**Annual Wage Review 2020–21: Questions on notice**

All interested parties are invited to comment.

1. Question to all parties

In the Annual Wage Review 2019–20 (2019–20 Review), the majority decision of the Expert Panel was to increase modern award minimum wages in 3 groups based on industry clusters. Depending on the modern award and the industry cluster it was allocated, the increases to modern award minimum wages occurred on 1 July 2020, 1 November 2020 and 1 February 2021.

A number of parties have indicated how the Expert Panel should approach the different operative dates of increases to modern awards based on the 3 clusters in their initial submission to this Review.[[1]](#footnote-1)

All parties are invited to comment on how the Expert Panel should deal with:

1. the different operative dates from the 2019–20 Review; and
2. whether there should be any changes to the composition of the 3 industry clusters identified in the 2019–20 Review, giving consideration to movements in the change in employee jobs and total wages presented in the report by Professor Jeff Borland[[2]](#footnote-2) and the most recent data shown in the Fair Work Commission’s *Statistical report—Annual Wage Review 2020–21*.[[3]](#footnote-3)
3. Question to the Australian Government

Can the Australian Government provide information from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) on the number of employees that were receiving the JobKeeper payment at the conclusion of the JobKeeper program? The Panel would be assisted if these data were also provided by industry and business size (i.e., by the number of employees).

1. ABI submission, 26 March 2021 at pp. 2, 3, 25; ACTU submission, 26 March 2021 at paras 4(k), 35–51; Ai Group submission, 26 March 2021 at p. 59; NRA submission, 26 March 2021 at paras 5.1.1–5.1.10; R&CA submission, 26 March 2021 at para. 26. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Borland J (2021), [*An assessment of the economic effects of COVID-19*](https://www.fwc.gov.au/documents/wage-reviews/2020-21/research/rr12021v2.pdf), Version 2, Fair Work Commission Research report 1/2021, 17 February. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Fair Work Commission (2021), *Statistical report—Annual Wage Review 2020–21*, Version 4, 6 April, Chart 6.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)