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“The Northern Professionals”

25th June 2020 / CE Ref J3312C

Statistical Note

‘JOBKEEPER’ STATISTICS - ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS

Further to Statistical Notes released in May and 19th June (see attached), detailing the numbers on unemployment benefits (JobSeeker) in the Cairns region, information is now available on the ‘JobKeeper’ payments to businesses to help them keep staff on the payroll.

As at May, the indications were that approximately 26,000 persons in the Cairns region⁽¹⁾ were on unemployment benefits representing about 20% of the workforce.

Since then, information has become available about the employment support being given by the ‘JobKeeper’ program.

The Treasury information indicates that in April, over 9,000 businesses/ organisations in the Cairns region had applied for ‘JobKeeper’ support to keep workforce employed. Number of persons supported is not known. However, it is likely to be more than one person per business/organization. The indications are that something over 30% of the workforce in May, were either on unemployment benefits (JobSeeker) or their jobs being supported by the Government’s ‘JobKeeper’ program.

Note⁽¹⁾ : Cairns (SA4) region includes Cairns LGA, Cassowary Coast LGA, Tablelands LGA, Douglas LGA and most of Mareeba LGA.

Table: Numbers of Businesses and Organisations Applied for JobKeeper Support, April 2020	
Cassowary Coast	697
Cairns	6411
Douglas	851
Mareeba	643
Tablelands	737
Total	9339
<i>Note 1 – Includes Remote Postcodes 4871 & 4872.</i>	
<i>Source: Cummings Economics from Australian Treasury Data.</i>	