

State of the
Region Summit®

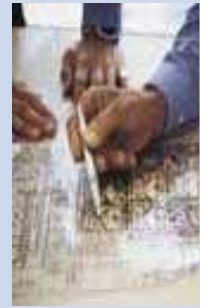


Living on the Big Coast

Dr Mark Bachels (PB)



Sunshine Coast Quality of Life Sustainability Indicators Findings to date



*Dr Mark Bachels
National PlaceMaking Executive
Parsons Brinckerhoff Australia*

Why Quality of Life Indicators

- An effort to identify what's important to maintain the quality of life we currently enjoy on the Sunshine Coast
- Easy to understand and communicate
- To raise awareness about important trends
- To be easily replicated in the future (not an expensive and detailed exercise)

How these were generated

- A group was convened by the Caloundra Future's Forum (CFF) and chaired by Caloundra Mayor Don Aldous
- CFF included spectrum of interests:
 - Environmental, social, community, developers, industry, University/TAFE, finance, council
- Specific intent was to identify possible Sunshine Coast indicators (broad based)
- Not exhaustive but high level
 - 16 indicators with 25 distinct measures

Social, Economic and Environmental Indicators

	Indicators	Measures
Social Indicators	Population growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of population growth
	Housing affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ average percent (%) of household income spent on housing
	Safety and crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ incidence of residential burglaries ▪ incidence of violent offences
	Sunshine coast lifestyle balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ average length of working hours per week
	Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ modal split to work by car, public transport, cycle and walk
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ highest level of education attainment ▪ tertiary institution attendance as percentage of population

Social, Economic and Environmental Indicators

	Indicators	Measures
Economic Indicators	Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> average median income
	Employment/ unemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> unemployment rate percentage of population on unemployment benefits labour force participation rates
	Average personal debt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> average loan repayments on housing
	Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> occupancy rates
	Job mix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> balance of job mix e.g. commercial, retail, manufacturing Jobs growth

Social, Economic and Environmental Indicators

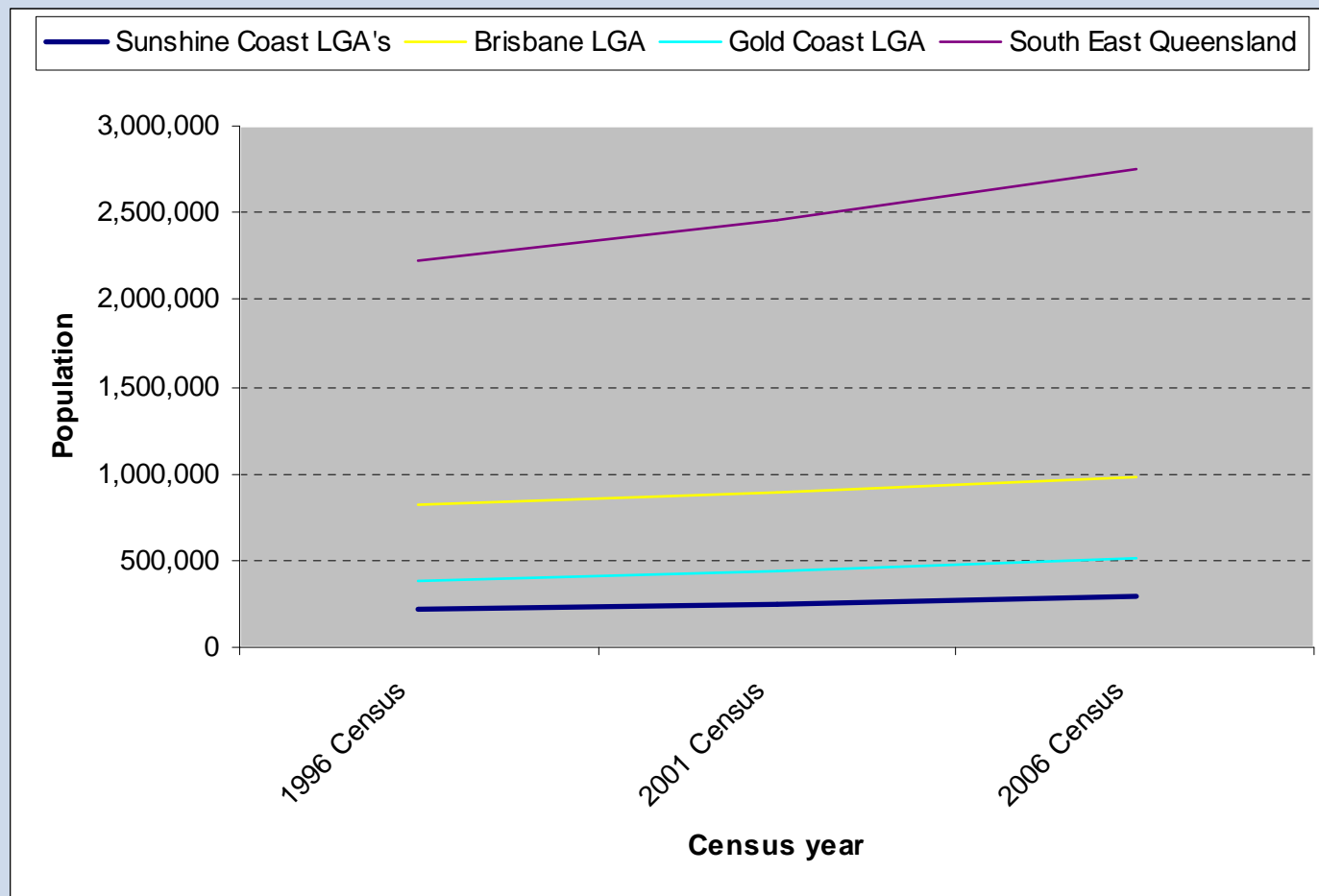
	Indicators	Measures
Environmental Indicators	Water consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> per capita water usage water availability
	Energy consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> average household electricity consumption transport fuel use / carbon emissions % of households buying green power
	Natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> protected natural areas % remnant vegetation remaining
	Water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rating system for river catchment and ecosystem health
	Waste and recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> annual waste to landfill per household recycling rate

Indicator Reporting and Assessment

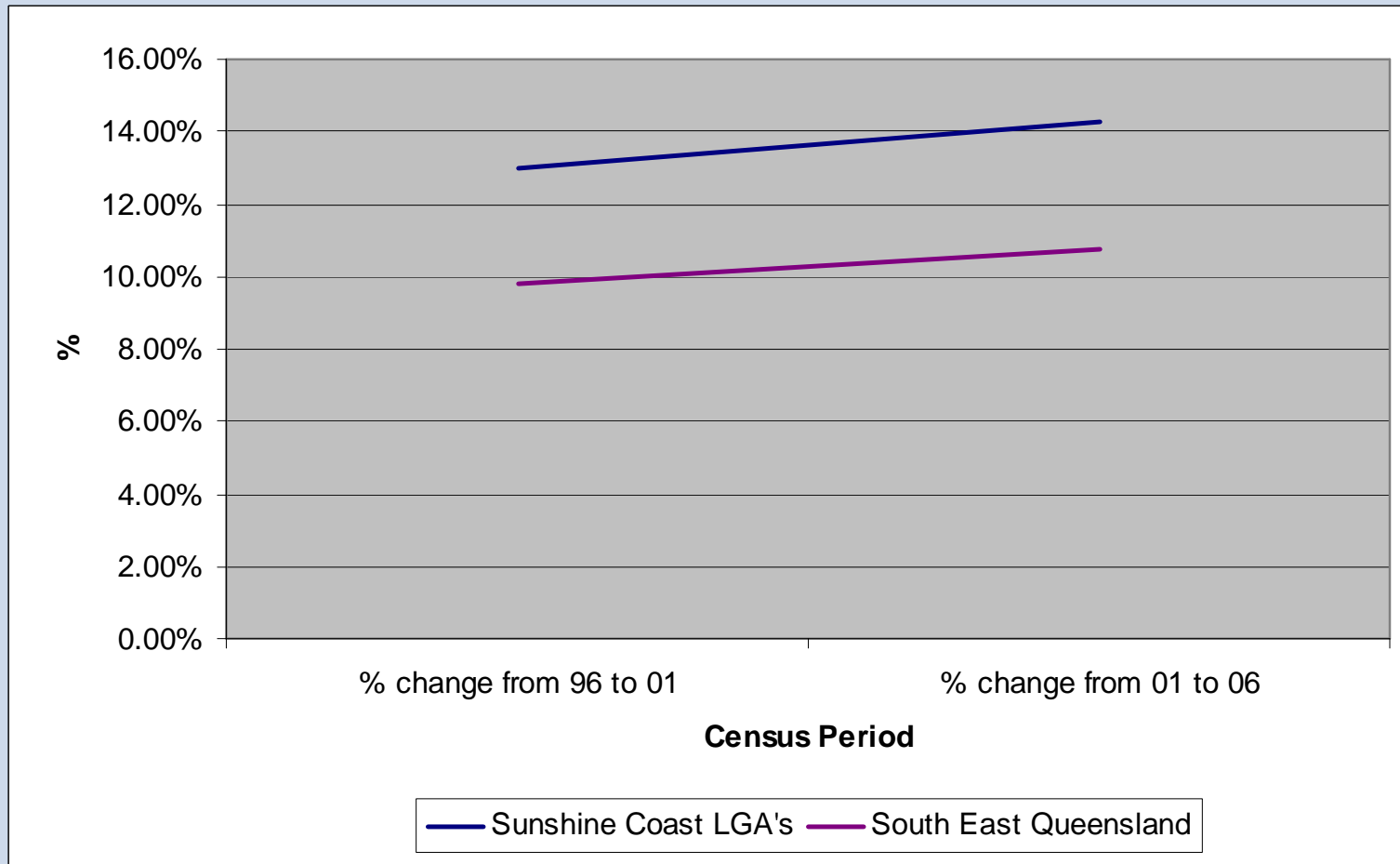
- Data was available for most indicators
 - ◆ some data difficult/harder to gather
- Most indicators collected were compared against South East Queensland
 - ◆ Should compare against other areas/cities
 - ◆ What should be the benchmark?

Population Growth

Population growth places demand on housing, goods, services, utilities, land, infrastructure and resources.



Population Growth

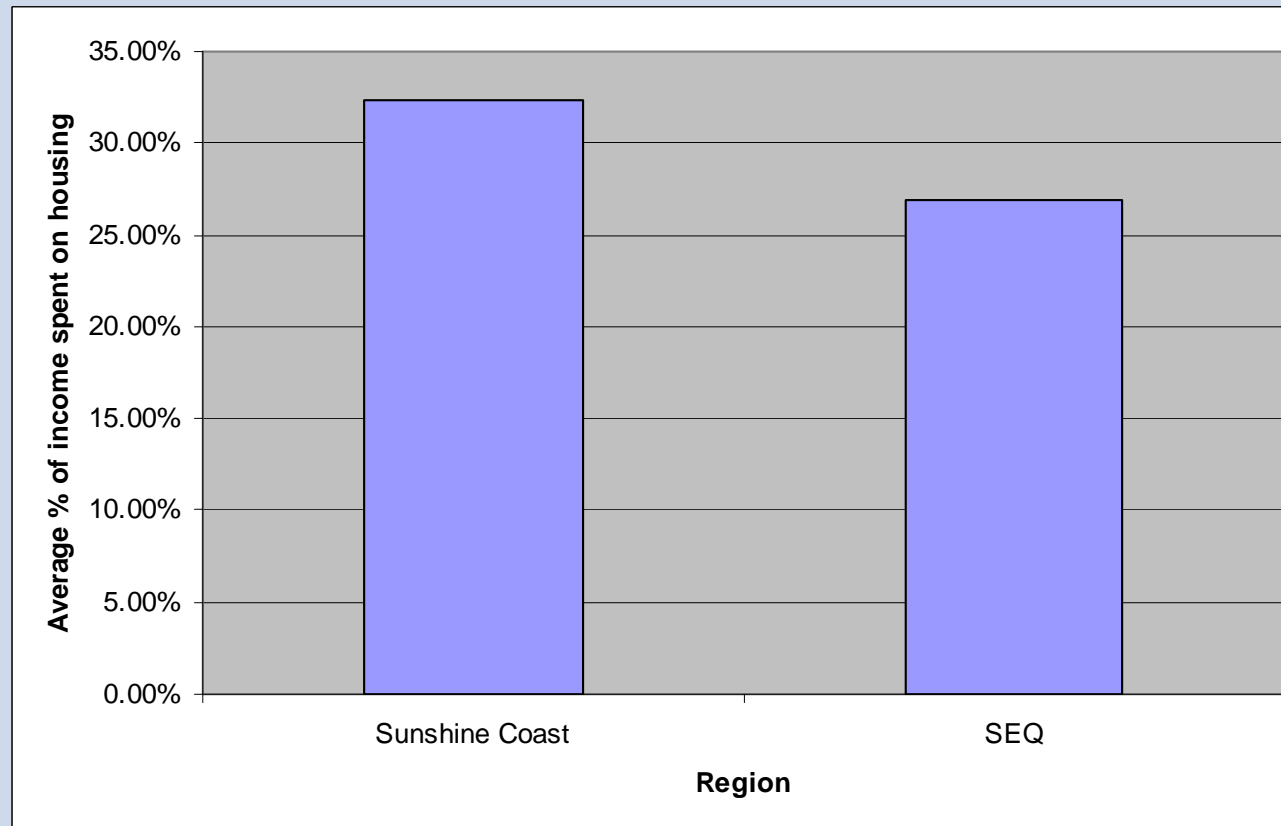


Between 1996-2006 Sunshine Coast grew faster than SEQ average

Housing Affordability

avg % of household income spent on housing

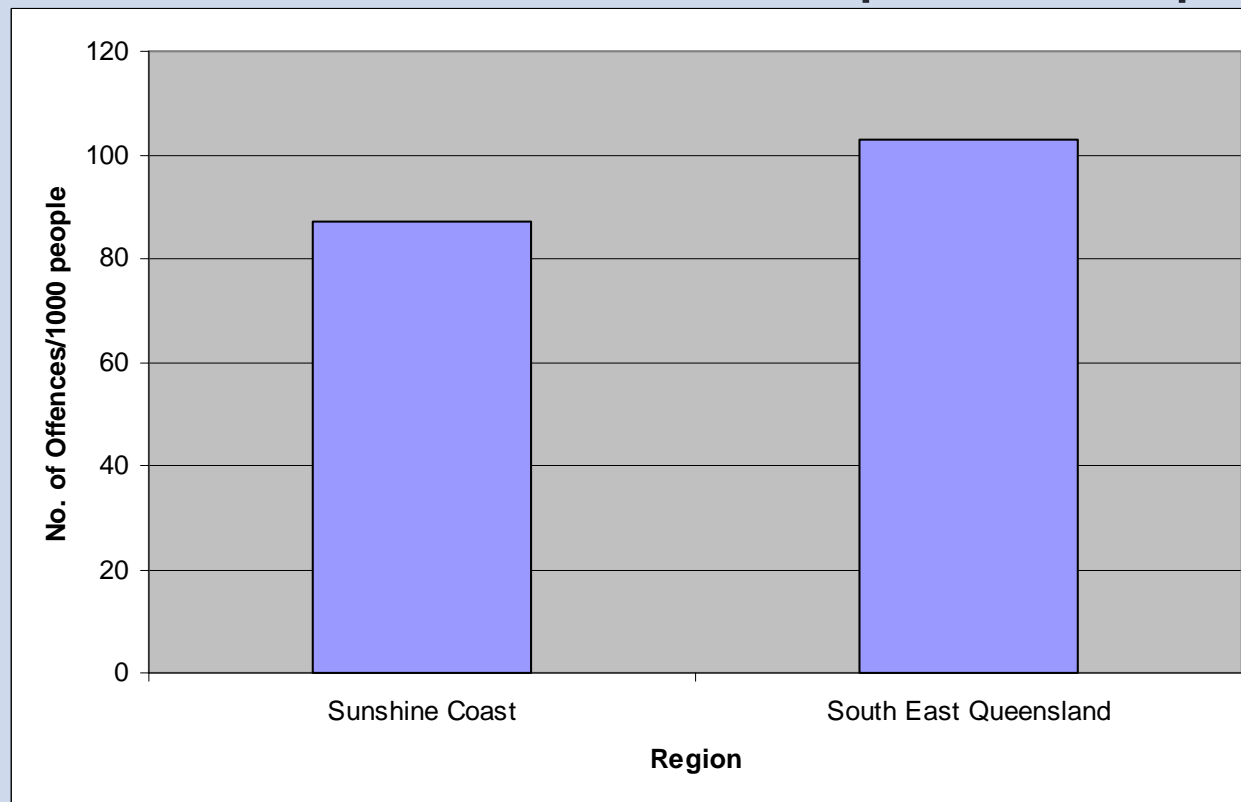
- 30% is “deemed” unaffordable internationally
- **SC is unaffordable** at 32.4%
- Higher than SEQ average of 26.9%



Source: 2006 Census data (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Safety and crime

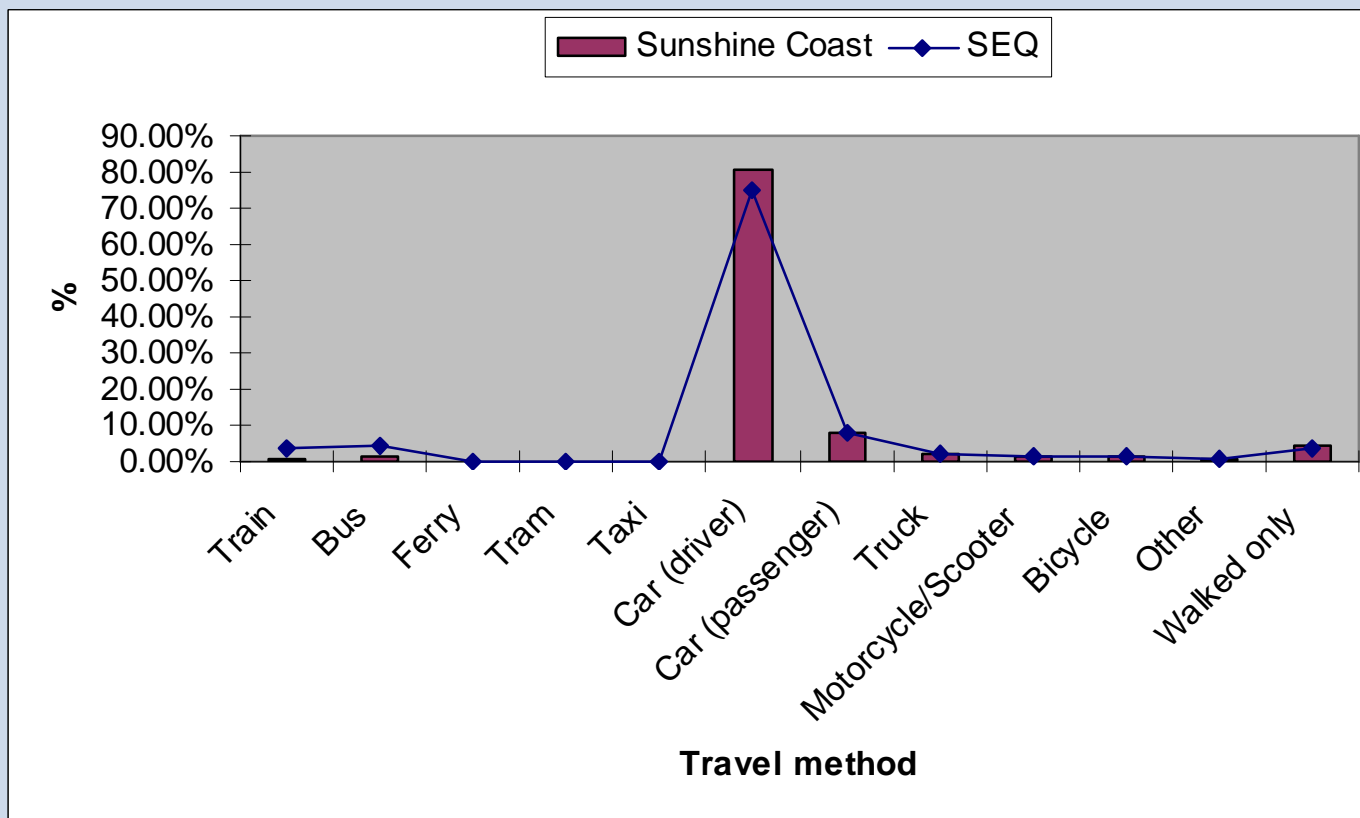
- Sunshine Coast is safer than SEQ on average with 87 incidences versus 102 per 1000 people



Source: Queensland Police Service Annual Report 2005 - 2006

Transport Mode Split

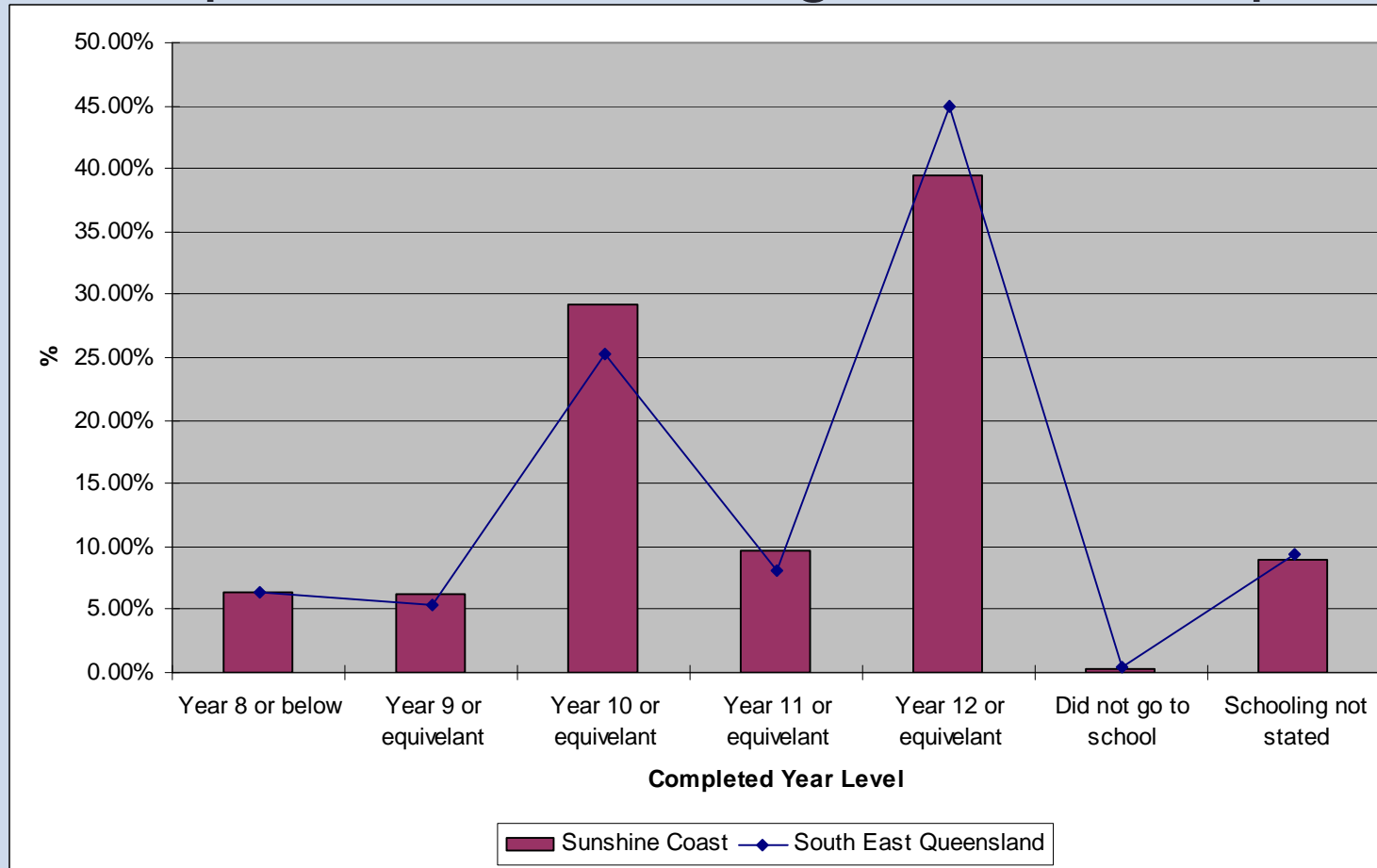
- Sunshine Coast is heavily dependent on car travel with about 90% of work trips (slightly higher than SEQ)



Source: 2006 Census data (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Education (1): Highest level of schooling completed

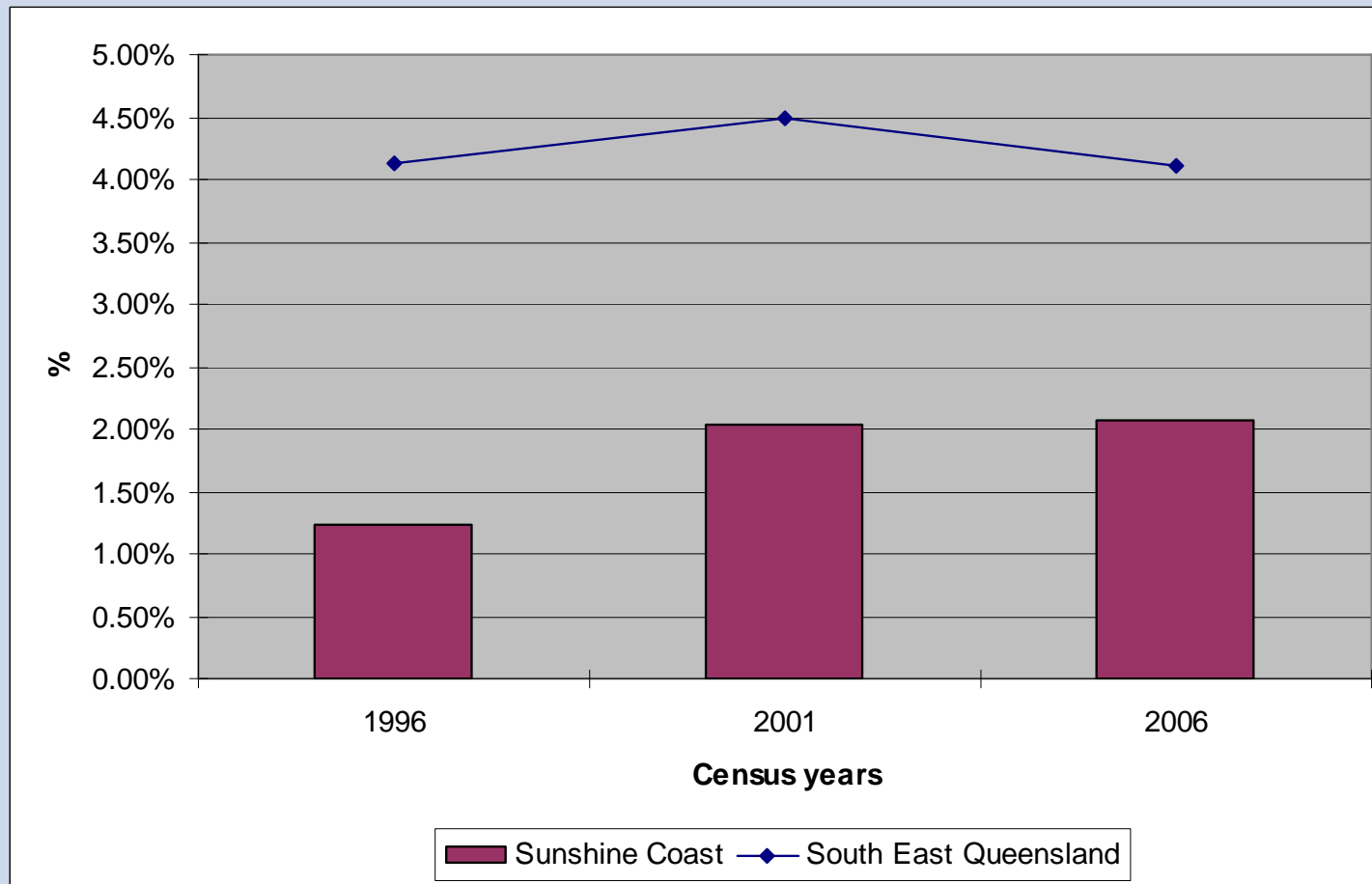
About on par with SEQ for high school completion



Source: 2006 Census data (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Education (2): Attended tertiary as a percentage of total population

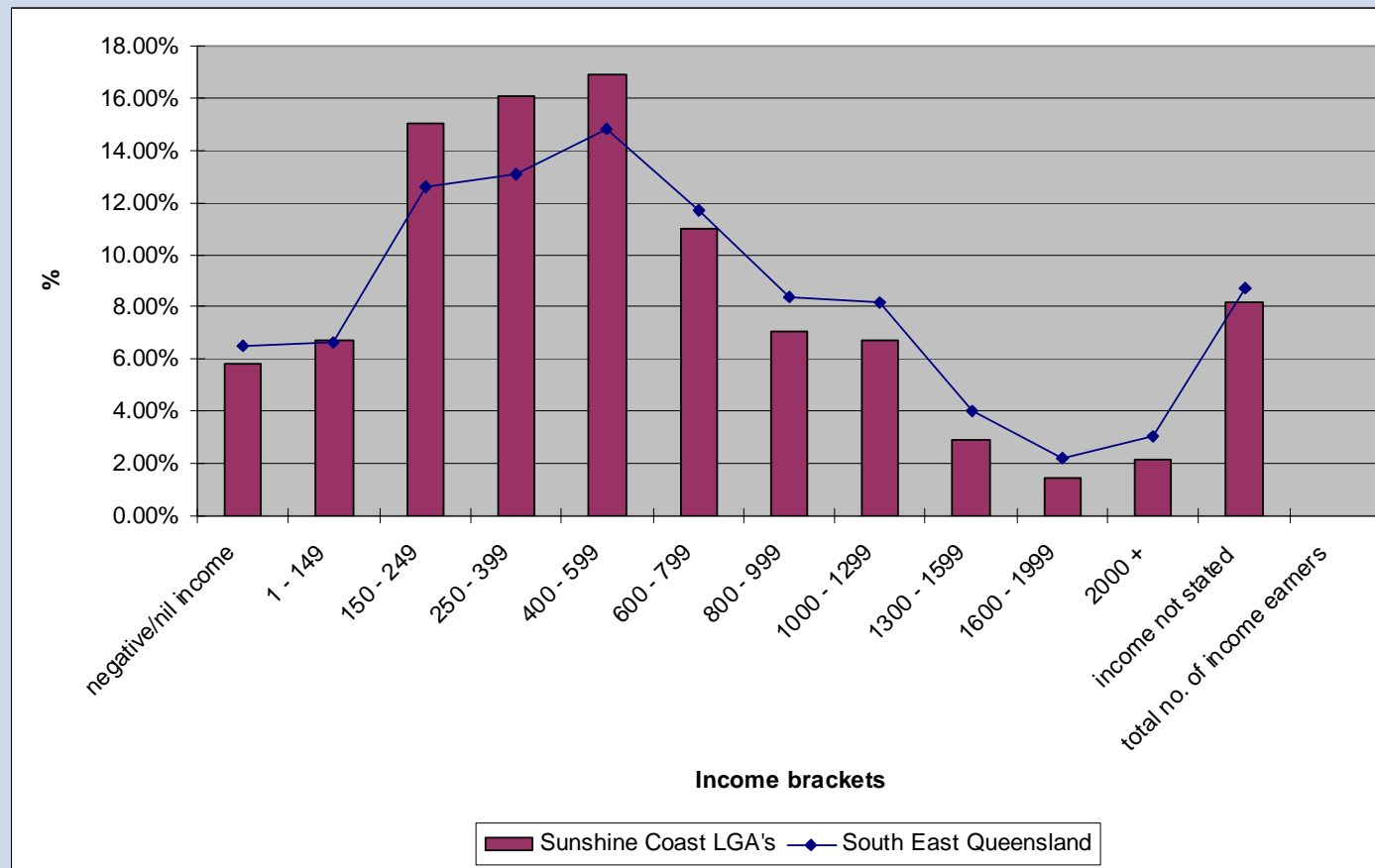
Well below SEQ average for tertiary attendance (about half)



Source: 2006 Census data (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Economic: Average weekly income

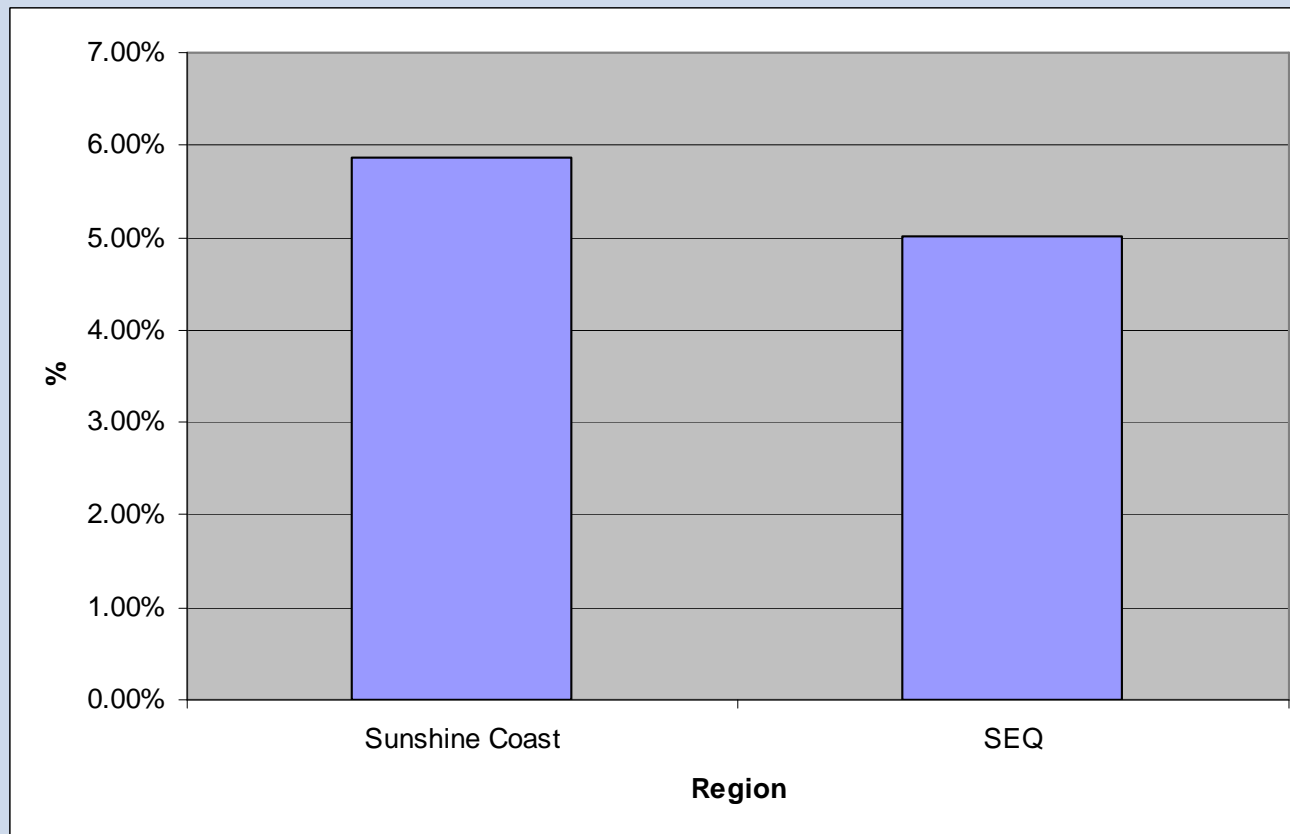
On average we earn slightly less than SEQ



Source: 2006 Census data (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Economic: Average unemployment rate

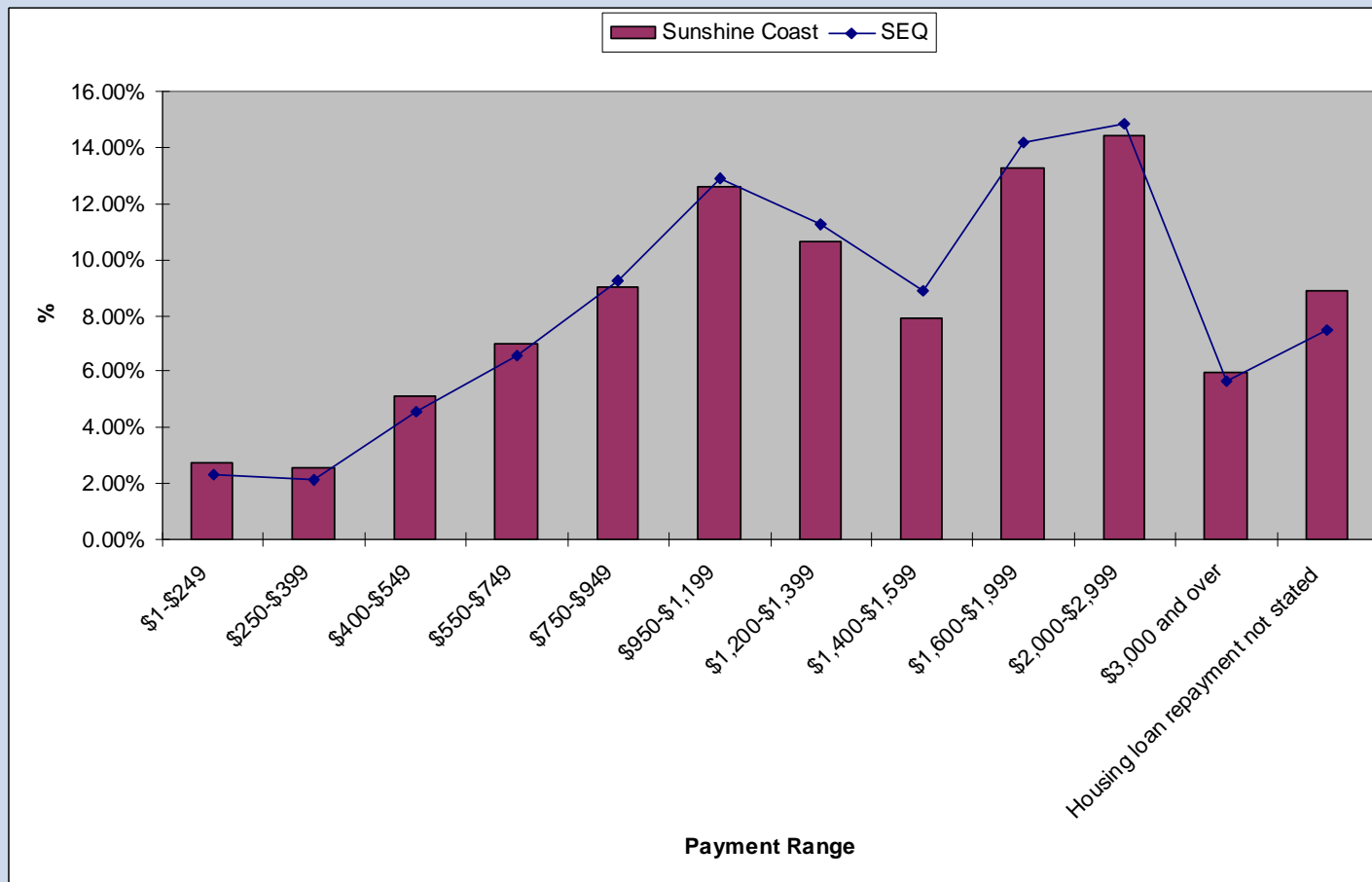
- As at 2006 the Sunshine Coast had a slightly higher unemployment rate than SEQ (6% compared to 5%)



Source: 2006 Census data (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Economic: Average personal debt (surrogate - housing mortgage repayment)

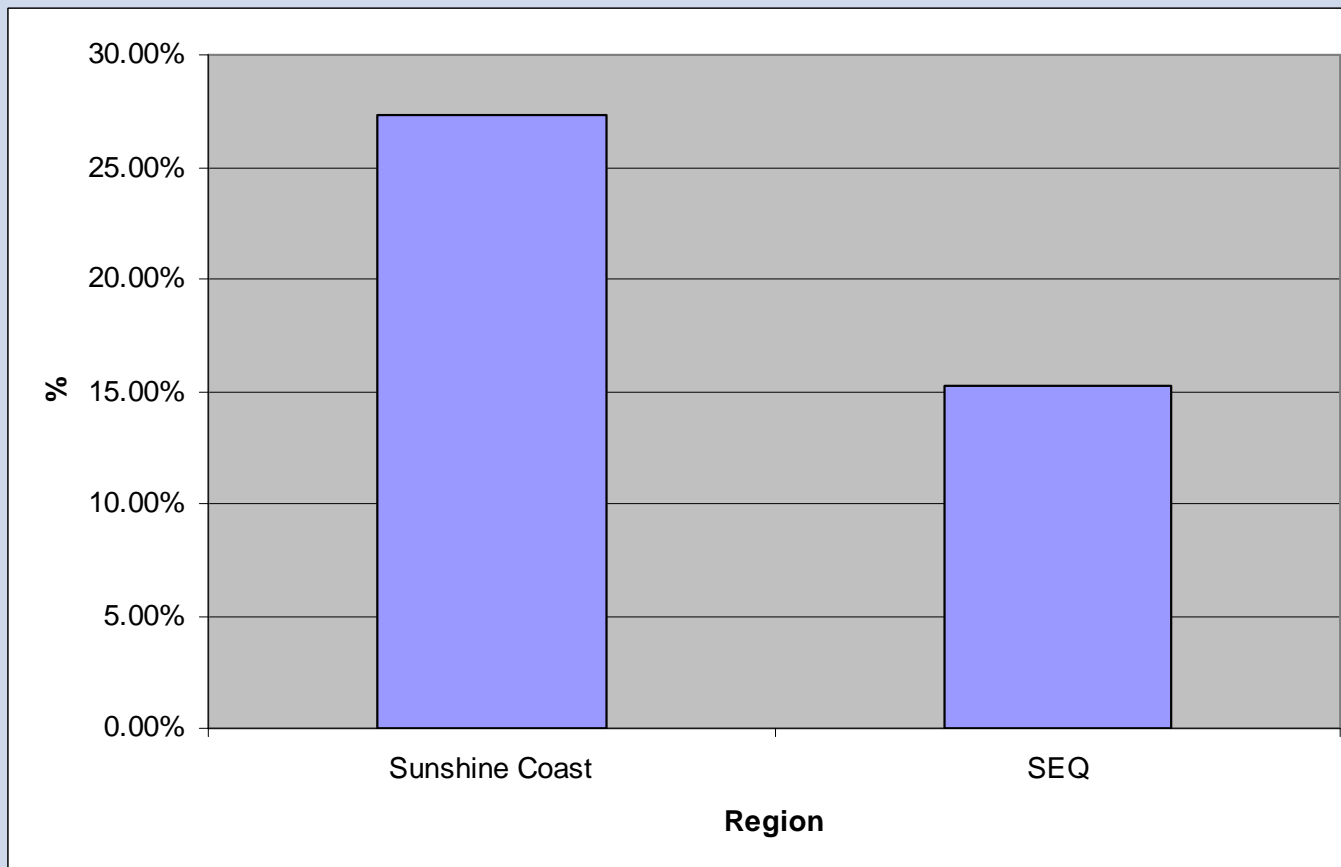
About on par with SEQ (slightly lower debt repayments)



Source: 2006 Census data (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Protected natural areas

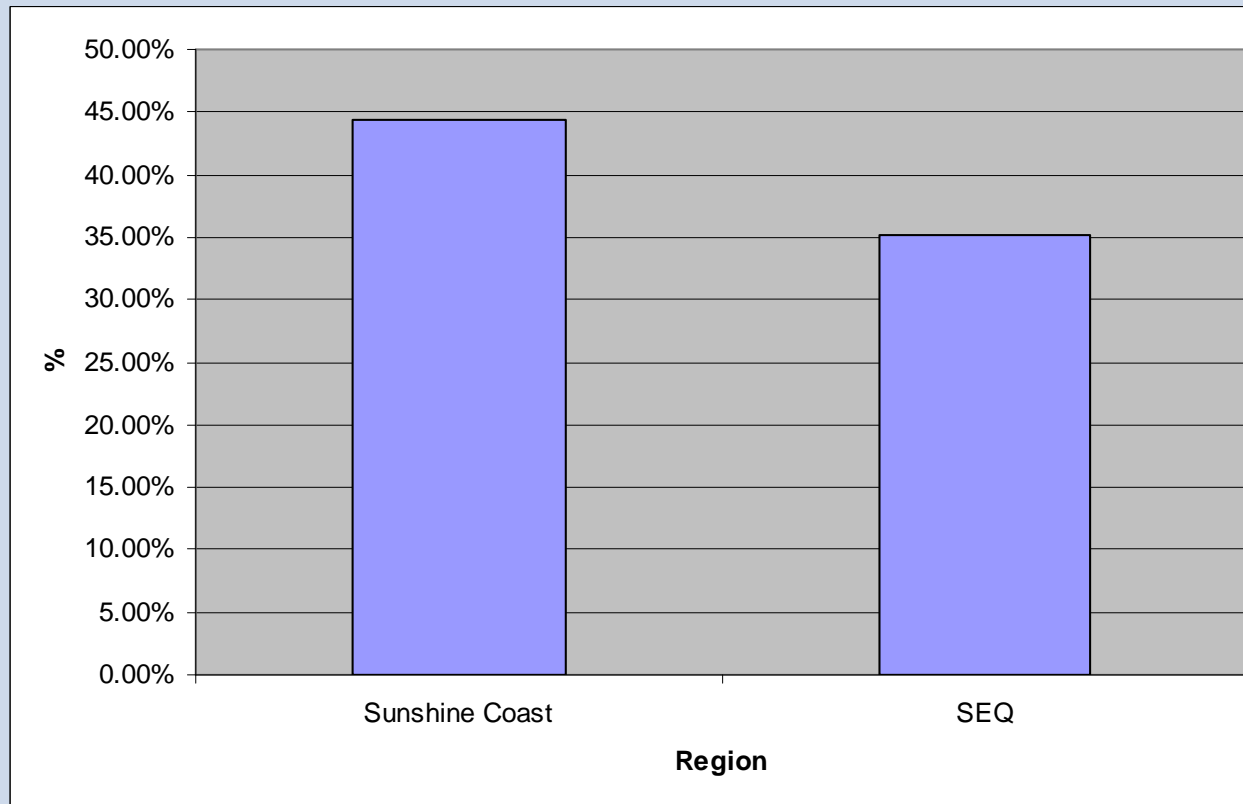
- The SC has a larger proportion of its land area protected compared to SEQ (c 27% to 15%)



Source: Department of Natural Resource and Water, 2007

Remnant native vegetation

- SC has a higher proportion of native vegetation remaining compared to SEQ (c 45% to 35%)



Source: Department of Natural Resource and Water, 2007

Water quality: river catchment health

- SC has reasonable but not great water quality (with mixed results over the past 7 yrs with some improving and some declining)
- No rivers are in excellent shape

A =	Excellent
B =	Good
C =	Fair
D =	Poor
F =	Fail

River catchment	Year						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Noosa catchment	A+	A-	A-	A-	B	B	B-
Maroochy catchment	C+	C+	--	C-	C+	C-	C-
Mooloolah catchment	C+	C+	--	A-	B-	B	B+
Pumicestone catchment	C	C	--	C-	C+	C-	C-

Water Quality: SEQ Rivers

Generally Rivers in SEQ are worse quality than rivers in the SC

River catchment	Year						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Stanley catchment	B-	--	B-	B	B	B-	C+
Caboolture catchment	C	C	--	C-	B-	B-	C+
Pine catchment	C	C	C	D	C	C	D+
Upper Brisbane catchment	D	D+	D	C-	C-	D	F
Mid Brisbane catchment	C	C	C	B-	C+	C+	B-
Lower Brisbane catchment	D-	D	F	F	D-	F	F
Lockyer catchment	F	F	F	D-	D-	D-	D-
Bremer	F	F	D-	D-	D-	D-	D
Logan	D	D+	--	C-	D	D+	D
Albert	D	D+	--	B	B	B	B-
Redlands	--	--	--	D	F	F	F
Pimpama/Coomera	B-	B-	--	B	B+	C+	B-
Nerang	B-	B-	--	A-	B+	C+	A-
Tallebudgera/Currumbin	B-	B-	--	B+	C-	C	B+

A =	Excellent
B =	Good
C =	Fair
D =	Poor
F =	Fail

Summary of indicators completed (to date)

- Population growing faster than SEQ placing pressure
- Housing is less affordable on the Coast compared to SEQ
- Coast has fewer reported crime incidences compared to SEQ
- Coast (and SEQ) has a very high car dependence, with very little use (or provision) of public transport, cycling or walking
- Coast has low level of tertiary education (2% - half SEQ)
- Average weekly income is lower on Coast than the rest of SEQ
- Unemployment rates for 2006 was higher than the SEQ average
- Household loan repayments are similar between the Coast and SEQ
- Water quality of rivers is reasonable (not healthy) – better than SEQ
- Protected natural areas significantly higher than SEQ

Some indicators are currently not measured (and still need to be assessed)

- Lifestyle balance - ‘working hours per week’
- ‘# on unemployment benefits’ and ‘labour participation rates’ not examined to date
- Tourism: A separate study recently conducted
- Job mix: data was unavailable (but now is)
- Data not easily obtainable from council(s) for:
 - ◆ Water consumption
 - ◆ Energy consumption
 - ◆ Waste and recycling

Summary Sunshine Coast Score Card

Social Indicators

	Indicators	Measures	Performance
Social Indicators	Population growth	1. % of population growth.	-
	Housing affordability	2. average percent (%) of household income spent on housing.	-
		Safety and crime	3. incidence of residential burglaries
	4. incidence of violent offences.		+
	Sunshine coast lifestyle balance	5. average length of working hours per week.	nr
	Transport	6. modal split to work by car, public transport, cycle and walk.	-
	Education	7. highest level of education attainment	~
		8. tertiary institution attendance as percentage of population.	-

Legend:

- denotes moving away from a sustainable outcome
- + denotes moving toward a sustainable outcome
- ~ denotes remaining stable / minimal trend evident
- nr denotes indicator and/or measure data unavailable and/or not reported

Summary Sunshine Coast Score Card

Economic Indicators

Economic Indicators

Indicators	Measures	Performance
Income	1. average median income.	+
	2. average unemployment rate	~
Employment/ unemployment	3. percentage of population on unemployment benefits	nr
	4. labour force participation rates.	nr
Average personal debt	5. average loan repayments on housing.	+
Tourism	6. occupancy rates.	nr
Job mix	7. balance of job mix e.g. commercial, retail, manufacturing	nr
	8. jobs growth.	nr

Legend:

- denotes moving away from a sustainable outcome
- + denotes moving toward a sustainable outcome
- ~ denotes remaining stable / minimal trend evident
- nr denotes indicator and/or measure data unavailable and/or not reported

Summary Sunshine Coast Score Card

Environmental Indicators

	Indicators	Measures	Performance
Environmental Indicators	Water consumption	1. per capita water usage	nr
		2. water availability	nr
	Energy consumption	3. average household electricity consumption	nr
		4. transport fuel use / carbon emissions	nr
		5. % of households buying green power.	nr
	Natural environment	6. percentage of Sunshine Coast land area as protected natural areas	+
		7. % remnant vegetation remaining.	+
	Water quality	8. rating system for river catchment and ecosystem health.	~
	Waste and recycling	9. annual waste to landfill per household	nr
		10. recycling rate.	nr

Legend:

- denotes moving away from a sustainable outcome
- + denotes moving toward a sustainable outcome
- ~ denotes remaining stable / minimal trend evident
- nr denotes indicator and/or measure data unavailable and/or not reported

So What - What's this tell us?

- Fast growing population needs good planning, timely and integrated infrastructure delivery
- Housing (un)affordability is a continuing issue
- Transport is heavily car dependent (low use walking, cycling and public transport) – needs integrated action
- Higher education needs greater consideration and “value”
- Jobs balance need improvement (focus on development and tourism) - risk
- River water quality is only OK
- Maintain quality natural systems/protection – point of difference

So What (cont)

- Coast High Quality of Life potentially under threat if taken for granted
- Need to finish assessment (requires partnership support)
 - More recent data update and completion (jobs, employment, work week)
 - Environmental indicators need focus: water and energy consumption, recycling rates
- Provides opportunity for public discussion on key themes