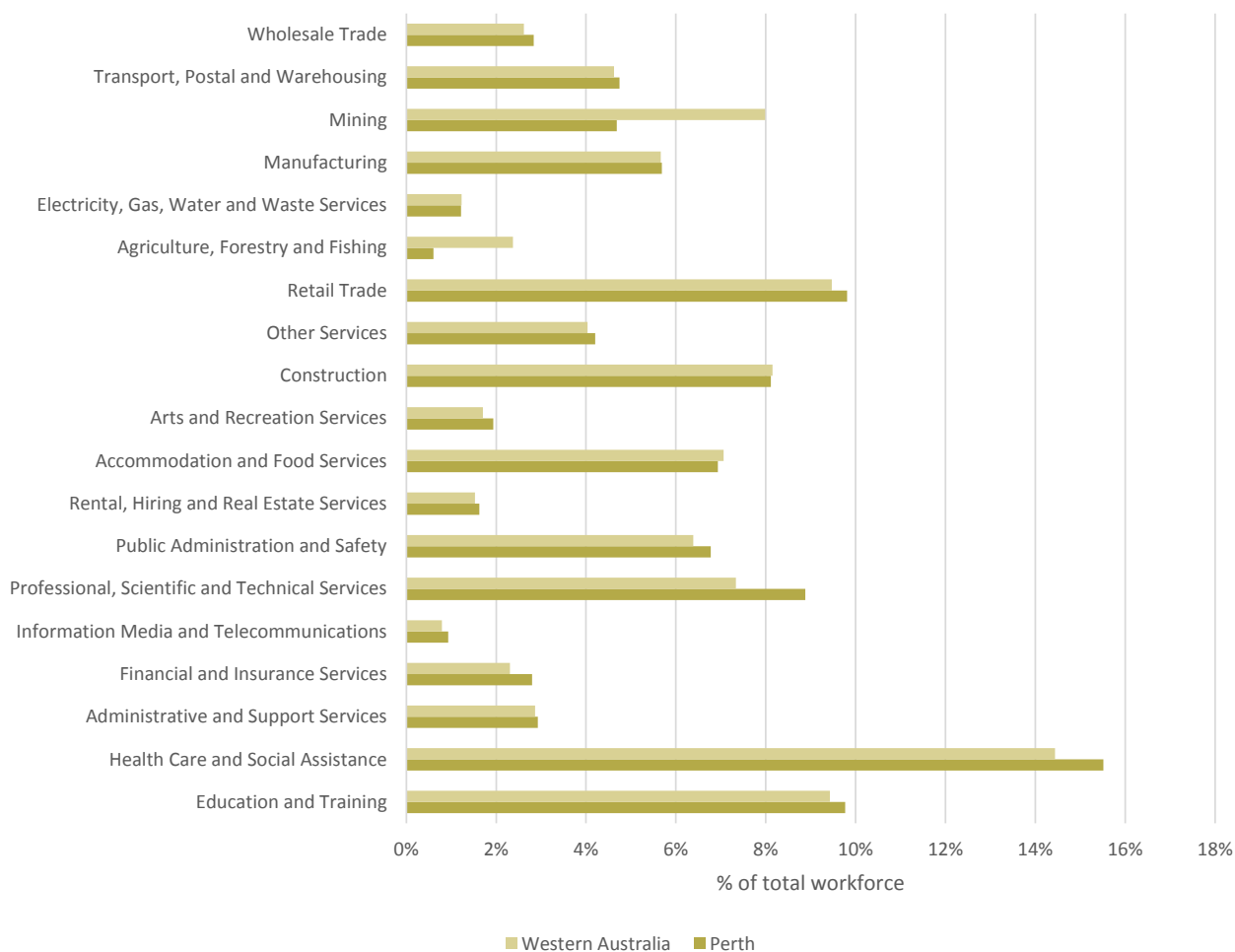
Table 3 Employment growth in Perth Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Perth	758,174	775,907	890,759	132,585	75%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 8 shows the nature of employment in the Perth region by percentage of total employment by industry. Again, given the large proportion of WA's population and workforce that reside in the Perth region, the employment structures of the Perth region and WA are closely aligned.

Figure 8 Industry of Employment in Perth (2021)



Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

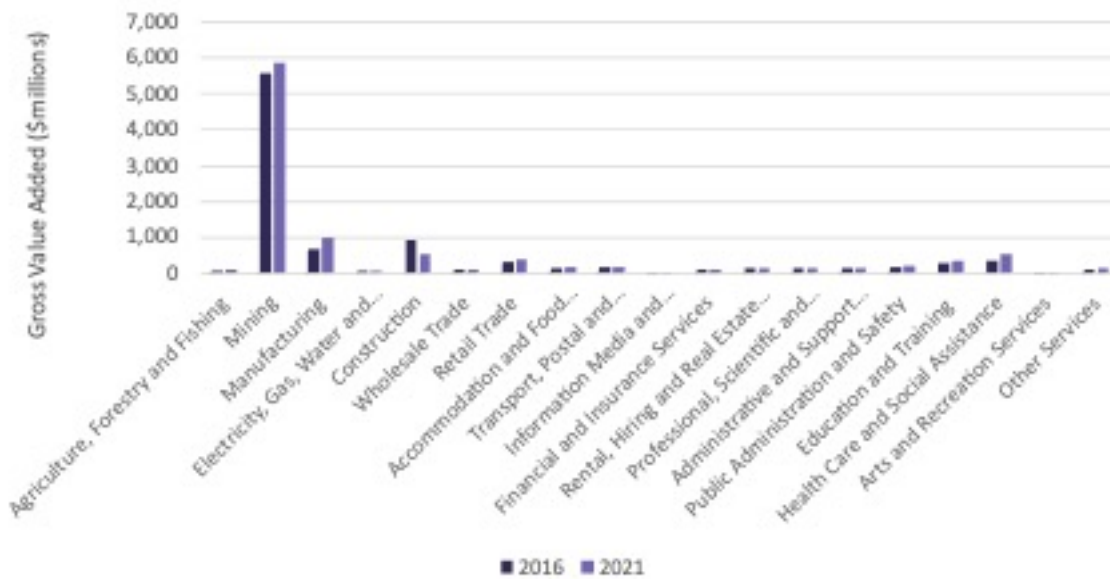
Peel Region

Structure of the Peel Economy

In the Peel region, the core industry in 2021 was Mining, with almost \$6 billion Gross Value Added. Next highest were the Manufacturing industry and the Construction industry. The Peel region is immediately south of the urban areas of Perth however, the structure of the economy differs greatly. The total GRP for Peel in 2021 was \$10.4 Billion.

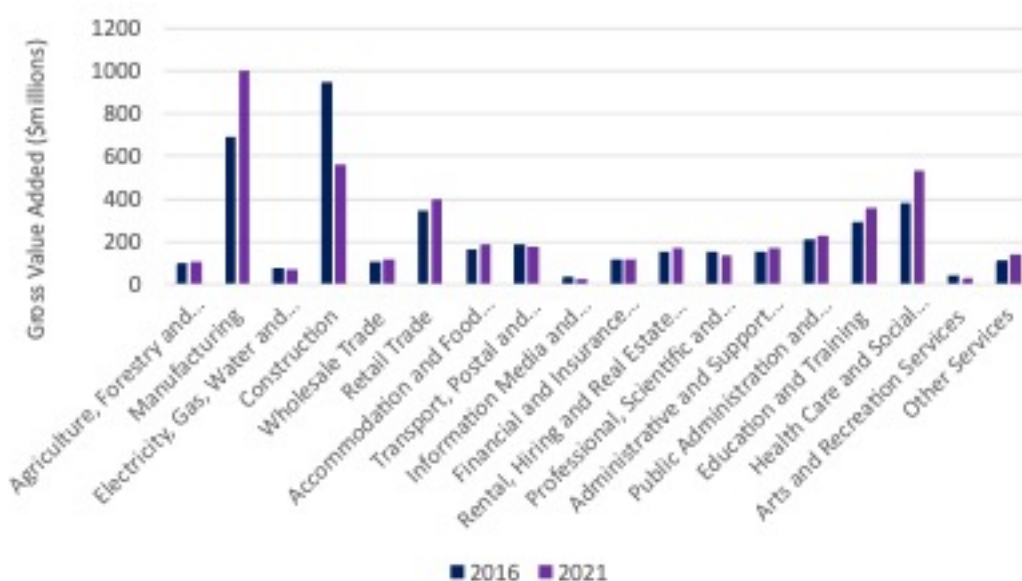
Shown in Figure 9 below is the Gross Value Added by Industry for the Peel Region, both in 2016 and 2021.

Figure 9 Gross Value Added by Industry, Peel (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021

Figure 10 Gross Value Added by Industry, Peel (2016 and 2021), Excluding Mining



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021

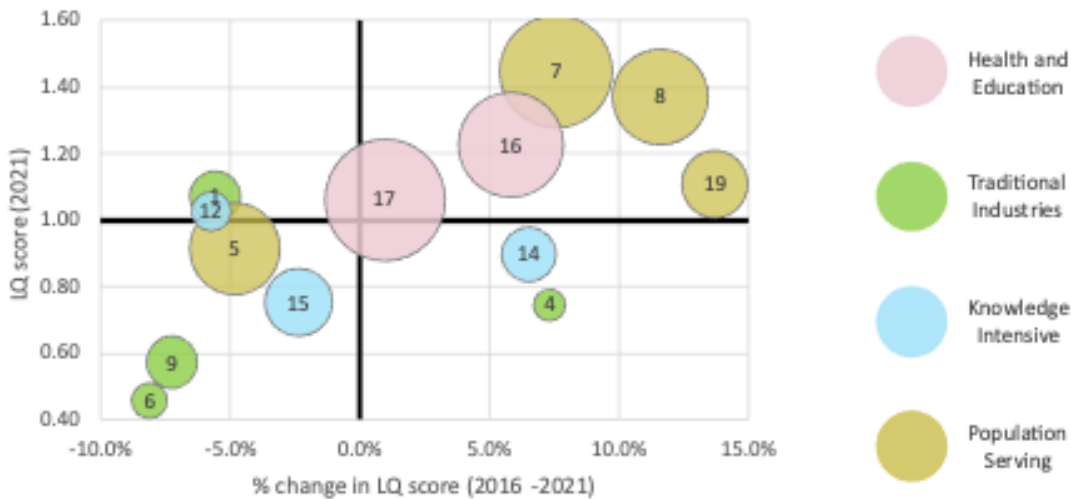
While the largest industry by GVA mentioned earlier is Mining, the largest specialisation that Peel has is in Manufacturing, with an LQ score of 1.7 in 2021 (see charts below). Peel also specialises in Population Serving industries, signified by the yellow bubbles, as well as Health and Education industries, signified by the red bubbles. This includes Wholesale Trade, Accommodation and food services, and Other Services for the population serving industries.

While they are still small, Peel is seeing emerging industries in Administrative and support services, as well as Electricity, gas water and waste services. These can be seen in the two bubbles with an LQ score lower than 1 in 2021 and a % change higher than zero between 2016 and 2021.

Figure 11 LQ Analysis of Peel compared to Western Australia



Figure 12 Inset Chart of the LQ Analysis for Peel compared to Western Australia



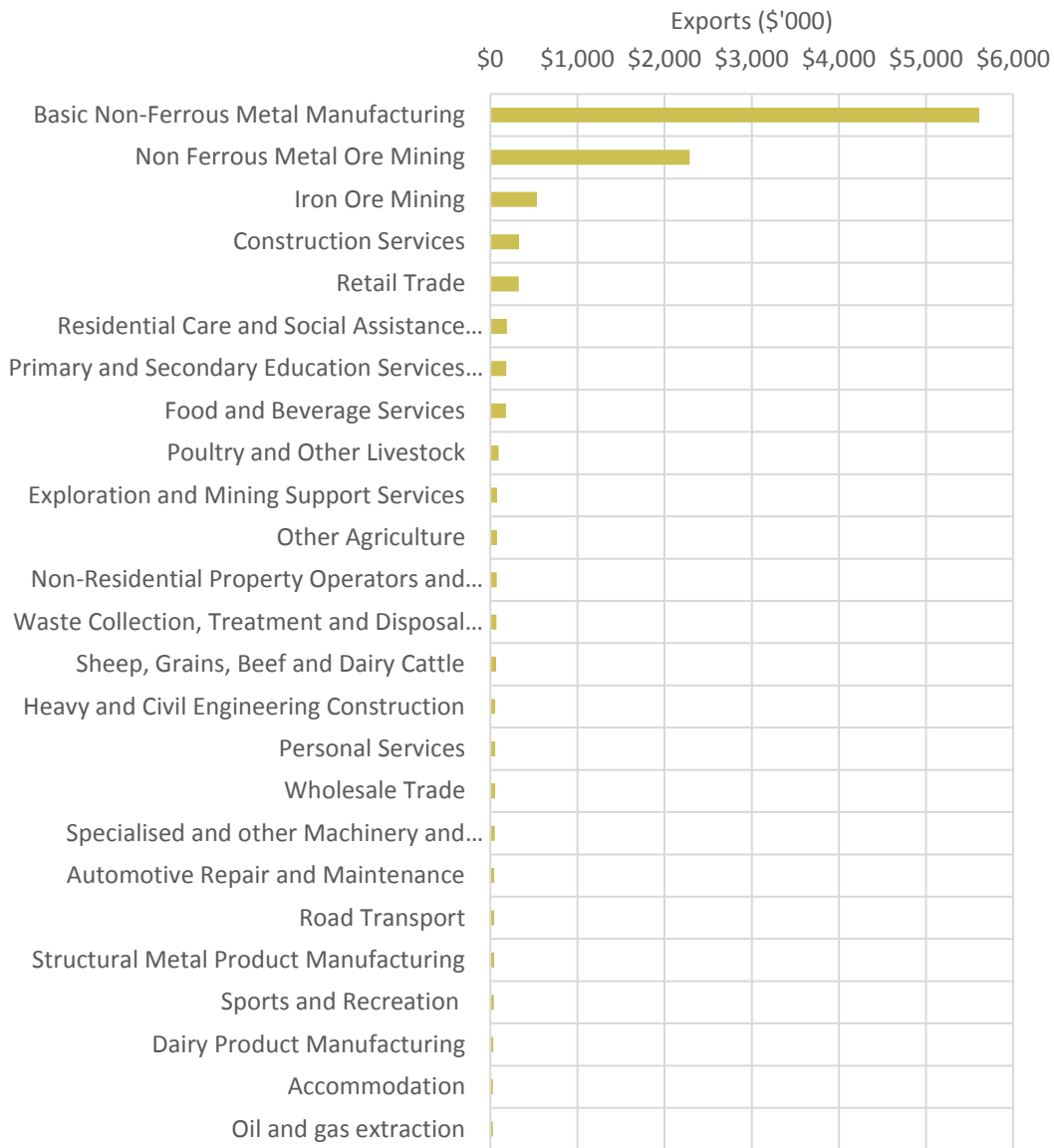
ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

The Peel region’s largest-value exports are centred around manufacturing and mining industries.

Figure 13 Peel's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

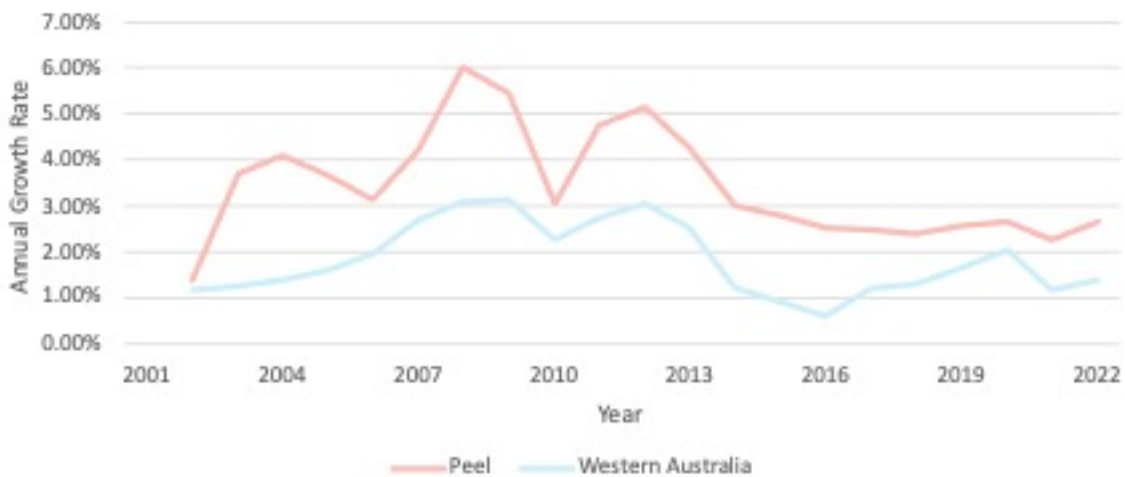
Shown in Table 3 below is the total population in the Peel region between 2001 and 2021. In 2021 Peel had a total population of 151,517 having grown by 38,842 between 2011 and 2021 (10% of WA's growth). The annual growth of the population can be seen in figure 11 below, compared to Western Australia. While these are correlated, the Peel region generally has a higher growth rate compared to WA as a whole. Compared to other regions, the Peel region was not as affected by the population drops due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 4 Population growth of Peel (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Perth	76,603	89,620	112,675	134,070	151,517	38,842	10%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

Figure 14 Annual Growth Rate of Peel's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)

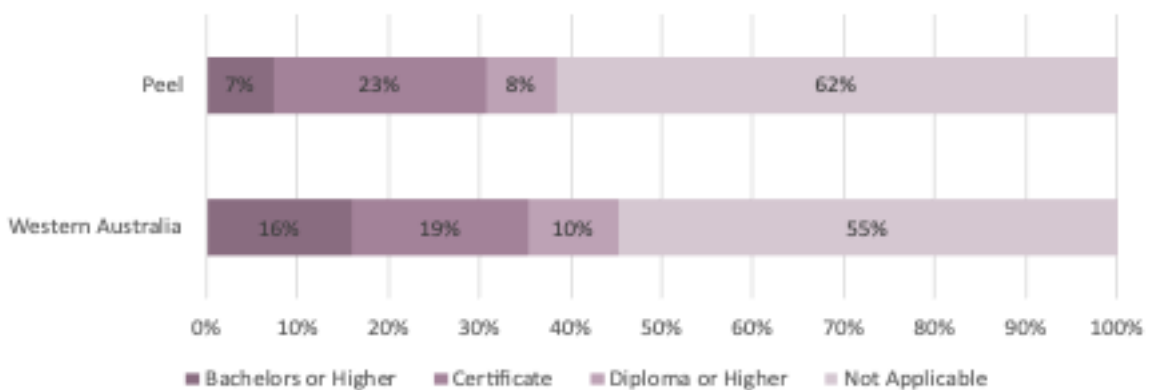


Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

The Peel region has a lower proportion of the population holding a qualification of any kind when compared to WA. This is particularly true for those holding a bachelor's degree or higher. These represented 7% of the Peel region's population, compared to 16% for WA. The opposite is true for certificates, as 23% of the population in the Peel region hold a certificate, compared to 19% in WA.

This reflects a focus on education that will lead into trade jobs, the traditional industries and population services, when compared to WA as a whole.

Figure 15 Education in Peel region Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 16 Unemployment in Peel Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

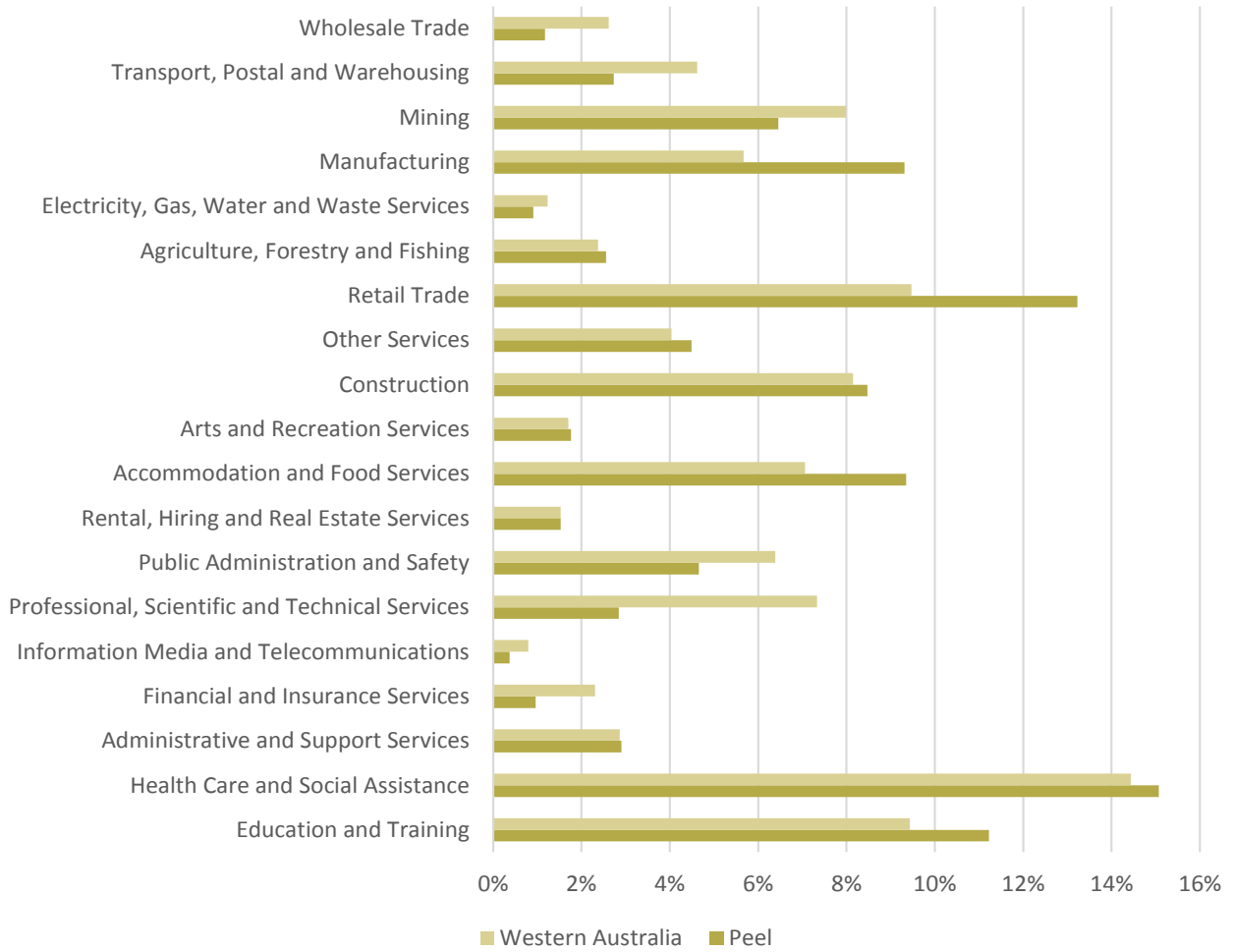
Table 5 shows the total employment of the region over the last ten years and Figure 17 shows how employment is spread over different industry sectors compared to WA. Employment growth in the Peel region has accounted for 6 per cent of the WA total in the last ten years. Given the urbanised nature of the region and its role as a growth area, population serving industries have the largest share of employment. Health care and social assistance account for over 14 per cent of employment in the region, followed by retail trade (13.5 per cent), education and training (11 per cent) and accommodation and food services (9 per cent). The manufacturing sector employs a large share of the Peel region’s population, especially when compared to the share of people in this sector at the state level.

Table 5 Employment growth in Peel Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Perth	29,494	34,144	40,290	10,796	6%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 17 Industry of Employment in Peel (2021)



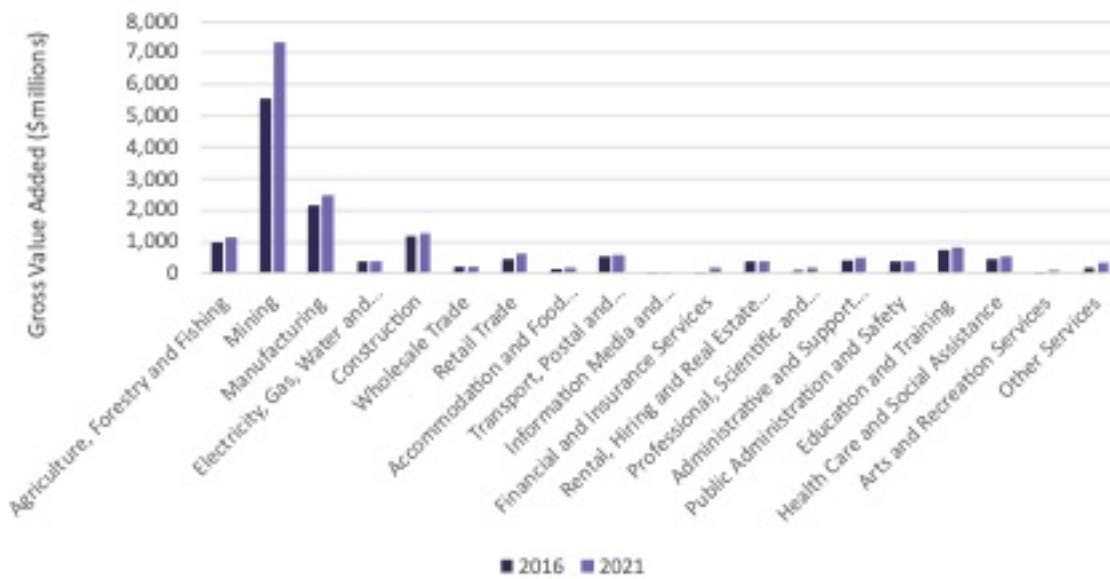
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

South West Region

Structure of the South West Economy

In the South West region, mining is the biggest contributor to gross regional product, with \$7 billion in 2021, growing significantly since 2016. Manufacturing and construction are the next largest contributors to the economy measured by GVA. Overall, in 2021 the South West region's economy was worth around \$17 billion.

Figure 18 Gross Value Added by Industry, South West (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Traditional industries including agriculture and manufacturing as well as construction and accommodation and food services are the South West region's sectors with an existing specialisation and a competitive advantage that is growing (see LQ charts below). Public administration and safety, as well as wholesale trade are emerging sectors, growing in advantage but have yet to reach a comparative advantage. Three of the region's largest sectors by employment are all traditional strengths of the South West region. However, they are declining in comparative advantage to the rest of WA.

Figure 19 LQ Analysis of South West compared to Western Australia

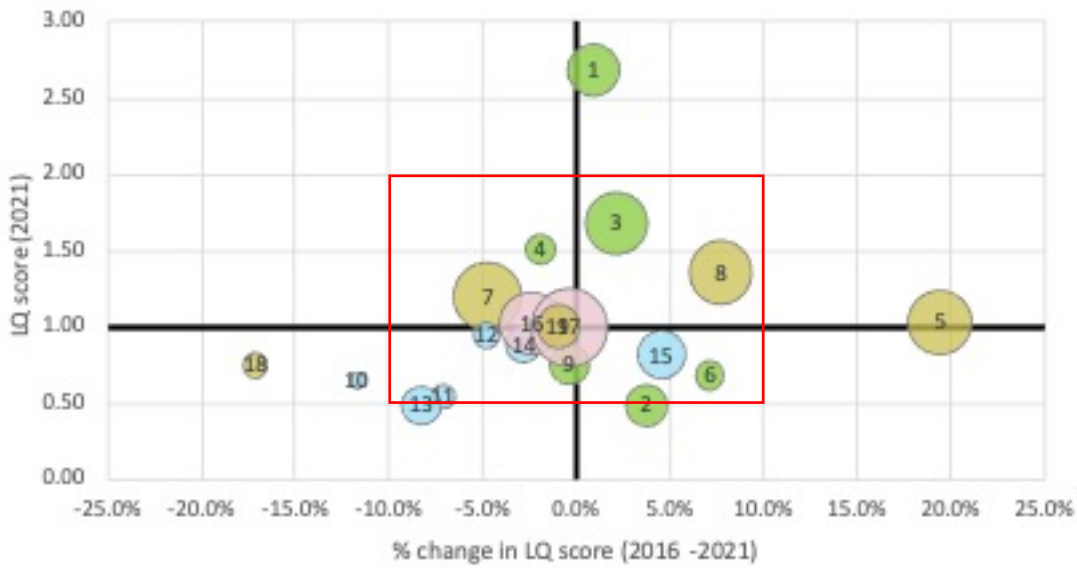
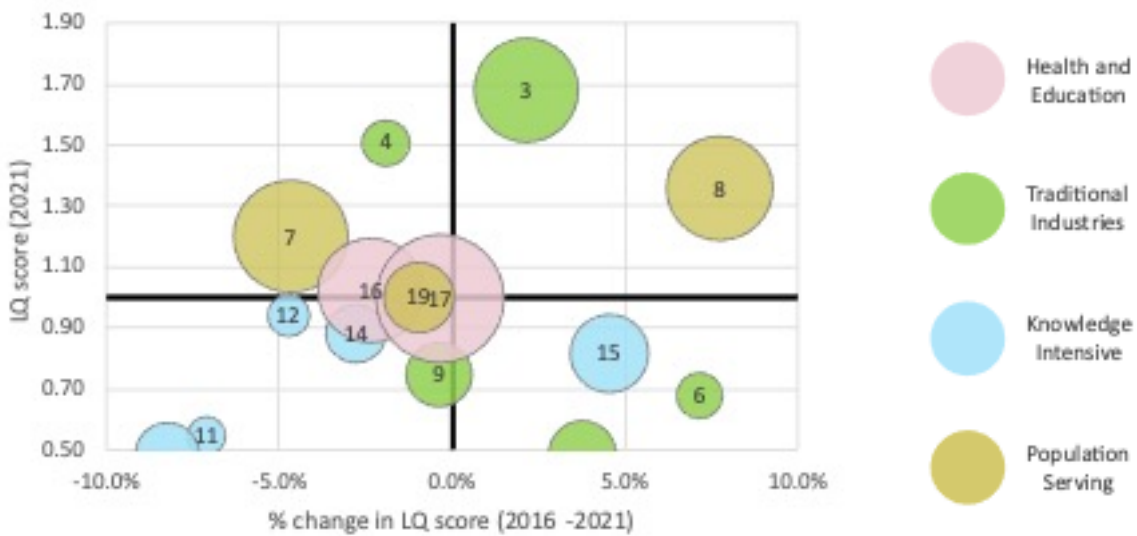


Figure 20 Inset Chart of the South West Region LQ Analysis



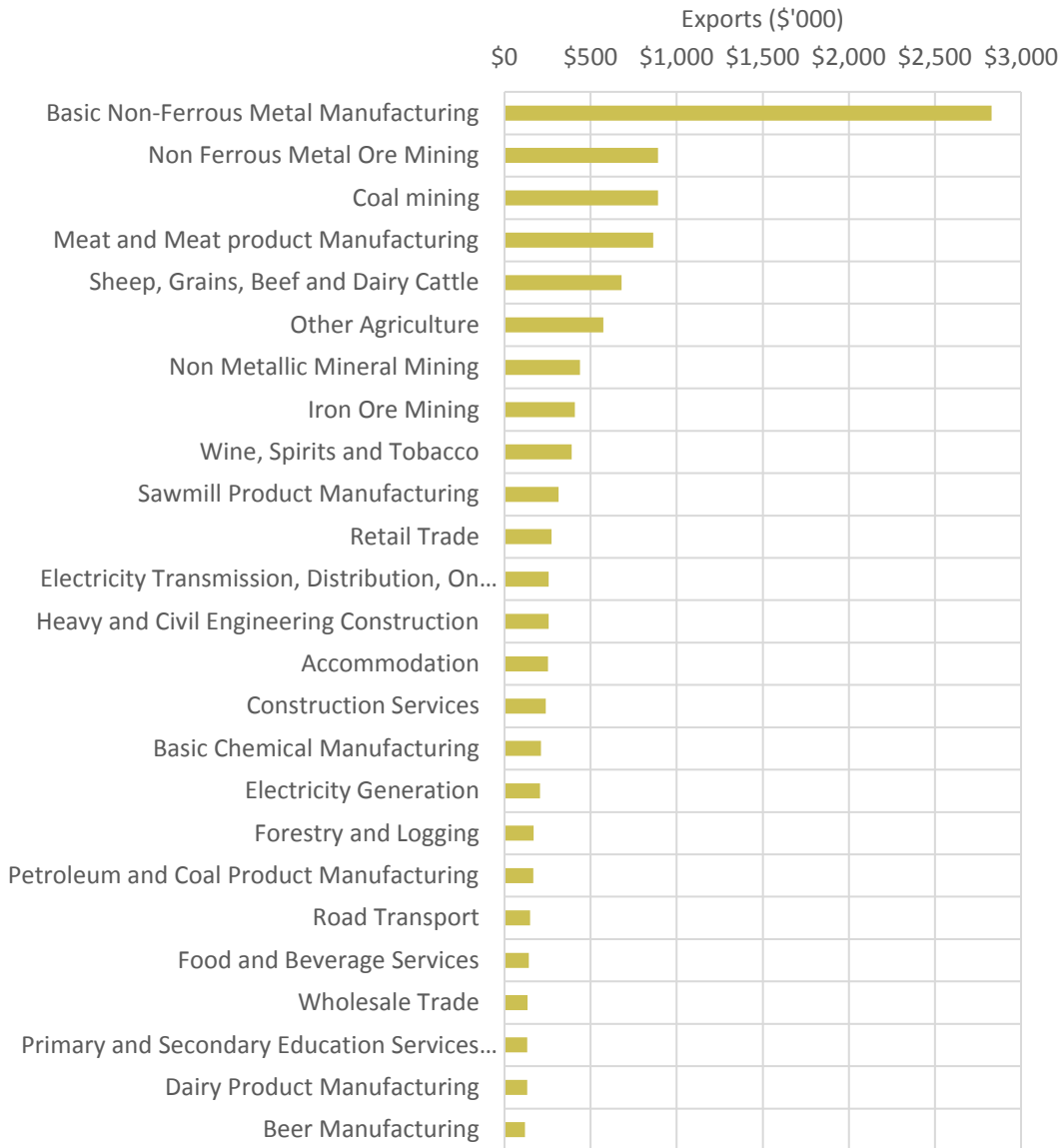
ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

The South West region's largest-value exports are centred around basic non-ferrous metal manufacturing (smelting), mining and extractive industries. However, agricultural related industries such as meat and meat product manufacturing, as well as sheep, grains, beef and dairy cattle are also significant export earners. With the Margaret River region located within the South West, the wine, spirits and tobacco industry is also an important exporter.

Figure 21 South West's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

The South West region's population comprises 7% of the WA total in 2021 with a total population of 190,637. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the population in the region has been growing at a higher rate than the rest of WA and over the last 10 years accounted for 8 per cent of WA's total population growth.

Table 6 Population growth of South West (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
South West	129,936	141,826	159,730	175,576	190,637	30,907	8%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

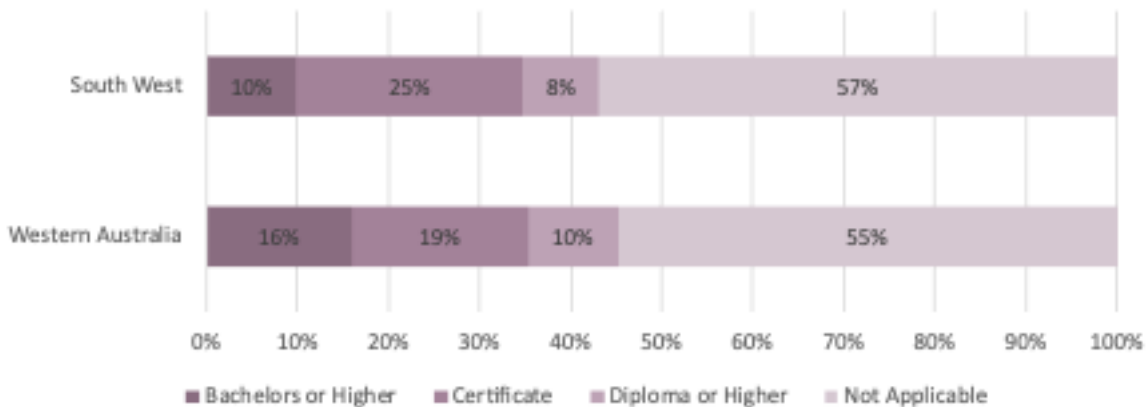
Figure 22 Annual Growth Rate of South West's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

The South West region has the highest share of people, behind only Perth, with post-schooling qualifications.

Figure 23 Education in South West region Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

While the South West region's unemployment rate has remained lower than WA over the last 10 years, the number of people not in the workforce has outgrown that of the Perth region in proportional terms.

Figure 24 Unemployment in South West Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

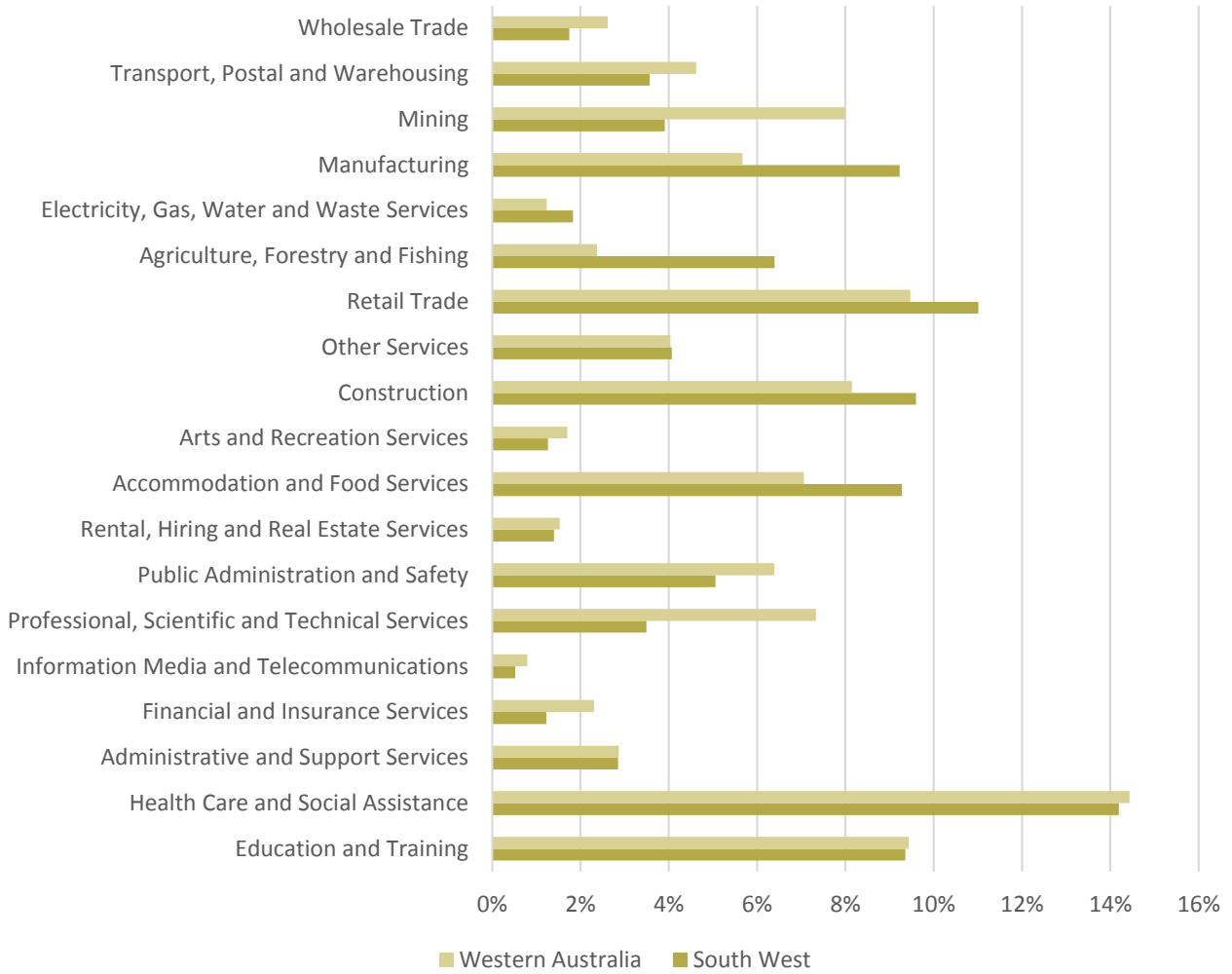
Table 7 shows total employment over the last ten years and Figure 25: Industry of Employment in South West (2021) shows how employment is spread over different industry sectors compared to WA as a whole. Employment growth in the South West has accounted for 8 per cent of the WA total. The largest sector by employment in the region is Health care and social assistance with over 14 per cent of the region's employment in this sector alone. Manufacturing, agriculture and accommodation and food services all have considerably larger shares of employment in these sectors when compared to WA.

Table 7 Employment growth in South West Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
South West	59,763	65,474	73,547	13,784	8%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 25 Industry of Employment in South West (2021)



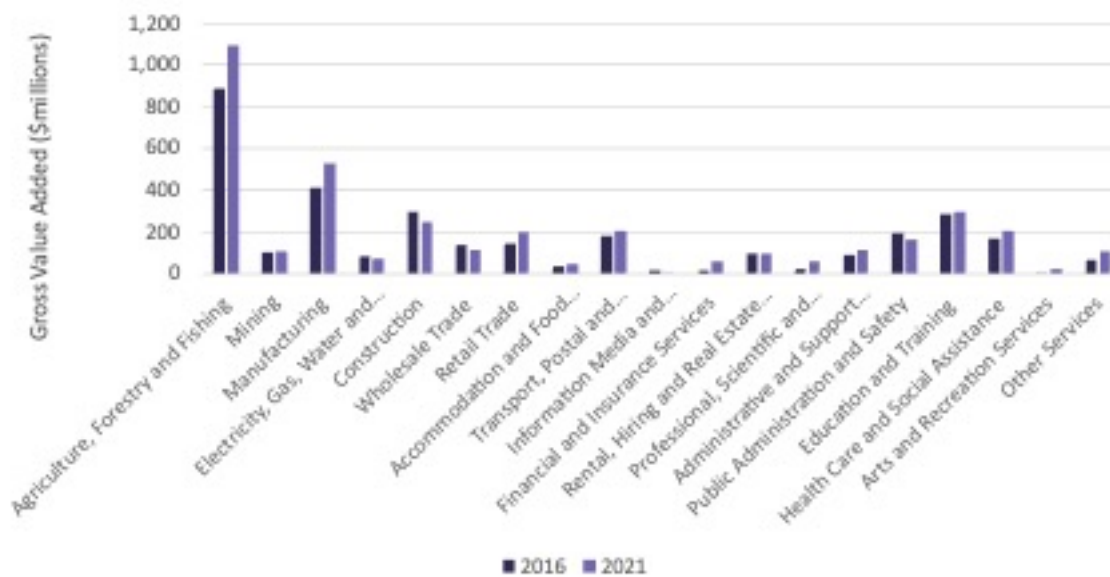
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Great Southern Region

Structure of the Great Southern Economy

In the Great Southern region, the top three industries by GVA in 2021 were Agriculture, forestry and fishing, Manufacturing and Education and training. The Financial and Insurance Services Industry also makes a significant contribution by GVA. Overall, in 2021 the Great Southern region's economy was worth around \$3.8 billion measured by GRP.

Figure 26 Gross Value Added by Industry, Great Southern (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing, manufacturing, retail trade, accommodation and food services and health care and social assistance are the Great Southern region's sectors with an existing specialisation and a competitive advantage that is growing (see Location Quotient charts below). Construction is the key emerging sector in the Great Southern region, growing significantly in advantage over the last five years, but having yet to reach a an LQ significantly greater than one. Public administration and safety and education are both significant sectors by level of employment. These sectors are both traditional strengths of the Great Southern region. However, they are declining in comparative advantage.

Figure 27 LQ Analysis of Great Southern compared to Western Australia

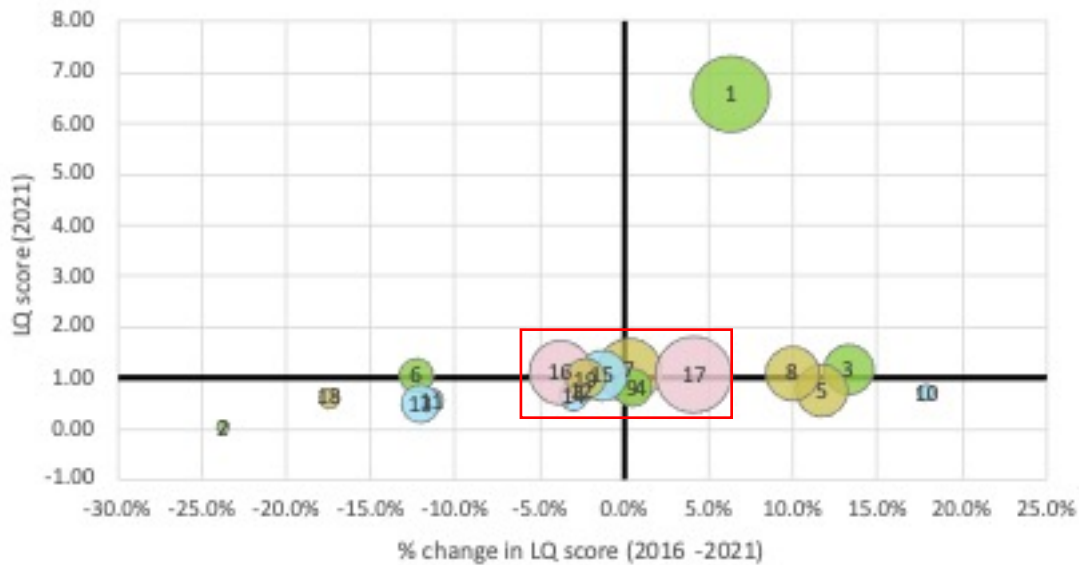
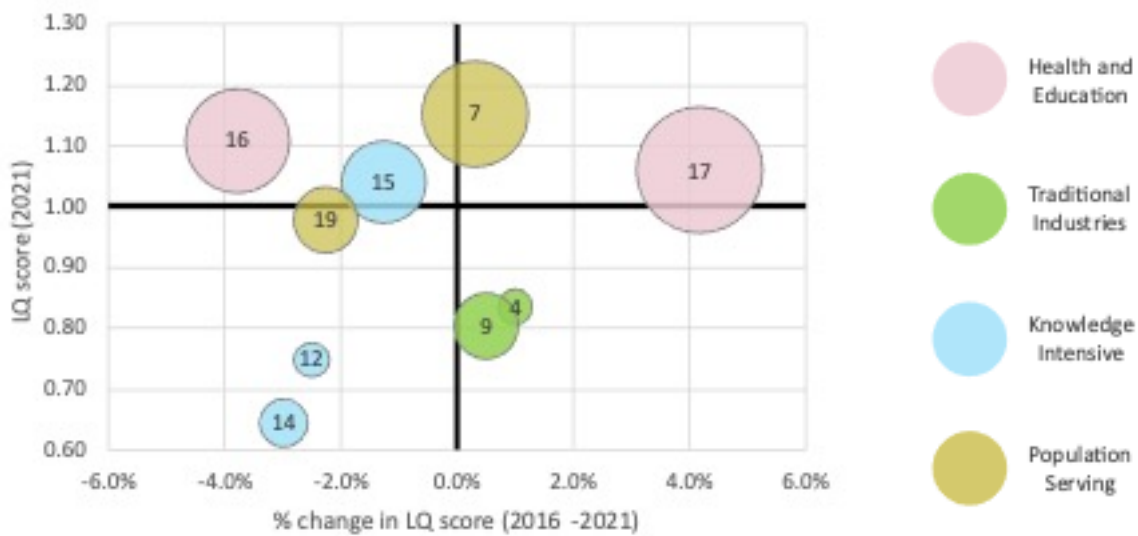


Figure 28 Inset Chart of the Great Southern Region LQ Analysis

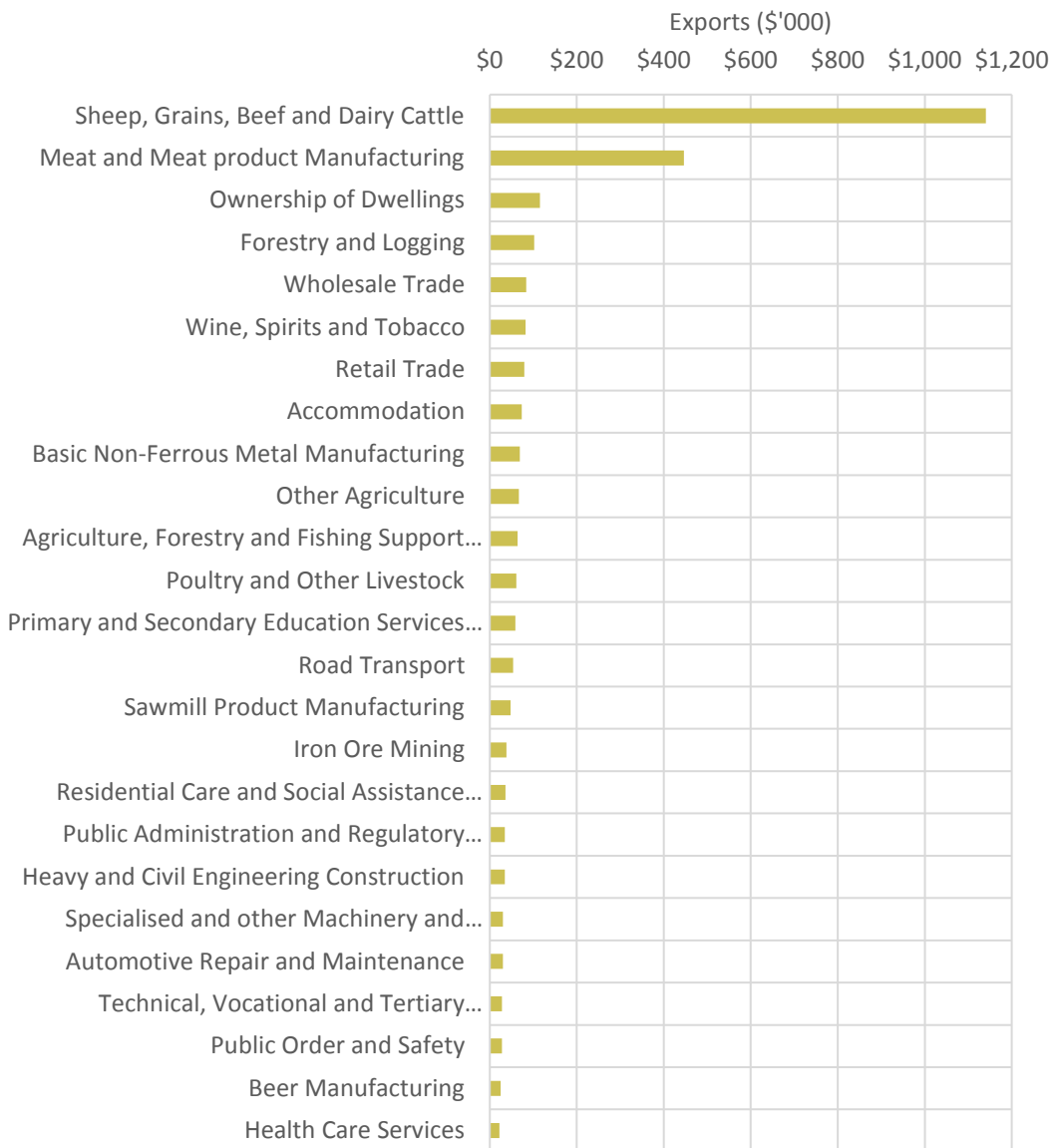


ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

Figure 29 Great Southern's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

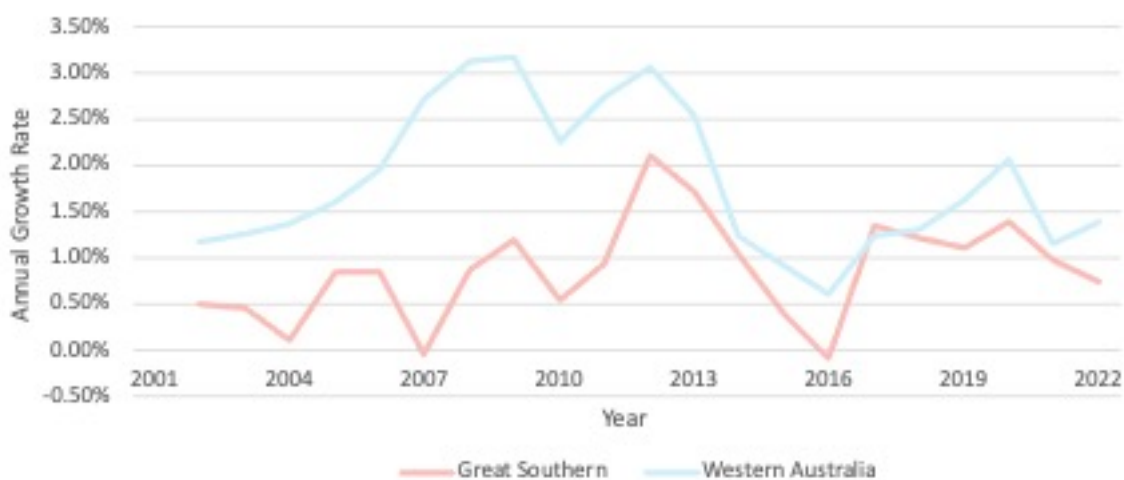
The Great Southern region's population comprised around 2% of the WA total in 2021, with a total population of 190,637. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the population in the Great Southern region has continued to see a declining annual growth rate.

Table 8 Population growth of Great Southern (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Great Southern	53,789	55,289	57,237	60,234	63,959	6,722	2%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

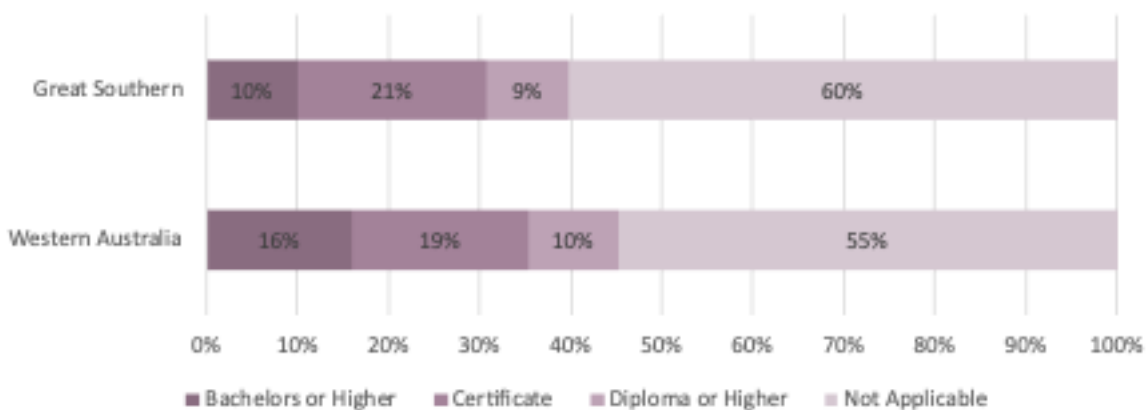
Figure 30 Annual Growth Rate of Great Southern's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

The Great Southern region has lower shares of people with diplomas and bachelor degrees or higher. However, it has a larger share of people with certificate level qualifications. Overall, the region has a lower share of people with post-schooling qualifications compared with WA as a whole.

Figure 31 Education in Great Southern Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 32 Unemployment in Great Southern Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

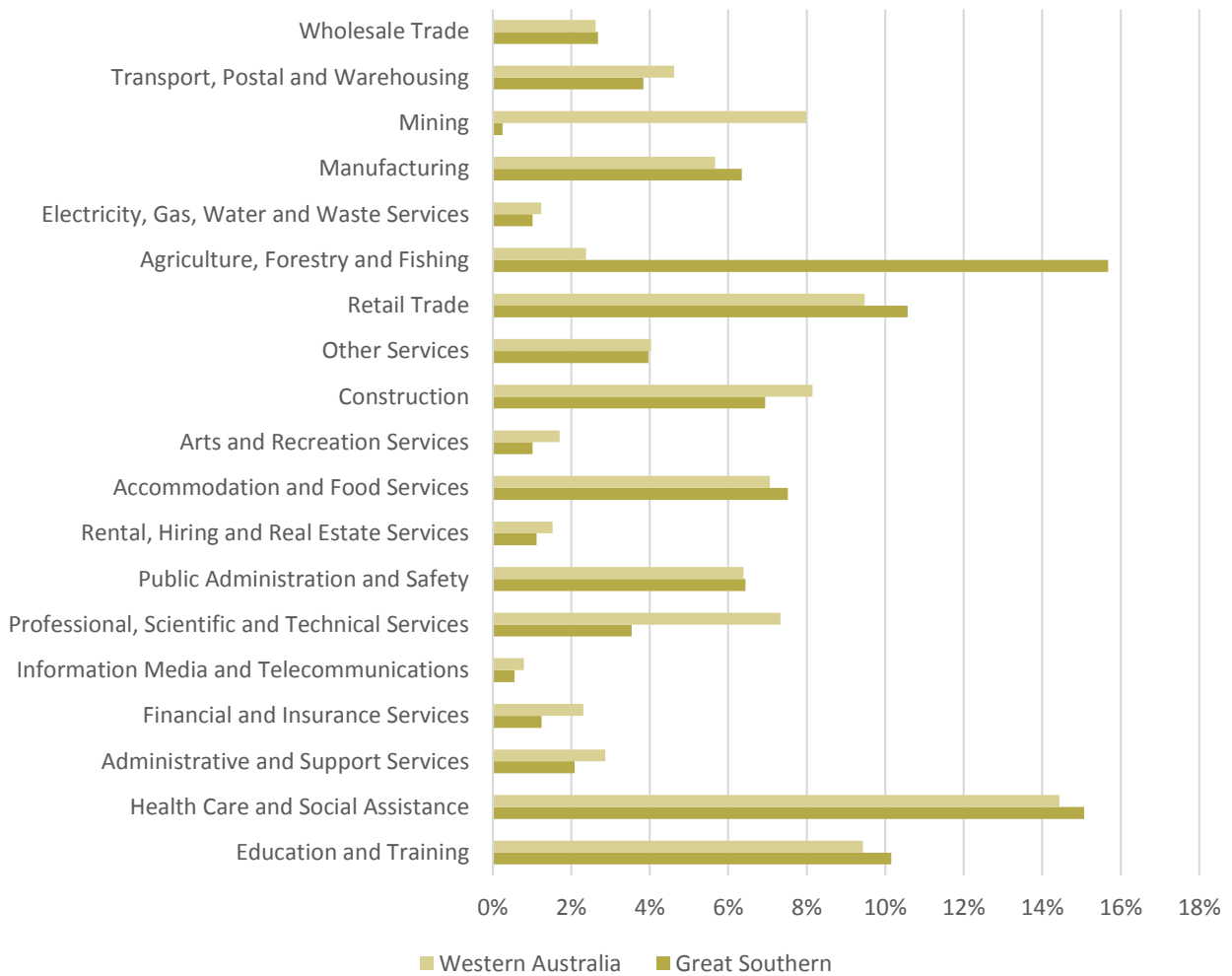
Table 9 shows the total employment of the region over the last ten years and Figure 33 shows how employment is spread over different industry sectors compared to WA. Employment growth in the Great Southern region has accounted for 2 per cent of the WA total in the last ten years. The largest sector by employment in the region is Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing with nearly 16 per cent of the region's workforce employed in this sector compared to just over 2 per cent in the sector when looking at the State as a whole. Health care and social assistance, retail and trade and education and training are all large industries of employment for the region and all have considerably larger shares of jobs in these sectors when compared to WA.

Table 9 Employment growth in Great Southern Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Great Southern	21,182	23,043	24,848	3,666	2%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 33 Industry of Employment in Great Southern (2021)



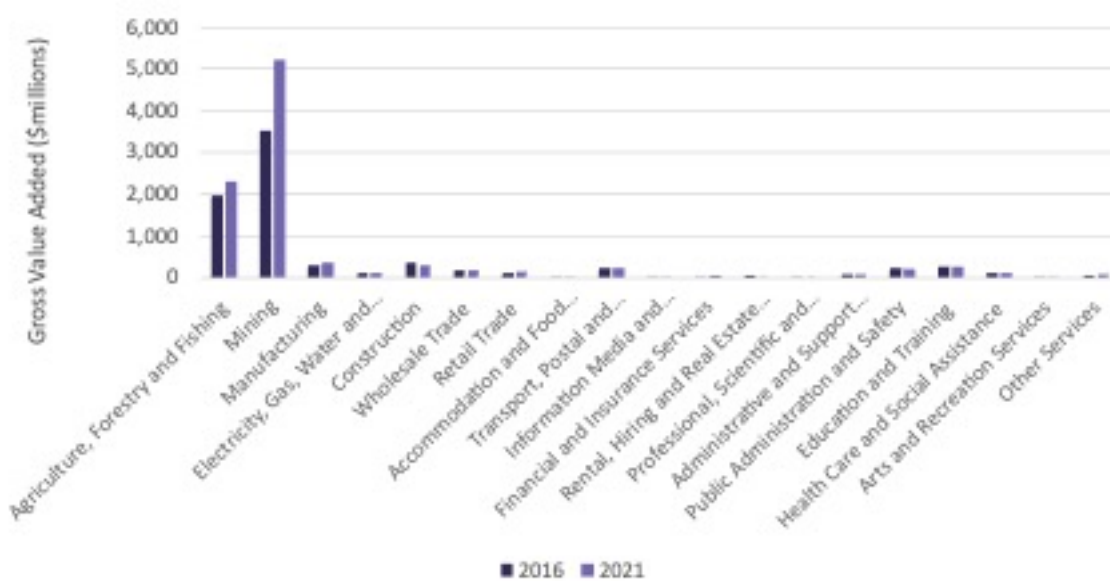
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Wheatbelt Region

Structure of the Wheatbelt Economy

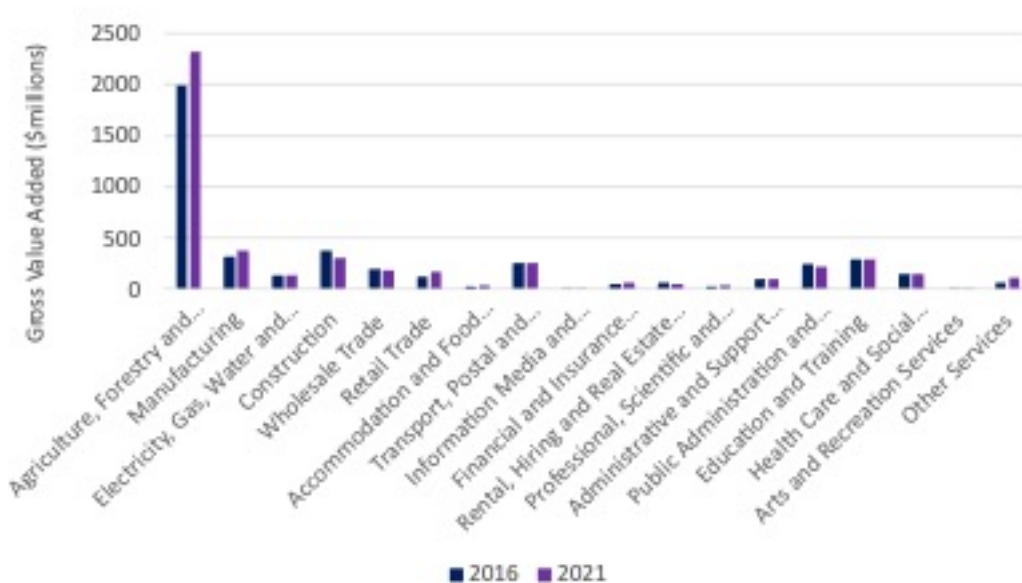
Mining and Agriculture, forestry and fishing are the core industries underpinning the economy in the Wheatbelt region. Mining has grown strongly, and in 2021 contributed over \$5 billion to the region's economy. Agriculture, forestry and fishing has grown at a lower rate but still contributed over \$2 billion dollars measured by GVA in 2021. Overall in 2021 the Great Southern region's economy was worth around \$10 billion measured by GRP.

Figure 34 Gross Value Added by Industry, Wheatbelt region (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Figure 35 Gross Value Added by Industry, Wheatbelt region (2016 and 2021), Excluding Mining



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021

Agriculture, forestry and fishing, and public administration and safety are the Wheatbelt region's sectors with an existing specialisation and a competitive advantage that is growing. Mining is continuing to grow in the area. However, construction, retail trade and manufacturing are all emerging sectors in the region, growing in advantage over the last five years. Education and training and healthcare and social assistance are both significant industries in the region in terms of employment, however they are both declining industries with no evident competitive advantages in the region

Figure 36 LQ Analysis of Wheatbelt compared to Western Australia

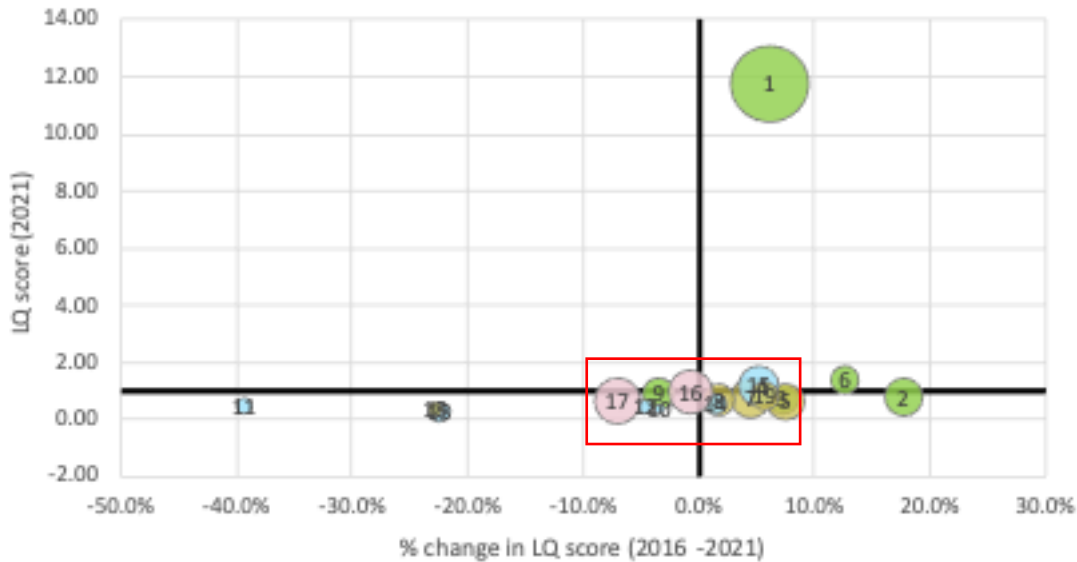
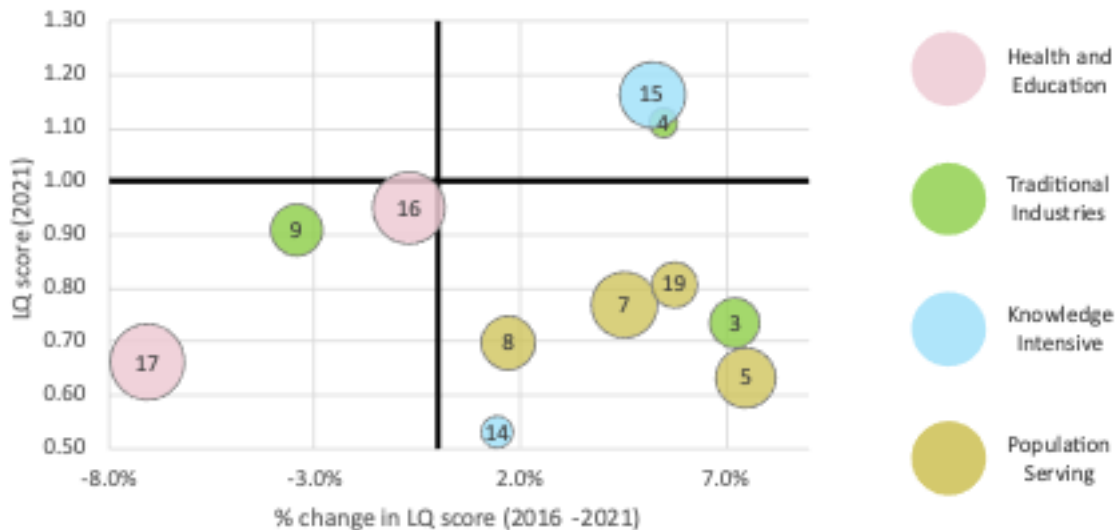


Figure 37 Inset Chart of Wheatbelt LQ Analysis



ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

The Wheatbelt region's largest-value exports are from the Sheep, grains, beef and dairy cattle industry. Mining and other agriculture related industries are all significant export earners for the Wheatbelt.

Figure 38 Wheatbelt's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

The Wheatbelt region's population comprised nearly 3% of the WA total in 2021. While the annual growth rate of the region's population remains below the WA average it has continued to increase through the COVID-19 pandemic and into 2022.

Table 10 Population growth of Wheatbelt (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Wheatbelt	72,755	71,549	73,195	74,665	75,248	2,053	1%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

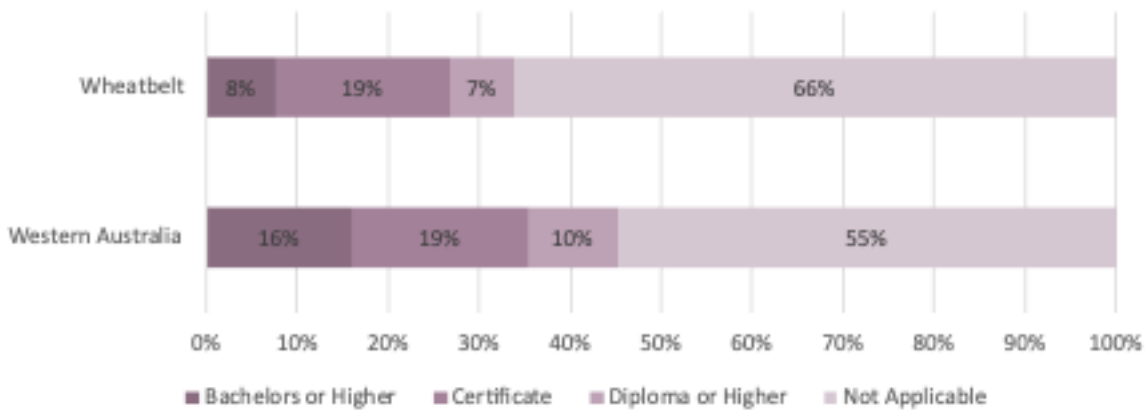
Figure 39 Annual Growth Rate of Wheatbelt's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

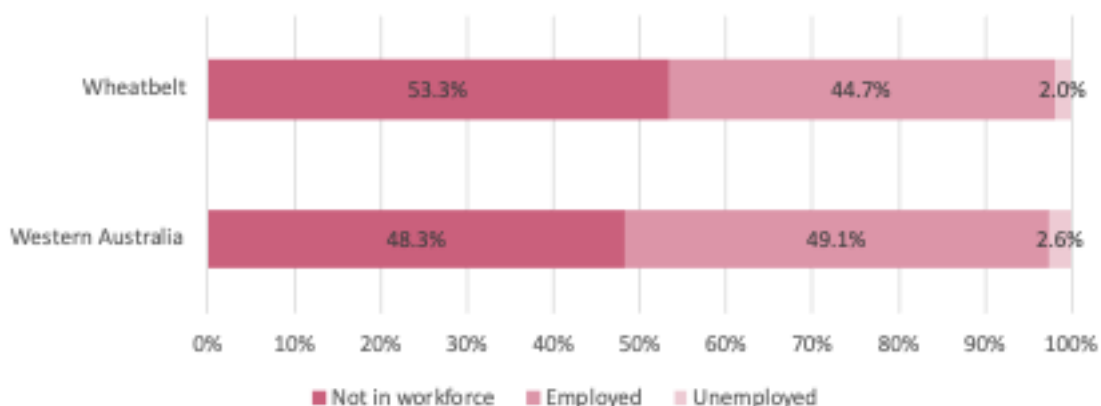
The Wheatbelt region has considerably lower shares of people with post-schooling qualifications when compared to WA as a whole.

Figure 40 Education in Wheatbelt Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 41 Unemployment in Wheatbelt Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

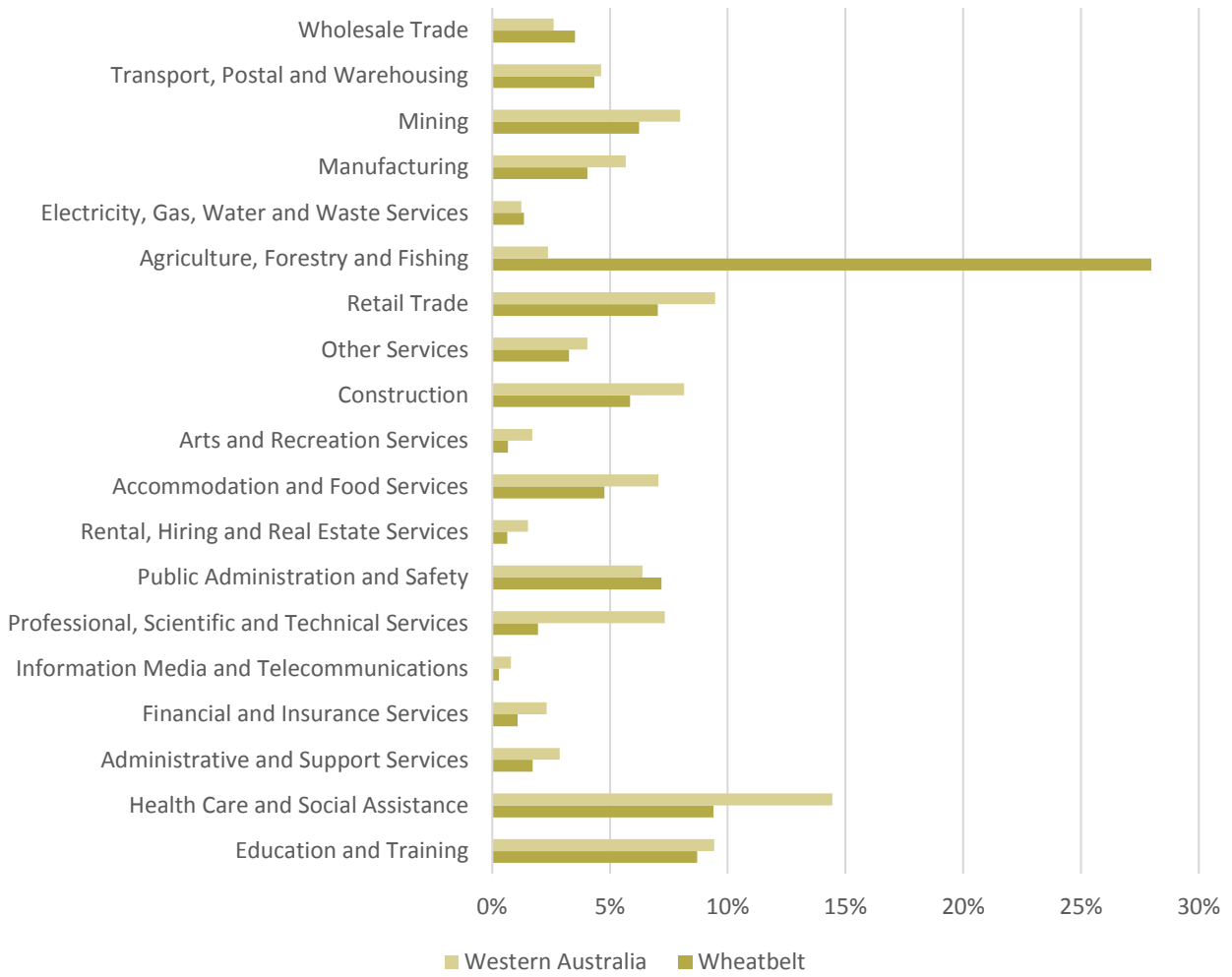
Employment growth in the Wheatbelt region has accounted for 1 per cent of the WA total in the last ten years. The largest sector by employment in the region is Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing with well over a quarter of the region’s workforce employed in this sector compared to just over 2 per cent in the sector when looking at WA as a whole. Health care and social assistance and education and training are the next largest industries of employment for the region.

Table 11 Employment growth in Wheatbelt Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Wheatbelt	27,988	28,490	29,309	1,321	1%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 42 Industry of Employment in Wheatbelt (2021)



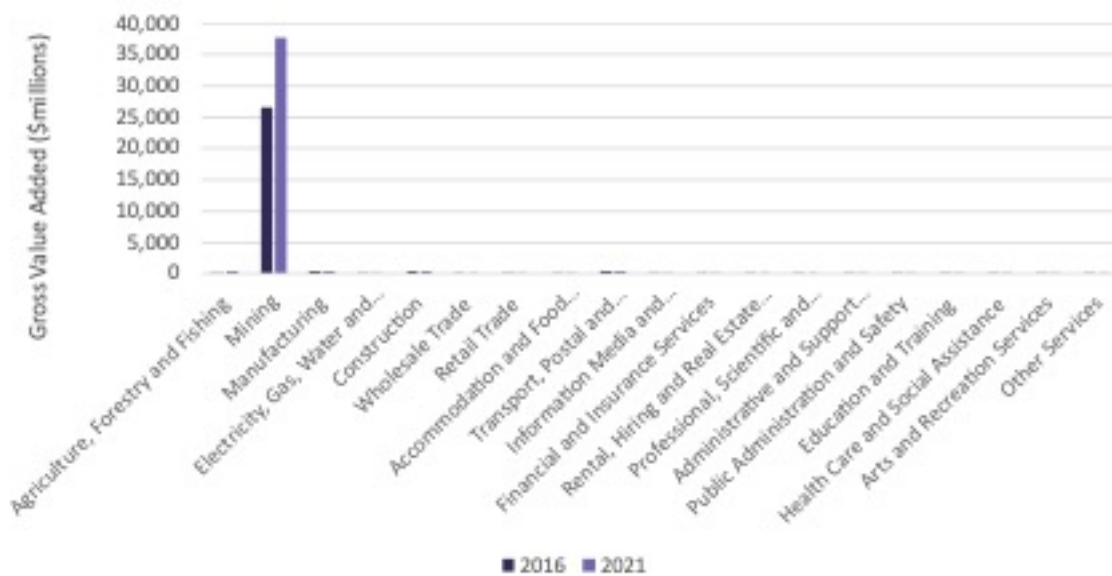
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Goldfields-Esperance Region

Structure of the Goldfields-Esperance Economy

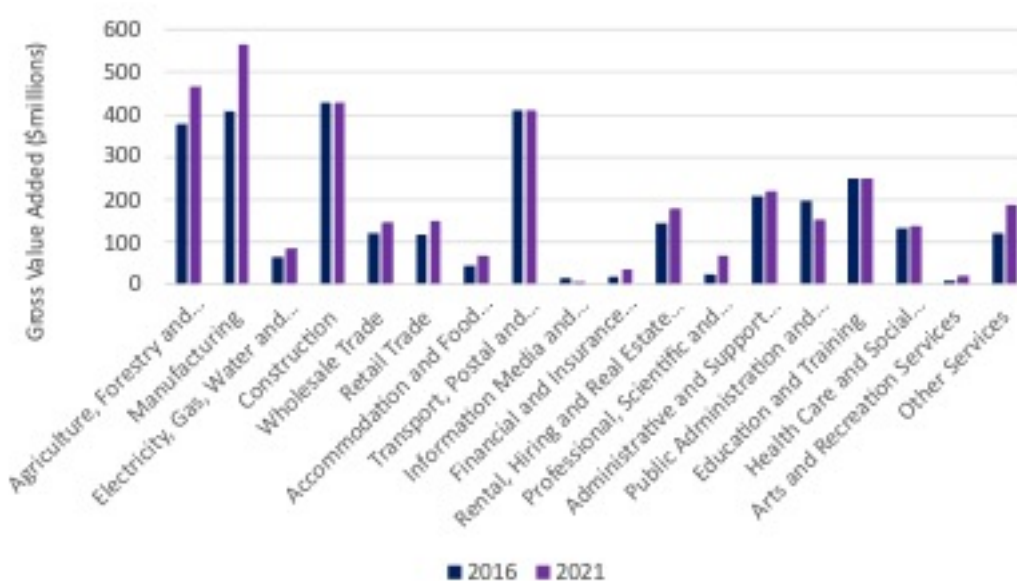
Mining is the core industry underpinning the economy of the Goldfields-Esperance region. It has grown strongly, and in 2021 contributed over \$37 billion to the region’s economy. Measured by GVA, the mining sector made up around 90 per cent of the region’s total income. The Goldfields-Esperance region’s economy was worth around \$41 billion in 2021.

Figure 43 Gross Value Added by Industry, Goldfields-Esperance (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia’s Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Figure 44 Gross Value Added by Industry, Goldfields-Esperance (2016 and 2021), Excluding Mining



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia’s Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021

Mining is the region's sector with the highest existing specialisation and a competitive advantage. This advantage has decreased slightly over the last 5 years. It will be important to nurture growing industries to help diversify the economy.

Construction and wholesale trade are both emerging sectors in the region, growing in advantage over the last five years, but yet to develop LQ significantly above 1. Agriculture, forestry and fishing is the region's only industry sector with an existing specialisation with a growing comparative advantage.

Figure 45 LQ Analysis of Goldfields-Esperance compared to Western Australia

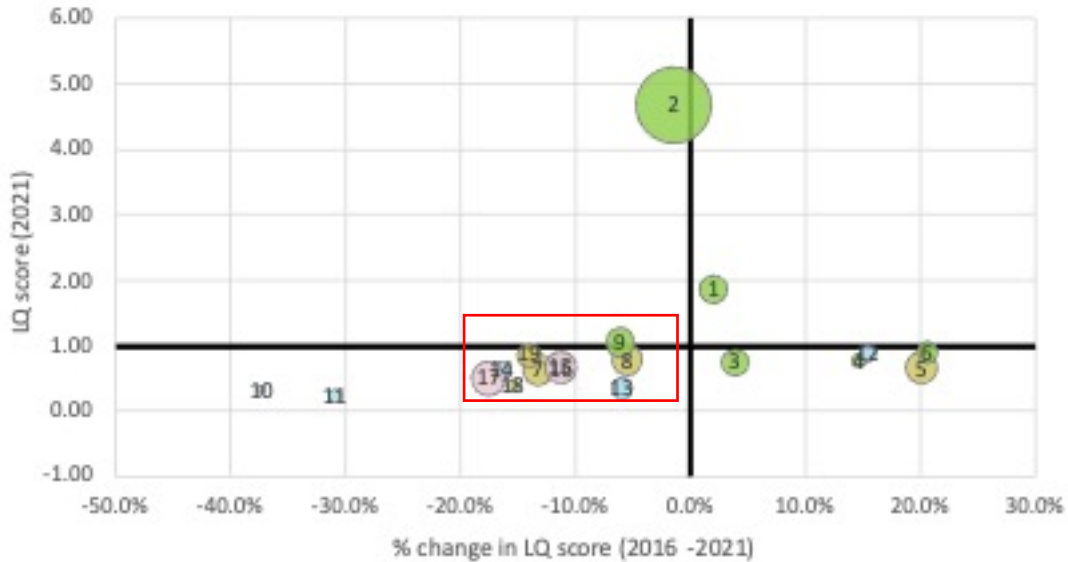


Figure 46 Inset Chart of Goldfields-Esperance region LQ Analysis



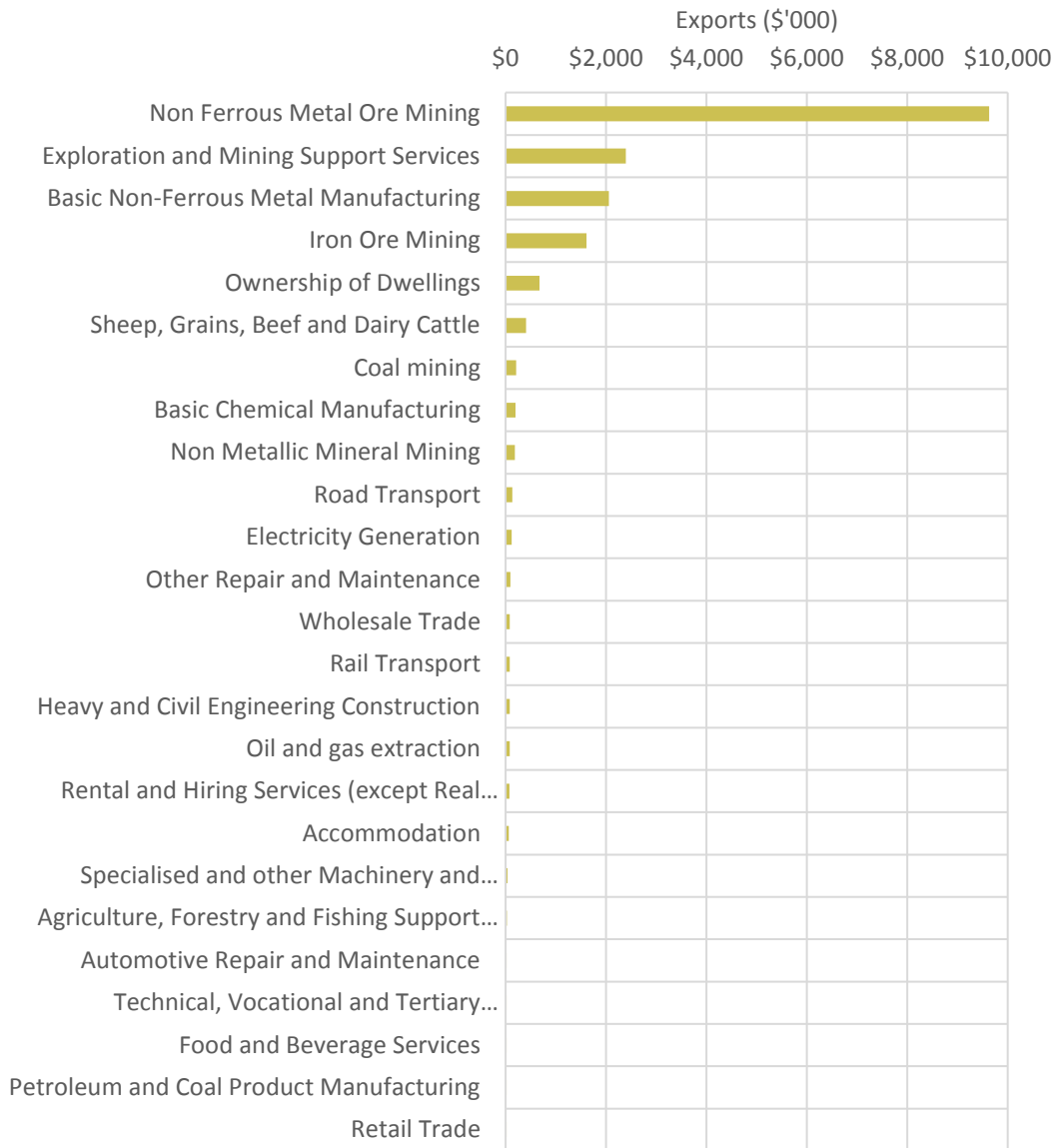
ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

It is no surprise that the data reveals that the region's largest-value exports are all related to mining industries. However, behind mining, agriculture related industries are export earners of great importance.

Figure 47 Goldfields-Esperance Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

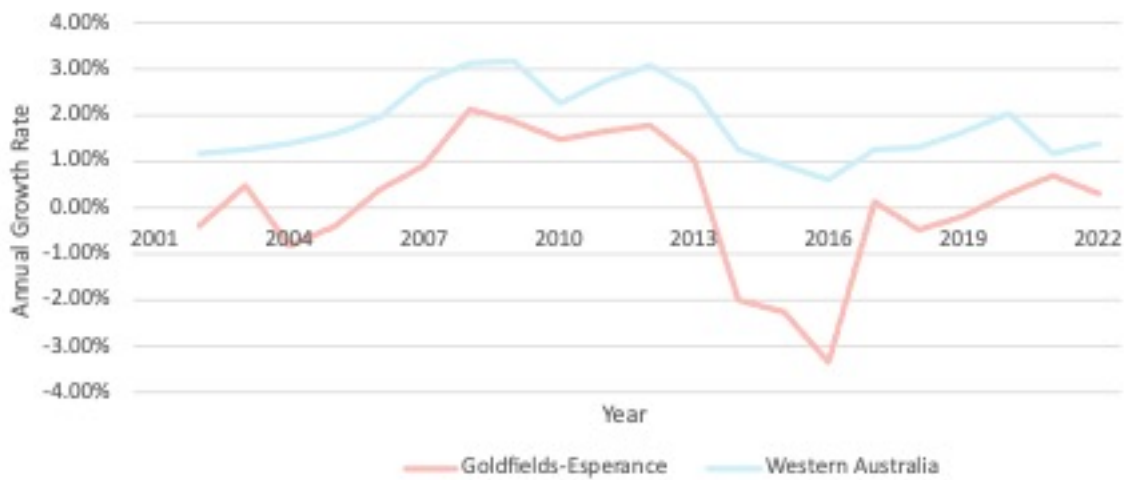
The Goldfields-Esperance region's population comprised around 2% of the WA total in 2021, with a population of 56,764. Significantly, the population has decreased by 2,661 people in the last ten years.

Table 12 Population growth of Goldfields-Esperance (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Goldfields-Esperance	55,348	54,915	59,425	56,553	56,764	-2,661	-1%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

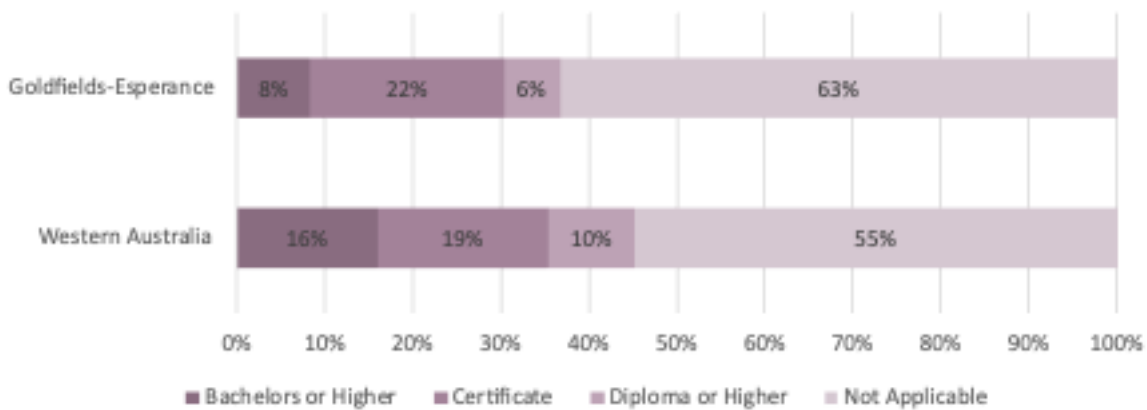
Figure 48 Annual Growth Rate of Goldfields-Esperance's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

The Goldfields-Esperance region has considerably lower shares of people with post-schooling qualifications when compared to WA as a whole.

Figure 49 Education in Goldfields-Esperance Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 50 Unemployment in Goldfields-Esperance Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

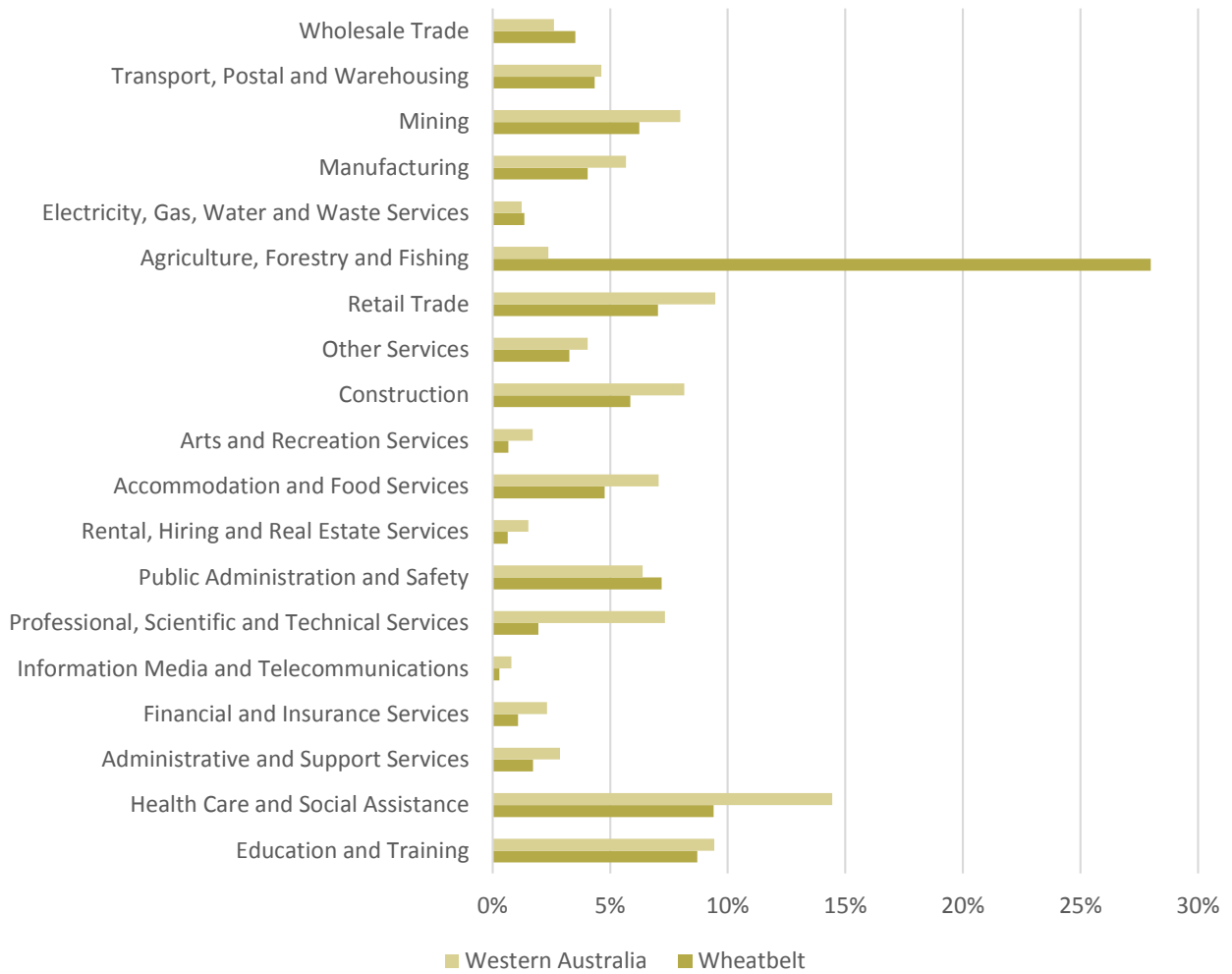
Despite a decline in population, employment growth in the Goldfields-Esperance region has continued over the last ten years. The largest sector by employment in the region is Mining with well over a third of the region's workforce compared to just over 8 per cent in the sector when looking at WA as a whole.

Table 13 Employment growth in Goldfields-Esperance Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Goldfields-Esperance	28,940	28,955	33,173	4,233	2%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 51 Industry of Employment in Goldfields-Esperance (2021)



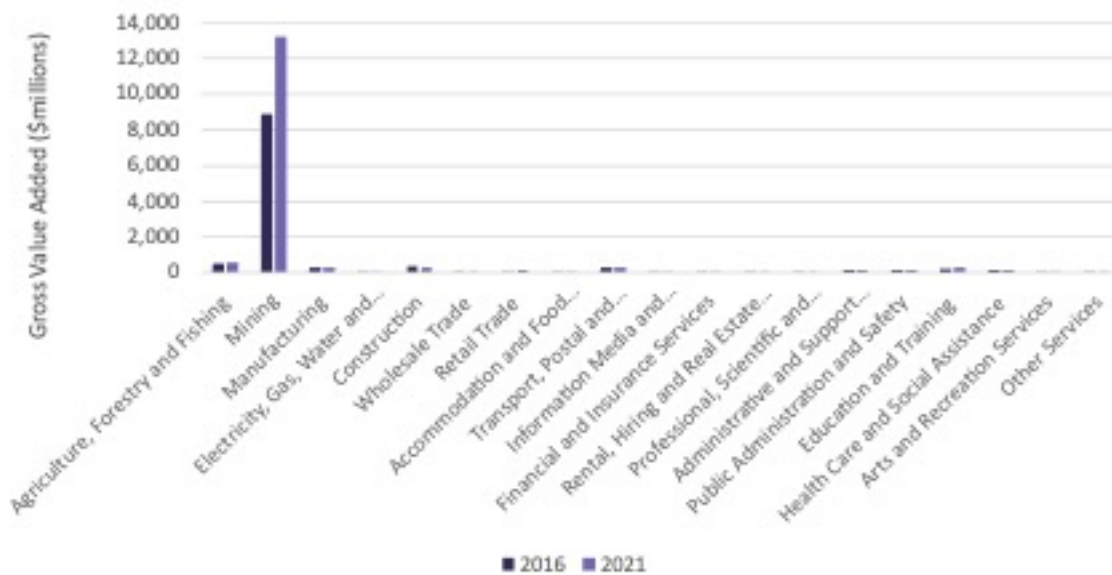
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Mid West Region

Structure of the Mid West Economy

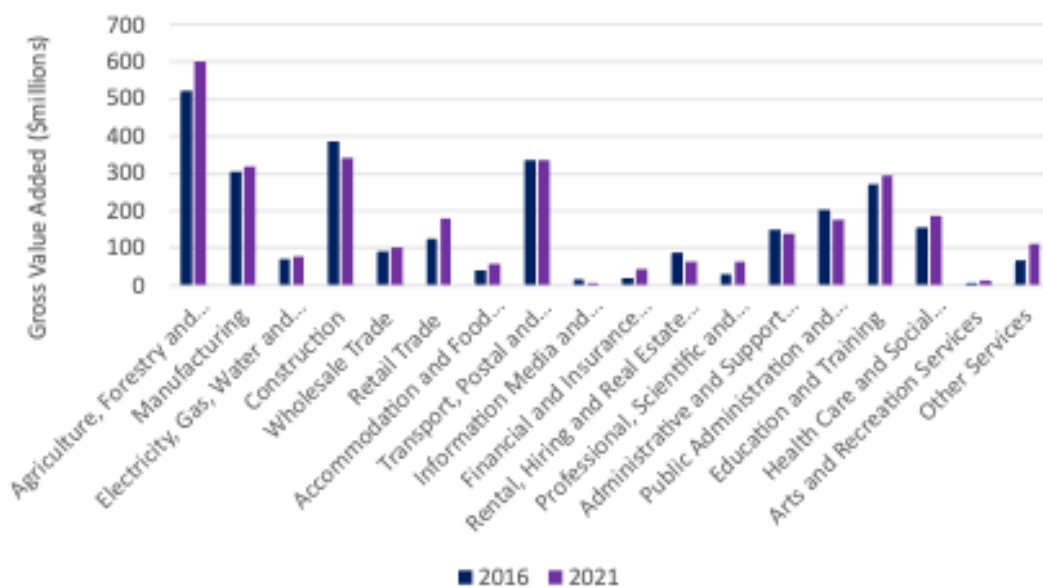
Mining is the core industry underpinning the economy in the Mid West region. Measured by GVA, the mining sector made up around 80 per cent of the regions total GRP. Overall, in 2021 the Mid West region's economy was worth around \$16 billion.

Figure 52 Gross Value Added by Industry, Mid West (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Figure 53 Gross Value Added by Industry, Mid West (2016 and 2021), Excluding Mining



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021

Mining is the region's sector with the highest existing specialisation and a competitive advantage. Economic diversification is a key task for the region. Retail trade, construction and wholesale trade are all emerging sectors in the region, growing in advantage over the last five years, but have yet to reach a comparative advantage. Agriculture, forestry and fishing is a key industry in the region in terms of employment. However, the comparative advantage of this sector has decreased over the last five years.

Figure 54 LQ Analysis of Mid West compared to Western Australia

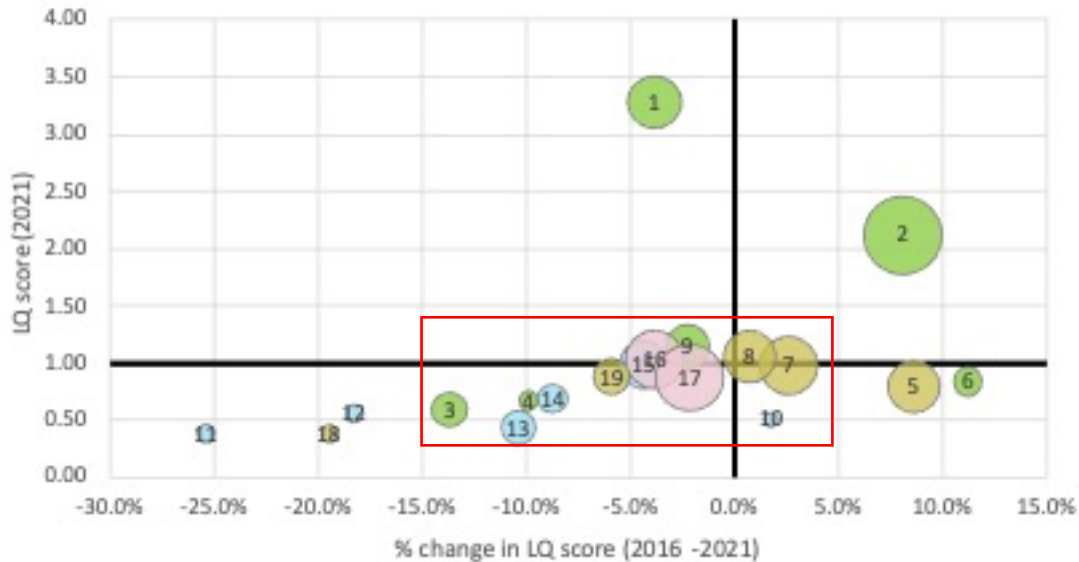
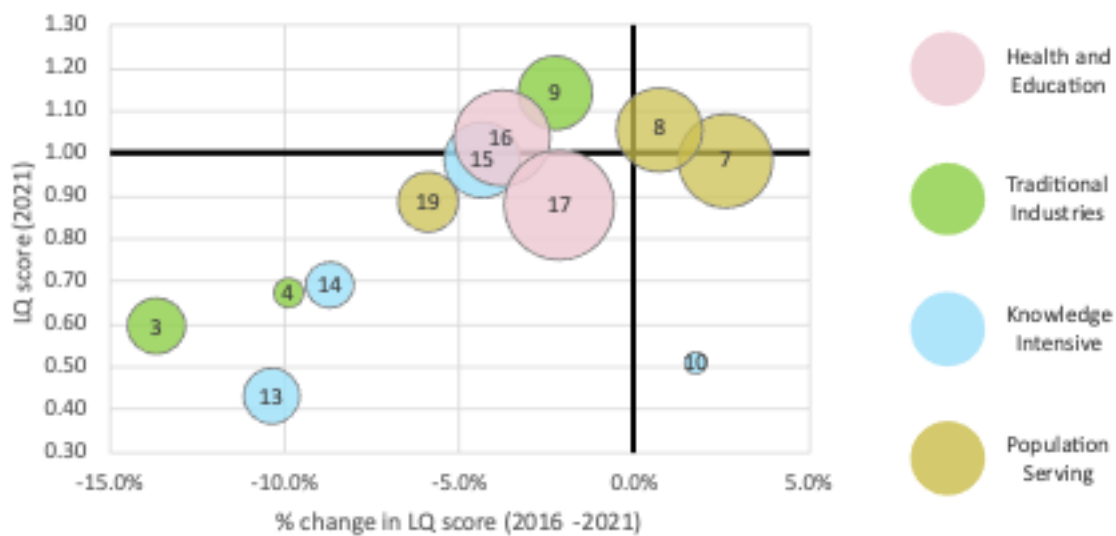


Figure 55 Inset Chart of Mid West region LQ Analysis



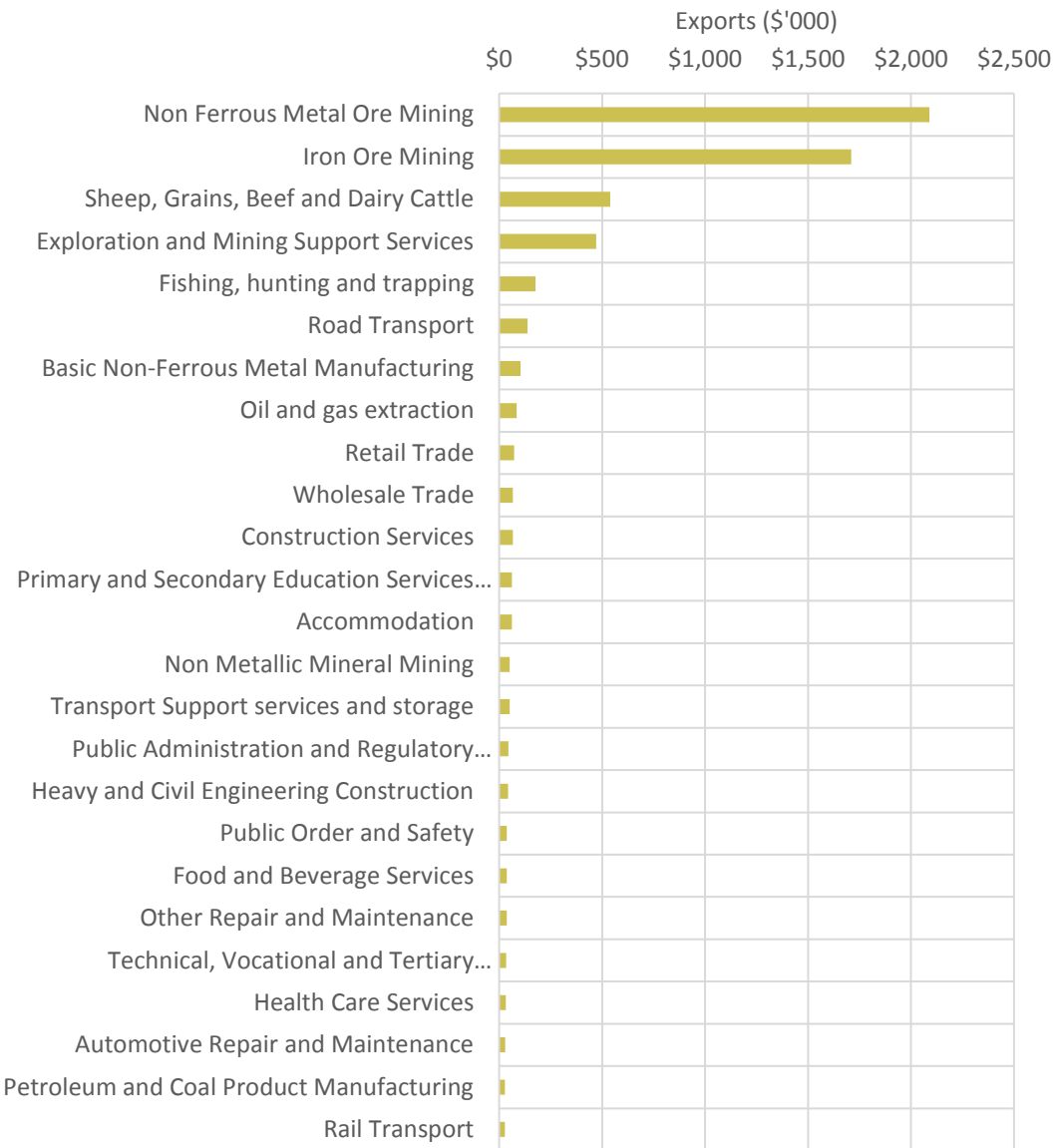
ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

The largest value exports in the Mid West are mostly related to mining industries. However, behind mining, agriculture related industries are also significant export earners.

Figure 56 Mid West's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

The Mid West region's population comprised around 2% of the WA total in 2021, with a population of 57,284. While the population's annual growth rate rose over the years of COVID-19 it has more recently dropped back to below 1 per cent.

Table 14 Population growth of Mid West (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Mid West	50,680	51,443	55,311	55,221	57,284	1,973	0%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

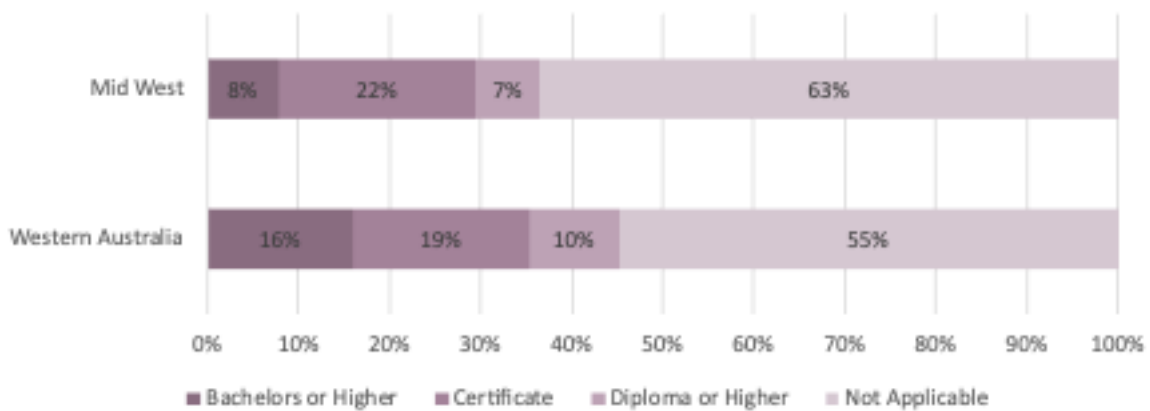
Figure 57 Annual Growth Rate of Mid West's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

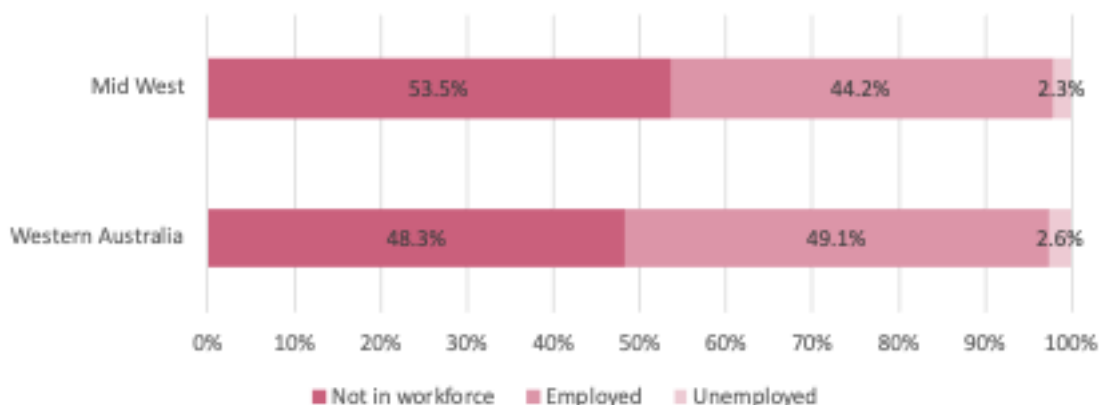
The Mid West region has considerably lower shares of people with post-schooling qualifications when compared to WA as a whole.

Figure 58 Education in Mid West Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 59 Unemployment in Mid West Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

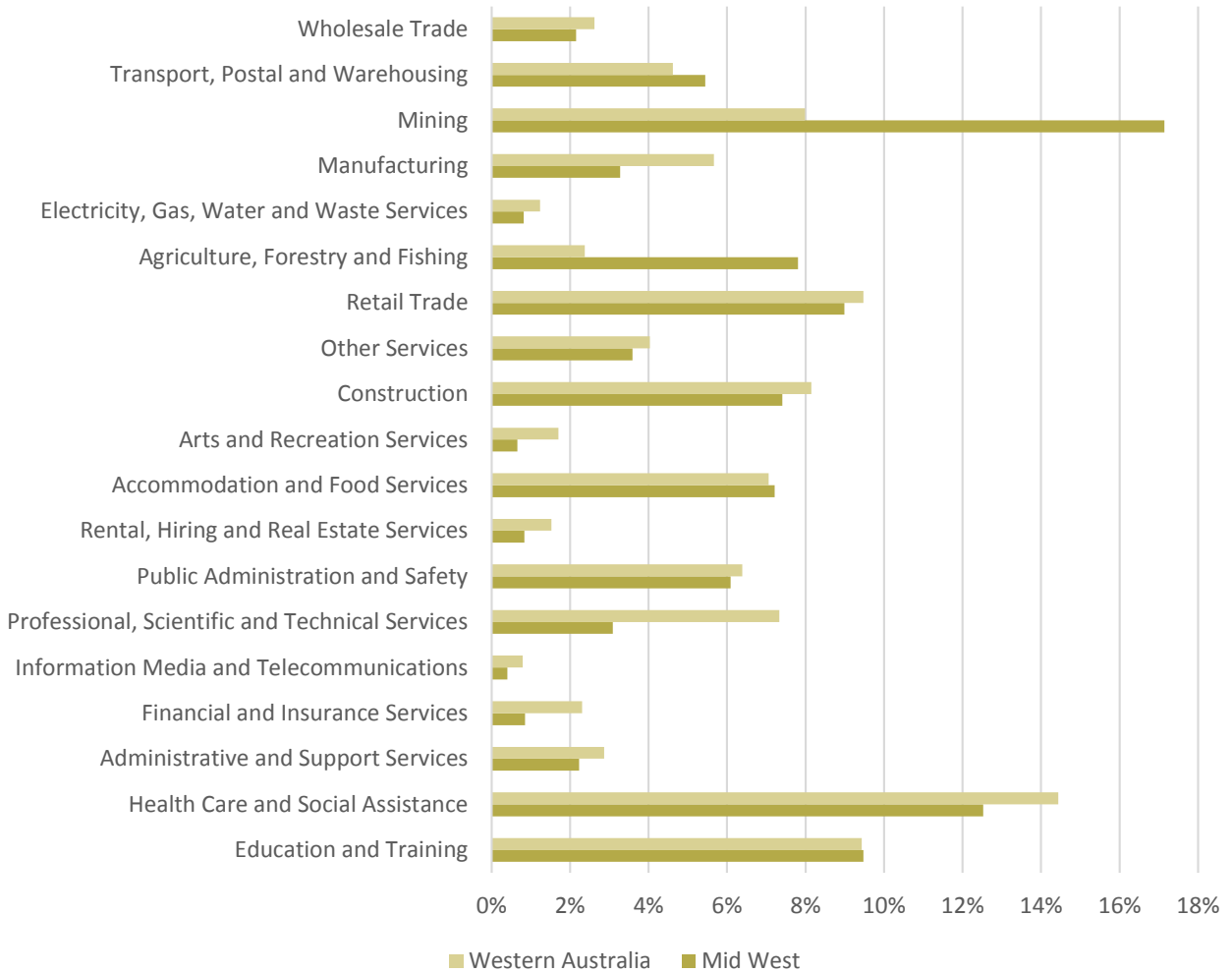
Employment growth in the Mid West region has accounted for 2 per cent of the WA total in the last ten years. The largest sector by employment in the region is Mining with around 17 per cent of the region's workforce compared to 8 per cent in the sector when looking at WA as a whole. Health care and social assistance and education and training are the next largest industries of employment for the region. Population serving industries such as retail trade and accommodation and food services have significant shares of employment in the region and agriculture, forestry and fishing has a much larger share of people working in the industry compared with WA.

Table 15 Employment growth in Mid West Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Mid West	22,592	23,186	25,682	3,090	2%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 60 Industry of Employment in Mid West (2021)



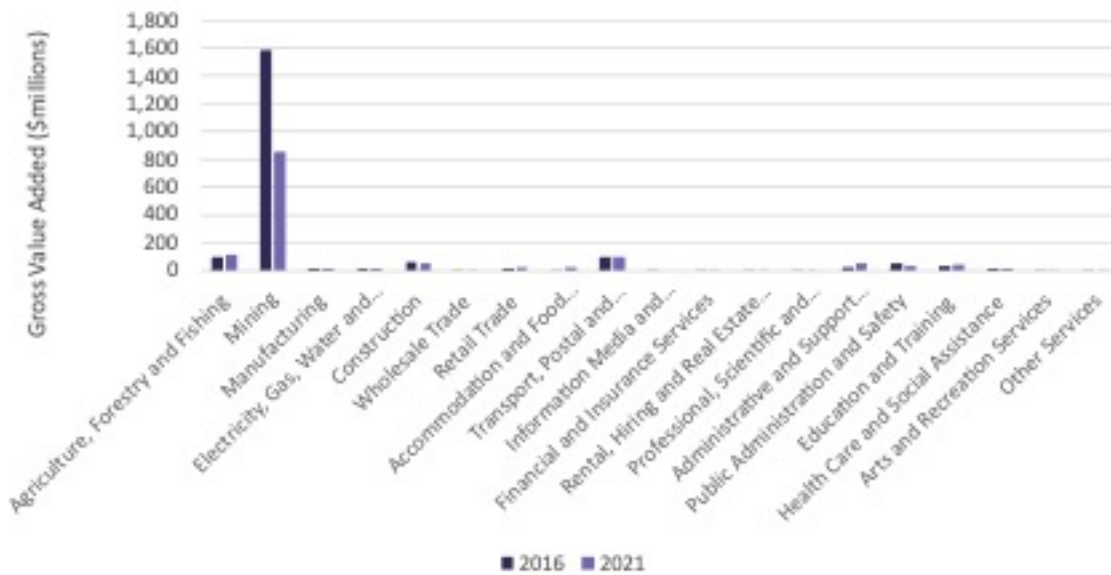
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Gascoyne Region

Structure of the Gascoyne Economy

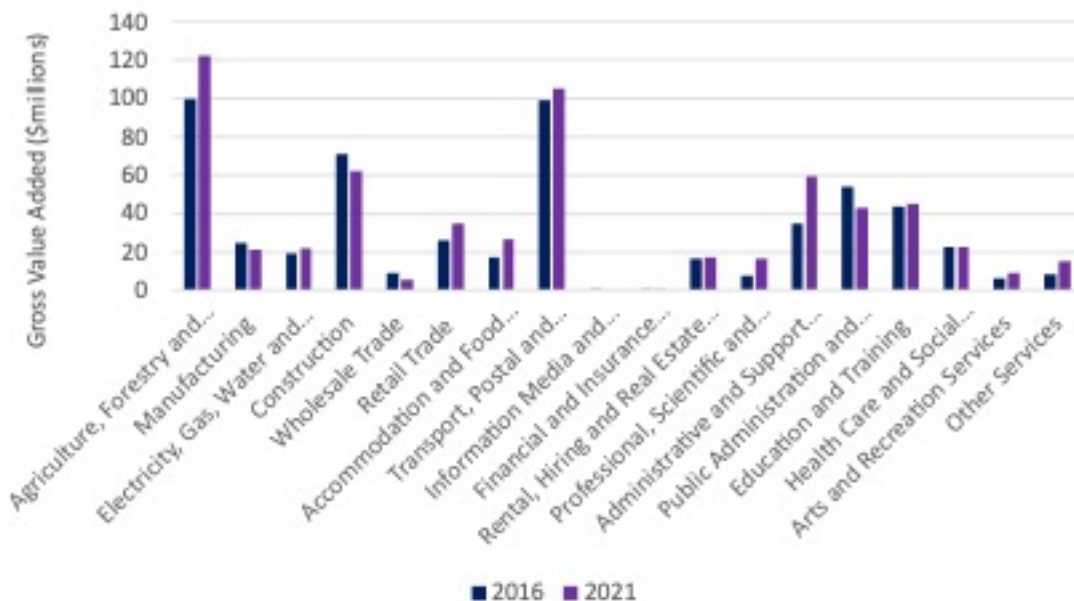
Mining is the core industry underpinning the economy of the Gascoyne region. In 2021 the mining sector contributed over \$800 million to the region's economy measured by GVA. Significantly, over the previous 5 years, the GVA from the mining sector has nearly halved. Behind mining, Agriculture, forestry and fishing and transport, postal and warehousing are the next largest contributors to the economy measured by GVA. However, these industries contribute significantly less than mining with \$122 million and \$104 million respectively in 2021. Overall, in 2021 the Gascoyne region's economy was worth around \$1.5 billion measured by GRP.

Figure 61 Gross Value Added by Industry, Gascoyne (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Figure 62 Gross Value Added by Industry, Gascoyne (2016 and 2021), Excluding Mining



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Mining is the region's sector with the highest existing specialisation and competitive advantage. Other industries in this category with slightly lower levels of competitive advantage include accommodation and food services, administrative support services, public administration and safety and transport postal and warehousing. Economic diversification is a challenge. Construction and professional, scientific and technical services are both emerging sectors in the region, growing in advantage over the last five years, but yet to achieve a comparative advantage as indicated in the statistics.

Figure 63 LQ Analysis of Gascoyne compared to Western Australia

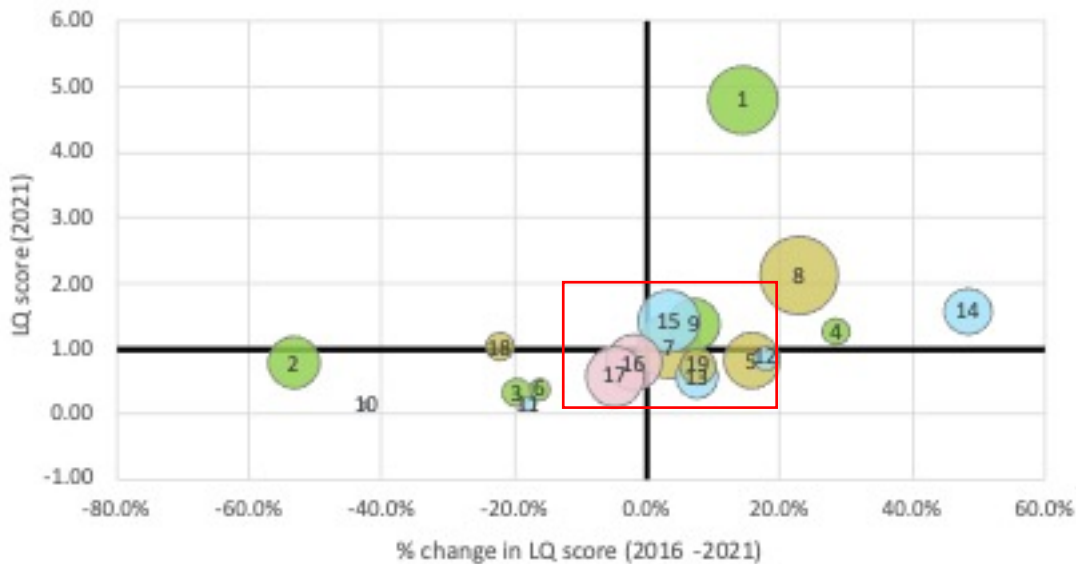
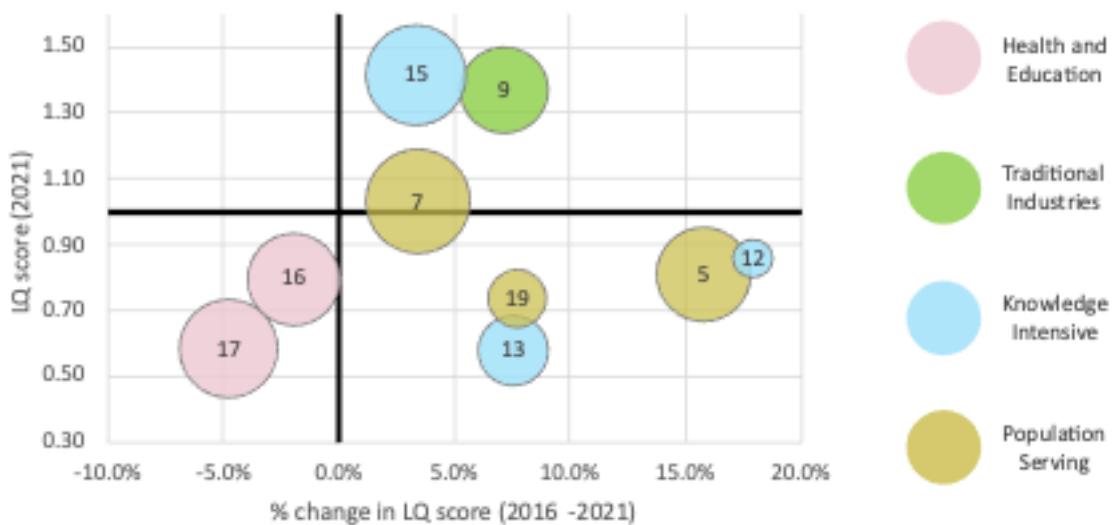


Figure 64 Inset Chart of Gascoyne region LQ Analysis



ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

The region's largest-value exports are related to both mining and agriculture. Other notable export earners for the region's economy relate to tourism, electricity generation and air and space transport.

Figure 65 Gascoyne's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

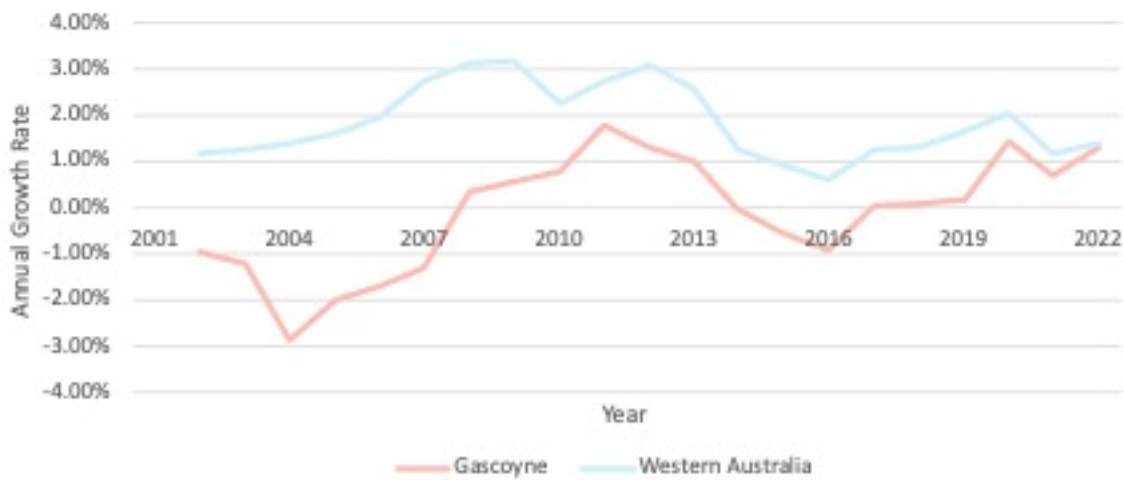
The Gascoyne region's population comprised less than half a per cent of the WA total in 2021. The population growth rate has bounced back since the COVID-19 pandemic and in 2022 was sitting in line with the state's average. However, in the last 10 years the region has seen the addition of only 300 people.

Table 16 Population growth of Gascoyne (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Gascoyne	10,348	9,469	9,674	9,746	9,980	306	0%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

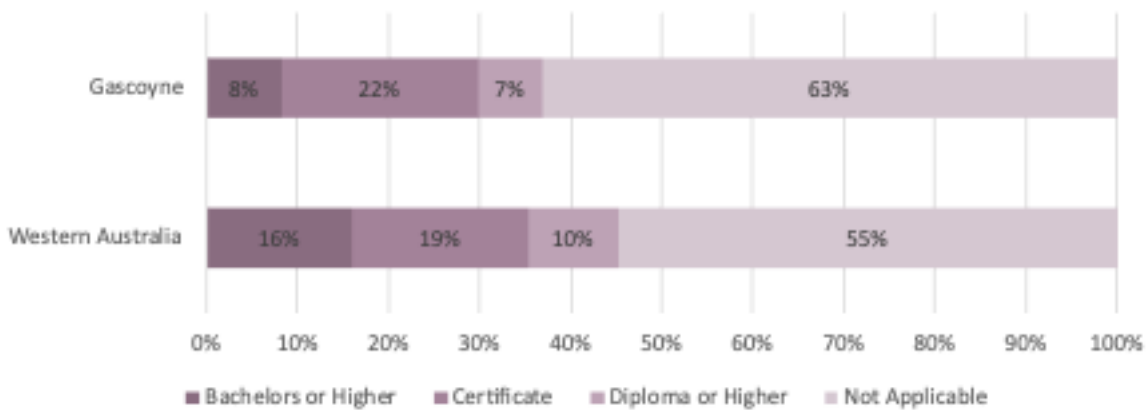
Figure 66 Annual Growth Rate of Gascoyne's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

The Gascoyne region has considerably lower shares of people with post-schooling qualifications when compared to WA as a whole.

Figure 67 Education in Gascoyne Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 68 Unemployment in Gascoyne Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

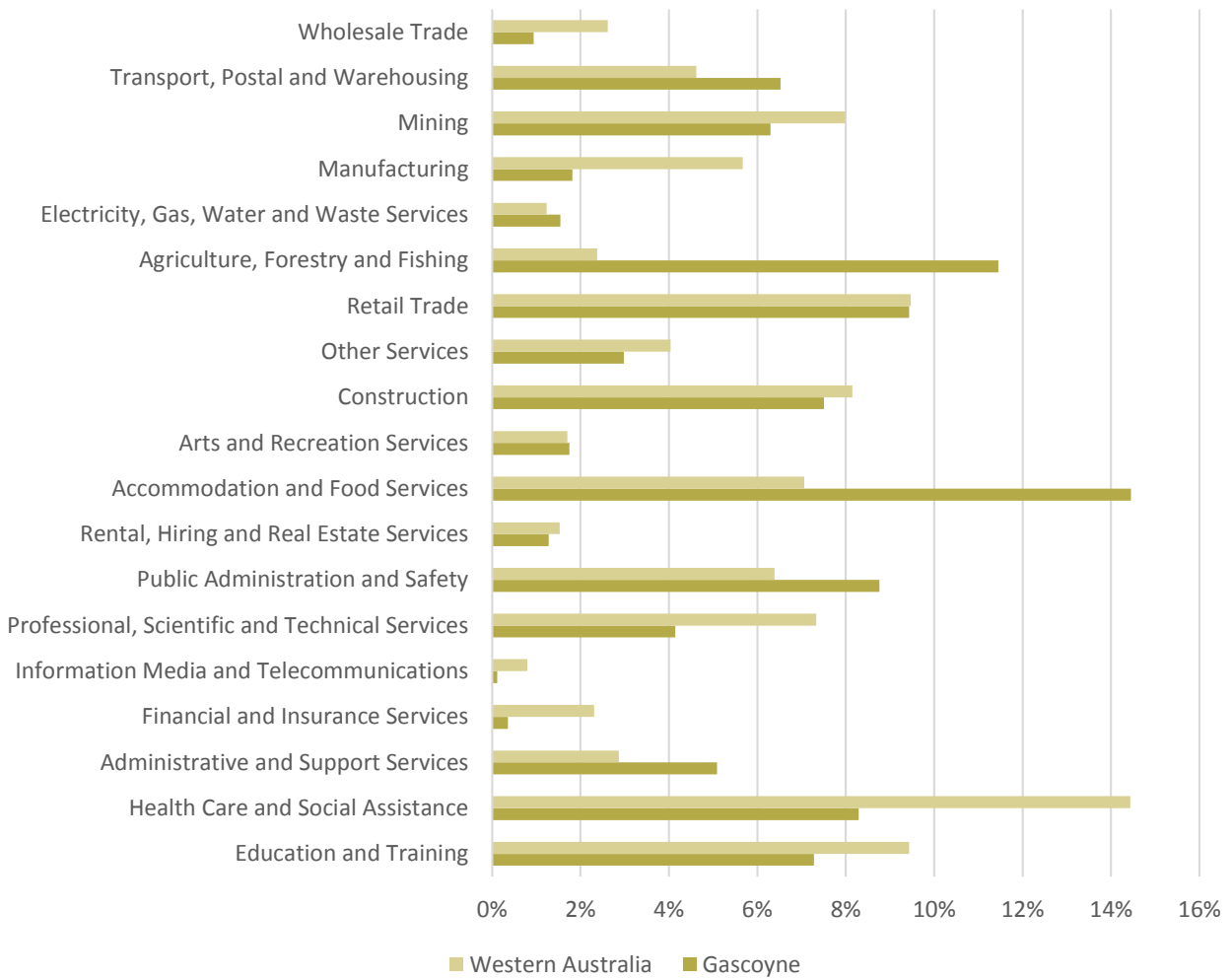
The largest sector by employment in the region is accommodation and food services with well over 14 per cent of the region’s relatively small workforce. This compares to just 7 per cent employed in the sector when looking at WA as a whole. Agriculture, forestry and fishing is the next largest industry by share of employment, followed by retail trade and public administration and safety.

Table 17 Employment growth in Gascoyne Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Gascoyne	4,018	4,396	4,463	445	0%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 69 Industry of Employment in Gascoyne (2021)



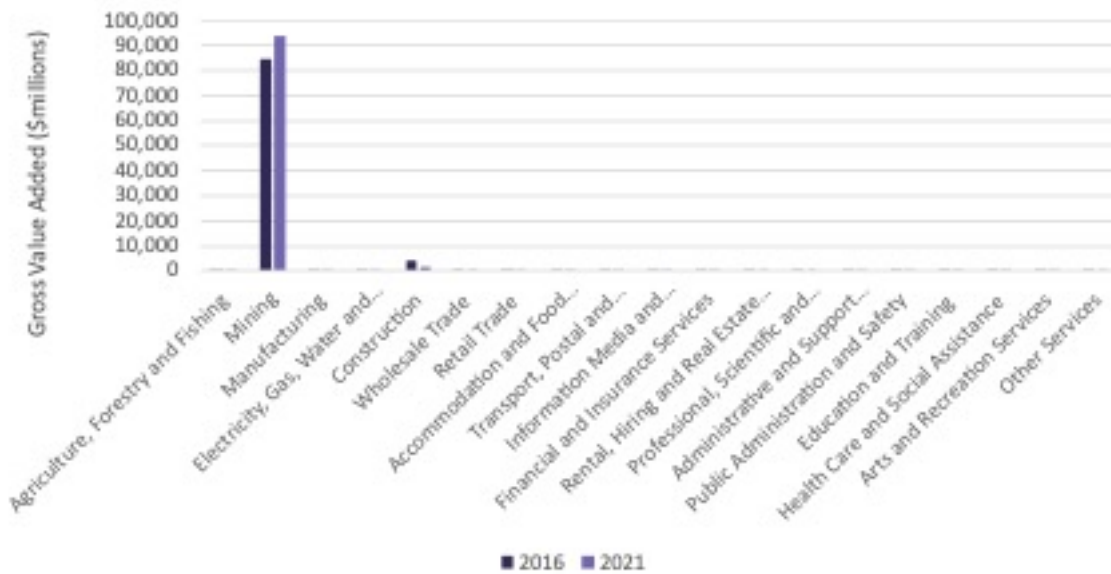
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Pilbara Region

Structure of the Pilbara Economy

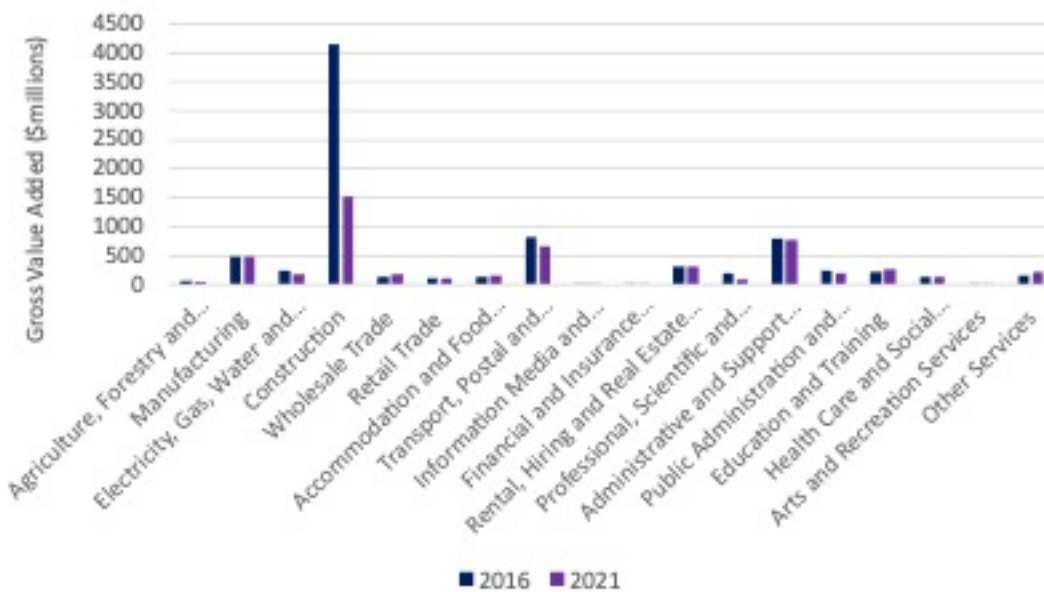
Mining is the core industry of the Pilbara region. Mining's contribution to the economy is growing, and in 2021 the sector generated over \$90 billion for the region. Measured by GVA, the mining sector made up around 95 per cent of the region's total income. Overall, in 2021 the Pilbara region's economy was worth around \$99 billion measured by GVA.

Figure 70 Gross Value Added by Industry, Pilbara (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Figure 71 Gross Value Added by Industry, Pilbara (2016 and 2021), Excluding Mining



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Mining is the region's sector with the highest existing specialisation and a competitive advantage with an LQ score of over six. Transport, postal warehousing and administrative support services are the only other industries in the region with competitive advantages. However, these are of marginal significance. As with other mining based regions, economic diversification is a key challenge.

Figure 72 LQ Analysis of Pilbara compared to Western Australia

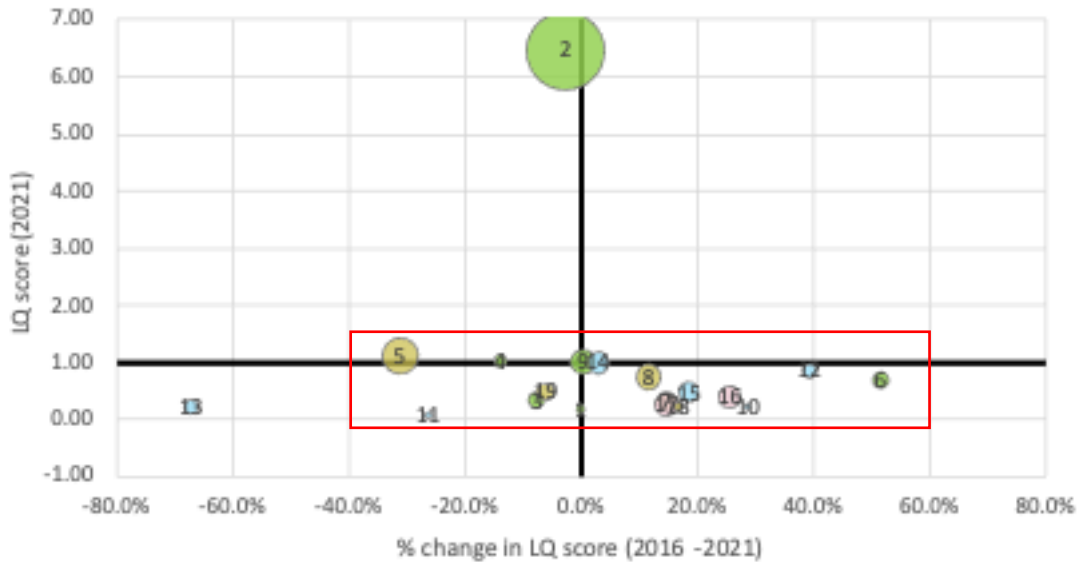
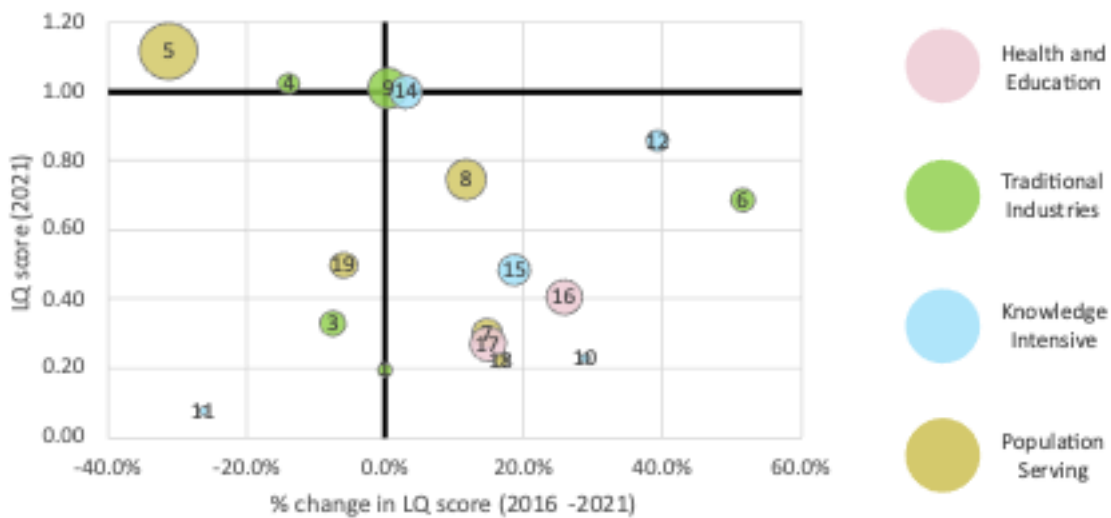


Figure 73 Inset Chart of Pilbara region LQ Analysis



ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 11. Financial and Insurance Services |
| 2. Mining | 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services |
| 3. Manufacturing | 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services |
| 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services | 14. Administrative and Support Services |
| 5. Construction | 15. Public Administration and Safety |
| 6. Wholesale Trade | 16. Education and Training |
| 7. Retail Trade | 17. Health Care and Social Assistance |
| 8. Accommodation and Food Services | 18. Arts and Recreation Services |
| 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing | 19. Other Services |
| 10. Information Media and Telecommunications | |

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

It is no surprise that the mining sector is the largest-value exporting sector in the Pilbara region.

Figure 74 Pilbara's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

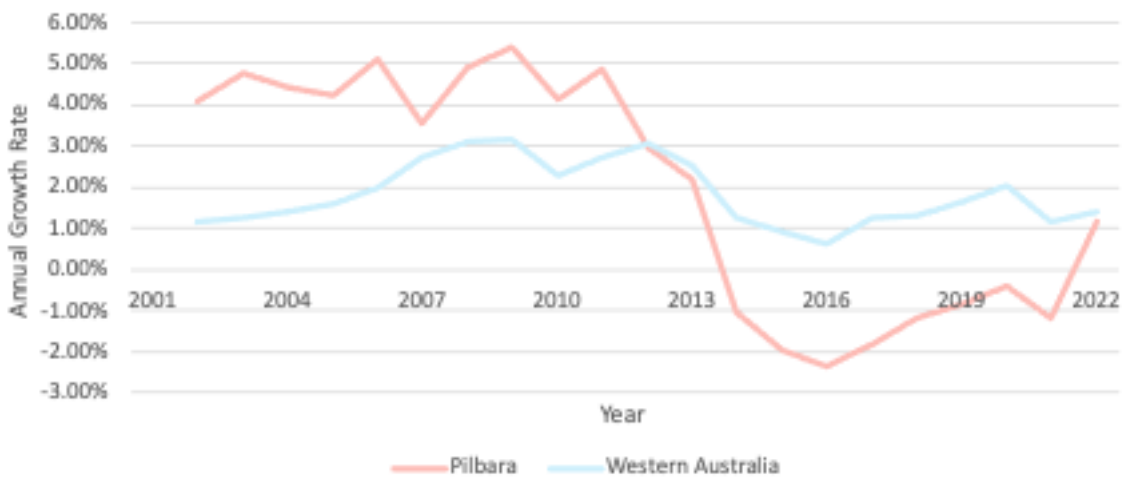
The Pilbara region's population of 58,243 comprised around 2% of the WA total in 2021. Significantly, between 2011 and 2021 the Pilbara region saw a decline in population of around 3,500 people. The annual growth rate of the population in 2022 has since climbed back to a rate similar to the WA average above 1 per cent.

Table 18 Population growth of Pilbara (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Pilbara	39,618	49,413	61,777	61,539	58,243	-3,534	-1%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

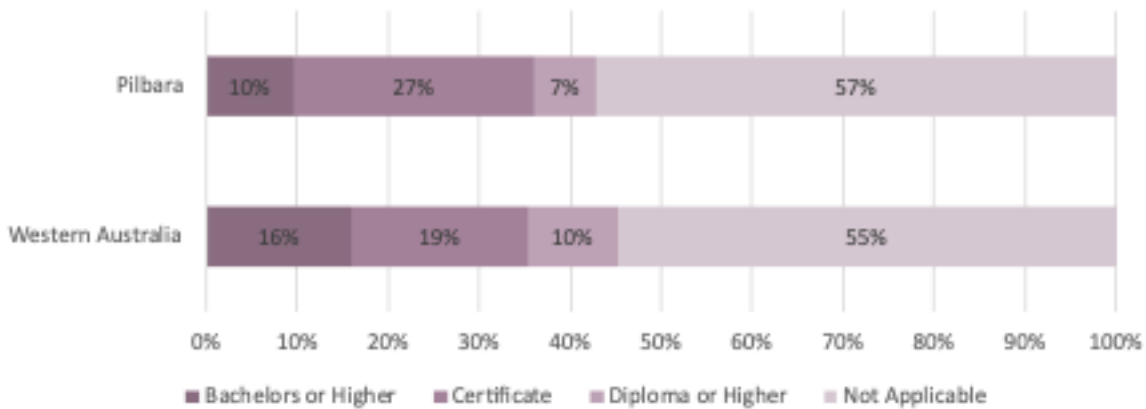
Figure 75 Annual Growth Rate of Pilbara's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

The Pilbara region has somewhat lower shares of people with post-schooling qualifications when compared to WA as a whole.

Figure 76 Education in Pilbara Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 77 Unemployment in Pilbara Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

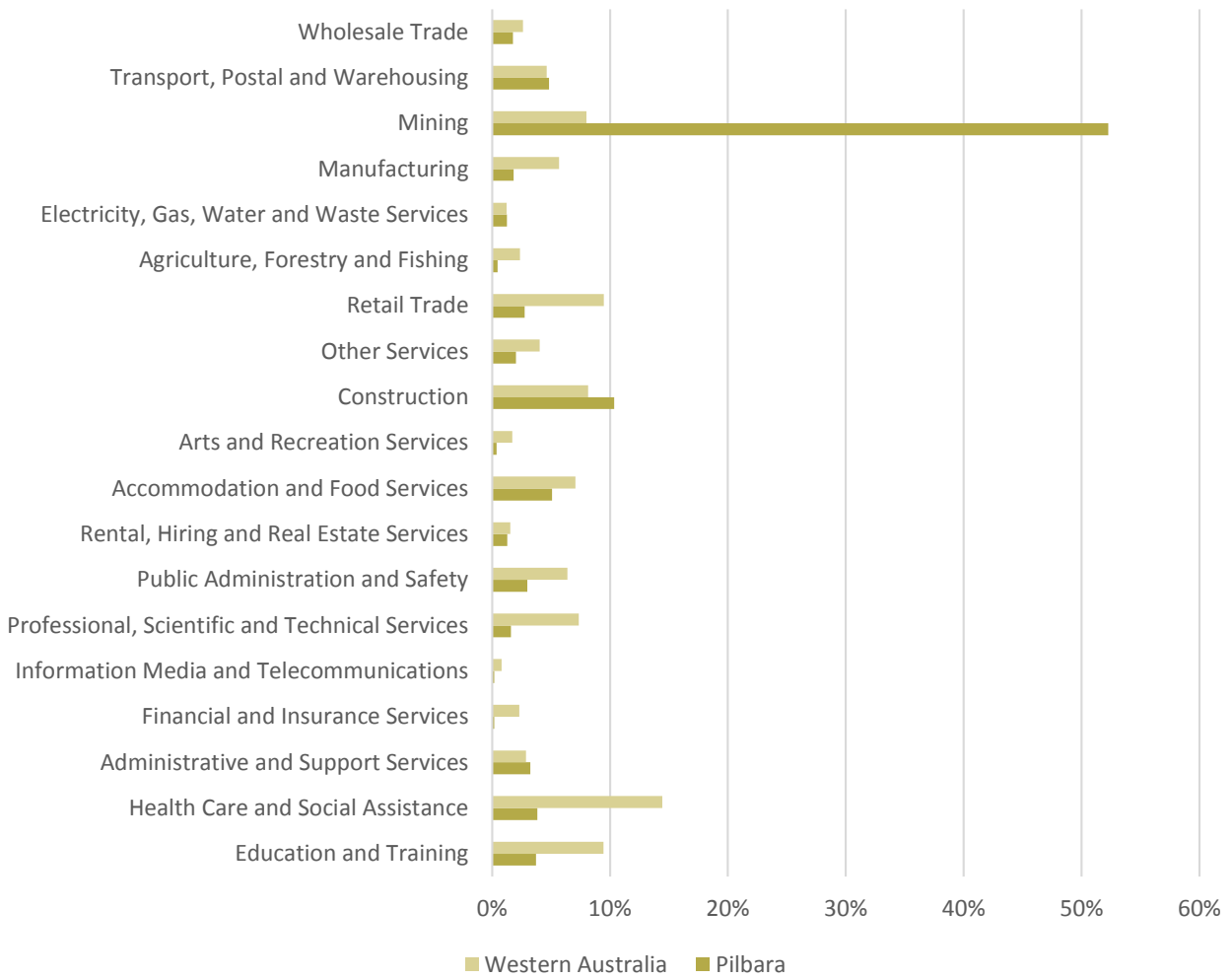
Despite a decline in population, employment has continued to grow in the Pilbara region. The largest sector by employment in the region is Mining with over half of the region’s workforce.

Table 19 Employment growth in Pilbara Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Pilbara	45,813	57,374	53,593	7,780	4%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 78 Industry of Employment in Pilbara (2021)



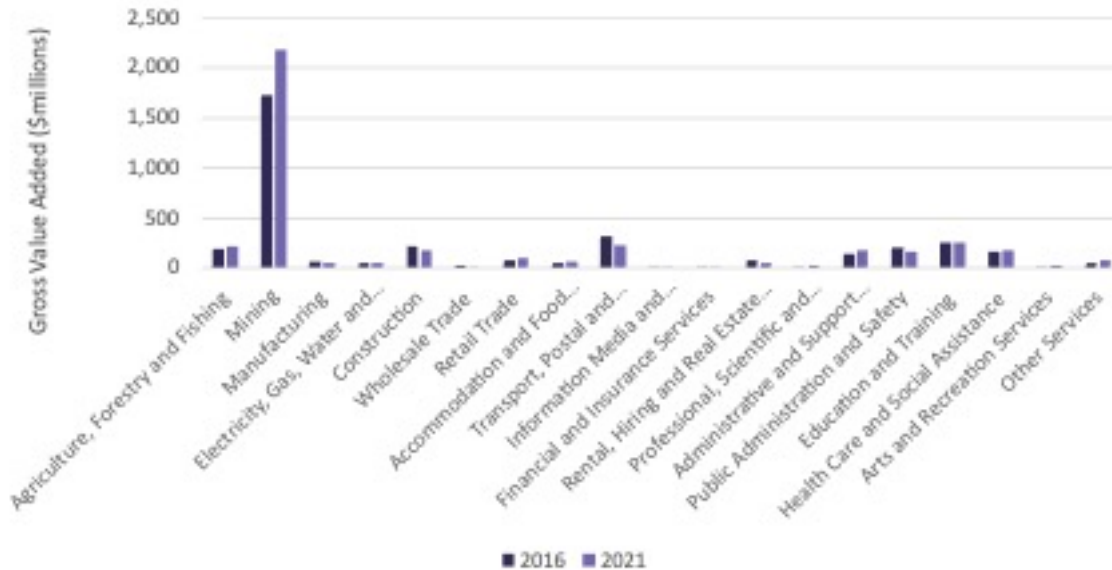
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Kimberley Region

Structure of the Kimberley Economy

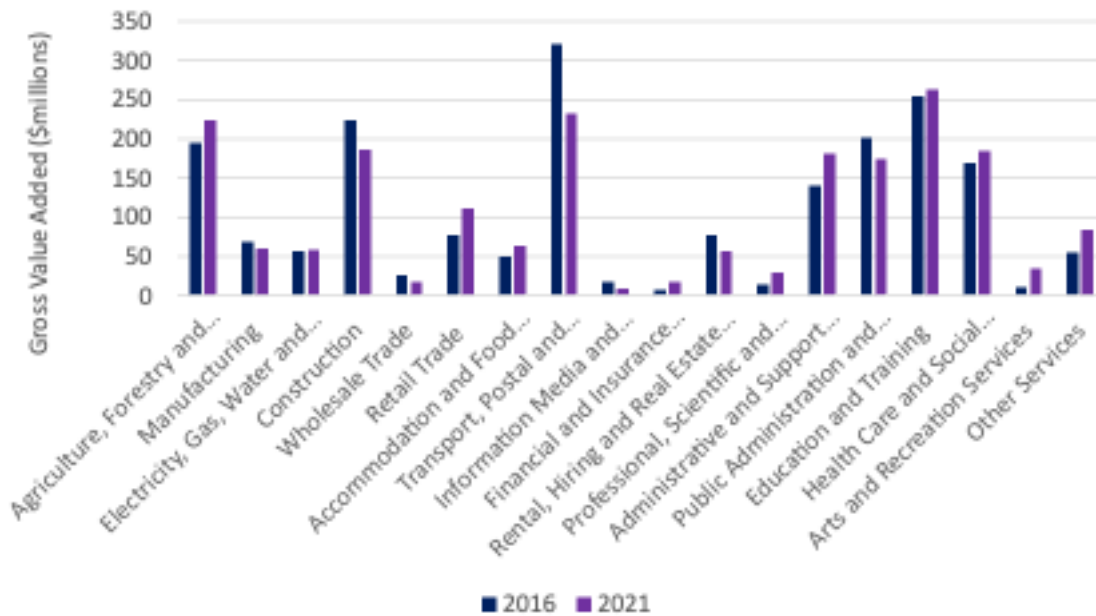
The core industry in the Kimberley region is Mining. It has grown from adding \$1.7 billion in 2016 to \$2.2 billion in 2021. In 2021 the Kimberley economy was worth a total of \$4.1 billion measured by GVA.

Figure 79 Gross Value Added by Industry, Kimberley (2016 and 2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

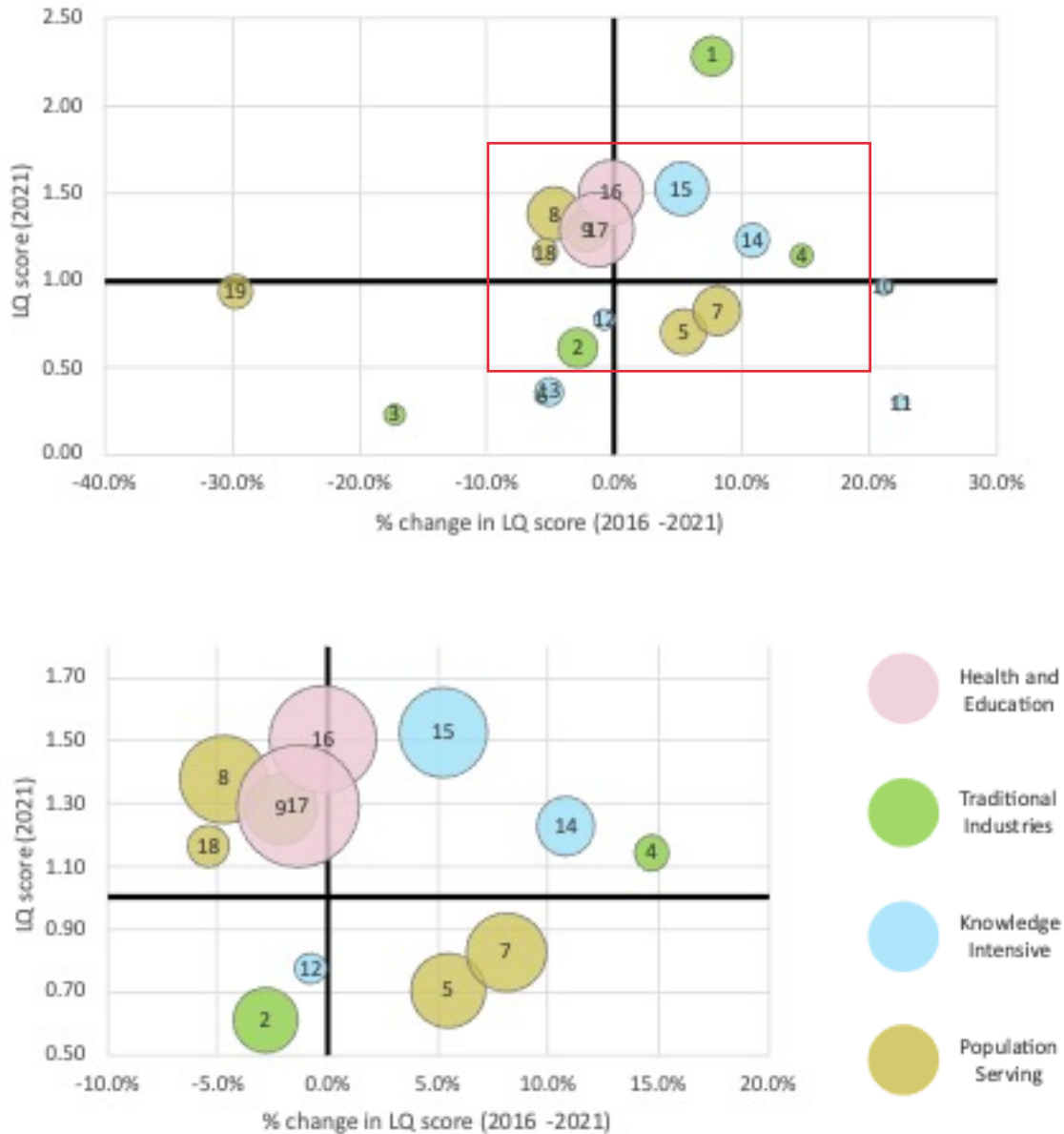
Figure 80 Gross Value Added by Industry, Kimberley (2016 and 2021), Excluding Mining



Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021

While the Kimberley has a strong specialisation in Mining, the capital intensity of the sector means that other sectors show strong Location Quotients when assessed by employment (see charts below). Thus population serving sectors and health and education return high LQs, but it is not evident that they would have strong competitive advantages. This would be a matter for local investigation.

Figure 81 LQ Analysis of Kimberley compared to Western Australia



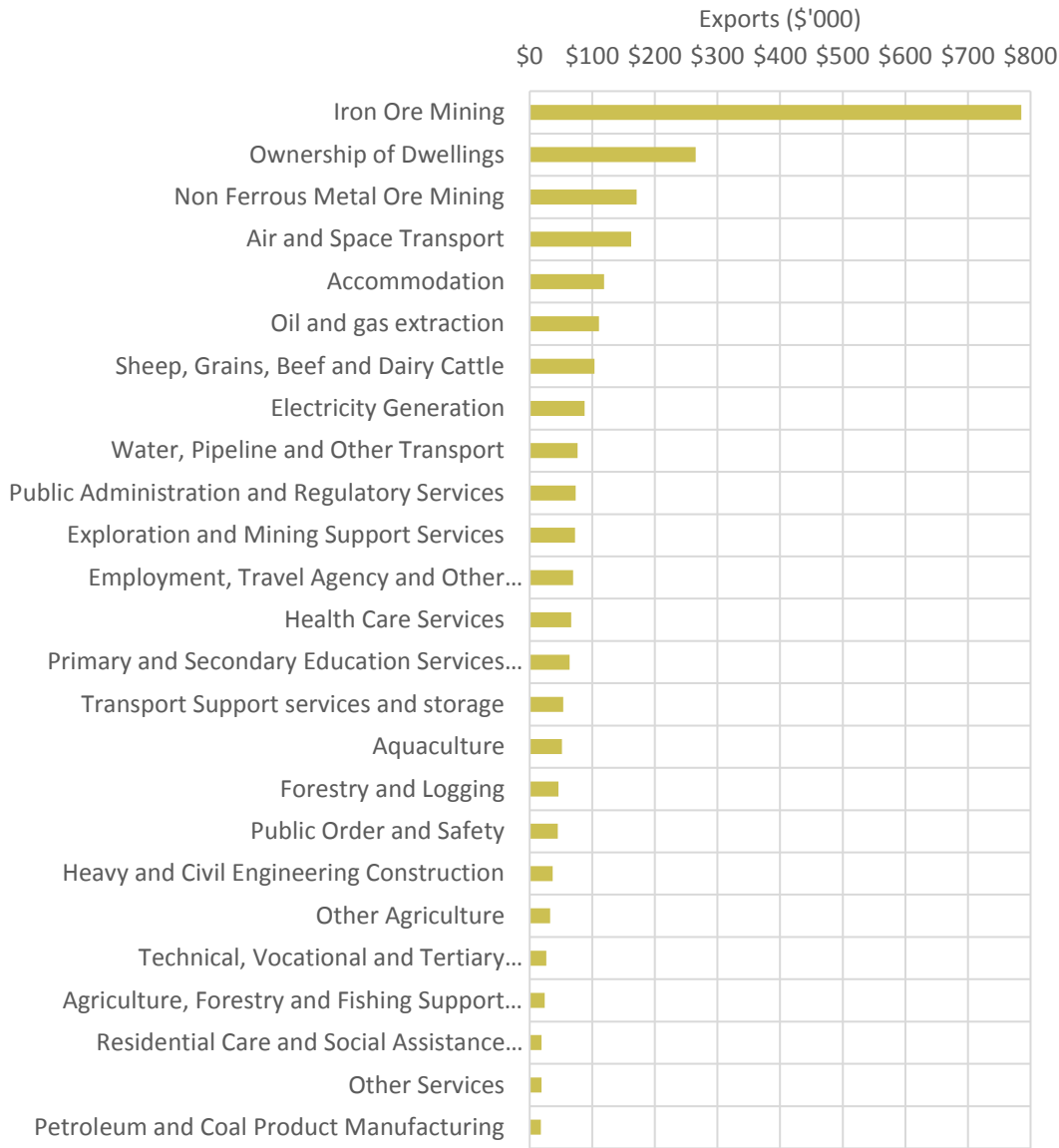
ANZSIC Employment Industry Legend

- 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
- 2. Mining
- 3. Manufacturing
- 4. Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services
- 5. Construction
- 6. Wholesale Trade
- 7. Retail Trade
- 8. Accommodation and Food Services
- 9. Transport, Postal and Warehousing
- 10. Information Media and Telecommunications
- 11. Financial and Insurance Services
- 12. Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services
- 13. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
- 14. Administrative and Support Services
- 15. Public Administration and Safety
- 16. Education and Training
- 17. Health Care and Social Assistance
- 18. Arts and Recreation Services
- 19. Other Services

Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census data on place of work by industry, 2016 and 2021.

Unsurprisingly, the largest-value exports in the Kimberley region are mostly related to mining industries.

Figure 82 Kimberley's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

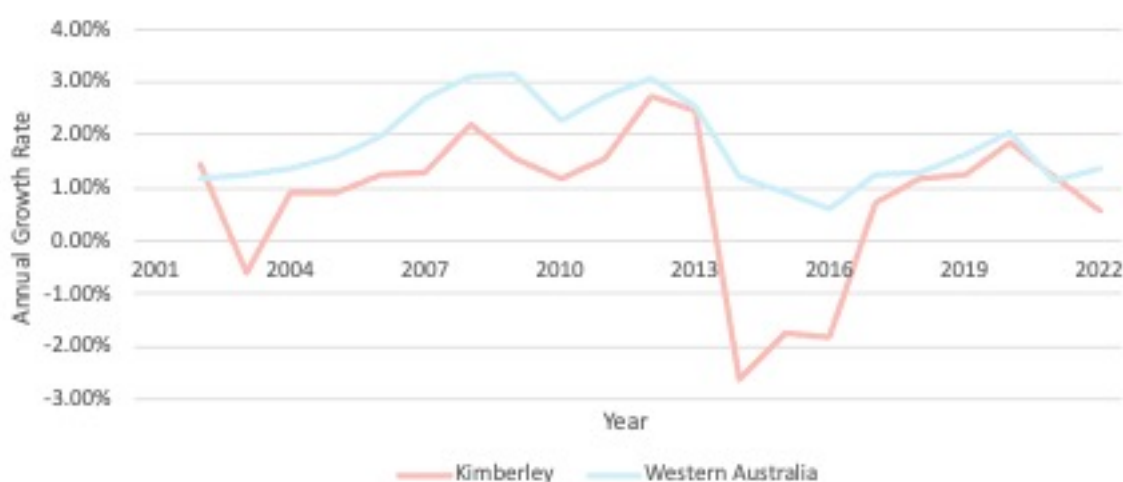
The Kimberley region's population of 38,717 comprised around 1% of the WA total in 2021. While the population's annual growth rate rose over the years of the COVID-19 pandemic, more recently in 2022 the growth rate has dropped back to below 1 per cent

Table 20 Population growth of Kimberley (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Kimberley	32,756	34,062	36,791	36,394	38,717	1,926	0%
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

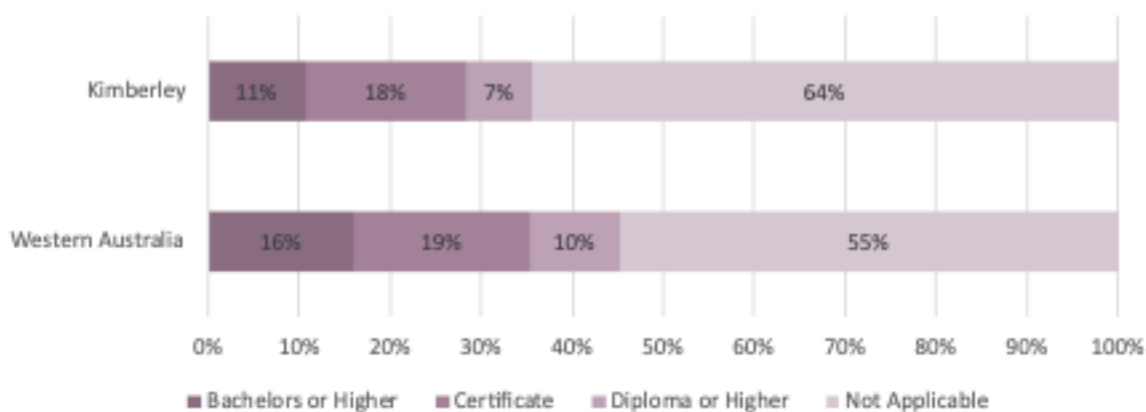
Figure 83 Annual Growth Rate of Kimberley's Population Compared to WA (2001-2021)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021.

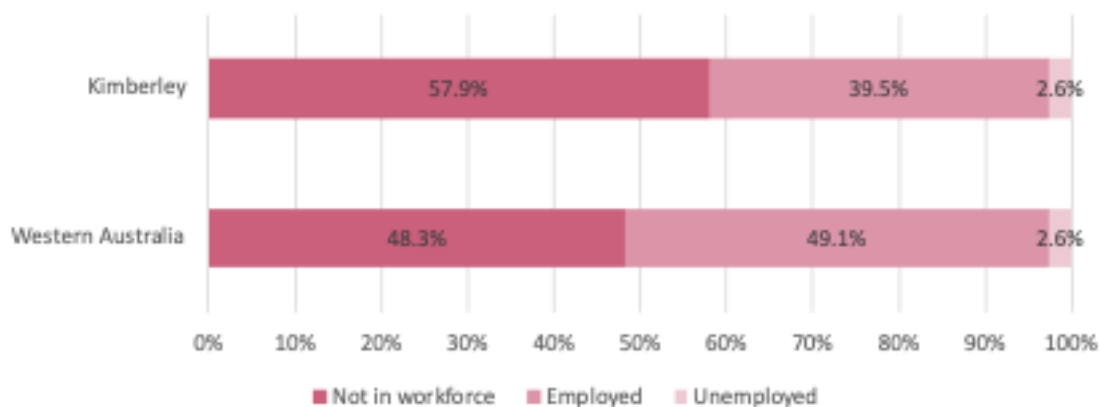
The Kimberley region has considerably lower shares of people with post-schooling qualifications when compared to WA as a whole.

Figure 84 Education in Kimberley Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

Figure 85 Unemployment in Kimberley Compared to WA (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

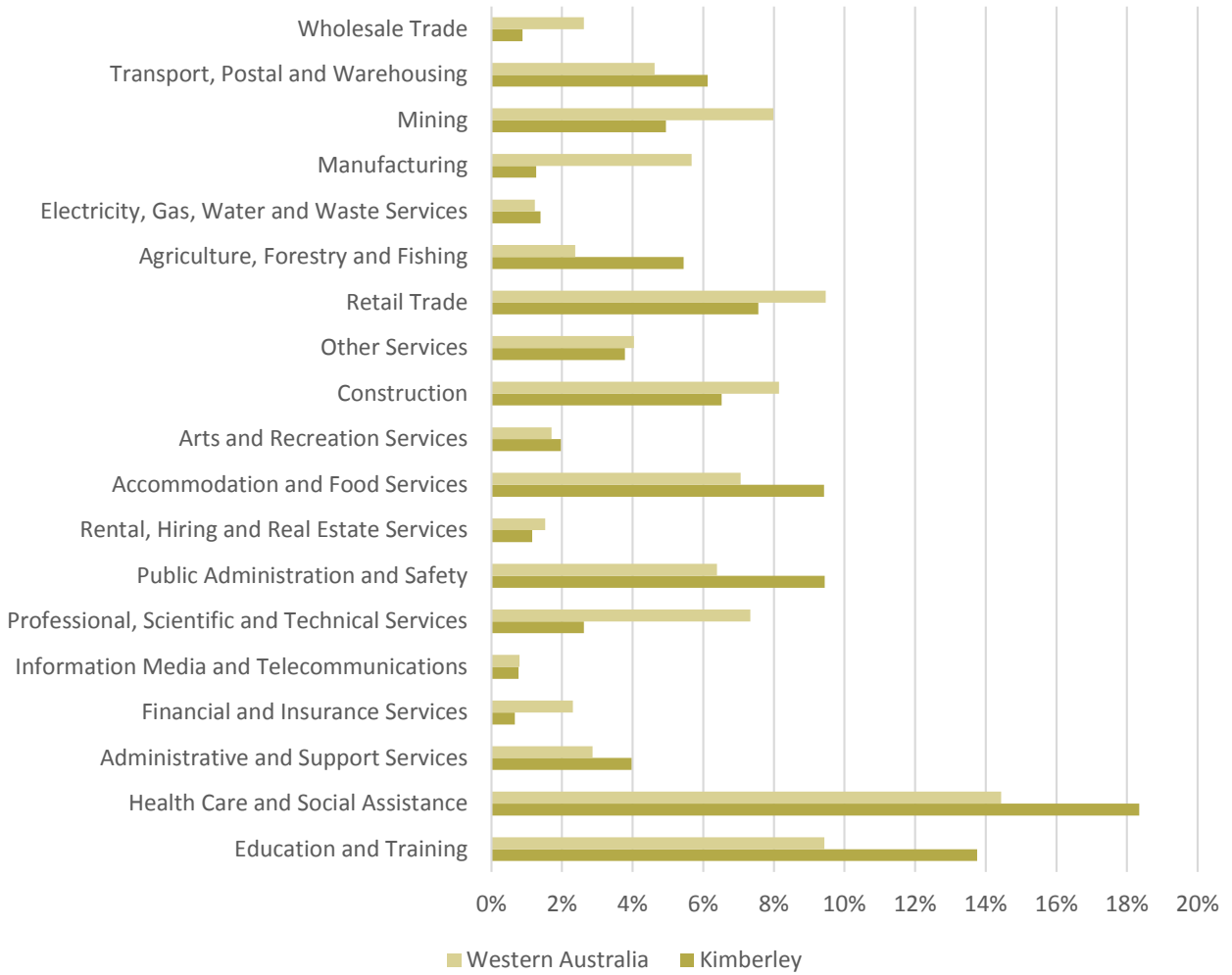
The total number of employed people in the Kimberley region has decreased by 440 people over the last ten years. The largest sector by employment in the region is health care and social assistance, followed by education and training, public administration and safety, and accommodation and food services.

Table 21 Employment growth in Kimberley Compared to WA (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Kimberley	14,933	13,856	14,493	-440	0%
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 86 Industry of Employment in Kimberley (2021)



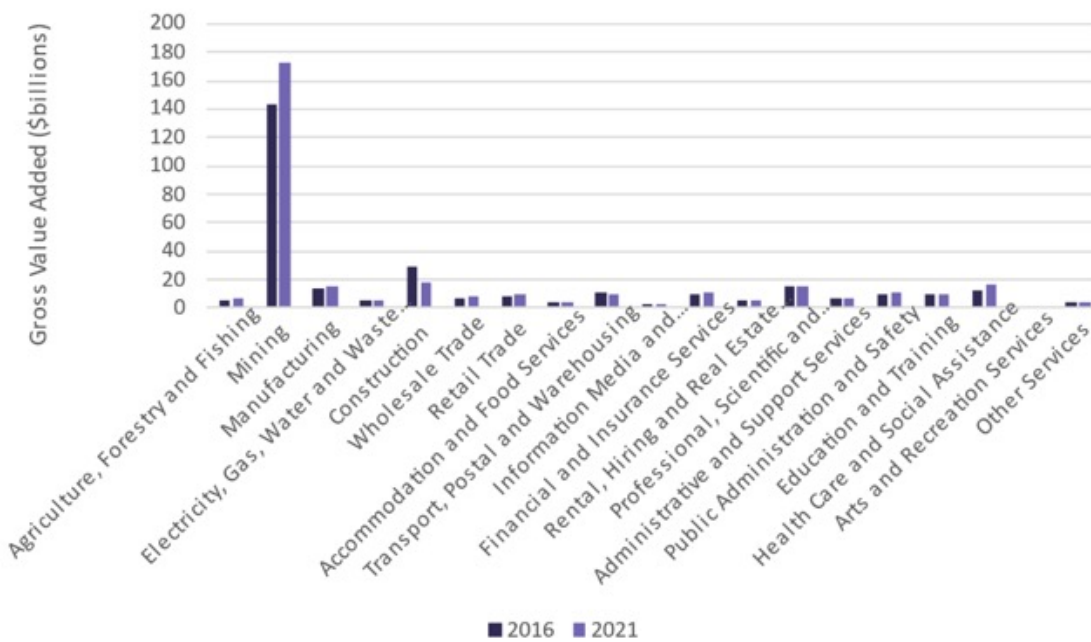
Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Western Australia

Structure of the Western Australian Economy

The core industry that underpins the economy in Western Australia is Mining. The Mining industry has grown from adding \$143 billion in 2016 to \$173 billion in 2021 in the region's economy. Overall Western Australia generated \$354 billion, approximately 49% of which came from Mining. In 2021 the Western Australia economy was worth a total of \$354 billion measured by GRP.

Figure 87 Gross Value Added by Industry, Western Australia (2016 and 2021)

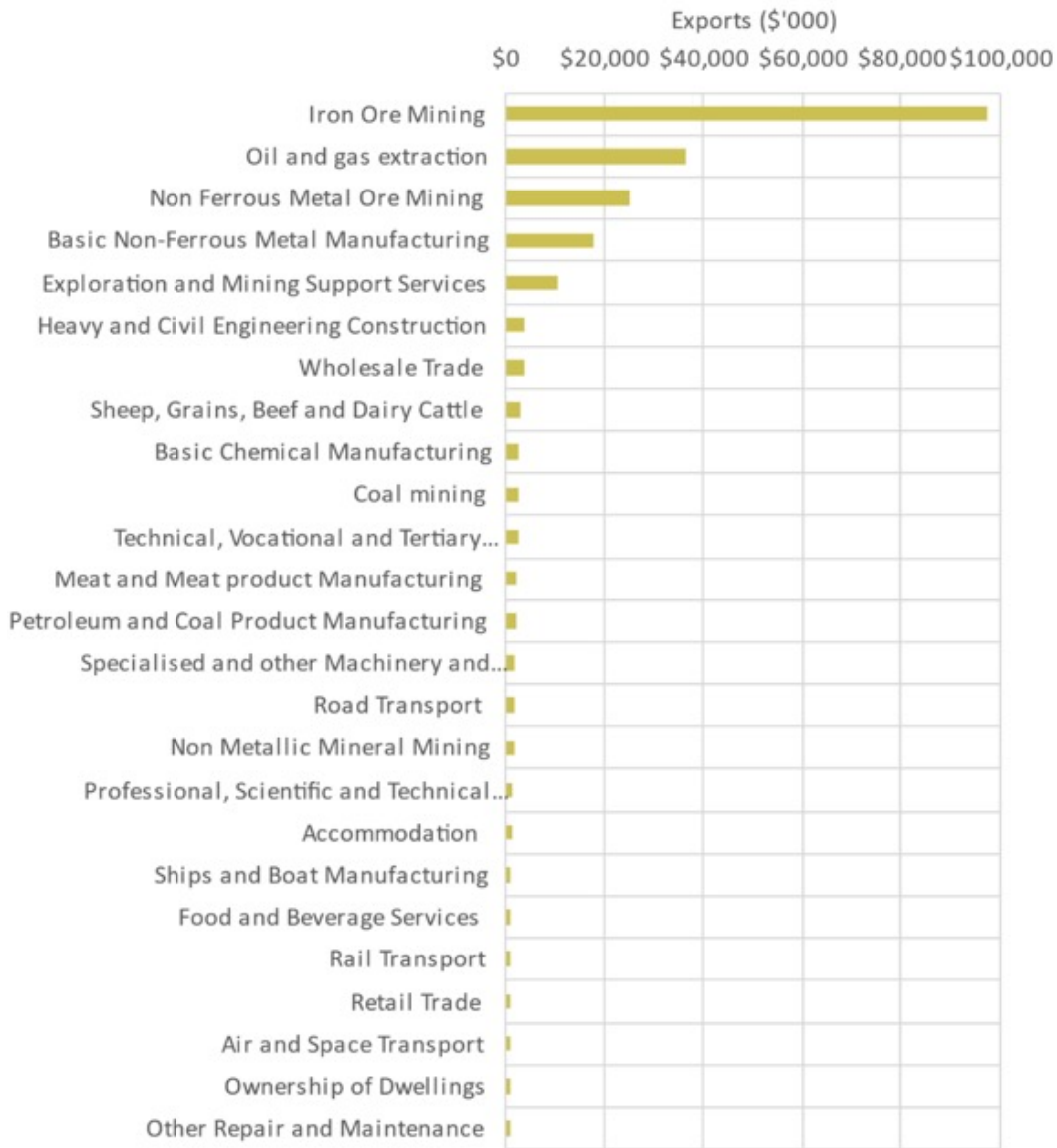


Source: SGS Economics and Planning: Australia's Economic Wellbeing (link) dataset derived from ABS State Accounts, Cat. No. 5220.0, 2021.

Exports are a major player in economic performance and prosperity. Income injected into the local economy creates a multiplier effect as exporting firms draw on local suppliers and workers to meet the demand from external customers. Given the prevalence of the mining sector in Western Australia, the largest-value exports in Western Australia are mostly related to mining industries.

The figure below shows Western Australia's top 20 sub-industries by value of exports.

Figure 88 Western Australia's Exports: Injections of Income



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using in-house IO model for the WA economy

Population, employment and skills

Western Australia had a total population of approximately 2,750,000 people in 2021. The population's annual growth was increasing until 2021, when the COVID-19 pandemic reduced the growth rate to 1.2% after being just over 2% in 2020. Since the decline in effects from the pandemic, Western Australia's population growth is starting to recover and has risen to 1.4% in annual growth in 2022.

Table 22 Population growth of Western Australia (2001-2021)

Area	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Western Australia	1,906,274	2,050,581	2,353,409	2,555,978	2,749,864	396,455	100%

Source: ABS Census of population and housing, 2001 to 2021

Figure 89 Annual Growth Rate of Western Australia's Population

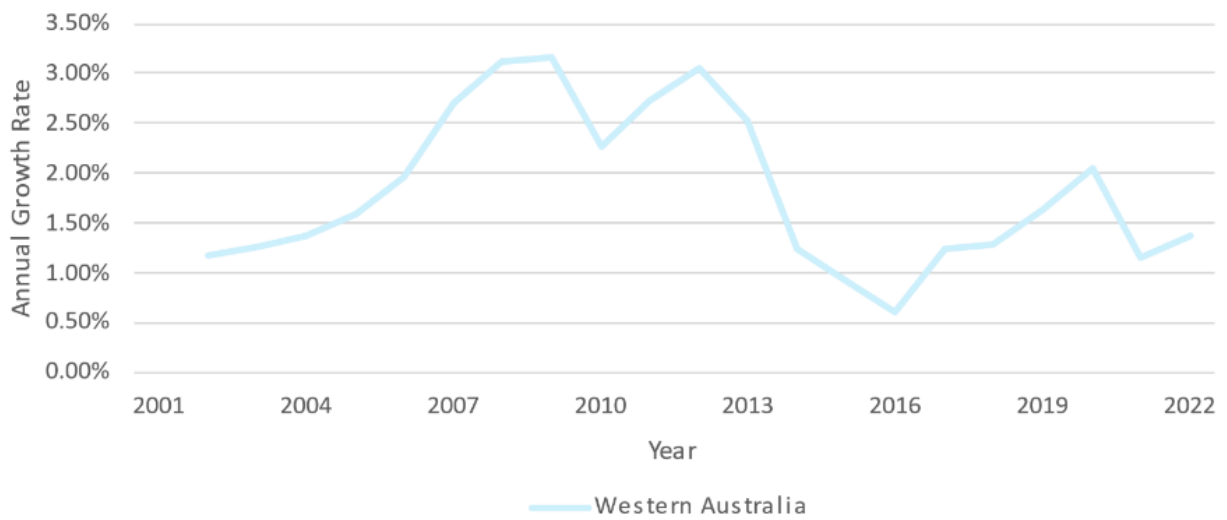
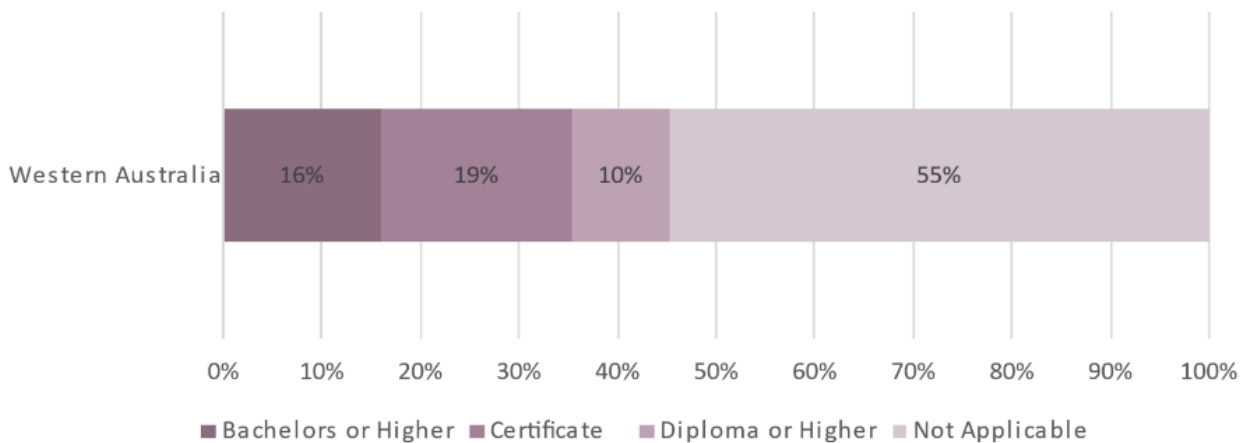


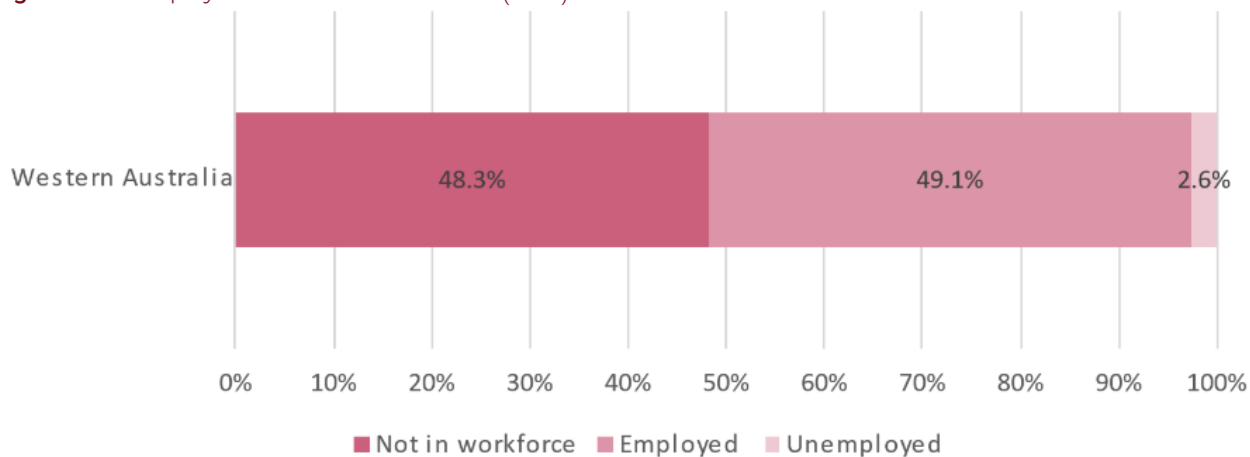
Figure 90 Education in Western Australia (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

In 2021, unemployment Western Australia as a whole were considerably low. The labour market is now regarded as tight with low levels of unemployment across Australia.

Figure 91 Unemployment in Western Australia (2021)



Source: ABS Census of population and housing data, 2021.

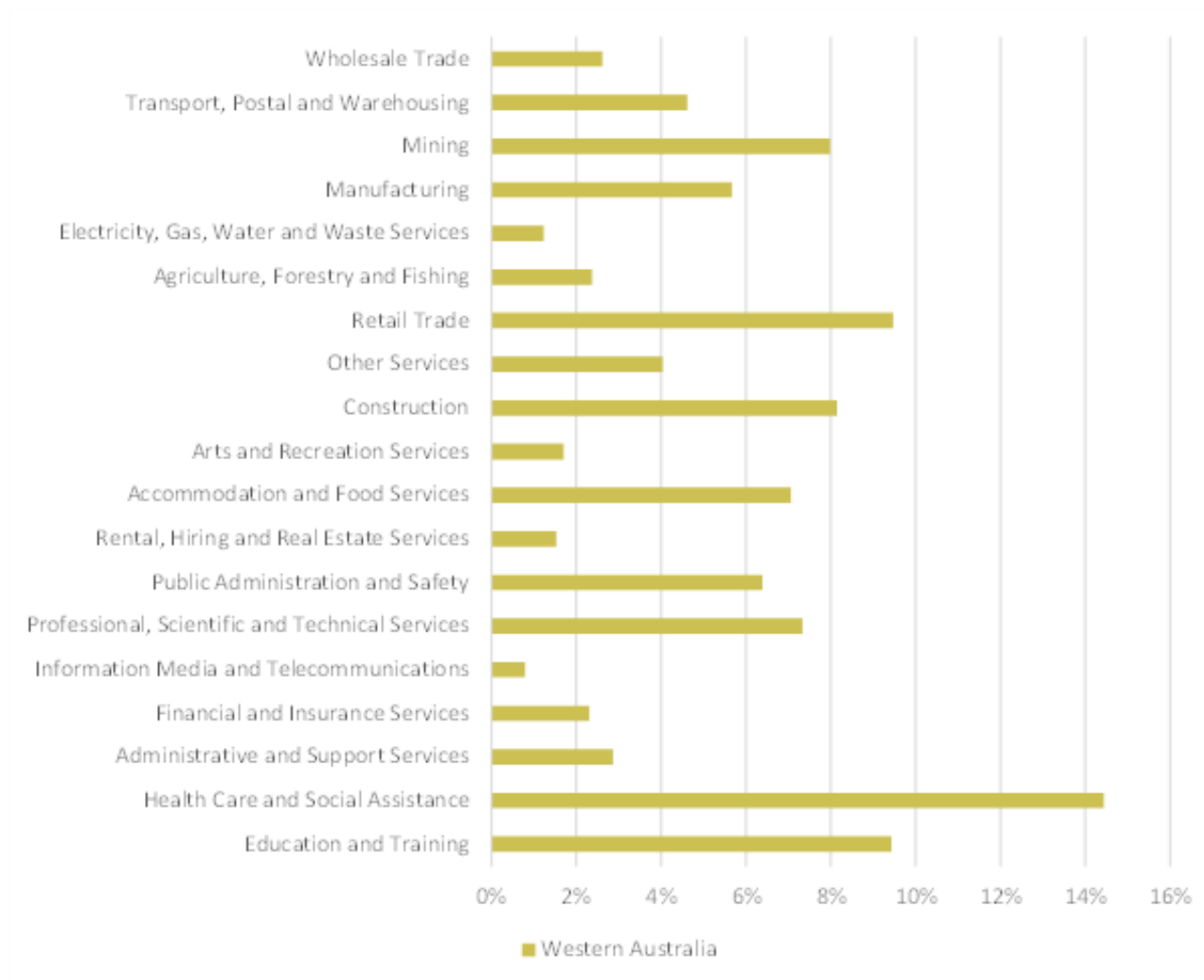
Table 23 shows the total employment of the region over the last ten years and Figure 92 shows how employment is spread over different industry sectors. The total number of employed people in Western Australia has increased by around 180,000 people over the last ten years. The largest sector by employment in the region is healthcare and social assistance, followed by retail trade, education and training, construction, and mining.

Table 23 Employment growth in Western Australia (2011-2021)

Area	2011	2016	2021	Growth (11-21)	Share of WA Growth
Western Australia	1,012,897	1,054,825	1,190,157	177,260	100%

Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021

Figure 92 Industry of Employment in Western Australia (2021)



Source: ABS Census data by place of work, 2021



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