

# Australian fisheries statistics 2007

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[Foreword](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)  
[Enquiries](#)

[Definitions and explanations](#)

## **Production**

[Trade](#)  
[Employment](#)  
[Recreational and  
charter fishing](#)  
[Profile of Australian  
fisheries in 2007](#)

[Excel data](#)

[Download pdf](#)

## Employment

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reports two main series relating to commercial fishing employment. Estimates from the Labour Force Survey (part of the Monthly Population Survey) indicate that commercial fishing employment in 2006-07 was 9700, more than 50 per cent lower than in 2000-01 and lower than at any time in the past two decades (figure x).

Information collected from the 2006 ABS census corroborates the Labour Force Survey's estimate of total employment in the fishing industry (table A). Of the 9700 employed in the industry, according to the census, more than one-third

(3600 persons) were employed in aquaculture and more than 1100 persons were employed in rock lobster fishing, principally in Western Australia and South Australia. Tasmania had the largest share of aquaculture employment, while the fishing industries in Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania each employed around 1300 people. The affiliated industries of fish wholesaling and seafood processing employed 4200 and 2000 persons respectively.



Estimated employment in the Australian fishing industry  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics census data, August 2006

	<b>NSW no.</b>	<b>Vic no.</b>	<b>Qld no.</b>	<b>WA no.</b>	<b>SA no.</b>	<b>Tas no.</b>	<b>NT no.</b>	<b>ACT no.</b>	<b>Australia no.</b>
Aquaculture	709	280	551	325	766	935	62	0	3 628
Finfish trawling	61	52	61	23	53	25	4	0	278
Line fishing	7	10	27	15	18	8	0	0	86
Prawn fishing	130	4	323	93	78	0	19	0	648
Rock lobster fishing	43	93	104	491	227	183	13	0	1 154
Other fishing	291	130	247	214	199	211	135	4	3 941
Total	1 241	569	1 313	1 161	1 341	1 362	233	4	9 735
Fish wholesaling	1 039	859	1 037	452	460	295	43	17	4 202
Seafood processing	203	259	273	357	509	385	15	0	2 001
Total	1 242	1 118	1 310	809	969	680	58	17	6 203

Source: ABS (2007).