Hunter
Employment Region
New South Wales

Labour Market Dashboard

Data current as at 21 November 2024
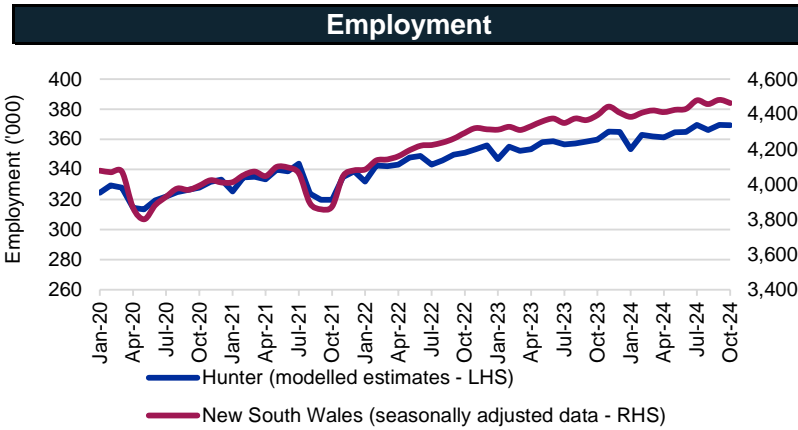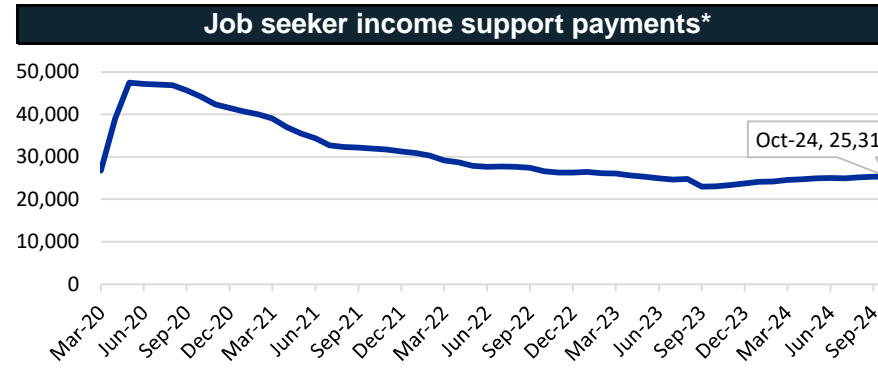Refer to source notes for data reference periods

This **Labour Market Dashboard** provides key indicators for the labour market by Employment Region and is updated monthly.

Labour market summary table

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemployment rate		Participation rate		Youth unemployment rate	
	Oct-24 ('000)	Oct-23 ('000)	Change (%)	Oct-24 ('000)	Oct-23 ('000)	Change (%)	Oct-24 (%)	Oct-23 (%)	Oct-24 (%)	Oct-23 (%)	Oct-24 (%)	Oct-23 (%)
Hunter	369.3	359.7	2.6	14.3	11.8	21.3	3.7	3.2	65.2	64.1	6.4	6.5
New South Wales	4,463.8	4,396.9	1.5	188.0	158.9	18.3	4.0	3.5	66.0	66.1	8.6	7.0
Australia	14,537.5	14,150.4	2.7	625.8	559.3	11.9	4.1	3.8	67.1	66.8	9.2	9.3

Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, October 2024, table MRM1 for Employment Region data, except for the youth unemployment rate, which is a 12-month average of the original estimates from the Labour Force Survey. State youth unemployment rates are 12-month averages of original estimates. Remaining data are seasonally adjusted.

Employment

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM1 (modelled estimates), October-24

Largest employing industries

- Health Care and Social Assistance: 19.8% (Aug-24), 16.8% (Aug-23)
- Retail Trade: 9.6% (Aug-24), 10.3% (Aug-23)
- Construction: 9.6% (Aug-24), 8.1% (Aug-23)
- Accommodation and Food Services: 8.8% (Aug-24), 8.9% (Aug-23)
- Education and Training: 8.1% (Aug-24), 9.4% (Aug-23)

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, Detailed, four quarter averages, August-24 quarter#

Unemployment rate

Source: ABS, Labour Force Survey, MRM1 (modelled estimates), October-24

Job seeker income support payments*

Oct-24, 25,315

Change in job seeker income support payments

	Hunter	New South Wales
Payments - Oct 2023	23,030	239,740
Payments - Oct 2024	25,315	264,390
Change from Oct 2023 to Oct 2024	⬆ 2,285	⬆ 24,650
	⬆ 9.9%	⬆ 10.3%

% of 15-64 year olds**on job seeker income support payments

	total persons on job seeker income support	% of 15-64 year olds on job seeker income support
Hunter	25,315	5.7%
New South Wales	264,390	4.9%
Australia	922,225	5.3%

Source: Department of Social Services, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance (other) payment recipients, Oct-24; ABS, Estimated Resident Population, Jun-23
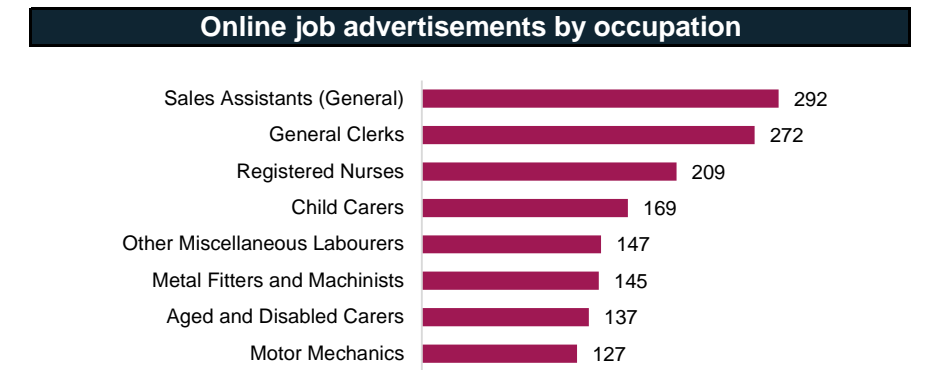
LGAs with highest unemployment rates (%)

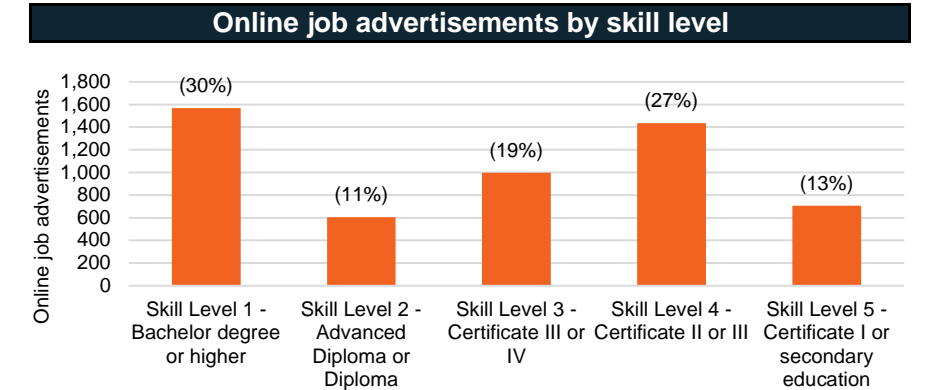| Local Government Area (LGA)	Jun-24	Jun-23
Muswellbrook	6.2	4.8
Cessnock	4.8	4.6
Port Stephens	4.2	3.9
Newcastle	3.1	3.1
Maitland	3.1	2.9

For more insights, access SALM data via jobsandskills.gov.au. Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Small Area Labour Markets, smoothed data, June-24 quarter
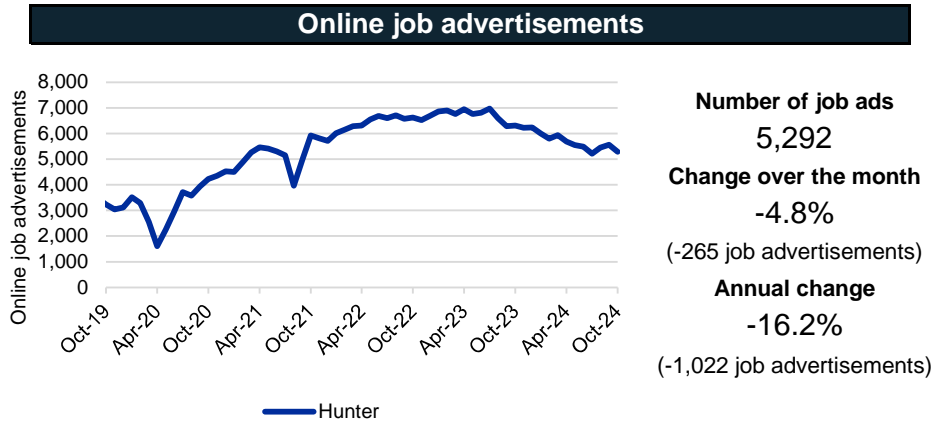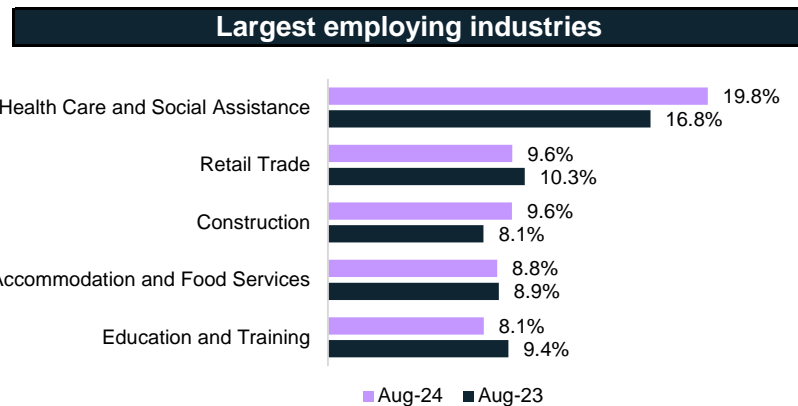
Online job advertisements

Number of job ads
5,292
Change over the month
-4.8%
(-265 job advertisements)
Annual change
-16.2%
(-1,022 job advertisements)

Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, October-24

Online job advertisements by occupation

- Sales Assistants (General): 292
- General Clerks: 272
- Registered Nurses: 209
- Child Carers: 169
- Other Miscellaneous Labourers: 147
- Metal Fitters and Machinists: 145
- Aged and Disabled Carers: 137
- Motor Mechanics: 127

Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, 3 month average of original data, October-24

Online job advertisements by skill level

- Skill Level 1 - Bachelor degree or higher: (30%)
- Skill Level 2 - Advanced Diploma or Diploma: (11%)
- Skill Level 3 - Certificate III or IV: (19%)
- Skill Level 4 - Certificate II or III: (27%)
- Skill Level 5 - Certificate I or secondary education: (13%)

Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, Internet Vacancy Index, seasonally adjusted data, October-24

Note: Data are not readily available by Employment Region. ABS modelled estimates are based on the Hunter Valley exc Newcastle; and Newcastle and Lake Macquarie SA4. The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) and income support data are apportioned to Employment Regions using an SA2 based concordance. *Job seeker payments include those who are in receipt of either JobSeeker (aged 22 and over but under the Age Pension qualifying age) or Youth Allowance (other) payments (those aged 16 to 21). The reporting population for income support payments has changed to include those who are suspended from payment, and those who are current but on zero rate of payment for JobSeeker payments and those who are suspended from payment for Youth Allowance. Note that not everyone in receipt of income support is on the caseload. Data are published on data.gov.au. **Estimated Resident Population estimates are only available by standard 5 year age groups. For more information about the data in this dashboard, refer to the Employment Region Labour Market Dashboard data sources and quality document on jobsandskills.gov.au.
#Given the volatility of the underlying data, industry employment proportions should be treated with a high degree of caution, particularly change over the year figures.