



Industry profile

Western Australia

Date of publishing: 15 April 2026

Overview

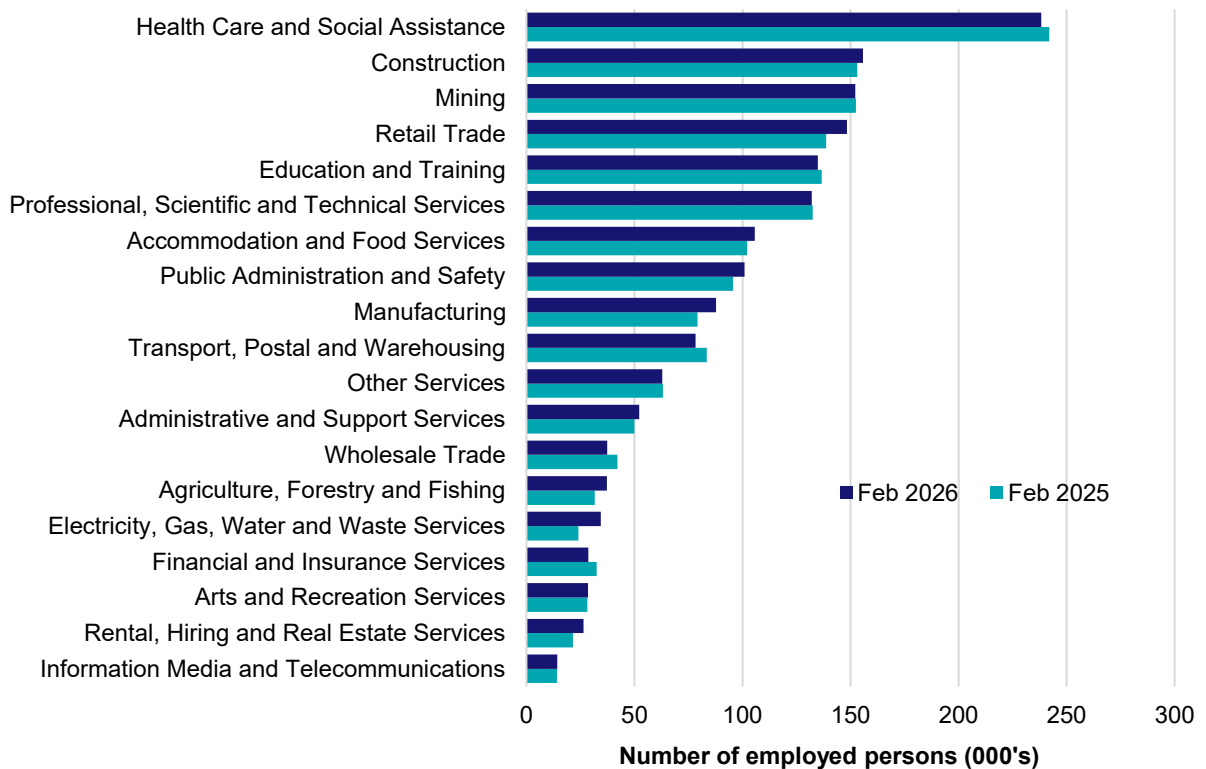
In February 2026, there were around 1,656,300 people employed in Western Australia. The 5 largest employing industries in Western Australia were Health Care and Social Assistance, Construction, Mining, Retail Trade and Education and Training. Together these 5 industries accounted for 50% of all employment.

Over the year to February 2026, employment in:

- Health Care and Social Assistance fell by 1.6% to stand at 238,200
- Construction rose by 1.7% to stand at 155,800
- Mining fell by 0.1% to stand at 152,300.

In Health Care and Social Assistance in Western Australia, 54% of workers were employed full-time; 78% were Female; and the median age of the workforce was 42. Around 86% of employed persons in this industry were located in Greater Perth.

Employment by industry, February 2026 and February 2025

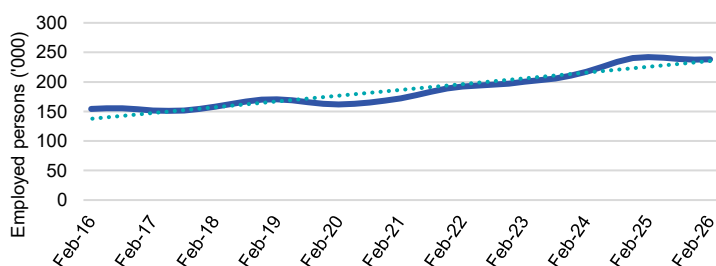


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, February 2026. Note that total employment (four quarter averaged data) may not match data published in the Labour Market dashboards (6 month averaged data).

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

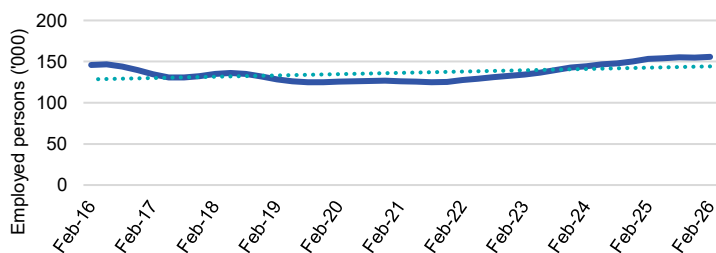
Five largest employing industries: key statistics

Health Care and Social Assistance



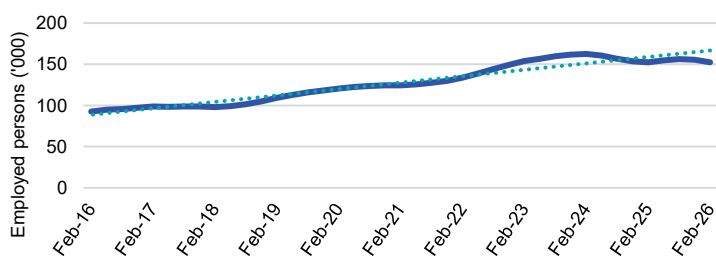
Number employed (Feb-26):	238,200
1 year employment change:	-1.6%
5 year employment change:	38.3%
10 year employment change:	54.4%
Youth share of employment:	9.4%
Mature age share of employment:	15.7%

Construction



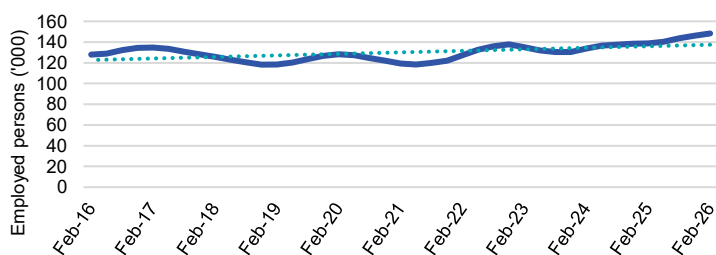
Number employed (Feb-26):	155,800
1 year employment change:	1.7%
5 year employment change:	23.5%
10 year employment change:	6.8%
Youth share of employment:	7.9%
Mature age share of employment:	8.6%

Mining



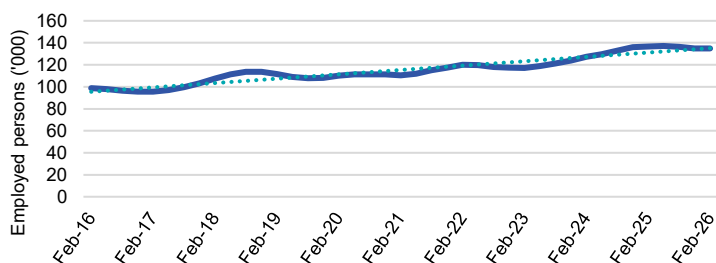
Number employed (Feb-26):	152,300
1 year employment change:	-0.1%
5 year employment change:	22.4%
10 year employment change:	64.5%
Youth share of employment:	3.5%
Mature age share of employment:	6.2%

Retail Trade



Number employed (Feb-26):	148,300
1 year employment change:	6.9%
5 year employment change:	24.3%
10 year employment change:	15.9%
Youth share of employment:	20.9%
Mature age share of employment:	7.3%

Education and Training



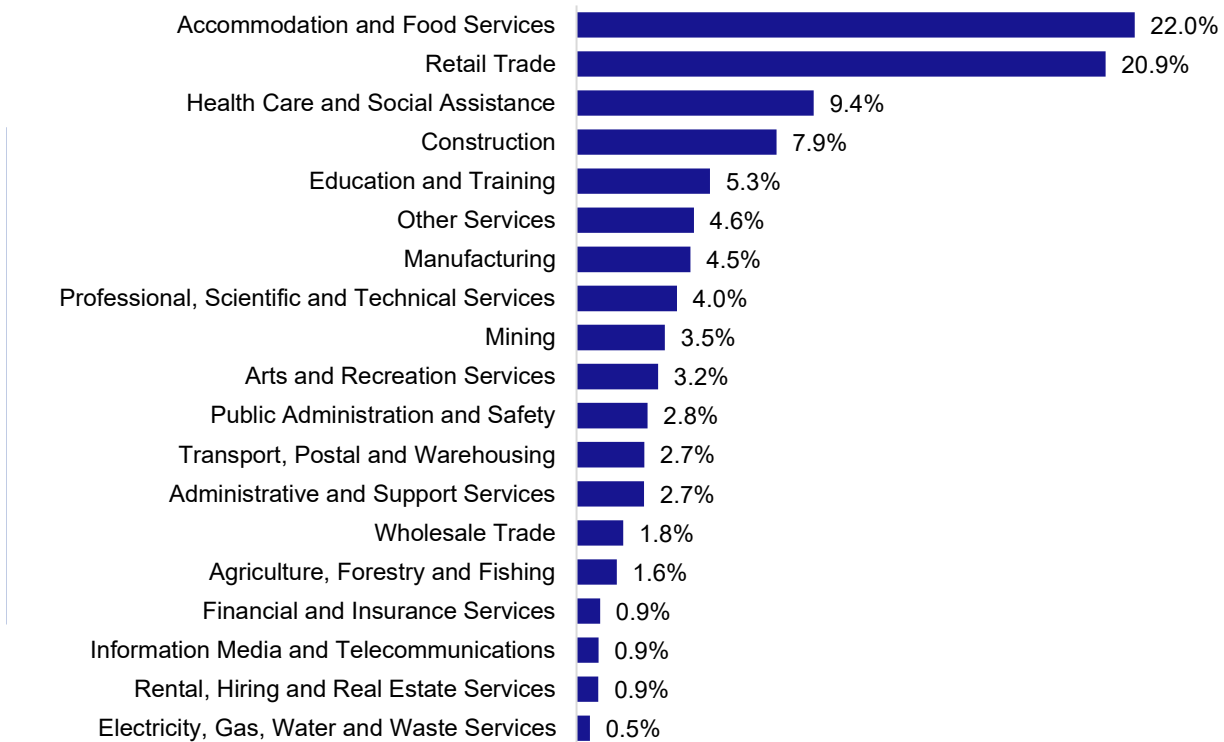
Number employed (Feb-26):	134,900
1 year employment change:	-1.3%
5 year employment change:	22.2%
10 year employment change:	36.4%
Youth share of employment:	5.3%
Mature age share of employment:	11.2%

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.

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.

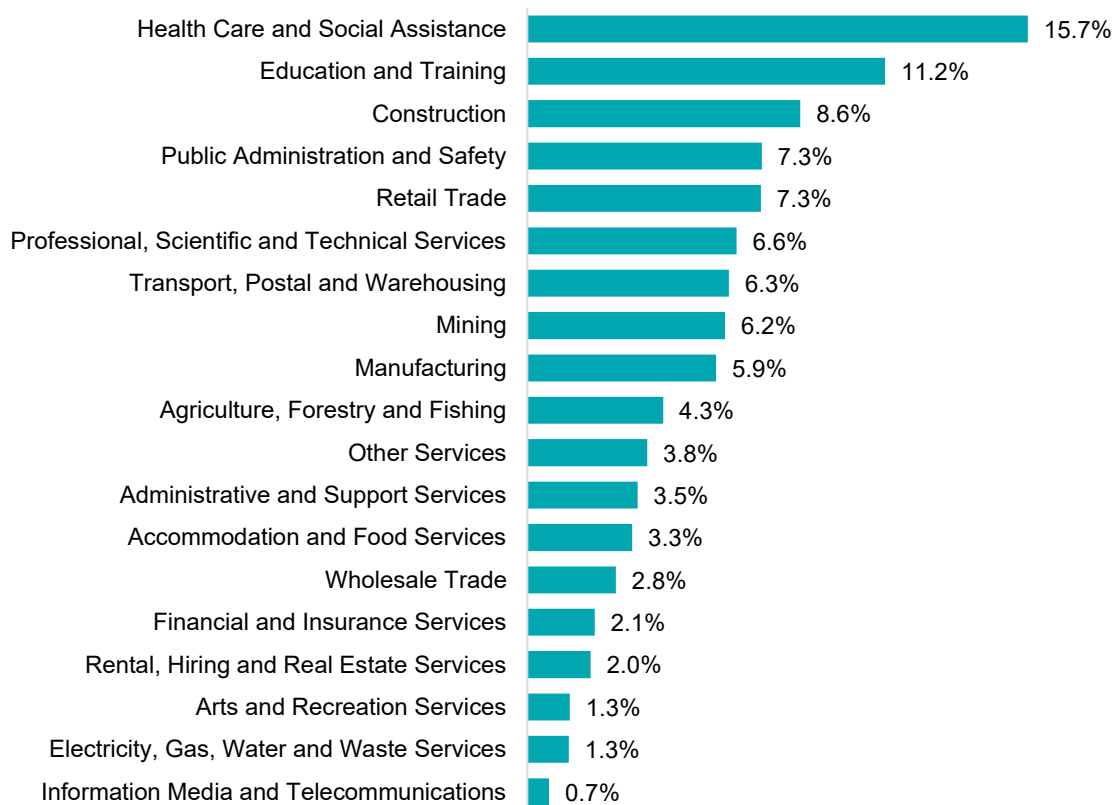
Employment characteristics by Industry

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



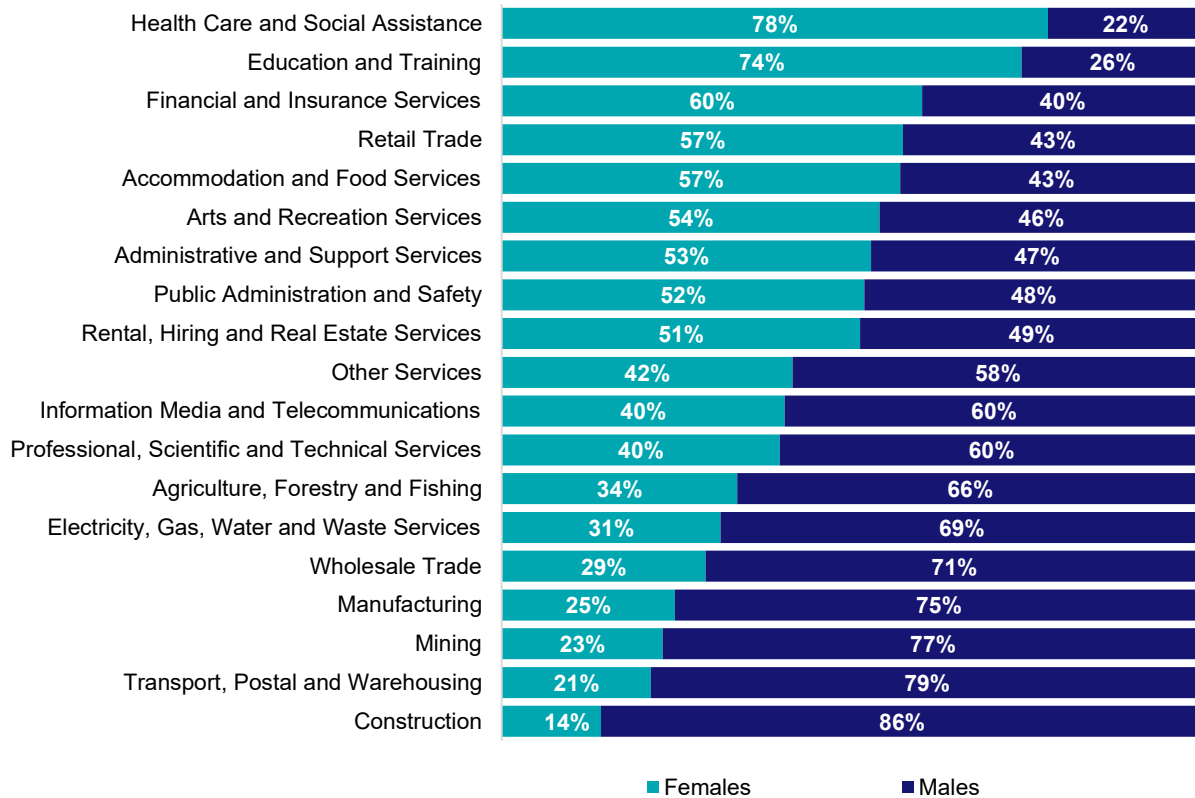
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

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



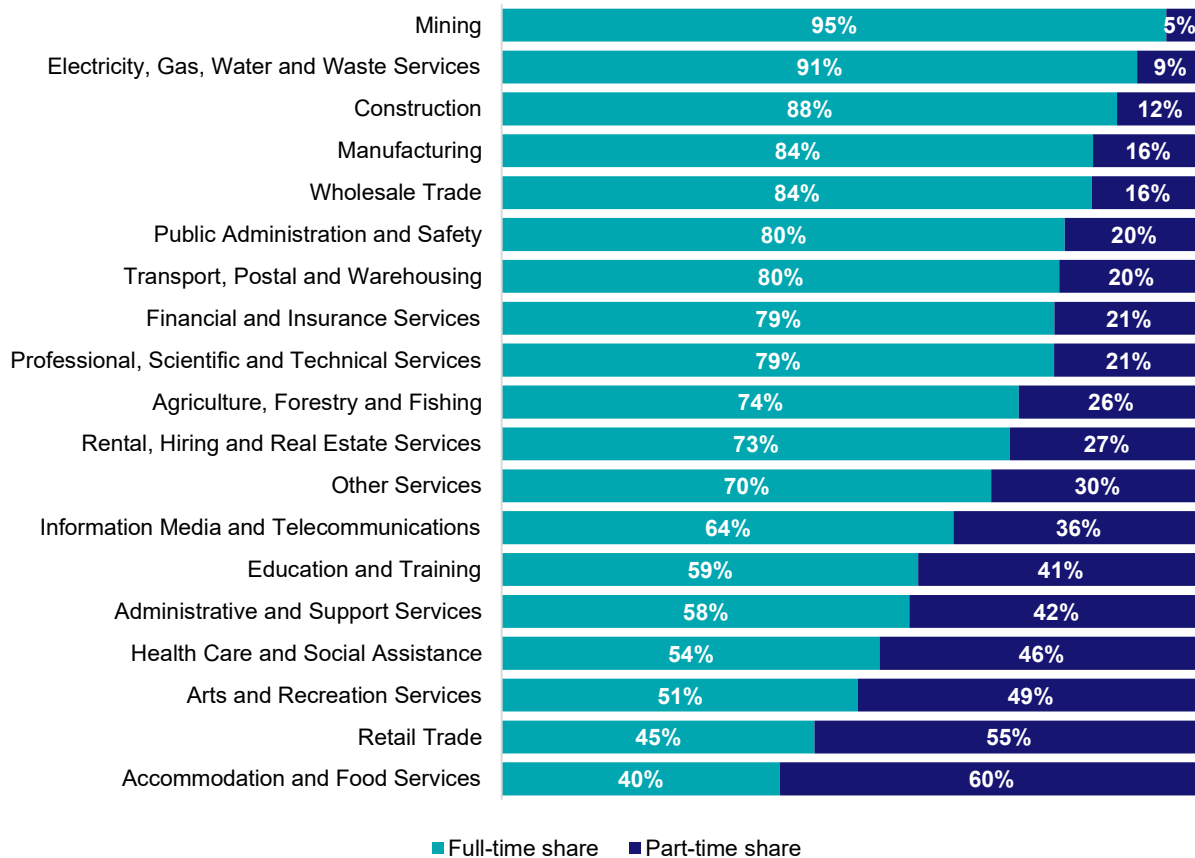
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.

Gender share by industry



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

Industry (in order of size)	Share of emp't Feb-26 (%)	Share of emp't in Greater Perth (%)	Share of emp't in Rest of WA (%)	Employed ('000)			1 year change		5 year change		Median age *
				Feb-26	Feb-25	Feb-21	('000)	%	('000)	%	
Health Care and Social Assistance	14.4	85.9	14.1	238.2	242.0	172.2	-3.8	-1.6	66.0	38.3	42
Construction	9.4	82.8	17.2	155.8	153.1	126.1	2.6	1.7	29.7	23.5	40
Mining	9.2	75.8	24.2	152.3	152.5	124.5	-0.2	-0.1	27.8	22.4	41
Retail Trade	9.0	80.0	20.0	148.3	138.7	119.3	9.6	6.9	29.0	24.3	33
Education and Training	8.1	80.6	19.4	134.9	136.7	110.3	-1.8	-1.3	24.5	22.2	45
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8.0	93.8	6.2	132.1	132.5	109.8	-0.4	-0.3	22.3	20.4	41
Accommodation and Food Services	6.4	79.2	20.8	105.8	102.2	85.1	3.5	3.5	20.7	24.3	26
Public Administration and Safety	6.1	82.2	17.8	100.9	95.6	92.8	5.3	5.5	8.1	8.8	44
Manufacturing	5.3	80.4	19.6	87.8	79.1	77.5	8.7	10.9	10.3	13.3	42
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	4.7	81.5	18.5	78.3	83.5	63.2	-5.2	-6.2	15.1	23.8	45
Other Services	3.8	82.4	17.6	62.9	63.2	56.9	-0.3	-0.4	6.0	10.5	39
Administrative and Support Services	3.2	83.0	17.0	52.2	50.0	41.9	2.2	4.3	10.3	24.5	41
Wholesale Trade	2.3	79.1	20.9	37.4	42.2	40.0	-4.8	-11.4	-2.6	-6.5	43
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2.3	21.8	78.2	37.3	31.6	37.0	5.7	17.9	0.3	0.9	48
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	2.1	76.9	23.1	34.5	24.1	22.8	10.4	43.1	11.7	51.0	43
Financial and Insurance Services	1.7	91.8	8.2	28.6	32.5	29.8	-3.9	-12.0	-1.2	-4.1	42
Arts and Recreation Services	1.7	90.4	9.6	28.5	28.2	21.9	0.2	0.9	6.5	29.8	35
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	1.6	84.2	15.8	26.4	21.6	26.0	4.8	22.4	0.4	1.7	44
Information Media and Telecommunications	0.9	91.8	8.2	14.2	14.1	13.3	0.2	1.1	1.0	7.4	39
All Industries	100.0	81.4	18.6	1656.3	1623.5	1370.3	32.8	2.0	286.0	20.9	41

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey, Detailed, February 2026, four quarter averages. *Median age is from the ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021.