

# QUEENSLAND MARITIME REGIONS - 2021

## INTRODUCTION

Maritime Safety Queensland provides leadership to the maritime industry enabling a vibrant, prosperous, safe and sustainable use of our waters and seas, we set the standards for managing ship movements and marine safety activities in Queensland and provide examples of leading practices to the world. We involve our stakeholders in the development of strategies, policies, safe business practices and direction, design and construction of effective marine infrastructure, ensuring safe access and use of our waters.

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the five maritime regions; Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Gladstone and Brisbane through which the functions of Maritime Safety Queensland are organised.

The geographic boundaries of these regions reflect both maritime and administrative considerations and are not exactly coincident with any other administrative or statistical division in use by other government departments or organisations.

The document provides a description of the geographical boundaries of each maritime region and a description of the principle marine installations and the basic summary statistics relevant to each region. A table of statistics and a map of the regions are provided with this report.

## REGIONS

### CAIRNS

The Cairns maritime region includes 2994 km of mainland coastline extending from Mission Beach, around the Gulf of Carpentaria to the Northern Territory border, 2267 km of island coastline and 23,469 km of inland waterways. This region also includes all the islands and waterways of the Torres Strait.

The region hosts 23 BoatSafe providers, has a resident population of more than 299,000 people of whom one in four have a Recreational Marine Driver Licence and one in 13 have a registered recreational vessel.

This region has seven trading ports: Amrun, Cairns, Cape Flattery, Karumba, Mourilyan, Skardon River, and Weipa. There are also two community ports Quintell Beach and Thursday Island, and two non-trading ports, Burketown and Cooktown.

These seven trading ports service more than 2400 visiting ships and handle more than 43 million tonnes of cargo each year.

The region accommodates more than 22,000 Queensland Regulated Ships, 58 boat ramps, 366 buoy moorings, and two major marinas each of which provides at least 150 berths that together provide 458 berths. It is also home to two of the 10 state boat harbours.

### TOWNSVILLE

The Townsville maritime region includes 827 km of mainland coastline extending from Gloucester Passage to Meunga Creek just north of Cardwell, 651 km of island coastline and 769 km of inland waterways.

The region hosts eight BoatSafe providers, has a resident population of more than 260,000 people of whom one in four have a Recreational Marine Driver Licence and one in 11 have a registered recreational vessel.

The region has three trading ports at Townsville, Lucinda and Abbott Point. These ports service more than 900 visiting ships and handle more than 37 million tonnes of cargo each year. There are also four community marine facilities, located at Palm Island, Bowen, Nelly Bay and Hinchinbrook. The region accommodates more than 23,000 Queensland Regulated Ships,

49 boat ramps, 151 buoy moorings, and two major marinas each of which provides at least 150 berths that together provide 574 berths. Townsville is also home to the REEFVTS which monitors piloted movements of ships using The Inner Route (Great Barrier Reef) and ships using Hydrographers Passage

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## MACKAY

The Mackay maritime region includes 800 km of mainland coastline extending from St Lawrence to Georges Point in the north, 1341 km of island coastline and 11,890 km of inland waterways.

The region hosts seven BoatSafe providers, has a resident population of more than 170,000 people of whom one in four have a Recreational Marine Driver Licence and one in nine have a registered recreational vessel.

The region has two trading ports: Mackay and Hay Point. Together these ports service more than 1200 vessels and handle more than 100 million tonnes of cargo each year. Hay Point is one of Queensland's largest coal export ports and processes 80% of all port trade in the region.

The region accommodates more than 20,000 Queensland Regulated Ships, 39 boat ramps, 527 buoy moorings, and three major marinas each of which provides at least 150 berths that together provide 1300 berths.

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## GLADSTONE

The Gladstone maritime region includes 1868 km of mainland coastline from Double Island Point to St Lawrence, 1342 km of island coastline and 26,190 km of inland waterways.

The region hosts 15 BoatSafe providers, has a resident population of more than 500,000 people of whom one in four have a recreational marine driver licence and one in 11 have a registered recreational vessel.

There are three major trading ports in the region including the Port of Gladstone, Port Alma (Rockhampton) and the Port of Bundaberg. There is also one non-trading port at Maryborough. These ports service more than 1800 visiting ships and handle more than 123 million tonnes of cargo each year. The Port of Gladstone is currently the world's fourth largest

coal exporting terminal and handles most of the trade in this region.

The region accommodates more than 50,000 Queensland Regulated Ships, 106 boat ramps, 610 Buoy moorings, and four major marinas each of which provides at least 150 berths that together provide 1222 berths. It is also the home of four of the 10 state boat harbours.

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## BRISBANE

The Brisbane region encompasses Greater Brisbane, the areas west of Brisbane and the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast Management areas. The Brisbane maritime region includes 593 km of mainland coastline from Point Danger on the New South Wales border to Double Island Point, 834 km of island coastline and 23,283 km of inland waterways.

The region hosts 95 BoatSafe providers, has a resident population of more than 3.8 million people of whom one in seven have a recreational marine driver licence and one in 25 have a registered recreational vessel.

The shipping activities in the region are centred on the Port of Brisbane which services more than 2100 visiting ships and handles more than 29 million tonnes of cargo each year.

The region accommodates more than 155,000 Queensland Regulated Ships, 176 boat ramps, 1259 buoy moorings, and 12 major marinas each of which provides at least 150 berths that together provide 3324 berths. It is also home to four of the 10 State Boat harbours

## CONCLUSION

Each of Queensland's maritime regions presents unique challenges and diversification from Cruise ships in Far North Queensland, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park usage, hire and drive sailing vessels in the Whitsundays, recreational Personal Watercraft on the Gold Coast and LNG shipments from Gladstone Harbour.

The variation in the size and composition of the vessel fleets, size of the resident population, and the nature and extent of the waterways being overseen indicates that any comparisons of the regions should always be interpreted with caution.

**Table 1 Demographics**

Maritime Regions	Geography			Jun-20	Trading Ports 2019-2020		
	Mainland Coastline	Island Coastline	Inland Waterways	Estimated Resident Population	Trading Ports	Visiting Vessels	Imports and Exports
	km	km	km	No.	No.	No.	Tonnes
<b>Brisbane</b>	593	834	627	3.89m	1	2147	29m
<b>Gladstone</b>	1868	1342	1737	0.54m	3	1879	123m
<b>Mackay</b>	800	1341	317	0.17m	2	1289	102m
<b>Townsville</b>	827	651	769	0.26m	3	971	37m
<b>Cairns</b>	2994	2267	6434	0.29m	9	2407	43m
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>7080</b>	<b>6435</b>	<b>9884</b>	<b>5.17m</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8693</b>	<b>334m</b>

**Table 2 Maritime Statistics**

Maritime Regions	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jan-21	Jun-21	Jun-21	Jul-21
	Queensland Regulated Ships	Recreational Vessel Licensees	BoatSafe Providers	State Boat Harbours	Boat Ramps	Buoy Moorings	Major Marinas (Berths)
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
<b>Brisbane</b>	155311	621771	95	4	176	1259	12(3324)
<b>Gladstone</b>	50255	139592	15	4	106	610	4(1222)
<b>Mackay</b>	20100	51249	7		39	527	3(1300)
<b>Townsville</b>	23553	69270	8		49	151	2(575)
<b>Cairns</b>	22928	73619	23	2	64	366	2(458)
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>272189</b>	<b>967419</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>2913</b>	<b>23(6879)</b>

## Disclaimer

The data sources used in the compilation of this report are subject to an ongoing process of data validation and consequently the numbers and calculations presented are subject to revision.

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# Appendix A – Map of Queensland Maritime Jurisdictions

