

New England - North West: Educational heartland of regional NSW

Population: 175,883

Area: 98,606 sq km

Major towns and centres:

- Armidale
- Gunnedah
- Inverell
- Moree
- Narrabri
- Tamworth.



Region overview:

- produces world-class agricultural products worth A\$1.9 billion
- world leaders in livestock genetics and complementary industries
- world heritage gorge country and wild rivers
- expanding manufacturing, aerospace, viticulture and tourism sectors
- professional service industry expanding through creative use of distance marketing.

Major industry sectors:

- agriculture and agribusiness
- education and research
- professional services
- manufacturing
- tourism and transport.

The New England – North West Region, located midway between Sydney and Brisbane, provides a vibrant blend of agriculture, industry, culture and specialised education.

The climate is perfect for a relaxed, outdoor way of life from the rolling plains of the Northwest to the mountainous hills and gorge country of the New England.

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

- strong transport links
- information technology infrastructure comparable to metropolitan centres
- thriving educational infrastructure
- high level of professional skills base.

INDUSTRIES

Agriculture

Large tracts of prime black soil land have made New England - North West one of Australia's premier agricultural regions. Each year it produces over A\$1.9 billion of agricultural commodities including cotton, wheat and other cereals, cattle and calves, wool, poultry, grain legumes, sheep and lambs, and oilseeds. There has also been significant growth and success with the emerging olive, viticulture and aquaculture industries.

The region produces world-class fine wool and is a centre for livestock production. It is home to over 20 Breed Societies and specialist breeding programs. There is a strong presence of associated enterprises including international livestock genetics and animal health.

Aviation

The aerospace/aviation sector is slowly expanding with the Tamworth-based BAE Systems flight training college, the Australasian-Pacific Aeronautical College and a number of smaller helicopter and light plane training facilities in New England.

Manufacturing

The manufacturing industry has an annual turnover of A\$752 million and is one of the region's major employers. The region is especially strong in the manufacture of agricultural equipment.

Education

Quality education services have become a hallmark of the New England Region. The University of New England is recognised as a major provider of a wide range of courses and the region is host to a large number of internationally known private and boarding schools.

Tourism

With the diversity of a cool mountain climate to the warmth of the rolling plains, New England - Northwest provides some of Australia's most unique tourist experiences. Whether you want to tour world heritage gorge country, some of Australia's highest waterfalls and wild rivers, or go west and learn to rope a calf or fossick for gold, you will find it all in the New England - North West

INFRASTRUCTURE

Transport

The region is well serviced by road, rail and air. An extensive highway system links the region's major towns, and freight systems link the region to major Australian markets and export ports.

Major educational facilities

- University of New England
- International renowned private schools.

Information Technology

The region offers the same range of telecommunications amenities as any major metropolitan centre in Australia. This has promoted the growth of a large number of regionally based IT-related businesses with a consumer base both nationally and internationally .

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