## Regional labour force – Toowoomba SA4, Jul 20

Source: ABS 6291.0.55.001, released 20 August 2020, 11:30 am (AEST)

### Table 1  Labour force status, Toowoomba SA4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year ending</th>
<th>Annual change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jul 19</td>
<td>Jun 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>— persons</td>
<td>— persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total employed</td>
<td>70,200</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total unemployed</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>4,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total labour force</td>
<td>73,800</td>
<td>69,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in the labour force</td>
<td>51,600</td>
<td>57,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons 15+</td>
<td>125,400</td>
<td>126,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation rate (%)</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>54.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate (%)</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Percentage point change.

### Key data

- Employment (annual change) ................. ➖ 6.2%
- Unemployment rate ................................ 7.0%
- Unemployment rate (annual change) .......... ➗ 2.3 ppt
- Participation rate ................................ 55.8%

**ppt** = percentage point

### Main findings

- The number of employed persons in Toowoomba SA4 in July 2020 was 65,900 persons, a decrease of 4,400 employed persons, or 6.2% over the year (Figure 1).
- The unemployment rate in Toowoomba SA4 in July 2020 was 7.0 per cent, an increase of 2.3 percentage points over the year. The unemployment rate for this area was the eighth-highest of all 19 SA4s within Queensland (Figure 2).
- The participation rate in Toowoomba SA4 in July 2020 was 55.8 per cent, a decrease of 3.0 percentage points over the year (Table 1).

SA4 = Statistical Area Level 4 (ASGS 2016 edition)

Note: Due to the high standard errors associated with regional labour force survey data, the ABS and QGSO recommend using 12-month averages to reduce the volatility of the underlying original data. This volatility means it can be difficult to detect real world phenomena, such as those caused by the social distancing measures introduced to combat COVID-19, in the data. As a result, it is not recommended regional labour force data be used to assess the impact of COVID-19.

All data in this brief are based on 12-month moving averages.

- Employment growth, annual
  - Toowoomba: −6.2%
  - Queensland: −0.1%

- Unemployment rate
  - Toowoomba: 7.0%
  - Queensland: 6.7%

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**Figure 1** Annual change in employment, Toowoomba SA4

**Figure 2** Unemployment rate by SA4, July 2020