



# Employment Region Industry profile

## Cairns Employment Region

Release date: 24 April 2024

### Overview

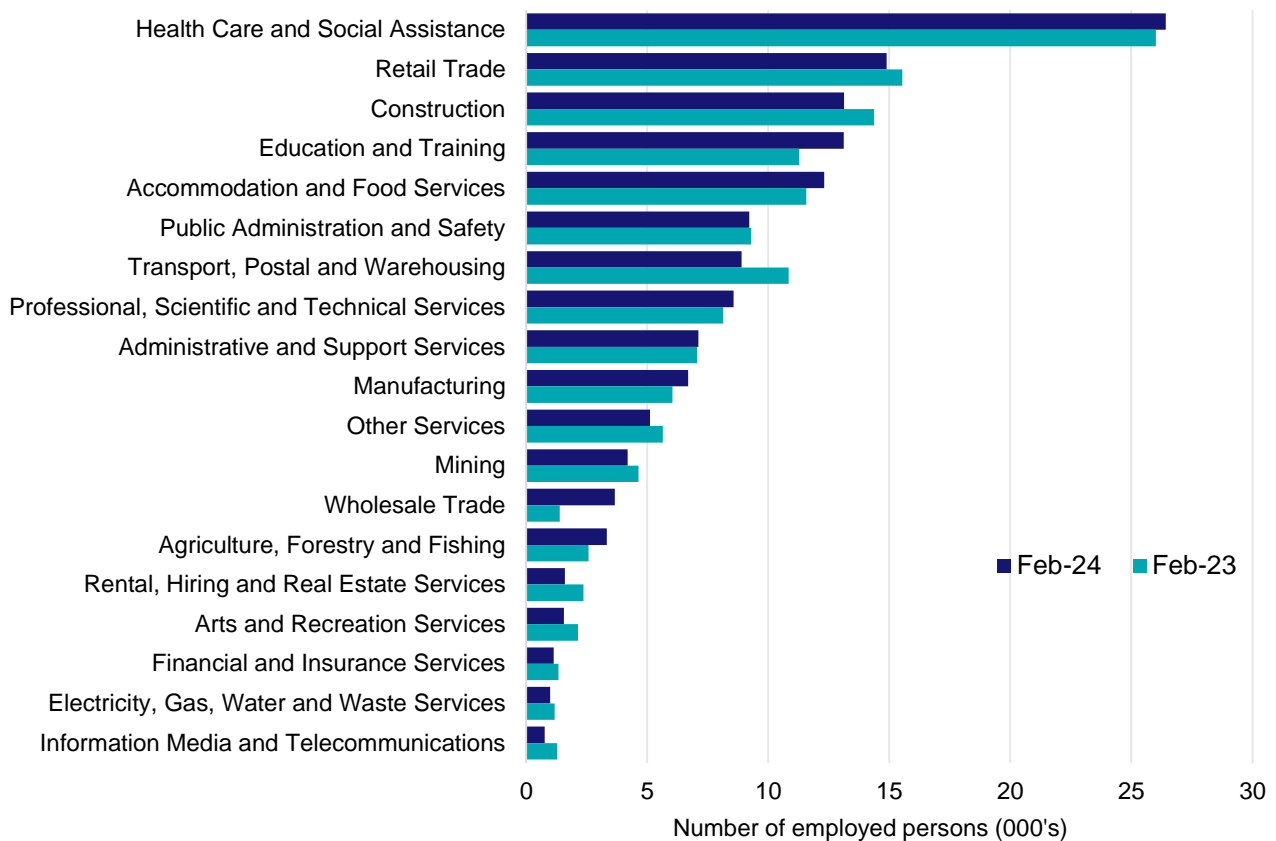
In February 2024, there were around 142,800 people employed in the Cairns Employment Region. The 5 largest employing industries in the region were Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Construction, Education and Training, and Accommodation and Food Services. Together these 5 industries accounted for 56% of employment in the region.

Over the year to February 2024, employment in:

- Health Care and Social Assistance rose by 1.6% to stand at 26,400
- Retail Trade fell by 4.2% to stand at 14,900
- Construction fell by 8.7% to stand at 13,100.

In Health Care and Social Assistance in the Cairns Employment Region, 59% of workers were employed full-time; 76% were female; and the median age of the workforce was 44.

### Employment by industry, February 2024 and February 2023



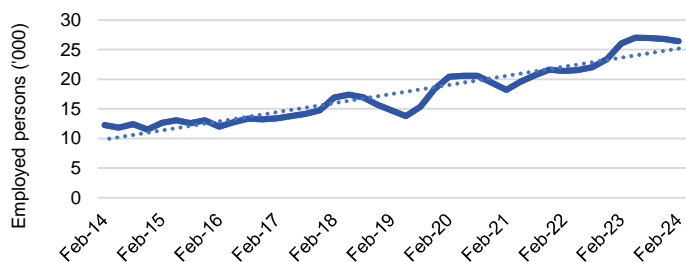
Source: ABS Labour Force Survey\*, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2024. Note that total employment for the region (four quarter averaged data) may not match data published in the Employment Region Labour Market dashboards (6 month averaged data).

\*ABS Labour Force Survey data are based on the Cairns SA4.

Notes: Data are the latest available. A high degree of caution should be exercised when interpreting data at the regional level, particularly in regards to percentage changes, given the volatility of the underlying data. For any enquiries related to the data in this report, please contact [RegionalWorkforceAssessment@jobsandskills.gov.au](mailto:RegionalWorkforceAssessment@jobsandskills.gov.au)

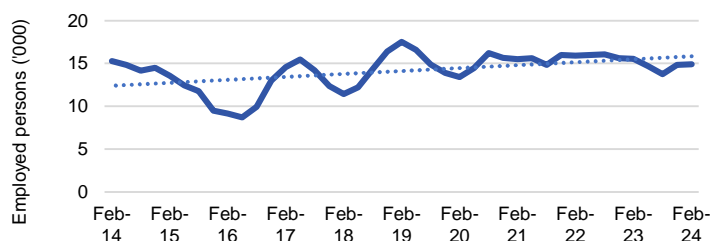
# Five largest employing industries: key statistics

## Health Care and Social Assistance



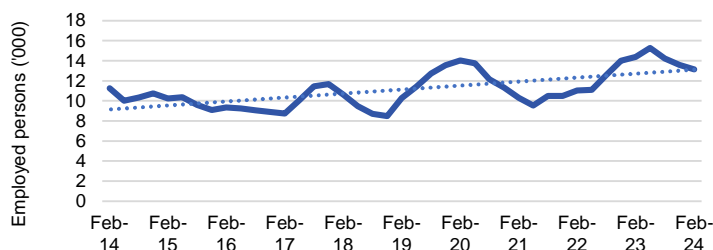
Number employed (Feb-24):	26,400
1 year employment change:	1.6%
5 year employment change:	79.2%
10 year employment change:	115.2%
Youth share of employment:	9.3%
Mature age share of employment:	17.4%

## Retail Trade



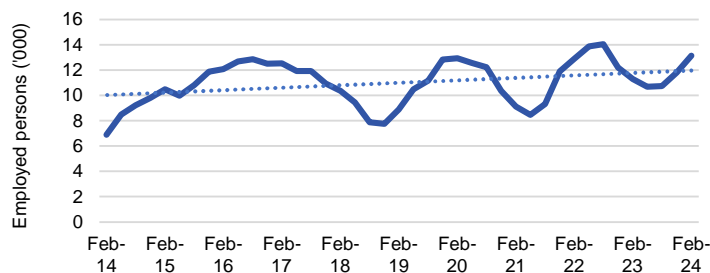
Number employed (Feb-24):	14,900
1 year employment change:	-4.2%
5 year employment change:	-15.0%
10 year employment change:	-2.4%
Youth share of employment:	21.5%
Mature age share of employment:	8.5%

## Construction



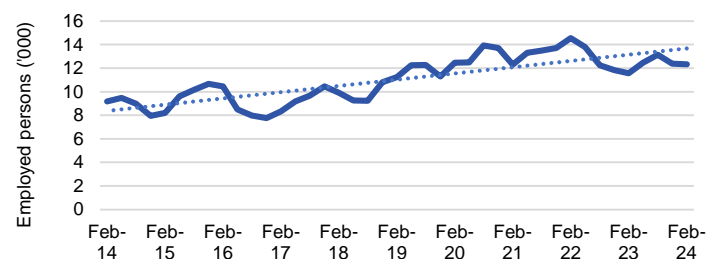
Number employed (Feb-24):	13,100
1 year employment change:	-8.7%
5 year employment change:	27.8%
10 year employment change:	16.7%
Youth share of employment:	8.9%
Mature age share of employment:	8.2%

## Education and Training



Number employed (Feb-24):	13,100
1 year employment change:	16.3%
5 year employment change:	47.5%
10 year employment change:	89.9%
Youth share of employment:	3.9%
Mature age share of employment:	9.9%

## Accommodation and Food Services



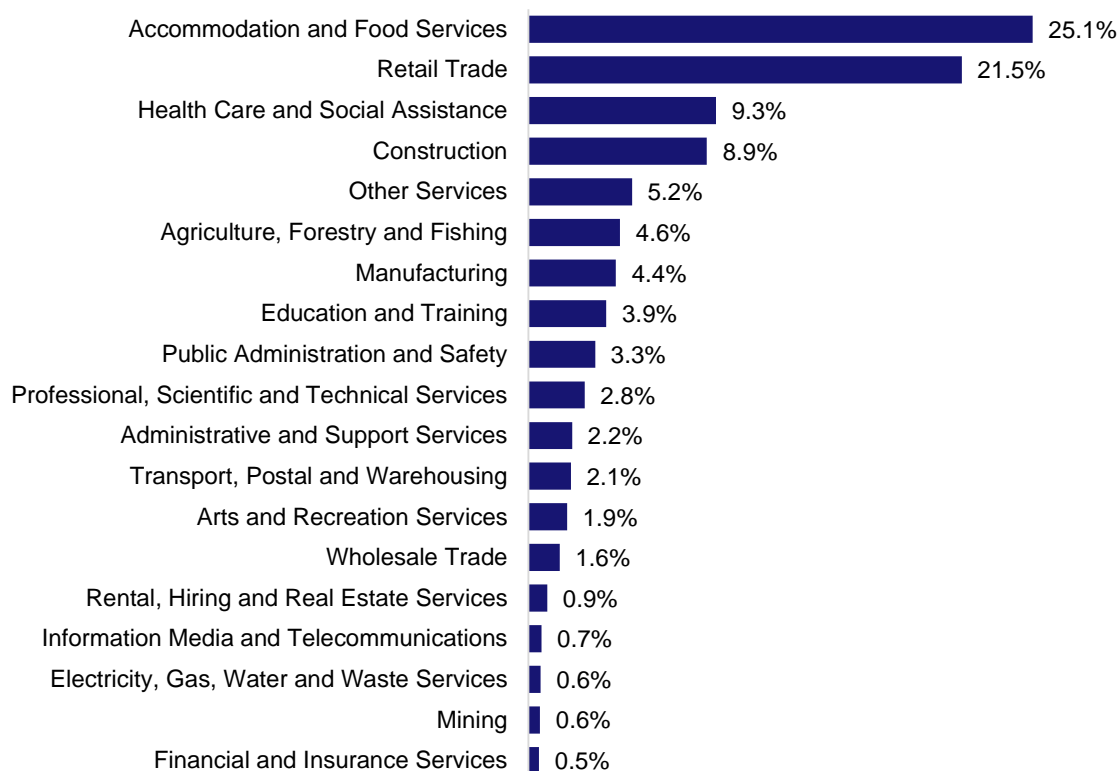
Number employed (Feb-24):	12,300
1 year employment change:	6.5%
5 year employment change:	9.6%
10 year employment change:	34.1%
Youth share of employment:	25.1%
Mature age share of employment:	6.1%

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2024, except youth and mature age data which are from the ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

**Notes:** In each chart, the solid line is the level of employment and the dotted line is a simple linear trend line for the 10 year period. Given the volatility of the underlying data, employment estimates should be treated with a high degree of caution. Particular focus should be placed on the employment series over time to ascertain more reliable long-term growth trends.

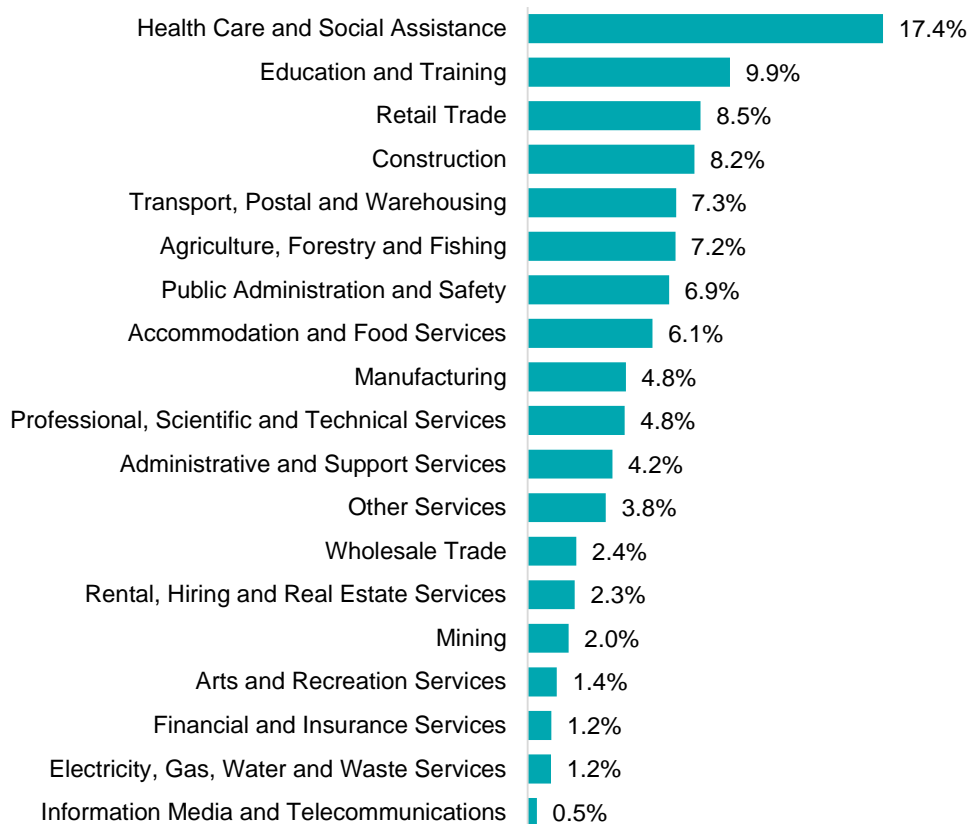
# Employment characteristics by Industry

## Which industries are youth (aged 15-24) employed in?



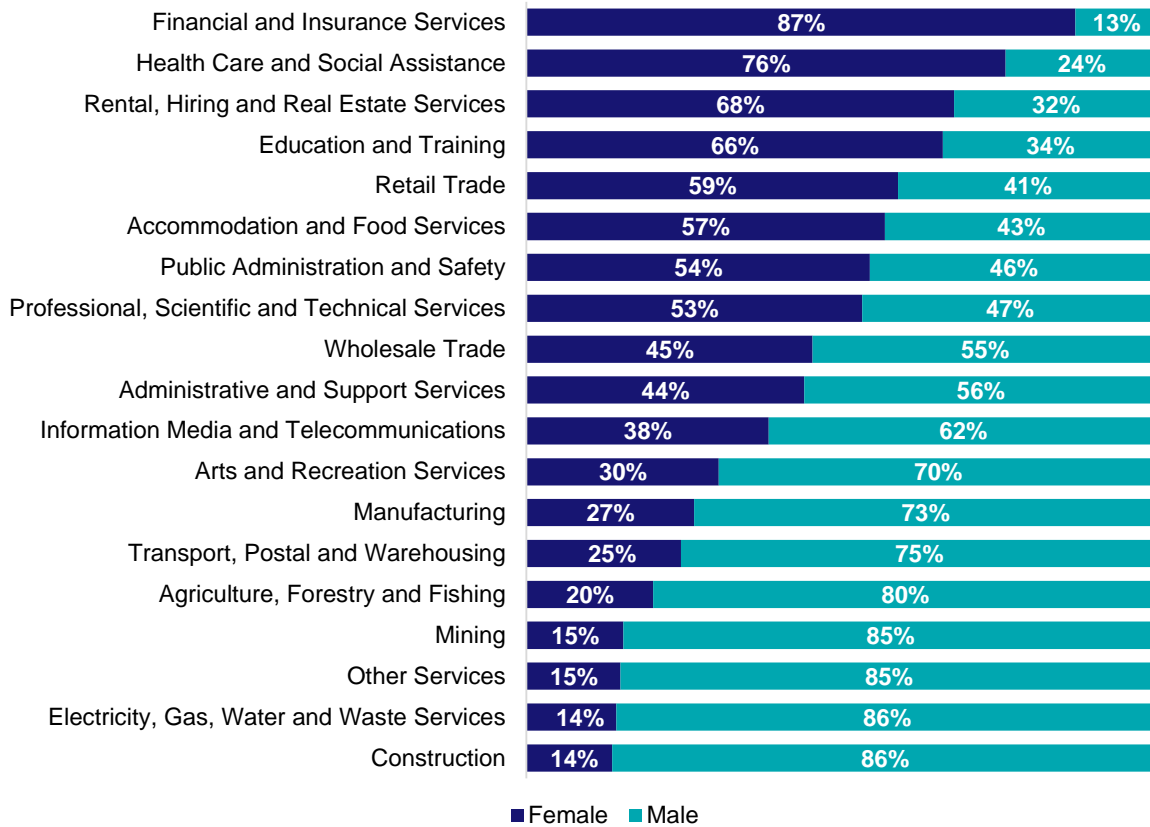
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

## Which industries are mature age persons (aged 55+) employed in?



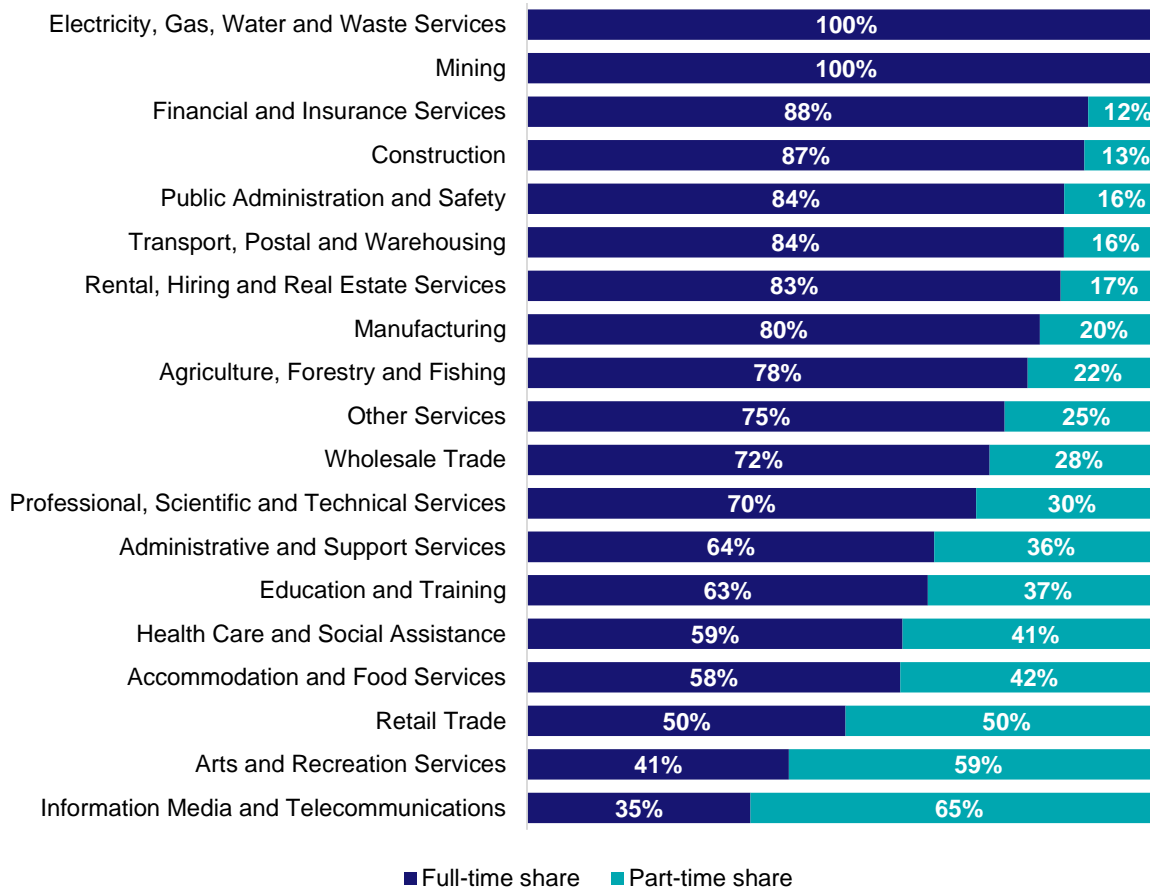
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021. Note: SA2 level Census data have been aggregated to the Employment Region level.

## Gender share by industry



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2024.

## Full-time and part-time employment status by industry



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2024.

## Appendix

### Employment by industry, Cairns, February 2024

Industry (in order of size)	Share of employment in the region Feb-24 (%)	Employed ('000)			Full-time share %	Part-time share %	Median age *
		Feb-24	Feb-23	Feb-19			
Health Care and Social Assistance	18.5	26.4	26.0	14.7	58.7	41.3	44
Retail Trade	10.4	14.9	15.5	17.5	49.8	50.2	37
Construction	9.2	13.1	14.4	10.3	87.1	12.9	41
Education and Training	9.2	13.1	11.3	8.9	62.6	37.4	46
Accommodation and Food Services	8.6	12.3	11.6	11.2	58.3	41.7	32
Public Administration and Safety	6.5	9.2	9.3	8.4	83.9	16.1	45
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	6.2	8.9	10.8	6.9	83.9	16.1	48
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	6.0	8.6	8.1	4.3	70.2	29.8	44
Administrative and Support Services	5.0	7.1	7.1	3.5	63.6	36.4	46
Manufacturing	4.7	6.7	6.1	6.3	80.1	19.9	44
Other Services	3.6	5.1	5.6	6.1	74.6	25.4	41
Mining	2.9	4.2	4.6	2.5	99.6	0.4	45
Wholesale Trade	2.6	3.7	1.4	2.6	72.3	27.7	48
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2.3	3.3	2.6	5.2	78.3	21.7	43
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	1.1	1.6	2.4	2.6	83.4	16.6	49
Arts and Recreation Services	1.1	1.6	2.1	2.2	40.9	59.1	38
Financial and Insurance Services	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.8	87.7	12.3	44
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.4	99.8	0.2	45
Information Media and Telecommunications	0.5	0.8	1.3	1.5	34.9	65.1	39
<b>All industries</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>118.9</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>43</b>

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2024. \*Median age is from the ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021. Median age has been derived using aggregated SA2s for the Employment Region.

**Note: Small cells should be viewed with caution due to small sample sizes and regional volatility.**