

JOB REPORT NOVEMBER

Mini Report | Issue date: 15 December 2025

Peak Season Sparks
Labour Market Revival



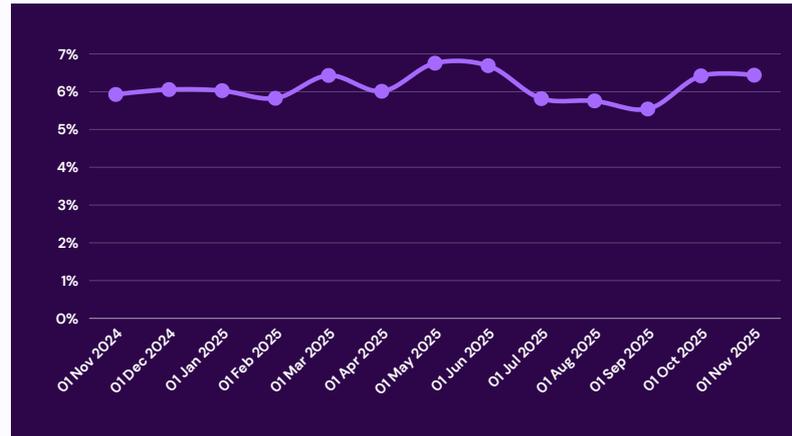
FINDINGS



Employment Growth

Youth employment continues to gain momentum

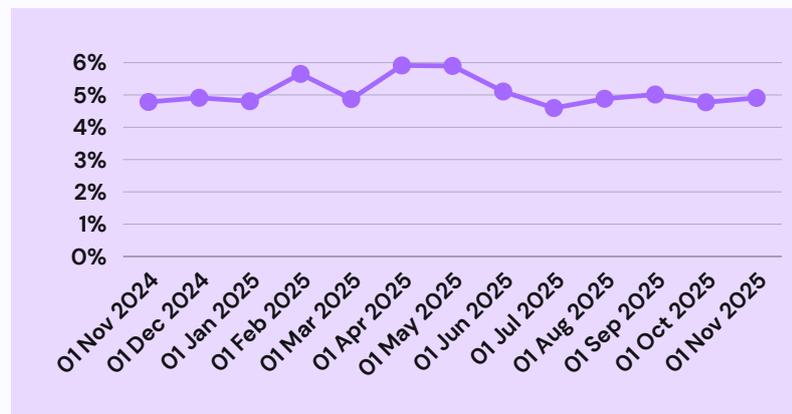
- Employment jumped **6.4% year-on-year**, **3.7% quarter-on-quarter**, and **0.9% month-on-month**, powered by peak season demand.
- **Youth employment** stole the spotlight: workers aged **14–17** saw **23.6% YoY** job growth, and **18–24 year-olds** rose **15.6%YoY**
- **Casual employment** lifted **9.4%YoY**, with a **1.2% MoM** jump as businesses raced to fill flexible roles
- **Retail and hospitality hiring** also accelerated, growing **7.1%YoY** as early Black Friday and holiday demand kicked in.



Wages remains strong

Wage growth remains strong despite a slight seasonal dip

- Median wages rose to **\$45.20**, up **+4.9% YoY**
- and **+0.7% QoQ**, though a **slight -0.1% MoM decline** suggests cautious year-end cost management by employers.
- **Western and South Australia** led annual wage growth.
- **Small monthly declines across several states** may reflect employers tightening budgets in the lead up to Christmas.



FINDINGS



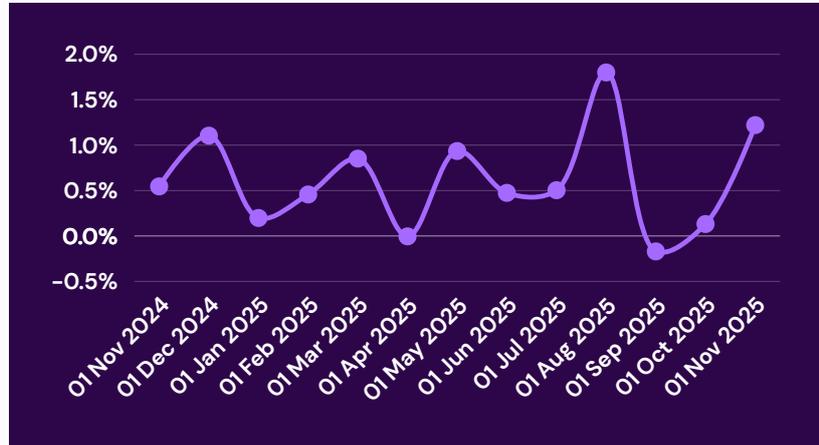
More shifts, more hours

After a soft patch, hours worked rose **1.3% MoM** and **+1.2% YoY**, with the national average reaching **125.3 hours**.

Casual hours saw a dramatic **7.2% MoM** surge, reflecting peak season staffing.

Teen workers logged **37.9% YoY** more hours.

The strongest monthly hours growth came from **18–24 year-olds** and **retail/hospitality** roles, indicating holiday shopping has translated into real gains for the youngest and most flexible workers.



At-a-Glance Graphics

November data signals a meaningful shift in labour-market confidence, fuelled by peak retail season demand and early holiday hiring. Youth, casuals and frontline industries surged, bringing strong momentum into summer despite macroeconomic uncertainty.

Youth workers lead in gaining hours



YoY

+37.9%

Hours worked by teens surged, while 18–24-year-olds recorded the biggest monthly lift (3.4% MoM).

The sharpest momentum coming from young workers in casual roles, and retail and hospitality.

Queensland show strong pre-Christmas lift

**BIGGEST
HOURS WORKED
SURGES**

BRISBANE

+0.2%
YoY

+2.7%
MoM

GOLD COAST

+5.7%
YoY

+1.6%
MoM

> After a long stretch of caution, businesses are giving staff more hours in Queensland

Wages remain higher over the year

Median wage sits at:

\$45.20/hour

↑4.9% YoY

Some of the strongest annual wage growth