



Local Jobs Plan

Mid North Coast New South Wales

October 2020

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The Department of Education, Skills and Employment acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of the lands known as the 'Mid North Coast Region' - The Gumbaynggirr, Dunghutti, Biripi/Birpai and Worimi lands where we work and travel through. We pay our respects to their people, cultures and their Elders past, present and emerging, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Mid North Coast Region.

Introduction

The Local Jobs Program (LJP) brings together expertise, resources and access to funding at the local level to focus on the reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways for job seekers in 25 Employment Regions, as part of supporting Australia's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This interim plan identifies the key short (1-3) and medium (4-6) term priorities for the Mid North Coast employment region, New South Wales, with a focus on creating employment opportunities, meeting local employer demands and better skilling local job seekers. The plan identifies the direction, strategies and actions of the interim Employment Facilitator.

This plan will be reviewed when the Employment Facilitator and the Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce is in place, and whenever the priorities change (or every six months).

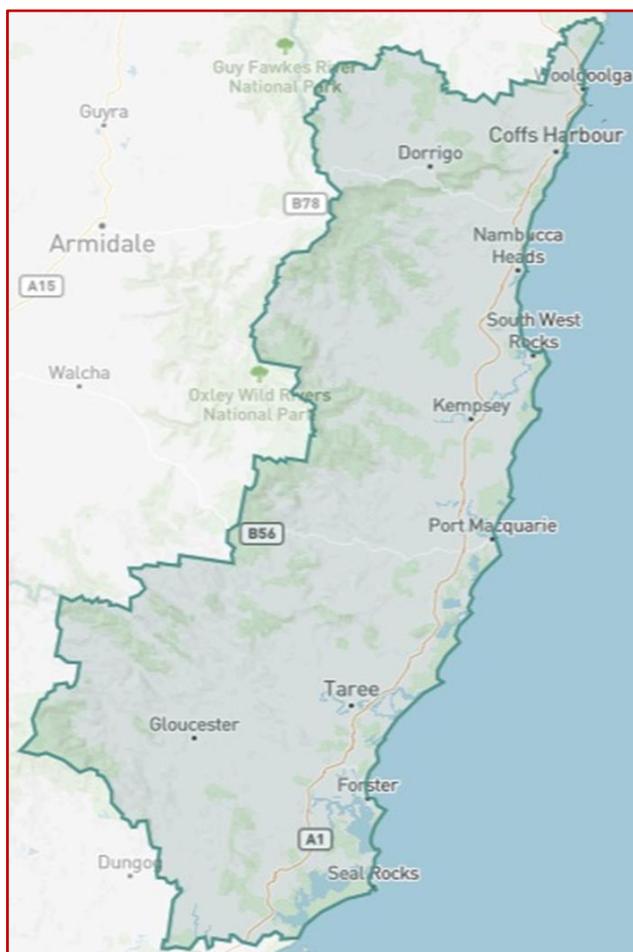
Full details of the LJP can be found at www.dese.gov.au/local-jobs-program

Local Jobs Program Key Priorities: Mid North Coast Region

1. Creating job opportunities for recently displaced workers
2. Supporting disengaged youth
3. Supporting mature age job seekers
4. Pathways for Indigenous job seekers
5. Leveraging infrastructure and development projects
6. Supporting small and micro business to employ

Mid North Coast Region Overview

The Mid North Coast Employment Region stretches 300 kms along the New South Wales coast, and inland to include Gloucester and Dorrigo from around Bulahdelah in the south to Woolgoolga in the north. With the inland part of the region bounded by the Great Dividing Range. Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour, the two largest centres, are 153 kilometres apart.



Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie and the Forster Tuncurry regions are the main tourism centres and easily accessible to visitors from Sydney via the Pacific Highway. Between the airports at Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie, they also cater for direct flights from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra.

The coastal area is home to a large population of retirees and there are many aged care facilities and hospitals throughout the region.

Many areas have seen significant growth. Between June 2018 and June 2019, Korora - Emerald Beach has seen a 3.4 per cent increase in the number of residents, Wauchope (2.7 per cent), Old Bar - Manning Point - Red Head (2.2 per cent), Laurieton - Bonny Hills (1.8 per cent), Port Macquarie (1.7 per cent) and Woolgoolga - Arrawarra (1.7 per cent). All other areas had rises of less than the 1.4 per cent recorded for total NSW, with small declines (Dorrigo, Bulahdelah - Stroud and Nambucca Heads).

Key Challenges

Key challenges in the Mid North Coast region include:

- Securing adequately skilled workers in growth and demand sectors with accessible entry-level work (for example aged care, disability, tourism, construction, and manufacturing).
- Substantial pandemic employment impacts on young people in the Mid North Coast region along with significantly high levels of disengagement by the youth cohort.
- Employer concerns regarding soft and employability skills amongst young people.
- An aging population that is characterised by jobactive caseload numbers of mature age jobseekers that are 28 per cent higher than the NSW State average. This is reflective of the broader regional population demographics, with over 51.6 per cent of the total Mid North Coast population aged 55 or over.
- Structurally high unemployment amongst specific groups such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For example, pre-COVID (February 2020) analysis of jobseeker caseload data suggests an Indigenous person of working age in the Mid North Coast is nearly three times as likely to be a registered jobseeker compared to the general population.
- Structurally high unemployment in specific locations including Nambucca, Kempsey, Taree (SALM data March 2020) that are also limited by poor or no available transport options, affecting access to areas where the employment opportunities are clustered.
- With the vast majority of the employers being small and micro businesses on the Mid North Coast, capacity building to increase employment opportunities within their business model.

Local Jobs Program Key Priorities: Mid North Coast Region

Priority One: Creating opportunities for recently displaced workers

Create opportunities for recently displaced workers and other job seekers with transferable skills to transition into areas of employment growth or self-employment, leveraging Australian and NSW Government programs and the Local Recovery Fund.

Mid North Coast is characterised by strong labour market demand in Health Care and Social Assistance, Construction, Retail Trade and Education and Training.

With the impact of COVID-19 also driving higher levels of domestic tourism and visitation to regional locations, the Mid North Coast is well placed to take advantage of the impending surge in accommodation, hospitality and tourism growth.

New opportunities are also being created through government investment in programs like the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). With the share of the adult population aged 55 and over in the region as the highest in the State, at 51.6 per cent, the region continues to see increasing demand in aged and healthcare services, both in-home and through residential facilities.

Strategies - short and long term?	Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate the range of training options (full qualification, short course, micro-credential) directly linked to current labour demand in the region to provide recently displaced job seekers with a single, streamlined pathway to upskilling and reskilling information. • Develop and implement overarching industry-specific recruitment models in areas of regional skills shortages (e.g. Health Care and Social Assistance, hospitality, etc.) that expedite employer and job seeker connections in a way that can be both tailored to individual employer needs and enable employer collaboration across the industry. • Support local job seekers and businesses to build entrepreneurial capability and innovate in response to new and emerging opportunities in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant Australian Government agencies • Relevant NSW Government agencies • Local Government • Local SME businesses • Education providers and Registered Training Organisations • Employment Services Providers • Businesses, Industry organisations and sector representatives

Priority Two: Supporting disengaged youth

Develop and implement local strategies to support disengaged youth to connect with education and training pathways linked to available jobs.

The Mid North Coast ER is characterised by significant youth unemployment reflected in the high number of young people on job seeker caseloads.

The Mid North Coast ER also features comparatively higher levels of youth disengagement with the ER currently recording the second highest rate in the State.

Strategies - short and long term?	Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a consolidated picture of locally available youth services, programs and initiatives to effectively inform the streamlined design of potential education, training and employment pathways that will address local needs. • Design and deliver industry-specific preparatory programs to support young people to engage with and develop required capability to take up apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities in growth areas. • Identify and promote regional business examples and practices that have utilised positive strategies and practices in maximising the benefits of young employees. • Identify opportunities and create skills development pathways aligned with growth economies to support youth entrepreneurship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant Australian Government agencies • Relevant NSW Government agencies • Local Government • Youth Services and Youth Organisations • Education providers and Registered Training Organisations • Employment Services Providers • Businesses, Industry organisations and sector representatives

Priority Three: Supporting mature age job seekers

Develop and implement local strategies to identify the impediments to mature age job seekers securing meaningful employment opportunities and developing employment, education and training pathways linked to available jobs.

The Mid North Coast has an aging population that is characterised by jobactive caseload numbers of mature aged job seeker numbers that are 28 per cent higher than the NSW State average. This is reflective of the broader regional population demographics.

Whilst many employers are looking for younger candidates to recruit for roles within their organisation, they are limiting their capacity to access an available labour pool that could readily meet many of their existing and future needs.

Strategies	Potential Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage and explore with local businesses to identify the issues and impediments to hiring older workers – perceived and real.• Identify and collate data on the skills and qualifications of the current registered caseload of job seekers to inform and develop targeted marketing strategies directed at businesses and industries within the region seeking/requiring these skills.• Link strategies identified under Priority One where supplementary skills and supports are required.• Identify and promote regional business examples and practices that have utilised positive strategies and practices in maximising the benefits of older workers.• Identify opportunities and create skills development pathways aligned with growth economies to support entrepreneurship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relevant Government agencies and Departments (all levels)• Businesses, industry organisations and sector representatives• Community organisations and not-for-profits• Education providers and Registered Training Organisations• Employment Services Providers

Priority Four: Pathways for Indigenous job seekers

Facilitate pathways for Indigenous job seekers in the Employment Region to build required skills and move into available employment opportunities

The Mid North Coast Employment Region is characterised by significantly high levels of Indigenous job seekers, reflecting the broader population of the region. Whilst Indigenous peoples make up 7 per cent of the Mid North Coast regional population, pre-COVID (February 2020) analysis suggests an Indigenous person of working age in the Mid North Coast is nearly three times more likely to be a registered job seeker compared to the general population.

Strategies - short and long term?	Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the Taskforce and local networks, collate a list of stakeholders who work with and understand the needs of the Indigenous communities across the Region. • Collate a consolidated register of potential collaboration opportunities with employers and industry in high growth areas in the context of workforce diversity goals, including those targeted in Priorities One and Five. • Design and deliver a promotional campaign targeting local employers to highlight the benefits of workforce diversity and the range of available resources (government, community) to support the recruitment and retention of Indigenous job seekers. • Facilitate the development and delivery of employer bespoke training and recruitment pathways that draw on the full range of available programs and services supporting Indigenous job seekers. • Ensure that all projects submitted to the Recovery Fund or otherwise auspiced through the taskforce consider issues of access and prioritisation for Indigenous peoples. • Promote all project participation opportunities across the network of stakeholders who are directly engaged with Indigenous groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant Australian Government agencies • Relevant NSW Government agencies • Local Government • Indigenous services providers, community organisations and representatives • Education providers and Registered Training Organisations • Employment Services Providers • Employers

Priority Five: Leveraging infrastructure and development projects

Effectively meet the recruitment needs and diversity targets of employers delivering major infrastructure and development projects in the Employment Region, including projects fast-tracked by governments as part of economic recovery measures.

Along with evidence of increasing demand in residential and commercial construction across the Mid North Coast, there is also a focus on significant infrastructure investment by all levels of government. This includes the impending construction of the Coffs Harbour Bypass project, which will support 12,000 jobs over the life cycle of the project.

Strategies - short and long term?	Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a regional register of current and pending infrastructure and development projects to identify recruitment needs, required skills and timelines. • Undertake a skills mapping exercise to align identified skills in demand with the skills profiles of job seeker caseloads in the region. • Identify and leverage targeted Government programs including the NSW Government Infrastructure Skills Legacy Program to increase accessibility for diversity cohorts to develop skills and gain employment on major projects including the Coffs Harbour bypass. • Develop and deliver recruitment solutions informed by regional skills mapping. These may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • direct recruitment • short course upskilling to support skills transferability into the construction industry • pre-employment programs comprising employability and industry specific skills training as preparation for entry level traineeships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant Australian Government agencies • Relevant NSW Government agencies • Local Government • Principal contractors delivering major infrastructure projects in the ER • Registered Training Organisations • Employment Services Providers

Priority Six: Supporting small and microbusiness to employ

Assisting and supporting small business to develop better recruitment and retention practices to support their operations, with the right fit staff and skills.

According to [ABS data](#) as at 30 June 2019, of the 27,941 businesses operating on the Mid North Coast and Coffs Grafton regions combined, 60 per cent are sole traders employing no staff, 28 per cent employ 1 – 4 staff, 10 per cent employ 5- 19 staff and only 2 per cent employ 20 staff or more.

With this significant number of small and micro businesses operating in the Mid North Coast region of NSW, one of the key challenges in hiring staff is having the capacity and skill sets within the organisation to recruit effectively and for the long-term benefit of their business sustainability.

Strategies - short and long term?	Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a campaign to engage, gain input and collate data from small and micro business operators in the region to identify and quantify what their business needs to sustainably recruit one more staff member to their existing operation. • Identify regionally accessible tools, collateral, resources, supports and no cost services that can be utilised to assist businesses in developing or accessing effective recruitment practices and processes that are fit for purpose to their business needs. • Map and identify an ecosystem of business networks, platforms and other stakeholders within the region who can be timely disseminators and facilitators of providing access to this material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant Australian Government agencies • Relevant NSW Government agencies • Local Government • Business Chambers and industry associations • Small business support providers • Registered Training Organisations • Employment Services Providers

Large employers

Major employers in the Mid North Coast include: the Mid North Coast Local Health District (throughout region), North Coast TAFE (throughout region), Southern Cross University (Port Macquarie), Expressway Spares (Port Macquarie), Wingham Beef (Taree) and aged-care employers, such as Nambucca Valley Care and Royal Benevolent Freemason Society (Coffs Harbour and Bellingen). Jim Pearson Transport is also a major transport and logistics operation based in Port Macquarie.

Manufacturing is prevalent in many regional locations including a vibrant vehicle-building cluster in the Macksville region, Akubra Hats are manufactured in Kempsey. Additionally there is a strong shipbuilding presence in the region with Stebercraft based in Taree and Birdon Marine operating in Port Macquarie. Major hospitality venues in the region including the CEX club in Coffs Harbour.

Selected Major Projects

The Coffs Harbour Bypass will entail substantial employment though its commencement may coincide with people currently working further north on the Princes Highway duplication being available for redeployment. In any case, the project will boost the local economy.

There may be potential for locals to access employment opportunities associated with the New England Renewable Energy Hub, The Inland Railway and Gunnedah basin mining on a drive in drive out basis.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NSW Government has fast tracked approvals of some projects including a \$58 million project to create employment land at [Port Macquarie Airport in the form of a Business Park](#).

Other Major Projects include:

- To the north of the region final work is occurring on the \$4.9 billion Woolgoolga (in Mid North Coast Employment Region) to Ballina (in North Coast Employment Region) Pacific Highway duplication project. As at the end of June 2020, around 1838 workers were on site. The remaining sections are expected to be completed in 2020.
- The Australian and NSW governments are funding the 14 kilometre Coffs Harbour bypass project. Geotechnical investigations and survey work continue with early works expected to start at the end of 2020, which would coincide with the completion of the road works cited above.
Construction of the new \$194 million Coffs Harbour Hospital is well underway with the new Clinical Services Building expected to be handed over in mid-2021 followed by commissioning work, with the facility opening in late 2021. This will be followed by refurbishment of parts of the existing hospital in 2022. The new \$73 million Macksville Hospital opened on 26 May 2020.
- On 22 May 2020, the Australian Government announced a new \$500 million Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI Program) for local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects. The funding allocations include:
 - MidCoast \$3.4 million
 - Port Macquarie-Hastings \$1.8million
 - Coffs Harbour \$1.4 million
 - Kempsey \$1.2 million
 - Nambucca \$1.2 million
 - Bellingen \$0.6 million

- Charles Sturt University has awarded a contract to Lahey Constructions for Stage 2B of the University's almost \$66 million project to expand the facilities at the Port Macquarie campus. The Stage 2B Development will see the construction of the Port Macquarie International Education Centre, which is part of a larger development project that will enable the University to admit an additional 1800 students, 430 of which will be international students. The construction of the Stage 2B development will commence shortly and is scheduled to be completed in January 2021.

Local Stakeholders, Services, Strategies and Synergies

While the boundaries for the Mid North Coast ER extend from Bulahdelah to Woolgoolga, Mid North Coast and Northern Rivers stakeholders engage in close collaboration, which is evidenced by the joint North and the Mid North Coast NSW Employment Strategy and Action Plan. NSW government, Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees and local councils established a number of industry working sub-groups developing targeted economic development strategies under the RDA North Coast Employment Strategy.

It is important to recognise the artificial nature of the employment region boundaries and to approach engagement with the North and the Mid North Coast stakeholders as a joint group.

There are six local councils in the Mid North Coast: Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Nambucca, Kempsey, Port Macquarie – Hastings and the former Greater Taree and Gloucester Shire – now an amalgamated part of MidCoast Council. In the North Coast, the Northern Rivers RDA and the Joint Organisation (NRJO) are active representatives of the Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Tweed NSW local government areas. RDA Mid North (RDAMNC) is also an active member of the Mid North Coast economic development network. Given the existing local partnerships, leveraging their networks will be a priority.

There are eight Australian Government employment programs delivered by eight employment service providers in the region. Three providers deliver Enhanced Services as part of the New Employment Services Trial (NEST) arrangements on the Mid North Coast: TURSA, NORTEC and ETC. Job ready NEST participants are being assisted by the Department through the Digital Services Contact Centre. Other employment services in the region include ParentsNext (PNX), Transition to Work (TtW), New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS), Career Transition Assistance (CTA), Employment Preparation Activity (EPA), Employability Skills Training (EST), Harvest Trail Services and the Entrepreneurship Facilitator.

Other Australian Government programs include Vocational Training and Employment Centre (VTEC), Disability Employment Services (both the Disability Management Service (DES DMS) and Employment Support Service), the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the Australian Apprenticeship Support Network and AusIndustry.

The Mid North Coast of NSW is home to [Charles Sturt University](#), [Southern Cross University](#) and [TAFE NSW](#).

Attachment A - Labour market update

October 2020¹

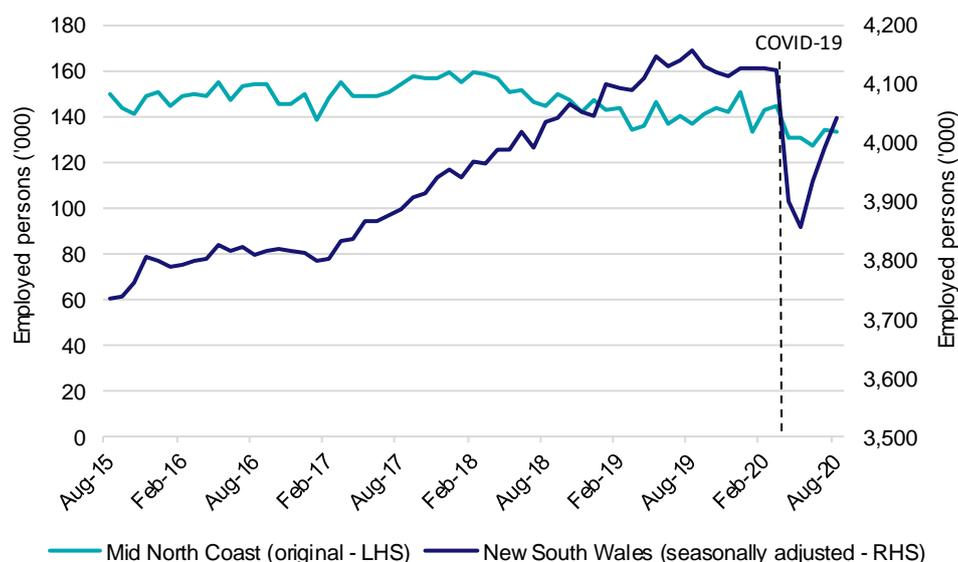
While COVID-19 presents its own immediate challenges, the Mid North Coast region has a long history of entrenched labour market and social disadvantage, with its unemployment rate averaging 6.5 per cent over the last five years (compared with 5.0 per cent for New South Wales). In addition, employment growth in the region has been contracting in recent years, impacting negatively on both the number and types of job opportunities available.

ABS Labour Force Survey regional estimates show that labour market conditions have deteriorated in the Mid North Coast region since March 2020, when Australia recorded its 100th case of COVID-19.

Employment

- There were 133,400 employed people in the Mid North Coast region in August 2020
- The number of employed people has decreased by 11,100 (or 7.7 per cent) between March and August 2020.

Employed persons aged 15 and over (five years to August 2020)



Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, August 2020

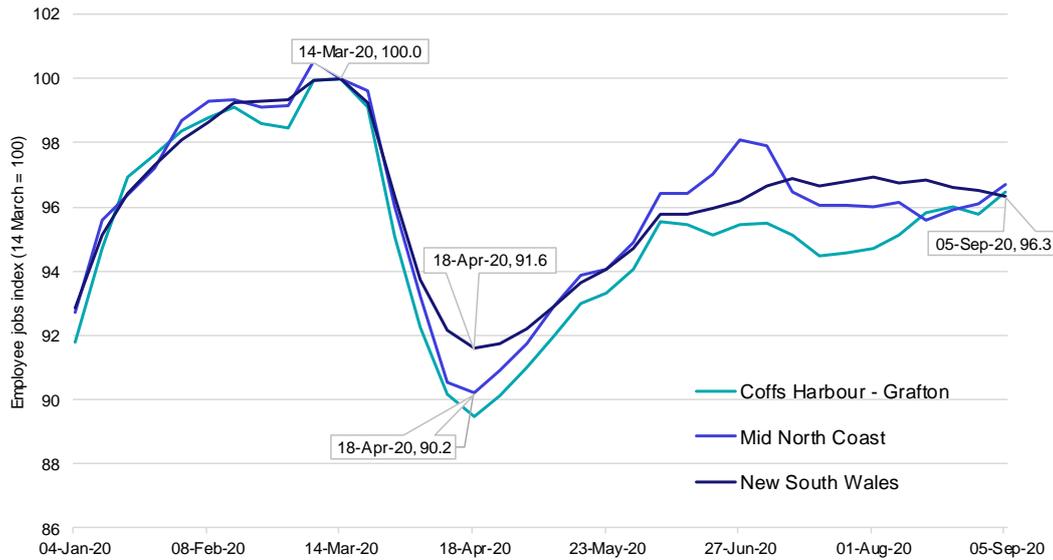
¹ Throughout this labour market update, unless otherwise stated, data are for the SA4s of Coffs Harbour – Grafton and Mid North Coast, which are a good proxy for the Mid North Coast Employment Region. Data are for the latest available at the time of writing. Note that regional monthly ABS Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are highly volatile and should be viewed with extreme caution.

ABS weekly payroll data

The ABS weekly payroll data show that between 14 March 2020 and 5 September 2020:

- The number of employee jobs in the Coffs Harbour - Grafton SA4 fell by 3.5 per cent, compared with a 3.3 per cent decline in the SA4 of Mid North Coast. Over the same period, employee jobs in New South Wales fell by 3.7 per cent
- There has been some improvement over the four weeks to 5 September, with employee jobs in the Coffs Harbour – Grafton SA4 increasing by 1.4 per cent and by 0.6 per cent in Mid North Coast SA4, compared with a 0.5 per cent decline for the State

Employee jobs 4 January to 5 September (14 March 2020 = 100)



Source: ABS, Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages, Week ending 5 September 2020.

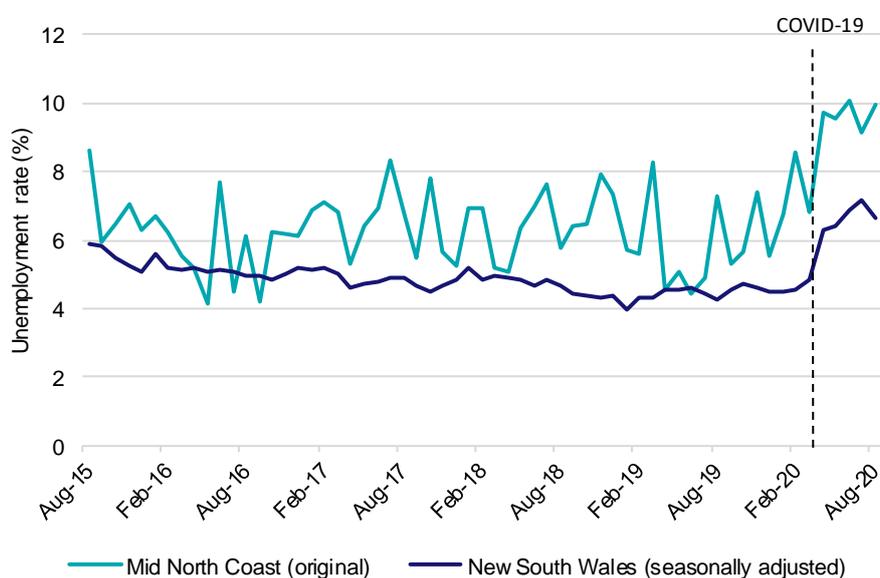
Participation rate

- The participation rate in Mid North Coast fell sharply, down by 2.2 percentage points between March and August 2020, to stand at just 49.0 per cent, significantly below the 65.2 per cent recorded for New South Wales
- The share of the adult population aged 55 and over in the region is the highest in the State, at 51.6 per cent, compared with 34.7 per cent for New South Wales.

Unemployment

- The region's unemployment rate stood at 9.9 per cent in August 2020, up by 3.1 percentage points since March 2020 and is above the 6.7 per cent recorded for New South Wales
- Over the last five years, the unemployment rate in Mid North Coast has averaged 6.5 per cent, significantly above the 5.0 per cent recorded for the State

Unemployment rate time series (5 years to August 2020)



Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, August 2020

Considerable labour market disparity exists within the Mid North Coast Employment Region. Latest available *Small Area Labour Markets* data show that, in the March quarter 2020 (latest available data), the Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) of Korora – Emerald Beach recorded an unemployment rate of 2.3 per cent, while the SA2 of Nambucca Heads recorded an unemployment rate of 12.7 per cent.²

Employment services caseload characteristics

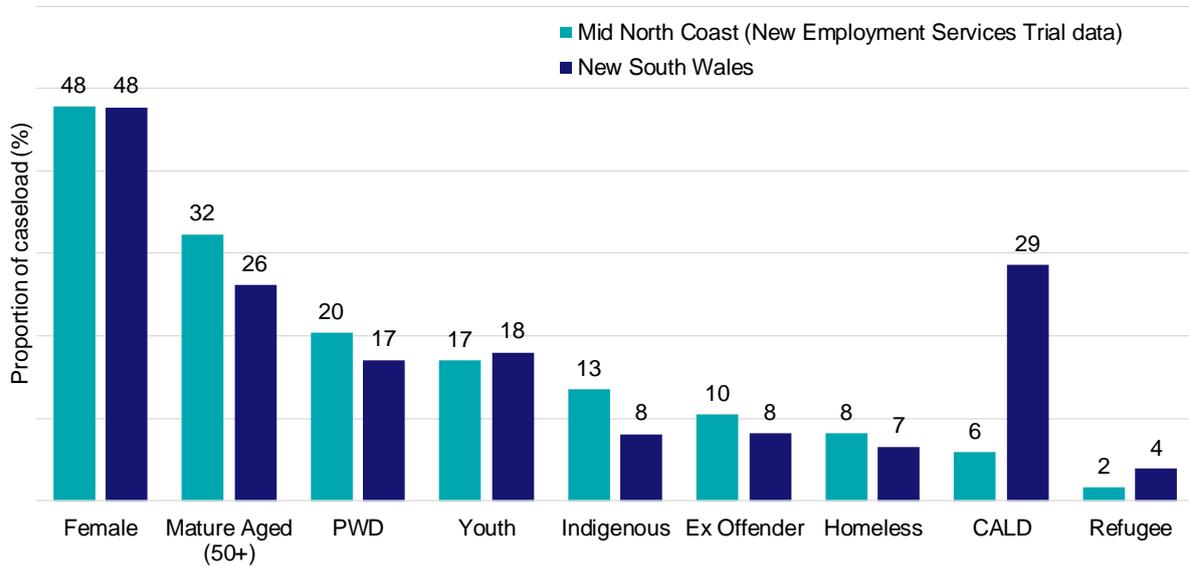
New data for the jobactive and New Employment Services Trial (NEST) regions have been released. As at 30 September 2020,

- The caseload in the Mid North Coast Employment Region increased from 14,150 people in March 2020 to 23,716 in September 2020, a rise of 68 per cent
- This compares with an increase of 148 per cent for New South Wales and 97 per cent for Australia

² Data for SA2s are sourced from the National Skills Commission, *Small Area Labour Markets*, March quarter 2020, smoothed estimates. Labour market data at the regional level can display significant variability and should be viewed with caution. Please also note that for the purposes of this analysis, the SA2 of Lord Howe Island has been excluded.

- The caseload in the region has substantially higher proportions of mature aged persons and Indigenous Australians, and substantially lower proportion of culturally and linguistically diverse persons, compared with New South Wales.

Employment services caseload for selected cohorts (September 2020)

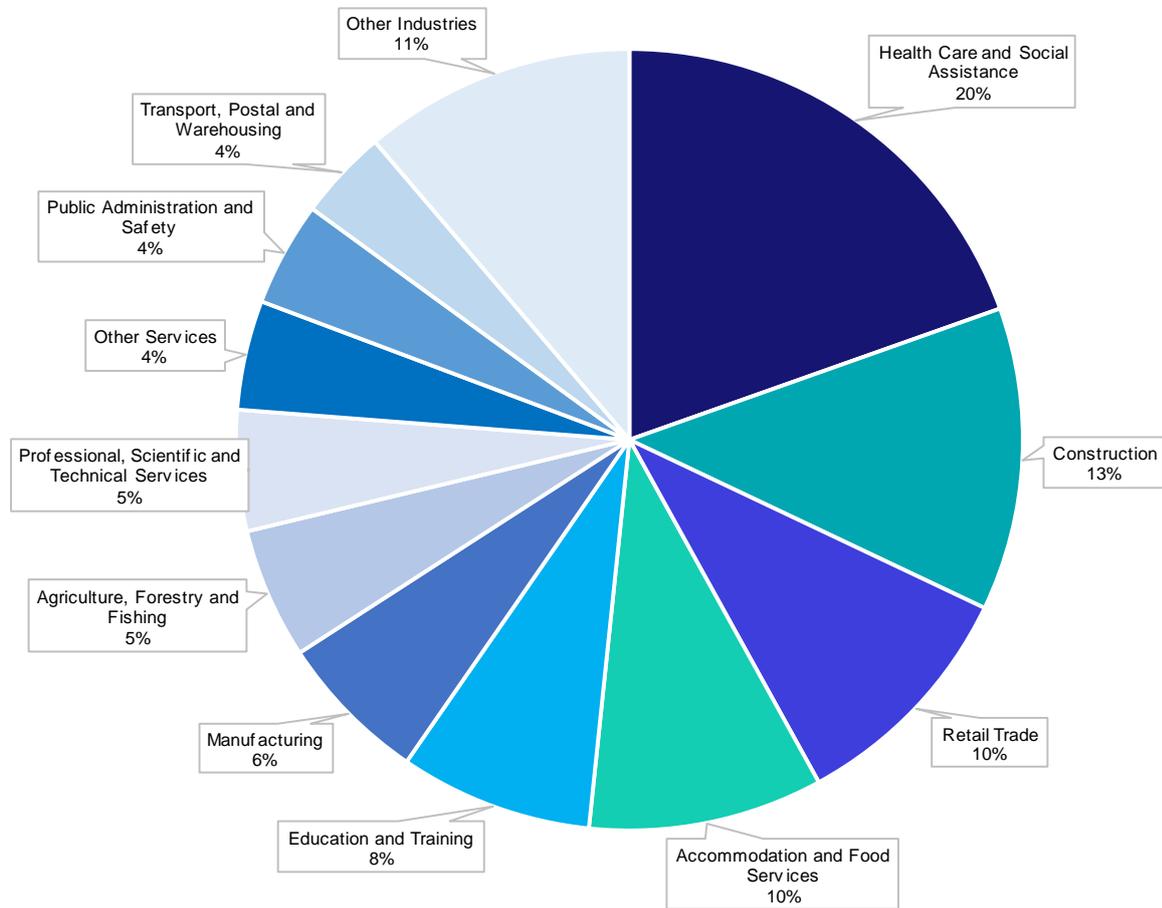


Source: Department of Education, Skills and Employment, administrative data, September 2020. PWD = Persons with disability. CALD = Culturally and Linguistically Diverse. Note that data for NSW excludes participants in the New Employment Services Trial (NEST) in the Mid North Coast Employment Region.

Industry profile³

As at August 2020, the largest employing industries in Mid North Coast were Health Care and Social Assistance; Construction; Retail Trade; and Accommodation and Food Services.

Share of employment by industry in Mid North Coast, August quarter 2020



Source: ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, August 2020. "Other Industries" includes: Administrative and Support Services; Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services; Wholesale Trade; Financial and Insurance Services; Arts and Recreation Services; Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services; Information Media and Telecommunications; and Mining.

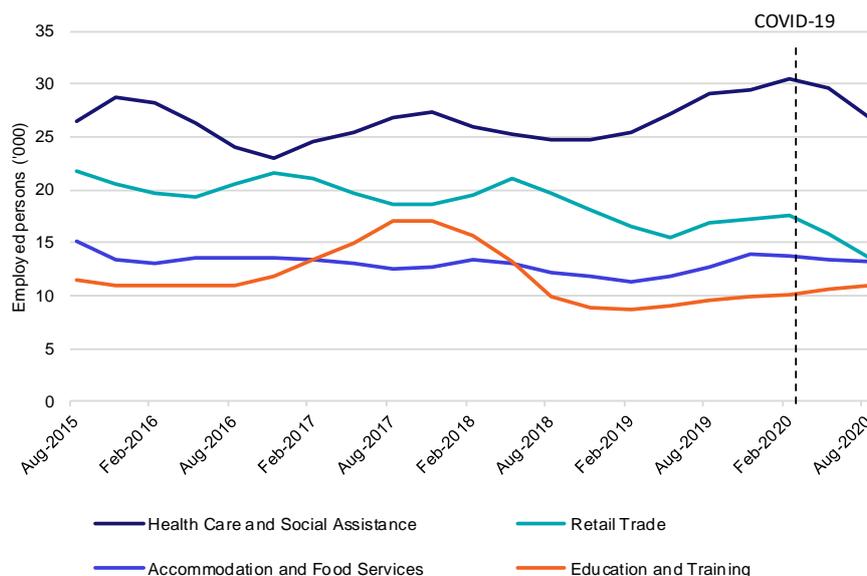
³ Regional industry employment data is in four quarter averaged terms, which means it is not responsive enough to pick up the impact of COVID-19. This section is intended to present the more medium-term trends in industry employment for the region.

Employment trends (for selected industries)

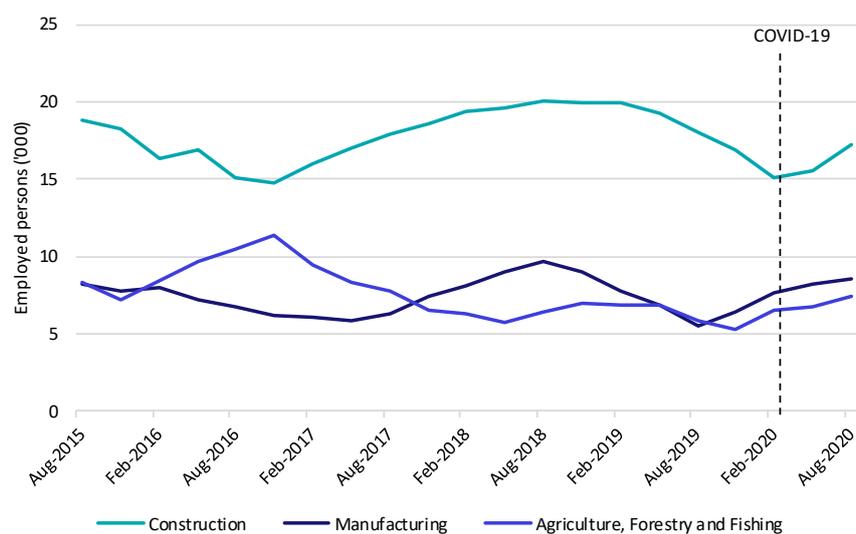
Although COVID-19 has affected some industries more than others, it is important to consider longer term employment trends to understand where current and emerging opportunities may be in this region. In recent years, employment in Mid North Coast has

- declined for each of the largest employing industries over the last five years, except for Health Care and Social Assistance, which remained at around the same level
- Recorded a period of increasing employment in Construction, between late 2016 and mid 2018, increasing by just over a third, before declining again until March 2020.

Employed persons in selected 'service' industries, five years to August 2020 ('000)



Employed persons in selected 'producing' industries, five years to August 2020 ('000)



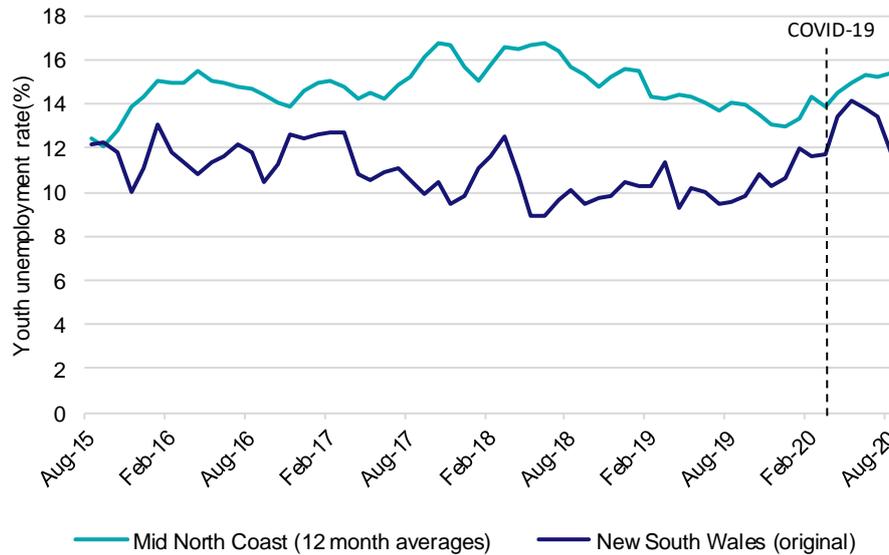
Source: ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, August 2020

Youth aged 15-24

Youth unemployment

- The youth unemployment rate in the Mid North Coast region stood at 15.4 per cent in August 2020, above the 11.7 per cent recorded for New South Wales
- The youth unemployment rate has increased by 1.5 percentage points since March 2020

Youth unemployment (5 years to August 2020)



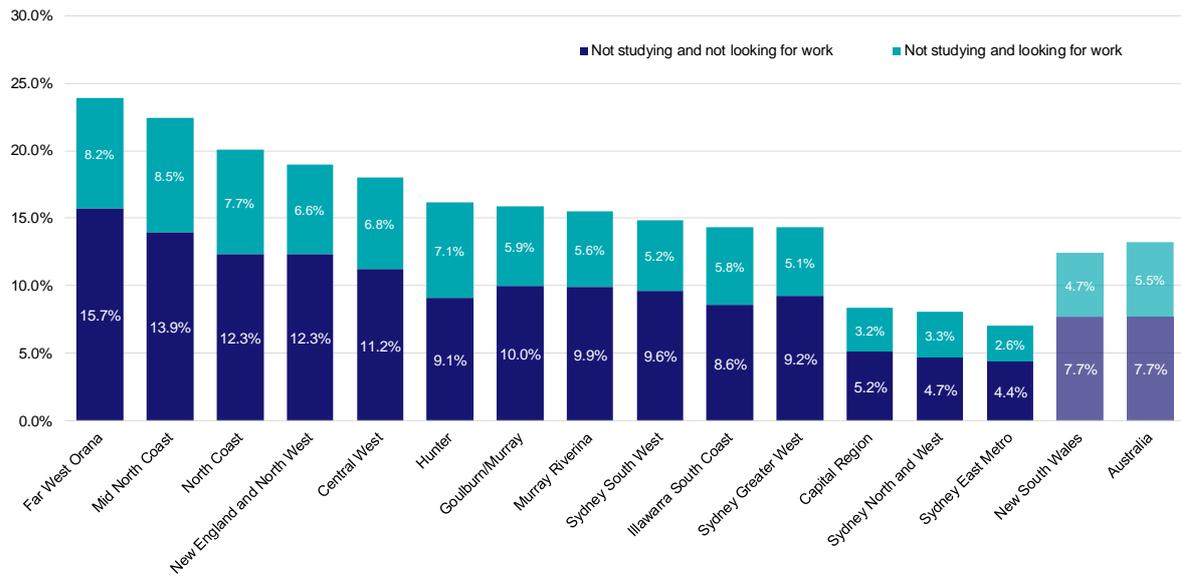
Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, August 2020

Youth disengagement

Data below is based on 2016 Census for Employment Regions, which is the latest available source for this information.

- Mid North Coast has the second highest rate of youth disengagement of all New South Wales Employment Regions
- The rate of youth disengagement in the region was 22.4 per cent, compared with 12.4 per cent for New South Wales and 13.2 per cent for Australia.

Young people not studying nor working (18-24 years old)

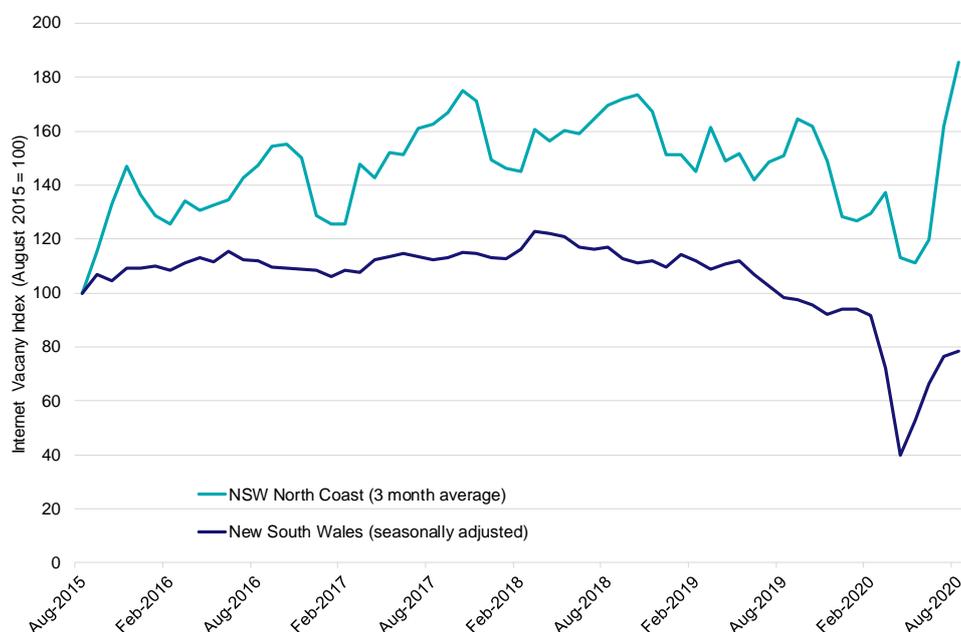


Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016. Note: the Goulburn/Murray Employment Region spans the New South Wales and Victorian border.

Vacancies and job advertisements

The level of vacancies in the Internet Vacancy Index NSW North Coast region declined by nearly 19.1 per cent over the two months to May 2020, before increasing again to August 2020 (up by 67.0 per cent from the lowest point).

Online job advertisement time series (Five years to August 2020)



Source: National Skills Commission, Internet Vacancy Index, August 2020. Data for NSW North Coast is a three-month moving average, and data for New South Wales is seasonally adjusted; both have been indexed to July 2015. Note the NSW North Coast region is the best fit from the regions available from the contributing job boards and does not precisely correspond to the Mid North Coast Employment Region.

Top 10 advertised occupations (August 2020)

ANZSCO Occupation
Registered Nurses
Sales Assistants (General)
Aged and Disabled Carers
General Clerks
Other Miscellaneous Labourers
Welfare, Recreation and Community Arts Workers
Commercial Cleaners
Nursing Support and Personal Care Workers
Early Childhood (Pre-primary School) Teachers
Receptionists

Source: National Skills Commission, Internet Vacancy Index, August 2020. Raw data are used for analysis. Note: the NSW North Coast region is the best fit from the regions available from the contributing job boards and does not precisely correspond to the Mid North Coast Employment Region.

A note on comparing data

It is important to note that unemployment statistics collected as part of the Labour Force Survey can vary considerably from income support statistics and jobactive caseload numbers.

A person is considered employed by the ABS if they are aged 15 years and over and work for an hour or more during the Labour Force Survey reference week. The ABS also classifies someone as employed if they have taken any kind of leave, or were paid for some or all of the previous four weeks (including via the JobKeeper Payment). In addition, employees who were away from their jobs for less than four weeks without pay but still believed they had a job (i.e. were temporarily stood down) would also be classified as employed.

A person is considered unemployed by the ABS if they are not employed, have actively looked for work at some time in the last four weeks and are currently available for work.