

ANTICIPATING FUTURE SKILLS SERIES

Retail Trade

The Retail Trade engages in the purchase and/or on-selling, without significant transformation, to the general public. It also includes the commission-based buying and the commission-based selling of goods. Goods may be sold using non-traditional means including the internet. It is a large and diverse industry that includes sectors such as motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts retailing, fuel and food retailing, and other store-based retailing, such as hardware, electrical goods and pharmaceutical products.

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

275,465 people employed in this industry in Queensland

additional people employed since 2021-22

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

Subdivision	People employed	% of industry workforce	% change from 2021-22	Largest occupational groupings
Supermarket and Grocery Stores	68,385	24.8	†4.2 (+2,737 people)	 Sales Assistants (General) Checkout Operators and Office Cashiers Shelf Fillers
Pharmaceutical and Other Store-Based Retailing	39,392	14.3	↑4.0 (+1,500 people)	 Sales Assistants (General) Pharmacy Sales Assistants Pharmacists
Clothing, Footwear and Personal Accessory Retailing	30,643	11.1	↑1.4 (+412 people)	• Sales Assistants (General) • Retail Managers • Storepersons
Hardware, Building and Garden Supplies Retailing	24,409	8.9	†8.0 (+1,810 people)	 Sales Assistants (General) Retail Managers Checkout Operators and Office Cashiers

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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.

By 2025-26, employment in Retail Trade is projected to have the 14th 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%

In many Queensland regions, Retail Trade is one of the largest employing industries.

Region	New jobs in 2025-26	% of regional workforce	Region	
Brisbane	2,318	7.9	Moreton Bay - South	
Cairns	294	10.0	Far North	
Darling Downs - Maranoa	-180	8.2	Outback - North	
Central Queensland	1,139	9.4	Outback - South	
Gold Coast	-773	10.7	Sunshine Coast	
Ipswich	275	9.5	Toowoomba	
Logan - Beaudesert	782	12.0	Townsville	
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	-21	8.7	Wide Bay	
Moreton Bay - North	473	11.0		



For more detailed analysis and to access interactive data tools, visit www.jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/afs