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POSITIVE ECONOMIC SIGNS DESPITE JOBKEEPER END

DESPITE concern that the end of JobKeeper support may herald a drop in employment levels in Cairns, financial data has proven positive, economist Pete Faulkner has found.

The Conus Consultants economist used ABS trends and data from CBC Staff Selection in his analysis.

"Trend employment lifted in April with 70 per cent of those full-time positions," Mr Faulkner wrote in his Consus blog.

"The number registered as unemployed also fell which suggests that the post-JobKeeper lay-offs may not have yet eventuated as feared."

But he said that youth employment was down by 2300.

"The fact that youth unemployment rate has fallen to 10.7 per cent in the past 12 months points to the fact that a large number of those leaving the labour force will have been youth," Mr Faulkner said.

As late as March, tourism operators were pushing for an extension of JobKeeper in order to prevent an industry collapse. "I think there could be a very targeted wage assistance for those people who are doing the right thing with it," Ocean Freedom owneroperator Taryn Agius said.

Roderic Rees of Cairns Adventure Group said the industry would "haemorrhage money" when the incentive ended.

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