

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Treasury Portfolio

Inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic
2019 - 2020

Division: JobKeeper Division
Topic: JobKeeper
Reference: Written Question from Senator Siewert – 12 June 2020, IQ20-000135

Question:

1. How many people are in receipt of JobKeeper?
2. What is the breakdown of those people by:
 - a. Gender
 - b. Age
 - c. Location
3. What were JobKeeper recipients earning before they received JobKeeper?
4. How many people were earning less than the JobKeeper amount prior to receipt of JobKeeper?
5. Of those earning less than JobKeeper:
 - a. How much were they earning?
 - b. What are the age, gender and location breakdowns for these people?
6. Of those earning wages less than JobKeeper beforehand, would those people have been in receipt of or entitled to be in receipt of any other social security payment, and if so, how much?

Answer:

1. How many people are in receipt of JobKeeper?

As at midnight Thursday 25 June, organisations which had applications processed for the April and/or May JobKeeper fortnights covered approximately 3.5 million employees.

2. What is the breakdown of those people by:

a. Gender

Data analysed for employees and eligible business participants that were nominated by organisations as eligible for JobKeeper claims in the April fortnights 1 and/or 2 as at 18 June 2020, shows that around 47 per cent were female and 53 per cent were male.¹

b. Age

Data analysed for employees and eligible business participants that were nominated by organisations as eligible for JobKeeper claims in the April fortnights 1 and/or 2 as at 18 June 2020, shows the following distribution among age ranges.¹

¹ The JobKeeper payment is made to employers by the ATO, not directly to employees. It is not a requirement of the JobKeeper Payment program for employers to report their employee demographics to the ATO prior to their organisation receiving JobKeeper payments. Therefore, the breakdown provided in this question is based on initial analysis that has been undertaken using other ATO data sources.

Age range	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-70	71-74	75+
Per cent of cohort	13.0%	22.6%	22.8%	21.2%	15.5%	3.5%	0.9%	0.5%

c. Location

Data analysed for employees and eligible business participants that were nominated by organisations as eligible for JobKeeper claims in the April fortnights 1 and/or 2 as at 18 June 2020, shows the following distribution among the States and Territories.^{1 above}

State/Territory	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT
Per cent of cohort	33.1%	27.8%	19.7%	9.5%	6.2%	1.8%	1.3%	0.6%

3. What were JobKeeper recipients earning before they received JobKeeper?

These types of questions are within the scope of the Review of the JobKeeper Program, which is Cabinet-in-Confidence. The release of the Review is a matter for Government.

4. How many people were earning less than the JobKeeper amount prior to receipt of JobKeeper?

These types of questions are within the scope of the Review of the JobKeeper Program, which is Cabinet-in-Confidence. The release of the Review is a matter for Government.

5. Of those earning less than JobKeeper:

a. How much were they earning?

These types of questions are within the scope of the Review of the JobKeeper Program, which is Cabinet-in-Confidence. The release of the Review is a matter for Government.

b. What are the age, gender and location breakdowns for these people?

These types of questions are within the scope of the Review of the JobKeeper Program, which is Cabinet-in-Confidence. The release of the Review is a matter for Government.

6. Of those earning wages less than JobKeeper beforehand, would those people have been in receipt of or entitled to be in receipt of any other social security payment, and if so, how much?

Some individuals would have been eligible for income support payments depending on their personal circumstances. For example, a single person with no dependent children, not renting and earning less than \$1,086.50 a fortnight may be eligible for the JobSeeker Payment. Payment amounts for eligible recipients will vary depending on the type of payment, the individual's income and assets and other personal characteristics, for example if they are a renter or have a partner.