

# Labour Market Dashboard New South Wales

Data current as at 26 March 2026

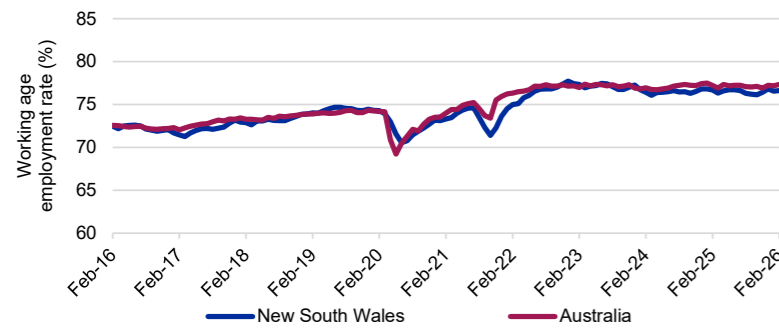
Refer to source notes for data reference periods

Labour market summary table											
	Working Age Employment Rate		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working Age Participation Rate		Youth unemployment rate	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed seasonally adjusted and MRM2 (modelled estimates) data 3MA (month average), February-26 with the exception of the youth unemployment rate which are 12MA of MRM2 estimates

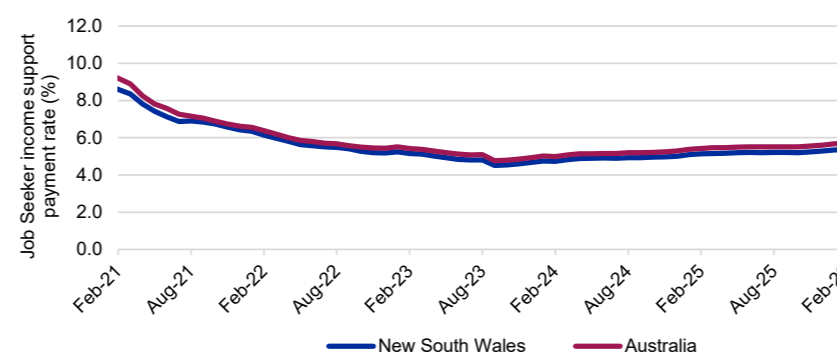
This Labour Market Dashboard provides a summary of the key indicators for the New South Wales labour market. Dashboards for Australia and Employment Regions are also available.

## Working age employment rate

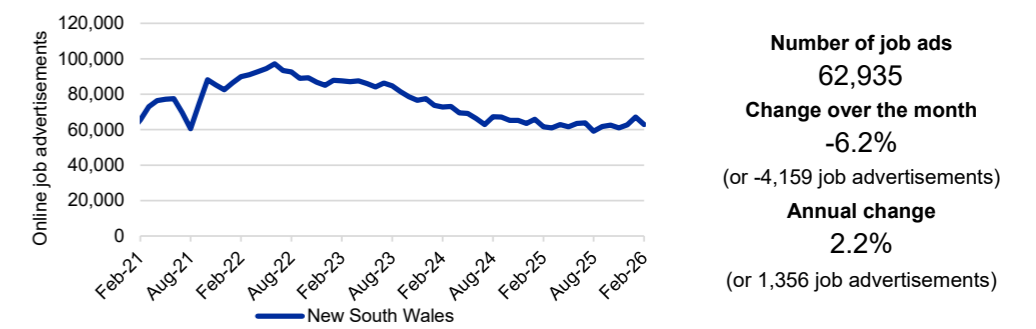


Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted & MRM2 data (3MA), February -26

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

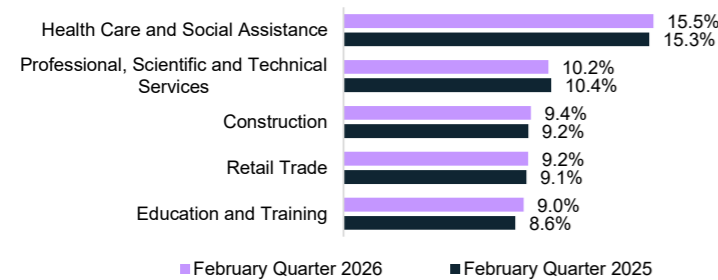


## Online job advertisements



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February-26

## Largest employing industries

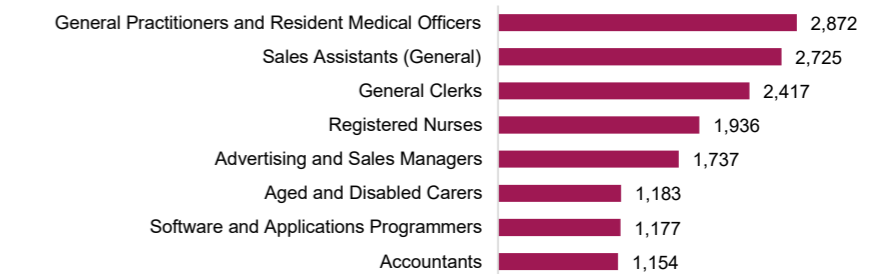


Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, February-26 quarter

## Change in job seeker income support payments

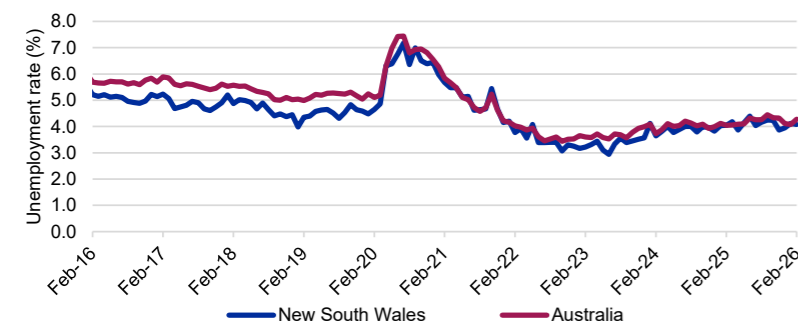
	New South Wales	Australia
Payments - February 2025	276,265	967,130
Payments - February 2026	290,600	1,027,435
Change (February 2025 to February 2026)	↑ 14,335	↑ 60,305
Change % (February 2025 to February 2026)	↑ 5.2%	↑ 6.2%

## Online job advertisements by occupation



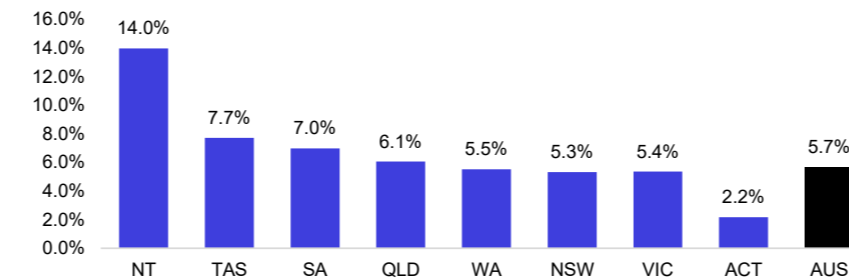
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February-26

## Unemployment rate



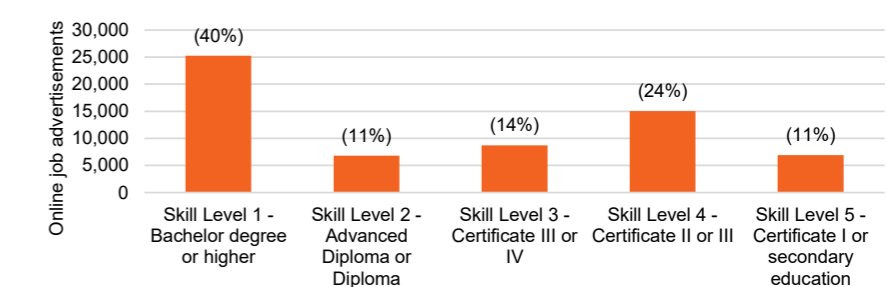
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data, February-26

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



Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, data.gov.au, February -26; ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, MRM2, February -26

## Online job advertisements by skill level



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February-26

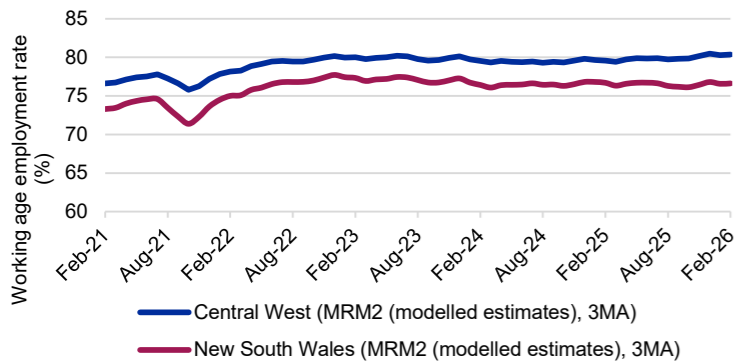
Notes: Data in the labour market summary table are seasonally adjusted data and MRM2 data (3MA) with the exception of the youth unemployment rate which are 12MA of MRM2 estimates \*Job seeker payments include those who are in receipt of either JobSeeker (aged 22 and over but under the Age Pension qualifying 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. For further information about the data, refer to the Employment Region Labour Market Dashboards data sources and quality document at jobsandskills.gov.au. For enquiries related to this dashboard, contact RegionalWorkforceAssessment@jobsandskills.gov.au.

This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Central West	80.4	79.6	4.2	4.4	-3.8	3.5	3.7	83.5	82.9	8.1	7.7
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

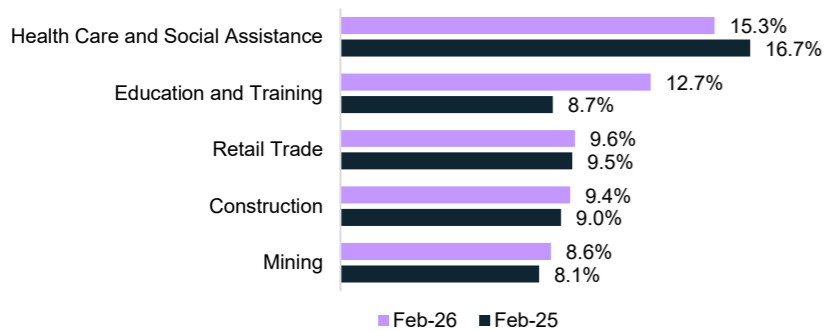
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

**Working age employment rate (%)**



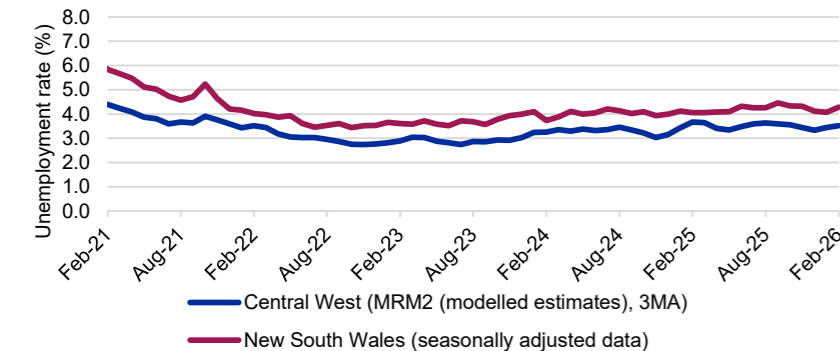
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

**Largest employing industries**



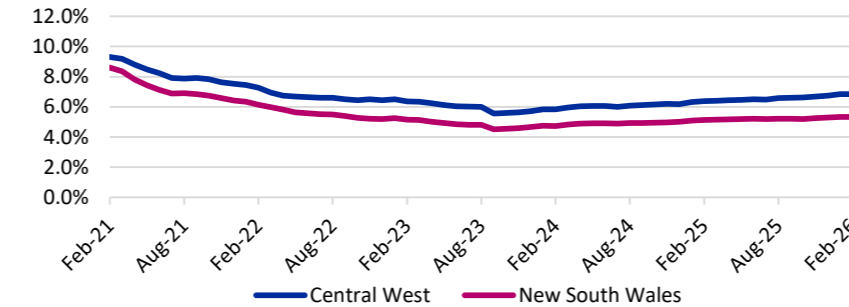
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

**Unemployment rate**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

**Job seeker income support payments\***



**Change in job seeker income support payments**

	Central West	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	8,285	276,265
Payments - February 2026	8,890	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 605	↑ 14,335
	↑ 7.3%	↑ 5.2%

**% 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
Central West	8,890	6.9%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

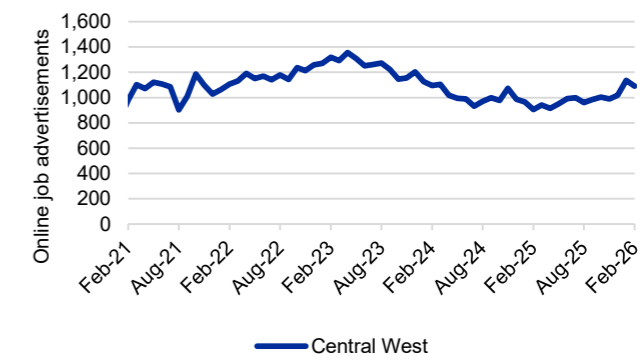
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

**LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)**

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Cowra	4.4	3.3
Lithgow	4.2	2.7
Lachlan	4.0	3.2
Parkes	3.9	2.5
Warrumbungle	3.8	2.8

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

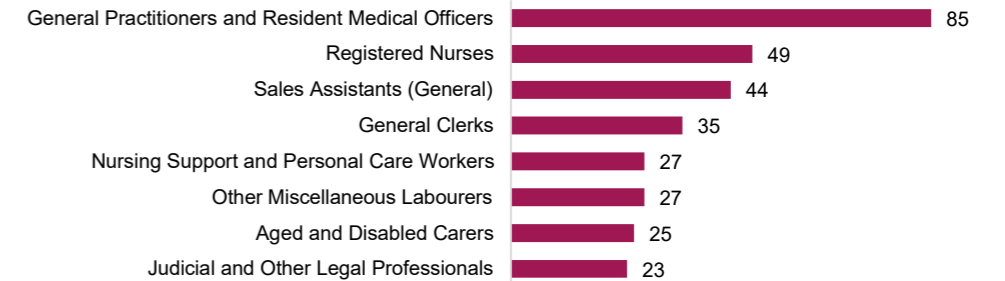
**Online job advertisements**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

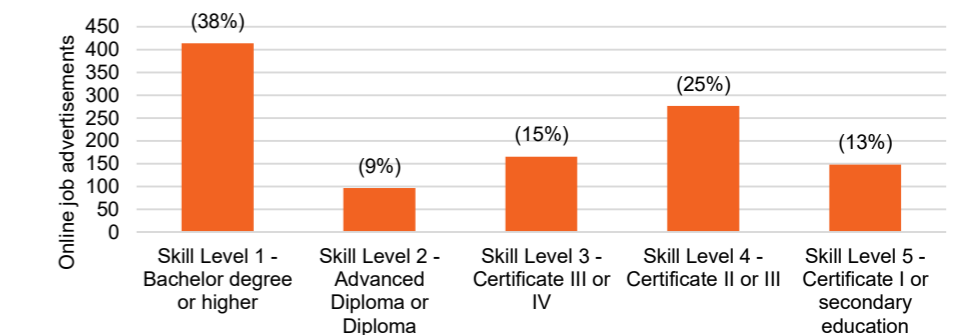
Number of job ads  
1,090  
Change over the month  
-4.0%  
(-45 job advertisements)  
Annual change  
20.5%  
(186 job advertisements)

**Online job advertisements by occupation**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by skill level**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

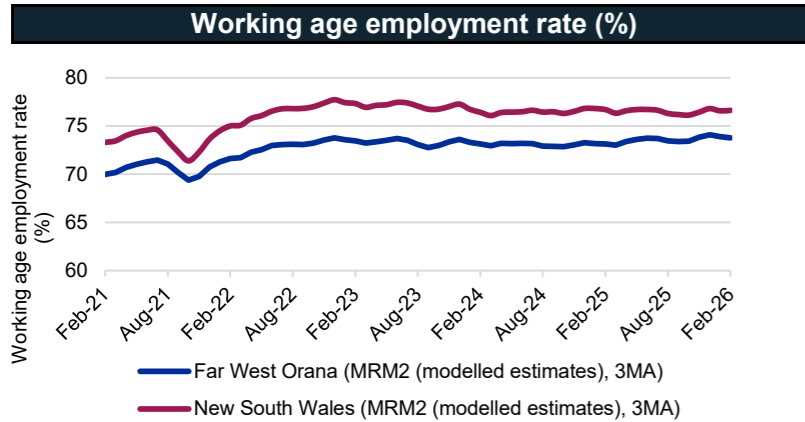
Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Central West SA4. The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) and income support data are apportioned to Employment Regions using an SA2 based concordance. \*Job seeker payments include those who are in receipt of 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.

#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.

This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Far West Orana	73.8	73.2	2.3	2.3	0.5	4.1	4.0	77.1	76.4	10.3	10.0
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

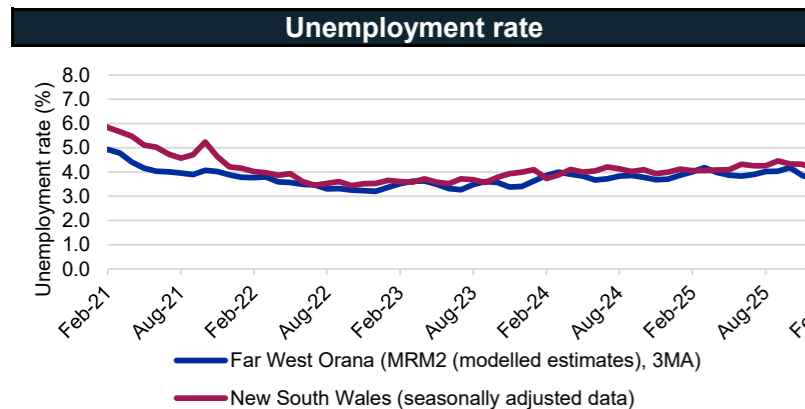
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



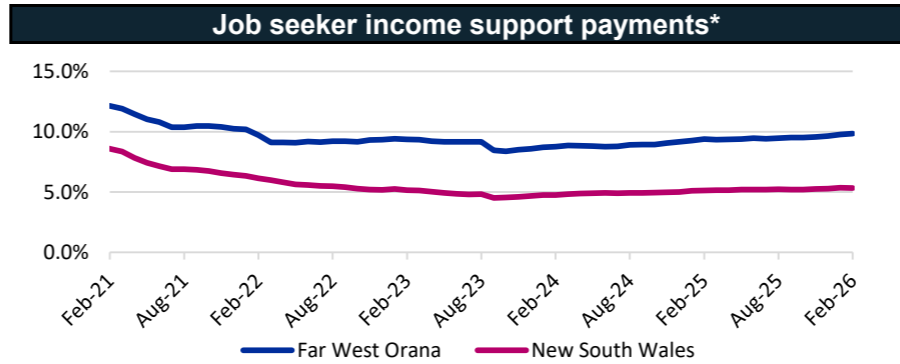
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026



### Change in job seeker income support payments

	Far West Orana	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	6,460	276,265
Payments - February 2026	6,680	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 220	↑ 14,335
	↑ 3.4%	↑ 5.2%

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

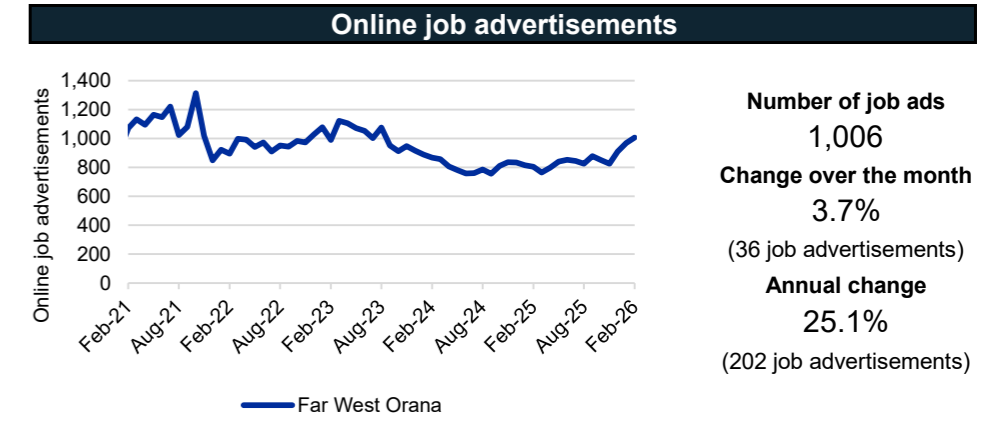
	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Far West Orana	6,680	9.8%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

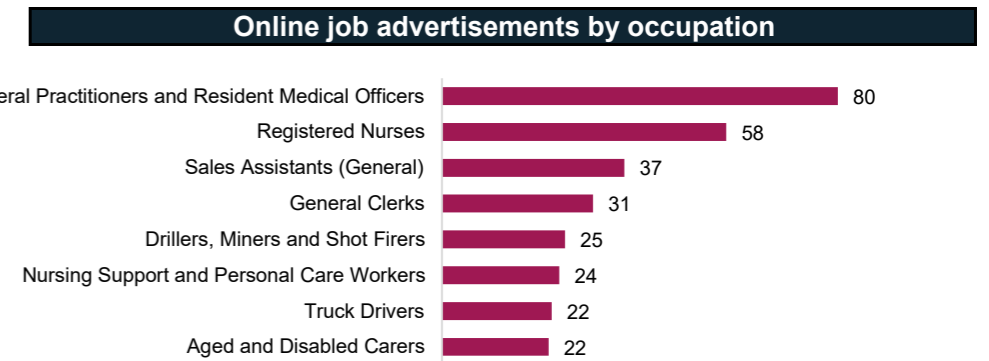
### LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Walgett	9.5	7.8
Coonamble	5.5	4.2
Broken Hill	4.3	3.6
Warrumbungle	3.8	2.8
Warren	3.7	2.9

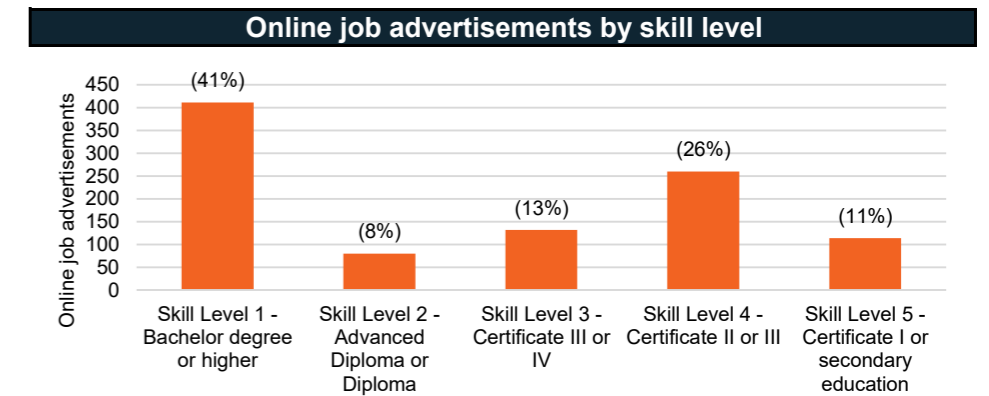
For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Far West and Orana 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.

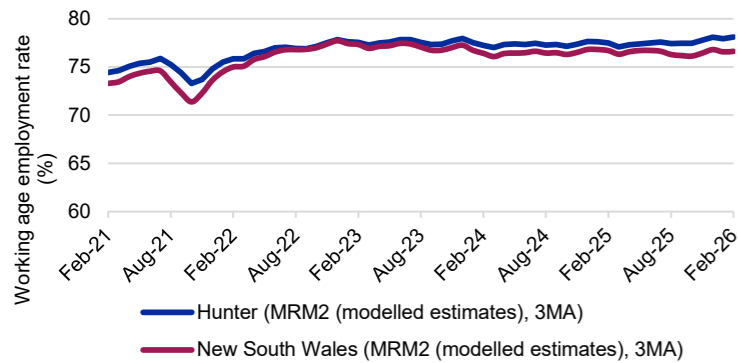
#Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.

This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Hunter	78.1	77.5	16.6	15.4	7.3	4.3	4.1	81.7	80.9	10.1	9.3
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

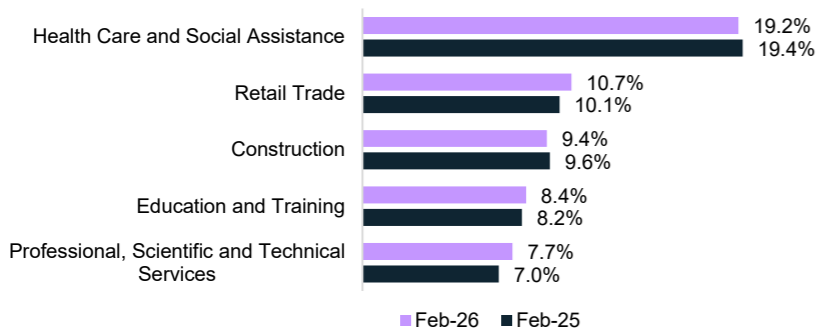
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

**Working age employment rate (%)**



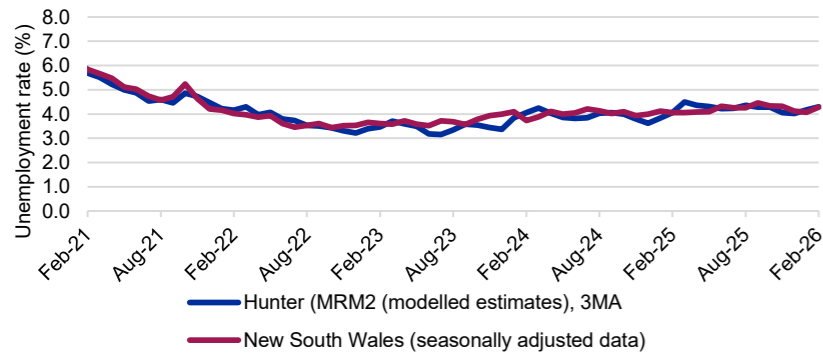
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

**Largest employing industries**



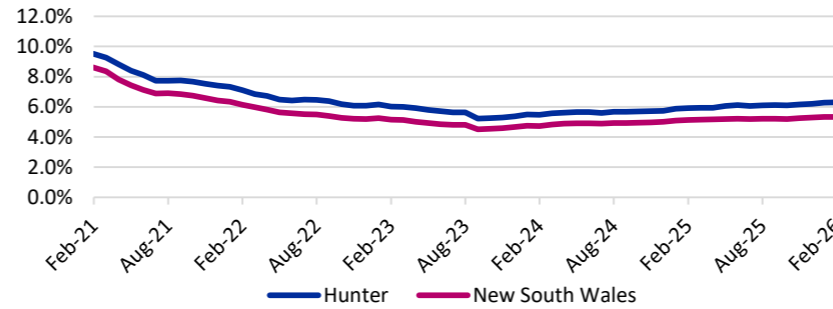
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

**Unemployment rate**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

**Job seeker income support payments\***



**Change in job seeker income support payments**

	Hunter	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	26,530	276,265
Payments - February 2026	28,480	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 1,950	↑ 14,335
	↑ 7.4%	↑ 5.2%

**% 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
Hunter	28,480	6.3%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

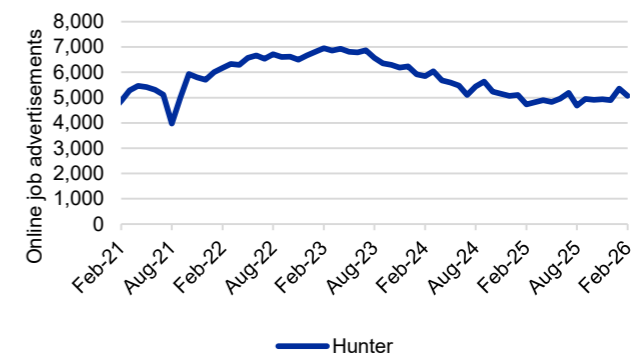
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

**LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)**

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Muswellbrook	5.8	6.9
Cessnock	5.1	5.3
Port Stephens	4.4	4.7
Newcastle	3.8	3.1
Lake Macquarie	3.5	2.9

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

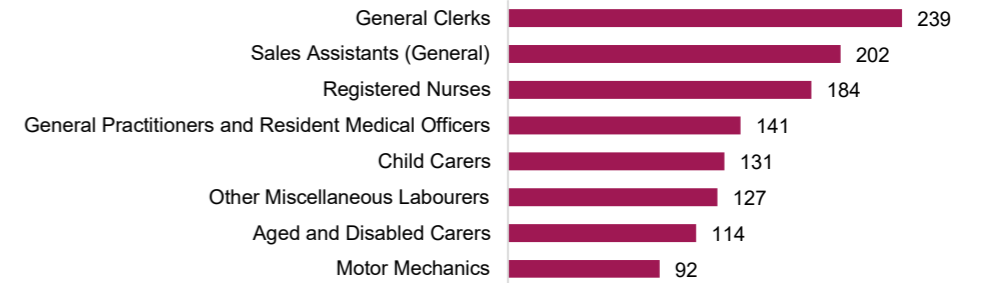
**Online job advertisements**



Number of job ads  
5,067  
Change over the month  
-5.3%  
(-284 job advertisements)  
Annual change  
7.0%  
(333 job advertisements)

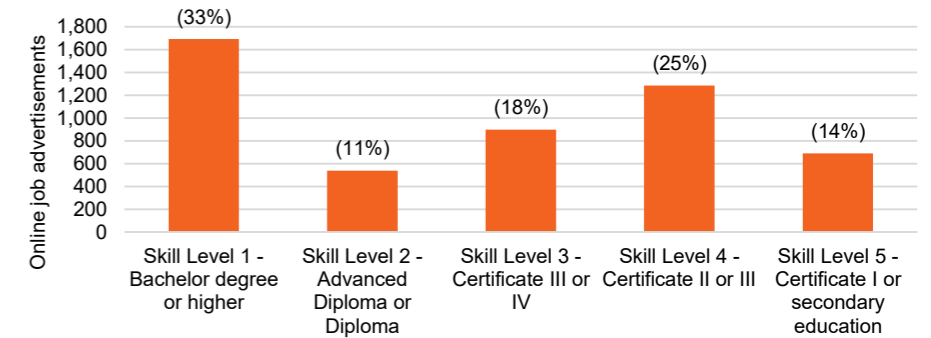
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by occupation**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by skill level**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Hunter Valley exc Newcastle; and Newcastle and Lake Macquarie 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.

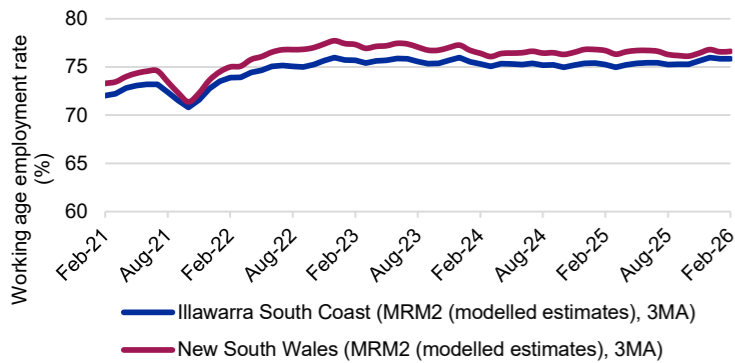
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	Labour market summary table										
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Illawarra South Coast	75.8	75.3	11.1	10.8	2.6	4.4	4.3	79.5	78.8	11.1	10.4
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

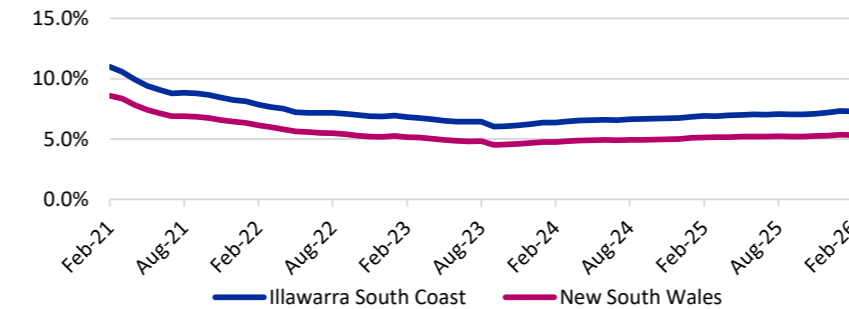
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

**Working age employment rate (%)**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

**Job seeker income support payments\***



**Change in job seeker income support payments**

	Illawarra South Coast	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	20,640	276,265
Payments - February 2026	21,895	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 1,255	↑ 14,335
	6.1%	5.2%

**% 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
Illawarra South Coast	21,895	7.3%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

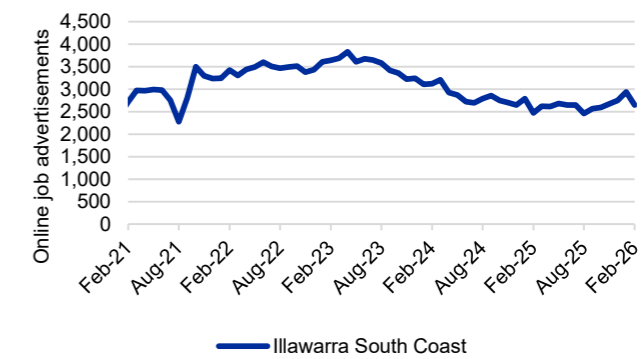
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

**LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)**

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Shellharbour	6.8	6.8
Wollongong	6.5	6.4
Eurobodalla	4.5	4.6
Bega Valley	3.6	3.5
Shoalhaven	3.3	2.4

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

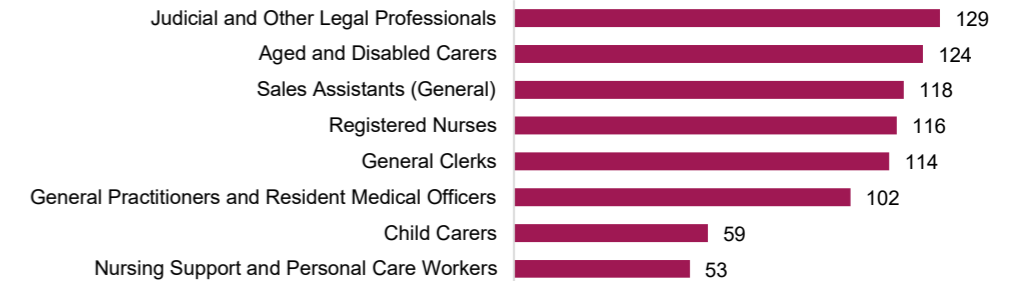
**Online job advertisements**



Number of job ads  
**2,644**  
Change over the month  
**-10.0%**  
(-295 job advertisements)  
Annual change  
**6.9%**  
(170 job advertisements)

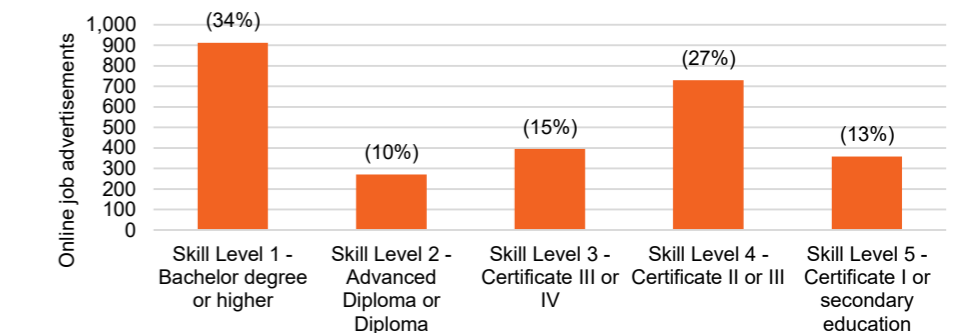
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by occupation**



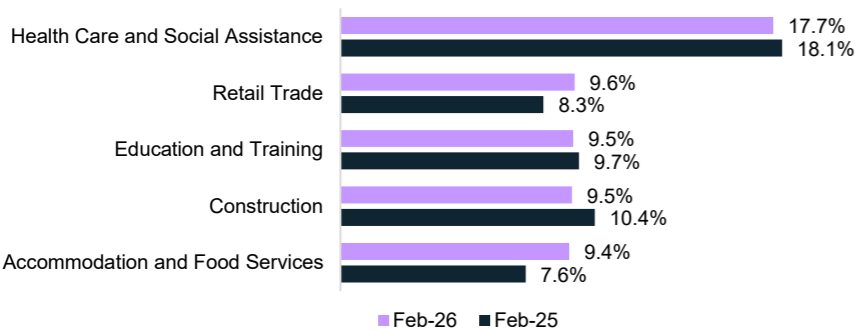
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by skill level**



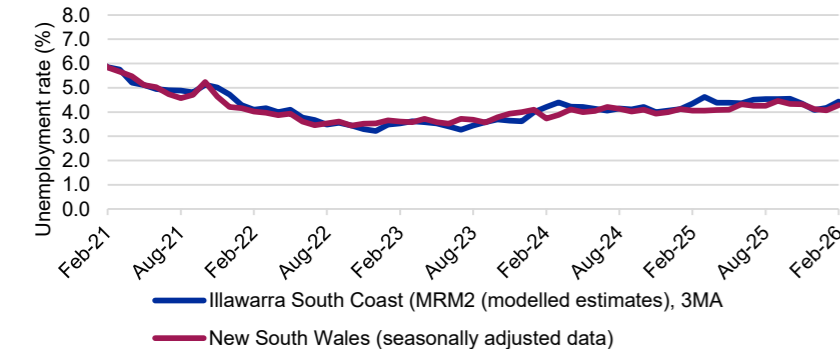
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Largest employing industries**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

**Unemployment rate**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Illawarra; and Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven 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.

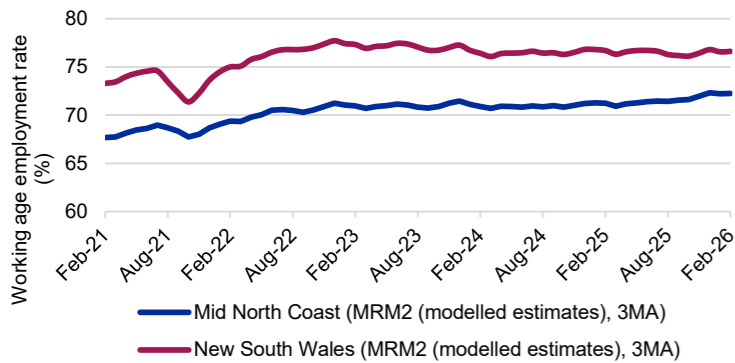
#Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.

This Labour Market Dashboard provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Mid North Coast	72.3	71.2	7.6	7.4	2.7	4.4	4.3	75.8	74.7	10.3	9.8
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

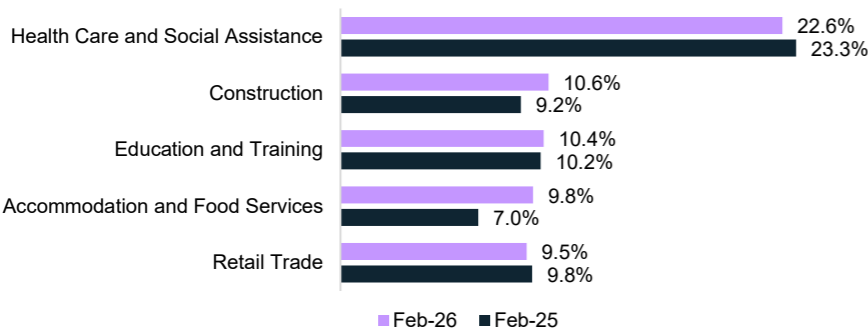
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

### Working age employment rate (%)



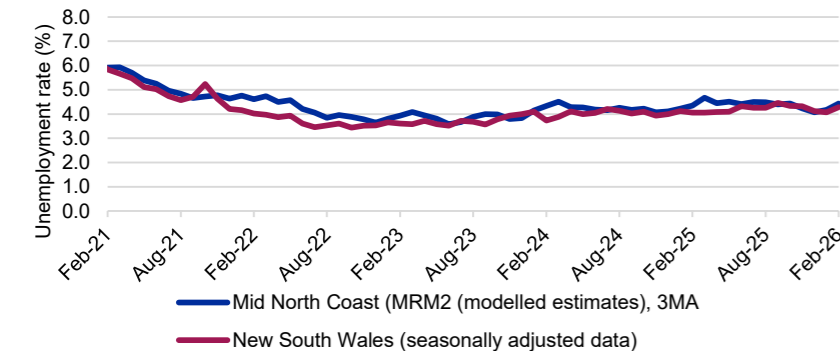
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

### Largest employing industries



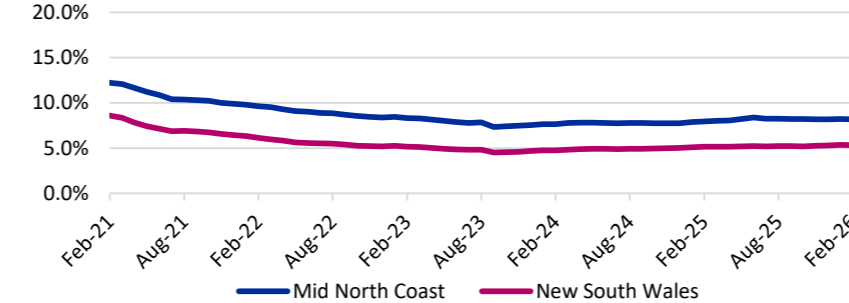
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

### Unemployment rate



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

### Job seeker income support payments\*



### Change in job seeker income support payments

	Mid North Coast	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	16,820	276,265
Payments - February 2026	17,330	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 510	↑ 14,335
	↑ 3.0%	↑ 5.2%

### % 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
Mid North Coast	17,330	8.2%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

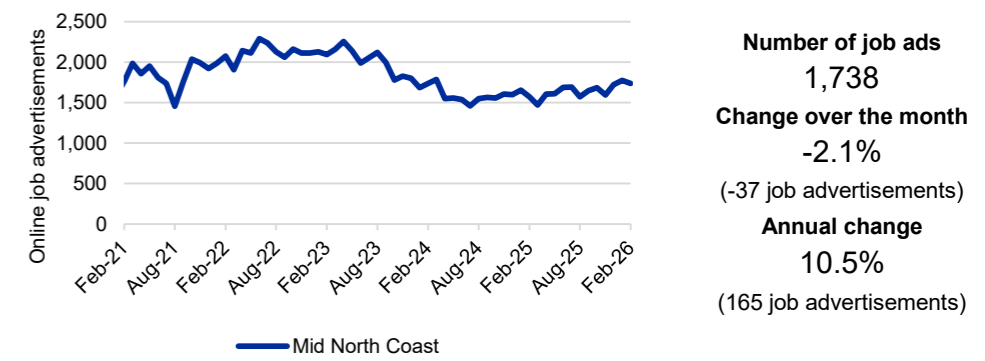
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

### LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Kempsey	6.0	5.1
Nambucca Valley	5.8	5.2
Bellingen	5.1	3.4
Mid-Coast	4.8	3.8
Port Macquarie-Hastings	3.0	2.4

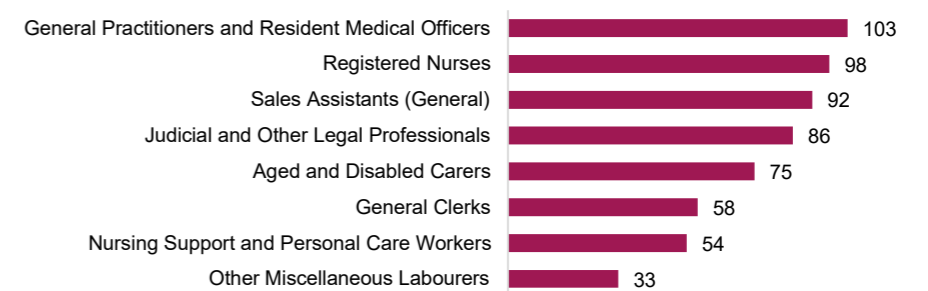
For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

### Online job advertisements



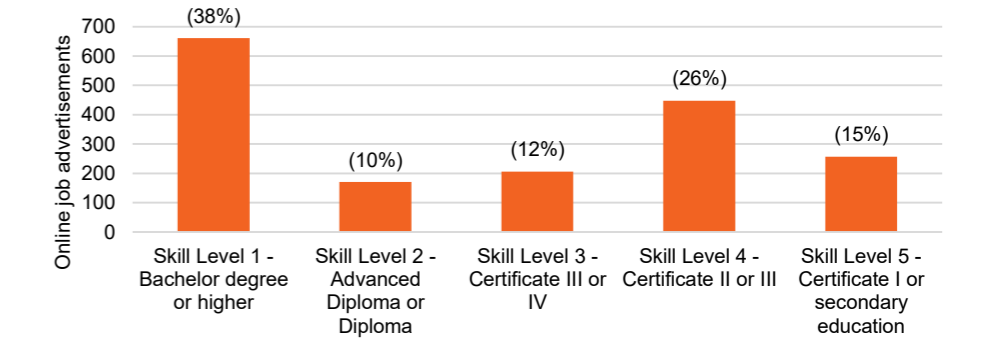
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

### Online job advertisements by occupation



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

### Online job advertisements by skill level



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Coffs Harbour - Grafton; and Mid North Coast 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.

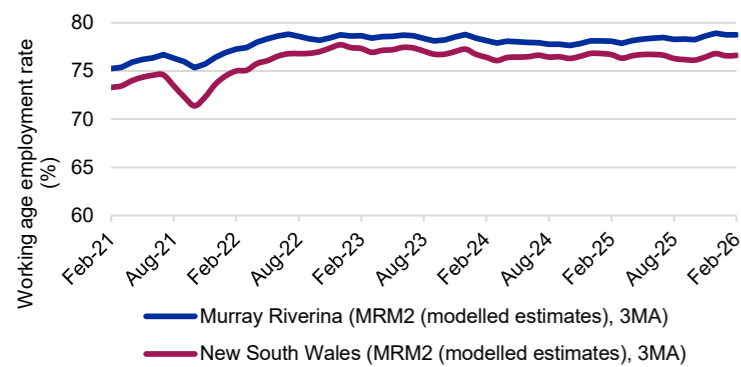
#Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.

This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Murray Riverina	78.8	78.1	6.1	5.9	4.3	3.9	3.8	82.2	81.4	8.7	8.2
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

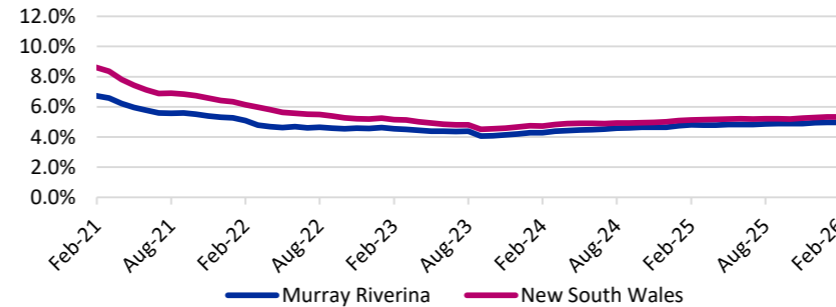
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

**Working age employment rate (%)**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

**Job seeker income support payments\***



**Change in job seeker income support payments**

	Murray Riverina	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	8,325	276,265
Payments - February 2026	8,590	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 265	↑ 14,335
	↑ 3.2%	↑ 5.2%

**% 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
Murray Riverina	8,590	5.0%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

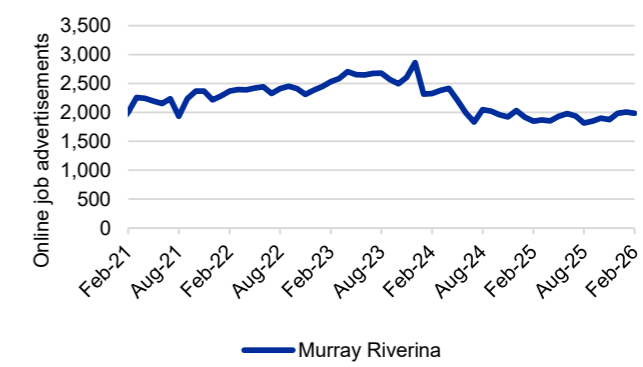
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

**LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)**

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Narrandera	6.3	4.3
Albury	4.9	3.9
Wentworth	4.9	4.2
Edward River	4.6	4.0
Hay	4.3	3.1

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

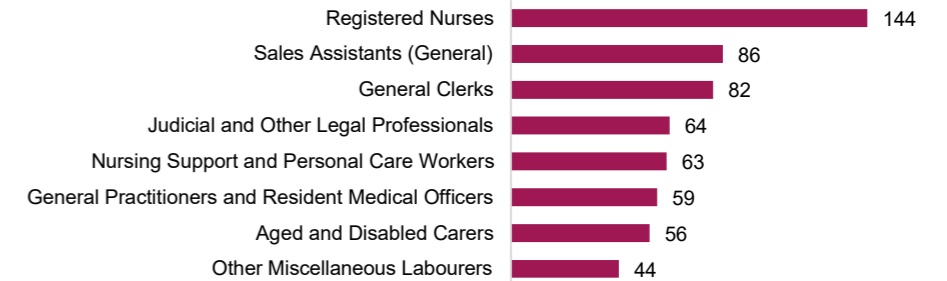
**Online job advertisements**



Number of job ads  
1,986  
Change over the month  
-1.0%  
(-20 job advertisements)  
Annual change  
7.5%  
(138 job advertisements)

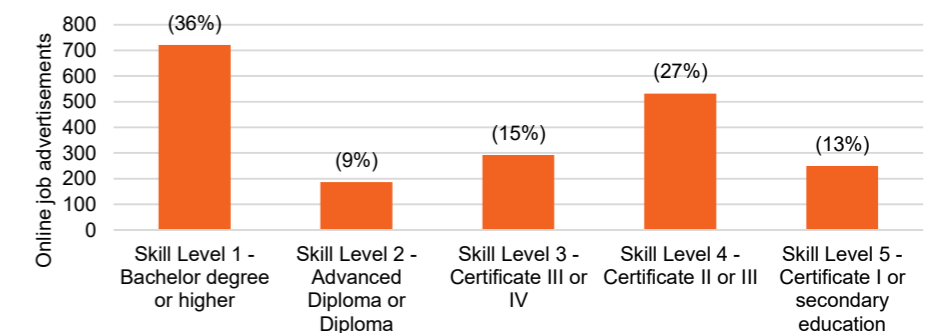
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by occupation**



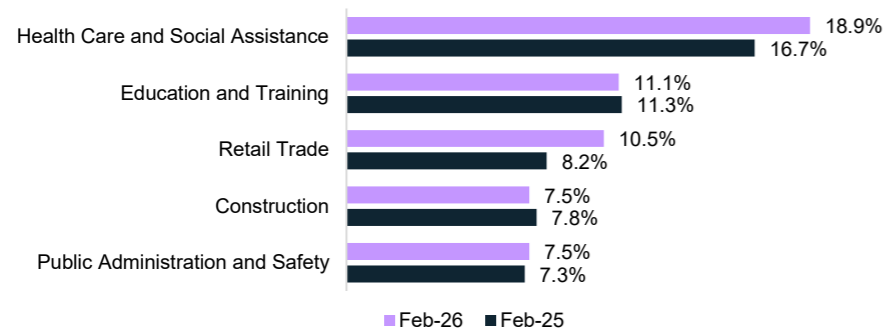
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by skill level**



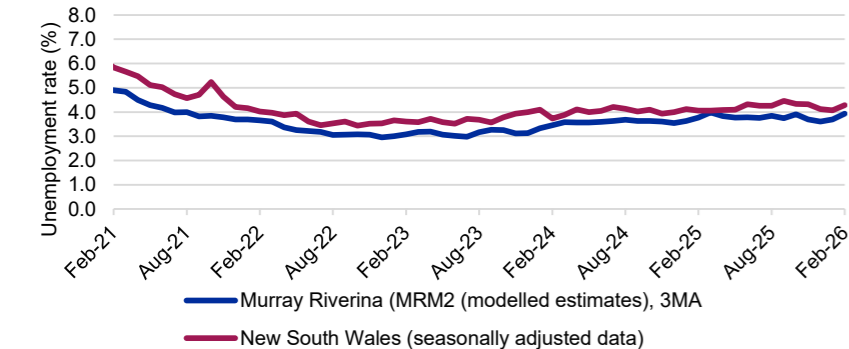
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Largest employing industries**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

**Unemployment rate**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Murray; and Riverina 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.

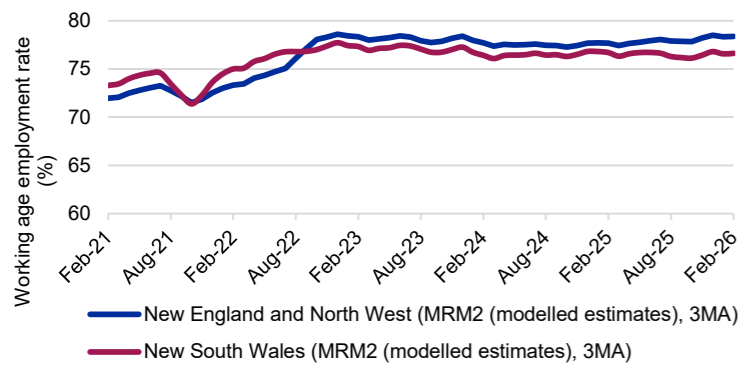
#Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.

This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
New England and North West	78.4	77.7	4.9	4.6	5.9	4.7	4.4	82.5	81.5	11.0	10.5
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

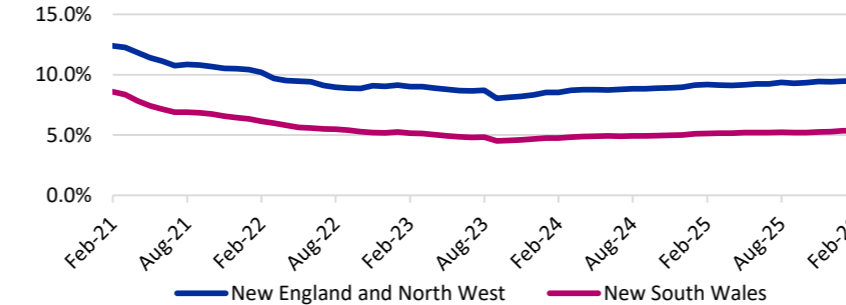
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

**Working age employment rate (%)**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

**Job seeker income support payments\***



**Change in job seeker income support payments**

	New England and North West	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	10,600	276,265
Payments - February 2026	10,945	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 345	↑ 14,335
	↑ 3.3%	↑ 5.2%

**% 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
New England and North West	10,945	9.5%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

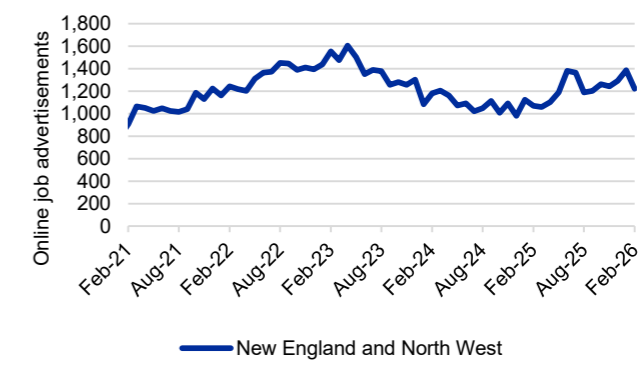
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

**LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)**

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Tenterfield	3.8	3.4
Glen Innes Severn	3.6	3.0
Moree Plains	3.3	2.9
Inverell	3.1	2.6
Armidale	2.9	2.5

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

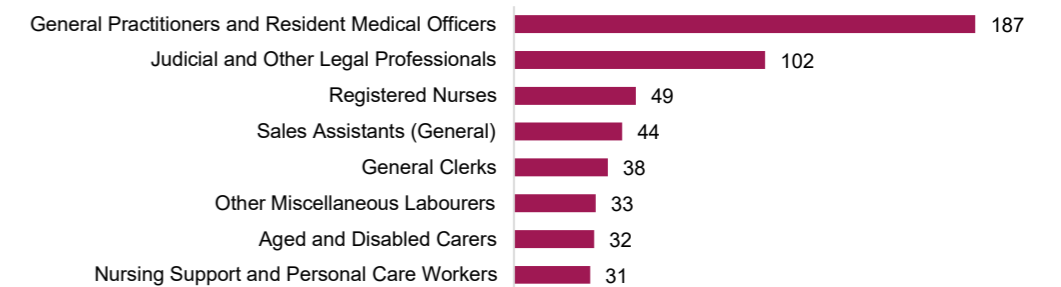
**Online job advertisements**



**Number of job ads**  
1,220  
**Change over the month**  
-12.0%  
(-166 job advertisements)  
**Annual change**  
14.0%  
(150 job advertisements)

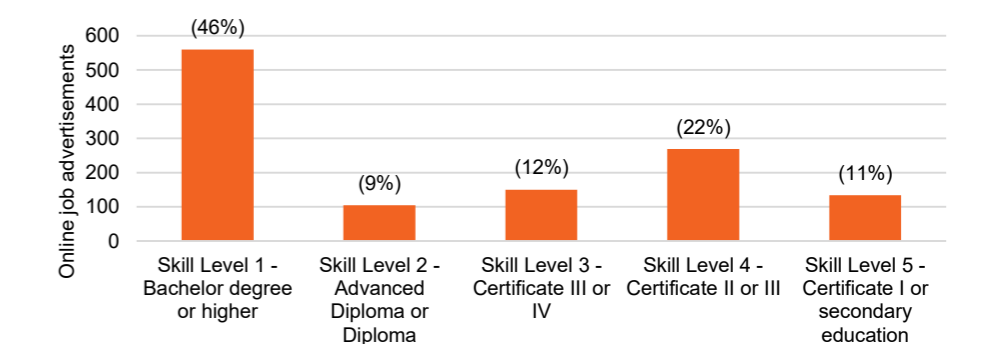
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by occupation**



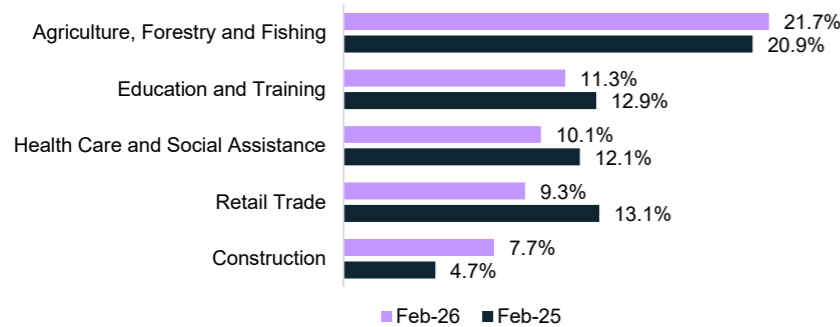
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by skill level**



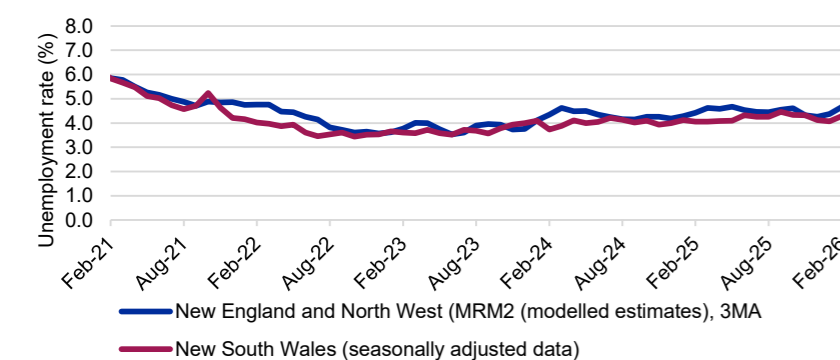
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Largest employing industries**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

**Unemployment rate**



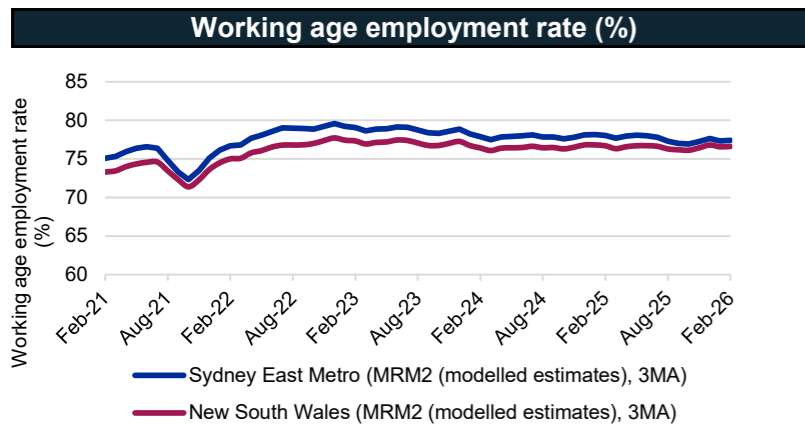
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the New England and North West 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. #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.

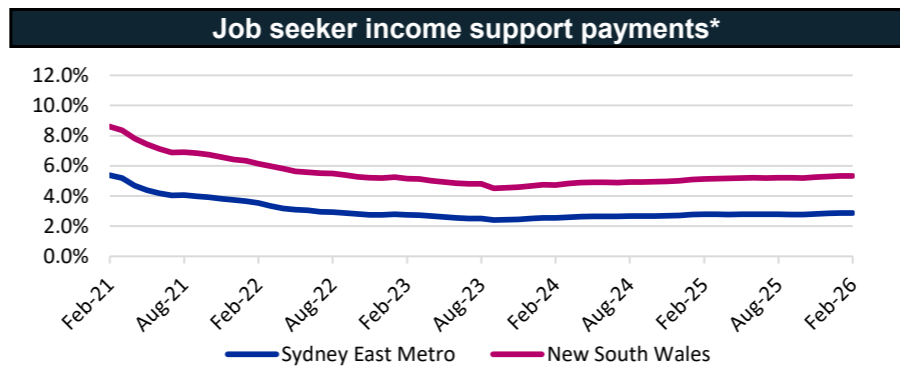
This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Sydney East Metro	77.4	78.0	41.9	41.6	0.7	3.8	3.8	80.5	81.2	8.2	7.9
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026



### Change in job seeker income support payments

	Sydney East Metro	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	36,320	276,265
Payments - February 2026	37,900	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 1,580	↑ 14,335
	↑ 4.4%	↑ 5.2%

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

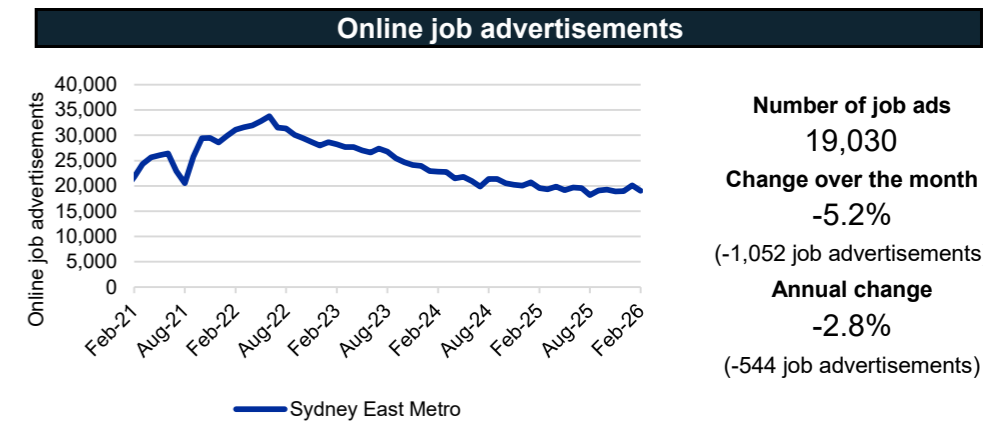
	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Sydney East Metro	37,900	2.9%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

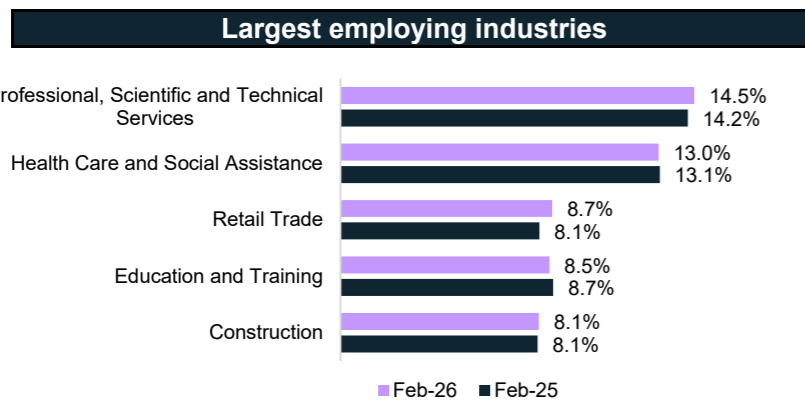
### LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Canterbury-Bankstown	6.7	5.9
Inner West	5.1	4.5
Randwick	4.8	5.2
Sydney	4.7	4.5
Burwood	3.9	3.4

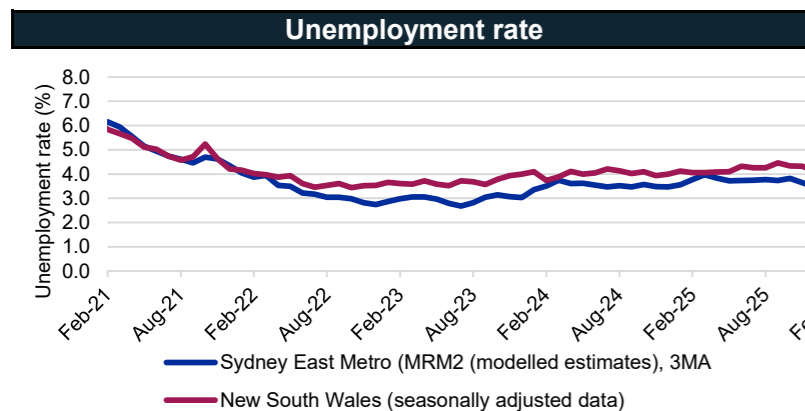
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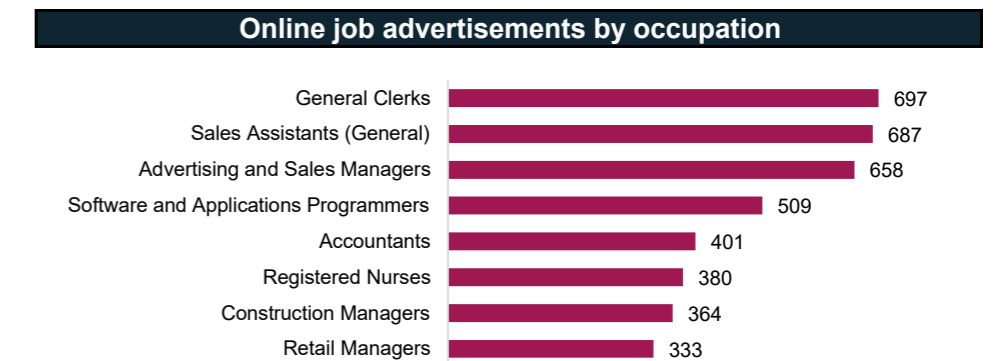
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026



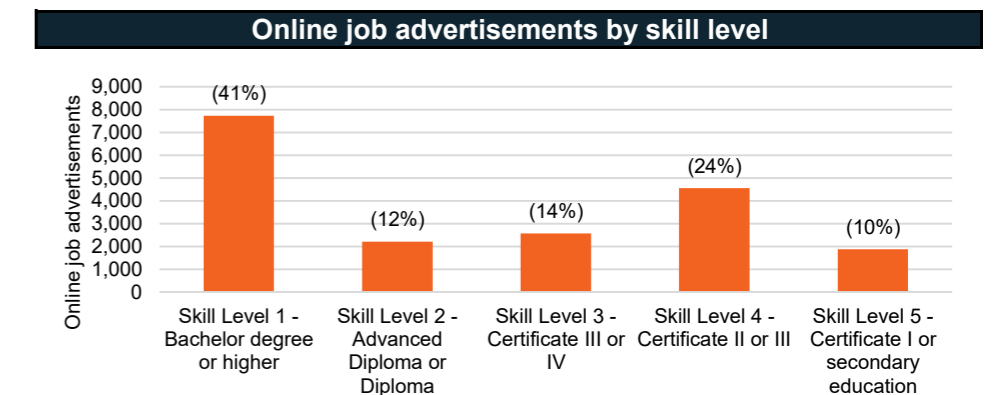
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Sydney - City and Inner South; Sydney - Eastern Suburbs; Sydney - Inner South West; Sydney - Inner West; and Sydney - Sutherland 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.

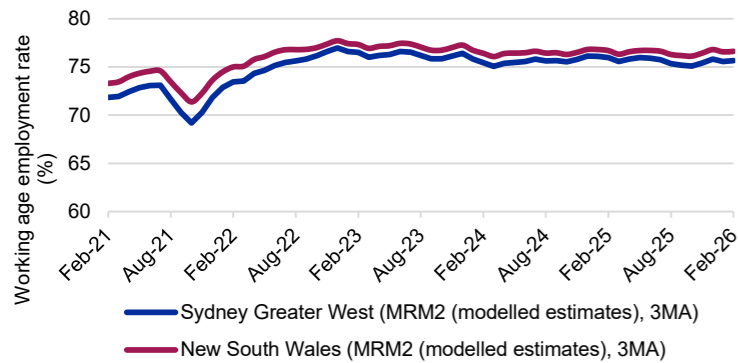
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	Labour market summary table										
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Sydney Greater West	75.7	76.0	37.4	36.2	3.1	4.9	4.9	79.7	79.9	10.6	10.2
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

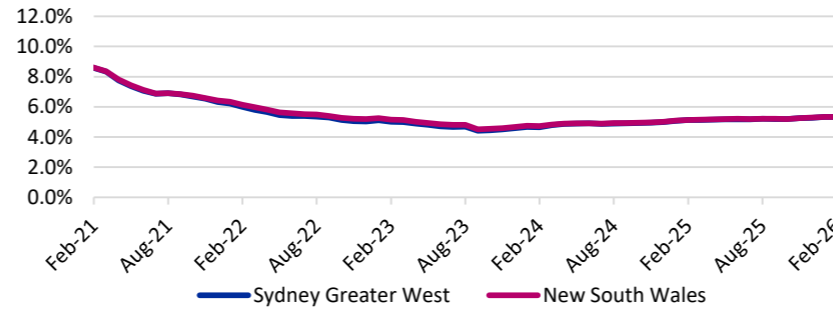
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

**Working age employment rate (%)**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

**Job seeker income support payments\***



**Change in job seeker income support payments**

	Sydney Greater West	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	46,150	276,265
Payments - February 2026	49,060	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 2,910	↑ 14,335
	↑ 6.3%	↑ 5.2%

**% 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
Sydney Greater West	49,060	5.3%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

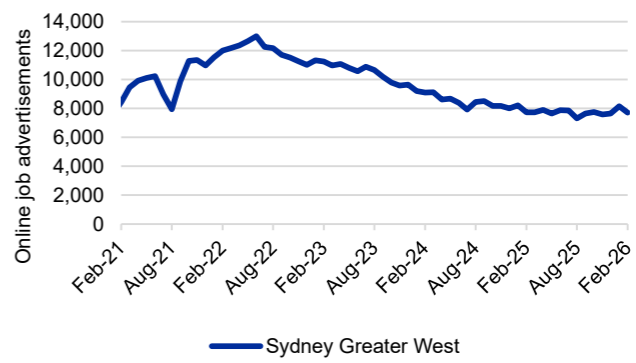
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

**LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)**

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Fairfield	7.3	8.6
Cumberland	7.2	5.9
Canterbury-Bankstown	6.7	5.9
Blacktown	4.5	5.1
Hawkesbury	4.0	4.1

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

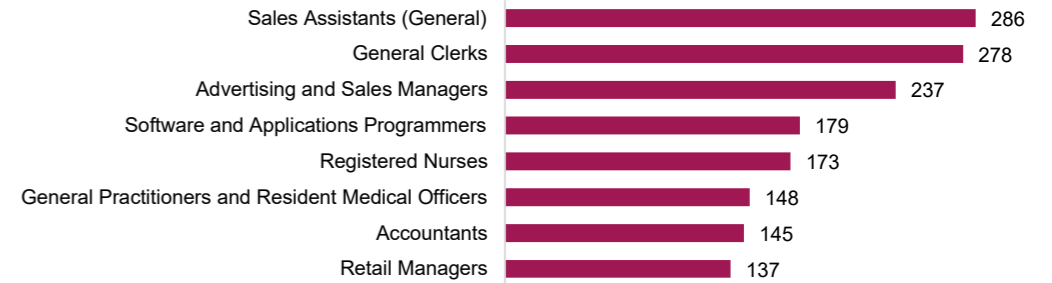
**Online job advertisements**



Number of job ads  
7,715  
Change over the month  
-5.3%  
(-433 job advertisements)  
Annual change  
-0.3%  
(-26 job advertisements)

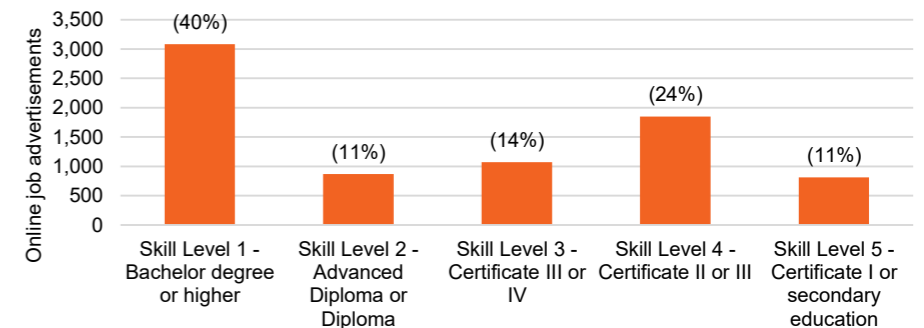
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by occupation**



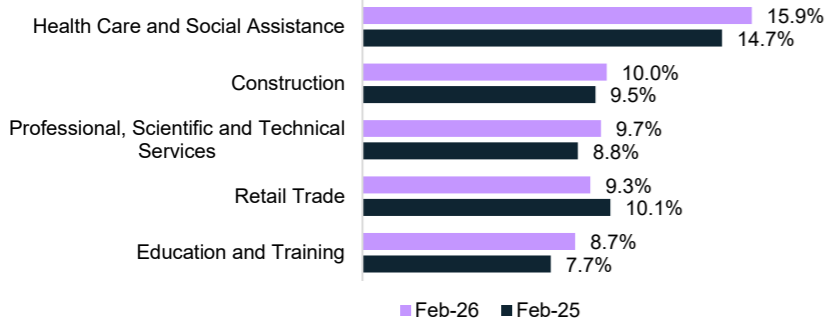
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by skill level**



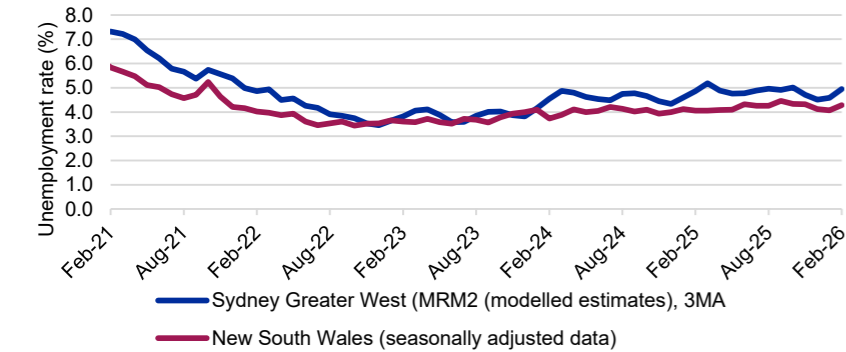
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

**Largest employing industries**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

**Unemployment rate**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

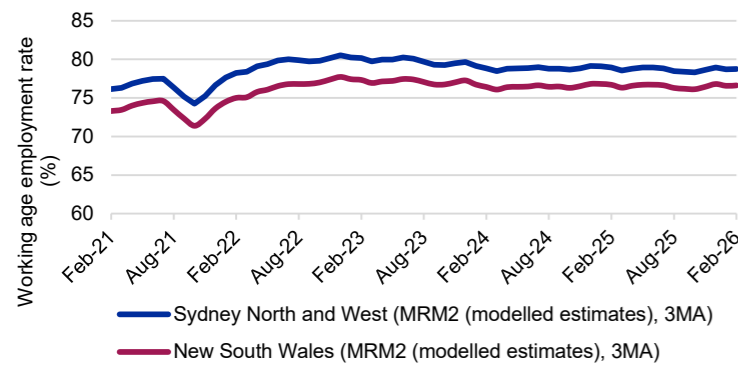
Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Sydney - Blacktown; Sydney - Outer West and Blue Mountains; and Sydney - Parramatta SA4. The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) and income support data are apportioned to Employment Regions using an SA2 based 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. #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.

This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

	Labour market summary table										
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Sydney North and West	78.7	78.9	31.7	32.0	-0.8	3.6	3.6	81.7	82.0	8.5	8.1
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

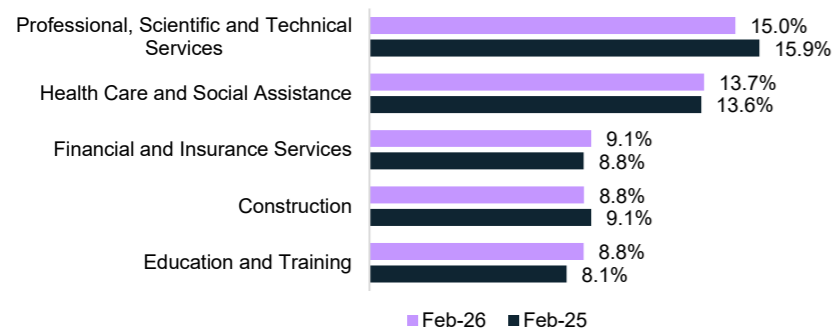
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

**Working age employment rate (%)**



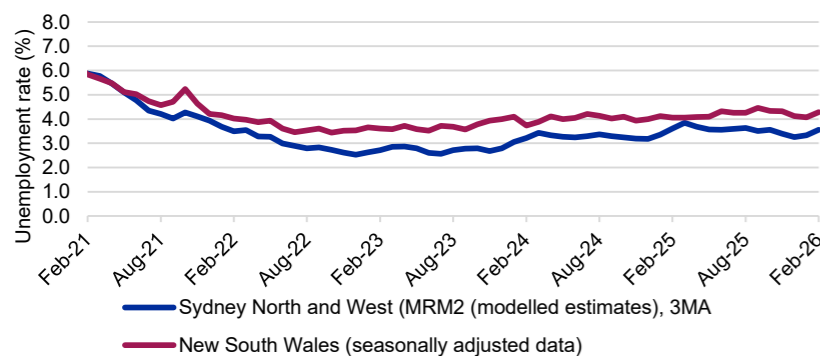
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026

**Largest employing industries**



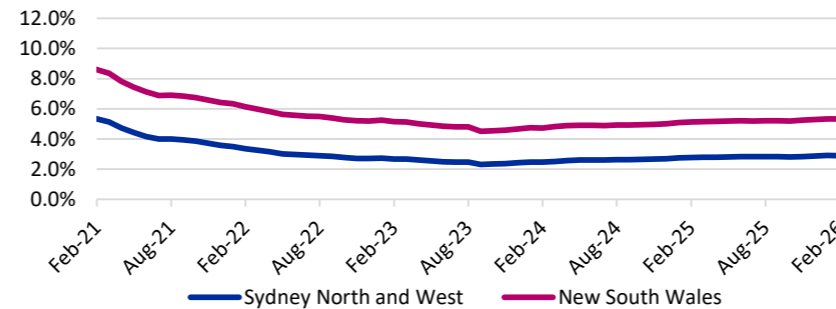
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#

**Unemployment rate**



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026

**Job seeker income support payments\***



**Change in job seeker income support payments**

	Sydney North and West	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	28,200	276,265
Payments - February 2026	29,915	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 1,715	↑ 14,335
	↑ 6.1%	↑ 5.2%

**% 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
Sydney North and West	29,915	2.9%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

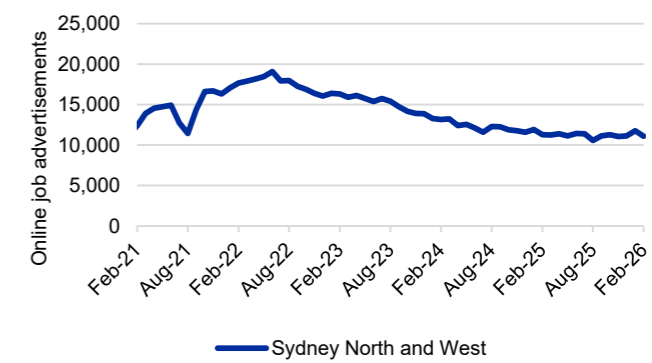
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

**LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)**

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Hornsby	5.3	4.3
Willoughby	4.9	3.6
Lane Cove	4.5	3.3
North Sydney	4.4	3.2
Hawkesbury	4.0	4.1

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter

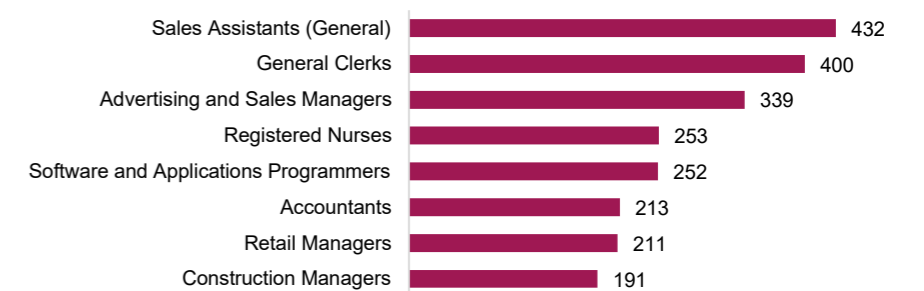
**Online job advertisements**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

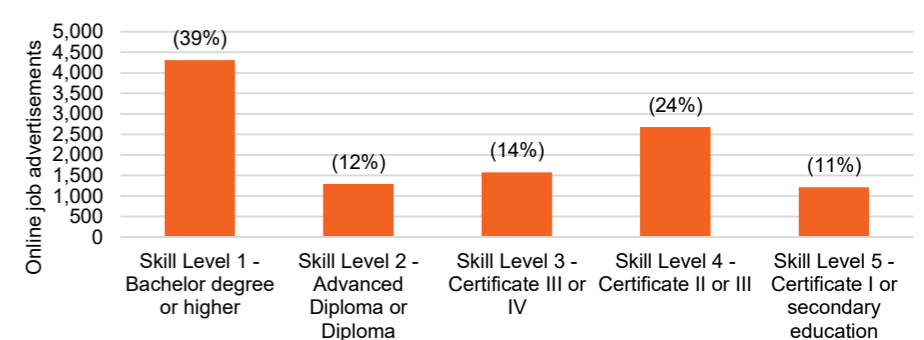
**Number of job ads**  
11,115  
**Change over the month**  
-5.5%  
(-647 job advertisements)  
**Annual change**  
-1.7%  
(-187 job advertisements)

**Online job advertisements by occupation**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026

**Online job advertisements by skill level**



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

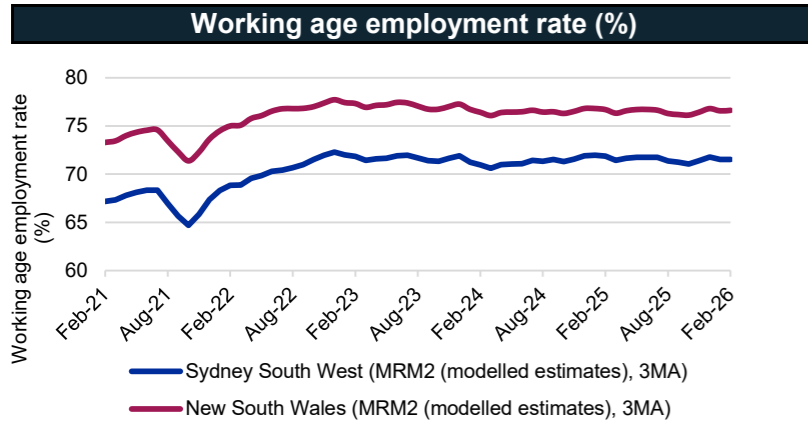
Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Central Coast; Sydney - Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury; Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby; Sydney - Northern Beaches; and Sydney - Ryde SA4. The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) and income support data are apportioned 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.

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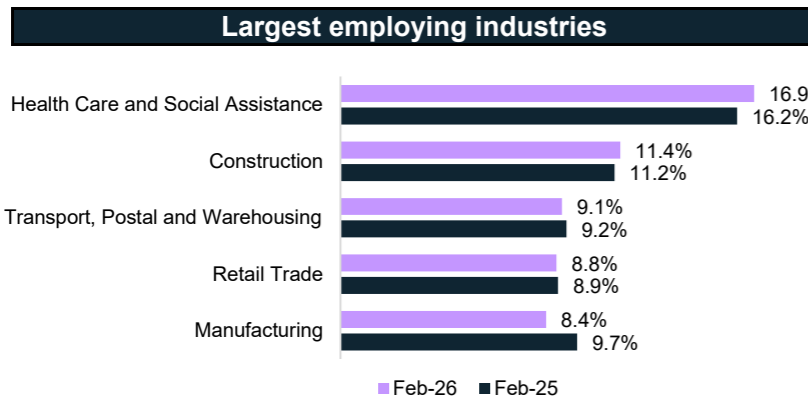
This Labour Market Dashboard provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 ('000)	Feb-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)	Feb-26 (%)	Feb-25 (%)
Sydney South West	71.5	71.9	23.3	21.7	7.5	5.2	5.0	75.6	75.7	11.0	10.6
New South Wales	76.6	76.7	193.2	188.4	2.6	4.1	4.0	80.1	80.1	9.5	9.0
Australia	77.3	77.2	659.1	611.5	7.8	4.3	4.1	80.9	80.5	10.2	9.0

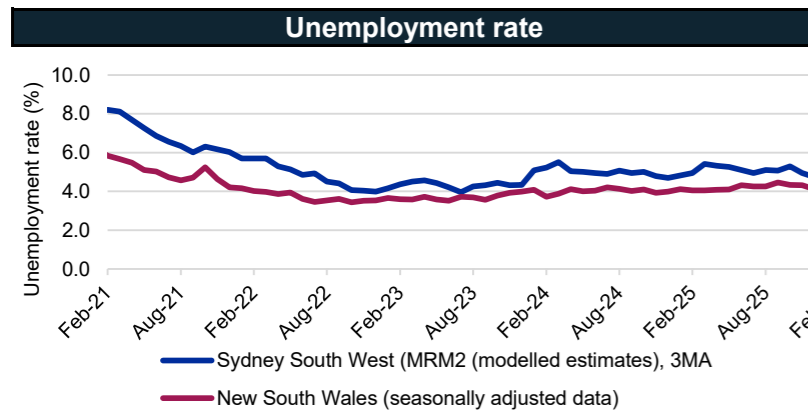
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, February 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MRM2 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



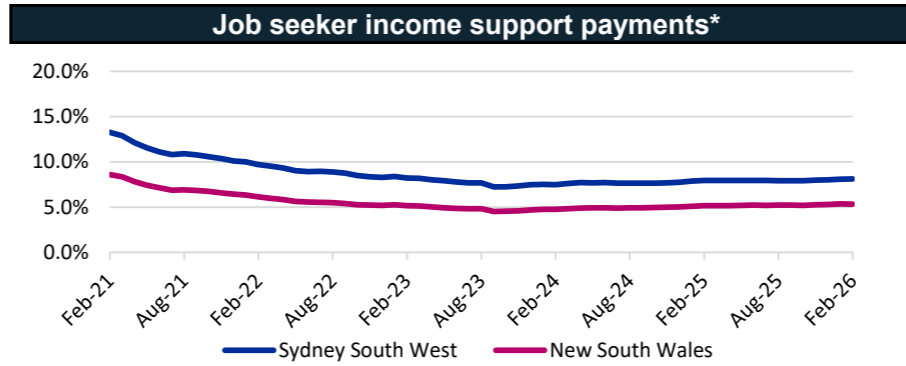
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2 (modelled estimates), 3MA, February 2026



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February-26 quarter#



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data & MRM2 (3MA), February 2026



### Change in job seeker income support payments

	Sydney South West	New South Wales
Payments - February 2025	44,215	276,265
Payments - February 2026	46,090	290,600
Change from February 2025 to February 2026	↑ 1,875	↑ 14,335
	↑ 4.2%	↑ 5.2%

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

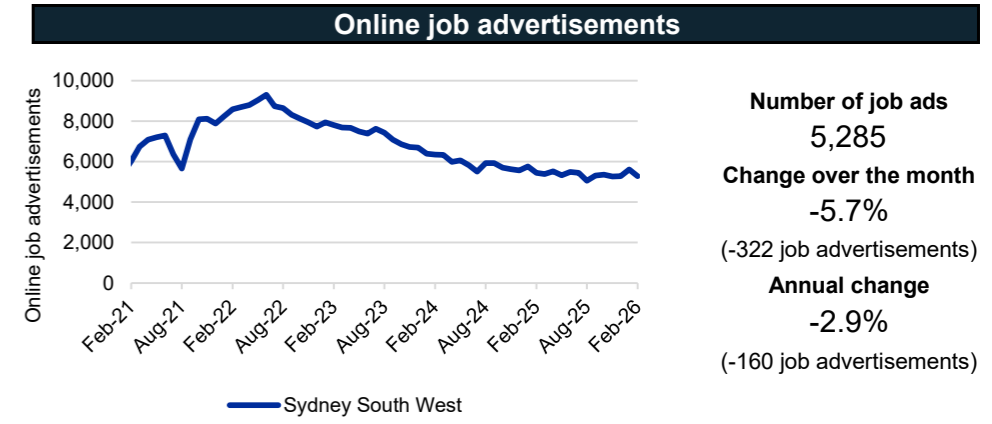
	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Sydney South West	46,090	8.1%
New South Wales	290,600	5.3%
Australia	1,027,435	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, February 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM2, 3MA, February 2026

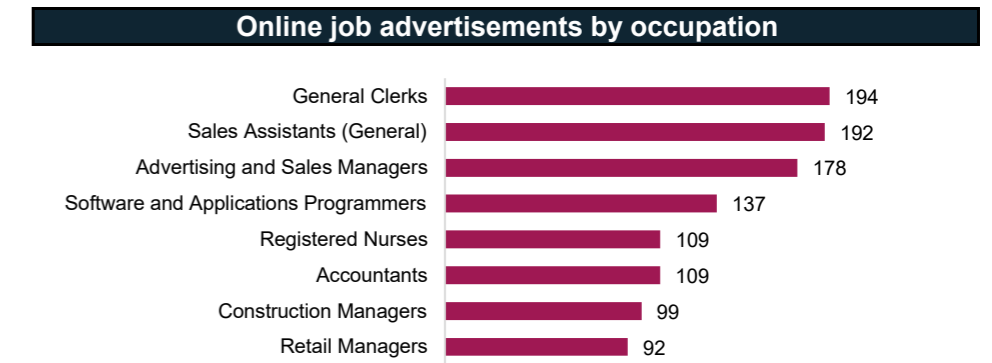
### LGA's with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Sep-25	Sep-24
Fairfield	7.3	8.6
Canterbury-Bankstown	6.7	5.9
Campbelltown (NSW)	6.2	6.3
Liverpool	4.3	4.9
Sutherland	2.5	2.7

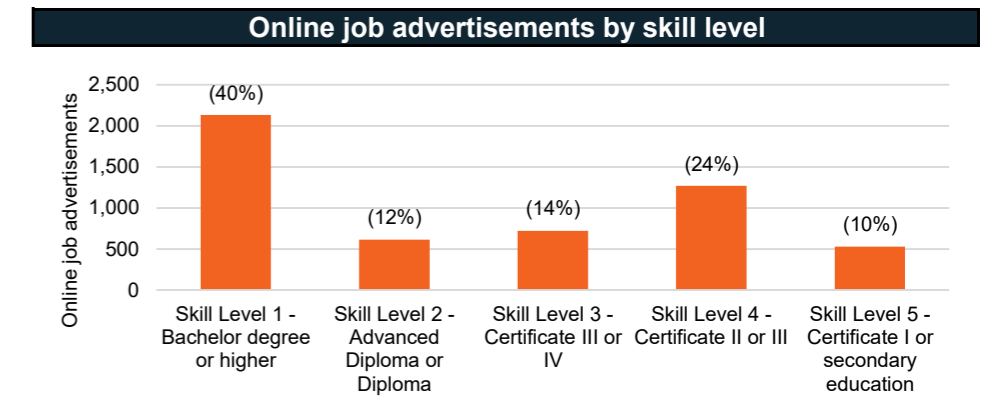
For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, September-25 quarter



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, February 2026



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, February 2026

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Sydney - Outer South West; and Sydney - South West 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.

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