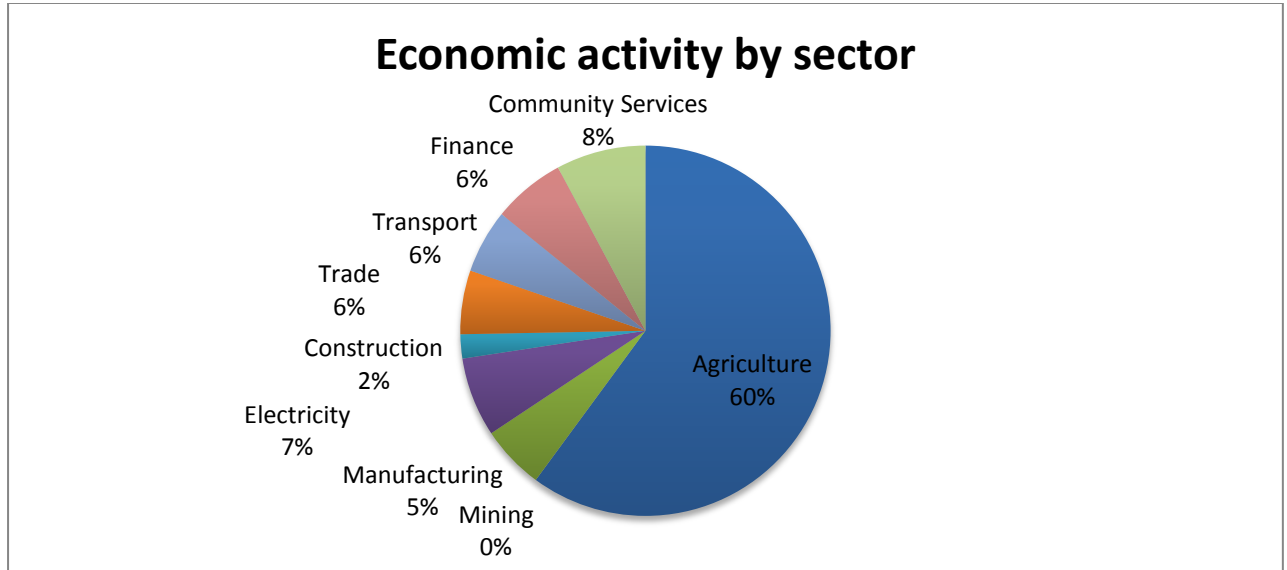


Economy

The contribution to the economy of the Tswelopele Local Municipality is captured in the Lejweleputswa District Municipality IDP for 2009 – 2010. The economy of Tswelopele is largely driven by the Agricultural sector.

Sector contribution to Tswelopele economy



Source: Lejweleputswa District Municipality Final IDP 2009-10; page 9)

Economic contribution by industry and gender			
	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture; hunting; forestry and fishing	513 863	316 328	830 191
Mining and quarrying	415 181	34 536	449 717
Manufacturing	1 182 292	555 864	1 738 156
Electricity; gas and water supply	75 658	24 277	99 935
Construction	640 756	93 322	734 078
Wholesale and retail trade	876 585	804 138	1 680 723
Transport; storage and communication	351 964	125 961	477 925
Financial; insurance; real estate and business services	784 798	553 530	1 338 328
Community; social and personal services	838 670	1 106 469	1 945 139
Other and not adequately defined	351 386	827 881	1 179 267
Unspecified/Not applicable/Institutions	8 983 774	11 578 944	20 562 718
	15 014 927	16 021 250	31 036 177

Source: Statistics SA Community Survey 2007

Economic Background

All primary products produced in the within the Tswelopele Local Municipality are exported to other regions where they are processed to commercial products for distribution. The result is that one of the challenges for the region is to develop a diversified industrial and commercial base. This can be achieved through a beneficiation process with agriculture products. The process of value adding to our primary products is one of essential elements to broaden our industrial base. There is a proposed construction of two ethanol plants with the municipal jurisdiction. These possible constructions of the two Ethanol plants with their indirect spin offs can change the economic development of this municipality. However integrated long term planning to ensure sustainability is crucial to grab this opportunity.

However the economic base of the country is growing away from industries towards information and financial services. The Ethanol developments might just be the trigger to take Tswelopele into this next level of economic development, but the shortage of skills in this area could prevent further growth. There is also a proposed building of regional police headquarters in Tswelopele. The need for accommodation and related services would add to increased economic activity within the municipality. The resulting economic activity would increase the economic base of Tswelopele.