



ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS SERIES

# Outback - South region

Almost half of all workers in Outback - South will be employed in three industries - Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, Health Care and Social Assistance, and Public Administration and Safety. Accommodation and Food Services is projected to experience the fastest growth in employment by 2025-26, followed by Health Care and Social Assistance.



By 2025-26, it is projected that there will be:

**9,036** people employed in this region\*

**-42** fewer workers since 2021-22

By 2025-26, Outback - South is projected to experience a slight decline in employment in Queensland. It is projected to comprise 0.3% of the state's workforce.

Region	Growth (%) between 2021-22 and 2025-26	People employed in 2025-26
Wide Bay	13.6	133,252
Sunshine Coast	12.5	203,940
Townsville	12.0	134,375
Central Queensland	11.5	138,831
Moreton Bay - South	10.4	73,983
Toowoomba	10.4	85,456
Moreton Bay - North	9.9	94,207
Logan - Beaudesert	9.3	142,093
Brisbane	7.8	1,030,194
Cairns	7.5	142,446
Ipswich	5.9	157,674
Far North	4.5	12,590
Outback - North	2.7	22,310
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	2.3	114,384
Gold Coast	2.2	348,444
<b>Outback - South</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>9,036</b>
Darling Downs - Maranoa	-0.9	70,207

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 4 (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 2025-26, it is projected that the Outback - South workforce will be employed within:

Industry	People employed	% of regional workforce 2025-2026	% change since 2021-22	Largest occupational groupings
 <b>Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>↓25.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livestock Farmers</li> <li>Mixed Crop and Livestock Farmers</li> <li>Livestock Farm Workers</li> <li>Crop Farmers</li> </ul>
 <b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>↑12.4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered Nurses</li> <li>Aged and Disabled Carers</li> <li>Receptionists</li> <li>General Practitioners and Resident Medical Officers</li> </ul>
 <b>Public Administration and Safety</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>↑4.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Clerks</li> <li>Police</li> <li>Contract, Program and Project Administrators</li> <li>Information Officers</li> </ul>
 <b>Construction</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>↑11.6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electricians</li> <li>Carpenters and Joiners</li> <li>Construction Managers</li> <li>Plumbers</li> </ul>
 <b>Education and Training</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>↑5.0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary School Teachers</li> <li>Secondary School Teachers</li> <li>Education Aides</li> <li>Child Carers</li> </ul>
 <b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>↑5.4</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>Transport, Postal and Warehousing</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>↑3.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Truck Drivers</li> <li>Delivery Drivers</li> <li>Couriers and Postal Deliverers</li> <li>Storepersons</li> </ul>
 <b>Accommodation and Food Services</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>↑12.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waiters</li> <li>Bar Attendants and Baristas</li> <li>Kitchenhands</li> <li>Chefs</li> </ul>
 <b>Other Services</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>↑7.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor Mechanics</li> <li>Ministers of Religion</li> <li>Hairdressers</li> <li>Metal Fitters and Machinists</li> </ul>
 <b>Professional, Scientific and Technical Services</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>↑9.9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accountants</li> <li>Solicitors</li> <li>Civil Engineering Professionals</li> <li>Bookkeepers</li> </ul>
 <b>Administrative and Support Services</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>↑0.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial Cleaners</li> <li>Tourism and Travel Advisors</li> <li>Domestic Cleaners</li> <li>Gardeners</li> </ul>
 <b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>↓0.4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Packers</li> <li>Meat, Poultry and Seafood Process Workers</li> <li>Bakers and Pastrycooks</li> <li>Sales Assistants (General)</li> </ul>
 <b>Wholesale Trade</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>↓2.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Storepersons</li> <li>Sales Assistants (General)</li> <li>Importers, Exporters and Wholesalers</li> <li>Sales Representatives</li> </ul>
 <b>Arts and Recreation Services</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>↑11.2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual Arts and Crafts Professionals</li> <li>Music Professionals</li> <li>Environmental Scientists</li> <li>Gallery, Museum and Tour Guides</li> </ul>
 <b>Mining</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>↓1.7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers</li> <li>Chemical, Gas, Petroleum and Power Generation Plant Operators</li> <li>Mining Engineers</li> <li>Metal Fitters and Machinists</li> </ul>
 <b>Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>↑9.6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electrical Distribution Trades Workers</li> <li>Electricians</li> <li>Truck Drivers</li> <li>Electrical Engineers</li> </ul>
 <b>Financial and Insurance Services</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>↑0.8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bank Workers</li> <li>Credit and Loans Officers (Aus) \ Finance Clerks (NZ)</li> <li>Financial Investment Advisers and Managers</li> <li>Financial Brokers</li> </ul>
 <b>Information Media and Telecommunications</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>↓11.7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Librarians</li> <li>Library Assistants</li> <li>Gallery, Library and Museum Technicians</li> <li>Journalists and Other Writers</li> </ul>
 <b>Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>↑2.6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Real Estate Sales Agents</li> <li>Other Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers</li> <li>General Clerks</li> <li>Office Managers</li> </ul>