

Office of Fair and Safe Work Queensland

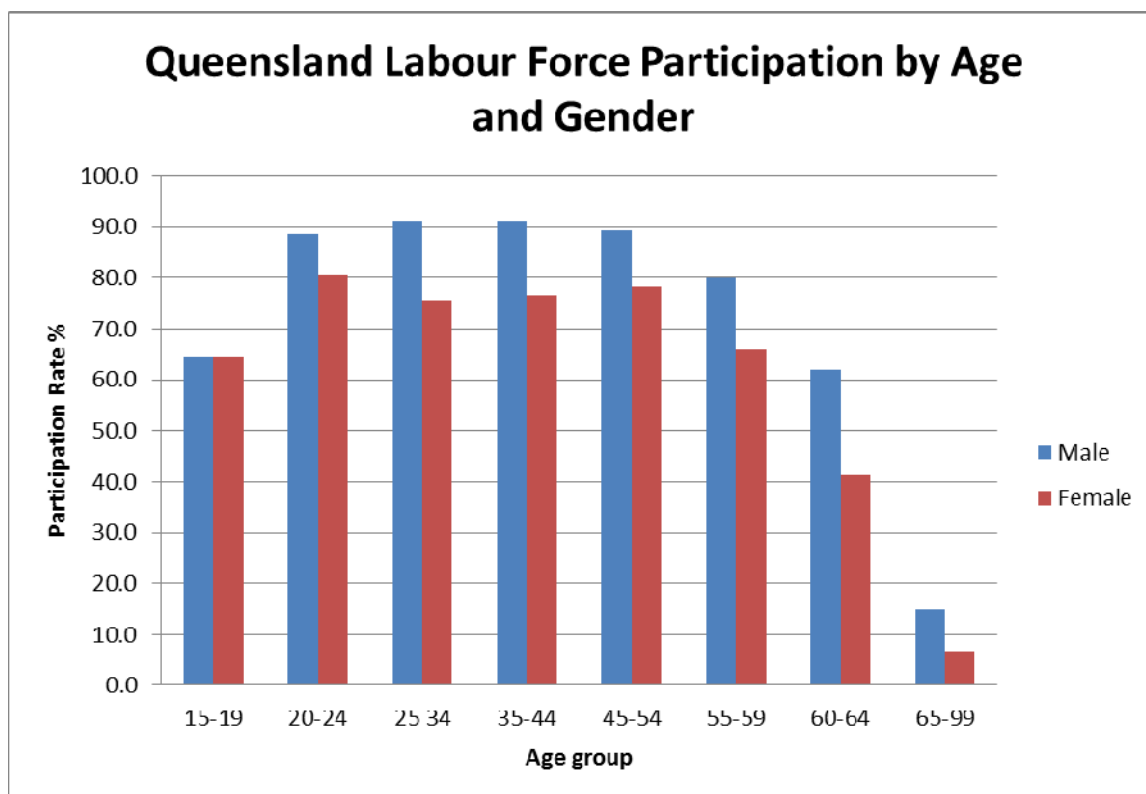
Women in the Queensland workforce

Employment statistics

In May 2010, a total of 1,041,800 Queensland women were in the workforce, comprising 45.7 per cent of the total workforce. Of these women 461,800, or 44.3 per cent, worked part time hours. Of the 1,239,300 male employees in the Queensland workforce, 15.3 per cent worked part time hours¹.

Participation rate

The participation rate reflects the percentage of the total adult population who are in the labour force, either working or looking for work. For Queensland women, the participation rate in May 2010 was 61.3 per cent. For men, this participation rate was 74.0 per cent¹. As shown by the graph below¹, the participation rate for women experiences a sharp dip between ages 20 and 40 when many women leave the workforce due to family commitments.



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Employment by industry

The Queensland workforce is highly segmented which means that women and men tend to work in different industries. In March 2010 nearly half (43.2 per cent) of all employed women worked in either *health care and social assistance*, *retail trade* or in *education and training*, which are female dominated industries.

Proportion of Queensland working women by particular industry²:

- Health Care and Social Assistance: 18.4 per cent
- Retail Trade: 13.9 per cent
- Education and Training: 10.9 per cent.

Industry	Proportion of female employment ¹
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3.05%
Mining	0.53%
Manufacturing	4.20%
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	0.53%
Construction	3.09%
Wholesale trade	2.27%
Retail trade	13.92%
Accommodation and Food Services	8.28%
Transport, postal and warehousing	3.34%
Information media and telecommunications	1.19%
Financial and insurance services	3.64%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	2.53%
Professional, scientific and technical services	7.00%
Administrative and support services	4.69%
Public administration and safety	6.32%
Education and training	10.87%
Health care and social assistance	18.38%
Arts and recreation services	2.13%
Other services	4.04%

Gender pay gap

The gender pay gap refers to the difference in average earnings of men and women. The gender pay gap in Queensland is 19.5 per cent³. The gender pay gap is based on full time adult ordinary time earnings figures compiled by the ABS. Part time and casual employees are not included, nor are overtime payments.

¹ ABS Labour Force Australia Cat. No. 6202.0 May 2010 (trend data)

² ABS Labour Force Australia Cat. No.6291 March 2010 NB: full and part time workers

³ ABS Average Weekly Ordinary Time Earnings (AWOTE) Cat. No. 6302 February 2010 (quarterly trend data).