

## Backing good jobs

# Townsville region

- \$1.2 billion Big Build investment creating 3,400 jobs
- CopperString 2032
- Largest Australian defence base
- Emerging aquaculture industry
- Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct
- Expansion of Townsville Hospital and Health Service

More than  
**134,000**  
employed  
by 2025-26

Jobs Queensland (2023), Anticipating Future Skills (AFS) Series 4.



**BACK TO WORK\*** **3,987** job seekers  
1,636 local businesses supported by \$42.37 million

**SKILLING QUEENSLANDERS FOR WORK\***

**3,334**  
employed

\$42.62 million  
in community programs

Big Build figures: Townsville Regional Action Plan, Queensland Budget 2023-24.

\*As at 30 April 2024

## Top 5 largest employing industries



**25,056** employed

**Health care and social assistance**

Registered nurses, aged and disability carers, childcare workers



**15,223** employed

**Public administration and safety**

Defence force members – other ranks, general clerks, police, commissioned officers (management)



**12,549** employed

**Retail trade**

Sales assistants (general), retail managers, checkout operators and office cashiers, shelf fillers



**12,537** employed

**Education and training**

Primary school teachers, secondary school teachers, education aides, university lecturers and tutors



**11,148** employed

**Construction**

Electricians, carpenters and joiners, construction managers, plumbers

Townsville region projected workforce sizes by 2025-26. Source: Jobs Queensland (2023), Anticipating Future Skills (AFS) Series 4.

Good Jobs, Great Training

Queensland Skills Strategy 2024 – 2028 delivering for the

# Townsville region

# 4,398

## Free TAFE students and apprentices

Commencements from 2023 (as at 30 April 2024)

Popular free courses Townsville region	Aligned jobs	Average salaries seek.com.au
Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	Electricians	\$90,000 - \$110,000
Certificate III in Individual Support	Aged and disability carers	\$60,000 - \$70,000
Certificate III in Carpentry	Carpenters	\$75,000 - \$90,000
Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care	Early childhood educators	\$60,000 - \$65,000
Diploma of Nursing	Enrolled nurses	\$65,000 - \$75,000



**More Free TAFE** upskilling Queenslanders while driving costs down



**More local training** delivering for local communities



**More TAFE Trade Tasters** plus skills for school students aligned to good, local jobs



**Apprentices and trainees** supported across traditional and emerging industries, plus more pre-apprenticeships and Work Skills Traineeships



**Skills employers need** expanded industry input on workforce needs and priorities



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**Rye Stott, Townsville** | High risk licensing trainer

## Rye inspires skilled careers

Rye Stott is an innovative trainer with TAFE Queensland in Townsville who began his career as a soldier and cargo specialist in the Australian Defence Force.

After 12 years' service, Rye moved into the vocational education and training (VET) sector, teaching licensing and construction training in Townsville.

Since 2021, Rye has created TAFE Queensland's new Defence Training Package and built the entire portfolio from the ground up – introducing innovative ideas to change attitudes towards safety in the workplace and improve training outcomes.

With plans to take his career in VET far, Rye is also completing a Bachelor of Adult and Applied Learning through university.

“There’s so many great opportunities in vocational education and training for those with skills, experience and passion to share,” Rye said.

“Becoming a trainer was a great career move for me and I’m enjoying being able to help others forge their own path in the construction and transport and logistics industries too.”



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