

# Regional labour force – region summary, Dec 22

Source: ABS, *Labour force, Australia, detailed*, released 25 January 2023, 10:30 am (AEST)

**Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Dec 22**

SA4	Employment			Unemployment		Participation rate <sup>(a)</sup>	
	Level	Annual change		Rate	Annual change	Rate	Annual change
	— persons —	%		%	percentage point	%	percentage point
Brisbane - East	131,200	2,200	1.7	2.1	-1.8	66.5	-1.4
Brisbane - North	132,300	1,500	1.2	2.5	-1.7	71.8	-1.6
Brisbane - South	209,400	10,400	5.2	3.4	-3.3	69.7	0.4
Brisbane - West	104,300	4,600	4.6	3.7	-1.4	70.3	1.9
Brisbane Inner City	200,600	5,800	3.0	2.8	-0.8	79.2	0.7
Ipswich	186,700	6,500	3.6	6.5	-1.4	67.2	-0.8
Logan - Beaudesert	180,900	13,400	8.0	6.5	-2.2	66.3	1.5
Moreton Bay - North	122,700	11,100	10.0	5.4	-0.3	57.0	3.3
Moreton Bay - South	123,600	9,200	8.1	2.8	-2.9	72.2	1.5
Cairns	142,800	10,500	8.0	4.0	-0.9	70.1	3.3
Darling Downs - Maranoa	65,400	-900	-1.4	4.9	-1.9	64.9	-3.4
Central Queensland	124,400	4,800	4.0	3.4	-1.7	69.1	0.1
Gold Coast	366,000	3,800	1.0	2.9	-1.9	68.8	-2.4
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	108,500	5,800	5.7	2.2	-0.2	73.3	1.8
Queensland - Outback	35,700	-2,700	-7.0	11.3	0.7	62.6	-5.1
Sunshine Coast	200,600	11,400	6.0	2.6	-1.8	59.6	0.4
Toowoomba	76,000	2,400	3.3	4.8	0.5	59.5	0.8
Townsville	130,000	11,800	10.0	2.3	-2.2	70.0	3.7
Wide Bay	126,400	7,200	6.0	5.8	-1.7	50.0	0.5
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>2,767,600</b>	<b>118,800</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>0.3</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.

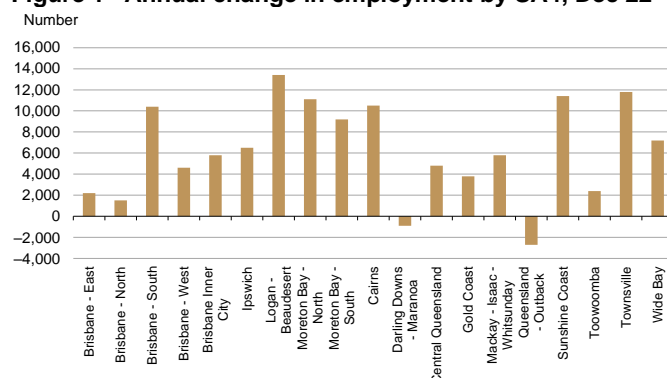
## Main findings

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.**

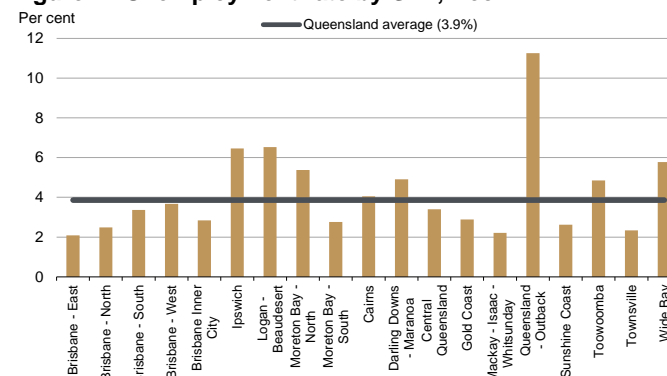
All data in this brief are based on 12-month moving averages.

- Logan - Beaudesert SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during December 2022 with a growth of 13,400 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Brisbane - East SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during December 2022 with an unemployment rate of 2.1 per cent (Figure 2).
- Brisbane - South SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to December 2022 with an unemployment rate decrease of 3.3 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during December 2022 with 79.2% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 50.0%.

**Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Dec 22**



**Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Dec 22**



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.