



ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS SERIES

Manufacturing

The Manufacturing industry mainly engages in the physical or chemical transformation of materials, substances or components into new products. It is a large and diverse industry that includes sectors such as food products, pulp and paper products, fabricated metal products, furniture and printing.

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

182,038 people employed in this industry in Queensland

+2,531 additional people employed since 2021-22



By 2025-26, the four largest Manufacturing subdivisions will be:

Subdivision	People employed	% of industry workforce	% change from 2021-22	Largest occupational groupings
Meat and Meat Product Manufacturing	18,606	10.2	↓5.2 (-1,030 people)	 Meat, Poultry and Seafood Process Workers Packers Meat Boners and Slicers, and Slaughterers
Other Transport Equipment Manufacturing	11,909	6.5	↑15.0 (+1,551 people)	 Boat Builders and Shipwrights Aircraft Maintenance Engineers Metal Fitters and Machinists
Furniture Manufacturing	10,593	5.8	↑4.8 (+489 people)	CabinetmakersCarpenters and JoinersUpholsterers
Bakery Product Manufacturing	10,181	5.6	↓3.6 (-379 people)	 Bakers and Pastrycooks Sales Assistants (General) Retail Managers

By 2025-26, employment in Manufacturing is projected to have the 15th fastest growth of all industries in Queensland.

Health Care and Social Assistance	16.4%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	12.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	10.0%
Education and Training	9.9%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	8.4%
Public Administration and Safety	7.9%
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	7.7%
All Industries	7.6%
Financial and Insurance Services	7.1%
Construction	7.0%
Mining	5.1%
Arts and Recreation Services	4.5%
Other Services	4.4%
Administration and Support Services	4.3%
Retail Trade	3.4%
Manufacturing	1.4%
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	0.9%
Wholesale Trade	0.9%
Information, Media and Telecommunications	-6.1%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	-9.6%

Despite a slight fall in employment, 1 in 8 workers in Ipswich will be employed in this industry.

Region	New jobs in 2025-26	% of regional workforce
Brisbane	1,148	5.3
Cairns	185	4.7
Darling Downs - Maranoa	68	8.1
Central Queensland	117	7.2
Gold Coast	-679	6.7
Ipswich	-152	12.9
Logan - Beaudesert	181	7.3
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	-235	5.8
Moreton Bay - North	194	6.8

Region	New jobs in 2025-26	% of regional workforce
Moreton Bay - South	216	7.2
Far North	1	2.8
Outback - North	-36	2.9
Outback - South	-1	2.7
Sunshine Coast	290	4.7
Toowoomba	191	5.6
Townsville	356	5.5
Wide Bay	685	7.1

