

Modelled regional labour force – region summary, December 2025

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Labour force, Australia, detailed*, released 29 January 2026, 10:30 am (AEST)

Table 1 Labour force status by SA4, December 2025

| SA4 | Employment | | | Unemployment | | Participation ^(a) | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| | Level | Annual change | | Rate | Annual change | Rate | Annual change |
| | — persons — | | % | % | percentage point | % | percentage point |
| Brisbane - East | 141,600 | 2,500 | 1.8 | 3.6 | 0.1 | 68.8 | 0.0 |
| Brisbane - North | 140,700 | 2,300 | 1.7 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 72.2 | -0.1 |
| Brisbane - South | 231,000 | 3,800 | 1.7 | 3.9 | 0.1 | 70.2 | -0.5 |
| Brisbane - West | 111,700 | 2,000 | 1.8 | 3.3 | 0.1 | 68.7 | -0.1 |
| Brisbane Inner City | 222,500 | 3,600 | 1.6 | 3.2 | 0.1 | 77.1 | -1.0 |
| Cairns | 145,100 | 1,900 | 1.3 | 4.6 | 0.1 | 68.0 | -0.0 |
| Central Queensland | 130,200 | 1,800 | 1.4 | 4.4 | -0.0 | 69.9 | -0.0 |
| Darling Downs - Maranoa | 69,300 | 500 | 0.7 | 3.3 | 0.1 | 65.8 | -0.0 |
| Gold Coast | 395,200 | 8,400 | 2.2 | 3.1 | -0.0 | 68.7 | -0.1 |
| Ipswich | 206,300 | 6,100 | 3.0 | 5.5 | 0.0 | 66.9 | 0.2 |
| Logan - Beaudesert | 205,200 | 5,900 | 3.0 | 5.6 | 0.1 | 65.9 | -0.3 |
| Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday | 110,300 | 1,200 | 1.1 | 2.9 | 0.1 | 72.2 | -0.1 |
| Moreton Bay - North | 132,500 | 3,700 | 2.9 | 5.5 | 0.1 | 56.5 | 0.1 |
| Moreton Bay - South | 133,600 | 3,100 | 2.4 | 3.7 | 0.0 | 73.0 | 0.2 |
| Queensland - Outback | 39,800 | 100 | 0.2 | 6.4 | 0.2 | 66.2 | 0.1 |
| Sunshine Coast | 223,700 | 5,100 | 2.3 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 62.6 | 0.1 |
| Toowoomba | 85,800 | 1,200 | 1.4 | 3.8 | 0.1 | 62.9 | 0.0 |
| Townsville | 126,100 | 1,100 | 0.8 | 4.9 | 0.2 | 66.7 | -0.1 |
| Wide Bay | 143,000 | 3,000 | 2.2 | 5.5 | 0.1 | 53.2 | 0.2 |
| Queensland | 2,993,800 | 57,200 | 1.9 | 4.1 | 0.1 | 67.0 | -0.1 |

(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: All data in this brief are based on 12-month moving averages of modelled estimates due to seasonal variation and noise associated with regional labour force modelled estimates. The modelled regional labour force estimates enhance the direct survey estimates of regional labour market data using administrative data and statistical modelling.

- Gold Coast SA4 had the largest annual growth in employment of all 19 SA4s during December 2025 with a growth of 8,400 employed persons (Figure 1).
- Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday SA4 had the lowest unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s during December 2025 with an unemployment rate of 2.9% (Figure 2).
- Gold Coast SA4 had the largest percentage point decrease in unemployment rate of all 19 SA4s over the year to December 2025 with an unemployment rate decrease of 0.0 percentage points (Table 1).
- Brisbane Inner City SA4 had the highest participation rate of all 19 SA4s during December 2025 with 77.1% and Wide Bay had the lowest participation rate with 53.2%.

Notes (refer to website for more detailed notes):

SA4 = Statistical Area Level 4 (ASGS 2016 edition)

Data for Queensland are provided for reference purposes only.

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, December 2025

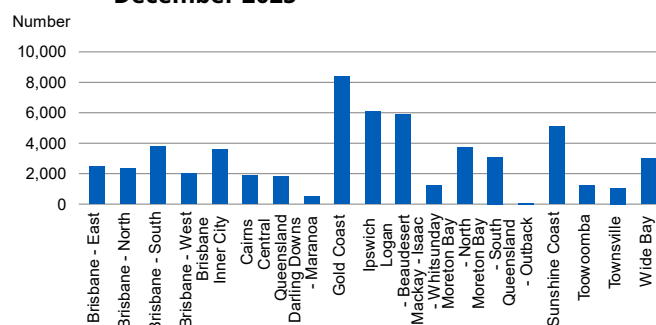
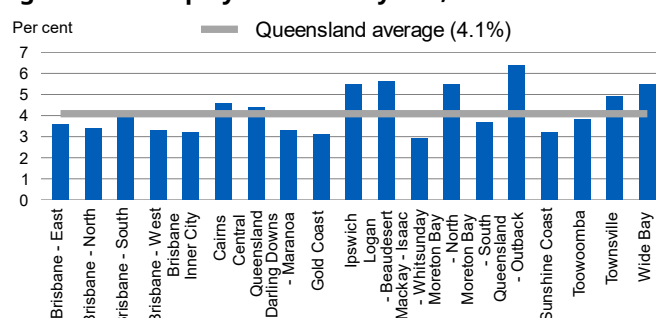


Figure 2 Unemployment rate by SA4, December 2025



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