



Agricultural Labour Factsheet

Highlight: In May 2025, the full-time share of employment in agriculture increased to 75.9%, its highest level in three years.



Source: ABS 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed

In the year to May 2025, employment in agriculture decreased by 31,900 people (-11.0%) to 258,900 people. Note: Employed short-term non-residents and secondary jobs by industry are outside the scope of the Labour Force Survey.



Source: ABS 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed

In May 2025, Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming registered an increase in employment from a decade earlier, along with Fruit and Tree Nut Growing, Mushroom and Vegeable Growing, Other Livestock Farming and Nursery and Floriculture Production.



Source: ABS week-ending-14-december-2024, Weekly Payroll Jobs

In the week ending 14 December 2024, agricultural payroll jobs increased by 0.6% in the month from 16 November 2024, and decreased by 1.2% in the year from 16 December 2023. Note: Agriculture has high numbers of owner operators who are not included in payroll reporting.



Source: Department of Home Affairs 2025

In the year to May 2025, the number of working holiday makers increased by over 38,000 visa holders (+21.5%) to over 215,000 visa holders. Note: Not all Working Holiday Makers are employed and not all work in agriculture. Around half of Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme workers are typically employed in agriculture.

Agricultural Labour Factsheet continued





Source: ABS 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed

In May 2025, agriculture's share of the total workforce recovered slightly from the previous quarter to 1.8%, though was down from 2.0% a year earlier.

Source: ABS 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed

In May 2025, the full-time share of employment in agricuture increased to 75.9%, its highest level in three years.





The share of female workers in agriculture increased slightly to 32.7% in May 2025, almost unchanged from a year earlier.



Source: ABS 2025, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed

In the year to May 2025, monthly hours worked in agriculture decreased by 1.0 million hours (-9.2%) to 10.3 million hours.