

## ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS

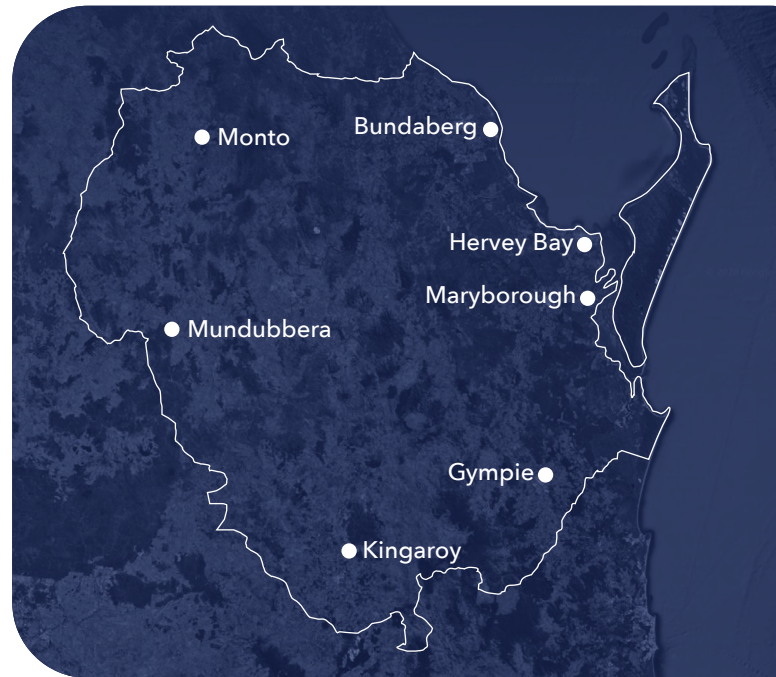
# Wide Bay Region

Health care and social assistance is projected to be the largest-employing and fastest-growing industry in Wide Bay by 2027-28, reflecting the region's ageing population. It is a diverse region, with significant levels of employment across industries as varied as construction, retail trade, and education and training.

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

**137,460** people employed  
in this region

**+4,613** additional workers  
since 2023-24



By 2027-28, Wide Bay is projected to experience the twelfth-fastest increase in employment in Queensland. It is projected to comprise 4.5% of the state's workforce.

Region	Growth (%) between 2023-24 and 2027-28	People employed in 2027-28
Sunshine Coast	7.3%	216,818
Logan - Beaudesert	6.6%	151,192
Moreton Bay - North	6.4%	95,923
Gold Coast	6.2%	376,740
Brisbane	6.1%	1,074,452
Ipswich	5.9%	170,959
Moreton Bay - South	5.5%	80,034
Toowoomba	4.7%	86,785
Townsville	4.6%	137,989
Cairns	4.5%	149,082
Central Queensland	3.8%	135,361
<b>Wide Bay</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>137,460</b>
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	3.4%	119,334
Outback - Far North	1.1%	14,268
Outback - North	0.2%	24,998
Darling Downs - Maranoa	-0.7%	68,429
Outback - South	-2.4%	10,093

\* 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.

The regions used in this project are based on Statistical Area Level (SA4) regions, as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. There are 19 SA4s in Queensland; the five Brisbane SA4s have been combined in this report to take into account the larger natural labour market. Queensland - Outback SA4 has been disaggregated into its SA3 components. Data is based on Place of Work.

## By 2027-28, it is projected that the Wide Bay workforce will be employed within:

Industry	People employed	% of regional workforce	% change since 2023-24	Largest occupational groupings
 <b>Health care and social assistance</b>	<b>28,248</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>↑10.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Aged and Disabled Carers</li> <li>○ Registered Nurses</li> <li>○ Nursing Support and Personal Care Workers</li> <li>○ Child Carers</li> </ul>
 <b>Construction</b>	<b>15,717</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>↑3.5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Electricians</li> <li>○ Carpenters and Joiners</li> <li>○ Construction Managers</li> <li>○ Plumbers</li> </ul>
 <b>Retail trade</b>	<b>13,165</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>↑0.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sales Assistants (General)</li> <li>○ Retail Managers</li> <li>○ Checkout Operators and Office Cashiers</li> <li>○ Shelf Fillers</li> </ul>
 <b>Education and training</b>	<b>11,016</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>↓0.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Secondary School Teachers</li> <li>○ Primary School Teachers</li> <li>○ Education Aides</li> <li>○ Child Carers</li> </ul>
 <b>Accommodation and food services</b>	<b>10,619</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>↑4.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bar Attendants and Baristas</li> <li>○ Waiters</li> <li>○ Kitchenhands</li> <li>○ Chefs</li> </ul>
 <b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>10,250</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>↓0.6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Metal Fitters and Machinists</li> <li>○ Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers</li> <li>○ Production Managers</li> <li>○ Cabinetmakers</li> </ul>
 <b>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</b>	<b>9,648</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>↓0.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Livestock Farmers</li> <li>○ Crop Farmers</li> <li>○ Crop Farm Workers</li> <li>○ Livestock Farm Workers</li> </ul>
 <b>Public administration and safety</b>	<b>8,366</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>↑2.4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ General Clerks</li> <li>○ Police</li> <li>○ Contract, Program and Project Administrators</li> <li>○ Inspectors and Regulatory Officers</li> </ul>
 <b>Transport, postal and warehousing</b>	<b>4,629</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>↑3.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Truck Drivers</li> <li>○ Automobile Drivers</li> <li>○ Delivery Drivers</li> <li>○ Bus and Coach Drivers</li> </ul>
 <b>Other services</b>	<b>4,344</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>↓2.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Motor Mechanics</li> <li>○ Hairdressers</li> <li>○ Beauty Therapists</li> <li>○ Metal Fitters and Machinists</li> </ul>
 <b>Administrative and support services</b>	<b>4,097</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>↑1.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commercial Cleaners</li> <li>○ Domestic Cleaners</li> <li>○ Gardeners</li> <li>○ Garden and Nursery Labourers</li> </ul>
 <b>Professional, scientific and technical services</b>	<b>3,889</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>↑6.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Solicitors</li> <li>○ Accountants</li> <li>○ Civil Engineering Professionals</li> <li>○ Software and Applications Programmers</li> </ul>
 <b>Wholesale trade</b>	<b>2,739</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>↑2.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Storepersons</li> <li>○ Advertising, Public Relations and Sales Managers</li> <li>○ Importers, Exporters and Wholesalers</li> <li>○ Sales Assistants (General)</li> </ul>
 <b>Arts and recreation services</b>	<b>2,304</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>↑9.5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials</li> <li>○ Fitness Instructors</li> <li>○ Visual Arts and Crafts Professionals</li> <li>○ Sportspersons</li> </ul>
 <b>Rental, hiring and real estate services</b>	<b>2,228</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>↑9.2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Real Estate Sales Agents</li> <li>○ Other Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers</li> <li>○ Land Economists and Valuers</li> <li>○ General Clerks</li> </ul>
 <b>Electricity, gas, water and waste services</b>	<b>2,034</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>↑0.2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Electricians</li> <li>○ Electrical Distribution Trades Workers</li> <li>○ Electrical Engineers</li> <li>○ Truck Drivers</li> </ul>
 <b>Financial and insurance services</b>	<b>1,743</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>↑1.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Financial Brokers</li> <li>○ Financial Investment Advisers and Managers</li> <li>○ Bank Workers</li> <li>○ Credit and Loans Officers</li> </ul>
 <b>Mining</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>↑4.4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers</li> <li>○ Metal Fitters and Machinists</li> <li>○ Other Building and Engineering Technicians</li> <li>○ Truck Drivers</li> </ul>
 <b>Information media and telecommunications</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>↑5.3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Telecommunications Trades Workers</li> <li>○ Film, Television, Radio and Stage Directors</li> <li>○ Journalists and Other Writers</li> <li>○ ICT Managers</li> </ul>

For more detailed analysis and to access interactive data tools, visit [www.jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/afs](http://www.jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/afs)

