



employment rate of cape town south a



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## ◆ AI Overview ⋮

As of Q4 2025, Cape Town has the lowest official unemployment rate among South African metros at **19.8%**, with a record 1.895 million people employed. The city added 113,000 jobs year-on-year and 69,000 in the final quarter of 2025. The broader Western Cape province reports an 18.1% unemployment rate, well below the 31.4% national average. [City of Cape Town +4](#)

### Key Employment Data for Cape Town (Q4 2025)

- **Official Unemployment Rate:** 19.8% (down from previous periods).
- **Total Employed:** Record high of 1.895 million residents.
- **Job Growth:** 113,000 jobs added year-on-year; 69,000 jobs added in Q4 2025.
- **Employment-to-Population Ratio:** Rose to 57.6%.
- **Sector Performance:** Strong growth in tourism, manufacturing, construction, and technology. [City of Cape Town +5](#)

### Provincial Context (Western Cape)

- The Western Cape has the lowest unemployment rate in South Africa at 18.1% (narrow definition).
- The expanded definition of unemployment (including discouraged job seekers) in the Western Cape is 23.7%, compared to 42.1% nationally.
- Key drivers for provincial employment include the trade, agriculture, and construction sectors. [Western Cape Government +2](#)

Despite these improvements, the city still faces challenges with nearly one in five residents officially unemployed. [Facebook](#)

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