



# Employment Region Industry profile

## South West WA Employment Region

Date of publishing: 15 April 2026

### Overview

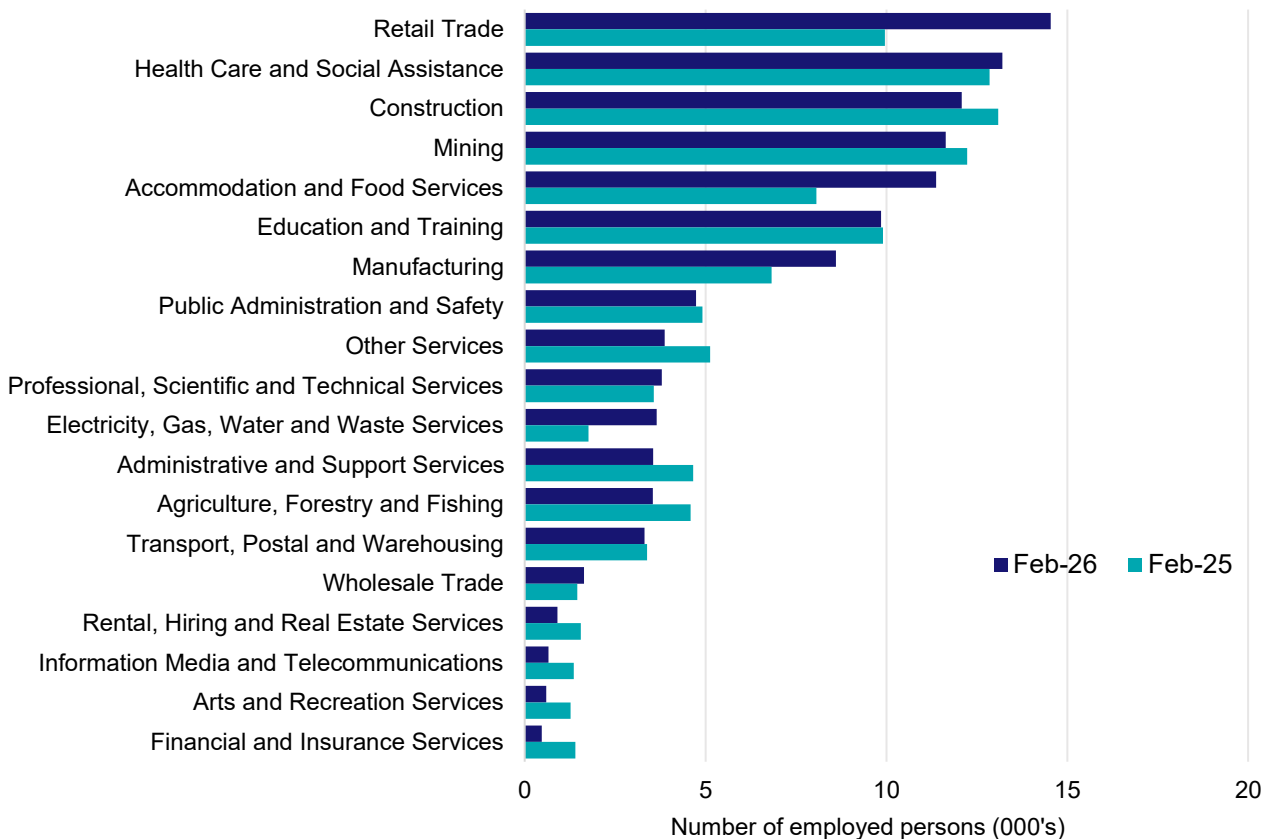
In February 2026, there were around 112,000 people employed in the South West WA Employment Region. The 5 largest employing industries in the region were Retail Trade, Health Care and Social Assistance, Construction, Mining, and Accommodation and Food Services. Together these 5 industries accounted for 56% of employment in the region.

Over the year to February 2026, employment in:

- Retail Trade rose by 46.1% to stand at 14,500
- Health Care and Social Assistance rose by 2.8% to stand at 13,200
- Construction fell by 7.7% to stand at 12,100.

In Retail Trade in the South West WA Employment Region, 57% of workers were employed part-time; 61% were female; and the median age of the workforce was 39.

### Employment by industry, February 2026 and February 2025



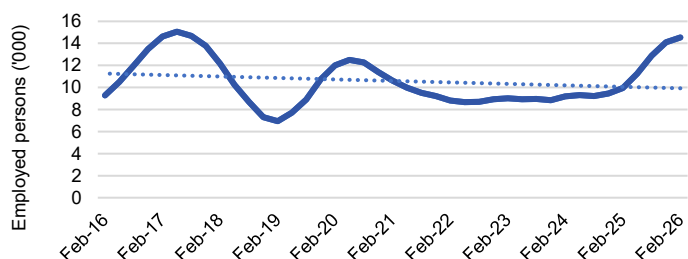
Source: ABS Labour Force Survey\*, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2026. Note that total employment for the region (four quarter averaged data) will not match data published in the Employment Region Labour Market dashboards (modelled estimates).

\*ABS Labour Force Survey data are based on the Bunbury 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)

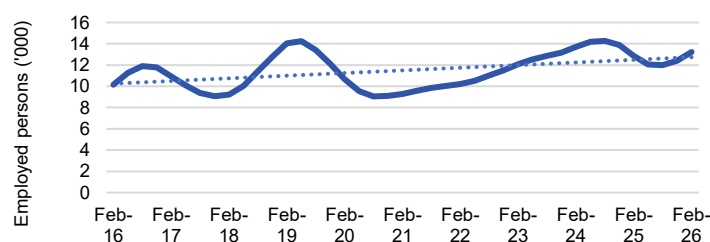
# Five largest employing industries: key statistics

## Retail Trade



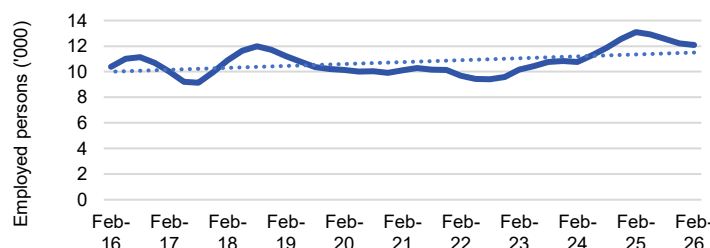
Number employed (Feb-26):	14,500
1 year employment change:	46.1%
5 year employment change:	36.9%
10 year employment change:	56.7%
Youth share of employment:	19.3%
Mature age share of employment:	8.2%

## Health Care and Social Assistance



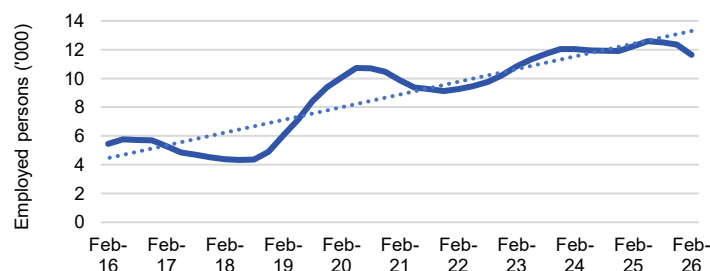
Number employed (Feb-26):	13,200
1 year employment change:	2.8%
5 year employment change:	42.6%
10 year employment change:	30.1%
Youth share of employment:	7.8%
Mature age share of employment:	14.5%

## Construction



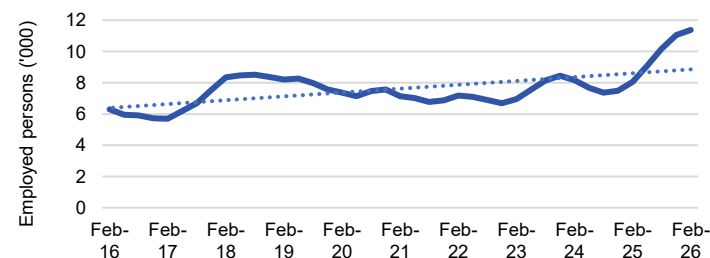
Number employed (Feb-26):	12,100
1 year employment change:	-7.7%
5 year employment change:	19.4%
10 year employment change:	16.3%
Youth share of employment:	10.9%
Mature age share of employment:	9.6%

## Mining



Number employed (Feb-26):	11,600
1 year employment change:	-4.9%
5 year employment change:	17.9%
10 year employment change:	113.6%
Youth share of employment:	4.0%
Mature age share of employment:	6.4%

## Accommodation and Food Services



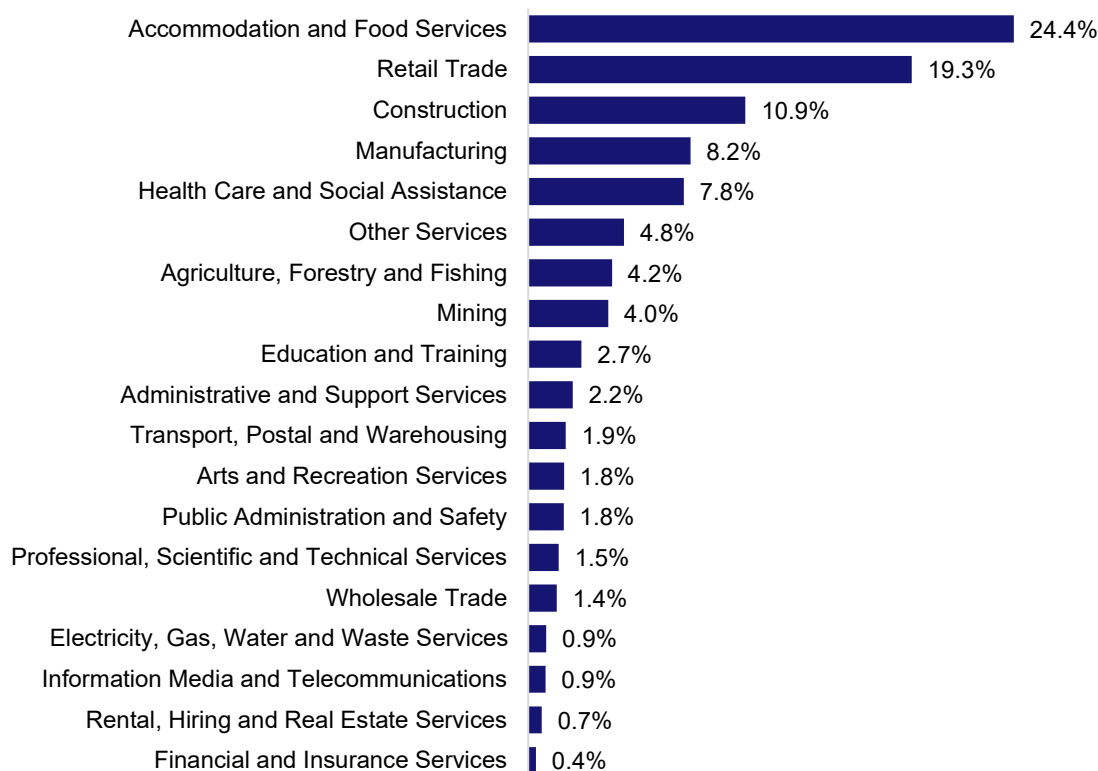
Number employed (Feb-26):	11,400
1 year employment change:	41.1%
5 year employment change:	59.2%
10 year employment change:	80.4%
Youth share of employment:	24.4%
Mature age share of employment:	4.9%

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2026, 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?



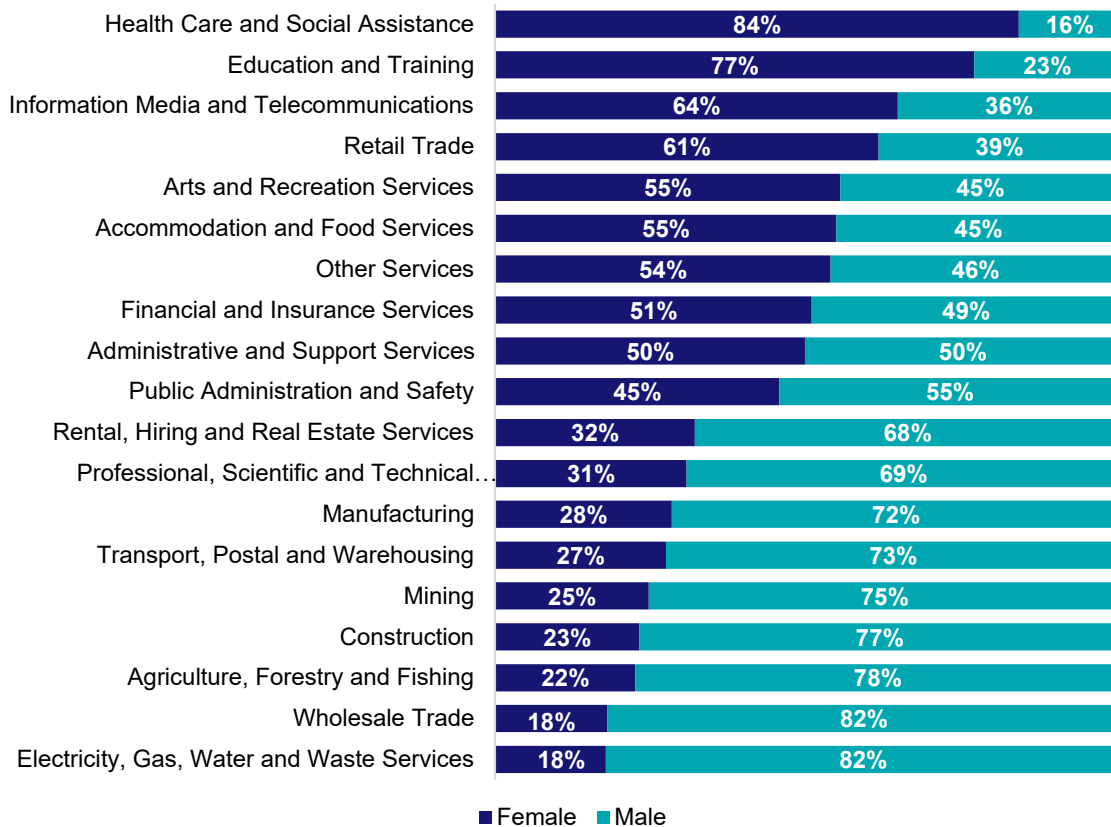
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

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



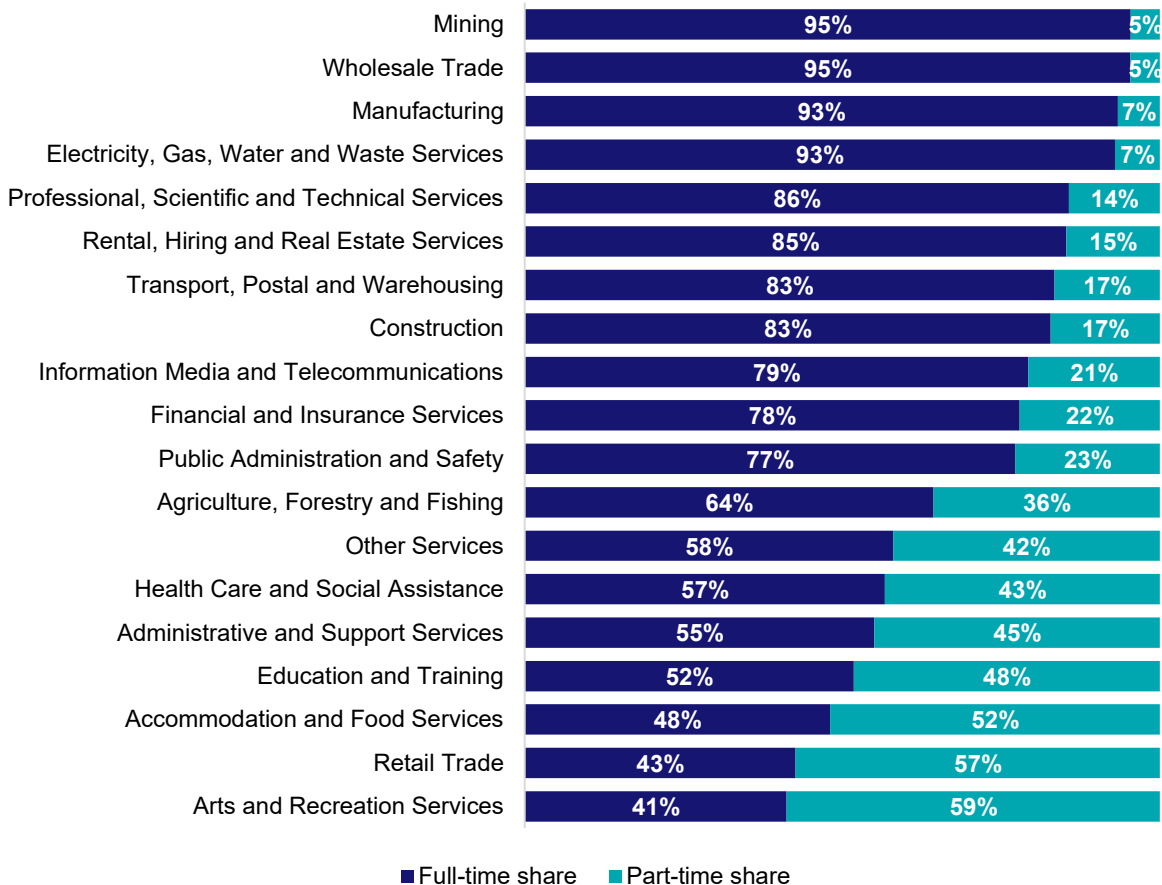
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021. Note: SA2 level Census data have been aggregated to the Employment Region level.

## Gender share by industry



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2026.

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



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2026.

## Appendix

### Employment by industry, South West WA, February 2026

Industry (in order of size)	Share of employment in the region Feb-26 (%)	Employed ('000)			Full-time share %	Part-time share %	Median age *
		Feb-26	Feb-25	Feb-21			
Retail Trade	13.0	14.5	10.0	10.6	42.7	57.3	39
Health Care and Social Assistance	11.8	13.2	12.8	9.3	56.7	43.3	46
Construction	10.8	12.1	13.1	10.1	82.8	17.2	42
Mining	10.4	11.6	12.2	9.9	95.4	4.6	43
Accommodation and Food Services	10.2	11.4	8.1	7.1	48.1	51.9	31
Education and Training	8.8	9.9	9.9	6.8	51.8	48.2	48
Manufacturing	7.7	8.6	6.8	10.3	93.4	6.6	41
Public Administration and Safety	4.2	4.7	4.9	4.3	77.2	22.8	48
Other Services	3.5	3.9	5.1	4.0	58.0	42.0	40
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.1	85.7	14.3	46
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	3.3	3.6	1.8	1.4	92.9	7.1	46
Administrative and Support Services	3.2	3.5	4.7	2.3	55.0	45.0	45
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	3.2	3.5	4.6	4.4	64.4	35.6	50
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	3.0	3.3	3.4	3.3	83.4	16.6	51
Wholesale Trade	1.5	1.6	1.5	2.2	95.4	4.6	46
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	0.8	0.9	1.5	2.9	85.3	14.7	48
Information Media and Telecommunications	0.6	0.7	1.4	0.3	79.3	20.7	37
Arts and Recreation Services	0.5	0.6	1.3	0.8	41.3	58.7	37
Financial and Insurance Services	0.4	0.5	1.4	0.8	77.9	22.1	46
<b>All industries</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>112.0</b>	<b>108.0</b>	<b>93.9</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>44</b>

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2026. \*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.**