

Regional labour force – region summary, May 2025

Source: ABS, *Labour force, Australia, detailed*, released 26 June 2025, 11:30 am (AEST)

Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, May 2025

SA4	Employment			Unemployment		Participation ^(a)	
	Level	Annual change		Rate	Annual change	Rate	Annual change
	— persons —		%	%	percentage point	%	percentage point
Brisbane - East	142,700	5,700	4.2	2.9	-0.4	70.2	1.5
Brisbane - North	140,400	13,200	10.4	3.9	-0.2	73.8	5.7
Brisbane - South	226,200	3,400	1.5	4.1	0.1	69.7	-0.8
Brisbane - West	110,300	-800	-0.7	3.0	0.1	68.1	-2.3
Brisbane Inner City	221,800	8,300	3.9	3.7	-0.3	77.5	-0.5
Ipswich	196,000	-300	-0.1	4.9	-0.2	64.2	-2.1
Logan - Beaudesert	211,400	11,800	5.9	4.7	-0.2	68.8	1.4
Moreton Bay - North	136,200	14,600	12.0	4.0	-2.8	58.4	3.4
Moreton Bay - South	136,200	8,300	6.5	5.3	1.2	76.4	3.8
Cairns	139,300	-2,500	-1.8	3.8	0.4	65.3	-2.0
Darling Downs - Maranoa	67,300	2,000	3.0	3.1	1.0	64.1	2.0
Central Queensland	131,000	6,800	5.5	5.4	1.0	71.7	3.4
Gold Coast	381,300	9,900	2.7	3.3	-0.1	67.1	-0.0
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	105,100	1,100	1.1	1.8	-2.1	68.4	-1.8
Queensland - Outback	40,500	-300	-0.8	5.5	1.0	67.3	0.3
Sunshine Coast	223,800	-1,200	-0.5	2.7	-1.0	63.1	-2.5
Toowoomba	93,400	13,300	16.6	2.6	-1.2	67.9	7.8
Townsville	121,600	-6,300	-4.9	5.4	1.4	65.2	-3.2
Wide Bay	144,500	6,100	4.4	6.3	1.5	54.9	2.2
Queensland	2,968,900	93,000	3.2	4.0	-0.1	67.2	0.5

(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.

The ABS has imputed sample responses in Townsville SA4 for February 2025, March 2025 and April 2025 and Moreton Bay - North SA4 for March 2025 due to recent natural disasters. The ABS recommends caution when using data from these impacted regions for analysis.

- Moreton Bay - North SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during May 2025 with a growth of 14,600 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during May 2025 with an unemployment rate of 1.8% (Figure 2).
- Moreton Bay - North SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to May 2025 with an unemployment rate decrease of 2.8 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during May 2025 with 77.5% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 54.9%.

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.

Figure 1 Annual change in employment by SA4, May 2025

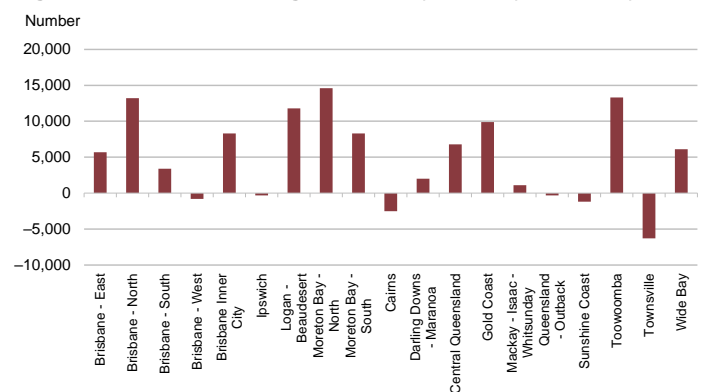
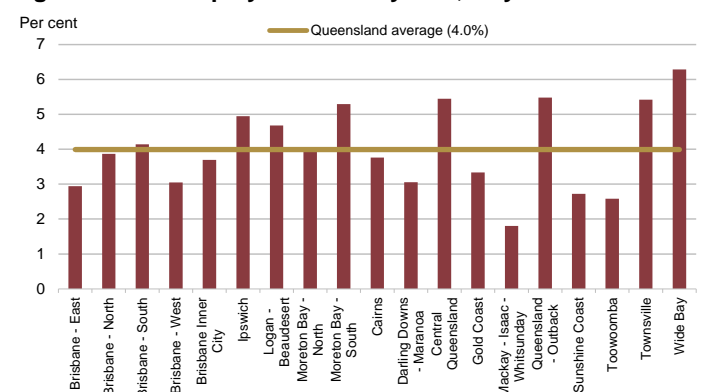


Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, May 2025



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