

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 questions 1 through 4
Reference: Written questions from Senator Gallagher – 26 June 2020, IQ20-000146

Question:

1. In relation to questions submitted by Senator Gallagher through this Committee on 5 June 2020 requesting JobKeeper data broken down by postcode:
 - a. On what date did Treasury first provide the Treasurer's Office with a draft answer?
 - b. Why did Treasury fail to provide an answer within ten business days as required by the Committee?
 - c. Did Treasury provide any of the data requested by Senator Gallagher at the request of the Treasurer's office prior to the 5th June? If so, on what date and what was provided?
2. In relation to the JobKeeper postcode data available at <https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/jobkeeper/data>:
 - a. At what time and on what date was this data first uploaded to the website?
 - b. When was this data first available to Treasury?
 - c. When was this data first provided to the Treasurer's office or the Prime Minister's office?
 - d. Was this data requested by the Treasurer's office or the Prime Minister's office? If so on what date was it requested?
 - e. Is this the same data referred to in the Australian in this article on 10 June: <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/politics/coronavirus-the-leading-jobkeeper-postcodes-revealed/news-story/ce0e0bd8a93badade66d8ac4fb4e1cd1>. If so, how did the Australian access the data?
3. In relation to Treasury's answer to question on notice IQ20-000111, provided to this Committee on 25 June:
 - a. Please also provide the requested data for how many firms have received JobKeeper payments (i.e. not just had applications processed) – including a breakdown by postcode and Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED)
 - b. Other than industry type, what other breakdowns are available in relation to data on the number of employees whose organisations have received a payment disbursement for JobKeeper fortnights since April?
 - c. Please provide the following breakdowns of JobKeeper payments (up to the most recent available date) to the Committee:
 - i. Breakdown of Tax File Numbers by postcode and CED
 - ii. If (i) is not available, breakdown of payments by postcode and CED of the organisation
 - iii. Any other available breakdown referred to in (b)
 - d. Why was data not available for a breakdown of employees by postcode?
 - i. If it was due to a lag in information, when will the data become available?
 - ii. If it was due to information not being collected, why wasn't this data recorded or collected on the ATO's systems?
4. Was a document provided to the Treasurer's office and/or the Prime Minister's Office by either Treasury or the ATO which contained the charts published in this article by Samantha Maiden dated April 21: <https://www.news.com.au/world/coronavirus/australia/coronavirus->

face-of-the-

australians-who-plan-to-claim-the-1500-jobkeeper-allowance-has-been-revealed/news-story/336d986fe01d2a39f3870ad4ea147d0e? If yes: a. On what date was it provided, to which office and from which agency?

b. Please provide a copy of the full document to the Committee

Answer:

1. In relation to questions submitted by Senator Gallagher through this Committee on 5 June 2020 requesting JobKeeper data broken down by postcode:

a. On what date did Treasury first provide the Treasurer's Office with a draft answer?

The first draft of the Question on Notice, IQ20-000111, was provided to the Treasurer's Office by Treasury on Monday, 15 June 2020, noting that the postcode data was still undergoing quality assurance by the ATO and Treasury.

b. Why did Treasury fail to provide an answer within ten business days as required by the Committee?

A significant amount of the reporting data requested by the Committee was still under development and/or undergoing quality assurance, hence the request took longer than the 10 business day turnaround requested by the Committee. Treasury apologises for the timing delay.

Answer: Questions 1 c, 2 a to e:

c. Did Treasury provide any of the data requested by Senator Gallagher at the request of the Treasurer's office prior to the 5th June? If so, on what date and what was provided?

2. In relation to the JobKeeper postcode data available at

<https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/jobkeeper/data>:

a. At what time and on what date was this data first uploaded to the website?

b. When was this data first available to Treasury?

c. When was this data first provided to the Treasurer's office or the Prime Minister's office?

d. Was this data requested by the Treasurer's office or the Prime Minister's office? If so on what date was it requested?

e. Is this the same data referred to in the Australian in this article on 10 June: <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/politics/coronavirus-the-leading-jobkeeper-postcodes-revealed/news-story/ce0e0bd8a93badade66d8ac4fb4e1cd1>. If so, how did the Australian access the data?

The JobKeeper organisation data by postcode had always been an in-scope reporting element of the JobKeeper program. The ATO had been working to provide the organisation postcode data to Treasury by the first week in June (for the April JobKeeper organisations who had received JobKeeper payments for the first two JobKeeper fortnights).

The ATO provided the first working draft of the postcode data to Treasury and the Treasurer's Office late on Thursday, 4 June 2020. The initial postcode data was provided for analysis purposes only, as the ATO advised that they were still undertaking further quality assurance on the JobKeeper postcode data.

From 5 June to 23 June 2020, Treasury worked with the ATO to review and assure the postcode data and finalised the postcode data late on 23 June 2020.

This final version of JobKeeper postcode data for April recipients was first uploaded to the Treasury website on Wednesday, 24 June 2020 at approximately 10am.

The Treasury did not provide the postcode data received from the ATO on 4 June to the Australian or any other media outlet, therefore Treasury is unable to confirm whether the information contained in the Australian article is the same as the data provided on the Treasury website or how the Australian accessed the data (<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/politics/coronavirus-the-leading-jobkeeper-postcodes-revealed/news-story/ce0e0bd8a93badade66d8ac4fb4e1cd1>).

3. **In relation to Treasury's answer to question on notice IQ20-000111, provided to this Committee on 25 June:**
 - a. **Please also provide the requested data for how many firms have received JobKeeper payments (i.e. not just had applications processed) – including a breakdown by postcode and Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED)**
The number of organisations which have been paid for the month of April as at midnight Tuesday 9 June 2020 (as per the date in IQ20-000111) is 833,605. The data on organisations which have been paid broken down by postcode as at this specific date is not available. It is not normal practice for Treasury (or any Commonwealth Government Agency) to report on the Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED) breakdown of data sets. This is not intended to be a report available for JobKeeper recipient location data.
 - b. **Other than industry type, what other breakdowns are available in relation to data on the number of employees whose organisations have received a payment disbursement for JobKeeper fortnights since April?**
Breakdowns are available for Gender, Age, and at State/Territory level for eligible employees/eligible business recipients under JobKeeper by percentage as at 18 June, 2020.
 - c. **Please provide the following breakdowns of JobKeeper payments (up to the most recent available date) to the Committee:**
 - i. **Breakdown of Tax File Numbers by postcode and CED**
Data not currently available. Under the privacy rules of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953 (TAA Act)*, the ATO is not permitted to provide this data. Breakdown by CED is not currently available.
 - ii. **If (i) is not available, breakdown of payments by postcode and CED of the organisation**
Data not currently available at postcode level. Regarding CED breakdown please see response to 3a above.
 - iii. **Any other available breakdown referred to in (b)**
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

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

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%

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

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%

d. **Why was data not available for a breakdown of employees by postcode?**

i. **If it was due to a lag in information, when will the data become available? If it was due to information not being collected, why wasn't this data recorded or collected on the ATO's systems?**

A known and key design of the JobKeeper Payment is that it is delivered through employers at an organisational, not employee level. The key priority of the ATO in implementing the JobKeeper program is ensuring the delivery of payment to employers efficiently and effectively while ensuring integrity. The full details of employees receiving JobKeeper payments has to be extracted from the ATO tax system to produce detailed reporting, as it is not fully available in the JobKeeper specific dataset. Therefore, analysis on the demographics of employees is still being undertaken.

4. **Was a document provided to the Treasurer's office and/or the Prime Minister's Office by either Treasury or the ATO which contained the charts published in this article by Samantha Maiden dated April 21:**

[https://www.news.com.au/world/coronavirus/australia/coronavirus-face-of-the-australians-who-plan-to-claim-the-1500-jobkeeper-allowance-has-been-revealed/news-story/336d986fe01d2a39f3870ad4ea147d0e?](https://www.news.com.au/world/coronavirus/australia/coronavirus-face-of-the-australians-who-plan-to-claim-the-1500-jobkeeper-allowance-has-been-revealed/news-story/336d986fe01d2a39f3870ad4ea147d0e?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-jobkeeper%3Aface-of-the-australians%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-jobkeeper%3Aface-of-the-australians%3Ahomepage%2Fstory)

The ATO provides JobKeeper briefing to the Treasurer's office, Treasury and other relevant APS agencies, on a regular basis. A report from the ATO which contained a chart displaying similar information as the one in Samantha Maiden's article was provided in this context Thursday 16 April.

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.

The report is based on the expression of interest stage of the JobKeeper program. An enrolment stage followed, leading into an application stage for payments. Further information about the stages of the JobKeeper Payment can be found here: <https://www.ato.gov.au/general/jobkeeper-payment/employers/enrol-for-the-jobkeeper-payment/>

If yes:

- a. **On what date was it provided, to which office and from which agency?**
See answer above.
- b. **Please provide a copy of the full document to the Committee**
Please find the report provided to the Treasurer's Office and other APS agencies on April 16, 2020 in *Attachment A*.

Businesses subscribing for JobKeeper Updates (via the ATO website)

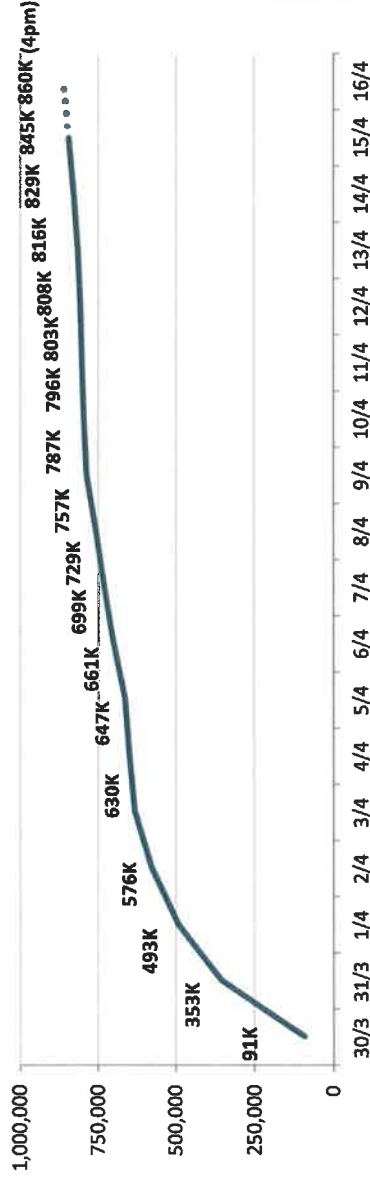
4:00pm AEDT, 16 April 2020

859,978

Unique ABN registrations*

3,978,848

ATO website JobKeeper pageviews**



Cumulative unique ABN registrations

3,452 (0.4%)

Business aggregated turnover > \$1B

11,926 (1.4%)

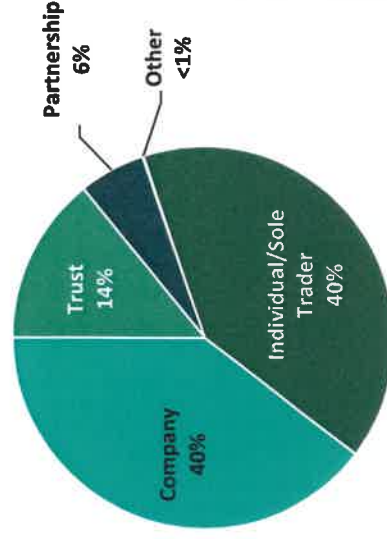
Charities

3,792 (0.4%)

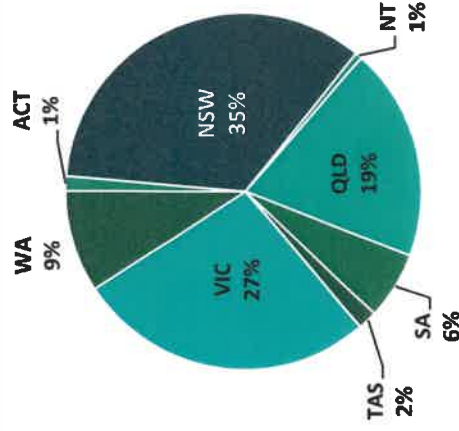
Cancelled ABNs

Analysis of Unique ABNs

1. Entity type



2. State/Territory



Unique ABNs are based on registration via an unauthenticated registration form

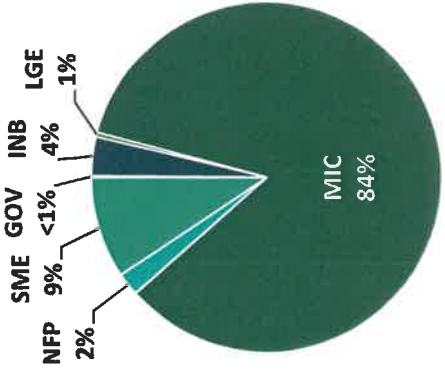
* Unique count excludes ABNs registered more than once

** Unique pageviews of JobKeeper Payment information page

Businesses subscribing for JobKeeper Updates (via the ATO website)

4:00pm AEDT, 16 April 2020

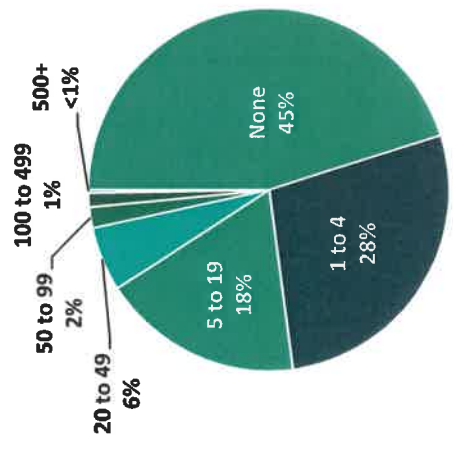
3. Business market segment



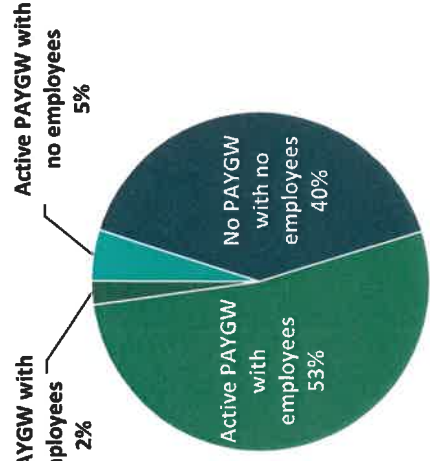
4. Business aggregated turnover

Awaiting analysis

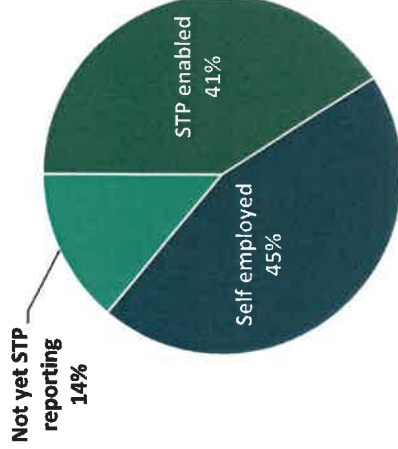
5. Employees per ABN



6. PAYGW status



7. STP enabled



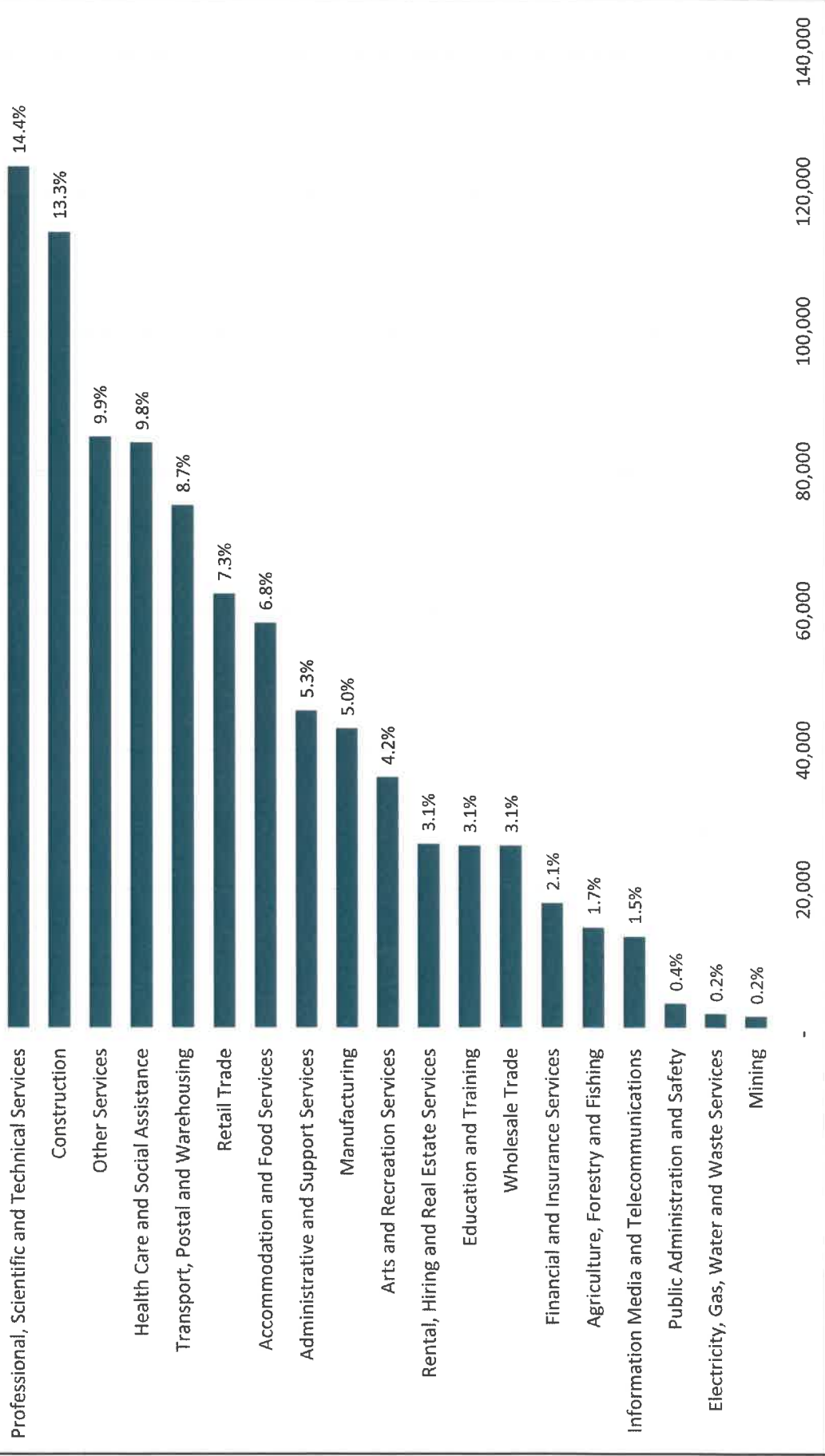
8. myGovID & RAM enabled

Awaiting analysis of ABN digital credentials

Businesses subscribing for JobKeeper Updates (via the ATO website)

4:00pm AEDT, 16 April 2020

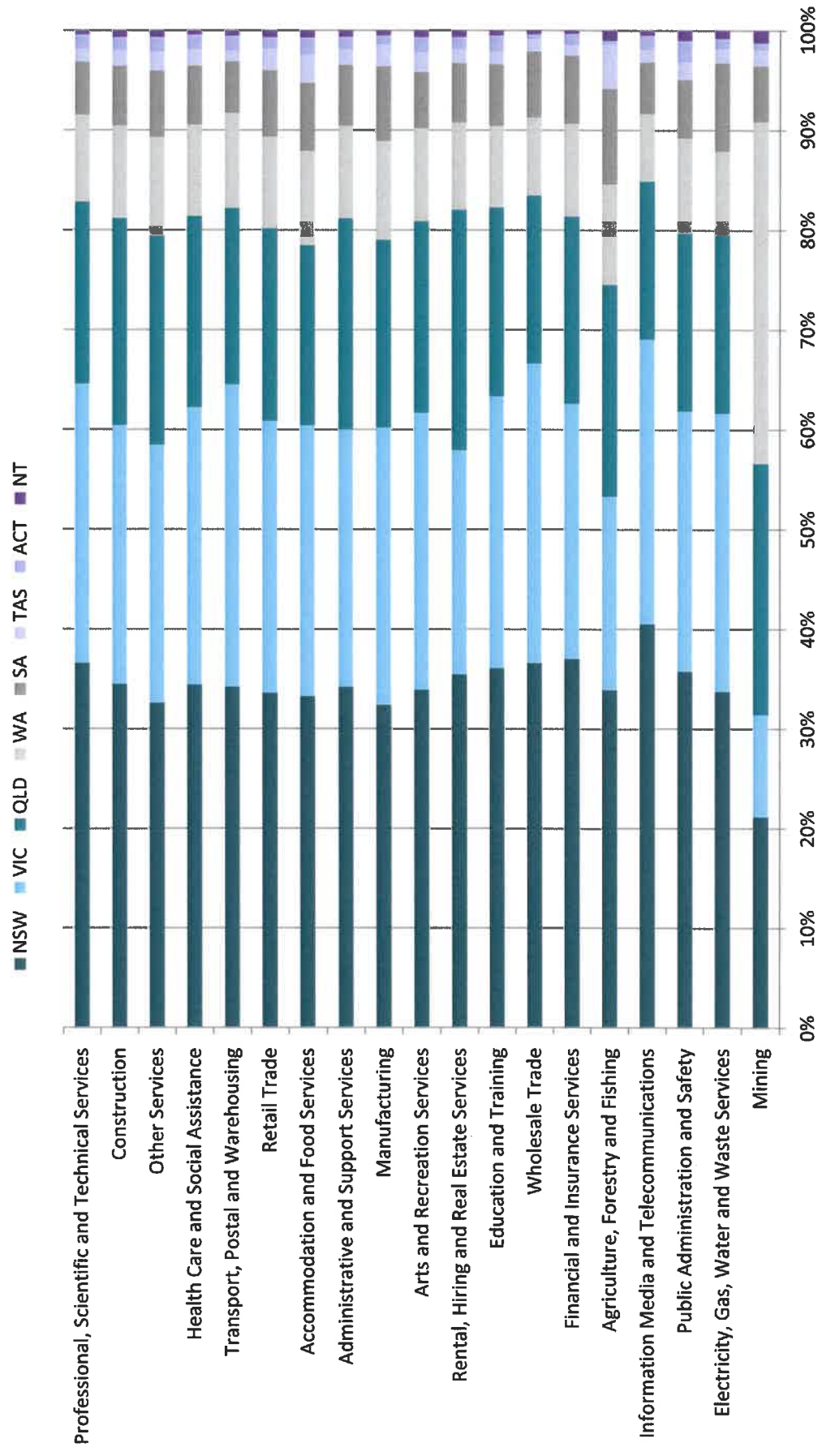
9. Industry



Businesses subscribing for JobKeeper Updates (via the ATO website)

4:00pm AEDT, 16 April 2020

10. Industry by State/Territory



Businesses subscribing for JobKeeper Updates (via the ATO website)

4:00pm AEDT, 16 April 2020

Disclaimer

- These ABNs have been “Subscribed for JobKeeper Updates” via an unauthenticated online form. We cannot be sure that these ABNs have been “subscribed” by an authorised representative of an ABN.
- These ABNs have not been assessed for eligibility.
- There are many ABNs that may not have subscribed for JK updates.
- The business enrolment for JK will be via authenticated channels. That online interface is currently being built.

Glossary

- 1. Entity type**
 - Entity group code registered with the ABR
 - Other represents Government and Super Fund entities
- 2. State/territory**
 - Location of the business address for the registered ABN. Not all employees are based in the state/territory where the ABN is registered
- 3. Business market segment**
 - LGE (Large) has business income > \$250M
 - SME (Small to Medium Enterprises) business income between \$2M and \$250M or GST Annual Turnover >= \$2M
 - MIC (Small businesses) business income < \$2M or GST Annual Turnover < \$2M
 - INB (individual non business) evidence of business activity
 - NFP (Not for profit), GOV (Government)
- 4. Business aggregated turnover**
 - Annual turnover (all ordinary income earned in the ordinary course of running a business for the income year) plus the annual turnover of any entities connected with or that are affiliates.
- 5. Employees per ABN**
 - Number of employees related to the registered ABN as obtained from FBT, Annual Employer Summaries, Payer ABNs quoted on individual tax returns and Single Touch Payroll data

6. PAYGW status

- This reflects the presence of the PAYGW role within the ATO core systems.

7. STP enabled

- STP works by sending tax and super information from STP-enabled payroll or accounting software to the ATO as employers run their payroll
- STP enabled is where the registered ABN has employees and has previously or currently STP reporting
- Not yet STP reporting is where ABN has employees and has not previously STP reported
- Self employed is where there are no employees

8. myGovID & RAM enabled

- myGovID & RAM provide a secure way to access selected government online services (replaced AUSkey)
- RAM is an authorisation service to link myGovID to an ABN and manage who can act on behalf of a business online

9. Industry

- Based on ANZSIC codes registered with the ABR

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: Macroeconomic Conditions Division/Social Policy Division
Topic: Homebuilder program - question 5
Reference: Written question from Senator Gallagher – 26 June 2020, IQ20-000147

Question:

5. The Government indicated during question time that, under the HomeBuilder program, 7,000 grants will be used for substantial renovations and around 20,000 grants will go towards new builds. What does Treasury's modelling show to be the net impact on housing stock over a six month and 12-month period?

Answer:

Treasury estimates that the policy will have a net impact on dwelling investment of around \$1½-2 billion over 2020-21.