

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 686

asked on 26 May 2021

MR B MICKELBERG ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS AND MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (HON D FARMER) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the number of employers currently participating in the Back to Work program as well as the number of supported employees (broken down by SA4 region)?

ANSWER:

I am pleased to advise that since 2016, the Back to Work (BTW) program has supported over 25,000 job seekers and 11,964 employers to employ Queenslanders who have experienced a period of unemployment (as at 18 June 2021).

Queensland's unemployment rate is now down to 5.4%, its lowest level in almost a decade.

There are currently 2,225 employers participating in the BTW program (this is based on active applications as at 18 June 2021).

The following table represents the total number of job seekers currently supported and broken down by SA4 region (as at 18 June 2021):

SA4	Number of employees
306 - Cairns	636
307 - Darling Downs - Maranoa	79
308 - Fitzroy	263
309 - Gold Coast	10*
310 - Ipswich	125
311 - Logan - Beaudesert	170
312 - Mackay	200
313 - Moreton Bay - North	156
314 - Moreton Bay - South	149
315 - Queensland - Outback	60
317 - Toowoomba	7*
318 - Townsville	334
319 - Wide Bay	534
Total	2723

* Eligibility for the BTW program is based on local government areas (LGAs) not SA4 regions. Therefore, some eligible locations are included in SA4 data. For example, the Gold Coast SA4 includes the Scenic Rim local government area and the Toowoomba SA4 includes the Lockyer Valley local government area.