

## ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS

# Outback North Region



Employment in Outback - North is dominated by the mining industry, which is projected to employ almost one third of all workers. Health care and social assistance is projected to be the second-largest employing industry by 2027-28.

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

**24,998** people employed in this region  
**+61** additional workers since 2023-24



By 2027-28, Outback - North is projected to experience the fifteenth-fastest increase in employment in Queensland. It is projected to comprise 0.8% 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
Wide Bay	3.5%	137,460
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	3.4%	119,334
Far North	1.1%	14,268
<b>Outback - North</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>24,998</b>
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 Outback - North workforce will be employed within:

Industry	People employed	% of regional workforce	% change since 2023-24	Largest occupational groupings
 <b>Mining</b>	<b>7,669</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>↓0.3</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>Electricians</li> </ul>
 <b>Health care and social assistance</b>	<b>2,353</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>↑5.5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered Nurses</li> <li>Aged and Disabled Carers</li> <li>Child Carers</li> <li>Receptionists</li> </ul>
 <b>Retail trade</b>	<b>2,164</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>↑1.2</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>Public administration and safety</b>	<b>1,969</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>↑2.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Clerks</li> <li>Contract, Program and Project Administrators</li> <li>Police</li> <li>Inspectors and Regulatory Officers</li> </ul>
 <b>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</b>	<b>1,849</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>↓2.0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livestock Farmers</li> <li>Livestock Farm Workers</li> <li>Mixed Crop and Livestock Farmers</li> <li>Crop Farmers</li> </ul>
 <b>Construction</b>	<b>1,744</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>↓6.7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electricians</li> <li>Carpenters and Joiners</li> <li>Plumbers</li> <li>Construction Managers</li> </ul>
 <b>Accommodation and food services</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>↑2.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waiters</li> <li>Kitchenhands</li> <li>Bar Attendants and Baristas</li> <li>Chefs</li> </ul>
 <b>Education and training</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>↓5.9</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>Transport, postal and warehousing</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>↑3.0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Truck Drivers</li> <li>Automobile Drivers</li> <li>Storepersons</li> <li>Delivery Drivers</li> </ul>
 <b>Other services</b>	<b>825</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>↓2.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor Mechanics</li> <li>Metal Fitters and Machinists</li> <li>Hairdressers</li> <li>Airconditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics</li> </ul>
 <b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>↓2.5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers</li> <li>Metal Fitters and Machinists</li> <li>Production Managers</li> <li>Engineering Production Workers</li> </ul>
 <b>Wholesale trade</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>↑3.5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Storepersons</li> <li>Advertising, Public Relations and Sales Managers</li> <li>Purchasing and Supply Logistics Clerks</li> <li>Automotive Electricians</li> </ul>
 <b>Administrative and support services</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>↑4.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial Cleaners</li> <li>Human Resource Professionals</li> <li>Domestic Cleaners</li> <li>Garden and Nursery Labourers</li> </ul>
 <b>Professional, scientific and technical services</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>↑6.4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solicitors</li> <li>Accountants</li> <li>Civil Engineering Professionals</li> <li>Management and Organisation Analysts</li> </ul>
 <b>Electricity, gas, water and waste services</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>↑7.0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electricians</li> <li>Electrical Distribution Trades Workers</li> <li>Truck Drivers</li> <li>Electrical Engineers</li> </ul>
 <b>Rental, hiring and real estate services</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>↑9.3</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>Advertising, Public Relations and Sales Managers</li> </ul>
 <b>Financial and insurance services</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>↓1.7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bank Workers</li> <li>Credit and Loans Officers</li> <li>Financial Brokers</li> <li>Insurance, Money Market and Statistical Clerks</li> </ul>
 <b>Information media and telecommunications</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>↓9.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Film, Television, Radio and Stage Directors</li> <li>Journalists and Other Writers</li> <li>Artistic Directors, and Media Producers and Presenters</li> <li>Performing Arts Technicians</li> </ul>
 <b>Arts and recreation services</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>↓0.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual Arts and Crafts Professionals</li> <li>Music Professionals</li> <li>Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials</li> <li>Environmental Scientists</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)

