

# CUMMINGS ECONOMICS

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“The Northern Professionals”

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## Statistical Note JUNE 2020 - ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS (REVISED)

### JobSeeker

As predicted, during June, the numbers of registered unemployed receiving JobSeeker payments plateaued in June and came down slightly in the Cairns SA4 region (see chart).

Thus, there was still about 20% of the workforce in the region registered for JobSeeker. It can be expected that numbers will be falling substantially in July.

Table – Numbers Receiving JobSeeker & Youth Allowance (Other)

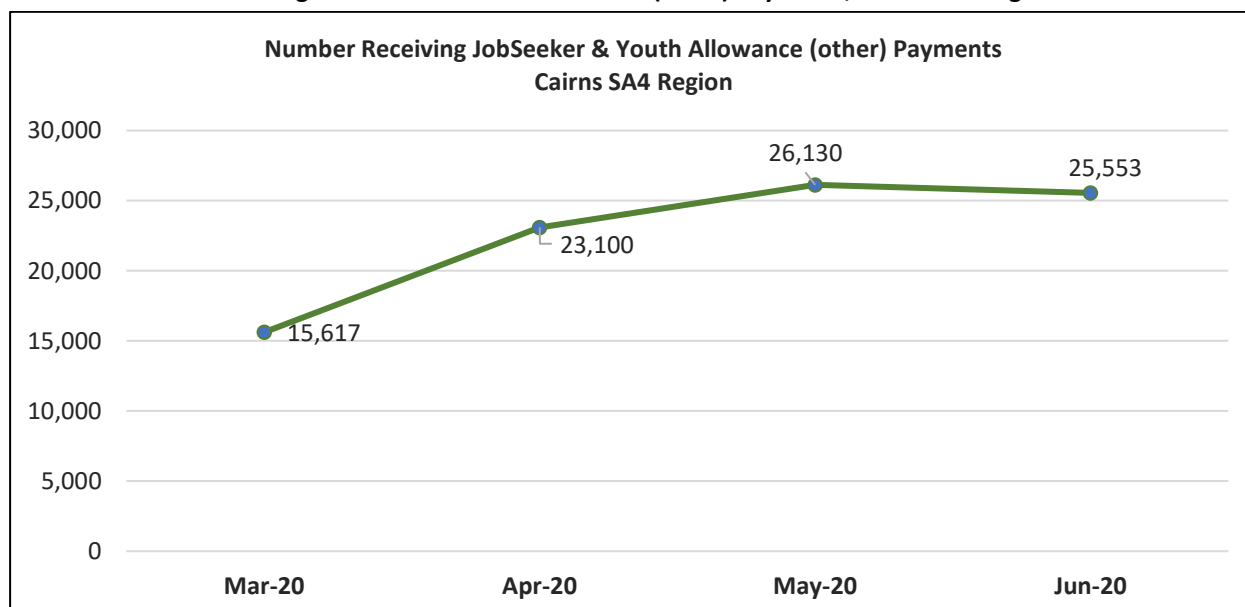
	Cairns <sup>(1)</sup>	Cairns SA4 Region <sup>(2)</sup>
March 2020	9,256	15,617
April 2020	15,427	23,100
May 2020	16,173	26,130
June 2020	15,855	25,553

Source: Cummings Economics from Australian Department of Social Services.

Note <sup>(1)</sup>: Cairns Local Government Area excluding Babinda.

Note <sup>(2)</sup>: Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Tablelands, Mareeba, Douglas.

Chart – Numbers Receiving JobSeeker & Youth Allowance (other) Payments, Cairns SA4 Region



Source: Cummings Economics from Australian Department of Social Services.

**Note Revision:** From March on, the definition of JobSeeker was changed from being confined to those on a Newstart Allowance (NSA) with a “Job Search” requirement to include all those on a Newstart Allowance including a substantial number without a “Job Search” requirement including those directed to training, temporarily sick or injured and undertaking voluntary work.

## JobKeeper

As reported previously in April, over 9,000 businesses and organisations in the Cairns SA4 region applied for JobKeeper support (see table below.)

<b>Table: Numbers of Businesses and Organisations Applied for JobKeeper Support, April 2020</b>	
Cassowary Coast	697
Cairns	6411
Douglas	851
Mareeba	643
Tablelands	737
<b>Total</b>	<b>9339</b>
Note 1 – The Cairns SA4 region includes the local government areas of Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Douglas, Tablelands and most of Mareeba LGA.	
Note 2 - Includes Remote Postcodes 4871 & 4872.	
Source: Cummings Economics from Australian Treasury Data.	

## Single Touch Payroll Data

A valuable new Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) series has become available that tracks on a weekly basis, total Single Touch Payroll (STP) payment lodged with the Australian Taxation Office.

ABS advises that 99% of businesses in Australia with 20 or more employees are now on this system and over 80% of those with less than 20 employees.

As the table over indicates, total STP payrolls recorded for the Cairns SA4 region fell by about 11% from week 14<sup>th</sup> March to week 18<sup>th</sup> April. Since then, there has been some recovery to be down by about 8% as at end May.

At the low point (18<sup>th</sup> April), Cairns SA4 region recorded the fourth severest drop in Australia. But on latest (30<sup>th</sup> May), Cairns was 22<sup>nd</sup> lowest.

It should be noted that these figures do not include a number of businesses, especially smaller businesses and the self-employed without employees. It is also likely there is some upward trend as more businesses adopt the STP system.

It should also be noted that the base week in March is in the normal wet season low period of activity in the Cairns region and it is normal for an upswing to occur in the following months.

**Table: Index of Single Touch Payroll Low Point – WE 18-April 2020, 14 March = 100 – 25 Biggest Falls**

State or Territory	Statistical Area 4	18-Apr-20
3. QLD	309. Gold Coast	88.5237
5. WA	501. Bunbury	89.1034
1. NSW	112. Richmond - Tweed	89.1658
1. NSW	117. Sydney - City and Inner South	89.1842
3. QLD	306. Cairns	89.4031
4. SA	405. Barossa - Yorke - Mid North	89.4083
1. NSW	104. Coffs Harbour - Grafton	89.5389
3. QLD	316. Sunshine Coast	89.6012
4. SA	407. South Australia - South East	89.6921
6. TAS	603. South East	89.7754
1. NSW	108. Mid North Coast	89.8245
2. VIC	206. Melbourne - Inner	89.8820
4. SA	401. Adelaide - Central and Hills	90.3122
4. SA	404. Adelaide - West	90.3324
4. SA	0. All SA4	90.3599
1. NSW	109. Murray	90.4046
2. VIC	217. Warrnambool and South West	90.4643
1. NSW	105. Far West and Orana	90.5541
1. NSW	118. Sydney - Eastern Suburbs	90.6397
1. NSW	122. Sydney - Northern Beaches	90.7074
6. TAS	0. All SA4	90.7447
2. VIC	0. All SA4	90.7525
2. VIC	215. North West	90.8016
5. WA	503. Perth - Inner	90.8416
1. NSW	101. Capital Region	90.8865

**Table: Index of Single Touch Payroll Low Point – WE 30-May 2020, 14 March = 100 - 25 Biggest Falls**

State or Territory	Statistical Area 4	30-May-20
2. VIC	206. Melbourne - Inner	89.3972
1. NSW	117. Sydney - City and Inner South	89.4304
6. TAS	603. South East	89.5341
6. TAS	0. All SA4	90.4515
2. VIC	210. Melbourne - North West	90.5717
2. VIC	217. Warrnambool and South West	90.5990
6. TAS	601. Hobart	90.6676
6. TAS	602. Launceston and North East	90.6724
2. VIC	215. North West	90.9319
2. VIC	0. All SA4	90.9941
2. VIC	209. Melbourne - North East	91.0243
3. QLD	309. Gold Coast	91.1847
1. NSW	112. Richmond - Tweed	91.3872
5. WA	503. Perth - Inner	91.4801
2. VIC	213. Melbourne - West	91.6045
1. NSW	118. Sydney - Eastern Suburbs	91.6260
1. NSW	119. Sydney - Inner South West	91.7817
2. VIC	202. Bendigo	91.8847
2. VIC	205. Latrobe - Gippsland	91.9181
2. VIC	207. Melbourne - Inner East	91.9513
4. SA	407. South Australia - South East	91.9596
3. QLD	306. Cairns	92.0515
4. SA	405. Barossa - Yorke - Mid North	92.0610
2. VIC	203. Geelong	92.0733
5. WA	501. Bunbury	92.1266

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics