# Central Desert Profile

Report generated on 12 February 2025.

## Overview

**Total Area:** 281,338 sqkm          **Population:** 4,126          **Major Town:** Yuendumu

## Demographics

| **Median Age** | **Labour Force Median Age** | **Labour Force Population** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 29 | 37 | 1,803 |

## Vulnerability

| **Homelessness Population** | **Unemployment Rate** | **SEIFA - IRSD** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 513 | 7.1% | 1 |

## Support Payments LGA and State Comparison

| **Rates** | **Central Desert** | **Northern Territory** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Age Pension | 140 | 11,080 |
| Commonwealth Rent Assistance | 10 | 8,005 |
| Disability Support Pension | 210 | 8,680 |
| Carer Allowance | 75 | 3,665 |

## Economy

**Median Income:** $22,088          **Gross Regional Product:** $736 Million          **Employed Residents:** 1,040

| **Ranked Industries With Most Value** | **Value ($Million)** | **Ranked Employing Industries** | **No. Employees** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mining | 612 | Mining | 1,002 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 34 | Public Administration and Safety | 140 |
| Construction | 20 | Education and Training | 138 |
| Education and Training | 10 | Health Care and Social Assistance | 117 |
| Public Administration and Safety | 8 | Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 98 |

## Number of Businesses

| **Small Businesses (<20 employees)** | **Total Businesses** |
| --- | --- |
| 66 | 72 |

## Disaster History

The following Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements have been declared in since 01 July 2022. For a full list of declarations visit [Disaster Assist](https://www.disasterassist.gov.au/).

| **AGRN** | **Event Name** | **DRFA Category** | **AGDRP** | **DRA** | **Hazard Type(s)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1116 | AGRN 1116 - Tropical Low 09U Cyclone Megan: (March 2024) | B | N | N | Cyclone, Low/tropical low, Rainfall, Tropical low |
| 1103 | AGRN 1103 - Tropical Low 03U/ Tropical Low 07U - Ex-TC Lincoln (Jan - Feb 2024) | B | N | N | Flood |
| 1068 | AGRN 1068 - Southern Region Bushfire (August 2023 onwards) | AB | N | N | Bushfire |
| 1045 | AGRN 1045 - Ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie and Flooding (December 2022) | AB | N | N | Flood |

### Data Sources

These profiles utilise data from a number of third-party providers, including:

* Services Australia
* State and Territory Governments
* [Regional population, 2021-22 financial year | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/regional-population/latest-release#data-downloads)
* [DSS Benefit and Payment Recipient Demographics - quarterly data | Datasets | data.gov.au - beta](https://data.gov.au/dataset/ds-dga-cff2ae8a-55e4-47db-a66d-e177fe0ac6a0/details)
* [Estimating Homelessness: Census, 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/housing/estimating-homelessness-census/latest-release#data-downloads)
* [Small Area Labour Markets | National Skills Commission](https://www.nationalskillscommission.gov.au/topics/small-area-labour-markets#UpdatedLGAstructure)
* [Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/socio-economic-indexes-areas-seifa-australia/latest-release#data-downloads)
* [EconomyID](https://economy.id.com.au/)
* [Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, July 2018 - June 2022 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/business-indicators/counts-australian-businesses-including-entries-and-exits/latest-release)
* [Regional population by age and sex, 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/regional-population-age-and-sex/latest-release#data-downloads)
* [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, May 2023 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release)
* [Personal Income in Australia, 2015-16 to 2019-20 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/personal-income-australia/latest-release#data-downloads)

The data is maintained by these third-party providers. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, no guarantee is given.