

ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS



Manufacturing



The manufacturing industry mainly engages in the physical or chemical transformation of materials, substances or components into new products. It is a large and diverse industry that includes sectors such as food products, pulp and paper products, fabricated metal products, furniture and printing.



By 2027-28, it is projected* that there will be:

182,241 people employed in manufacturing in Queensland

-828 fewer people employed since 2023-24

By 2027-28, the four largest manufacturing groups will be:

Meat and meat product manufacturing

People employed

15,783
8.7% of industry's workforce

-5.9%
change from 2024
(-998 people)

Largest occupations

- Packers
- Meat, Poultry and Seafood Process Workers
- Meat Boners and Slicers, and Slaughterers

Bakery product manufacturing

People employed

11,358
6.2% of industry's workforce

+0.3%
change from 2024
(+36 people)

Largest occupations

- Bakers and Pastrycooks
- Sales Assistants (General)
- Retail Managers

Furniture manufacturing

People employed

10,398
5.7% of industry's workforce

-1.9%
change from 2024
(-202 people)

Largest occupations

- Cabinetmakers
- Carpenters and Joiners
- Upholsterers

Motor vehicle and motor vehicle part manufacturing

People employed

10,020
5.5% of industry's workforce

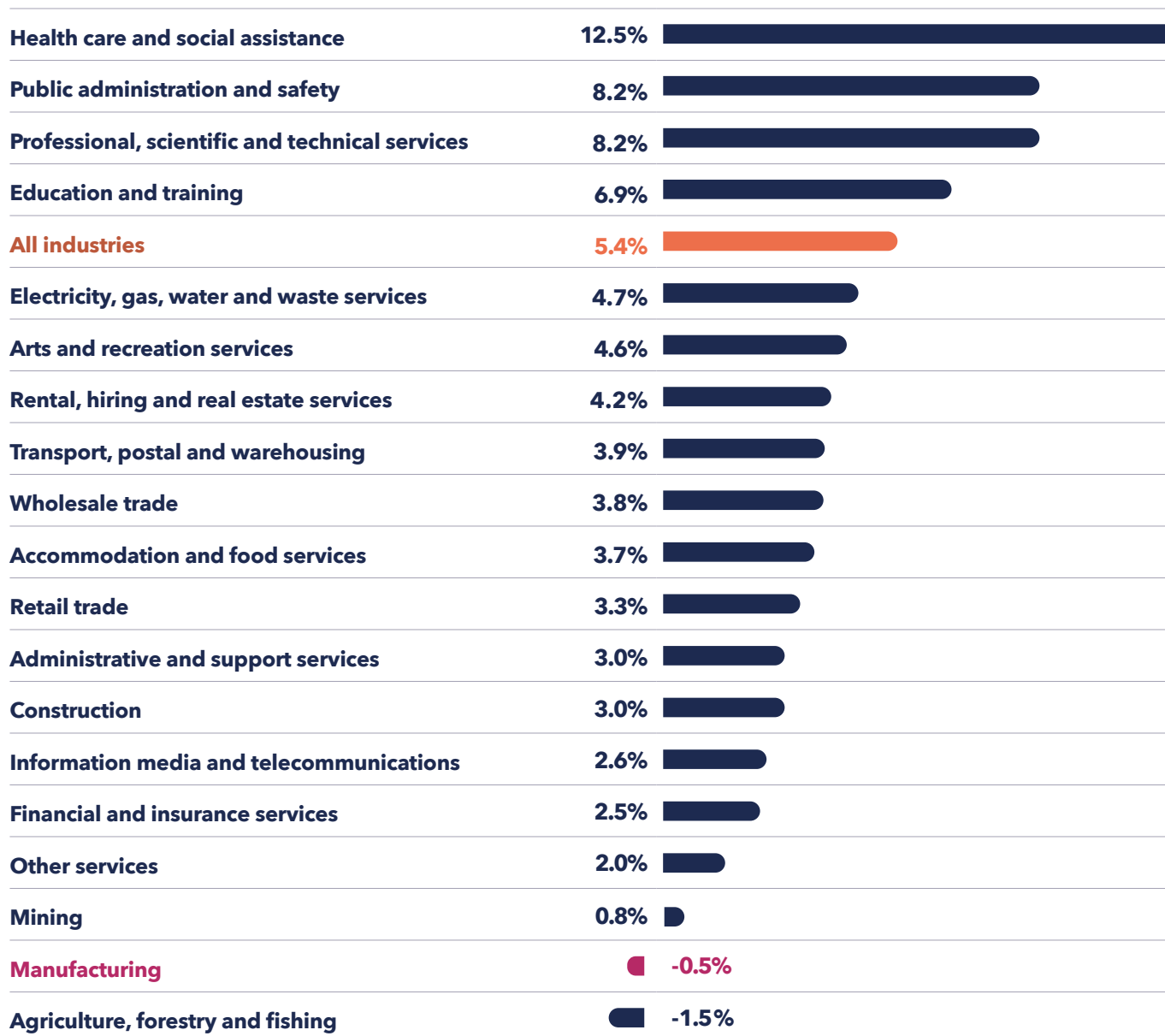
+1.5%
change from 2024
(+151 people)

Largest occupations

- Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers
- Product Assemblers
- Metal Fitters and Machinists

*Projections are based on the 2024-25 State Budget and are not directly comparable to subsequent Budget Update forecasts for aggregate employment growth. As these projections are high level, indicative and subject to change, it is recommended that the focus be on employment trends rather than the numbers in isolation.

By 2027-28, employment in manufacturing is projected to decline slightly.



Employment in manufacturing continues to dominate in Ipswich with one in eight workers employed in this industry.

Region	New jobs 2027-28	% of regional workforce	Region	New jobs 2027-28	% of regional workforce
Ipswich	318	12.6%	Outback - Far North	-30	2.6%
Toowoomba	193	7.9%	Moreton Bay - South	-50	6.4%
Townsville	138	6.5%	Wide Bay	-61	7.5%
Cairns	8	3.9%	Moreton Bay - North	-88	7.3%
Sunshine Coast	-3	4.6%	Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	-147	4.6%
Logan - Beaudesert	-3	7.1%	Darling Downs - Maranoa	-207	9.1%
Outback - South	-16	2.6%	Gold Coast	-369	6.1%
Central Queensland	-19	6.4%	Brisbane	-470	4.8%
Outback - North	-21	3.3%			

For more detailed analysis and to access interactive data tools, visit www.jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/afs

