ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS

Mining

Jobs Queensland

The mining industry mainly extracts naturally occurring mineral solids, such as coal and ores; liquid minerals, such as crude petroleum; and gases, such as natural gas. It includes activities such as underground or open cut mining, quarrying and mining support, including exploration and directional drilling.

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

72,958 people employed in mining in Queensland

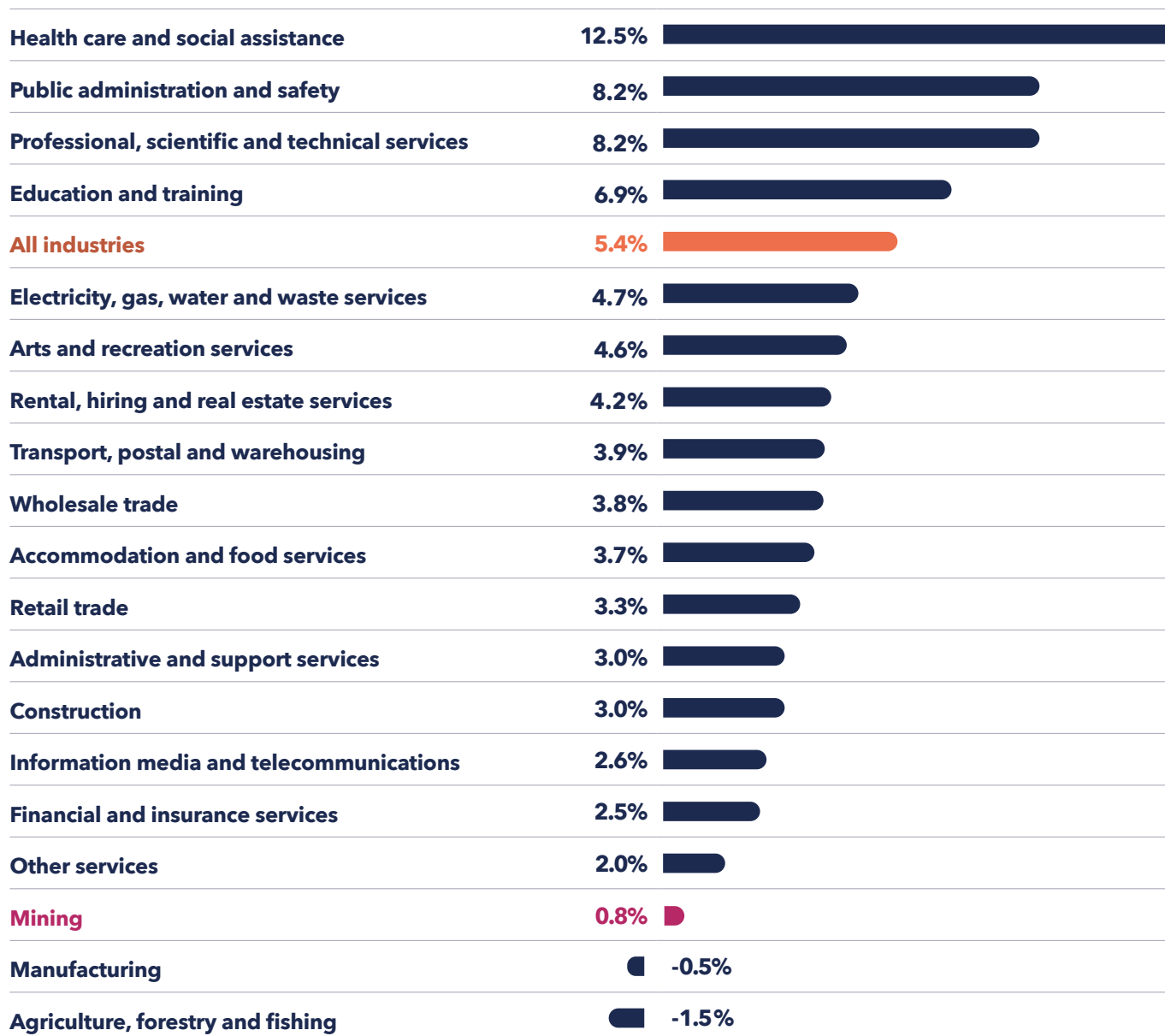**+548** additional people employed since 2023-24

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

Coal mining	Metal ore mining	Other mining support services	Exploration
People employed	**People employed**	**People employed**	**People employed**
29,149	**17,308**	**12,053**	**5,888**
40.0% of industry's workforce	**23.7%** of industry's workforce	**16.5%** of industry's workforce	**8.1%** of industry's workforce
+0.8% change from 2024 (+230 people)	**+2.0%** change from 2024 (+333 people)	**-1.1%** change from 2024 (-137 people)	**+5.6%** change from 2024 (+314 people)
Largest occupations	**Largest occupations**	**Largest occupations**	**Largest occupations**
• Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers • Metal Fitters and Machinists • Other Building and Engineering Technicians	• Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers • Metal Fitters and Machinists • Other Building and Engineering Technicians	• Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers • Metal Fitters and Machinists • Mining Engineers	• Geologists, Geophysicists and Hydrogeologists • Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers • 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 mining is projected to have the seventeenth-fastest growth of all industries in Queensland.

Industry	Growth
Health care and social assistance	12.5%
Public administration and safety	8.2%
Professional, scientific and technical services	8.2%
Education and training	6.9%
All industries	5.4%
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	4.7%
Arts and recreation services	4.6%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	4.2%
Transport, postal and warehousing	3.9%
Wholesale trade	3.8%
Accommodation and food services	3.7%
Retail trade	3.3%
Administrative and support services	3.0%
Construction	3.0%
Information media and telecommunications	2.6%
Financial and insurance services	2.5%
Other services	2.0%
Mining	0.8%
Manufacturing	-0.5%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-1.5%

Despite a slight fall in employment, one in three workers in Outback - North will be employed in mining by 2027-28.

Region	Additional jobs 2027–28	% of regional workforce
Central Queensland	391	10.4%
Brisbane	93	1.3%
Sunshine Coast	69	0.7%
Wide Bay	59	1.0%
Toowoomba	46	2.2%
Gold Coast	34	0.3%
Townsville	33	1.8%
Ipswich	31	0.7%
Moreton Bay - South	13	0.5%

Region	Additional jobs 2027–28	% of regional workforce
Cairns	11	0.8%
Moreton Bay - North	8	0.7%
Far North	-1	10.8%
Outback - South	-1	0.7%
Logan - Beaudesert	-4	0.3%
Outback - North	-23	30.7%
Darling Downs - Maranoa	-50	3.3%
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	-161	17.5%

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