With the smallest population in Queensland and minimal projects scheduled, there isn’t much construction activity forecast for the region. Leaving the local workforce with a persistent surplus of labour.

-1.1% expected annual population growth

7,000 population

9% unemployment rate

270 employed in construction

10 construction apprentices

0.1% of QLD construction apprentices are in the South West region

**Construction Apprentice Intake Rate**
*Apprentice commencements per 100 workers*

**Construction Apprentice Training Rate**
*Apprentices in-training per 100 workers*

**Construction Workforce Outlook**

**Trade Availability**

Source: NIEIR

NB: These figures reflect the overall balance of supply and demand for trades labour across all industries for 2019.
Sectors in Focus for South West 2019-20

Activity – Residential

$\textbf{RESIDENTIAL} - 12\%$ 
of overall activity in South West

Activity – Commercial

$\textbf{COMMERCIAL} - 12\%$ 
of overall activity in South West

Activity – Engineering

$\textbf{ENGINEERING} - 76\%$ 
of overall activity in South West

120 
construction businesses

67\% Sole traders
33\% SMEs (1-20)
0\% Large (over 20)

Caution should be exercised when interpreting trends for this region. Statistics for lightly-populated regions often fluctuate randomly and dramatically from one year to the next, as small changes in numbers can result in large percentage changes.