

# Regional labour force – region summary, Aug 21

Source: ABS 6291.0.55.001, released 23 September 2021, 11:30 am (AEST)

**Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Aug 21**

SA4	Employment			Unemployment		Participation rate <sup>(a)</sup>	
	Level	Annual change		Rate	Annual change	Rate	Annual change
	— persons —		%	%	percentage point	%	percentage point
Brisbane - East	126,700	4,400	3.6	5.3	-1.3	67.9	1.0
Brisbane - North	126,300	8,200	7.0	5.1	-0.7	71.3	3.6
Brisbane - South	199,500	200	0.1	7.7	1.9	68.9	0.8
Brisbane - West	101,400	6,800	7.1	5.9	-0.0	68.8	4.4
Brisbane Inner City	195,200	11,600	6.3	4.5	0.1	78.5	3.1
Ipswich	180,800	13,400	8.0	8.6	-0.2	68.7	3.7
Logan - Beaudesert	158,500	-2,200	-1.4	9.1	1.3	62.7	-1.0
Moreton Bay - North	105,100	-900	-0.8	7.2	-0.4	52.8	-1.6
Moreton Bay - South	117,200	8,000	7.3	6.5	-1.2	71.7	2.6
Cairns	128,800	-2,900	-2.2	5.6	-0.5	66.4	-2.1
Darling Downs - Maranoa	64,600	-1,700	-2.6	6.1	2.1	67.8	0.1
Central Queensland	118,600	500	0.4	5.4	-1.1	70.3	-0.6
Gold Coast	355,800	31,400	9.7	5.7	-0.6	69.9	4.6
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	97,100	2,600	2.8	3.6	-1.5	72.6	0.4
Queensland - Outback	38,000	-3,700	-9.0	11.5	1.4	68.3	-5.5
Sunshine Coast	185,800	5,900	3.3	5.7	-0.6	60.2	0.4
Toowoomba	73,900	6,800	10.1	3.6	-3.7	59.9	3.1
Townsville	115,800	4,400	4.0	5.5	-1.4	65.4	1.2
Wide Bay	115,000	5,800	5.3	8.7	-2.6	50.2	0.8
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>2,603,900</b>	<b>98,500</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

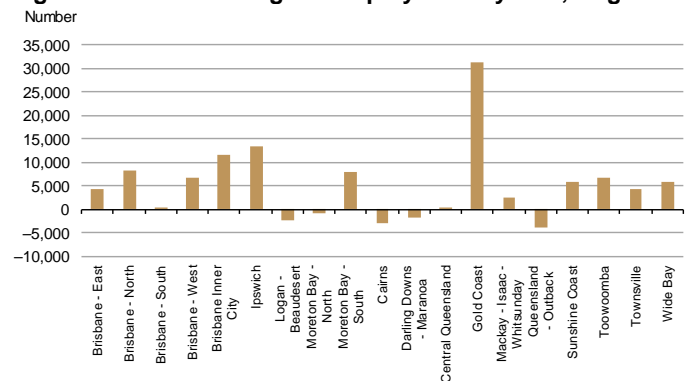
(a) Participation rate refers to the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of persons aged 15 years and over.

## Main findings

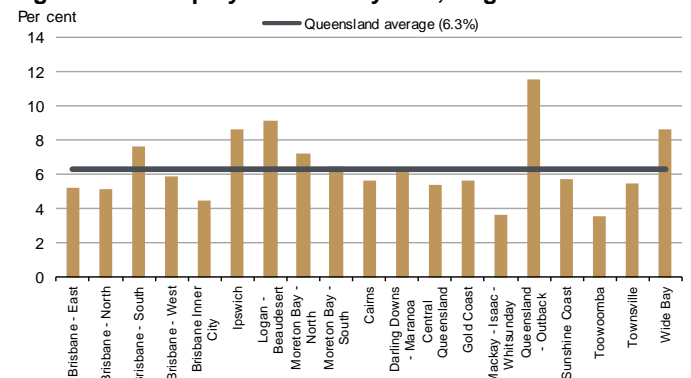
Note: Due to the high standard errors associated with regional labour force survey data, the ABS and QGSO recommend using 12-month averages to reduce the volatility of the underlying original data. This volatility means it can be difficult to detect real world phenomena, such as those caused by the social 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.

- Gold Coast SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during August 2021 with a growth of 31,400 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Toowoomba SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during August 2021 with an unemployment rate of 3.6 per cent (Figure 2).
- Toowoomba SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to August 2021 with an unemployment rate decrease of 3.7 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during August 2021 with 78.5% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 50.2%.

**Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Aug 21**



**Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Aug 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.