

Small business in Queensland, June 2022

This report presents summary statistics about small businesses in Queensland, including business counts by industry type and the contribution of small business to employment in Queensland.

Data were sourced from published Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data and collated by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office (QGSO). Please refer to notes at the end of this report for information about ABS sources used including reference periods.

Business counts and industry profile

Counts by business size

There were 2,569,900 businesses actively trading in Australia at 30 June 2022. Of these, 485,971 businesses were operating in Queensland, representing 18.9% of all businesses in Australia.

Small businesses were the predominant type of business actively trading in Queensland (97.3%), similar to their share nationally (97.5%).

There were 473,043 small businesses actively trading in Queensland at 30 June 2022, 24,221 more than in the previous year (448,822). In the same period, there were 12,153 medium businesses and 775 large businesses trading in Queensland.

Industry¹ composition of small business

Looking at the top ten industries for small business in Queensland the construction industry represented the largest share of small businesses (17.4%), followed by professional, scientific and technical services (12.4%) at 30 June 2022 (Figure 1).

Of the top ten industries, the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industry had the largest difference in share than that recorded at the national level (1.8 percentage points higher). Together, the top ten industries accounted for more than four out of five small businesses in Queensland (83.2%).

The construction industry had the largest number of small businesses in Queensland



ABS definitions used in this report:

Small business: A non-employing business or a business employing less than 20 people.

'Non-employing' includes sole proprietorships and partnerships without employees.

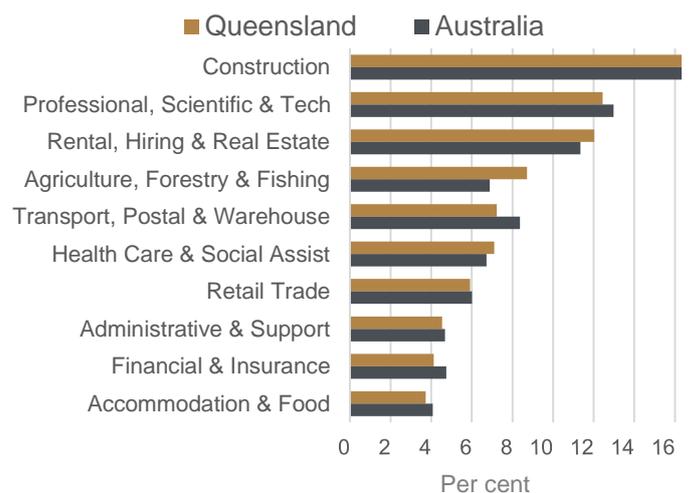
Medium business: A business employing between 20 and 199 employees.

Large business: A business employing 200 employees or more.

At 30 June, 2022 Queensland had:

473,043
small businesses
12,153
medium businesses
775
large businesses

Figure 1 Top 10 small business industries^(a), at 30 June 2022



(a) Based on Queensland's top ten industries by small business share. Source: *Australian Industry*

¹ Industry based on *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification* (ANZSIC), 2006.

Contribution of small business to employment

Figures quoted from *Australian Industry* exclude persons employed in the general government sector (public administration; education and training; health care and social assistance); persons employed in finance, insurance and superannuation funds; and persons employed in defence and in private households. However, the figures do include persons employed in general government businesses classified to water supply, sewerage and drainage services.

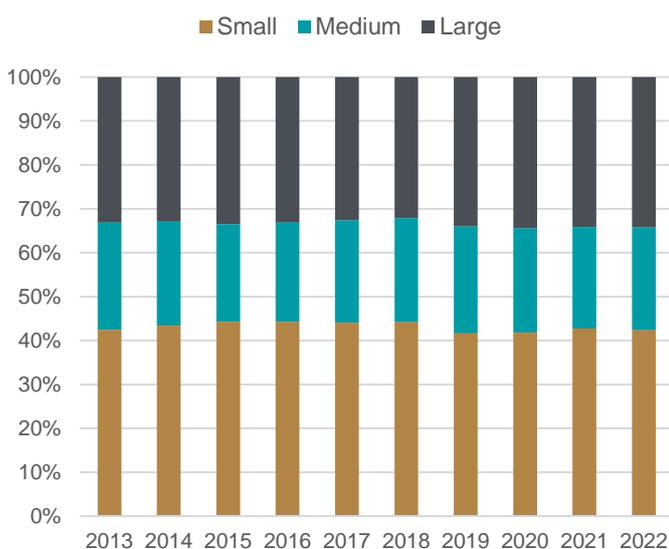
Note: Measures of employment from these data sources are not consistent with data published in *Labour Force, Australia*.

Businesses of all sizes employed 2,424,000 persons in Queensland at 30 June 2022².

This comprised 1,026,000 persons employed in a small business (42.3%), 567,000 persons employed in a medium business (23.4%) and 831,000 persons employed in a large business (34.3%) (Figure 2).

Small business has made a significant contribution to total employment in Queensland. Over the previous decade the smallest proportion of people employed in small business was 41.6% at 30 June 2019 and the largest proportion was 44.2% at 30 June 2016.

Figure 2 Business size and proportion of employment, Queensland, at 30 June

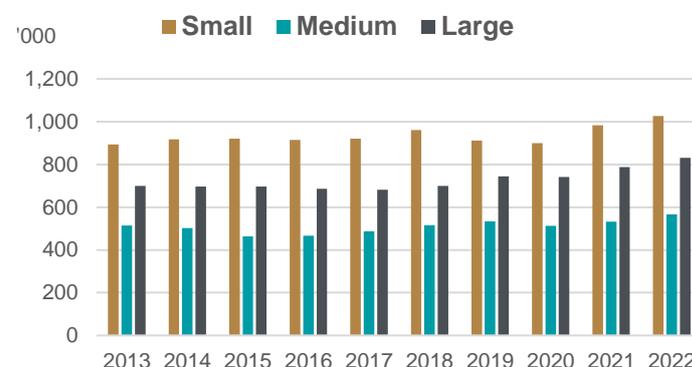


Source: *Australian Industry*

Queensland small businesses accounted for about one in five (19.9%) persons employed nationally in small businesses at 30 June 2022. Almost three in five (57.5%) small businesses in Queensland were a micro business (non-employing to four employees).

Between June 2013 and June 2022, the number of persons employed in a small business in Queensland increased by 132,000 (up 14.8%). The number of persons employed in medium business increased by 52,000 (up 10.1%), while the number of persons employed in large business increased by 132,000 (18.9%) (Figure 3).

Figure 3 Employment by business size, Queensland, at 30 June

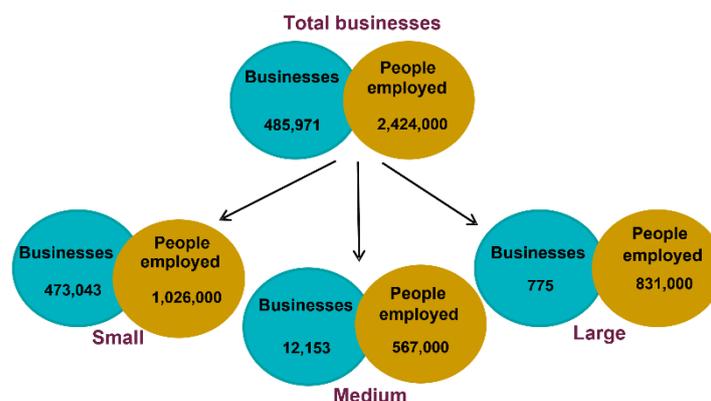


Source: *Australian Industry*

Over the same period, employment in small business in Queensland was highest at 30 June 2022 (1,026,000 persons) and lowest at 30 June 2013 (894,000 persons).

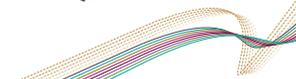
Nationally, the contribution of small business to employment declined by 1.6 percentage points from June 2013 to June 2022 (from 43.3% to 41.7%).

Figure 4 Business employment, Queensland, at 30 June 2022



Source: *Australian Industry* and *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits*

² For more information, please refer to the explanatory notes in *Australian Industry*.



ABS data sources

Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, July 2018 to June 2022

These counts represent a complete enumeration of economically active businesses on the ABS Business Register (ABSBR). Business counts from the ABSBR are based, in part, on tax data supplied by the Australian Tax Office and Australian Business Register (ABR). Counts of businesses comprise businesses actively trading in goods or services. For the impacts of COVID-19 refer to the technical note in this publication:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/counts-australian-businesses-including-entries-and-exits-methodology/jul2018-jun2022>

Australian Industry

Data in *Australian Industry* are collected from the annual Economic Activity Survey conducted by the ABS, and administrative data from Business Activity Statements provided by businesses to the Australian Tax Office.