



BLACKALL-TAMBO REGION

PROFILE

Blackall-Tambo is situated on the Landsborough Highway, (Matilda Highway) approximately 1000kms northwest of Brisbane, Queensland.

The region comprises of two towns: Blackall being the larger with a population of 1200 in the township and Tambo the smaller with a population of 360.

The region covers an area of 30,502 sq kms and is some of the richest pastoral lands in the State.

Primary production and its associated industries of transport, rural contracting, and macropod harvesting are major employers, as are local government, health, education, and retail industries.

The recommissioned cypress pine industry will provide a substantial positive impact on the local Tambo economy and community when it reopens in 2021.

The population is aging and has been declining since 2010, coinciding with the decline in the region's sheep and wool industry. Currently the regional population is 1868.

(2018 data)

MAJOR INDUSTRIES

Agriculture:

In 2015-2016, the gross value of agricultural production in the wider Queensland Outback region was \$2.3 billion.

The total value of agricultural production in Blackall-Tambo Local Government Area in this period was \$204 million.

The most important agricultural commodity in the Outback region is cattle which contributed 88% of the total value of agricultural production in the region in 2015. *

*ABARES data

Timber:

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council has been instrumental in reinstating the cypress pine timber industry in the Tambo region. Recommissioning of the Tambo Sawmill directly support 13 new jobs in the region, workers who bring families to the township, increasing population, numbers at the school, day-care and community groups and associations.

This commercial operation will inject \$1.3 million into the local economy from employment and ancillary businesses associated with the Sawmill. As these funds circulate through the town's economy, they can be considered to conservatively multiply four times and produce an economic benefit of \$5.2 million.

Tourism:

Tourism plays a key role in the economy during the cooler winter months of April to September. The Blackall-Tambo Region is steeped in history and has an extensive collection of features that offer history, culture, and reflections of Australia's pioneer heritage. Approximately 134,000 regional visitors boost the economy in the BTRC region by \$27 million each year.

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INVESTMENT – TOP REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SEEKING PRIVATE INVESTMENT

TRADE

(TOP EXPORTED PRODUCTS)

Beef Production:

In the Blackall-Tambo Region 2.7 million hectares are utilized for grazing purposes supporting 263,000 beef cattle, which has an estimated value of \$400 million on today's market (Oct 2016).

The Blackall Saleyards are the third largest saleyards in Queensland, over 120,000 head of cattle pass through these yards each year. Demand for spelling is increasing and the facility has a total carrying capacity of 6000 head.

Sheep and Wool:

There are 150,000 sheep in the region, producing both meat and wool, valued at \$15 million. Merino wool production brings approximately \$6 million into the region each year.

Organic Beef Production:

The region is the second largest organic beef growing area in Australia and is the location of many long-term established organic producers. The Blackall Saleyards is EU accredited and is one of only two organic certified Saleyards in Australia.

Blackall Wool Handling Facility:

A feasibility study into locally value adding into the wool supply chain was commissioned by Council in March 2020.

The study determined the proposed facility will incorporating a complete woollen mill (from fibre to fabric) is viable based on a throughput of 10 mkg of greasy wool.

Once operational, the facility will support 812 FTEs (including 270 FTE jobs in Blackall) and \$116.3 million GRP per year. The proposal will potentially double the population of the Blackall.

The proposal presents an opportunity for a major investor.

[\(AEC Report \(btrc.qld.gov.au\)\)](#)

Tourism:

Blackall-Tambo has a wealth of assets that can be further developed to target the more mature high-end traveller from this region including:

- Indigenous cultural assets
- Uniquely Australian pioneering heritage
- Sophisticated Arts & Cultural product

All packaged with a fresh country atmosphere enhanced by glorious sunsets and clear night skies. The demand for farm-stay and 'real experiences' is high, the lack of available product in this area indicates significant potential for investment and development.

Solar Power Generation:

Western Queensland has the best solar resources in the world, and Blackall-Tambo is ideally placed to benefit as solar generation becomes an increasingly important part of Australia's electricity generation. The Queensland Government is committed to supporting and encouraging investment in new large-scale renewable energy projects in Queensland.

