Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast
Employment Region
Queensland

Labour Market Dashboard

Labour market summary table

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Participation rate		Youth unemployment rate	
	Feb-25 ('000)	Feb-24 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-25 ('000)	Feb-24 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-24 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-24 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-24 (%)
Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast	364.3	357.2	2.0	17.0	15.2	11.6	4.5	4.1	58.7	58.5	8.3	8.1
Queensland	2,961.7	2,914.2	1.6	125.1	119.8	4.5	4.1	3.9	66.7	67.0	9.0	9.2
Australia	14,513.2	14,247.1	1.9	612.6	551.3	11.1	4.1	3.7	66.8	66.6	9.1	9.2

Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Feb -25, table MRM1 for Employment Region data, except for the youth unemployment rate, which is a 12-month average of the original estimates from the Labour Force Survey. State youth unemployment rates are 12-month averages of original estimates. Remaining data are seasonally adjusted.
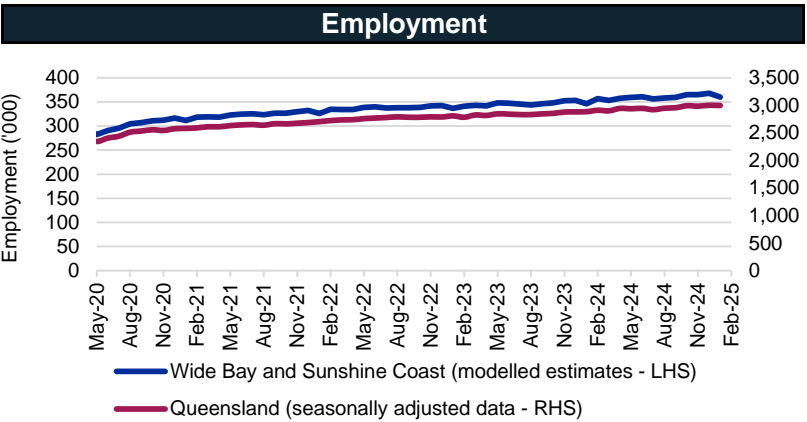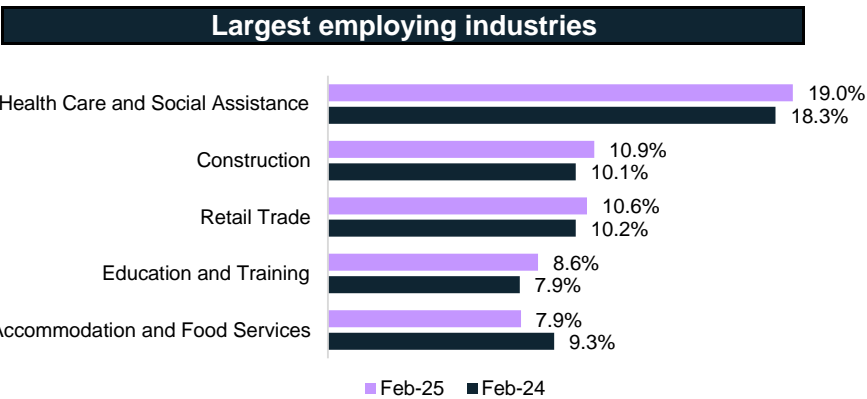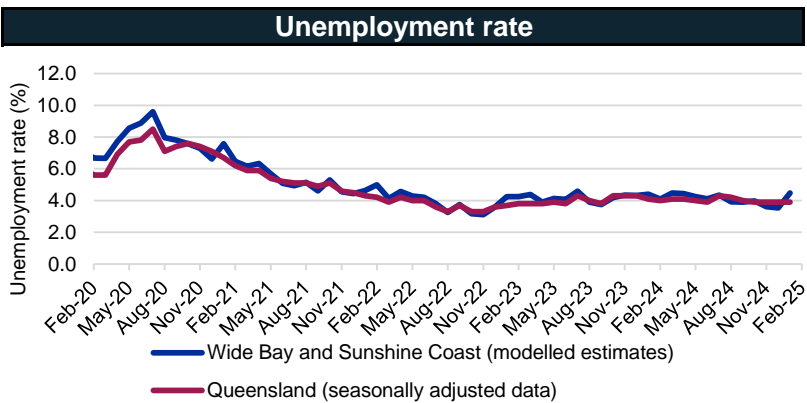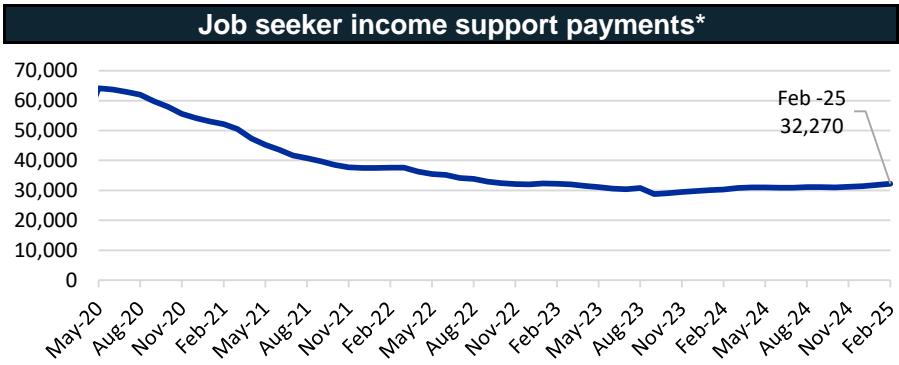
This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Employment

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM1 (modelled estimates), Feb-25

Largest employing industries

Health Care and Social Assistance 19.0% / 18.3%
Construction 10.9% / 10.1%
Retail Trade 10.6% / 10.2%
Education and Training 8.6% / 7.9%
Accommodation and Food Services 7.9% / 9.3%

Feb-25 / Feb-24

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, Feburary-25 quarter#

Unemployment rate

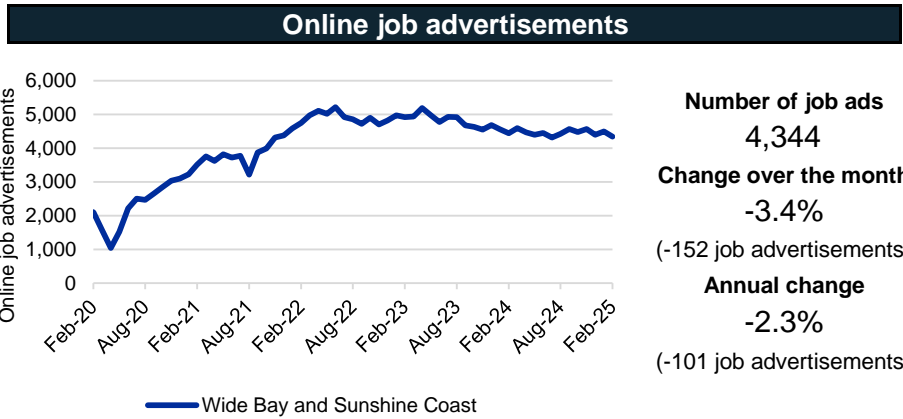Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM1 (modelled estimates), Feb-25

Job seeker income support payments*

Feb -25: 32,270

Change in job seeker income support payments

	Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast	Queensland
Payments - Feb 2024	30,310	198,600
Payments - Feb 2025	32,270	213,675
Change from Feb 2024 to Feb 2025	↑ 1,960	↑ 15,075
	↑ 6.5%	↑ 7.6%

% of 15-64 year olds** on job seeker income support payments

	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast	32,270	7.3%
Queensland	213,675	5.9%
Australia	967,130	5.5%

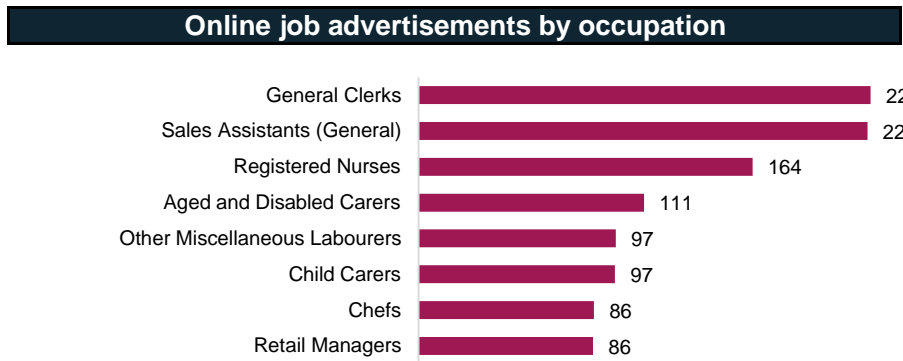Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, Feb-25; ABS, Estimated Resident Population, Jun-23

LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

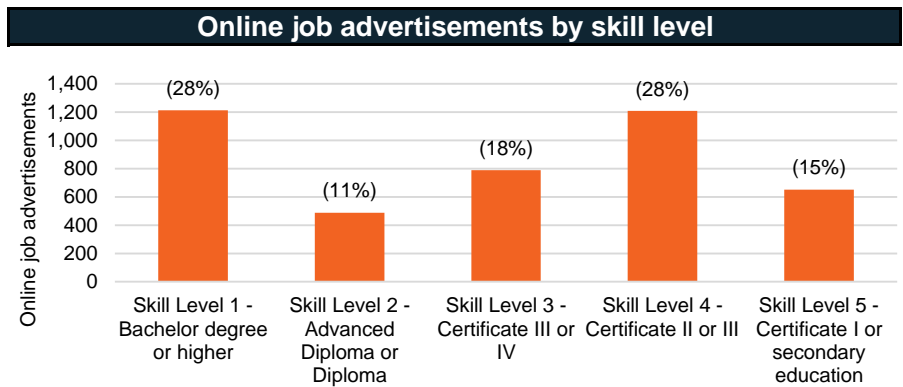| Local Government Area (LGA)	Dec-24	Dec-23
South Burnett	6.0	7.0
Fraser Coast	5.4	6.2
Bundaberg	4.5	5.2
Gympie	4.5	5.1
North Burnett	4.5	5.2

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Deparment of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, December-24 quarter

Online job advertisements

Number of job ads
4,344

Change over the month
-3.4%
(-152 job advertisements)

Annual change
-2.3%
(-101 job advertisements)

Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, Feb-25

Online job advertisements by occupation

General Clerks 222
Sales Assistants (General) 221
Registered Nurses 164
Aged and Disabled Carers 111
Other Miscellaneous Labourers 97
Child Carers 97
Chefs 86
Retail Managers 86

Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3 month average of original data, Feb-25

Online job advertisements by skill level

Skill Level 1 - Bachelor degree or higher (28%)
Skill Level 2 - Advanced Diploma or Diploma (11%)
Skill Level 3 - Certificate III or IV (18%)
Skill Level 4 - Certificate II or III (28%)
Skill Level 5 - Certificate I or secondary education (15%)

Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, Feb-25

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Sunshine Coast; and Wide Bay SA4. The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) and income support data are apportioned to Employment Regions using an SA2 based concordance. *Job seeker payments include those who are in receipt of either JobSeeker (aged 22 and over but under the Age Pension qualifying age) or Youth Allowance (other) payments (those aged 16 to 21). The reporting population for income support payments has changed to include those who are suspended from payment, and those who are current but on zero rate of payment for JobSeeker payments and those who are suspended from payment for Youth Allowance. Note that not everyone in receipt of income support is on the caseload. Data are published on data.gov.au. **Estimated Resident Population estimates are only available by standard 5 year age groups. For more information about the data in this dashboard, refer to the Employment Region Labour Market Dashboard data sources and quality document on jobsandskills.gov.au.
#Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.