



Forbes offers a unique blend of modern lifestyle in a historic setting. The tranquil Lake Forbes is central to the identity of the region and offers residents numerous recreation and leisure activities.

Ideally positioned on the Newell Highway halfway between Brisbane and Melbourne, Forbes is a major urban centre. Combined with excellent communication infrastructure and road network, Forbes makes for an attractive business location.

Forbes' unique and creative culture has attracted a growing population seeking a rural lifestyle as well as employment opportunities.

### FORBES REGIONAL OVERVIEW 2011-12

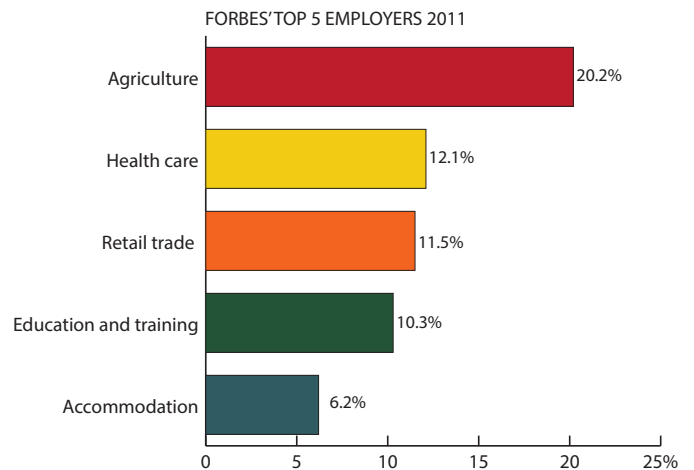
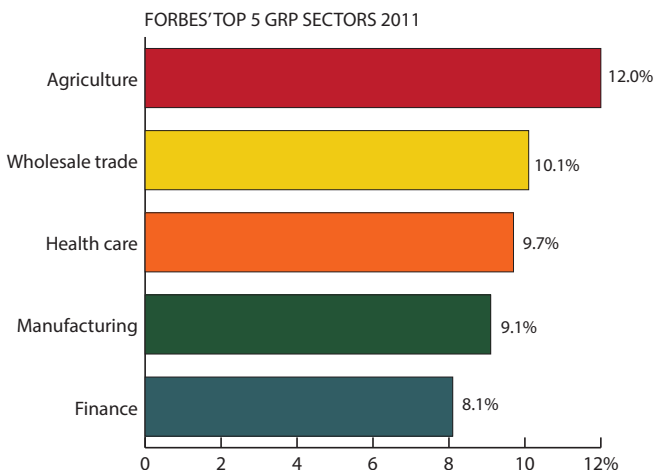
STATISTIC	INDICATOR
<b>Population/Demographics</b>	
Population	9,471
Employment	3,729
Unemployment	5.3%
Average Wage (weekly)	\$783
<b>Economy</b>	
Gross Regional Product	\$479.4 million
<b>Key Sectors</b>	
Agriculture	\$50.2 million
Wholesale trade	\$42.5 million
Health care	\$40.5 million
Manufacturing	\$37.9 million
Finance	\$34.0 million
<b>Investment</b>	
Non-residential Investment	\$16.8 million
Residential Investment	\$1.4 million
Median House Price	\$167,000



Forbes' economy is underpinned by both irrigated and dry land agriculture, particularly grains and livestock. In addition, the following sectors also contribute a high proportion of GRP:

- ▶ Wholesale trade ▶ Health care ▶ Manufacturing ▶ Finance
- ▶ Education ▶ Government

Sources: ABS (2012a,b), DEEWR (2012), AECgroup (2012), Housing NSW (2012)



Sources: AECgroup (2012), A.P.SHEERE CONSULTING (2013)



Major business and industry located in Forbes include Bernardi's SUPA IGA, Superbee Honey Factory, engineering/fabrication businesses and the Central West Livestock Exchange. The Bernardi group employs over 350 people in five Supermarkets across the Central West. Superbee produces both honey and other bee-related health products which are exported all over the world from its factory in Forbes. The Central West Livestock Exchange is a world-standard undercover cattle, sheep and pig selling centre, which is among the biggest trading centres in the industry. Opportunities for economic development in Forbes include:

- ▶ **Jemalong Regional Education Centre (JREC)** – This new medical & education facility provides training, conference and accommodation facilities for related fields. Developed in partnership with a number of NSW universities and Western Institute of TAFE, the facility boasts single, double and unit accommodation, video conferencing, multi-purpose conference room, Wi-Fi and more.
- ▶ **Industry and Logistics** – Forbes' strategic location combined with readily available and affordable industrial land present ideal conditions for growth in this sector. 2013 will see the redevelopment of the Midstate Saleyard site to make way for Bunnings and a new industrial park.



## Industrial land

Forbes has strategically located industrial land including the Central West Industrial Park, comprising large scale industrial blocks. It is located on the Newell Highway, next to the Central West Livestock Exchange, and is the perfect location for industry. Opportunities exist to tailor your business needs with a number of blocks already sold and under development.

## Pro-development Council

Forbes Shire Council offers a range of incentives for businesses of all sizes looking to locate within the Forbes region. The streamlined development application approval process is designed to save businesses time and money, while industry incentive policies seek to encourage investment. Council has established the Forbes Industry & Business Committee whose focus areas include:

- ▶ Attraction and retention of industry, business and employment opportunities
- ▶ Increased development
- ▶ Support for business development and investment
- ▶ Manufacturing and construction
- ▶ Tourism development



### CONTACT INFORMATION

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