

Regional labour force – region summary, January 2021

Source: ABS 6291.0.55.001, released 25 February 2021, 10:30 am (AEST)

Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Jan 21

SA4	Employment		Unemployment		Participation rate ^(a)		
	Level — persons —	Annual change %	Rate %	Annual change percentage point	Rate %	Annual change percentage point	
Brisbane - East	120,700	-9,500	-7.3	7.7	3.5	66.6	-3.4
Brisbane - North	118,200	-4,700	-3.8	6.6	1.5	68.0	-2.5
Brisbane - South	197,200	-6,000	-2.9	6.7	0.4	67.6	-2.8
Brisbane - West	96,800	3,500	3.7	6.5	0.5	66.0	2.1
Brisbane Inner City	186,100	3,800	2.1	5.2	1.3	75.8	0.3
Ipswich	171,400	1,900	1.1	9.0	1.3	65.9	-0.1
Logan - Beaudesert	156,700	-2,400	-1.5	8.4	0.3	62.2	-2.0
Moreton Bay - North	102,600	400	0.4	8.8	0.7	53.1	-0.4
Moreton Bay - South	110,200	-4,100	-3.6	8.5	3.0	69.7	-2.0
Cairns	129,600	-1,900	-1.4	6.1	1.0	67.3	-0.9
Darling Downs - Maranoa	63,800	-2,400	-3.6	4.8	1.7	65.9	-1.3
Central Queensland	116,900	-300	-0.2	6.3	-0.3	70.0	-0.7
Gold Coast	328,000	-10,300	-3.0	6.9	1.2	66.1	-2.6
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	95,400	7,800	9.0	5.4	-0.7	73.5	5.4
Queensland - Outback	39,500	-1,400	-3.4	12.0	0.5	71.4	-2.3
Sunshine Coast	179,300	-10,200	-5.4	6.9	0.9	59.4	-4.2
Toowoomba	74,300	11,400	18.2	5.8	1.4	61.6	9.6
Townsville	111,300	2,100	1.9	6.0	-1.9	63.8	-0.3
Wide Bay	110,500	-1,900	-1.7	11.6	3.3	50.0	0.5
Queensland	2,508,600	-24,100	-1.0	7.2	1.1	65.0	-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.

- Toowoomba SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during January 2021 with a growth of 11,400 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during January 2021 with an unemployment rate of 4.8 per cent (Figure 2).
- Townsville SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to January 2021 with an unemployment rate decrease of 1.9 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during January 2021 with 75.8% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 50.0%.

Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Jan 21

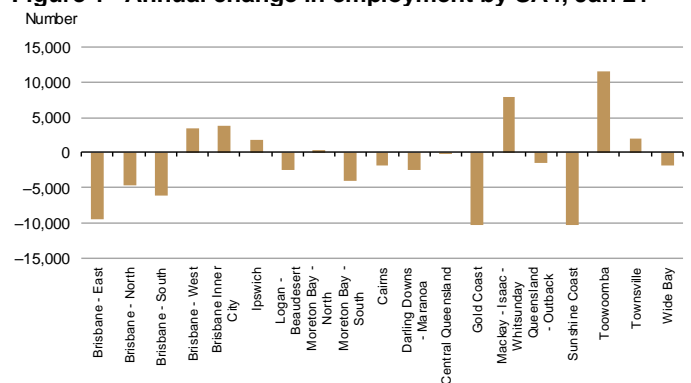
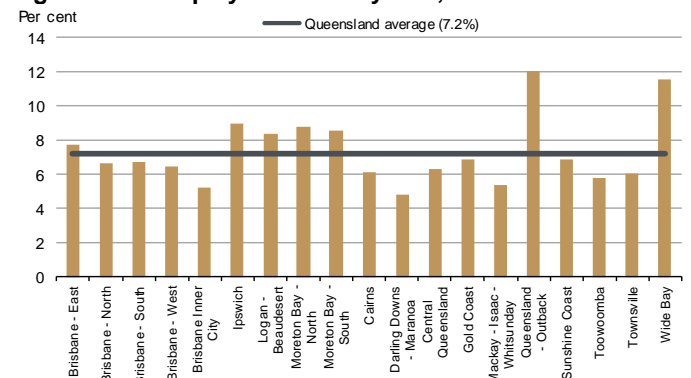


Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Jan 21



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.