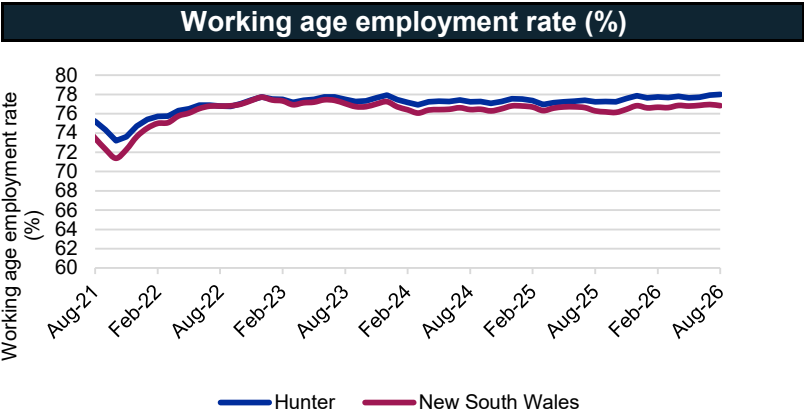


This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table											
	Working age employment rate		Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Working age participation rate		Youth unemployment rate	
	Aug-26 (%)	Aug-25 (%)	Aug-26 ('000)	Aug-25 ('000)	Change (%)	Aug-26 (%)	Aug-25 (%)	Aug-26 (%)	Aug-25 (%)	Aug-26 (%)	Aug-25 (%)
Hunter	78.0	77.2	16.7	16.7	-0.3	4.3	4.4	81.6	80.9	10.1	10.0
New South Wales	76.8	76.3	205.5	193.4	6.3	4.3	4.2	80.3	79.7	10.0	9.2
Australia	77.1	77.1	722.9	642.9	12.4	4.6	4.2	81.0	80.6	10.8	9.7

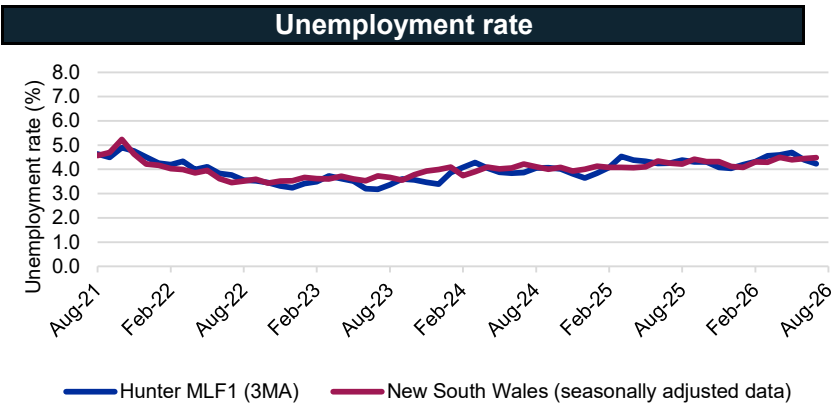
National data are from the ABS Labour Force Survey (seasonally adjusted). State & Territory and Employment Region data are based on ABS Labour Force Survey MLF1 (3-month average) estimates August -26, except youth unemployment rates, which use 12-month average of MLF1 estimates. State and Territory unemployment and unemployment rates are seasonally adjusted,



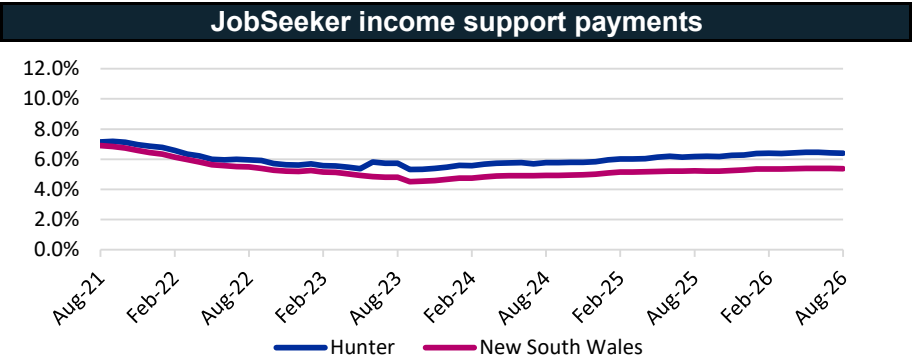
Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1, (3MA), August 2026



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, 4 quarter averages, May-26 quarter



Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data, MLF1, (3MA), August 2026



	Hunter	New South Wales
Payments - August 2025	27,860	281,370
Payments - August 2026	29,245	292,305
Change from August 2025 to August 2026	↑ 1,385	↑ 10,935
	↑ 5.0%	↑ 3.9%

% of 15-64 year olds on JobSeeker income support payments		
	total persons on JobSeeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on JobSeeker income support
Hunter	29,245	6.4%
New South Wales	292,305	5.4%
Australia	1,033,140	5.7%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker income support payment recipients, August 2026; ABS, Labour Force Survey, MLF1 (3MA) August 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

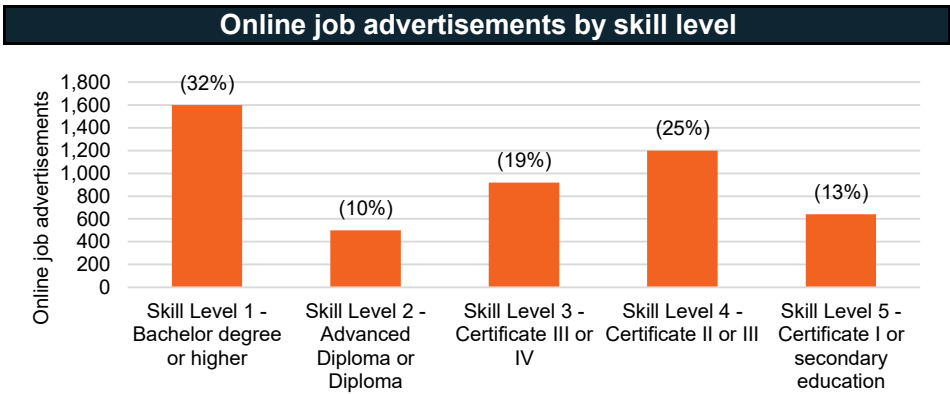
Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, March-26 quarter



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



Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, original data (3MA), August 2026



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

Note: Employment Region data are not directly available. Employment Regions were derived from ABS Labour Force and JobSeeker Income support payments are aggregated and apportioned using a SA4 to ER concordance. Working age population refers to those aged 15-64 years and youth age population refers to those aged 15-24 years. For enquiries related to this dashboard, contact RegionalWorkforceAssessment@jobsandskills.gov.au.