

---

# National Indigenous Forestry Strategy

## Torres Strait Indigenous Coordination Centre

### Area profile

---

#### Location

- The Torres Strait ICC area is located on the north most tip of Queensland. It comprises of approximately 150 thousand hectares, of which 85 thousand ha are forested.
- The area is comprised of the Islands of the Torres Strait and the very tip of Cape York, with a common boundary with the Cairns ICC area to the south.
- The area coordination office is located in the city of Cairns.



#### Land Use

- The most widespread tenure type in the area is Private Leasehold land, with 58% of the total area attributed to that tenure type. Other common tenure types in the area include Other Crown Land and lands with Unresolved Tenure.

Torres Strait tenure types	Hectares	Percent of total
Private leasehold	90,343	58
Other Crown Land	26,386	17
Unresolved Tenure	23,870	15
Nature Conservation Reserve	11,497	8
Leasehold	2,921	2
Total	155,017	100

#### Forest type

- The most dominant forest type is Eucalypt forest, covering 29% of the total area and making up 52% of the areas forests. Mangroves are also common, making up 23% of the areas forests.

Forest Type	Total Forest (ha)	Percent of forest	Percent of total area
Eucalypt	44,539	52	29
Mangroves	19,540	23	13
Rainforest	15,305	18	10
Melaleuca	5,897	7	3
Casuarina	82	0	0
Total	85,363	100	55

#### Soils

- The lands in the far northern tip of Cape York are composed of non calcareous earths inland and sands on the coastal fringes. Soils information is only available for the larger southern islands in the Torres Strait. These islands are composed primarily of loamy soils.

#### Climate

- The areas climatic zone is equatorial savanna.
-

- On average Thursday Island receives 1717mm of rainfall each year, predominantly falling during the warmer months.
- Average daily minimum and maximum temperatures

Thursday Island	Mid-Winter	Mid- Summer
Average maximum	28°C	31°C
Average minimum	23°C	25°C

### Population profile

- Total population of area: 9,669 (0.3% of Queensland's population and 0.05% of the entire nation's population).
- Largest City: Thursday Island (2,680)
- Largest Indigenous population: New Mapoon (125)

### Social indicator table

Social Indicator	In ICC Area	State or Territory	National
Total population (2001)	9,669	3,584,154	18,757,139
Total population living in urban centres	8,482	3,098,019	16,823,254
Total rural population	1,187	486,135	1,933,885
Percentage of population living in urban centres	87.7%	86.4%	89.7%
Average annual growth rate based on population change (1996-2001)	2.7%	1.6%	1.1%
Number of people employed in forestry and logging	0	1,859	10,944
Number of people employed in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	54	76,477	330,466
Persons employed in forestry and logging as a percentage of all persons employed in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	0%	2.4%	3.3%
Proportion of employed persons working in the industry sector of forestry and logging	0%	0.12%	0.13%
Number of people employed in Paper and Wood Products Manufacturing	0	11,438	63,383
Proportion of employed persons working in the industry sector of Wood and Paper product manufacturing	0%	0.74%	0.78%
Percentage of high income households	22.2%	25.8%	29.4%
Proportion of low income households	11.2%	13.9%	13.9%

ICC Areas: Regional socio-demographic figures were compiled from aggregated 2001 SLA data. The population of an SLA was attributed to an ICC area if over 50% of the SLA fell within that area.

Climate information data source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology, (BOM) 2006, 'Climate Averages for Australian Sites'.

Social Indicator data source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1996-2001, Census of Population and Housing. Data based on the place of enumeration. Data supplied by ABS as customised tables at statistical local area (SLA) geography.

Disclaimer: Data used are assumed to be correct as received from the data suppliers. The Bureau of Rural Sciences, its employees and advisors disclaim any liability, including all liability for negligence, any loss, damage or injury incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying upon any of the information or data set out in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

