



Australian Government



Jobs and Skills Australia

Industry profile

South Australia

Release date: 25 September 2025

Overview

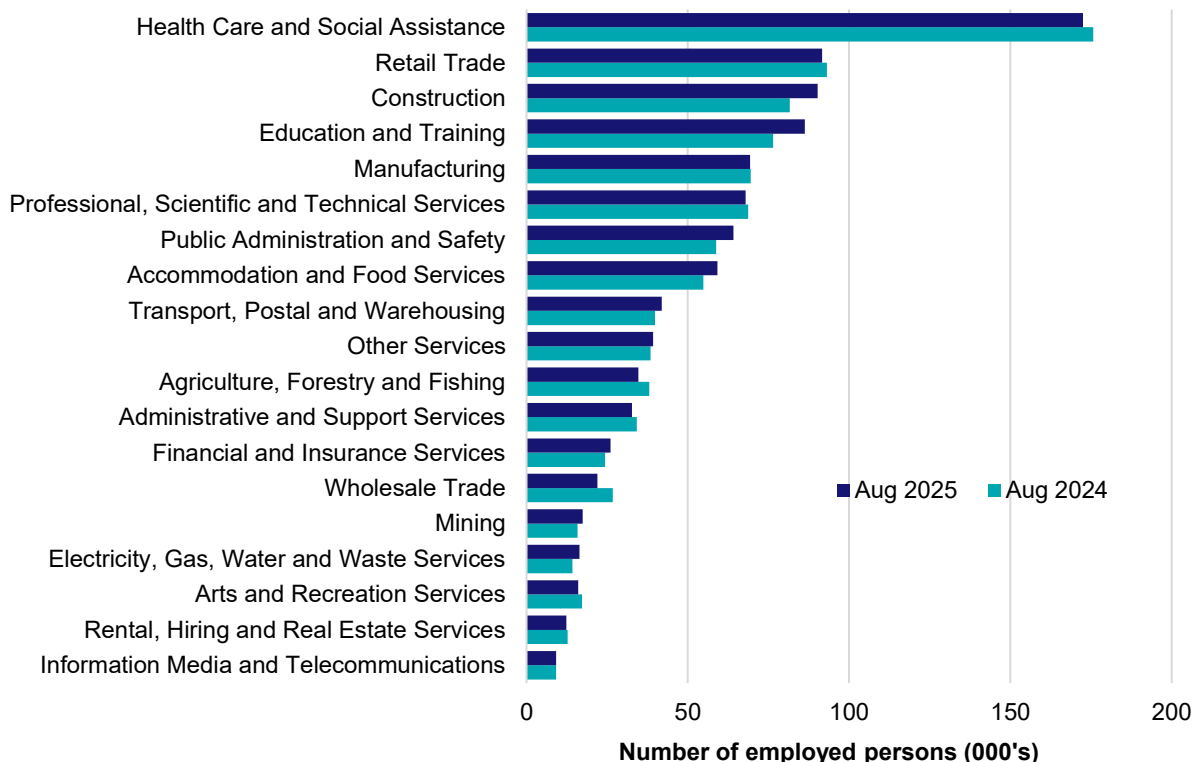
In August 2025, there were around 969,200 people employed in South Australia. The 5 largest employing industries in South Australia were Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Construction, Education and Training and Manufacturing. Together these 5 industries accounted for 53% of all employment.

Over the year to August 2025, employment in:

- Health Care and Social Assistance fell by 1.8% to stand at 172,500
- Retail Trade fell by 1.7% to stand at 91,600
- Construction rose by 10.7% to stand at 90,300.

In Health Care and Social Assistance in South Australia, 54% of workers were employed full-time; 75% were Female; and the median age of the workforce was 42. Around 84% of employed persons in this industry were located in Greater Adelaide.

Employment by industry, August 2025 and August 2024

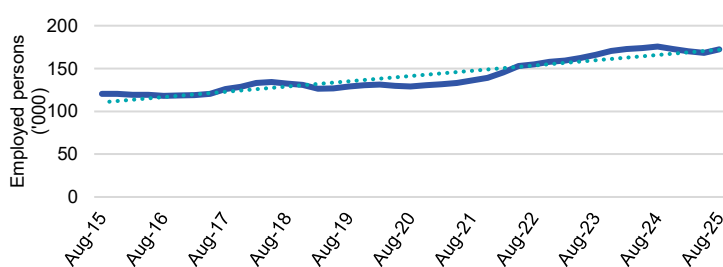


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, August 2025. Note that total employment (four quarter averaged data) may not match data published in the Labour Market dashboards (6 month averaged data).

Note: For any enquiries related to the data in this report, contact RegionalWorkforceAssessment@jobsandskills.gov.au

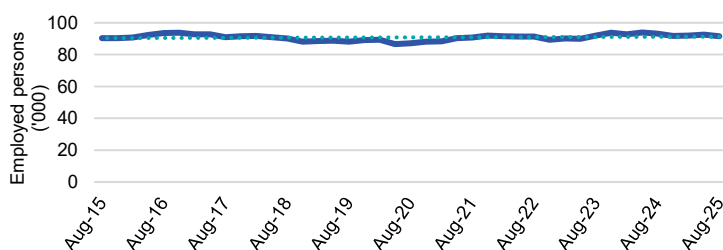
Five largest employing industries: key statistics

Health Care and Social Assistance



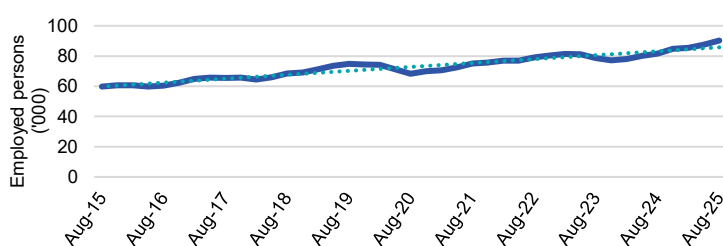
Number employed (Aug-25):	172,500
1 year employment change:	-1.8%
5 year employment change:	33.5%
10 year employment change:	43.1%
Youth share of employment:	10.4%
Mature age share of employment:	18.5%

Retail Trade



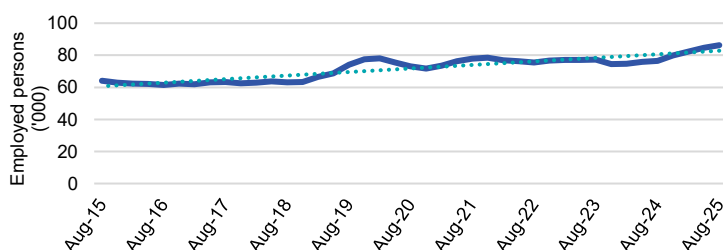
Number employed (Aug-25):	91,600
1 year employment change:	-1.7%
5 year employment change:	5.2%
10 year employment change:	1.4%
Youth share of employment:	22.2%
Mature age share of employment:	7.5%

Construction



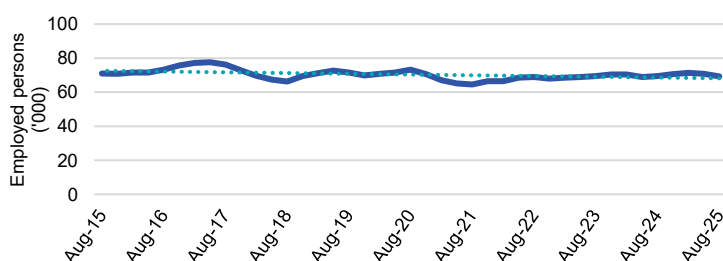
Number employed (Aug-25):	90,300
1 year employment change:	10.7%
5 year employment change:	32.0%
10 year employment change:	50.8%
Youth share of employment:	8.4%
Mature age share of employment:	7.6%

Education and Training



Number employed (Aug-25):	86,300
1 year employment change:	12.8%
5 year employment change:	18.2%
10 year employment change:	34.7%
Youth share of employment:	5.6%
Mature age share of employment:	9.9%

Manufacturing



Number employed (Aug-25):	69,400
1 year employment change:	-0.2%
5 year employment change:	-5.2%
10 year employment change:	-2.3%
Youth share of employment:	5.5%
Mature age share of employment:	8.1%

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, August 2025, except youth and mature age data which are from the ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

Note: 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.

Employment characteristics by Industry

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



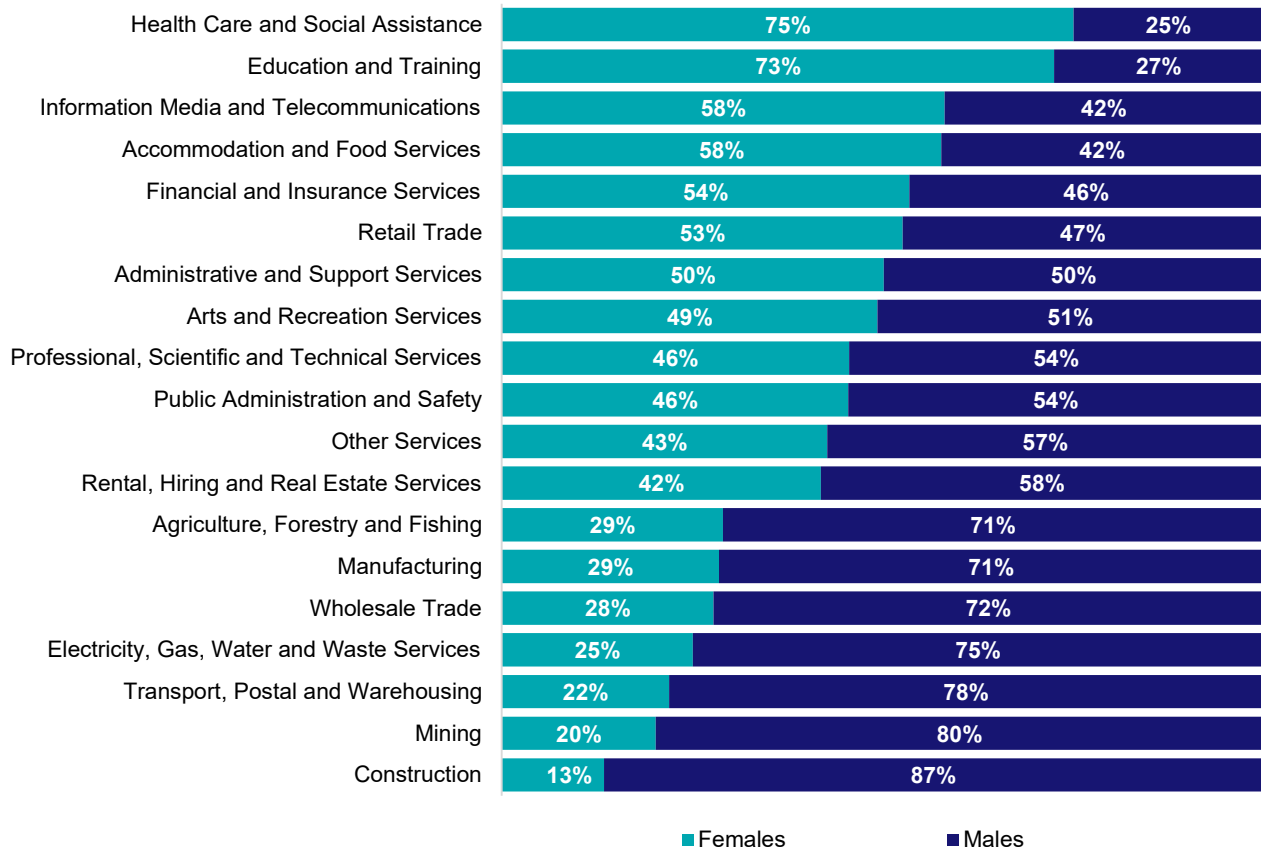
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

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



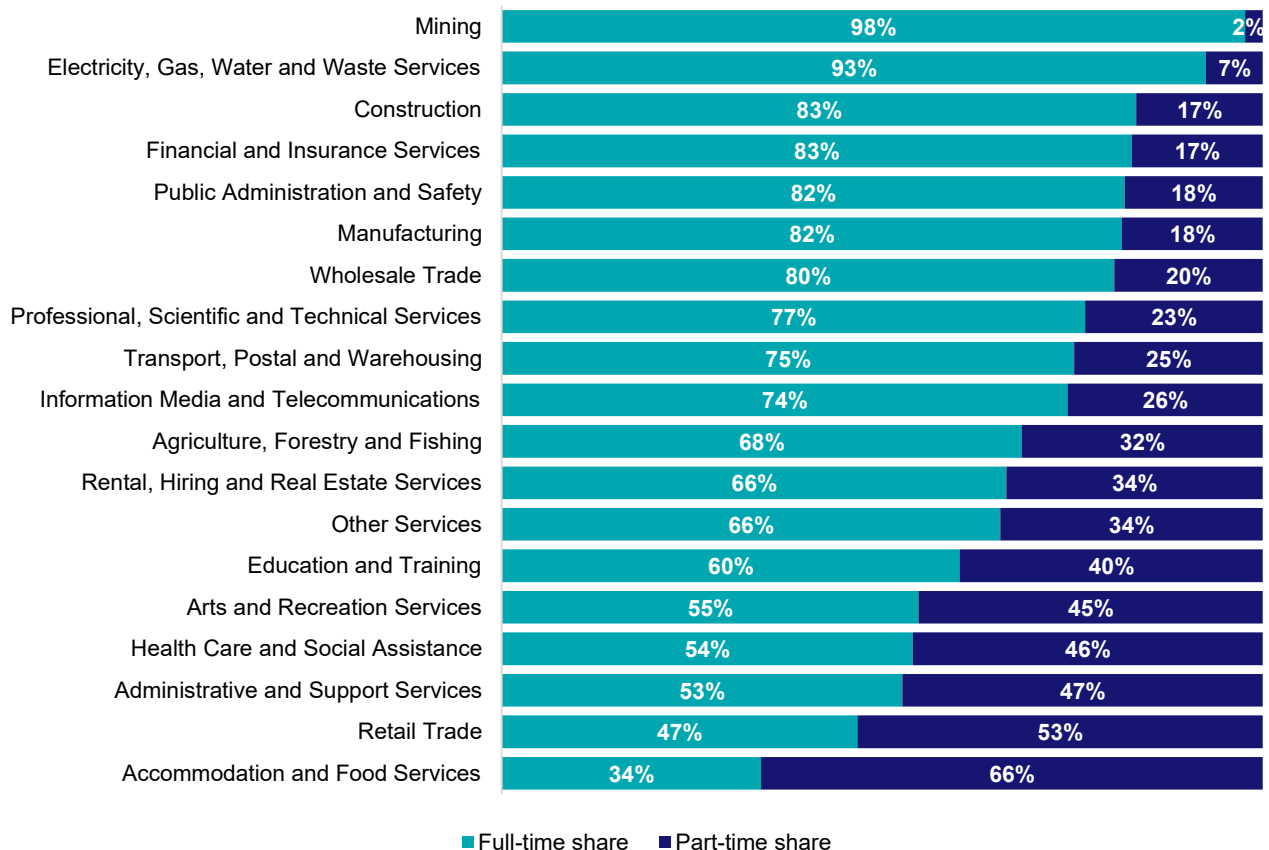
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

Gender share by industry



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, August 2025.

Full-time and part-time employment status by industry



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, August 2025.

Appendix

Employment by industry, South Australia, August 2025

Industry (in order of size)	Share of emp't Aug-25 (%)	Share of emp't in Greater Adelaide (%)	Share of emp't in Rest of SA (%)	Employed ('000)			1 year change		5 year change		Median age *
				Aug-25	Aug-24	Aug-20	('000)	%	('000)	%	
Health Care and Social Assistance	17.8	84.1	15.9	172.5	175.7	129.2	-3.2	-1.8	43.3	33.5	42
Retail Trade	9.5	78.1	21.9	91.6	93.2	87.1	-1.5	-1.7	4.5	5.2	33
Construction	9.3	81.8	18.2	90.3	81.6	68.4	8.7	10.7	21.9	32.0	39
Education and Training	8.9	83.0	17.0	86.3	76.5	73.0	9.8	12.8	13.3	18.2	43
Manufacturing	7.2	79.2	20.8	69.4	69.5	73.2	-0.2	-0.2	-3.8	-5.2	44
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	7.0	93.1	6.9	67.9	68.7	58.3	-0.8	-1.1	9.6	16.5	41
Public Administration and Safety	6.6	86.6	13.4	64.2	58.8	56.4	5.4	9.2	7.8	13.8	44
Accommodation and Food Services	6.1	78.2	21.8	59.2	54.8	55.9	4.4	7.9	3.3	5.9	26
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	4.3	83.1	16.9	41.9	39.8	37.0	2.2	5.4	5.0	13.5	45
Other Services	4.1	81.0	19.0	39.3	38.4	32.4	0.8	2.2	6.9	21.1	40
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	3.6	18.2	81.8	34.7	38.1	31.4	-3.3	-8.8	3.4	10.7	48
Administrative and Support Services	3.4	82.1	17.9	32.7	34.2	34.5	-1.5	-4.4	-1.8	-5.2	43
Financial and Insurance Services	2.7	94.2	5.8	26.0	24.4	21.3	1.7	7.0	4.8	22.4	42
Wholesale Trade	2.3	85.8	14.2	22.0	26.7	25.1	-4.7	-17.7	-3.1	-12.3	45
Mining	1.8	49.3	50.7	17.4	15.8	14.2	1.6	10.2	3.2	22.5	41
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	1.7	85.6	14.4	16.4	14.3	11.4	2.1	14.8	5.0	43.4	43
Arts and Recreation Services	1.6	85.8	14.2	16.0	17.2	13.3	-1.2	-7.0	2.7	20.4	35
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	1.3	84.7	15.3	12.3	12.7	11.5	-0.4	-3.1	0.9	7.6	45
Information Media and Telecommunications	0.9	89.7	10.3	9.1	9.2	14.0	-0.1	-0.8	-4.9	-34.9	39
All Industries	100.0	80.5	19.5	969.2	949.4	847.4	19.8	2.1	121.8	14.4	41

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, August 2025, four quarter averages. *Median age is from the ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.