

MANUFACTURING TRAINING, SKILLS AND WORKFORCE UPDATE

| JUNE QUARTER, 2024



HIGHLIGHTS

- 1. Queensland's manufacturing workforce is currently 191,700, the highest value since August 2021.**
- 2. Strongest workforce growth is seen in regional areas of Queensland.**
- 3. There are approximately 3,340 manufacturing job vacancies in Queensland, yet 6,300 people report being unemployed, and their last job was in the manufacturing industry.**
- 4. The percentage of females that complete manufacturing apprenticeships or traineeships in Queensland is 17.1%, 20 percentage points lower the state average for all qualifications.**
- 5. Engagement with manufacturing apprenticeships and traineeships is strongest in Central Queensland and Logan-Beaudesert regions.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The size of the manufacturing industry in Queensland has reached its highest level since August 2021, breaking 190,000 for just the 9th time on record. While vacancies exist in the industry, ABS statistics reveal that there is an available workforce. It's estimated that there are about 3,340 job vacancies across Queensland manufacturing, but there are currently 6,300 people unemployed who state they last worked in manufacturing.

Across 2023, almost 4,000 Queenslanders completed apprenticeships or traineeships in manufacturing qualifications and 7,000 people commenced. This shows a strong pipeline of apprentices across the state, and most are training in Metal and Engineering or Meat Processing qualifications. The training of diverse cohorts sees manufacturing significantly behind state averages. Manufacturing apprenticeship commencements are lower than state averages in female (19.6% lower), First Nations people (2.1% lower) and people with a disability (0.8% lower) cohorts.

WORKFORCE SUMMARY



Jobs

- The manufacturing workforce in Queensland is currently **191,700 persons**. This is an **increase of 11,400** since this time last year. The workforce is **21.2%** of the total Australian manufacturing workforce, and **86.0%** of Queensland employees are full-time.
- The increase in workforce has been largely driven by the extra **17,300** employees in Primary Metal and Metal Product, and **6,900** in Machinery and Equipment. The Beverage Product sector has seen a decrease of **3,300** employees in the last 12 months.
- On a four-quarter average the manufacturing workforce in Greater Brisbane has fallen by **2,500**, while the regional workforce has increased by **6,900** in comparison to the same time last year. Strongest growth is seen in Gold Coast, Cairns and Logan-Beaudesert areas.



Job Vacancies

- Manufacturing has **23,300 job vacancies** across Australia (2.5% of Australia's vacant jobs), 1,800 less than 12 months ago. There are 69,500 job vacancies in Queensland, and approximately **3,340** are in the manufacturing industry.
- In Queensland, there are currently **6,300** unemployed persons in which their last job was in the manufacturing industry, and the average duration of job search for a Queenslanders who last worked in the manufacturing industry is **16.5 weeks** (Four-quarter average is **17.8 weeks**).



Gross Value Added

- In the 2022/23 financial year, manufacturing in Queensland added **\$27.3 billion** to the economy. Since then, gross value added on a national level fell by 0.3% and 1.2% in the last two quarters of 2023, before a 0.9% increase in the quarter to March 2024.



Earnings

- The average weekly ordinary time earnings, for full-time employees is **\$1,695.60 (highest recorded)**. Men earn **14.5% more** than women.

TRAINING AND SKILLS SUMMARY

Diversity

- Creating a diverse workforce will ensure that manufacturing in Queensland continues to thrive. Currently, Queensland manufacturing has **44,540 female employees (23.2% of the workforce)**, but training percentages are lower than the workforce percentage. Levels of commencements and completions in manufacturing training packages, amongst all priority cohorts are lower than the state average.

Cohort	Commencements		Completions	
	Manufacturing	Queensland	Manufacturing	Queensland
Females	18.1%	37.7%	17.1%	37.7%
First Nation people	8.1%	10.2%	6.4%	7.3%
People with a Disability	3.6%	4.4%	2.5%	3.7%

Skills Pipeline (by Region)

- To understand the skilling pipeline across Queensland, it is important to see the number of commencements and completions, along with the number of individuals in-training. Completion percentage is taken as the percentage of individuals who complete a qualification from the total pool.
- Central Queensland has the highest completion rate (**23.1%**), and Laboratory Operations (**27.2%**) and Meat Processing (**24.6%**) are the best performing training packages.

Region	Commencements	In-training	Completions	Completion Rate
Brisbane – East	230	530	110	12.6%
Brisbane – North	170	380	120	17.9%
Brisbane – South	225	470	100	12.6%
Brisbane – West	70	170	35	12.7%
Brisbane – Inner City	105	215	45	12.3%
Cairns	320	760	205	16.0%
Central Queensland	690	1,290	595	23.1%
Darling Downs – Maranoa	430	860	200	13.4%
Gold Coast	630	1,135	265	13.1%
Ipswich	545	1,260	245	12.0%
Logan – Beaudesert	740	1,295	435	17.6%
Mackay – Isaac – Whitsunday	585	1,275	335	15.3%
Moreton Bay – North	330	710	180	14.8%
Moreton Bay – South	215	470	115	14.4%
Queensland – Outback	155	350	80	13.7%
Sunshine Coast	295	730	165	13.9%
Toowoomba	365	810	260	18.1%
Townsville	380	815	225	15.8%
Wide Bay	520	985	275	15.4%
Queensland Total	7,000	14,515	3,995	15.7%

Skills Pipeline (by Training Package)

Training Package	Commencements	In-training	Completions	Completion Rate
Aeroskills	155	340	105	17.5%
Australian Meat Processing	1,360	2,110	1,135	24.6%
Chemical, Hydrocarbons and Refining	140	285	65	13.3%
Food, Beverage and Pharmaceutical	420	745	265	18.5%
Furnishing	715	1,860	330	11.4%
Laboratory Operations	355	490	315	27.2%
Manufacturing	110	140	65	20.6%
Metal and Engineering	3,315	8,005	1,510	11.8%
Plastics, Rubber and Cablemaking	70	195	45	14.5%
Printing and Graphic Arts	35	95	10	7.1%
Sustainability	315	220	135	20.1%
Textiles, Clothing and Footwear	5	40	10	18.2%
Queensland Total	7,000	14,515	3,995	15.7%