Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

QUESTION ON NOTICE Australian Government response to the COVID-19 pandemic - 19 May 2020

Outcome: Employment

Department of Education, Skills and Employment Question No. IQ20-000099

Senator Katy Gallagher provided in writing.

jobactive figures

Question

Please provide:

- a. Jobactive caseload placements in Streams A, B and C as at 31 May 2020 and 31 May 2019 (noting we already have the figures for March and April)
- b. Total payments to providers for job placements for the months of March 2020, March 2019, April 2020, April 2019, May 2020 and May 2019
- c. The current cost estimate of the jobactive program for 2019-20 and 2020-21

Answer

a. The number of jobactive participants in Streams A, B and C as at 31 May 2019, and 31 May 2020 are shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Participants by Stream

Stream	31 May 2019	31 May 2020
Stream not determined	4,548	165,015
Stream A Volunteer	9,699	13,096
Stream A	239,966	830,875
Stream B	265,801	327,060
Stream C	99,942	106,620
Total	619,956	1,442,666

Notes:

The data includes participants in the Online Employment Services Trial, Voluntary Online Employment Services Trial and New Employment Services Trial.

Participants whose stream was not determined had yet to complete the Job Seeker Classification Instrument – often because they had been in service for less than four weeks.

b. jobactive providers are able to receive Outcome Payments where they place a job seeker into a job for 4, 12 or 26 weeks. Tables 2 and 3 below outline Outcome Payment expenditure for the period March – May 2019 and March – May 2020.

Table 2 – Outcome Payment expenditure – March to May 2019

	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019
	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)
Outcome Payment expenditure	\$41.2	\$39.0	\$45.4

Table 3 – Outcome Payment expenditure – March to May 2020

	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020
	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)
Outcome Payment expenditure	\$33.5	\$27.2	\$22.6

c. The current cost estimate of the jobactive program for 2019-20 and 2020-21 are shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4 – jobactive appropriation

	2019-20 (\$m)	2020-21 (\$m)
jobactive appropriation	\$1,565.3	\$1,735.3

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Assumptions to estimated cost of jobactive

Question

Since 1 March have any changes been made to assumptions underlying the estimated cost to government of jobactive over the forward estimates? If yes:

- a. What was the reason/s for the change in assumptions
- b. On what date/s was the change made
- c. What was the fiscal impact of the changes

Answer

Since 1 March 2020 the jobactive appropriation has been adjusted to include the financial impacts of new measures announced by Government to support job seekers during the Coronavirus pandemic.

The jobactive estimates will be revised in the 2020–21 Budget context.