

Regional labour force – region summary, Jan 25

Source: ABS, *Labour force, Australia, detailed*, released 27 February 2025, 10:30 am (AEST)

Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, Jan 25

SA4	Employment		Annual change	Unemployment		Annual change	Participation ^(a)		Annual change
	Level			Rate			Rate		
	— persons —		%	%	percentage point		%	percentage point	
Brisbane - East	140,600	3,400	2.5	2.9	-0.7		69.2	-0.1	
Brisbane - North	135,900	9,800	7.8	4.5	0.9		72.0	4.4	
Brisbane - South	229,600	10,900	5.0	3.4	-0.3		70.6	0.9	
Brisbane - West	112,000	1,700	1.5	3.7	0.8		69.9	-0.5	
Brisbane Inner City	221,600	11,000	5.2	3.6	-0.4		78.1	0.1	
Ipswich	193,700	-1,400	-0.7	5.5	1.1		64.2	-1.8	
Logan - Beaudesert	208,700	9,900	5.0	5.2	0.6		68.9	1.1	
Moreton Bay - North	132,800	15,100	12.8	4.5	-2.4		57.5	3.7	
Moreton Bay - South	135,300	8,200	6.5	5.1	1.1		76.1	3.4	
Cairns	141,800	2,400	1.7	3.4	-0.1		66.3	-0.2	
Darling Downs - Maranoa	65,900	-100	-0.2	2.2	-0.3		62.2	-1.1	
Central Queensland	131,800	8,900	7.3	5.3	0.4		72.1	3.9	
Gold Coast	381,100	18,000	5.0	3.4	0.0		67.4	1.3	
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	104,000	500	0.5	2.2	-1.8		68.1	-2.2	
Queensland - Outback	40,400	-800	-2.0	6.0	2.1		67.2	-0.0	
Sunshine Coast	225,700	3,400	1.5	3.2	-0.2		64.2	-0.9	
Toowoomba	93,600	16,900	22.1	2.6	-2.4		68.3	9.6	
Townsville	121,500	-10,400	-7.9	4.6	1.2		64.6	-5.9	
Wide Bay	139,900	3,300	2.4	5.4	-0.0		52.8	0.1	
Queensland	2,955,900	110,900	3.9	4.0	0.0		67.2	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 January 2025 with a growth of 18,000 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during January 2025 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 January 2025 with an unemployment rate decrease of 2.4 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during January 2025 with 78.1 per cent and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 52.8 per cent.

Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, Jan 25

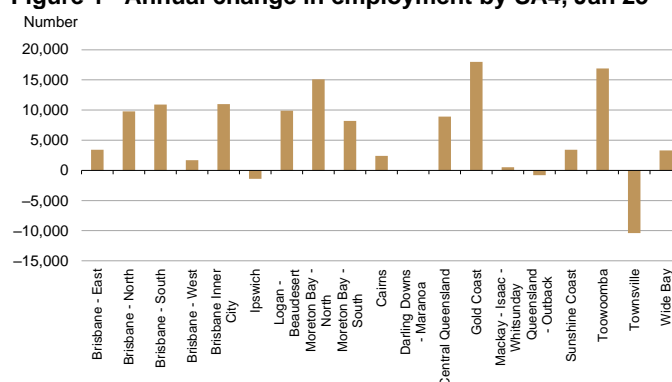
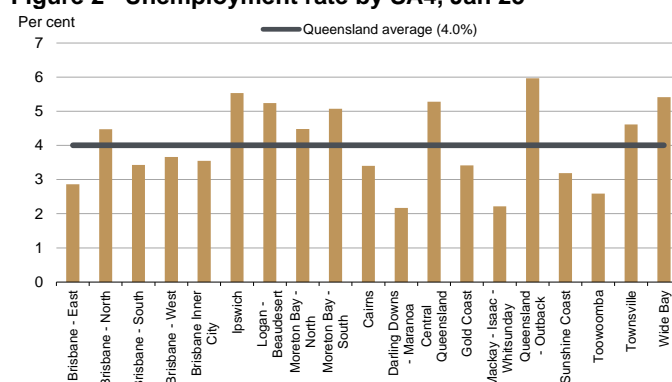


Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, Jan 25



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.