

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

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

2020 - 2021

Division: JobKeeper Division
Topic: Changes to JobKeeper
Reference: Written Question from Senator Gallagher –31 July, IQ20-000196

Question:

Do the changes announced by the Government to JobKeeper due to take effect after 27 September 2020 require new/amending legislation, or can the announced changes be given effect via legislative instrument?

Answer:

The changes announced by the Government to JobKeeper due to take effect after 27 September 2020 require legislative changes to support an extension of the program to 28 March. They also require changes to the rules to establish the new turnover test and other details for the period of the extension beyond 27 September.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

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

2020 - 2021

Division: JobKeeper Division
Topic: Employees supported by JobKeeper
Reference: Written Question from Senator Gallagher –31 July, IQ20-000197

Question:

In relation to the total number of employees supported by JobKeeper, what is the percentage of those employees who are employed by registered charities?

Answer:

An estimated 320,000 individual employees in about 12,000 ACNC registered charities are being supported through JobKeeper on average. These represent about 9% of the total number of employees receiving JobKeeper payments.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

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

2020 - 2021

Division: JobKeeper Division
Topic: Employers registered with the JobKeeper scheme that are registered charities
Reference: Written Question from Senator Gallagher – 31 July, IQ20-000198

Question:

In relation to employers registered with the JobKeeper scheme that are registered charities (ie ACNC regulated entities), please provide the following numbers in the table below:

In relation to ACNC registered employers						
	Number of entities registered	Number of employees registered	Number of male employees	Number of female employees	For each of April, May, June, July and August this year, the \$ value of JobKeeper payments	Total amount of funds (to date) dispersed through JobKeeper
Entities with annual revenue less than 250k						
Entities with annual revenue greater than 250k but less than 1 million						
Entities with annual revenue greater than 1 million but less than 50 million						
Entities with annual revenue greater than 50 million						
TOTAL						

Answer:

Number of entities registered/number of employees registered

An estimated 320,000 individual employees in about 12,000 ACNC registered charities are being supported through JobKeeper on average. These represent about 9% of the total number of employees receiving JobKeeper payments.

Number of male employees/number of female employees

As at 12 August 2020, of the total employees and eligible business participants receiving JobKeeper payments, about 54% are male and 46% are female. The ATO has not undertaken an analysis of the male/female breakdown for registered charities.

Value of JobKeeper payments in each of April, May, June, July and August this year and total amount of funds dispersed to date through JobKeeper

There are approximately 12,000 registered charities that have received JobKeeper payments totalling about \$2.8 billion since the inception of the Program. As JobKeeper payments are made a month in arrears claims for the July fortnights are still open for organisations and the August claim period has not yet commenced. Of the total JobKeeper payments made to registered charities, the payments for April, May and June are as follows:

- April – \$917.5 million
- May – \$968.7 million
- June – \$982.3 million

Revenue breakdowns

The ATO does not have information available to break-out JobKeeper claiming ACNC registered charities by revenue levels.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

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

2020 - 2021

Division: Retirement Income Policy Division
Topic: Early access superannuation data
Reference: Written Question from Senator Gallagher –31 July, IQ20-000199

Question:

I refer to Treasury analysis of banking data and ABS data referenced by Treasurer Frydenberg in news reports of 30 July 2020 in The Australian and by the ABC:

- a) Please provide copies of each of these surveys and analysis (ie, the Treasury analysis of banking data and the ABS survey)?
- b) Please provide the methodology, sample size and any underlying assumptions for each of these surveys/analysis?
- c) Please advise if these surveys/analysis were in the public domain prior to 30 July 2020. If not, are they in the public domain now? If so, when were they made public? If not, is Treasury planning on releasing these publicly?
- d) For each of these surveys/analysis can Treasury advise if they require participants to self-report?
- e) For each of the surveys/analysis can Treasury advise if they analyse intentions or retrospective behaviour?

Answer:

a) Please provide copies of each of these surveys and analysis (ie, the Treasury analysis of banking data and the ABS survey)?

The banking data analysis quoted in the media was not performed by Treasury.

The Treasurer's statements refer specifically to the ABS Household Impacts of COVID-19 Survey (Cat No, 4940.0) release published on 29 May 2020.

The survey is publicly available and can be accessed on the ABS website:
<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4940.0Main+Features112-15%20May%202020?OpenDocument>

b) Please provide the methodology, sample size and any underlying assumptions for each of these surveys/analysis?

The ABS has published this information in the explanatory notes for the ABS Household Impacts of COVID-19 Survey (Cat No, 4940.0) release published on 29 May 2020.

The explanatory notes can be accessed via the link above or directly at this address:
<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4940.0Explanatory%20Notes112-15%20May%202020?OpenDocument>

c) Please advise if these surveys/analysis were in the public domain prior to 30 July 2020. If not, are they in the public domain now? If so, when were they made public? If not, is Treasury planning on releasing these publicly?

The results from the fourth ABS survey in the Household Impacts of COVID-19 series were published on 29 May 2020.

d) For each of these surveys/analysis can Treasury advise if they require participants to self-report?

The ABS states that the participants were asked to self-report (i.e. they voluntary responded to questions asked by the ABS interviewers about what they had spent their early release amounts on).

e) For each of the surveys/analysis can Treasury advise if they analyse intentions or retrospective behaviour?

The ABS survey questions go to both the future intentions and past behaviour of participants. On early release specifically, the ABS has published results on how people self-reported that they had spent, or planned to spend, amounts released from superannuation.