



Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Manufacturing Industry

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.51 am): Queensland manufacturing has remained resilient on the national and international stage in the face of strong global manufacturing headwinds. The latest ABS data shows Queensland's manufacturing industry contributed \$20.3 billion in gross value added for 2017-18. In the four quarters to September 2019, Queensland's manufacturing industry was the sixth largest employing industry, with nearly 170,000 employees.

Manufacturing employment is dominated by full-time employees who comprise 86 per cent of the total workforce, with around one-quarter of manufacturing employees being women. Manufacturing is a key industry in our regions, contributing \$5.4 billion in gross value added to the state economy in regional Queensland including over \$1 billion in Central Queensland alone.

Queensland manufacturing is expanding and has recorded 43 consecutive months of positive scores on the Australian Industry Group Australian Performance of Manufacturing Index, even in the face of a highly competitive global manufacturing environment. The index shows that Queensland has a score of 53.7 points—above the national average of 52.4 points.

Manufacturing is also a significant export earner for Queensland and accounted for around one-fifth of our total international exports, rising from \$15.83 billion in 2014-15 to \$17.2 billion in 2018-19. In terms of labour productivity, Queensland has also performed well compared to other states, rising 3.9 per cent from 2014-15 to 2018-19—well above New South Wales rise of 1.1 per cent and Victoria's fall of 1.8 per cent.

Palaszczuk government programs assisting manufacturers include the \$46 million Made in Queensland program, \$30 million regional manufacturing hubs and Industry 4.0 Masterclasses. I am pleased to inform the House that round 3 of Made in Queensland is now underway, to help companies around the state innovate, expand and provide highly skilled jobs for more Queenslanders.

The only reason these programs exist to help manufacturers in Queensland is the Palaszczuk Labor government. At a time when manufacturers are facing tough international conditions, it is essential that we retain industry assistance programs. What manufacturers do not want to see is another \$30 million cut from industry assistance programs, as occurred under the Newman LNP government. Only the Palaszczuk Labor government backs manufacturers and backs more manufacturing jobs for Queensland.