

Labour Market Dashboard New South Wales

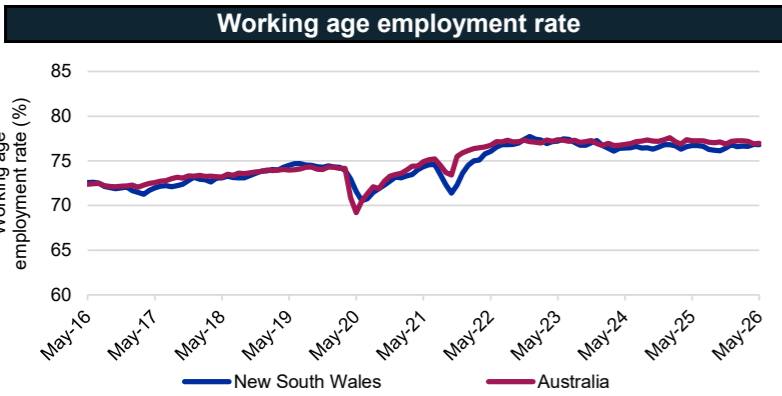
Data current as at 25 June 2026

Refer to source notes for data reference periods

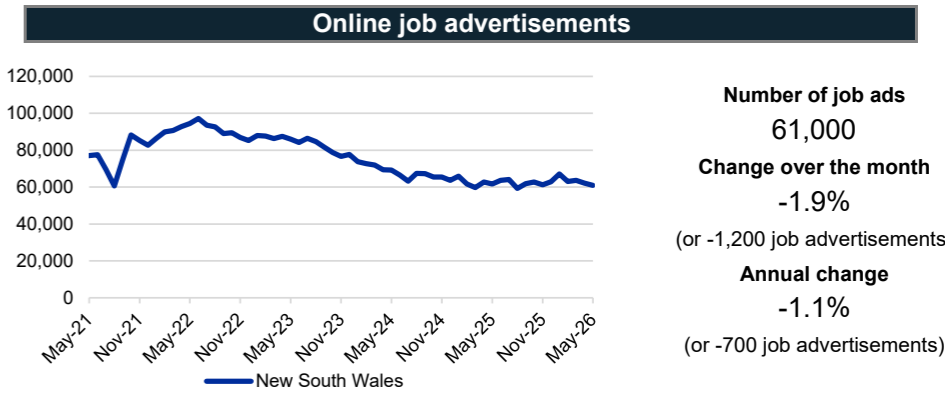
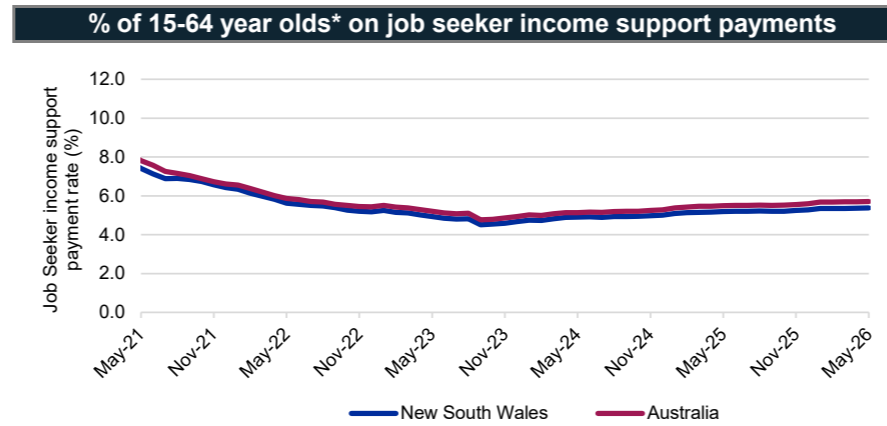
Labour market summary table											
	Working Age Employment Rate		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working Age Participation Rate		Youth unemployment rate	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Australia seasonally adjusted and MLF1 (modelled estimates) data 3MA (month average), May-26 with the exception of the youth unemployment rate which are 12MA of MLF1 estimates

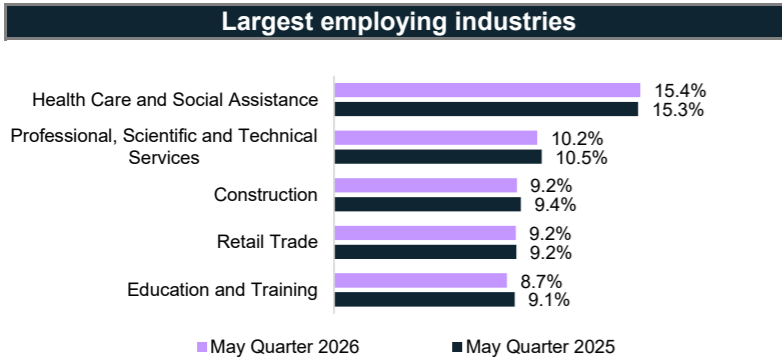
This Labour Market Dashboard provides a summary of the key indicators for the New South Wales labour market. Dashboards for Australia and Employment Regions are also available.



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted & MLF1 data (3MA), May -26



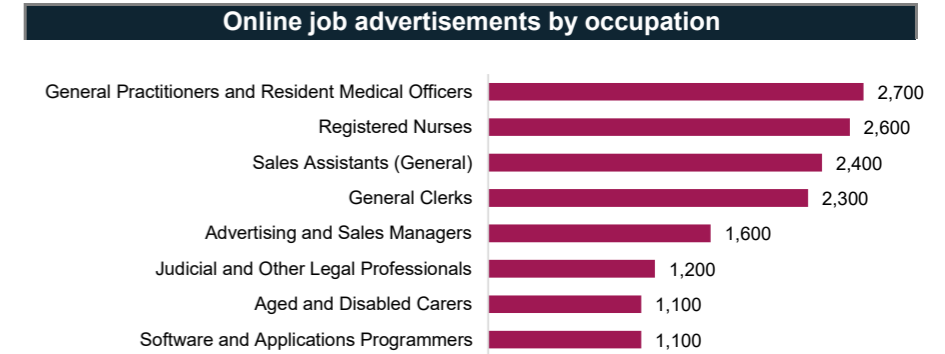
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May-26



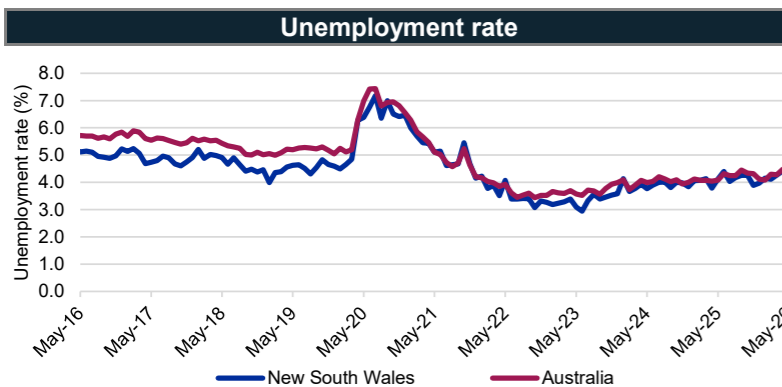
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, May-26 quarter

Change in job seeker income support payments

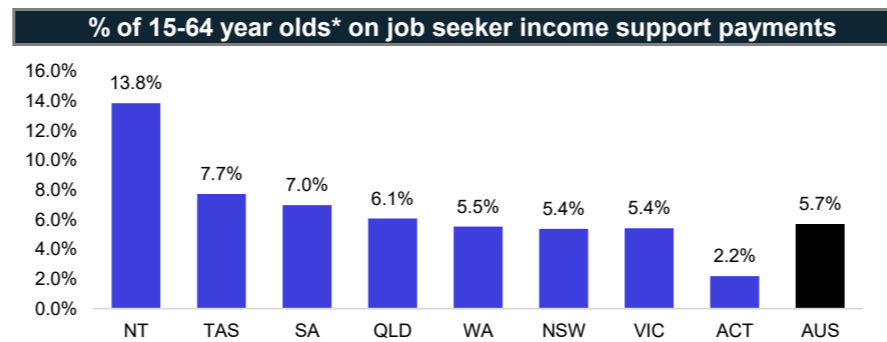
	New South Wales	Australia
Payments - May 2025	280,020	982,870
Payments - May 2026	292,480	1,033,665
Change (May 2025 to May 2026)	↑ 12,460	↑ 50,795
Change % (May 2025 to May 2026)	↑ 4.4%	↑ 5.2%



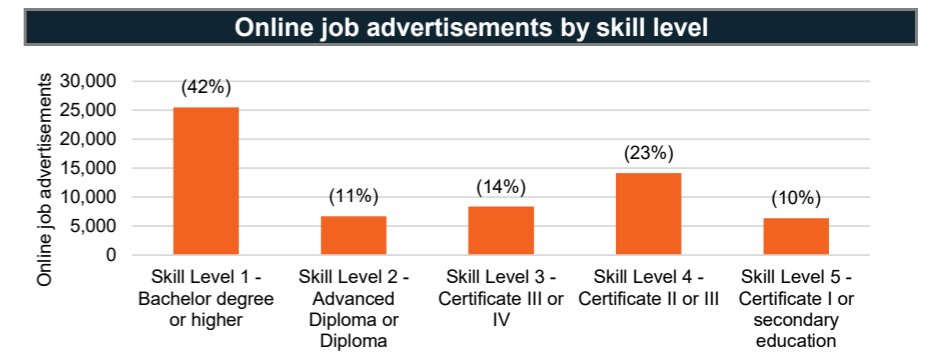
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May-26



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



Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, data.gov.au, May -26; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, May -26



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

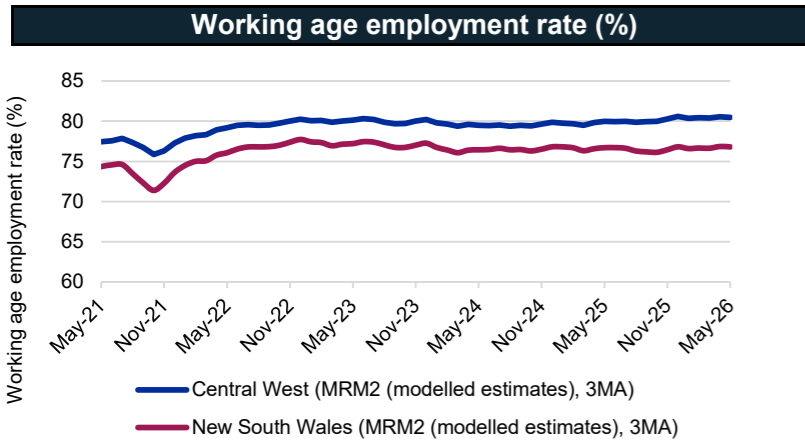
Notes: Data in the labour market summary table are seasonally adjusted data and MLF1 data (3MA) with the exception of the youth unemployment rate which are 12MA of MLF1 estimates *Job seeker payments include those who are in receipt of either JobSeeker (aged 22 and over but under the Age Pension qualifying 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. 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.

Refer to source notes for data reference periods

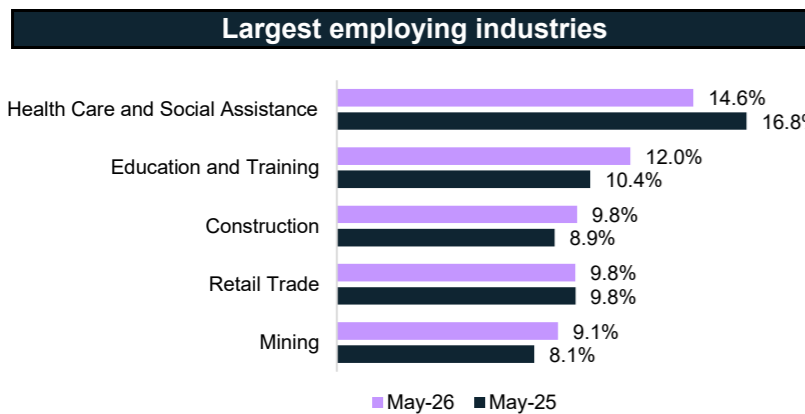
This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Central West	80.5	80.0	4.6	4.0	14.8	3.8	3.3	83.9	83.0	8.4	7.8
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

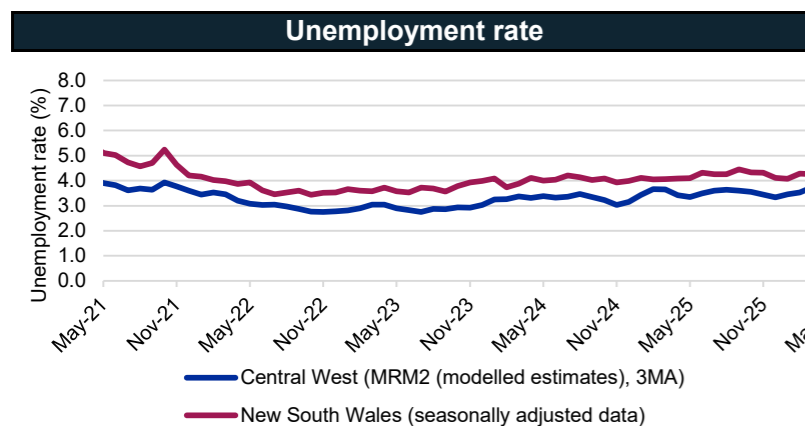
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



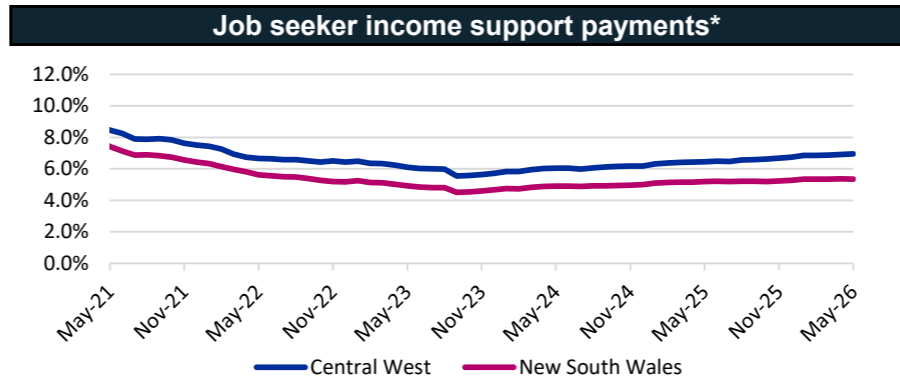
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



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



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Central West	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	8,390	280,020
Payments - May 2026	8,985	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 595	↑ 11,495
	↑ 7.1%	↑ 4.1%

% 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	8,985	6.9%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

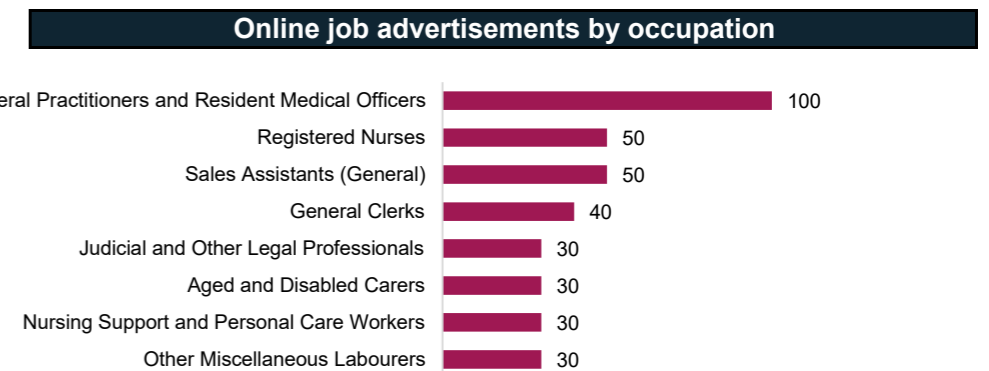
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Lithgow	4.9	3.4
Cowra	4.9	4.0
Lachlan	4.7	3.6
Parkes	4.5	3.2
Forbes	3.4	2.4

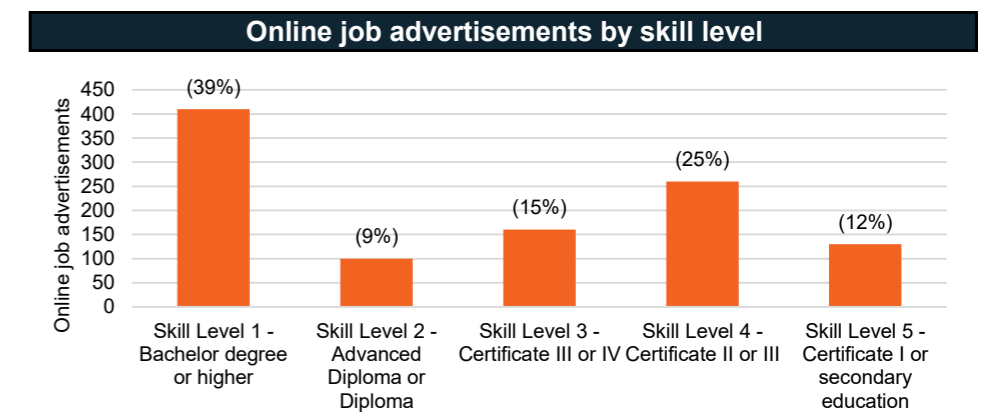
For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, March-26 quarter



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



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



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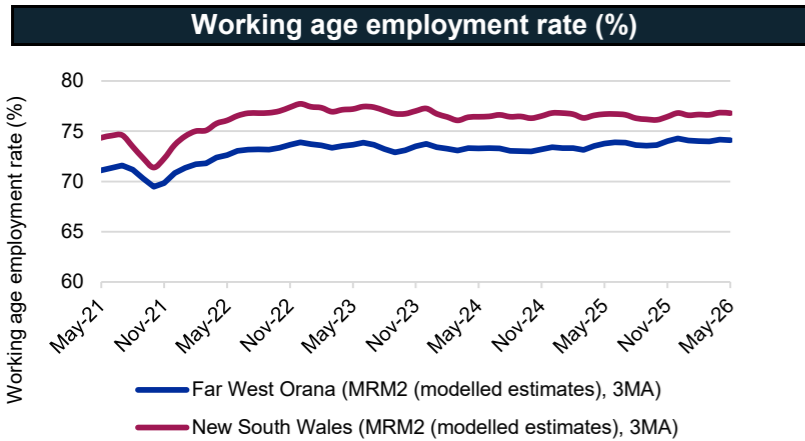
Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Central West SA4. The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) and income support data are apportioned to Employment Regions using an SA2 based concordance. *Job seeker payments include those who are in receipt of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

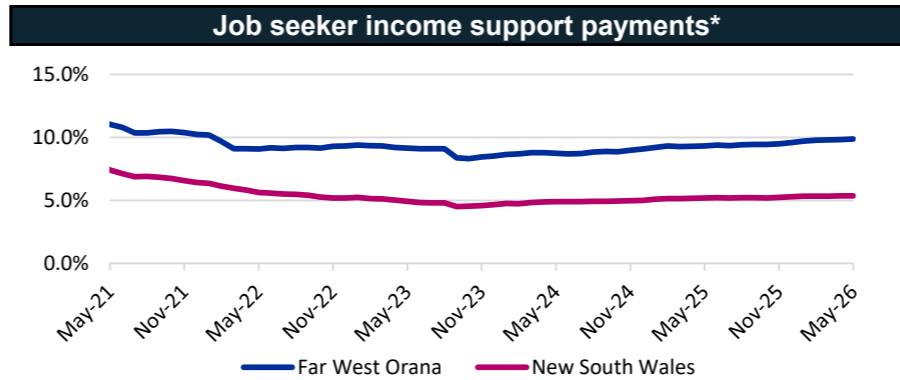
Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Far West Orana	74.1	73.8	2.4	2.2	8.9	4.2	3.8	77.6	76.9	10.3	9.9
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

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



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Far West Orana	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	6,419	280,020
Payments - May 2026	6,669	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 250	↑ 11,495
	↑ 3.9%	↑ 4.1%

% 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	6,669	9.9%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

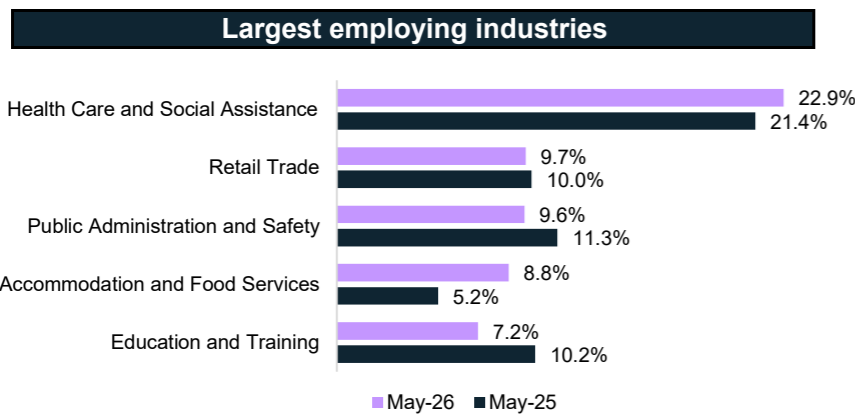
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Walgett	7.1	10.2
Coonamble	4.2	5.7
Broken Hill	3.1	4.7
Warrumbungle	3.0	3.8
Warren	2.8	4.0

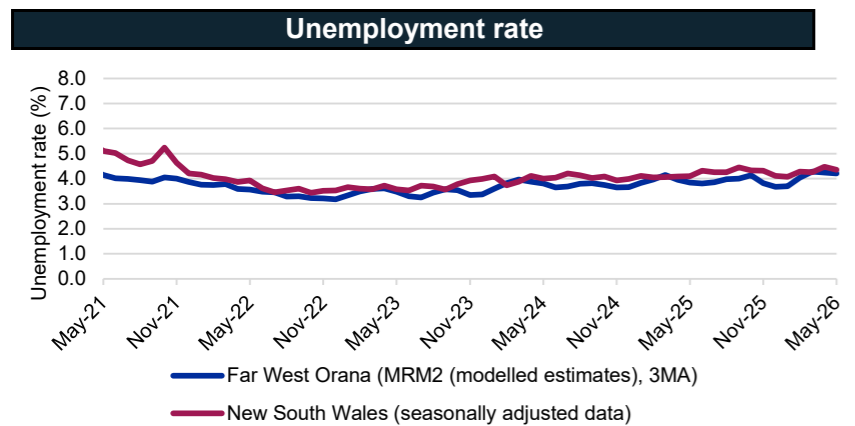
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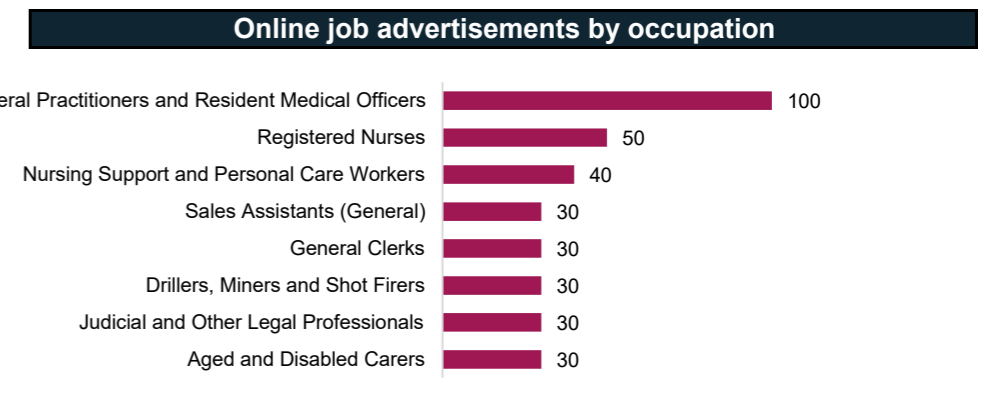
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 2026



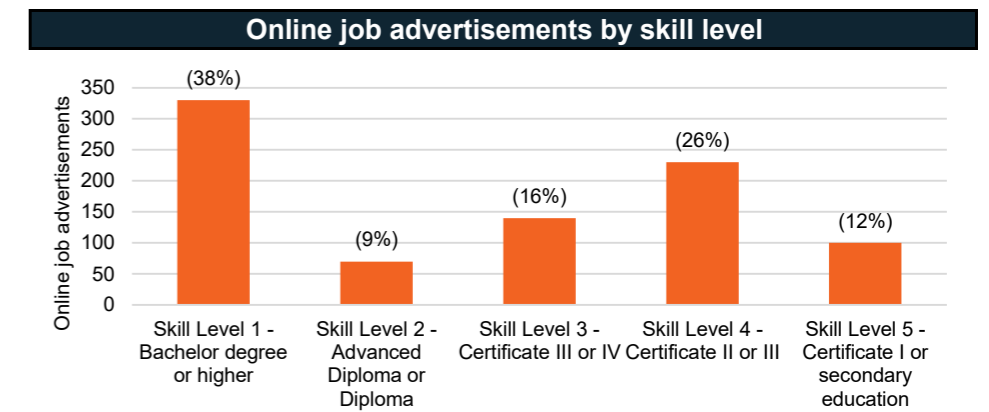
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter#



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026



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



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

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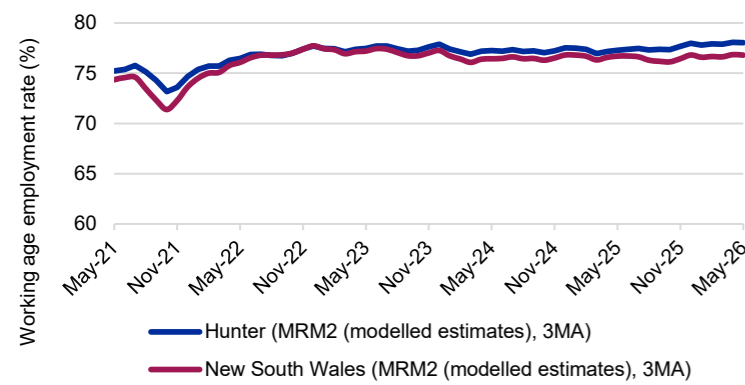
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This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Hunter	78.0	77.3	18.1	16.5	9.6	4.7	4.3	82.0	80.9	10.4	9.7
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

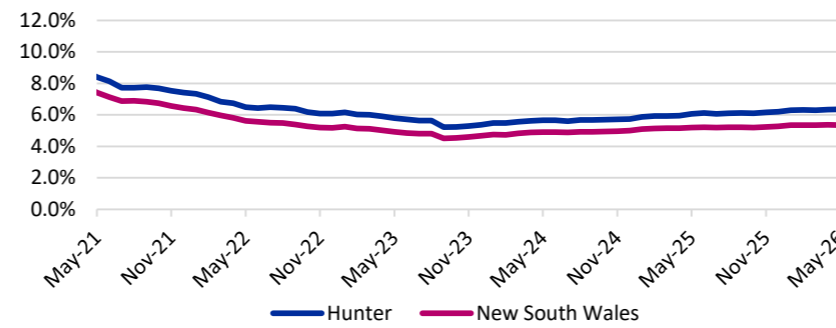
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

Working age employment rate (%)



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026

Job seeker income support payments*



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Hunter	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	27,155	280,020
Payments - May 2026	28,735	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 1,580	↑ 11,495
	↑ 5.8%	↑ 4.1%

% 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	28,735	6.4%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

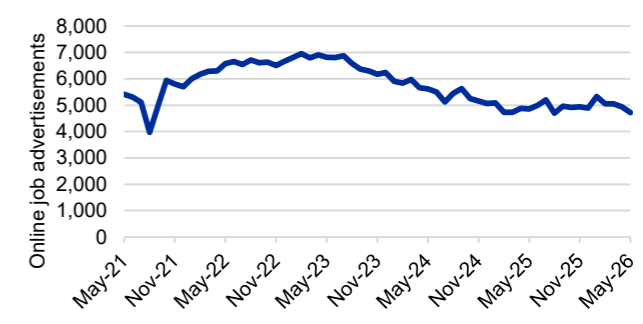
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Muswellbrook	5.5	6.8
Cessnock	4.9	5.6
Newcastle	4.7	3.1
Lake Macquarie	4.5	2.8
Port Stephens	4.2	4.8

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, March-26 quarter

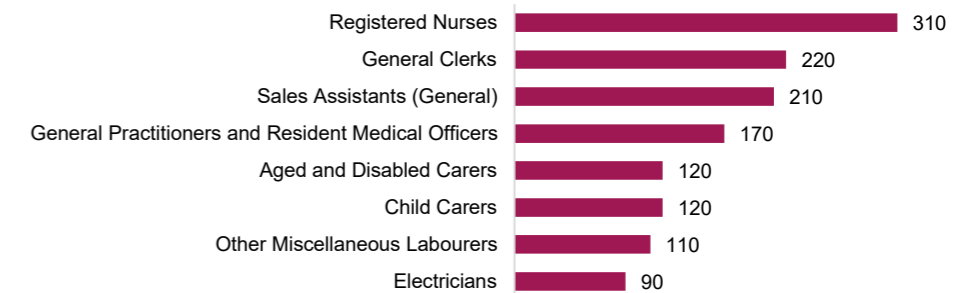
Online job advertisements



Number of job ads: 4,700
Change over the month: -4.5% (-200 job advertisements)
Annual change: -2.9% (-200 job advertisements)

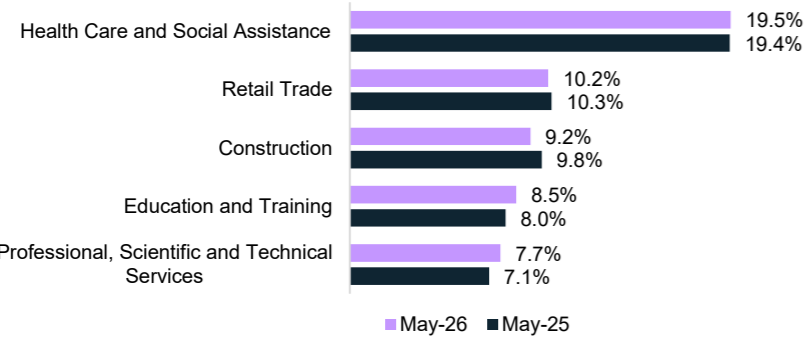
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 2026

Online job advertisements by occupation



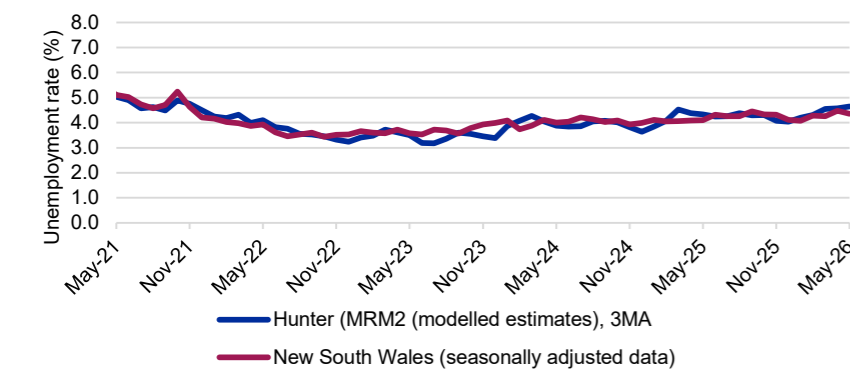
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, May 2026

Largest employing industries



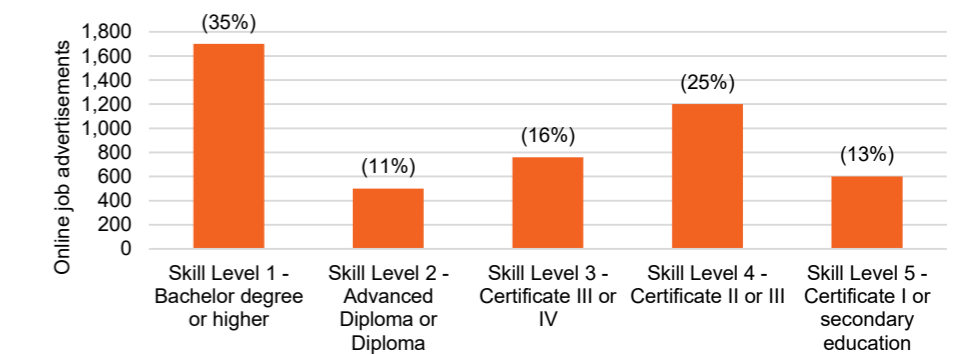
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter#

Unemployment rate



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026

Online job advertisements by skill level



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

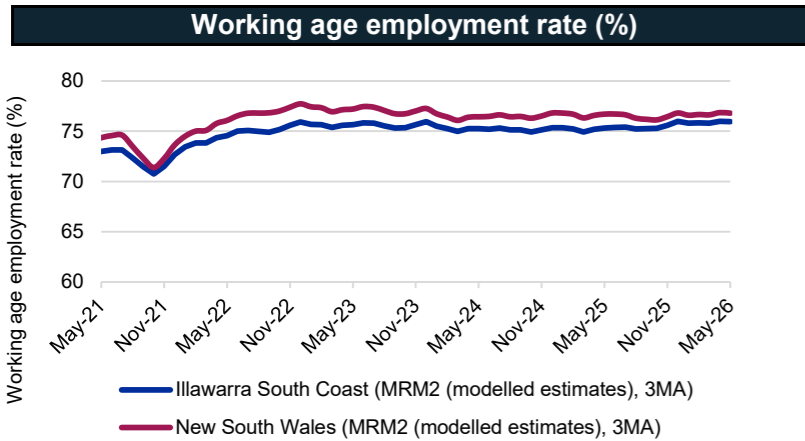
Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Hunter Valley exc Newcastle; and Newcastle and Lake Macquarie SA4. The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) and income support data are apportioned to Employment Regions using an SA2 based concordance. *Job seeker 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

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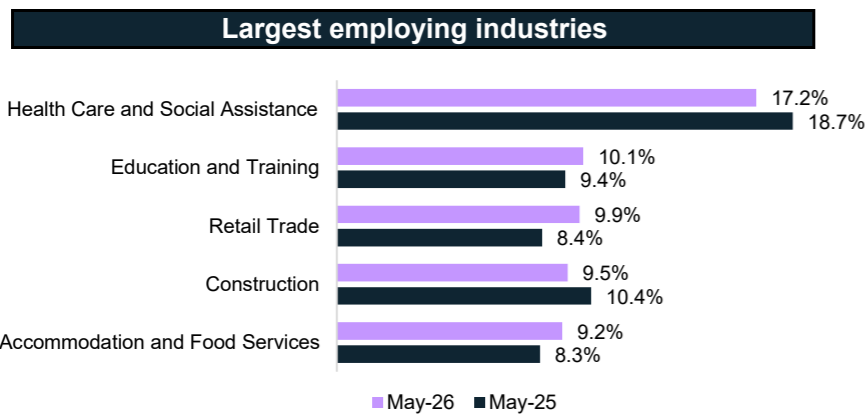
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Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Illawarra South Coast	76.0	75.3	11.6	10.9	6.3	4.6	4.4	79.8	78.9	11.2	10.5
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

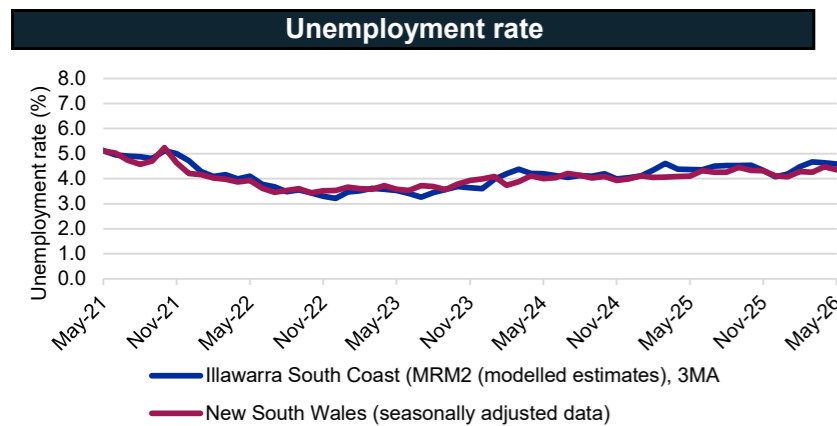
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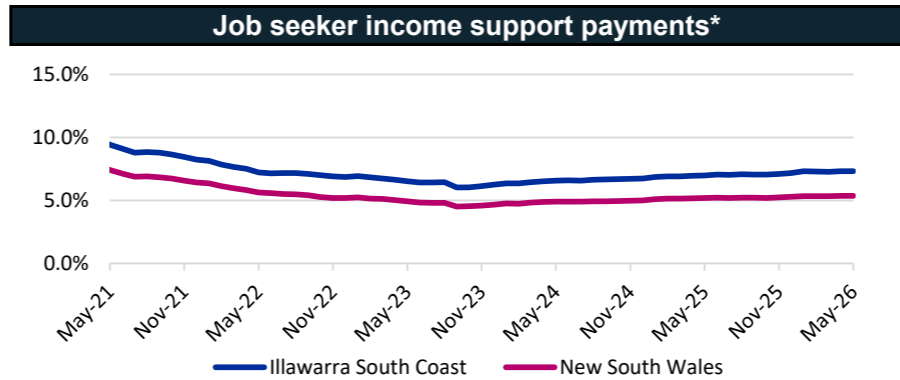
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter[#]



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Illawarra South Coast	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	20,950	280,020
Payments - May 2026	21,950	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 1,000 (4.8%)	↑ 11,495 (4.1%)

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

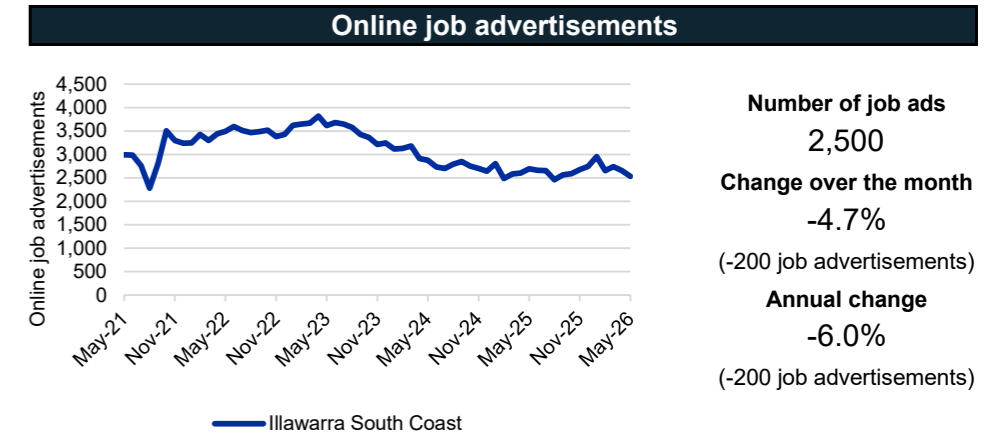
	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Illawarra South Coast	21,950	7.3%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

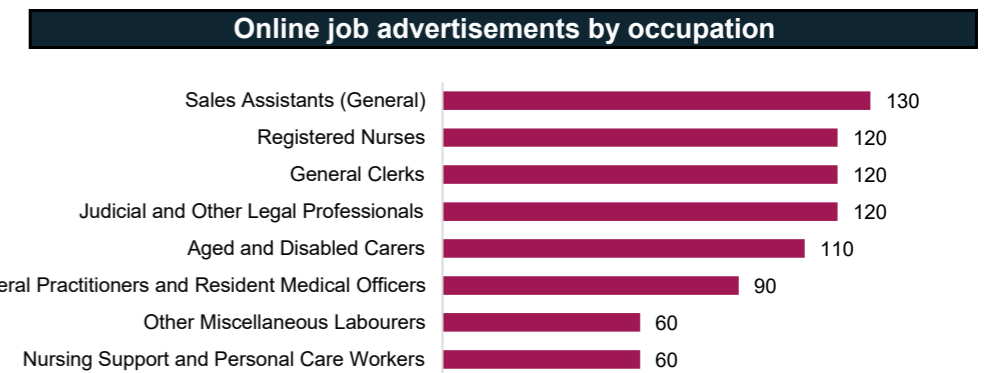
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Shellharbour	6.5	6.4
Wollongong	6.3	6.0
Eurobodalla	4.4	5.0
Shoalhaven	4.3	2.1
Bega Valley	3.5	4.1

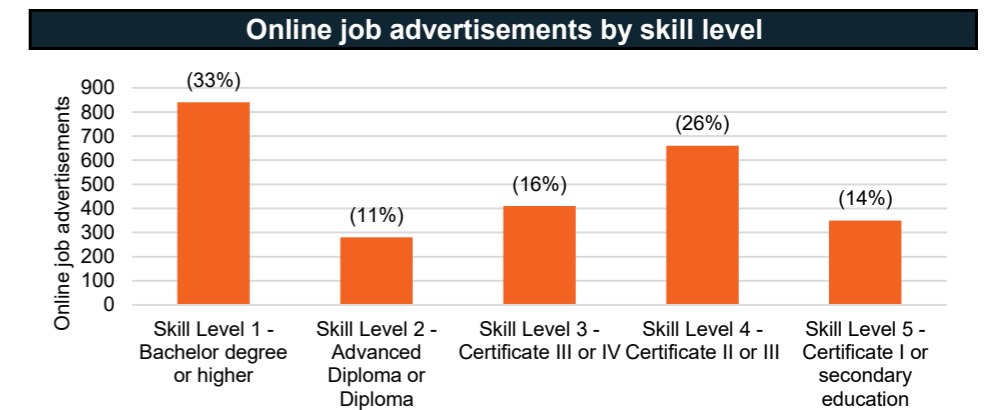
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Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 2026

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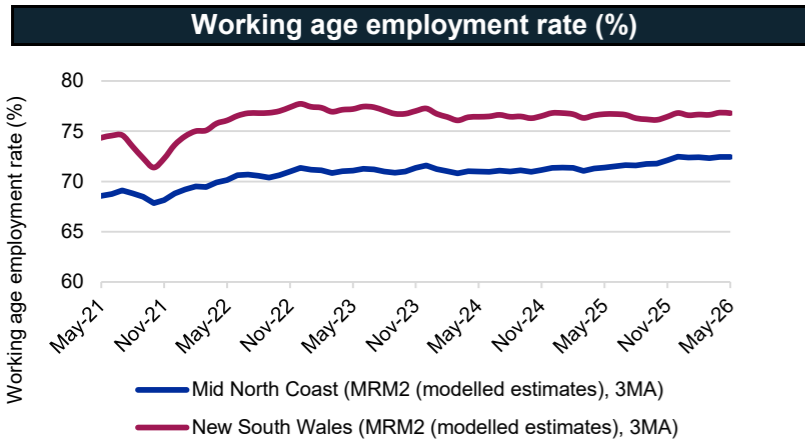
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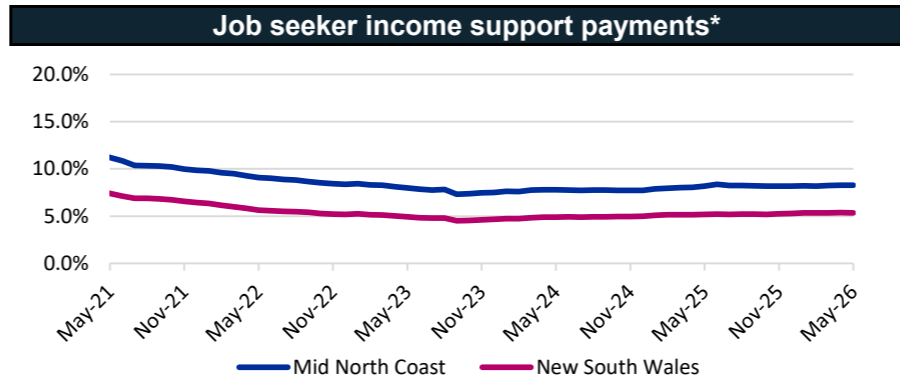
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	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Mid North Coast	72.4	71.4	8.0	7.7	3.4	4.6	4.5	76.1	74.9	10.4	10.0
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Mid North Coast	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	17,375	280,020
Payments - May 2026	17,470	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	95	11,495
	0.5%	4.1%

% 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	17,470	8.3%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

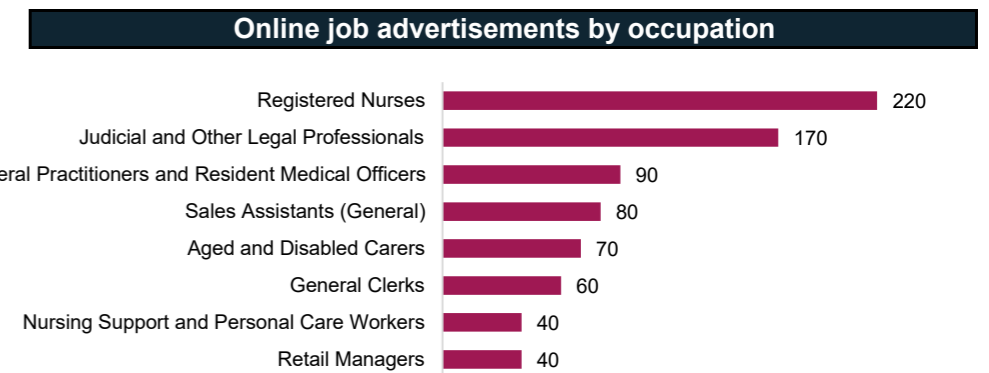
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Kempsey	6.4	5.7
Nambucca Valley	6.2	5.6
Mid-Coast	4.9	4.4
Bellingen	4.6	5.2
Armidale	4.0	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, March-26 quarter



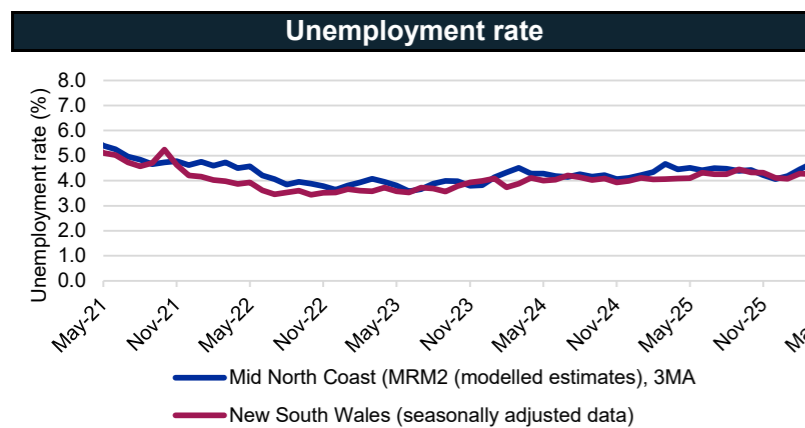
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 2026



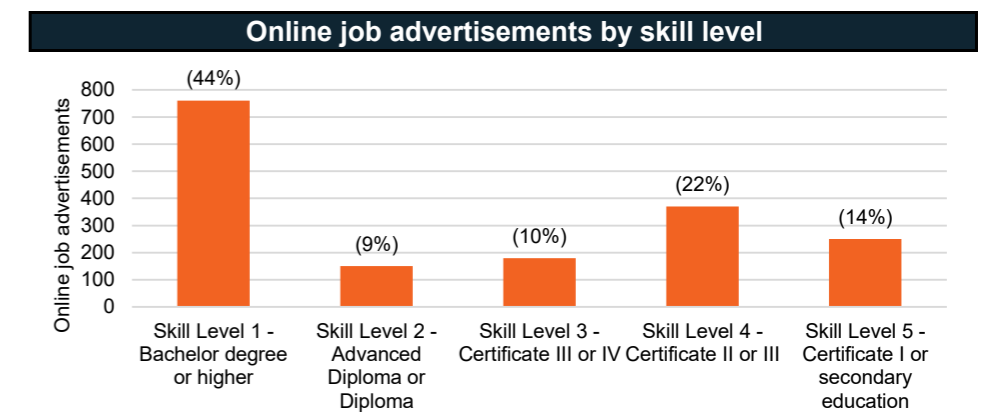
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, May 2026



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



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

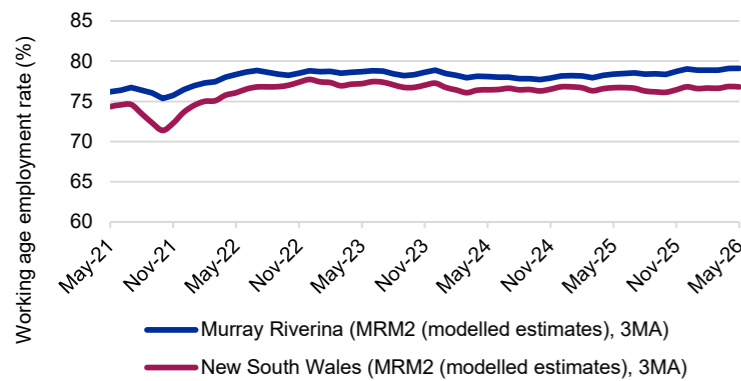
#Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.

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*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Murray Riverina	79.1	78.4	6.2	5.8	6.7	4.0	3.7	82.6	81.7	8.8	8.3
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

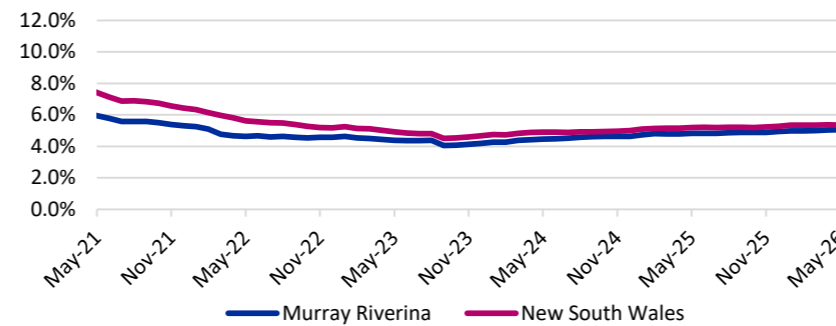
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

Working age employment rate (%)



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026

Job seeker income support payments*



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Murray Riverina	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	8,350	280,020
Payments - May 2026	8,710	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 360	↑ 11,495
	↑ 4.3%	↑ 4.1%

% 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	8,710	5.1%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

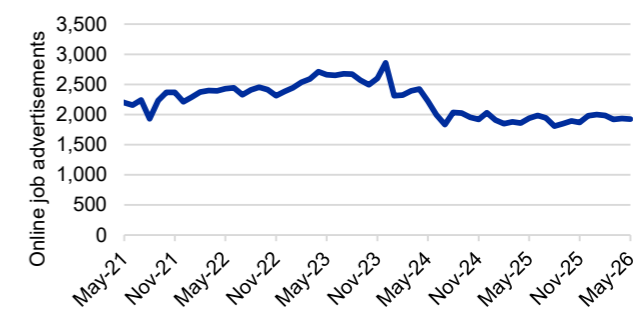
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Narrandera	5.9	6.4
Wentworth	5.8	4.5
Albury	5.6	4.3
Edward River	5.5	4.3
Hay	4.6	3.9

For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, March-26 quarter

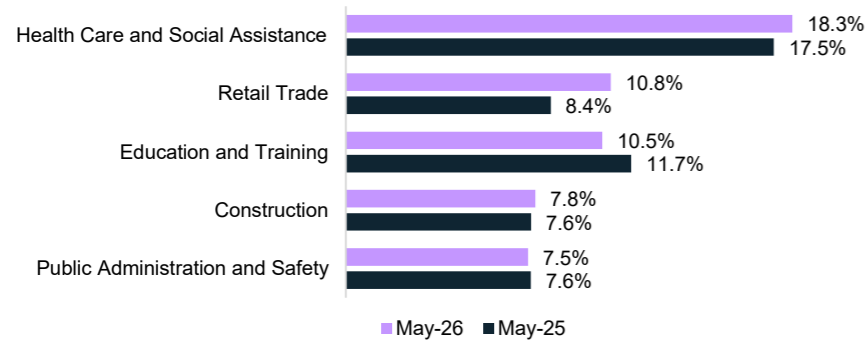
Online job advertisements



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

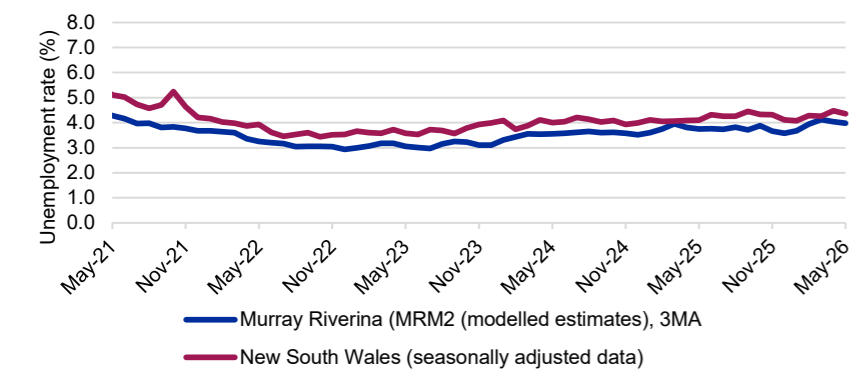
Number of job ads
1,900
Change over the month
-0.6%
(0 job advertisements)
Annual change
-0.8%
(job advertisements)

Largest employing industries



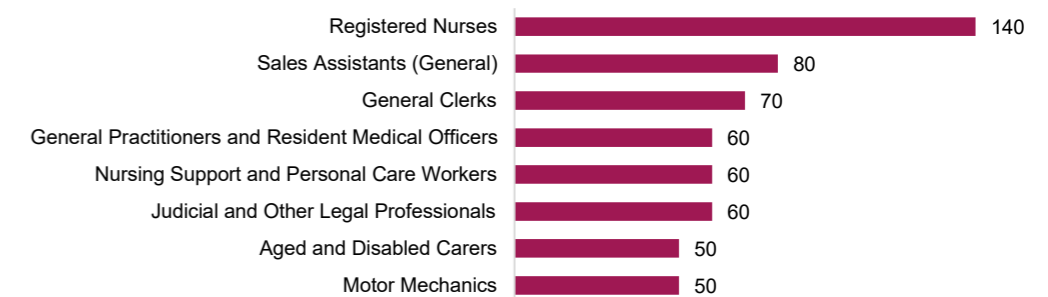
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter#

Unemployment rate



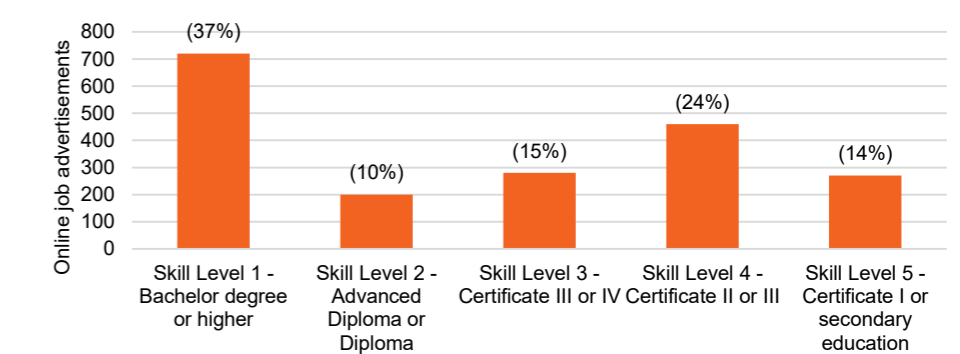
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026

Online job advertisements by occupation



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

Online job advertisements by skill level



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

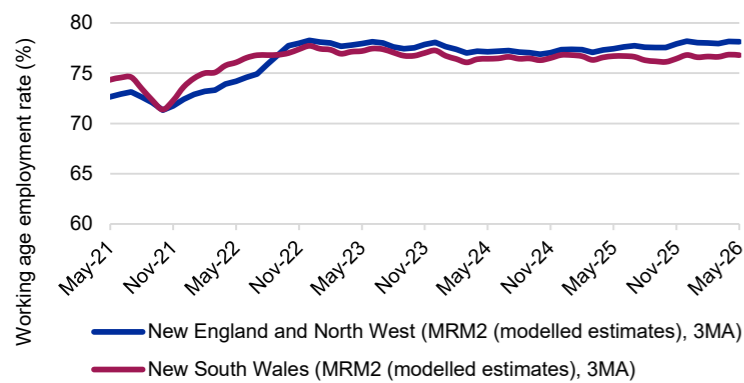
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This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
New England and North West	78.1	77.4	5.0	4.8	2.4	4.8	4.7	82.3	81.5	11.1	10.7
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

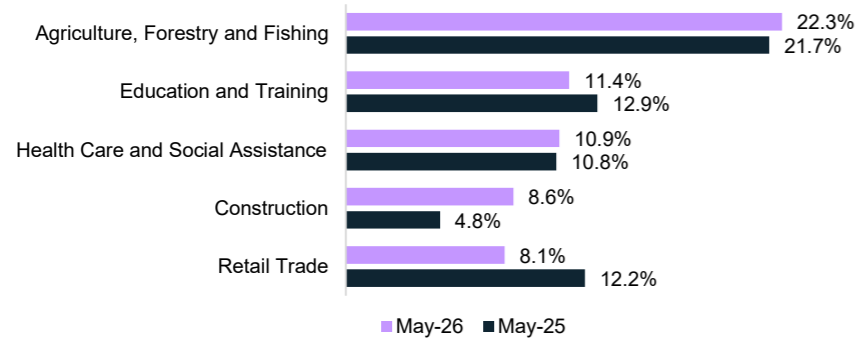
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.

Working age employment rate (%)



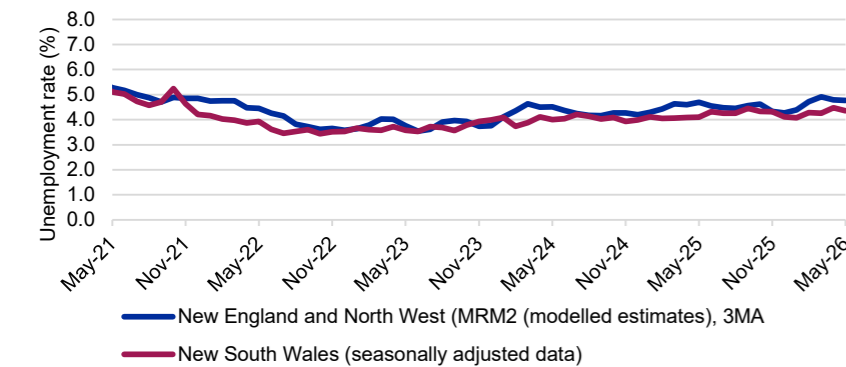
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026

Largest employing industries



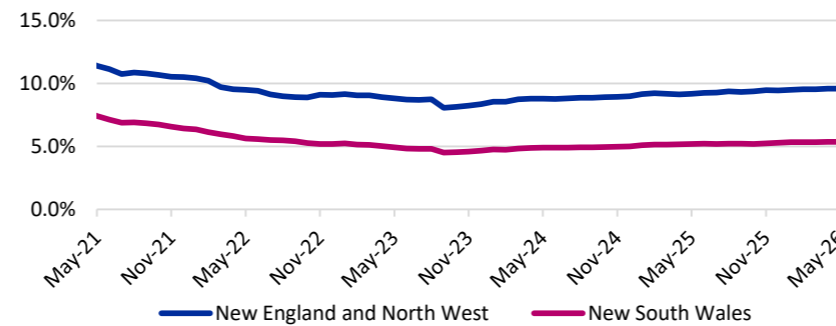
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter[#]

Unemployment rate



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026

Job seeker income support payments*



Change in job seeker income support payments

	New England and North West	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	10,605	280,020
Payments - May 2026	10,980	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 375	↑ 11,495
	↑ 3.5%	↑ 4.1%

% 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	10,980	9.6%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

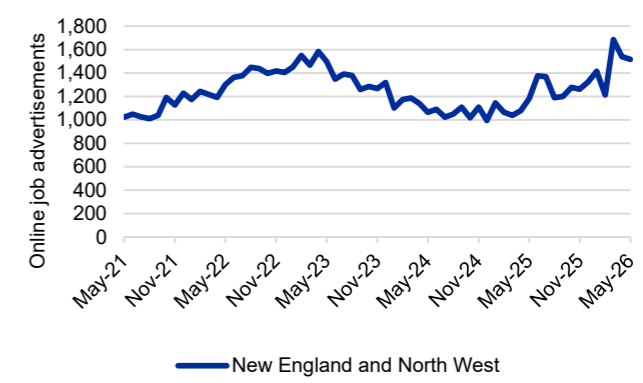
Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Tenterfield	5.7	3.0
Glen Innes Severn	5.2	2.9
Moree Plains	4.6	2.7
Inverell	4.3	2.4
Armidale	4.0	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, March-26 quarter

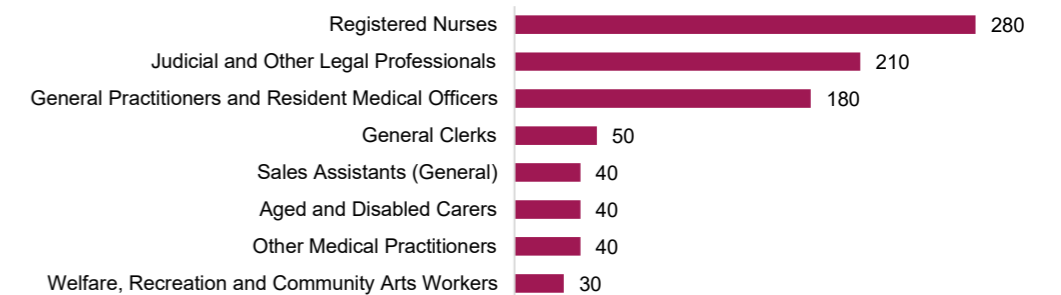
Online job advertisements



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

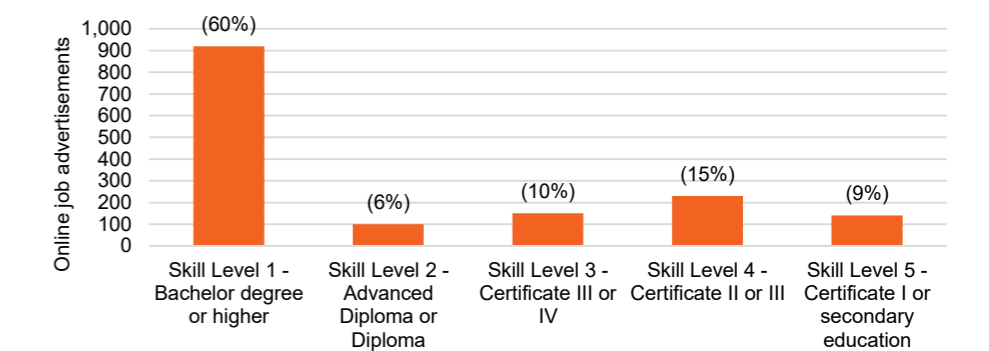
Number of job ads
1,500
Change over the month
-1.6%
(300 job advertisements)
Annual change
28.3%
(job advertisements)

Online job advertisements by occupation



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

Online job advertisements by skill level



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

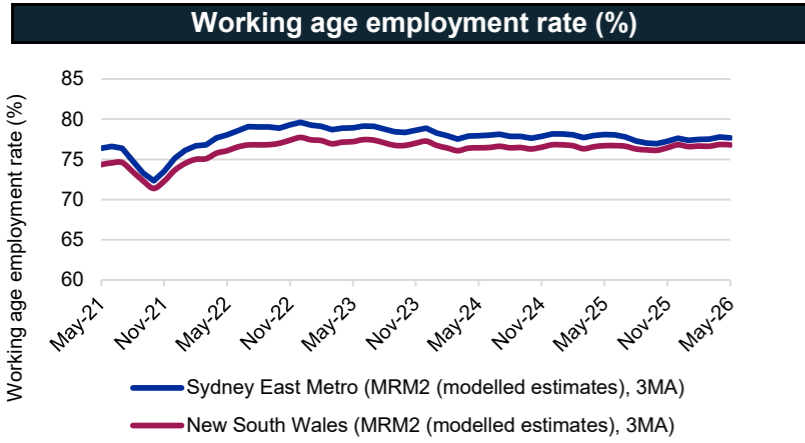
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Refer to source notes for data reference periods

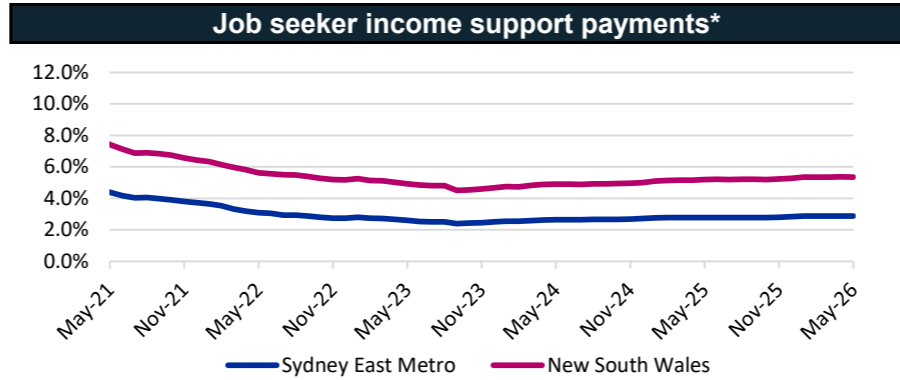
This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Sydney East Metro	77.7	78.1	45.9	41.3	11.0	4.1	3.7	81.1	81.1	8.8	7.8
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Sydney East Metro	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	36,495	280,020
Payments - May 2026	38,020	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 1,525	↑ 11,495
	↑ 4.2%	↑ 4.1%

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

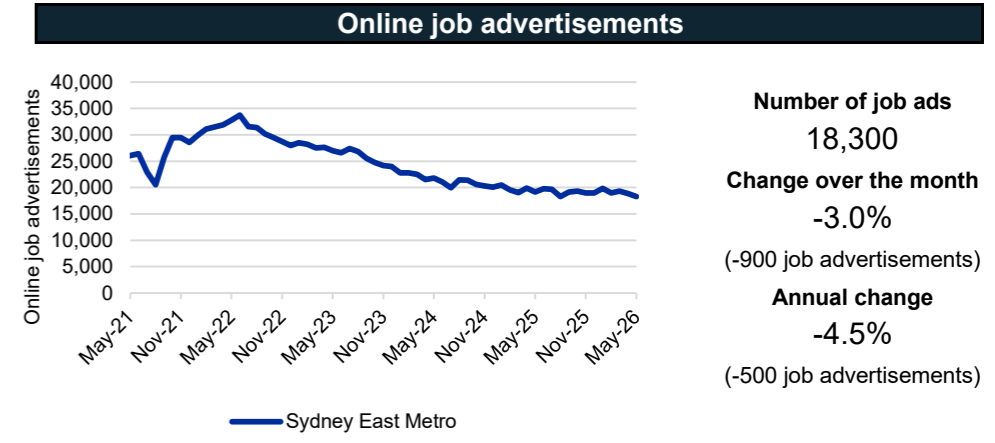
	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Sydney East Metro	38,020	2.9%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Canterbury-Bankstown	6.9	6.3
Inner West	4.8	5.1
Sydney	4.2	4.6
Randwick	4.2	4.4
Burwood	3.7	4.0

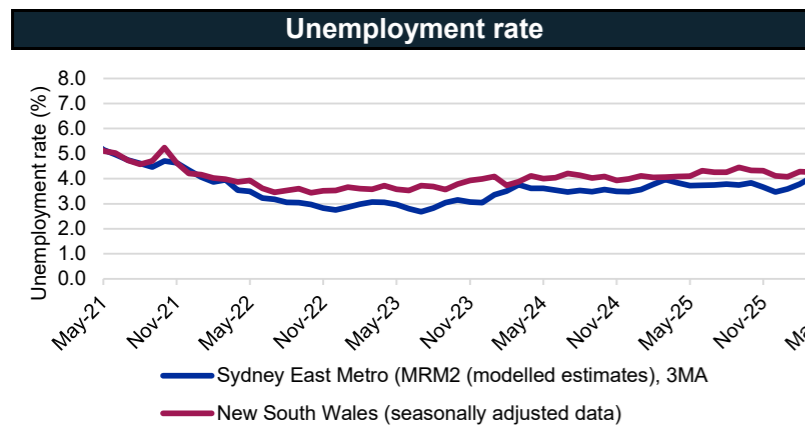
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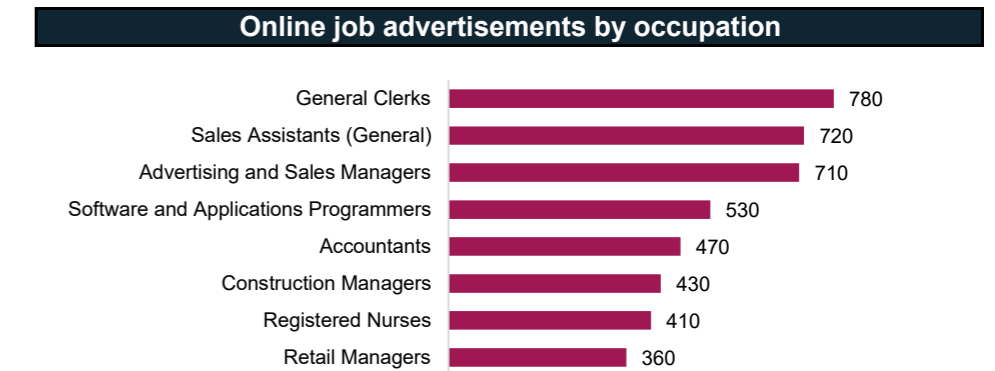
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 2026



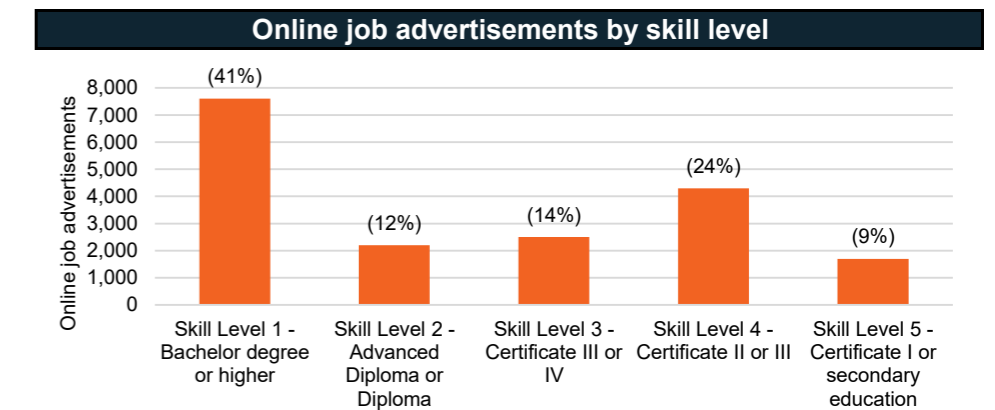
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter#



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026



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



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

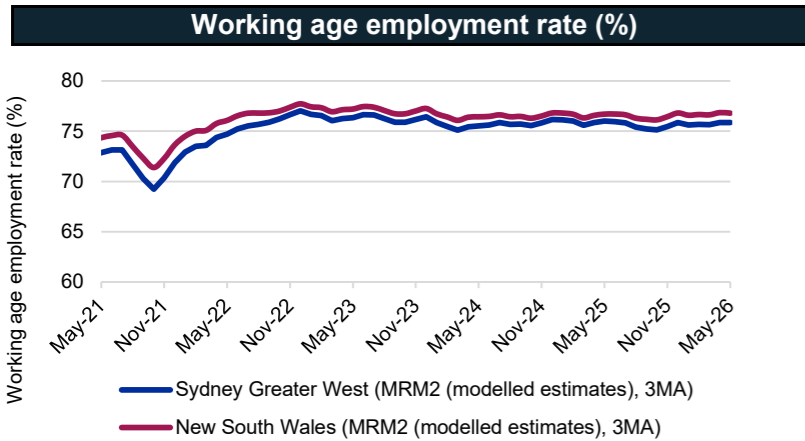
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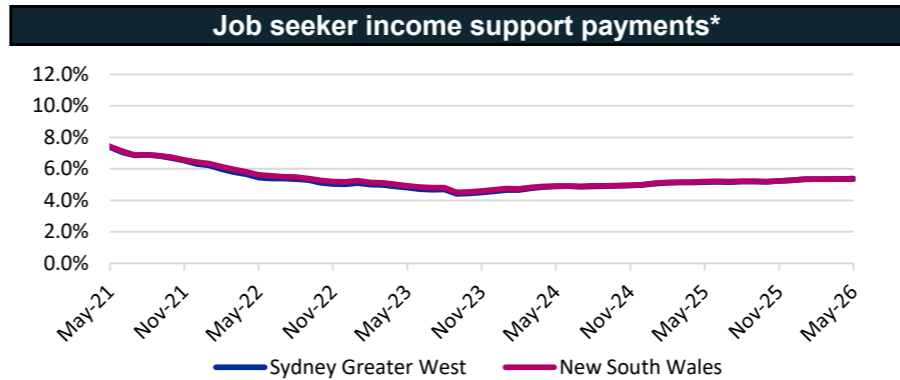
This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Sydney Greater West	75.9	76.0	40.5	35.5	14.0	5.3	4.7	80.2	79.8	11.4	10.0
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Sydney Greater West	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	46,710	280,020
Payments - May 2026	49,595	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 2,885	↑ 11,495
	↑ 6.2%	↑ 4.1%

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

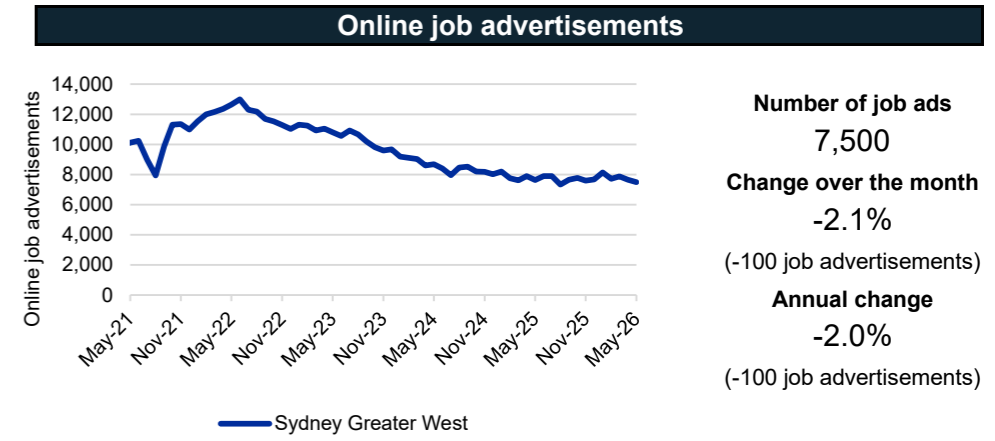
	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Sydney Greater West	49,595	5.4%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

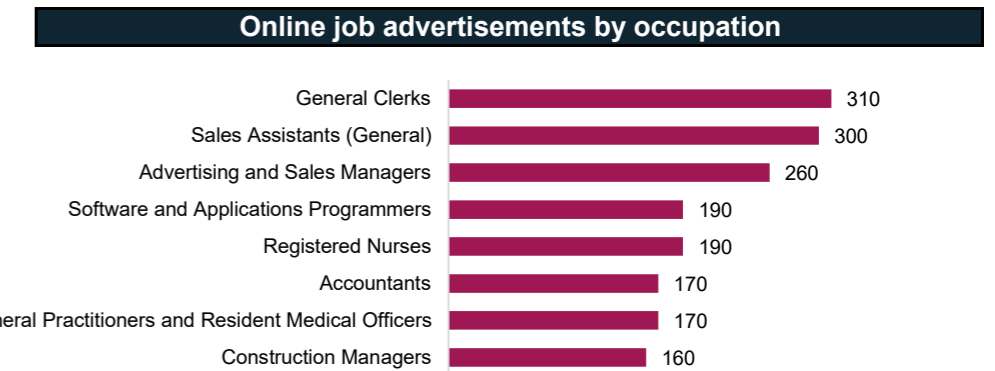
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Fairfield	7.5	7.9
Canterbury-Bankstown	6.9	6.3
Cumberland	6.6	7.1
Blacktown	4.7	5.0
Hawkesbury	4.3	4.2

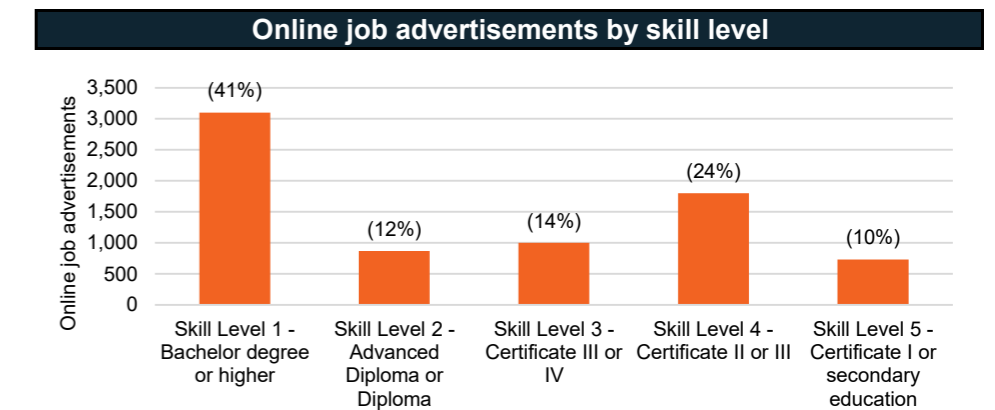
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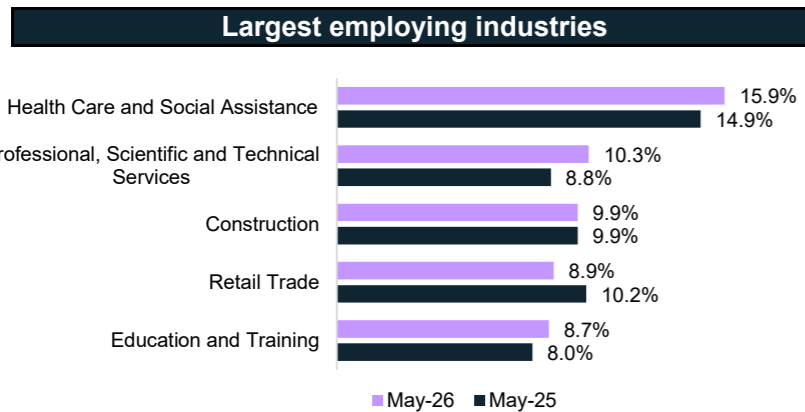
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 2026



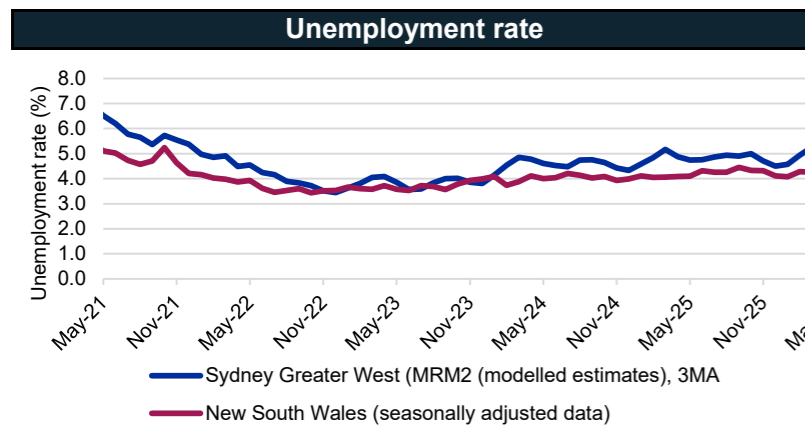
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, May 2026



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



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter[#]



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

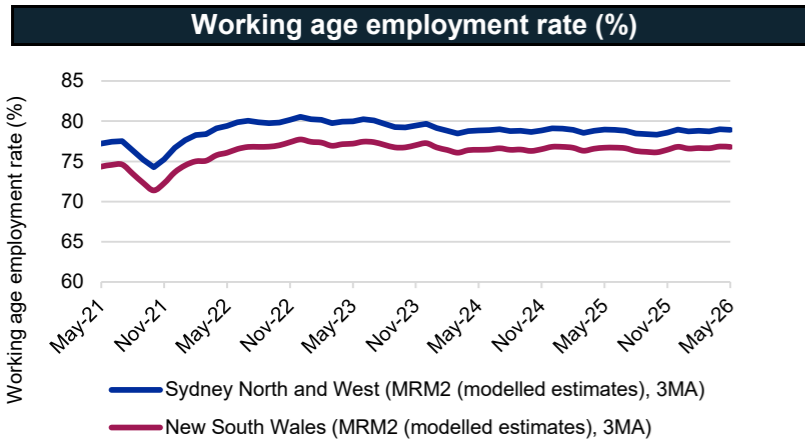
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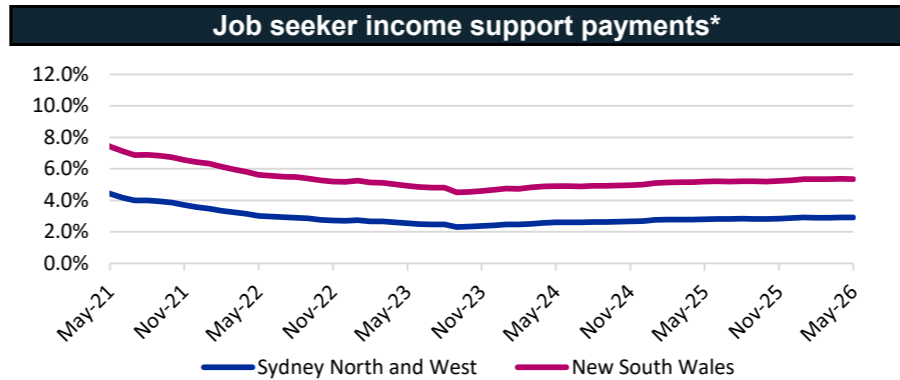
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Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate*		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate*		Youth unemployment rate*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Sydney North and West	78.9	78.9	34.4	31.7	8.5	3.8	3.6	82.2	81.9	9.0	8.1
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Sydney North and West	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	28,645	280,020
Payments - May 2026	30,080	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 1,435	↑ 11,495
	↑ 5.0%	↑ 4.1%

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

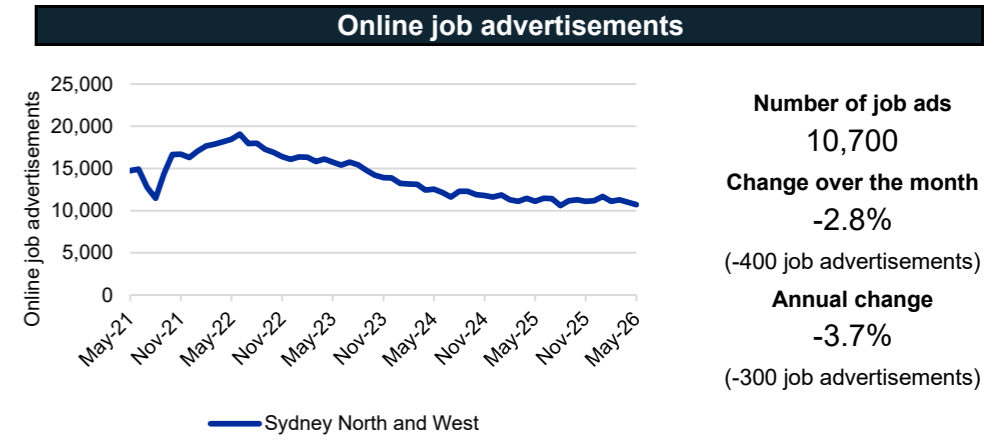
	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Sydney North and West	30,080	2.9%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

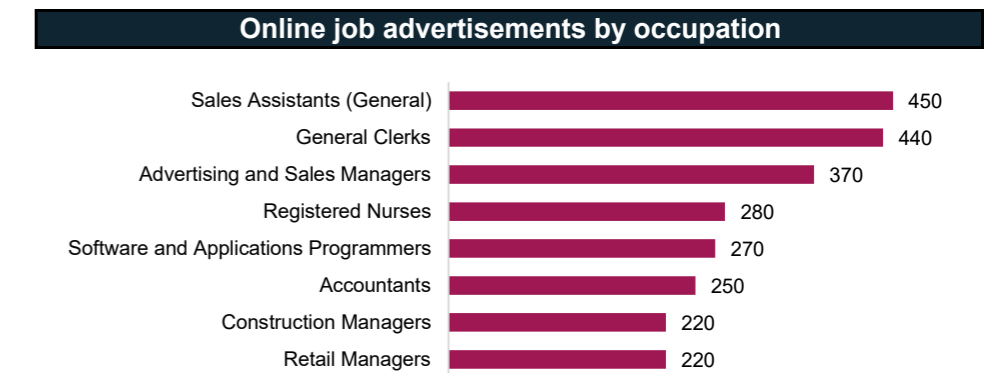
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Hawkesbury	4.3	4.2
Hornsby	4.1	5.1
Northern Beaches	3.8	2.8
Central Coast (NSW)	3.7	3.5
Willoughby	3.7	4.7

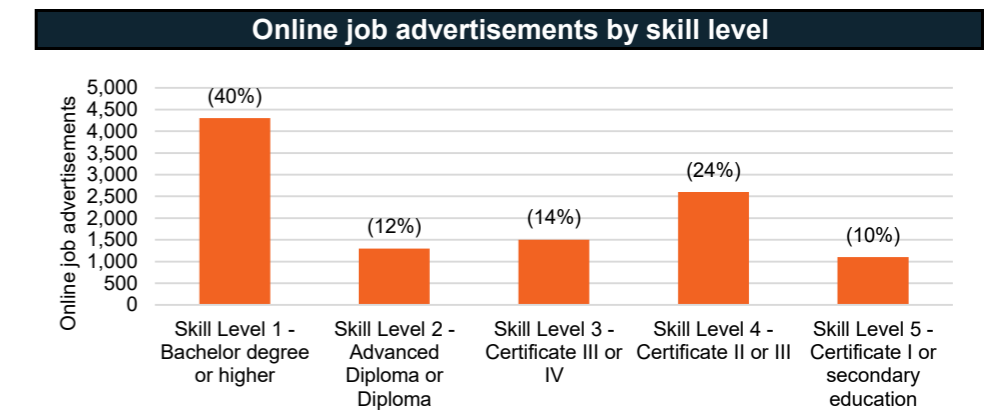
For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, March-26 quarter



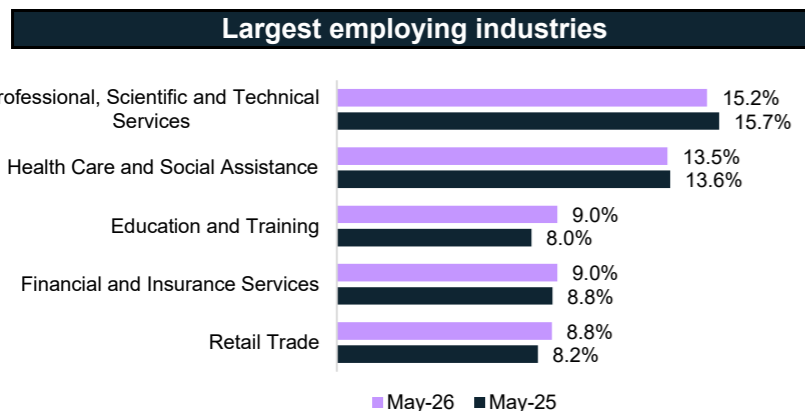
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 2026



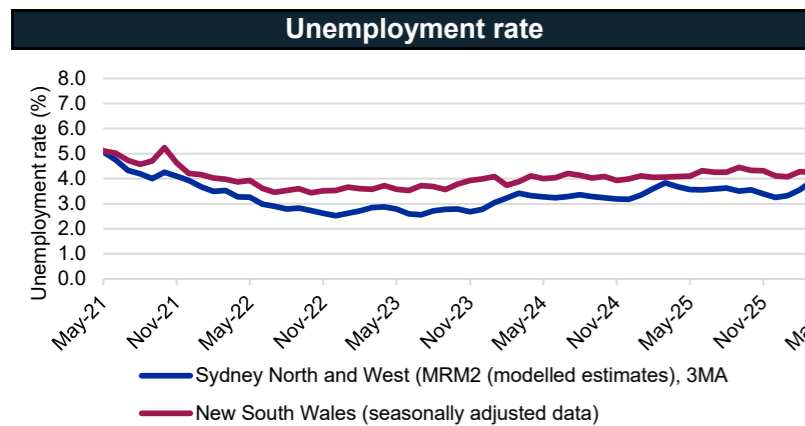
Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3MA of original data, May 2026



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



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter[#]



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

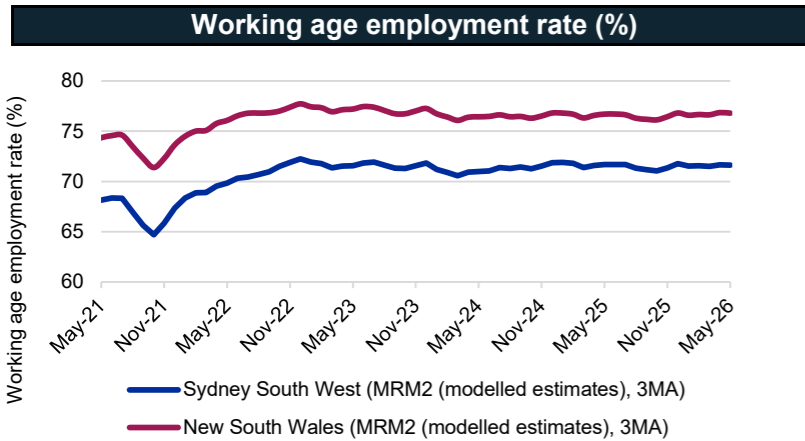
[#]Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.

Refer to source notes for data reference periods

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*	
	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 ('000)	May-25 ('000)	Change (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)	May-26 (%)	May-25 (%)
Sydney South West	71.6	71.7	25.1	23.2	8.2	5.6	5.3	76.0	75.7	11.7	10.5
New South Wales	76.8	76.7	203.2	192.7	5.4	4.3	4.1	80.5	80.1	10.0	9.1
Australia	77.0	77.2	671.3	621.0	8.1	4.4	4.1	80.6	80.6	10.4	9.5

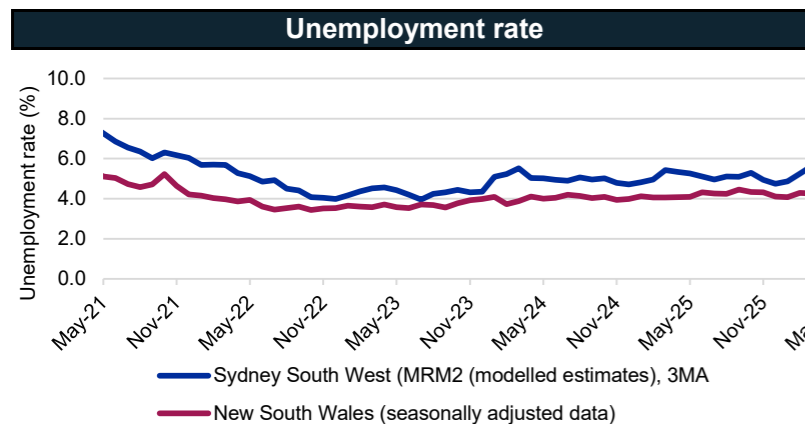
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA (month average) of estimates, May 2026, with the exception of youth unemployment rate which uses MLF1 12MA and seasonally adjusted data.



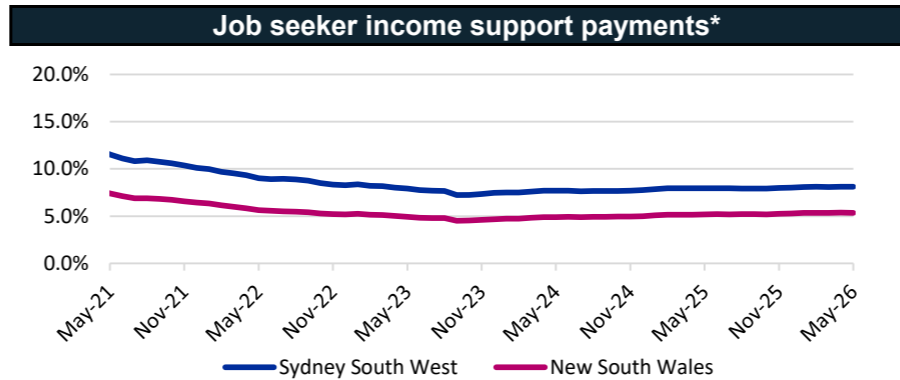
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (modelled estimates), 3MA, May 2026



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, May-26 quarter[#]



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted and trend data & MLF1 (3MA), May 2026



Change in job seeker income support payments

	Sydney South West	New South Wales
Payments - May 2025	44,425	280,020
Payments - May 2026	46,205	291,515
Change from May 2025 to May 2026	↑ 1,780	↑ 11,495
	↑ 4.0%	↑ 4.1%

% 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	46,205	8.1%
New South Wales	291,515	5.4%
Australia	1,029,535	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, May 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, 3MA, May 2026

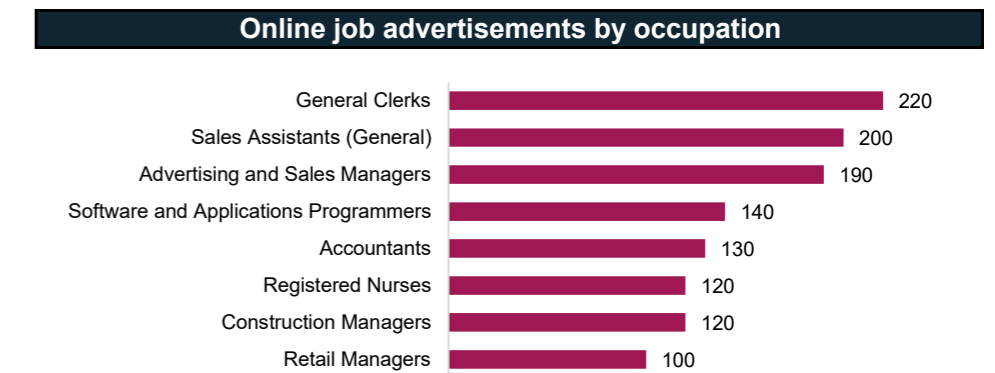
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

Local Government Area (LGA)	Mar-26	Mar-25
Fairfield	7.5	7.9
Canterbury-Bankstown	6.9	6.3
Campbelltown (NSW)	6.2	5.5
Liverpool	4.7	4.5
Sutherland	3.0	2.7

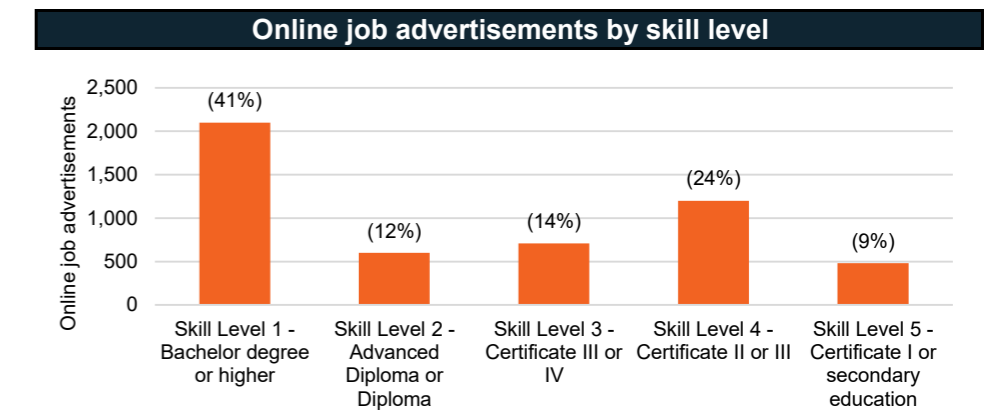
For more insights, access SALM data via dewr.gov.au. Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, March-26 quarter



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



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



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, May 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. Data are published on data.gov.au.

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