ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS

Toowoomba region

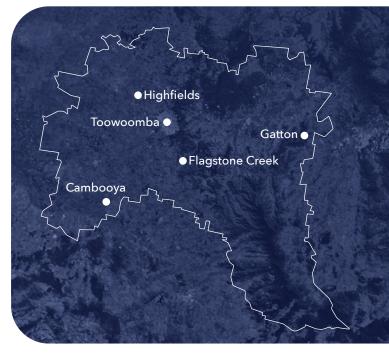
Employment in the Toowoomba region reflects its importance as a regional hub, with high employment in industries such as health care and social assistance, education and training, and retail trade. Despite declining employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing on a state level, in Toowoomba, employment in this industry is projected to grow by 4.5% by 2027-28. While a relatively small workforce, employment in public administration and safety is projected to grow at the highest rate of 17.5%.

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

86,785 people employed in this region

+3,919 additional workers since 2023-24





By 2027-28, Toowoomba is projected to experience the eighth-fastest increase in employment in Queensland. It is projected to comprise 2.9% 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	
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 Toowoomba workforce will be employed within:

Industry	People employed	% of regional workforce	% change since 2023-24	Largest occupational groupings
Health care and social assistance	16,911	19.5	↑9.0	 Aged and Disabled Carers Registered Nurses Child Carers Nursing Support and Personal Care Workers
Education and training	10,375	12.0	↑6.0	 Secondary School Teachers Primary School Teachers Education Aides University Lecturers and Tutors
Retail trade	7,334	8.5	↓0.5	 Sales Assistants (General) Retail Managers Checkout Operators and Office Cashiers Shelf Fillers
Manufacturing	6,895	7.9	↑2.9	 Metal Fitters and Machinists Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers Production Managers Cabinetmakers
Construction	6,864	7.9	↑0.1	 Electricians Carpenters and Joiners Construction Managers Plumbers
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	5,207	6.0	↑4.5	Livestock FarmersCrop FarmersLivestock Farm WorkersCrop Farm Workers
Transport, postal and warehousing	4,545	5.2	↑5.5	Truck DriversAutomobile DriversDelivery DriversBus and Coach Drivers
Accommodation and food services	4,295	4.9	↑5.4	Bar Attendants and BaristasKitchenhandsWaitersChefs
Public administration and safety	3,957	4.6	↑17.5	 General Clerks Police Contract, Program and Project Administrators Security Officers and Guards
Other services	3,775	4.3	↑0.3	 Motor Mechanics Hairdressers Beauty Therapists Metal Fitters and Machinists
Professional, scientific and technical services	3,615	4.2	†4.6	 Solictors Accountants Civil Engineering Professionals Management and Organisation Analysts
Administrative and support services	2,797	3.2	↑0.9	 Commercial Cleaners Domestic Cleaners Gardeners Garden and Nursery Labourers
Wholesale trade	2,700	3.1	↑2.7	 Storepersons Advertising, Public Relations and Sales Managers Importers, Exporters and Wholesalers Sales Assistants (General)
Mining	1,879	2.2	†2.5	 Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers Metal Fitters and Machinists Mining Engineers Other Building and Engineering Technicians
Financial and insurance services	1,583	1.8	↓0.8	 Bank Workers Financial Brokers Insurance, Money Market and Statistical Clerks Credit and Loans Officers
Arts and recreation services	1,520	1.8	↑10.7	 Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials Fitness Instructors Sportspersons Amusement, Fitness and Sports Centre Managers
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1,338	1.5	↑7.0	 Truck Drivers Electrical Distribution Trades Workers Electricians Electrical Engineers
Rental, hiring and real estate services	688	0.8	↓4.6	 Real Estate Sales Agents Other Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers Land Economists and Valuers General Clerks
Information media and telecommunications	508	0.6	↑0.7	 Journalists and Other Writers Film, Television, Radio and Stage Directors Telecommunications Trades Workers Artistic Directors, and Media Producers and Presenters

