

Regional labour force – region summary, Dec 24

Source: ABS, *Labour force, Australia, detailed*, released 23 January 2025, 10:30 am (AEST)

Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Dec 24

SA4	Employment			Unemployment		Participation ^(a)	
	Level	Annual change		Rate	Annual change	Rate	Annual change
	— persons —	%		%	percentage point	%	percentage point
Brisbane - East	139,700	2,600	1.9	2.8	-0.9	68.8	-0.6
Brisbane - North	134,400	8,200	6.5	4.4	0.7	71.2	3.5
Brisbane - South	229,200	11,300	5.2	3.5	0.0	70.8	1.2
Brisbane - West	112,200	1,900	1.8	3.5	0.5	70.1	-0.5
Brisbane Inner City	221,400	12,100	5.8	3.6	-0.3	78.4	0.5
Ipswich	193,300	-1,000	-0.5	5.5	0.9	64.2	-1.8
Logan - Beaudesert	206,600	8,400	4.2	5.5	0.8	68.6	0.7
Moreton Bay - North	132,100	14,800	12.6	4.7	-1.8	57.5	3.9
Moreton Bay - South	134,700	7,300	5.7	4.8	0.8	75.7	2.6
Cairns	141,400	1,900	1.3	3.5	-0.0	66.2	-0.5
Darling Downs - Maranoa	65,700	300	0.4	2.3	-0.1	62.2	-0.6
Central Queensland	131,200	7,700	6.2	5.1	0.2	71.8	3.1
Gold Coast	380,500	18,500	5.1	3.5	0.3	67.6	1.5
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	103,700	300	0.3	2.2	-1.8	68.0	-2.5
Queensland - Outback	40,400	-700	-1.7	5.9	2.0	67.2	0.1
Sunshine Coast	225,800	4,700	2.1	3.4	0.2	64.5	-0.3
Toowoomba	92,300	15,800	20.6	3.0	-1.9	67.7	9.1
Townsville	121,400	-11,000	-8.3	4.3	0.9	64.4	-6.4
Wide Bay	139,800	4,200	3.1	5.0	-0.7	52.7	-0.0
Queensland	2,946,100	107,200	3.8	4.0	0.0	67.1	0.7

(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 direct survey estimates, 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 of direct survey estimates.

- Gold Coast SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during December 2024 with a growth of 18,500 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during December 2024 with an unemployment rate of 2.2 per cent (Figure 2).
- Toowoomba SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to December 2024 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 December 2024 with 78.4 per cent and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 52.7 per cent.

Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Dec 24

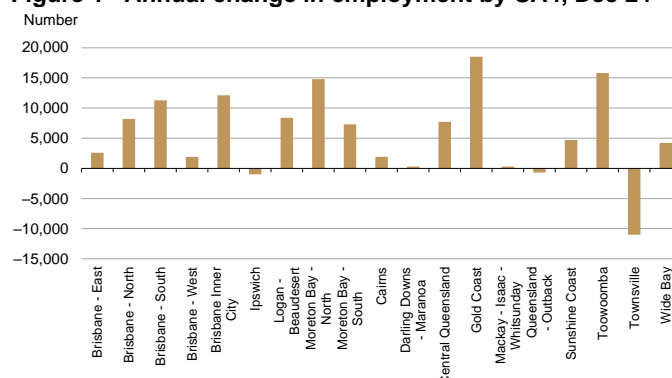
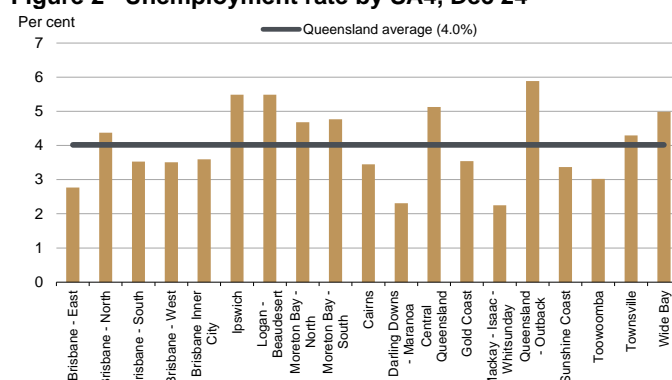


Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Dec 24



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.