

# Recreational fishing in the regions Wide Bay-Burnett residents

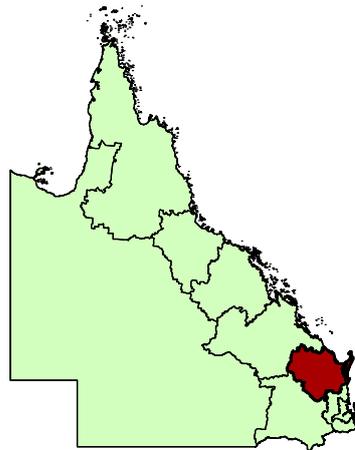
A snapshot from the 2010 statewide recreational fishing survey

## The local region

This factsheet describes the recreational fishing activities of residents of the Wide Bay-Burnett region (see red section of map below). This information was collected during the 2010 statewide recreational fishing survey.

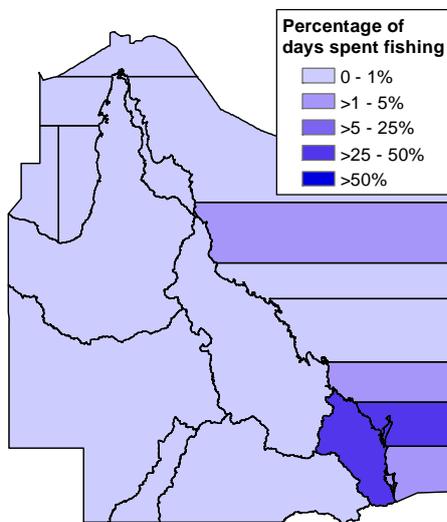
The local waters of Wide Bay-Burnett include the subtropical waters of the southern Great Barrier Reef, Tin Can Bay, the Great Sandy Straits, and several freshwater lakes and rivers.

The region lies next to a transition zone where cooler temperate and warmer tropical waters mix. This provides recreational fishers with the opportunity to target tropical reef fish such as redthroat emperor and those temperate favourites such as snapper.



## Where do residents fish?

Across Queensland people normally fish locally and that seems to be the case for the residents of Wide Bay-Burnett.

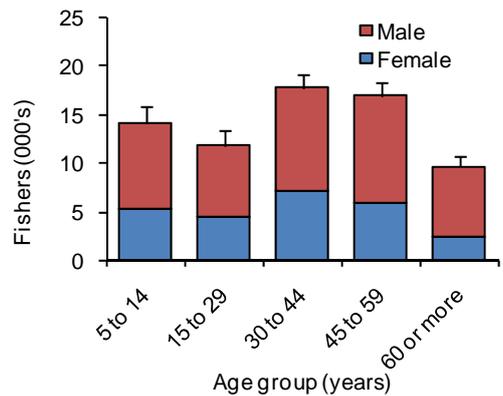


**Figure 1: Map showing percentage of days spent fishing by Wide Bay-Burnett residents in the different fishing regions during the survey**

## Participation

Recreational fishing is very popular, 26% of Wide Bay-Burnett residents aged 5 years or above went fishing in the 12 months prior to the survey. That is the second highest participation rate for any region in Queensland and much higher than the statewide average of 17%.

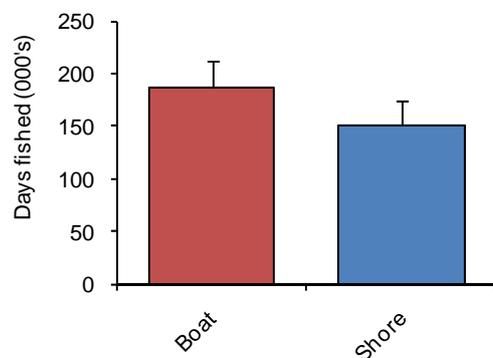
Fishers were distributed across all age groups with only slightly more male than female fishers (Figure 2).



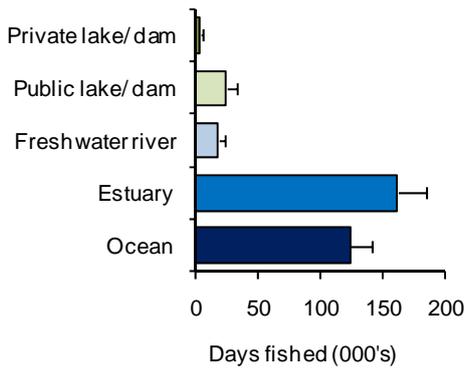
**Figure 2: Fishers by age group and gender**

## Days fished

More days were spent fishing from boats than the shore (Figure 3) and most of this was done in marine waters (Figure 4).

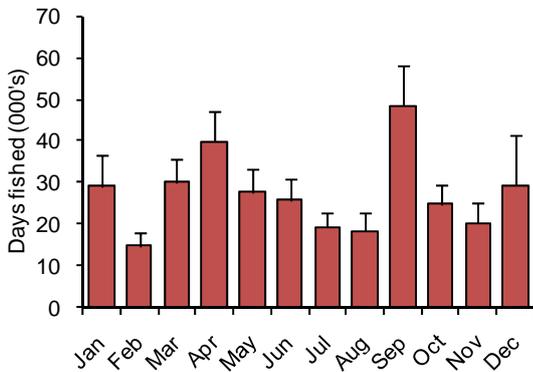


**Figure 3: Days fished from a boat or the shore**



**Figure 4: Days fished by water body**

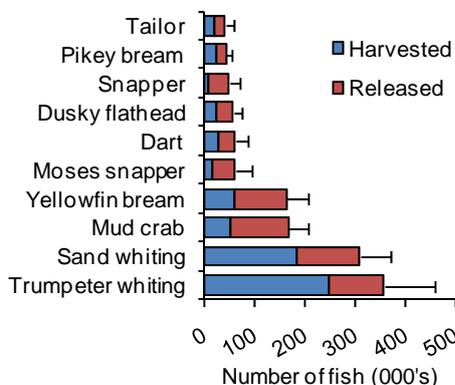
People went fishing throughout the year but there were peaks in April and September (Figure 5) coinciding with school holidays.



**Figure 5: Days fished by month**

### Top 10 species

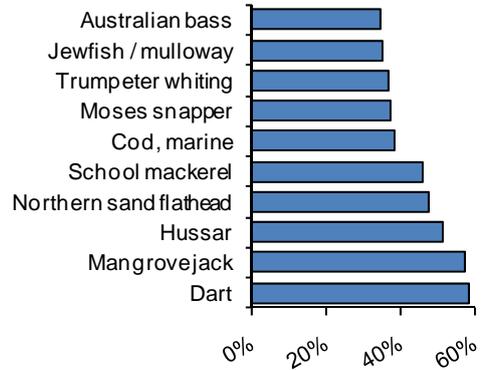
Whiting species and yellowfin bream were the most commonly caught fish by residents of Wide Bay-Burnett, with mud crabs coming third. More than 85% of the 49,000 snapper caught were released (Figure 6).



**Figure 6: Top 10 species caught (both harvested and released) by number**

### Proportion of Queensland's harvest

Wide Bay-Burnett residents took more than 50% of Queensland's recreational harvest of dart, mangrove jack and hussar. They also took approximately 35% of Queensland's Australian bass harvest (Figure 7).



**Figure 7: Recreational harvest by residents of Wide Bay-Burnett as a percentage of the harvest by all Queenslanders**

### The statewide recreational fishing surveys

Fisheries Queensland's 2010 statewide recreational fishing surveys collected the information for these regional profiles. This information would not be available without the honest and thoughtful participation in these surveys by Queensland's recreational fishers. These surveys provide vital information for the sustainable management of Queensland's fisheries and also provide useful information for regional councils, businesses and stakeholder groups.

To find out more about the information available from these surveys please visit Monitoring our Fisheries at [www.fisheries.qld.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.qld.gov.au)

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