

# Regional labour force – region summary, February 2020

Source: ABS 6291.0.55.001, released 26 March 2020, 10:30 am (AEST)

**Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Feb 20**

SA4	Employment			Unemployment		Participation rate <sup>(a)</sup>	
	Level	Annual change		Rate	Annual change	Rate	Annual change
	— persons —		%	%	percentage point	%	percentage point
Brisbane - East	129,800	800	0.6	4.1	-1.4	69.5	-1.6
Brisbane - North	122,600	-4,900	-3.9	5.4	0.0	70.3	-4.2
Brisbane - South	203,100	9,100	4.7	6.3	0.4	70.3	2.3
Brisbane - West	94,500	7,000	8.1	6.0	0.6	64.6	4.4
Brisbane Inner City	184,000	12,200	7.1	3.8	-0.8	75.9	2.0
Ipswich	169,100	7,100	4.4	7.8	1.0	66.0	1.8
Logan - Beaudesert	159,500	3,000	1.9	8.0	0.7	64.4	0.5
Moreton Bay - North	102,600	-6,700	-6.1	8.2	-1.1	53.8	-5.3
Moreton Bay - South	114,100	500	0.4	5.7	0.5	71.4	-1.5
Cairns	132,600	14,900	12.7	5.1	-0.4	68.6	6.8
Darling Downs - Maranoa	66,600	2,300	3.6	3.0	-3.0	67.4	0.2
Central Queensland	117,100	3,500	3.1	6.3	-0.2	70.8	1.8
Gold Coast	337,800	-1,700	-0.5	5.6	1.2	68.3	-1.3
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	88,600	-4,000	-4.4	5.8	2.1	68.9	-1.6
Queensland - Outback	41,400	7,800	23.1	11.2	-2.5	74.6	12.2
Sunshine Coast	190,000	10,300	5.8	5.9	-0.4	63.5	1.5
Toowoomba	62,700	-13,000	-17.1	4.6	-1.1	52.0	-12.4
Townsville	110,000	2,900	2.7	8.1	0.1	64.5	1.3
Wide Bay	112,400	300	0.3	8.5	0.6	49.7	-0.1
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>2,538,500</b>	<b>51,500</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>

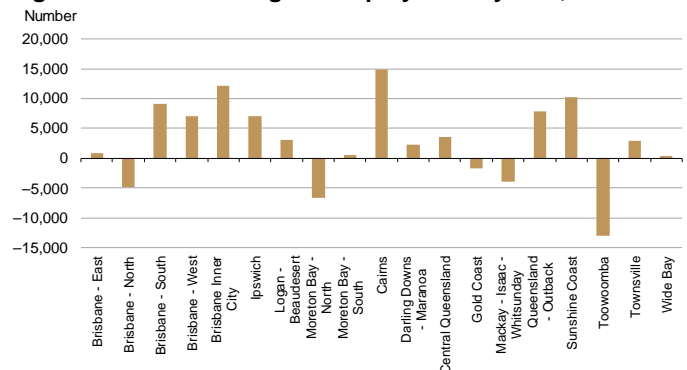
(a) Participation rate refers to the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of persons aged 15 years and over.

## Main findings

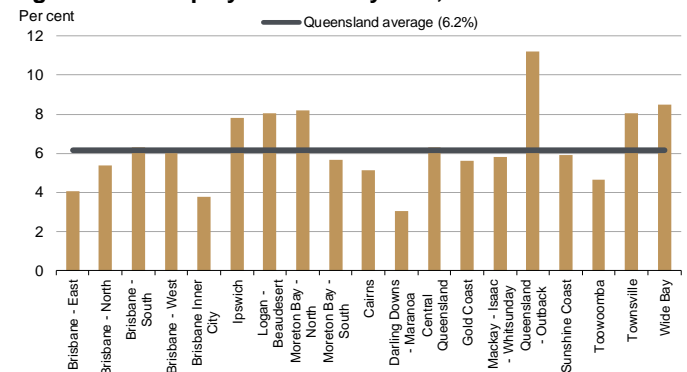
Note: All data in this brief are based on 12-month moving averages. This approach is supported by ABS advice on analysis of regional labour force estimates (see Table 16(b) of *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)).

- Cairns SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during February 2020 with a growth of 14,900 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during February 2020 with an unemployment rate of 3.0 per cent (Figure 2).
- Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to February 2020 with an unemployment rate decrease of 3.0 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during February 2020 with 75.9% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 49.7%.

**Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Feb 20**



**Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Feb 20**



Notes (Refer to website for more detailed notes):

SA4 = Statistical Area, Level 4 (ASGS 2016 edition)

Data for Queensland as a whole are provided for reference purposes only.

The labour force statistics presented in this brief are on a sample basis and will include a sampling error.

Totals may differ due to rounding. Figures are rounded to nearest 100 persons. Calculations are based on pre-rounded figures.