

# Camden Council

## Economic key findings report based on economy.id information tool

Prepared by .id (informed decisions)

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## 1 economy.id – an introduction

This document examines the economic characteristics and workplace role and function of the Camden Council, New South Wales.

Understanding the economic and demographic processes at work in Camden provides a framework for understanding what role the industries and workforce of the area play in the context of MACROC and Greater Sydney. This is intended to guide economic development in understanding what policy responses to put in place to enhance the local economy.

A sustainable economy is based on the interplay between the industries and the workforce located in the area, the economic role of the wider region, and the demographic role of the community. Strong economies draw heavily on their local population as a source of workers, a market for goods and services, and support for industry, while also playing a wider role as exporters of goods and services, or specialists in a particular industry sector. Economic development is focussed on fostering this relationship between population and economy, ensuring that the area is attractive to businesses of a type supported by the local community, and contributes to the prosperity of that community.

The focus of this paper is a summary of the key points of the Camden economy, main industries and characteristics of the workforce, and how they are changing over time.

### 1.1 Data sources

The information presented is publicly available from the Camden's online economic website:

- Economic profile – [www.id.com.au/economy/Camden](http://www.id.com.au/economy/Camden)

Further demographic information may be found in the Camden profile.id site:

- Community Profile – [www.id.com.au/profile/Camden](http://www.id.com.au/profile/Camden)

Links to the relevant pages of these online resources are provided throughout this report.

### 1.2 Definition of terms used in this report

“Workforce” – refers to the people who *work* within the local government area, regardless of where they live. For example, someone who works in Camden but lives in Bankstown would be included in the workforce.

“Resident employment” – refers to the people who *live* within the local government area and are employed, regardless of where they work. For example, someone who lives in Camden but works in the City of Sydney would be an employed resident.

“Employment self-containment” – measures the proportion of employed residents who work locally. For example, 27.5% of Camden's employed residents work in Camden.

“Employment self-sufficiency” – measures the proportion of the workforce who live locally. For example, 58.0% of Camden's workforce is made up of Camden residents.

“Employment Capacity” – Measures the number of local jobs as a ratio to the number of employed residents. This is the theoretical proportion of residents who could work locally if they chose to do so.

## 2 Executive Summary

### 2.1 Summary of economic characteristics

- Camden's Gross Regional Product in 2012-13 was \$2.4 billion, about 0.52% of New South Wales State Product, and 26% of the Macarthur region.
- Economic growth has increased in recent years, with a current 6.7% annual growth rate.
- The residential economy has grown faster than local industry due to substantial housing growth. The residential economy is just over 25% larger than the local industry economy, which indicates that a lot of economic productivity leaves the area via residents commuting to higher value jobs elsewhere.
- The largest employer and value-added industry is Construction.
- Specialised local industries include Building Construction and Agriculture
- All industries increased over the last 5 years, except for Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services and Transport, Postal and Warehousing which saw small declines
- There are 4,957 businesses active for GST (in 2013) in Camden, dominated by the construction sector, and this figure increased slightly over 3 years.
- Camden's workforce includes a lot of young people under 25, but increasing proportions of 45-64 year olds
- Education and occupation levels indicate a mix of blue and white collar workforce.
- While hours worked varies greatly by industry, Camden tends to have a higher proportion of part-time workers than the MACROC and Sydney average.
- Most industries, even those known for having higher incomes, had lower incomes in Camden compared to the Sydney average for those industries.
- Overall, there are 70 local jobs in Camden for every 100 residents employed.
- There are two industries with a small excess of jobs over residents – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing and Accommodation and Food Services
- All other industries have an excess of employed residents over jobs. There is a particularly large mismatch in Mining
- The level of self-containment in 2011 was 27.5% (residents working in Camden) But the majority of workers either work within the region or in nearby parts of South-Western Sydney, like Campbelltown, Liverpool and Fairfield. Only 5.4% of employed residents work in the City of Sydney.
- The level of self-sufficiency was 48.0%, so just under half of all workers were sourced from within the Camden local government area.

## 2.2 Key economic indicators

The following table contains key economic indicators for Camden, benchmarked to the Macarthur region and Greater Sydney as at the latest Census (2011) or modelled data from 2012-13, unless otherwise stated.

Indicator	Camden	Macarthur Region	Greater Sydney
Population in June 2013 (ERP)	63,248	264,081	4,672,619
Gross Regional Product (2012-13)	\$2.38 billion	\$9.16 billion	\$338.6 billion
Largest industry (value-add 2012-13)	Construction	Manufacturing	Finance and Insurance
Number of businesses (June 2012)	4,957	17,453	456,771
Number of businesses with at least one employee	2,305	7,580	183,043
Size of the workforce (2013 modelled)	22,412	80,377	2,452,350
Workers living in Camden (% 2011)	48.0%	73.7%	N/A
Workers aged over 55	17.1%	17.7%	16.7%
Part-time workers	37.5%	35.7%	31.4%
Workers with a university degree	15.4%	18.4%	35.2%
Workers on \$1,500 per week or more	14.1%	18.4%	27.8%
Number of residents employed (2013 modelled)	31,987	127,283	2,396,575
Employed residents working in Camden(% 2011)	27.5%	42.4%	N/A
Employment capacity	70.0%	63.0%	102.3%
Unemployment rate (December 2013)	3.3%	5.7%	5.8%

### 3 Introducing Camden

The Camden Council area is located in Sydney's south-western suburbs, about 60 kilometres from the Sydney CBD. The Camden Council area is bounded by Liverpool City in the north, Campbelltown City in the east, and Wollondilly Shire in the south and west. Camden is named after Lord Camden, former Secretary of State for War and the Colonies. Camden is called the "Birthplace of the Wealth of the Nation" in recognition of the commencement of Australia's wool industry in the area

The original inhabitants of the Camden area were the Tharawal and Gundungurra Aboriginal people. European settlement dates from 1805 when John Macarthur was granted 5,000 acres of land for sheep breeding. Population was minimal until the 1840s when land was subdivided. Gradual growth took place in the late 1800s. Significant development did not occur until the 1980s. Rapid growth occurred from the early 1990s, with the population almost doubling between 1991 and 2001, and substantial growth continuing, though at a lower rate between 2001 and 2011. The population of the Council area increased from about 22,000 in 1991 to over 56,000 in 2011. Most of this growth has been in the south-eastern suburbs of Currans Hill, Harrington Park, Mount Annan and Narellan Vale, and more recently in the southern suburbs of Elderslie and Spring Farm. Growth is expected to continue, as existing release areas continue to be developed and new release areas in the north of the Council area begin development.

Camden functions primarily as a residential area for first home buyers and upgraders from nearby Campbelltown, and the south-western corridor of Sydney. Residential development and industries serving the local population are the primary drivers of the local economy. The main regional centre of Campbelltown is nearby, but within Camden, Narellan is the main retail and service centre, while there is a large industrial area at Smeaton Grange.

The historic town of Camden has now been largely subsumed into the growing urban area of Greater Sydney, but retains a number of historic buildings and a small, walkable centre. The elderly population in the old township is now changing, with emerging families attracted to renovating period homes in an area with a small-town feel but within commuting distance of Sydney's employment centres.

## 4 Size of the economy (Gross Regional Product)

### KEY RESULTS

- Camden's Gross Regional Product in 2012-13 was \$2.4 billion, about 0.52% of New South Wales State Product, and 26% of the Macarthur region.
- Economic growth has increased in recent years, with a current 6.7% annual growth rate.
- The residential economy has grown faster than the local industry. The residential economy is just over 25% larger than the local industry economy, which indicates that a lot of economic productivity leaves the area via residents commuting to higher value jobs elsewhere.

According to the economic modelling developed by the National Institute for Economic and Industry Research (which uses 8 major data inputs to model national accounts to the local industry level), the Gross Regional Product of Camden Council in 2013 was approximately \$2,377million, or about \$2.4 billion. This comprises 0.70% of the Greater Sydney economy and 0.52% of the New South Wales state economy, and 26% of the Macarthur Region.

The graph below shows the growth in GRP for Camden between 2001 and 2013.

### Camden Council area - Gross Regional Product



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2014  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id the population experts



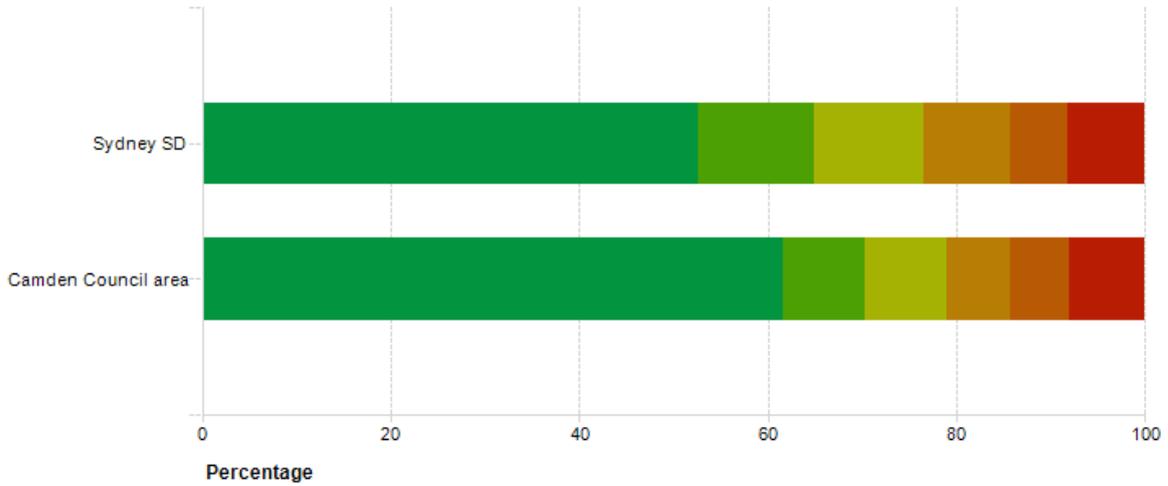
Two other measures of economic size are included in the chart. The local "Industry GRP" is a measure of the value of the economy after company dividends have been distributed. It is a little lower than the headline number indicating some large companies with ownership predominantly outside the area.

Camden is predominantly a wage and salary earning area, with a relatively low percentage of total income coming from business or property income, when compared to the Sydney average.

## Sources of income per household

Camden Council area

■ Wages & salaries   
 ■ Ownership of dwellings   
 ■ Superannuation   
 ■ Cash benefits  
■ Property income   
 ■ Business income



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2014  
 Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id the population experts



The “Resident GRP” indicates the economic contribution of the residents, including those working outside the area. In 2012-13 this stood at just under \$3.0 billion, and the ratio of industry to residents GRP has been fairly stable over time, with a marginal increase. This indicates that the residential economy is growing a little faster than the local industry. This, and the fact that the residential economy is just over 25% larger than the local economy indicates that a lot of economic productivity leaves the area via residents commuting out.

More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/gross-regional-product>

## 5 Key industries

### KEY RESULTS

- The largest employer and value-added industry is Construction
- Specialised local industries include Building Construction and Agriculture
- All industries increased over the last 5 years, except for Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services and Transport, Postal and Warehousing which saw small declines
- There are 4,957 businesses active for GST (in 2013) in Camden, dominated by the construction sector, and this figure increased slightly within the 3 year time period

### 5.1 Value-Add by industry

In relative size or value-added terms, the largest industry in Camden in 2012-13 was Construction, worth \$372.8m, or 18.6% of the Camden's total value-add. There is a degree of diversity in Camden's economy, but no other industry has a value add of over \$250m.

It is worth noting that in the microsimulation model which underpins economy.id, construction jobs are allocated to the area where the construction is taking place, whereas in the Census many construction jobs have no usual address, or are allocated to the address of the construction company.

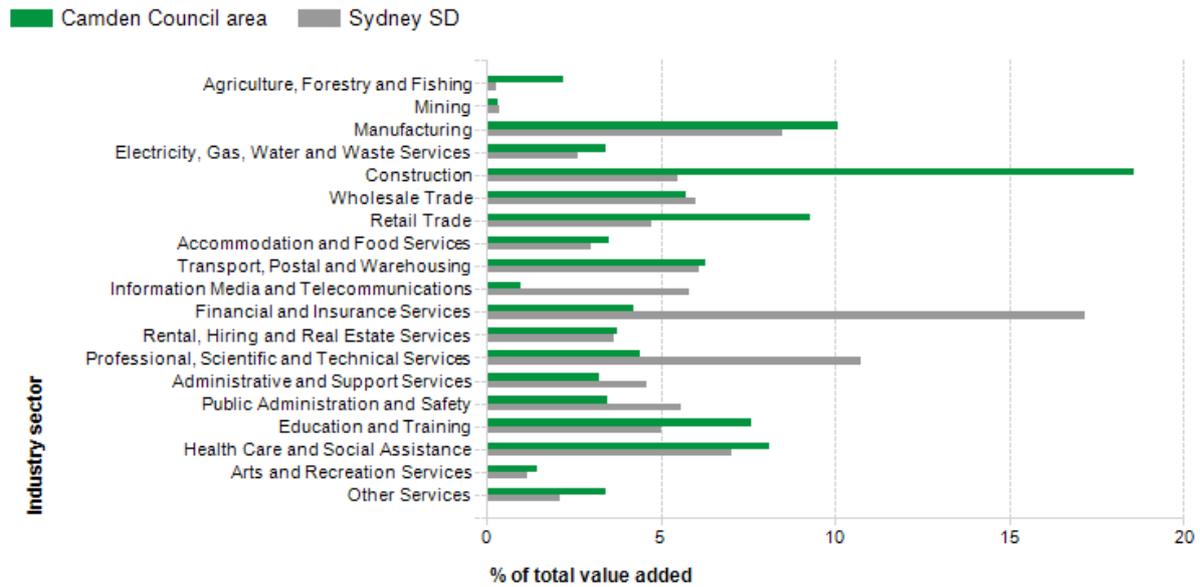
This chart shows the relative sizes of industries compared to the Greater Sydney total. A "Location Quotient" of 2 or more indicates an industry specialisation (that is, more than twice the percentage as the benchmark). This is clearly visible for Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (7.33) and Construction (3.38).

Drilling down further, there is significant specialisation in sub-industries such as

- Building Construction (3.72)
- Construction Services (3.23)
- Agriculture (10.0)

These industries have all increased in value in the past 5 years, in the case of the construction sector, the increase is considerable, due to housing and commercial property growth in the region.

### Value added by industry sector 2012/13



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) @2014  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id the population experts

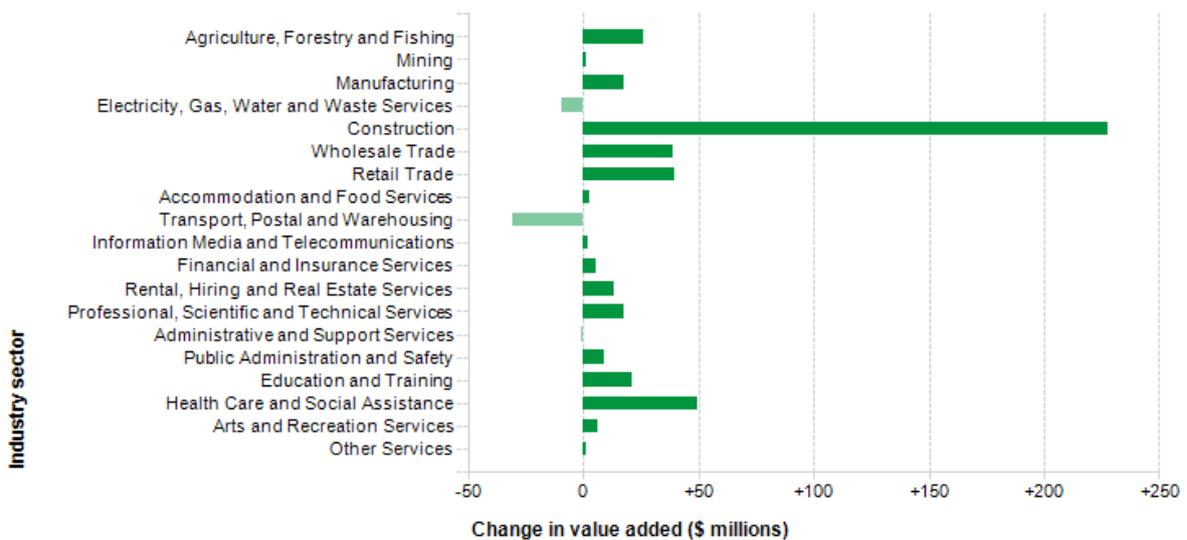


Over the past 5 years, almost all industry sectors have grown, but Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services, Administrative and Support Services and Transport, Postal and Warehousing have seen a small decline. This is in line with the overall trend in the Macarthur Region.

The increase in construction is likely to be due to building activity happening in the area. Because the value of construction in the model is imputed to the area in which the construction occurs, when construction finishes this can show a large downturn. Construction is currently worth \$372.8m per year in value-add to Camden's economy.

### Change in value added by industry sector, 2007/08 to 2012/13

Camden Council area



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) @2014  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id the population experts

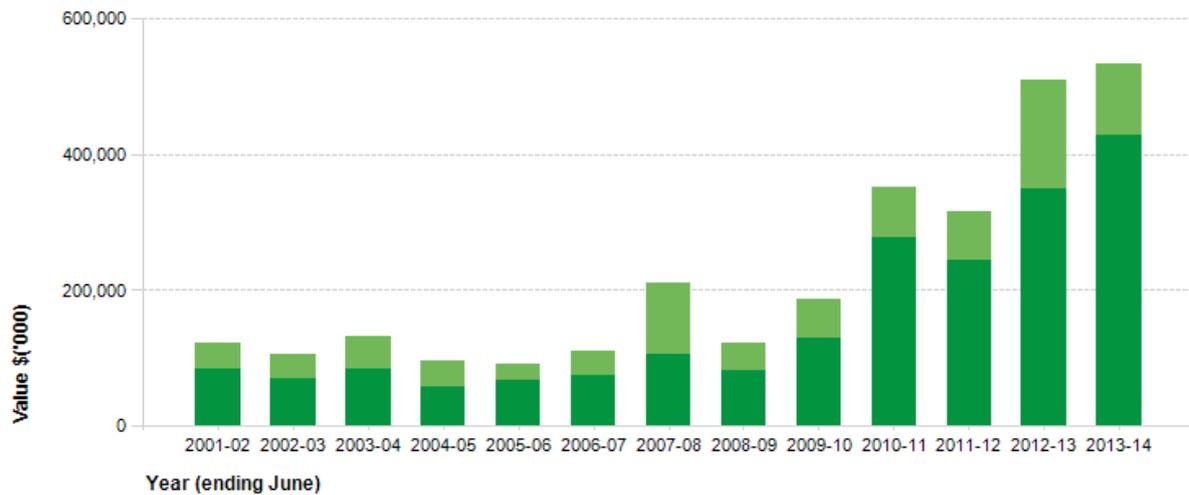


This is consistent with a very large increase in both residential and non-residential building approvals over the past few years, as the residential building industry expands into new growth areas of Camden.

## Value of total building approvals

Camden Council area

Residential Non-residential



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) @2014  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id the population experts



More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/value-add-by-industry>

## 5.2 Employment by industry

Employment can paint a different picture to value-added, with some industries having relatively high productivity per worker, and others fairly low.

In 2012/13, there were 22,412 workers in Camden, based on economic modelling of ABS labour force datasets by National Economics. This was an increase of just over 2,800 workers since 2007/08.

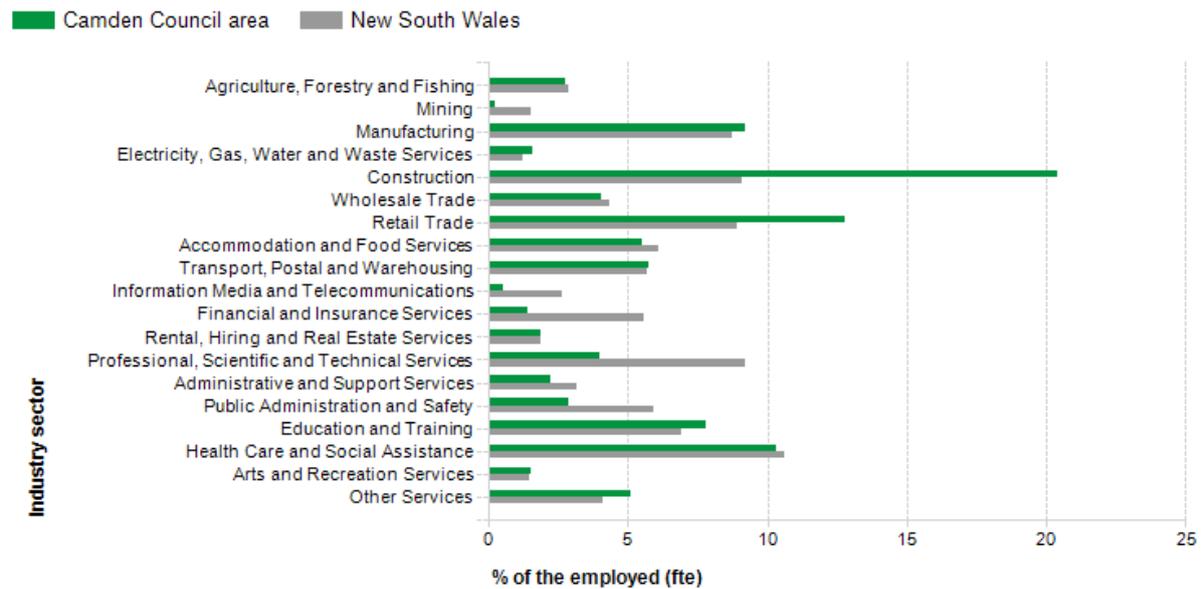
By far the largest employer is Construction, employing 4,217 people in 2012-13, or 18.8% of the total workforce.

This was followed by Retail Trade (12.8%) and Health Care and Social Assistance (12.1%). These top 3 industries are all very close together in total employment, however, when looking at it on a Full-Time Equivalent basis, Construction is clearly the largest, at 4,000 FTEs.

The largest subsectors of Construction in the area are (by total employment) Construction Services (2,853 jobs), and Building Construction (938 jobs). Both increased over the past 5 years. Overall, the Construction workforce saw a large increase, with an addition of just over 1,300 jobs between 2007/08 and 2012/13.

However, over 5 years, declines in jobs were recorded only one industry, Transport, Postal and Warehousing, down by 333 jobs.

## Employment (FTE) 2012/13



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2014  
 Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id the population experts



When looking at worker productivity for the region, some interesting trends emerge. The top employing industries in the area are not the most productive. The most productive industries in Camden are Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services (\$212,516), Financial and Insurance Services (\$296,145), and Rental Hiring and Real Estate Services (\$236,067), however these all have very small numbers of workers. The lower productivity in the higher employing industries are fairly normal – Industries such as Retail Trade always show up as having lower levels of productivity due to the part-time nature of much of the work. Overall, levels of worker productivity are on par with the rest of the Macarthur Region and Greater Sydney.

More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/employment-by-industry>

### 5.3 Number of businesses by industry

In June 2013, there were 4,957 registered businesses (active and registered for GST) located in the Camden Council. Many of these were micro-businesses, with 2,653 (53.5%) having no employees.

Construction had the largest number of both employing and non-employing businesses, with just under one in four (24.4%) of all businesses being in this industry.

There was a small increase in the number of businesses between 2009 and 2013, with (net) 170 more businesses registered over the time period. Most parts of Australia registered a small loss of business numbers between these two extracts from the business register, due to a cleanup of the database. The fact that Camden increased shows strong growth in the small business sector.

More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/number-of-businesses-by-industry>

### 5.4 Focus on Agriculture

Though it only contributed 2% of Camden's total value add, the Agriculture industry is nevertheless important in Camden, as it is a high yield horticultural area close to the markets of Sydney. In fringe urban areas there is always a tension between the need for residential growth and the need to maintain food security close to population centres.

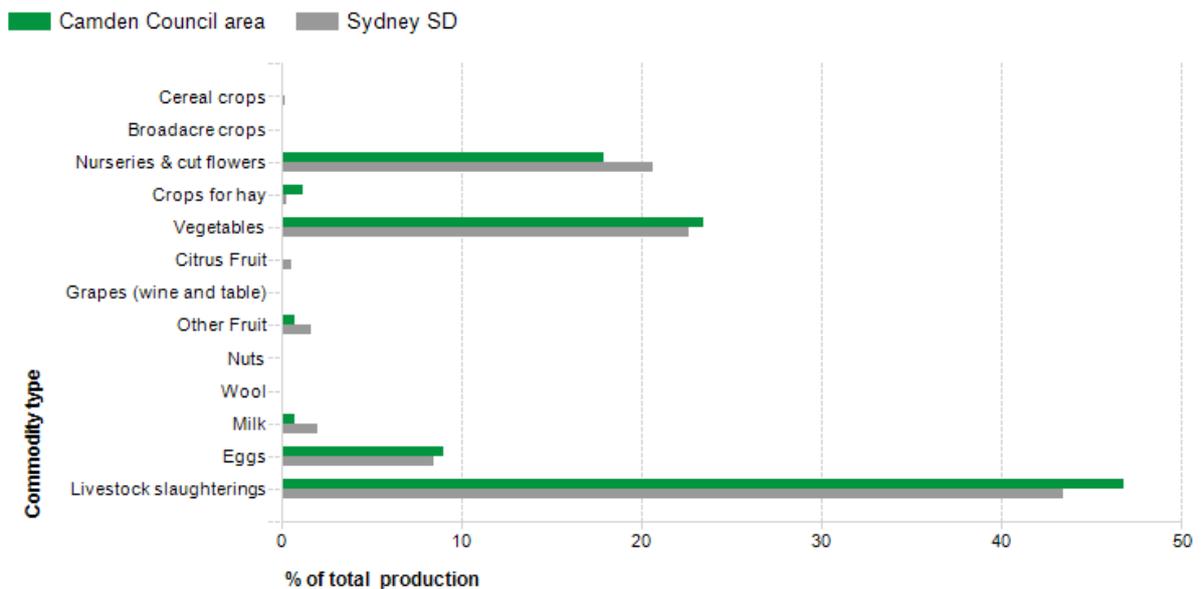
Modelled estimates show that Agriculture employs approximately 338 people in Camden, down from 524 people 5 years before. In 2010/11, the Agriculture Census showed \$43.6m in total agricultural production.

Nearly half of this was in livestock slaughterings, mostly \$18.6m of poultry for meat. In addition there were \$3.9m of eggs produced.

Vegetable production is mainly in the northern parts of Camden, around Leppington's market gardens, and in 2010/11, produced \$10.3m of vegetables, or 6.4% of Sydney's output.

The main vegetables produced were Mushrooms (\$4.8m), and "Other vegetables" which showed a big increase over 5 years, and represents predominantly an increase in Asian Vegetables (eg. Bok Choy), from almost nothing 5 years prior.

#### Value of agricultural production 2010/11



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2010-11. Cat. No. 7503.0



## 6 Workforce characteristics

### KEY RESULTS

- Camden's workforce includes a lot of young people under 25, but increasing proportions of 45-64 year olds
- Education and occupation levels indicate a mix of blue and white collar workforce.
- While hours worked varies greatly by industry, Camden tends to have a higher proportion of part-time workers than the MACROC and Sydney average.
- Most industries, even those known for having higher incomes, had lower incomes in Camden compared to the Sydney average for those industries.

There are three ways of measuring the Camden workforce.

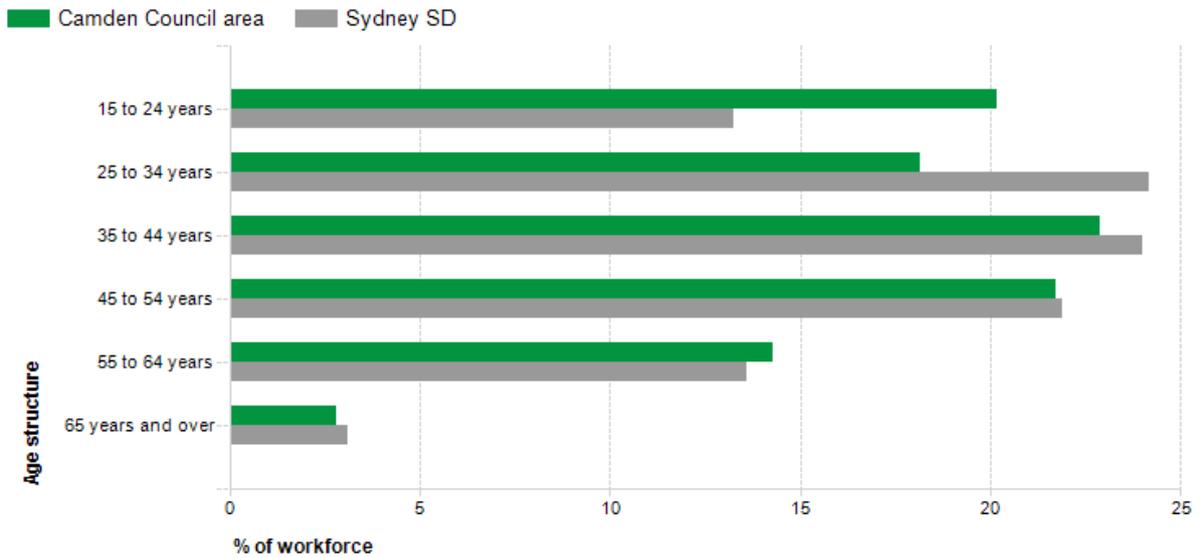
1. Estimated total employment (22,412 averaged across 4 quarters of 2012-13). Derived from economic modelling this is an estimate of the total number of jobs regardless of whether they are full-time or part-time.
2. Full-Time Equivalent employment (19,574 averaged across 4 quarters of 2011-12). Derived from economic modelling this divides the total hours worked by 38 hours per week to provide an estimate of full-time equivalent workforce. A lower number means more part-time workers.
3. Census counts of workers with a work destination in Camden (16,508). Derived from the 2011 Census. The Census count, while not as accurate or up-to date as the modelled employment estimates, nevertheless provides a useful breakdown of the characteristics of the workforce which are not available via estimates. These figures are only updated every 5 years. The rest of this section is based on the Census count.

### 6.1 Age structure of the workforce

The Camden workforce has a younger age structure compared to the Greater Sydney average and to that of the Macarthur Region. There is a much higher percentage of 15-24 year olds in the workforce, comprising 20.2% of the workforce. This is due to the large number of teenagers living in the area and the dominance of industries favouring young workers, like retail and food services. Part-time jobs in these industries account for nearly half of the workers under age 25.

## Workforce age structure, 2011

Camden Council area - All industries



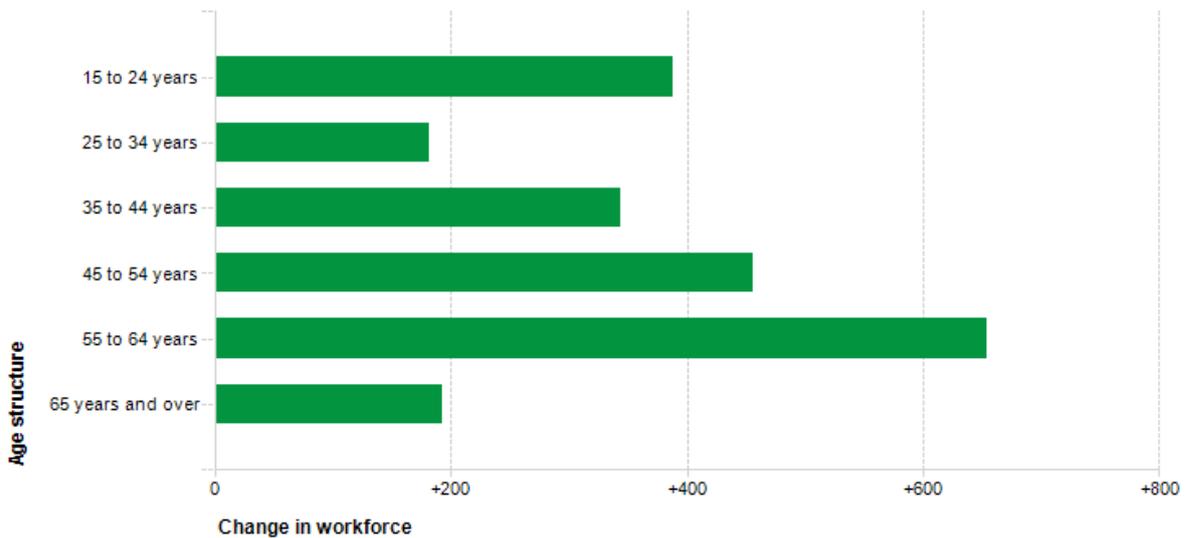
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.



Generally the workforce aged a little between 2006 and 2011, with the largest increases being in 55-64 year old workers.

## Change in workforce age structure, 2006 to 2011

Camden Council area - All industries



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.



More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/workers-age-structure>

## 6.2 Hours worked (full/part time)

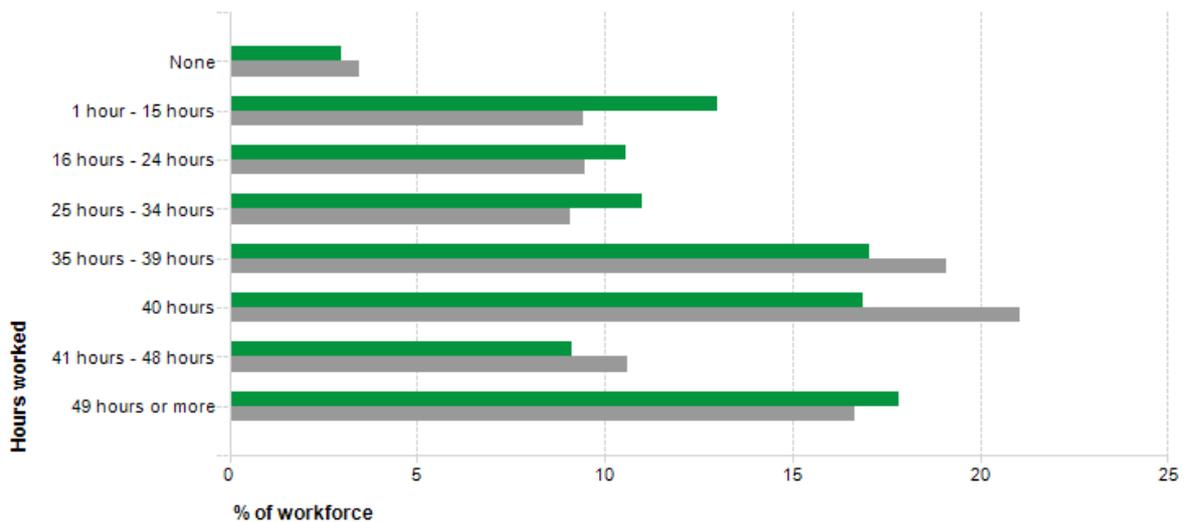
While hours worked varies greatly by industry, Camden tends to have a higher proportion of part-time workers than the Sydney and MACROC average. A total of 37.5% were part-time in 2011, compared to 31.5% across Greater Sydney and 35.8% in the Macarthur Region. This high level of part-time work is due to a high proportion working in *Retail Trade, Food Services and Health Care and Social Assistance*. In Retail, 48.2% of workers were part-time, and 22.2% worked less than 15 hours per week. Construction, is generally full time (only 18.7% part-time, less than the state average), and it is likely that full-time work is therefore higher than indicated by the Census, as a large percentage of construction workers don't appear in the Census workforce figures, as they have no usual workplace address.

The most part-time industry was Accommodation and Food Services, where 42.9% of workers worked less than 15 hours per week.

### Workforce hours worked, 2011

Camden Council area - All industries

Camden Council area Sydney SD



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.



Between 2006 and 2011 most hours worked categories increased, but there was a decrease in those working very long hours (49+ per week).

More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/workers-hours-worked>

### 6.3 Workforce incomes

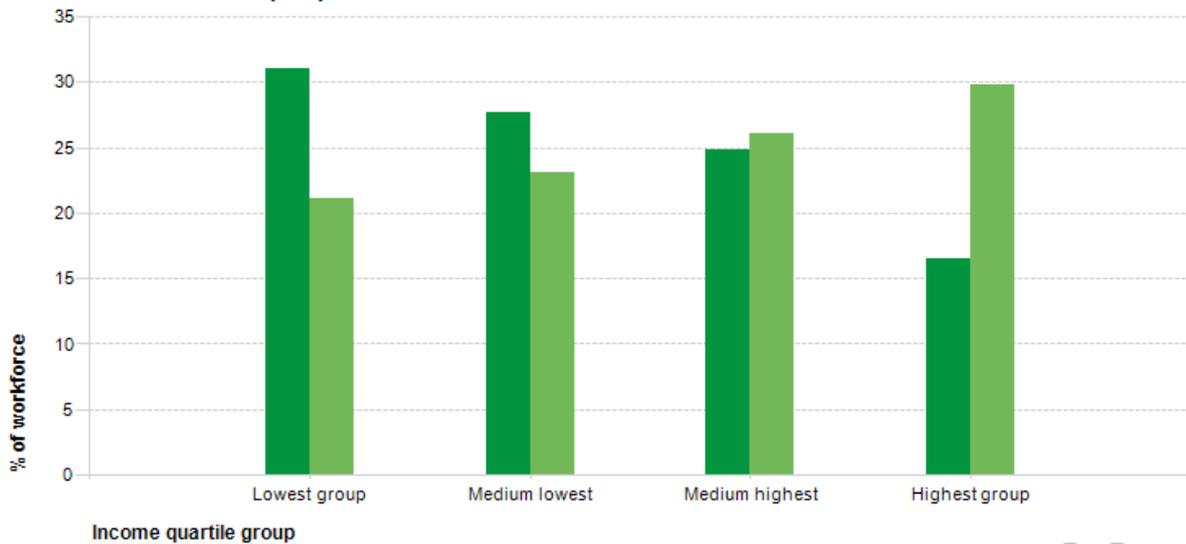
The median income for the workforce of Camden was \$779/week compared to \$810/week in MACROC and \$1,007 for Greater Sydney. Though incomes of the residents were relatively high (median weekly household income is about 20% above the Sydney average), this does not translate into high incomes for the workers, who are largely part time and in lower paid service industries. Please note again that the undercount of Construction workers in the Census will negatively impact on this (and the big increase in construction since the Census). Those construction jobs that the Census did code into the area had a median income of \$1,010, only a little under the Sydney average of \$1,073/week.

Most industries had lower incomes in Camden compared to the Sydney average for those industries in Census 2011. Incomes for jobs located in Camden were also lower than those in the overall Macarthur Region.

#### Workforce individual income quartiles, 2011

Camden Council area - All industries

■ All industries ■ Sydney SD

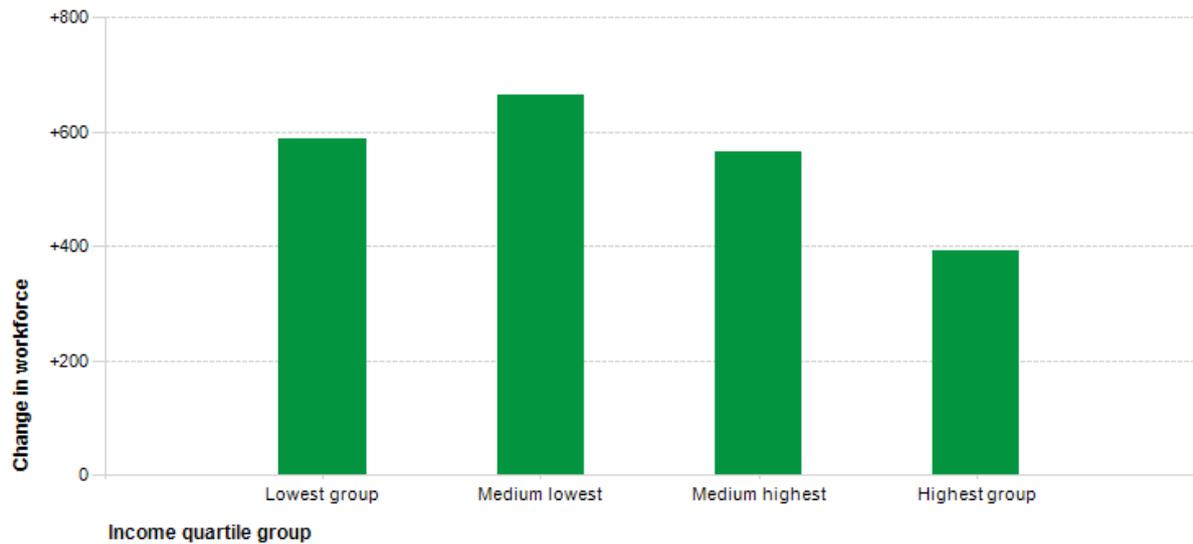


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.



## Change in workforce individual income quartiles, 2006 to 2011

Camden Council area - All industries



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.

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the  
population  
experts

Since 2006, most of the increase in workers has been located in the middle quartiles, which represents a slight increase in incomes relative to the state.

Among the key industries, *Manufacturing* workforce have incomes clustered in the middle, but still skewed a little lower than the Sydney average. *Construction* workers have mainly upper middle incomes, so are relatively well off, but there are significantly less construction workers with incomes in the highest income quartile than the Sydney average. Incomes for *Health Care and Social Assistance* are low across the state, and are lower in Camden, with 33.2% falling into the bottom income quartile (22.7% across Sydney).

More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/workers-income>

### 6.4 Workforce education and occupations

Camden Council has a very low proportion of workforce with university qualifications, less than half that of Greater Sydney (15.4% to 35.2%). They have a higher proportion of Certificate III attainment (21.0% to 11.8%), and a much higher proportion of no qualifications (45.2%). These levels are consistent with a manufacturing and construction based economy (often referred to as "blue collar"). Camden has similar education levels to that of MACROC, though there is a slightly higher proportion of workers with a Certificate III qualification.

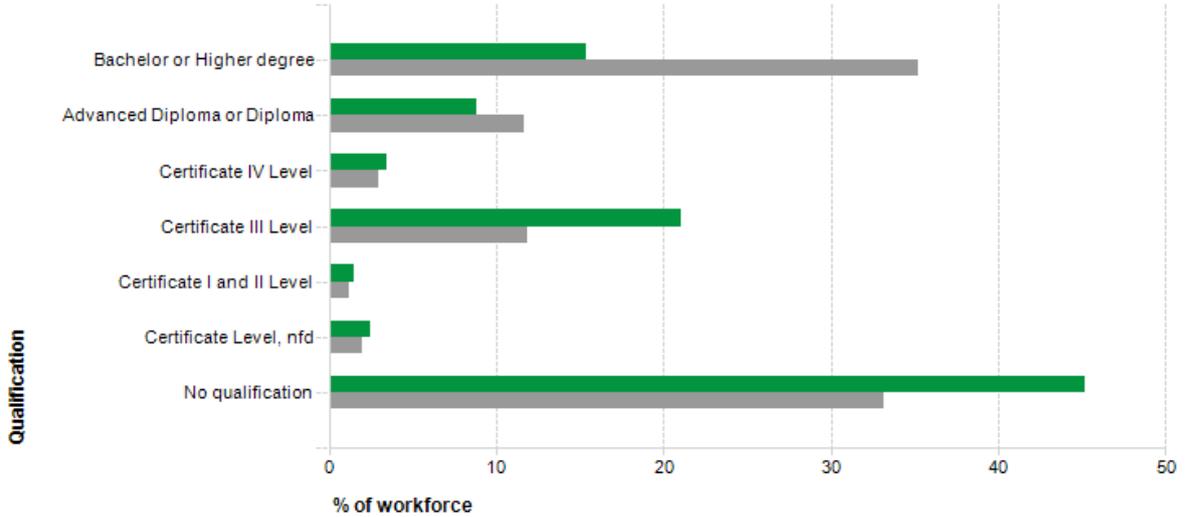
The employed residents have slightly higher levels of qualifications than this, with Certificate III at 20.8% - far higher than the Sydney average - indicating a trades focus. Camden residents have a slightly higher education level than Macarthur Region residents on average, but fairly close.

Like most areas, Camden has had an increase in both the number and proportion of degree qualified population over 5 years, both among the residents and the workforce.

## Workforce qualification, 2011

Camden Council area - All industries

Camden Council area Sydney SD



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.



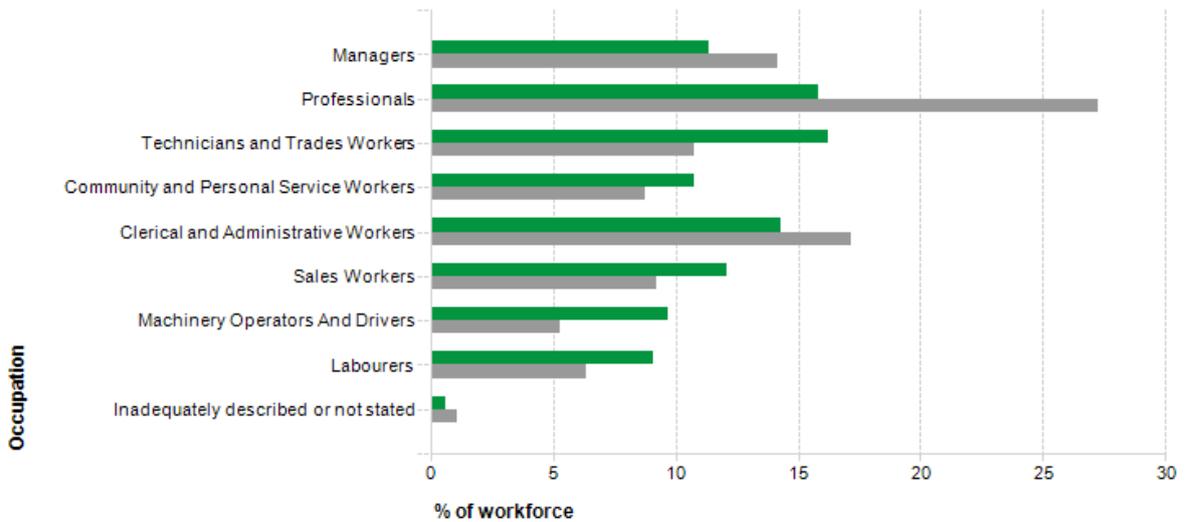
The occupation profile of the workforce shows higher proportions (compared to Sydney and MACROC) in a number of occupations including Machinery Operators and Drivers and Labourers. There are generally less managerial and professional occupations in the area. However, among the residents, it is Managers and Professionals which are dominant groups, indicating Camden's role and function in housing upper-middle socio-economic households, whose main income earners work outside the LGA.

## Occupations of Camden's workforce

### Workforce occupations, 2011

Camden Council area - All industries

Camden Council area Sydney SD

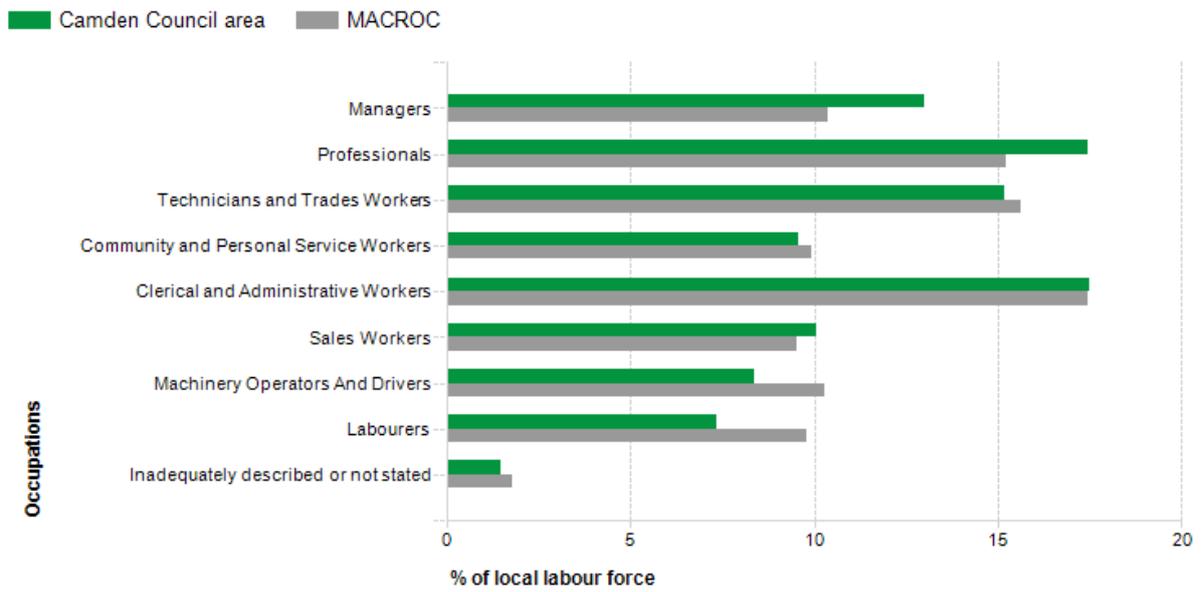


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.



## Occupations of Camden's residents

### Local labour force occupations, 2011



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011  
Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id, the population experts.



More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/workers-occupations>

## 7 Work destinations and self-containment

### KEY RESULTS

- Overall, there are 70 local jobs in Camden for every 100 residents employed.
- There are two industries with a small excess of jobs over residents – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing and Accommodation and Food Services
- All other industries have an excess of employed residents over jobs. There is a particularly large mismatch in Mining, where most residents work in Wollondilly.
- The level of self-containment in 2011 was 27.5% (residents working in Camden) But the majority of workers either work within the region or in nearby parts of South-Western Sydney, like Campbelltown, Liverpool and Fairfield. Only 5.4% of employed residents work in the City of Sydney.
- The level of self-sufficiency was 48.0%, so just under half of all workers were sourced from the Camden local government area.

Camden has significantly more employed residents than jobs. Modelled data shows that in 2012-13, an estimated 31,987 residents were employed, but there were only 22,412 jobs. This is a ratio of jobs to residents of 0.70 – that is, for every 100 employed residents there were 70 jobs. This doesn't include the unemployed who are looking for work. This is similar to the Macarthur Region average.

What this means is that even if all the local jobs were filled by local residents, a substantial proportion would still need to leave the area for work.

This ratio varies by industry. There is an excess of jobs over residents in two industries – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (1.95) and Accommodation and Food Services (1.09). Agriculture is a fairly small employer in Camden, but Accommodation and Food Services accounts for 6.7% of employment in the LGA.

Despite significant residential growth, the ratio has remained relatively stable, only increasing slightly from 0.69 in 2007/08.

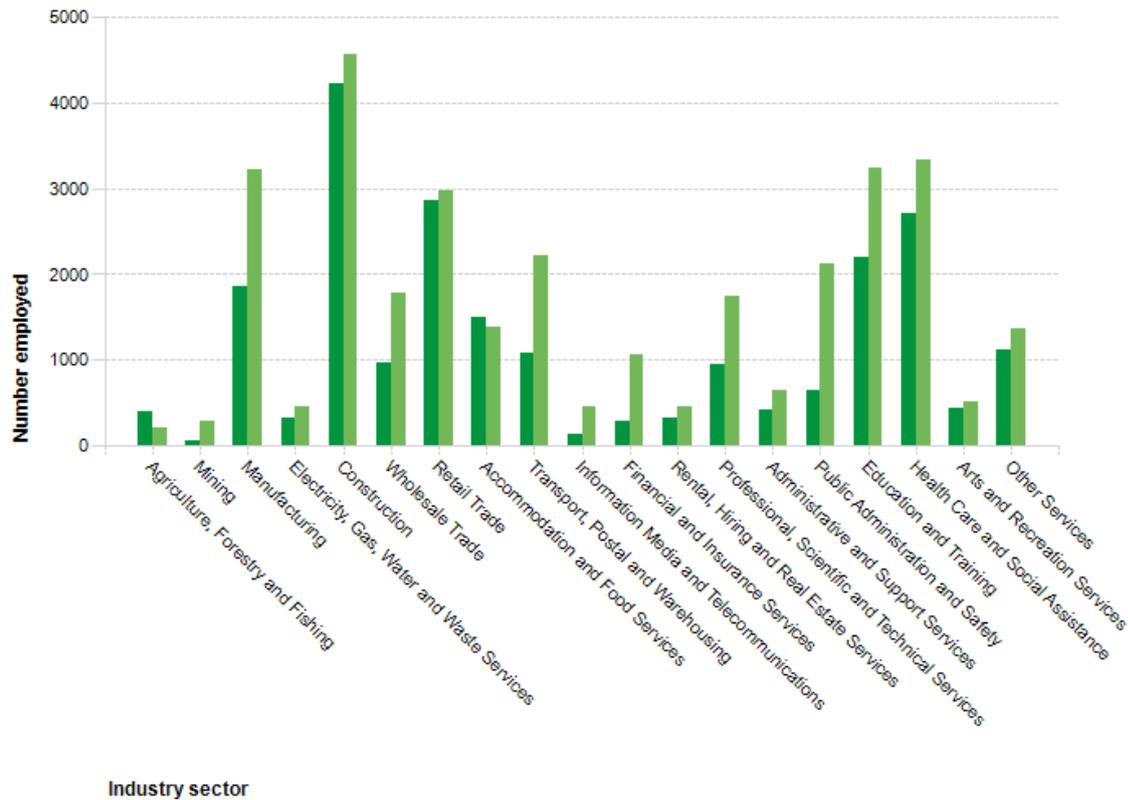
Other industries with relatively high ratios of jobs to residents are Retail Trade (0.97) and Construction (0.92). The former has relatively low paid part-time jobs which are generally filled by locals, while the latter is a large employer in the area due to the rapid growth Camden is experiencing.

Mining had the lowest employment capacity, at 0.17, with most people working in nearby Wollondilly.

## Employment capacity by industry 2012/13

Camden Council area

Local jobs Employed residents



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2014  
 Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id the population experts



More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/Employment-capacity>

In terms of self-containment (the proportion of Camden residents who actually do work in the local area), the highest proportion is in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, at 65.3%. All other industries had 50% or more of the residents commuting out to work. The lowest self-containment was in Mining (8.2%).

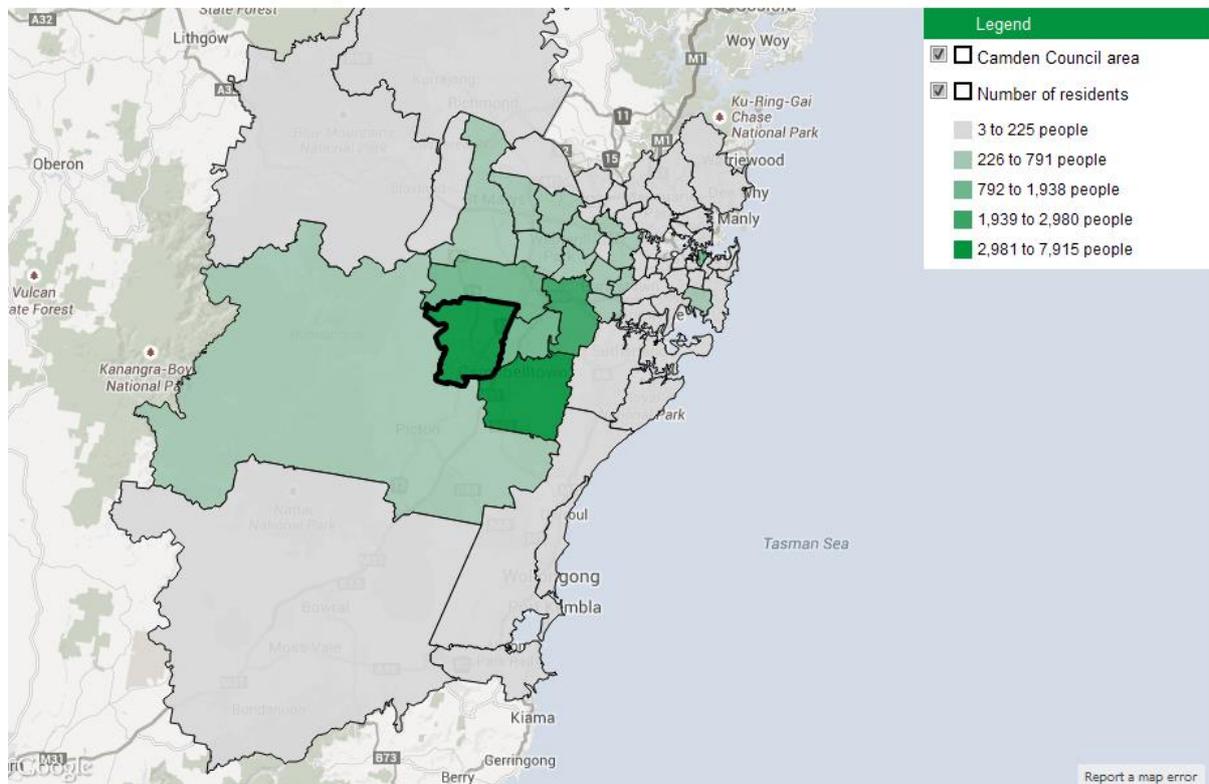
Across all industries, the most common work destinations were:

1. Camden (27.5%)
2. Campbelltown (16.4%)
3. Liverpool (9.5%)
4. Sydney (5.4%)
5. Fairfield (3.7%)

The map shows, however, that Camden contributes workers to areas right across Sydney and beyond. There is a focus on the local area, the transport corridor towards the city, and up to Parramatta and Western Sydney.

### Employment locations of residents by SLA by industry, 2011

Camden Council area - Total area (All SLAs) - All industries



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

.id  
the population experts

More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/residents-place-of-work-industry>

On the other hand, Camden's significant number of local jobs is reasonably self-sufficient. I.e. the majority of the people who work in Camden also live there.

Overall, the level of self-sufficiency was 48.0%, so just under half of all workers were sourced from within Camden. A further 37.2% were from Campbelltown or Wollondilly, so just over 85% of Camden's workers live within the Macarthur region.

There was a wide variety of levels of self-sufficiency, from a low of 29.7% in *Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services*, to a high of 67.9% for *Information Media and Telecommunications*. The largest employing industries have a moderate of self-sufficiency.

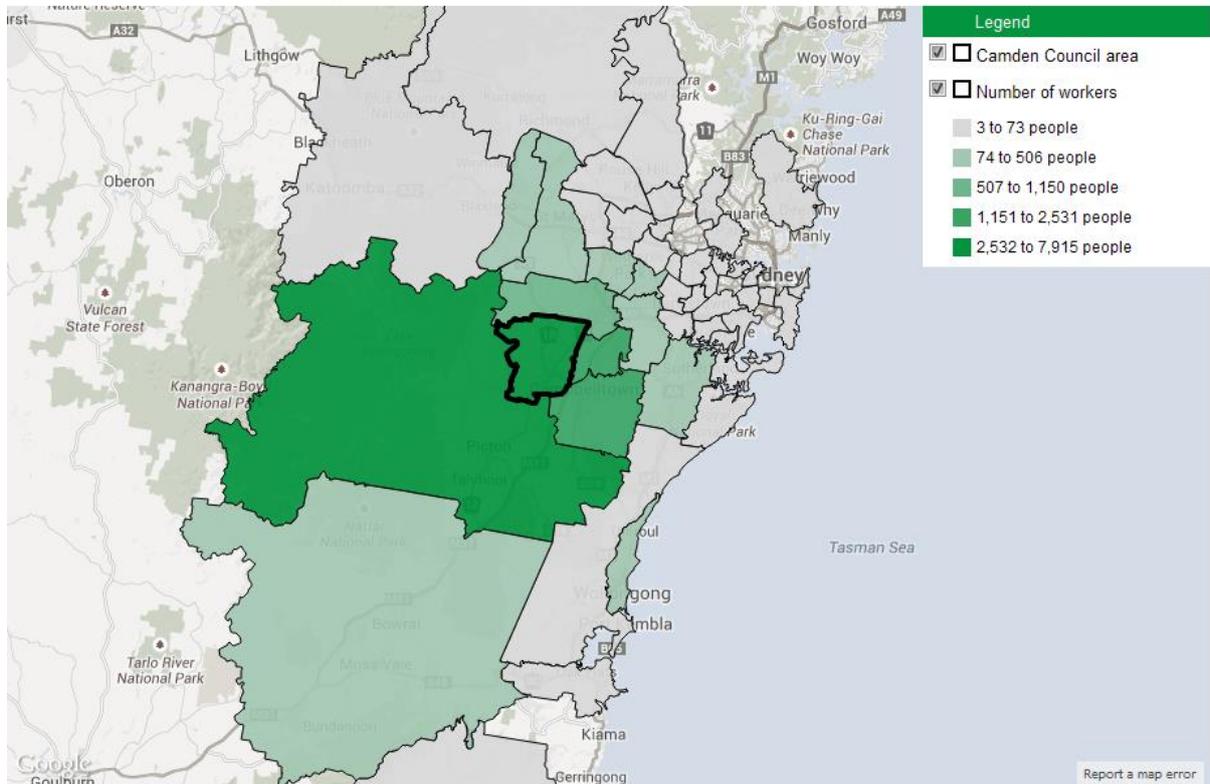
The top LGAs of origin for Camden workers in 2011 were:

1. Camden – 48.0%
2. Wollondilly – 15.3%
3. Campbelltown – 18.2%
4. Liverpool – 4.9%

5. Wollongong – 1.4%

**Residential locations of workers by SLA by industry, 2011**

Camden Council area - Total area (All SLAs) - All industries



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

**.id**  
the population experts

More information is available in <http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/workers-place-of-residence-industry>

**7.1 Work destinations within Camden Council**

The location of the workforce within Camden is quite dispersed across the region. There are approximately five employment centres within Camden, though the definitions of these are based on Destination Zones defined by the Census, and some are a little amorphous (eg. Kirkham-Oran Park, which may be better defined by the 2016 Census).

The centres listed below have been defined as a best fit of Census Work Destination Zones to the major centres. They don't include the whole suburbs named, but the major employment node or industrial area only.

Centre	Employment number (2011 Census)	Employment percent (2011 Census)	Main industries
Camden Town	2,562	14.3%	Retail, Accommodation and Food Services, Health Care
Smeaton Grange	4,319	24.1%	Manufacturing, Wholesale Trade, Construction
Narellan Town Centre	1,929	10.8%	Retail, Accommodation and Food Services, Health Care
Mt Annan	916	5.1%	Education, Retail Trade
Kirkham-Oran Park	1,306	7.3%	Manufacturing, Construction, Retail

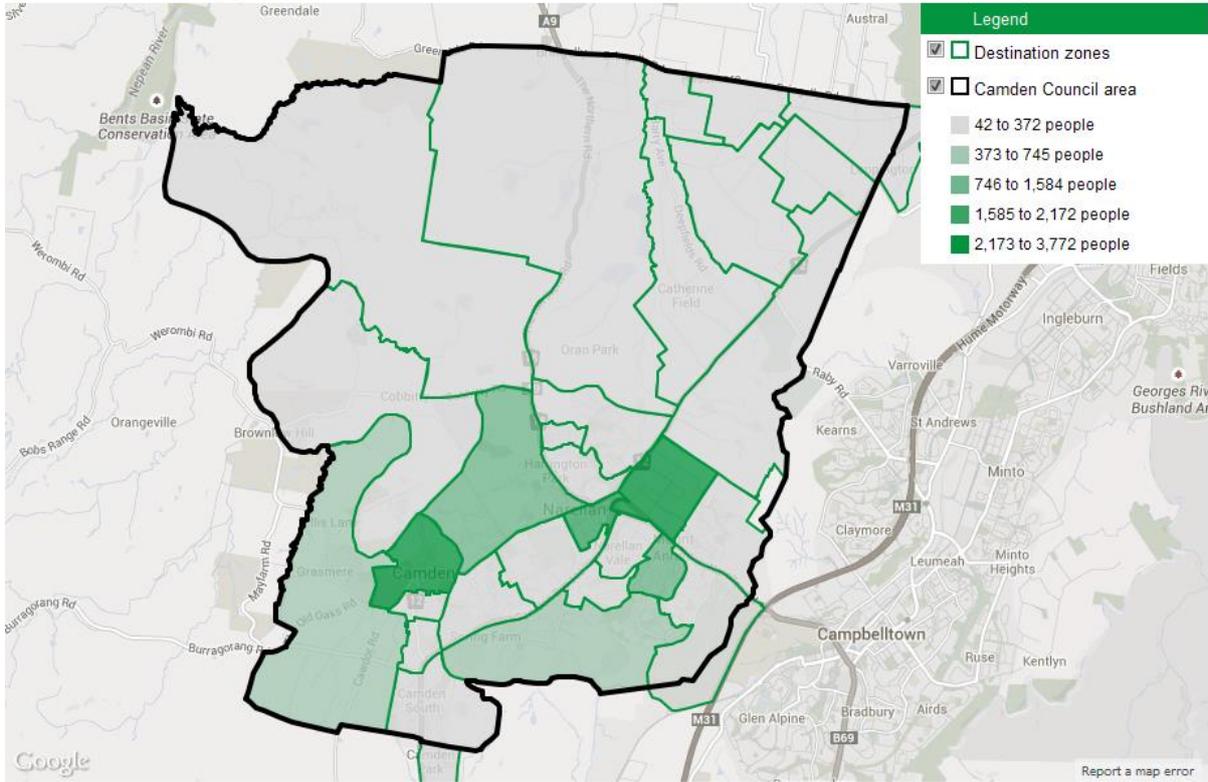
*Note that the total for calculation of percentages excludes workers who had no usual workplace address, as these are not coded to any physical destination zone.*

This map shows the full distribution of work destinations within Camden.

### Map of work destination zones by total employed persons, Camden, 2011 Census

#### All industries

Camden Council area - Employment locations



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.



*For information on the distribution of industries by zones within Camden, please refer to [economy.id](http://economy.id).*

<http://economy.id.com.au/Camden/employment-locations>

## 8 Conclusion and challenges for economic development

The Camden economy is experiencing significant growth, though in the last few years it has not kept pace with the rate of population growth, meaning that more people are leaving the area to work. Residential construction is a very important driver of the local economy, and as part of the south-west growth centre, this is expected to continue for a number of years.

Industry specialisations are mainly in the Construction sector, including Building Construction and Construction Services, focussed on supplying new residential housing. There is some Manufacturing focussed on the Smeaton Grange area. Other sectors are mainly involved in serving the local population, such as Retail Trade and Food Services. These are important employers of the large population of teenagers living in the area, but having a large part of the economy in these part-time sectors does not bring a lot of wealth into the area, as they are mainly part-time lower value jobs. Service sectors are growing (Health Care and Social Assistance in particular), and Manufacturing is still relatively strong and stable – it is not seeing the big declines of some other areas.

Though Agriculture has declined over the past decade, it still contributes about \$44m to the local economy, and is an important location for horticultural production close to Sydney markets.

Camden is partially self-sufficient in workers for local industries, but it is primarily a residential area, with a majority of residents leaving the area to work. Less than 10% travel into the City, but many go to other parts of Western Sydney. Most managerial and professional occupations leave the area, and while residents' incomes are relatively high, the incomes of the local workforce workers are about 25% lower than the Greater Sydney average.

### Key challenges and opportunities for economic development:

1. Maintaining economic growth to provide local jobs with the expected increases in residential population over the next 2 decades. Expanding local industrial land and attracting new businesses to keep pace with the number of new residents.
2. Providing a diverse range of jobs within the local economy, attracting higher value-add "primary" jobs in industries which are not primarily focussed on serving the local population.
3. Working with other MACROC councils to expand the range of career industries available in the region, so that the majority of professional workers no longer need to leave the area to work.
4. Protecting the Agricultural sector, a key supplier close to Sydney markets, from rapid residential expansion.

## 9 Further information

For further information, please refer to Camden and MACROC's online information tools:

profile.id- <http://www.id.com.au/profile/Camden>

economy.id- <http://www.id.com.au/economy/Camden>

<http://www.id.com.au/economy/MACROC>

.id's landing page gives access to all these resources in one place:

<http://www.id.com.au/Camden>