

# Regional labour force – region summary, Dec 23

Source: ABS, *Labour force, Australia, detailed*, released 25 January 2024, 10:30 am (AEST)

**Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Dec 23**

SA4	Employment			Unemployment		Participation <sup>(a)</sup>	
	Level	Annual change		Rate	Annual change	Rate	Annual change
	— persons —		%	%	percentage point	%	percentage point
Brisbane - East	135,100	4,500	3.4	3.6	1.5	68.5	2.0
Brisbane - North	126,900	-5,400	-4.1	3.7	1.2	68.1	-3.7
Brisbane - South	216,100	5,200	2.4	3.6	0.2	69.8	0.0
Brisbane - West	105,300	0	-0.0	2.7	-1.0	68.2	-2.1
Brisbane Inner City	202,900	-1,500	-0.7	3.7	0.9	76.4	-2.9
Ipswich	200,300	13,200	7.0	4.4	-2.0	67.7	0.4
Logan - Beaudesert	199,000	17,000	9.3	4.7	-1.8	68.2	1.9
Moreton Bay - North	121,300	-1,200	-1.0	6.4	1.0	55.1	-2.0
Moreton Bay - South	127,400	3,700	3.0	3.9	1.1	72.7	0.5
Cairns	140,000	-2,600	-1.8	3.3	-0.7	66.6	-3.5
Darling Downs - Maranoa	66,800	1,800	2.8	2.3	-2.6	63.8	-1.1
Central Queensland	125,300	1,600	1.3	4.9	1.5	69.5	0.4
Gold Coast	360,700	-4,900	-1.3	3.3	0.4	66.0	-2.8
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	104,400	-3,000	-2.8	4.1	1.9	70.7	-2.5
Queensland - Outback	37,300	2,100	5.9	8.2	-3.1	63.3	0.7
Sunshine Coast	221,800	23,100	11.6	3.2	0.5	64.9	5.2
Toowoomba	78,300	2,400	3.2	4.8	-0.1	59.6	0.0
Townsville	134,300	4,700	3.6	3.4	1.0	71.5	1.5
Wide Bay	136,800	11,200	8.9	6.2	0.4	53.0	3.0
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>2,839,900</b>	<b>71,900</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>66.6</b>	<b>-0.2</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.

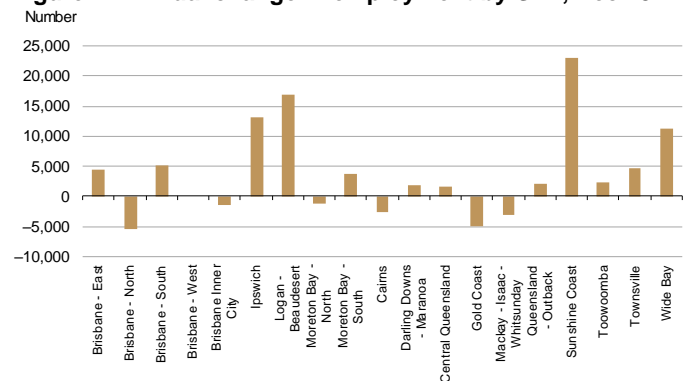
## Main findings

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.

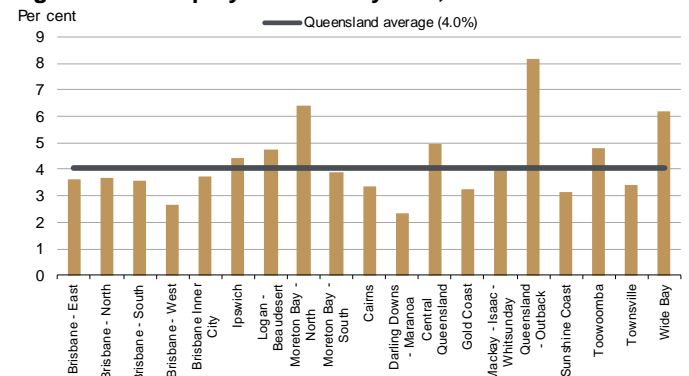
All data in this brief are based on 12-month moving averages.

- Sunshine Coast SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during December 2023 with a growth of 23,100 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during December 2023 with an unemployment rate of 2.3 per cent (Figure 2).
- Queensland - Outback SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to December 2023 with an unemployment rate decrease of 3.1 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during December 2023 with 76.4% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 53.0%.

**Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Dec 23**



**Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Dec 23**



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.