



ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS SERIES

Townsville region

Employment growth in the Townsville region is above average. High growth in Public Administration and Safety reinforces the region's role as a provider of government services and major defence hub.



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

134,375 people employed in this region*

+14,429 additional workers since 2021-22

By 2025-26, Townsville is projected to experience the third fastest increase in employment in Queensland. It is projected to comprise 4.6% 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
Outback - South	-0.5	9,036
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 Townsville workforce will be employed within:

Industry	People employed	% of regional workforce 2025-2026	% change since 2021-22	Largest occupational groupings
 Health Care and Social Assistance	25,056	18.6	↑19.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered Nurses Aged and Disabled Carers Child Carers Receptionists
 Public Administration and Safety	15,223	11.3	↑10.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defence Force Members - Other Ranks General Clerks Police Commissioned Officers (Management)
 Retail Trade	12,549	9.3	↑6.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sales Assistants (General) Retail Managers Checkout Operators and Office Cashiers Shelf Fillers
 Education and Training	12,537	9.3	↑13.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary School Teachers Secondary School Teachers Education Aides University Lecturers and Tutors
 Construction	11,148	8.3	↑11.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricians Carpenters and Joiners Construction Managers Plumbers
 Accommodation and Food Services	10,351	7.7	↑15.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waiters Kitchenhands Bar Attendants and Baristas Chefs
 Manufacturing	7,356	5.5	↑5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers Metal Fitters and Machinists Food and Drink Factory Workers Production Managers
 Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	7,108	5.3	↑17.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accountants Solicitors Civil Engineering Professionals Software and Applications Programmers
 Transport, Postal and Warehousing	6,519	4.9	↑12.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Truck Drivers Storepersons Automobile Drivers Delivery Drivers
 Other Services	5,382	4.0	↑8.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motor Mechanics Hairdressers Beauty Therapists Metal Fitters and Machinists
 Administrative and Support Services	3,713	2.8	↑9.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Cleaners Domestic Cleaners Gardeners Garden and Nursery Labourers
 Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	3,684	2.7	↓0.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crop Farmers Crop Farm Workers Livestock Farmers Agricultural, Forestry and Horticultural Plant Operators
 Wholesale Trade	2,746	2.0	↑6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storepersons Sales Assistants (General) Advertising, Public Relations and Sales Managers Purchasing and Supply Logistics Clerks
 Mining	2,195	1.6	↑14.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drillers, Miners and Shot Firers Metal Fitters and Machinists Other Building and Engineering Technicians Electricians
 Financial and Insurance Services	2,100	1.6	↑11.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Investment Advisers and Managers Bank Workers Financial Brokers Credit and Loans Officers
 Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	2,051	1.5	↑15.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrical Distribution Trades Workers Electricians Truck Drivers Electrical Engineers
 Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	1,818	1.4	↑5.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real Estate Sales Agents Other Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers General Clerks Land Economists and Valuers
 Arts and Recreation Services	1,737	1.3	↑10.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials Amusement, Fitness and Sports Centre Managers Fitness Instructors Sportspersons
 Information Media and Telecommunications	1,102	0.8	↓0.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telecommunications Trades Workers Telecommunications Engineering Professionals Journalists and Other Writers Film, Television, Radio and Stage Directors