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Northern Inland (New England - North West)

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Population: 202,160
Area: 98,606 sq km

Major cities and towns:

- Armidale
- Bingara
- Glen Innes
- Gunnedah
- Guyra
- Inverell
- Moree
- Narrabri
- Quirindi
- Uralla
- Tamworth
- Tenterfield
- Walch.

Region overview:

- expanding food processing sector
- produces world-class agricultural products worth A\$1.9 billion
- produces boutique regional food and wine
- expanding service industry in education, research, information and communications technology (ICT) and hospitality
- a centre of excellence in aviation training
- world leader in livestock genetics and complementary industries
- emerging energy sector in coal, gas, ethanol and renewable energy
- World Heritage gorge country and wild rivers.

Major industry sectors:

- agriculture and agribusiness
- education and research
- aviation training
- manufacturing
- tourism
- transport and logistics
- energy and mining.

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

- temperate and high country climates suitable for producing a range of food and wine
- strong transport links to major cities and export markets
- thriving educational facilities including the University of New England and New England Institute of TAFE
- access to advanced ICT services
- large coal and coal gas seam deposits.



INDUSTRIES

Agriculture

The Northern Inland is 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, 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. *New England, Australia* is now officially recognised as a wine growing region.

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 region is strong in aviation training with more than 300 students trained annually by the Tamworth-based BAE Systems flight training college, the Australasian-Pacific Aeronautical College. Aviation service industries such as maintenance and engineering are located in the region, the largest being QantasLink Heavy Maintenance at Tamworth. Many airports in the

region have daily services to Sydney and have land available for further aerospace development.

Manufacturing

The manufacturing industry has an annual turnover of A\$752 million and is one of the region's major employers. The food processing sector is one of the largest in NSW with beef and sheep meat, flour, pasta, poultry, starch, malt, sunflower and soy.

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

Visitors to the Northern Inland region can 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 Northern Inland. The region received nearly 1.3 domestic overnight visitors for the year ended March 2008.

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 ICT-related businesses with national and international consumers.

For more information

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[Northern Inland Regional Development Board](#)

Related publications

 [NSW Regional Profile - New England - North West Region](#)