

Regional labour force – region summary, August 2020

Source: ABS 6291.0.55.001, released 24 September 2020, 11:30 am (AEST)

Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Aug 20

SA4	Employment			Unemployment		Participation rate ^(a)	
	Level	Annual change		Rate	Annual change	Rate	Annual change
	— persons —		%	%	percentage point	%	percentage point
Brisbane - East	122,300	-8,400	-6.4	6.6	1.8	66.9	-4.3
Brisbane - North	118,400	-8,600	-6.8	5.8	1.0	67.6	-5.5
Brisbane - South	199,100	700	0.3	5.8	-0.8	68.0	-1.5
Brisbane - West	94,800	6,000	6.7	5.9	0.1	64.3	3.4
Brisbane Inner City	184,100	6,200	3.5	4.4	-0.1	75.3	0.0
Ipswich	166,600	1,500	0.9	8.8	1.9	64.9	0.2
Logan - Beaudesert	159,400	4,400	2.8	7.8	-0.2	63.6	0.5
Moreton Bay - North	105,100	1,900	1.8	7.6	-1.4	54.3	-0.9
Moreton Bay - South	109,500	-6,500	-5.6	7.7	2.9	69.1	-3.9
Cairns	131,400	4,900	3.9	6.1	1.6	68.4	3.0
Darling Downs - Maranoa	66,100	2,600	4.1	4.0	-1.4	67.6	1.7
Central Queensland	117,000	2,400	2.1	6.5	0.2	70.8	1.5
Gold Coast	324,300	-17,800	-5.2	6.3	0.6	65.2	-4.9
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	93,300	7,900	9.2	5.1	-0.7	72.1	5.6
Queensland - Outback	41,400	3,500	9.3	10.1	-3.6	73.6	3.5
Sunshine Coast	180,000	-6,700	-3.6	6.3	0.6	59.7	-3.5
Toowoomba	67,000	-1,900	-2.7	7.2	2.6	56.7	-0.7
Townsville	110,900	3,800	3.6	6.8	-0.3	64.0	1.6
Wide Bay	108,700	-4,100	-3.6	11.4	4.0	49.4	-0.2
Queensland	2,499,600	-8,200	-0.3	6.7	0.6	64.8	-0.9

(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: 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.

- Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during August 2020 with a growth of 7,900 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during August 2020 with an unemployment rate of 4.0 per cent (Figure 2).
- Queensland - Outback SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to August 2020 with an unemployment rate decrease of 3.6 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during August 2020 with 75.3% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 49.4%.

Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Aug 20

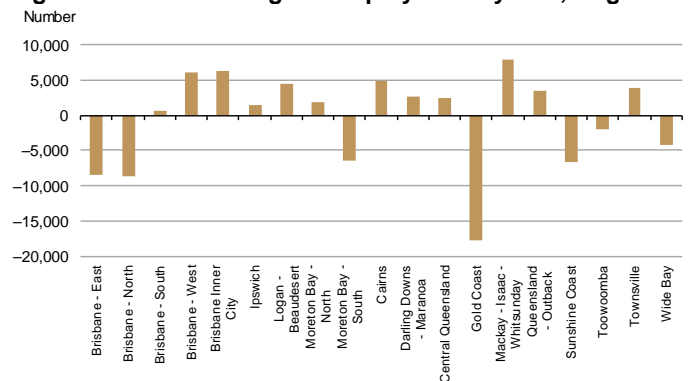
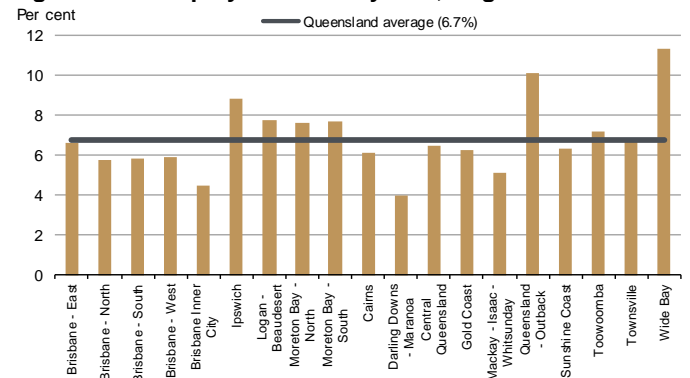


Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Aug 20



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.