

2025 APS Employee Census

5 May - 6 June

Highlights Report

Responses:

66 of 154

Response rate:

43%



Exploring your results



Take time to understand your report. Consider your response rate to determine how representative your results are of the views of your colleagues.



Most questions in this report have information about the proportion of colleagues responding positively, neutrally or negatively.



Identify the areas where you are performing well. These will tend to be high results which are notably above any comparative results. Celebrate these results.



Identify areas that need improvement. These tend to be the low results, which are notably below comparisons.



Generally a difference of -/+ 5 percentage points is worthy of attention, but the size of the group is important. Changes in small groups can be unreliable.

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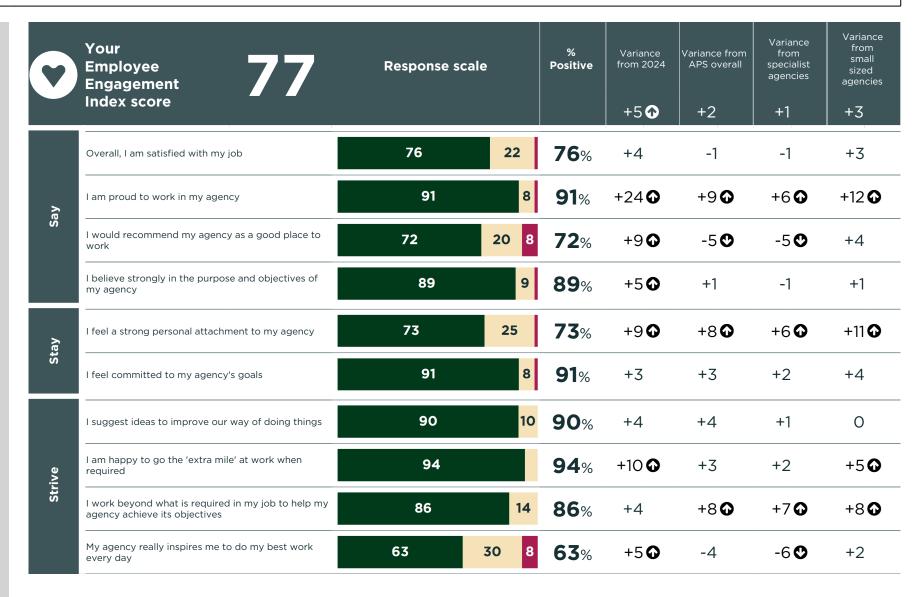


Employee Engagement: Say, Stay, Strive



Employee Engagement

Employee engagement is more than simply job satisfaction or commitment to an organisation. It is the extent to which employees are motivated, inspired and enabled to improve an organisation's outcomes.



Key • At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator • At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

PAGE 03.

Australian Government

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Leadership - Immediate Supervisor



Immediate Supervisor

The Immediate
Supervisor Index
assesses how
employees view the
leadership
behaviours of their
immediate
supervisor in line
with the APS
Leadership
Capability
Framework

	Your Immediate Supervisor			% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
	Index score				+3	-6♥	-6♥	-4
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	69	26	69%	+7 •	-12 👁	-12 0	-9 ♥
isor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	66	25 10	66%	-2	-14 👁	-14 •	-12 •
Supervisor	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	69	26	69%	-2	-14 👁	-15♥	-13 ♥
Immediate	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	68	26	68%	+1	-15 👁	-15♥	-12♥
mmI	My supervisor is invested in my development	77	16	77 %	+12 🕥	-1	-1	+2
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	73	26	73 %	-3	-16 ♥	-16♥	-13 O
	Other similar questions							
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	62	34	62%	0	-17 O	-15♥	-12 •
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	72	20 8	72 %	+2	-6 •	-7 0	-4
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	66	26 8	66%	0	-19 👁	-19 O	-16 ♡
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	76	24	76 %	+9 0	-5♥	-6♥	-4
ey	At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator	Positive N	leutral Negativ	e				

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Leadership - SES Manager



SES Manager

The SES Manager Index assesses how employees view the leadership behaviours of their immediate SES manager in line with the APS Leadership Capability Framework.

2	Your SES Manager Index score	Response	: scale	% Positive	2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
					+4	-6♥	-7♥	-4
	My SES manager clearly articulates the direction and priorities for our area	56	31 13	56 %	+5 0	- 15 ♥	-15♥	-9♥
	My SES manager presents convincing arguments and persuades others towards an outcome	48	41 11	48%	-16 ♥	- 16 ♥	-18♥	- 15 ♥
Manager	My SES manager promotes cooperation within and between agencies	69	20 11	69%	+12 🐼	-1	-3	-1
SES M	My SES manager encourages innovation and creativity	61	32 7	61%	+1	-7 O	-7 0	-3
	My SES manager creates an environment that enables us to deliver our best	58	30 12	58%	+2	-10 👁	-10 🛡	-6 ©
	My SES manager ensures that work effort contributes to the strategic direction of the agency and the APS	68	21 11	68%	+6 ₽	-8 O	-10 O	-6♥
	Other similar questions							
	In my agency, the SES work as a team	53	32 16	53 %	+9	-6♥	-3	+1
	In my agency, the SES clearly articulate the direction and priorities for our agency	54	30 16	54%	+5 ♠	-13 O	-11 👁	-4
	My SES manager routinely promotes the use of data and evidence to deliver outcomes	54	36 11	54%	-5 0	-15♥	-18 O	-14 •

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





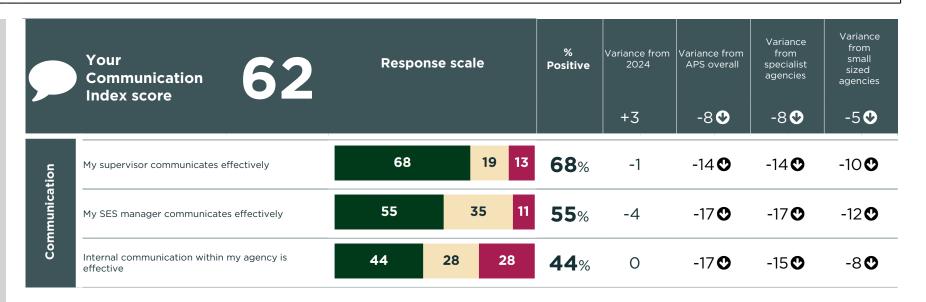
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Communication and change



Communication

The Communication Index measures communication at the individual, group and agency level.



Change

Effective communication is an important part of any change process. Note these questions do not contribute to the above index score.

Other similar questions

Change

When changes occur, the impacts are communicated well within my workgroup	53	32	15	53 %	0	-14 👁	-15 ♥	-13 ♥
Staff are consulted about change at work	37	55	8	37 %	-3	-15 O	- 13 ♥	-9 0
Change is managed well in my agency	38	35	27	38%	+1	-9 ♥	-5♥	0

Key • At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator • At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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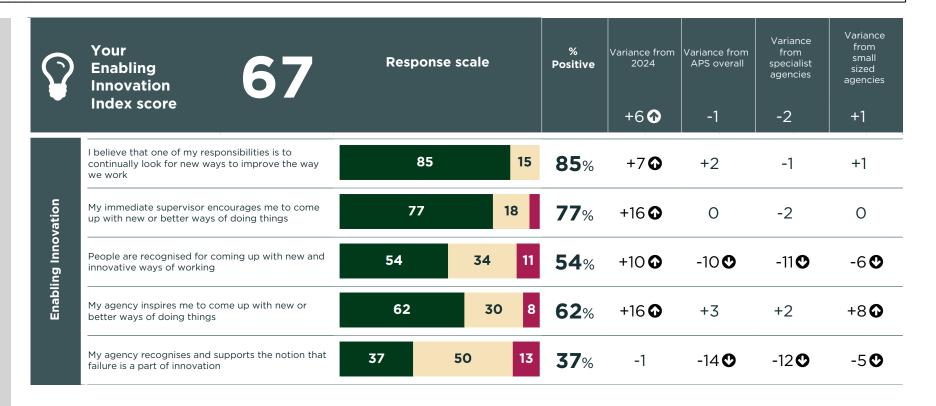
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Enabling Innovation



Enabling Innovation

The Enabling Innovation Index assesses both whether employees feel willing and able to be innovative, and whether their agency has a culture which enables them to be SO.





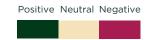
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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





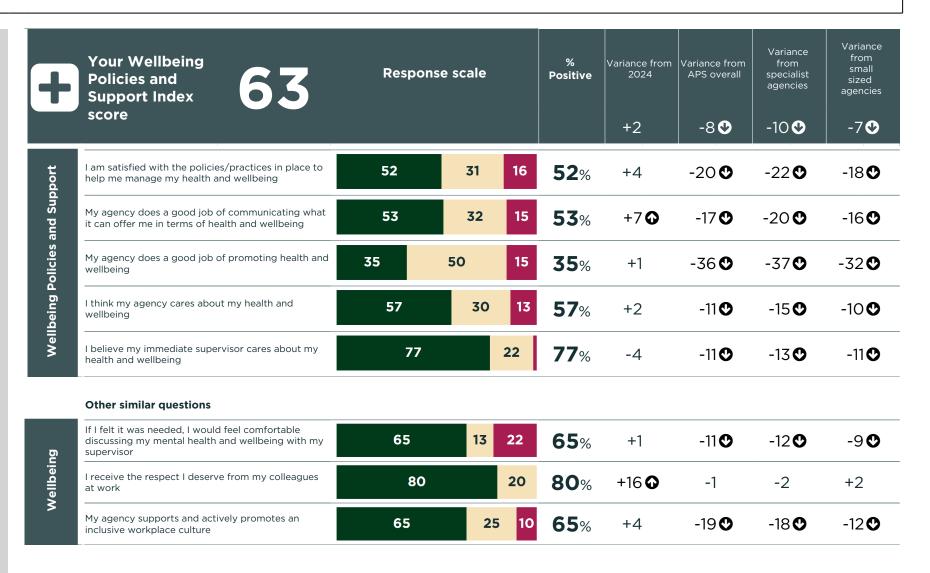
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Wellbeing Policies and Support



Wellbeing

The Wellbeing Policies and Support Index provides a measure of the practical and cultural elements that allow for a sustainable and healthy working environment.

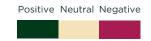


Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





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Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:						
Excellent		12%	-5 ©	0	-1	-1
Very good		30 %	+1	-5♥	-7♥	-7 ♥
Good		42%	-6 ©	+5 ♦	+6 ♦	+6♠
Fair		13%	+80	+1	+2	+1
Poor		3 %	+2	0	0	0
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		21%	+1	+5 ♦	+3	-1
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		43%	+1	+3	+3	+1
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		34%	+2	-2	+1	+5•
Slightly below capacity – available for more work		0%	-2	-6 🔮	-7 0	-6♥
Well below capacity - not enough work		2%	-2	0	0	0

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

0

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



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Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		2%	-4	-3	-2	-3
Often		23%	-10 👁	0	+1	-2
Sometimes		46%	+2	-4	-5♥	-4
Rarely		26%	+14 🐼	+6 ♦	+4	+7♠
Never		3 %	-2	+1	+1	+1
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?						
To a very large extent		3 %	-11 ♥	-4	-3	-3
To a large extent		23%	+5 🐼	+4	+6�	+5♠
Somewhat		48%	+1	+9	+10 🐼	+7♠
To a small extent		22%	+5 ☆	-3	-5♥	-3
To a very small extent		3 %	0	-6♥	-80	-6♥
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		7 %	+1	-1	0	-2
Agree		22%	-11 ♥	+1	+2	-1
Neither agree nor disagree		39 %	+1	+6�	+90	+80
Disagree		27 %	+14 🐼	-4	-6♥	-3
Strongly disagree		5%	-6 0	-3	-4	-3

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At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

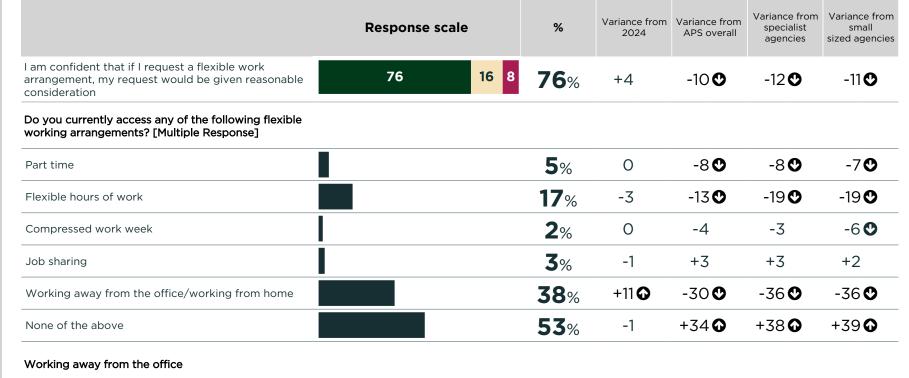
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Key

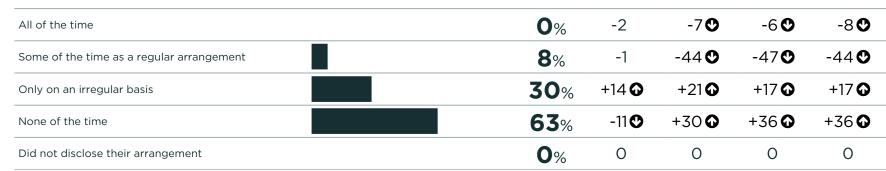
At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Flexible work





The working away from the office responses present how often employees worked away from the office/worked from home during a usual working week. It includes the responses for all employees, not just those who indicated they accessed working from home as a flexible working arrangement.



Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



Positive Neutral Negative

2025 APS Employee Census

Working in the APS

	Response	scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	70	25	70 %	+14 🚱	0	0	+5♠
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	70	26	70 %	+2	-6♥	-9♥	-8♥
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	61	28 11	61%	-1	-21 ♥	-22♥	-14♥
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	84	16	84%	+5♠	-5♥	-4	-4
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	70	27	70 %	+14 🚱	+2	+6♠	+10 🕥
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	65	29	65 %	-10 ♥	-20 ♡	-23♥	-22♥
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	74	18 8	74 %	-	-9♥	-12♥	-10 ♥
People in my workgroup are comfortable checking with each other if they have questions about the right way to do something	73	24	73 %	_	-16♥	-18♥	-17 ூ
The people in my workgroup are able to bring up problems and tough issues	68	19 13	68%	+4	-12 ♥	-14 ♥	-13 ♥
If you make a mistake in my workgroup, it tends to be held against you (reverse scored : positive scores represent those who disagreed, or strongly disagreed with this statement)	58	24 18	58%	-	-9 0	-15 ♥	-14 O

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative

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Job satisfaction

	Response so	ale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	68	24 8	68%	+7 @	0	-3	+1
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	73	14 13	73 %	-3	+7 0	+7 0	+7
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	89	10	89%	+13 🚱	+4	+3	+3
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	87	8	87 %	+90	+1	+4	+80

Clarity and autonomy

	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	specialist	Variance from small sized agencies
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	93		93%	+3	+1	+1	+3
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	85	15	85 %	+7 🐼	+1	+2	+3
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	72	27	72 %	+11 🐼	+4	-4	-2
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	73	17 10	73 %	+80	+1	-2	+3

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



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Performance

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
In the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance						
Excellent		25%	-3	0	-2	-1
Very good		46%	0	-11 👁	-11 👁	-80
Average		21%	+1	+5 ♦	+6 ⊘	+5♠
Below average		8%	+4	+6 ♦	+6 🚱	+6 🏠
Well below average		0%	-2	-1	-1	-1

	Response	scale		% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	68	18	15	68 %	-4	-11 •	- 13 ♥	-11 👁
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	53	26 2	21	53 %	+2	-7♥	-3	+4
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	61	24	15	61%	-5♥	-13 ♥	-16 ூ	-14 O
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	84	1	14	84%	+90	+5♠	+3	+5♠
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	60	30	9	60%	+80	+1	+4	+6 ♦

Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Australian Government
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Retention



Employees who indicated that they wanted to leave their current position as soon as possible or within the next 12 months were asked what their plans were.

Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
Which of the following statements best reflects your thoughts about working in your curren position?	t				
I want to leave my position as soon as possible	3 %	-6♥	-5♥	-4	-6♥
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months	13%	-1	-80	-6 0	-6♥
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years	28%	+50	-11 👁	-14 🛇	-12 🗨
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years	55 %	+2	+240	+240	+240
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current position?					
I am planning to retire	0%	0	-5♥	-4	-3
I am pursuing another position within my agency	0%	-31♥	-46♥	-28♥	-16♥
I am pursuing a position in another agency	30 %	+7 0	+5 ♦	-6♥	-19 O
I am pursuing work outside the APS	0%	-23♥	-9 0	-14 🛇	-14 🗨
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	10%	+2	+80	+5 0	+5 0
Other	60%	+45 0	+460	+460	+480

Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator
At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

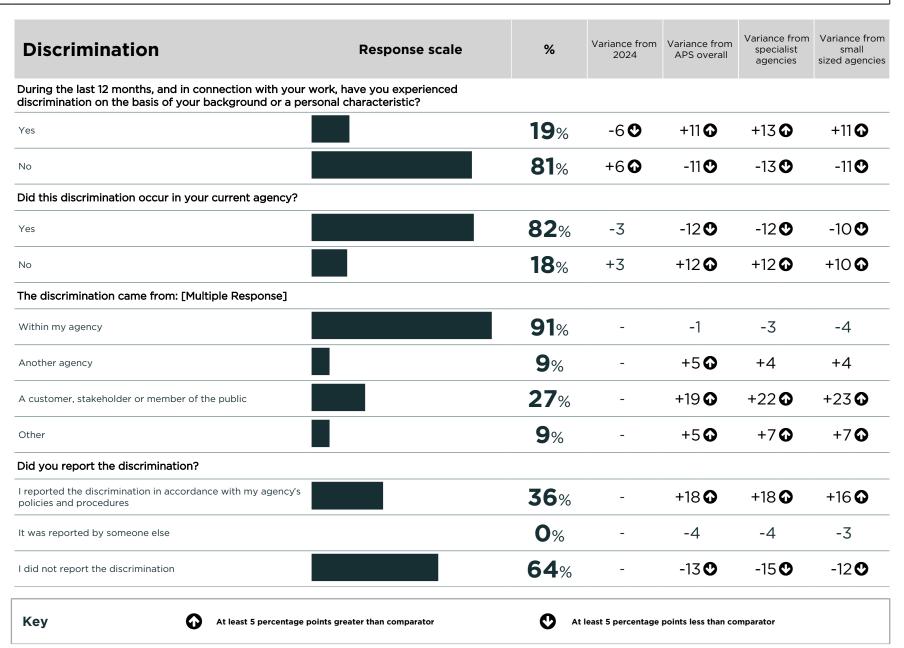
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Unacceptable behaviour



Employees who had perceived discrimination in the last 12 months in the course of their employment were asked where the discrimination came from and if they reported it.





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Unacceptable behaviour



In 2025, the survey used an expanded definition of harassment. Comparing results to 2024 should take this change in definition in context.

Employees who perceived bullying or harassment in the last 12 months were asked what type of bullying or harassment they experienced.
Employees could select one or more responses from a list of items.

Only the three options with the highest proportion of responses are presented here. These may vary between agencies, work units and with results for the APS overall.

Bullying and harassment	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies		
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to workplace?	bullying or harassment in your current							
Yes		11%	-7 0	+2	+3	+1		
No		77 %	+5 ♦	-80	-10 👁	-7 O		
Not sure		11%	+2	+7 🐼	+70	+6♠		
Did you report the bullying or harassment?								
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.					
It was reported by someone else	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.							
I did not report the behaviour	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.					







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At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



2025 APS Employee Census

Key

Unacceptable behaviour

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



In 2025, the survey used an updated definition of corruption to align with the National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022 and the Commonwealth Fraud and Corruption Control Framework.

Comparing results to 2024 should take this change in definition in context.

Corruption	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, excluding behaviour repor you observed a public official engaging in conduct in to be corruption?						
Yes		11%	-6♥	+10 🐼	+90	+7
No		62 %	+9♠	-30 ♥	-30 ♥	-25♥
Not sure		15%	+2	+11 🐼	+11 🐼	+80
Prefer not to answer		11%	-6♥	+10 🐼	+10 🐼	+9
Which of the following reflects the conduct you witn	essed? [Multiple Response]					
Abuse of office	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			
Misuse of information or documents	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.					
A breach of public trust	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.					
Adversely affecting the honesty or impartiality of a public official	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.					
Did you report the conduct?						
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.					
It was reported by someone else	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.					
I did not report the behaviour	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			



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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Key

Demographics

How do you describe your gender?	Responses
Man or male	24%
Woman or female	71%
Non-binary	0%
I use a different term	0%
Prefer not to say	5%

Do you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person?	Responses
Yes	82%
No	18%

Do you have an ongoing disability?	Responses
Yes	8%
No	92%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	47%
No	53%

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	Responses
Yes	6%
No	94%

Do you identify as culturally or linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	60%
No	40%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	18%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	82%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	0%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	6%
Anglo-European Anglo-European	3%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	0%
Southern and Eastern European	2%
South-East Asian	2%
North-East Asian	0%
Southern and Central Asian	0%
North American	0%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	0%
North African and Middle Eastern	0%
Sub-Saharan African	0%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	5%
No	47%
Maybe	6%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	42%

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Agency position



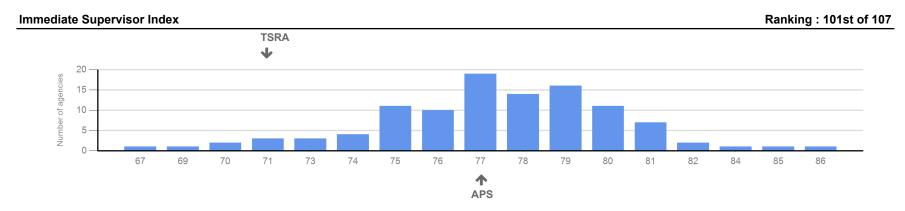
Agency position

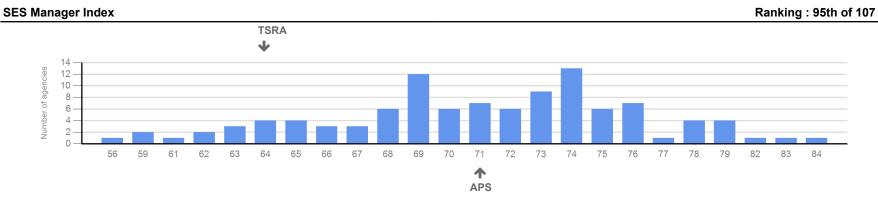
These graphs display the overall index score of each agency for the Employee Engagement, Immediate Supervisor, SES Manager, Communication, **Enabling Innovation** and Wellbeing Policies and Support indices. These are to assist you to see where your agency sits in comparison to the overall APS index score and the scores of other agencies.

Along the bottom line (x-axis) are the index scores. The height of the bar (y-axis) is how many agencies have that index score.

Please note, the x-axis values are not consecutive as only index scores received by an agency are represented.









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Agency position



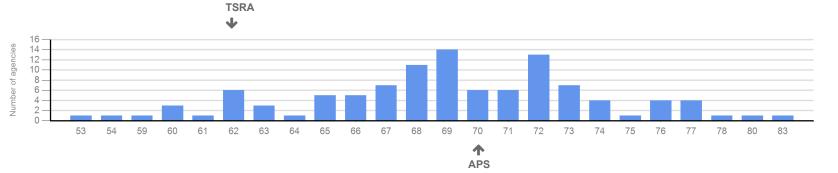
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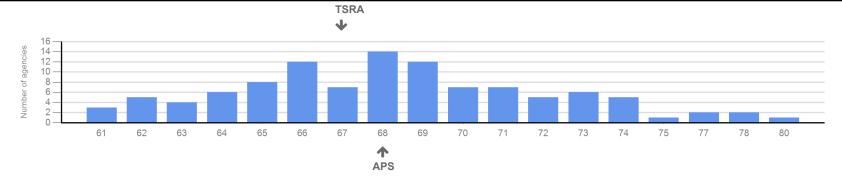
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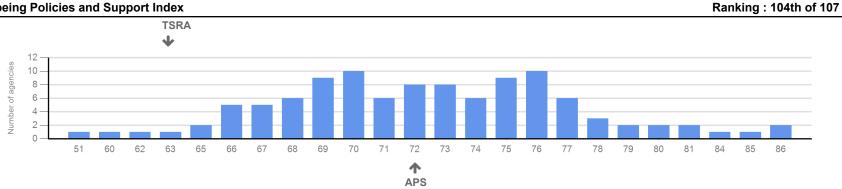




Enabling Innovation Index Ranking: 64th of 107



Wellbeing Policies and Support Index





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Suggested questions to focus on



What to focus on?

Through driver analysis, these key questions have been identified as being important to employees in your agency and associated with employee engagement.

They are not necessarily the questions with the lowest scores.

Some will be areas to improve upon and some will be areas to maintain.

Develop actions and activities to improve upon these, where possible, to drive higher levels of performance.

	5 percentage points greater mparator At least 5 percentage points less than comparator	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
.1	I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	68%	+7 o	0	-3	+1
.2	I feel I have the same opportunities as anyone else of my ability or experience	68%	+100	0	-2	+2
.3	The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	61%	-1	-210	-22 º	-140
.4	I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	70 %	+140	0	0	+5 0
.5	My SES manager presents convincing arguments and persuades others towards an outcome	48%	-16 o	-16 º	-18 0	-15 ⊙
.6	Change is managed well in my agency	38 %	+1	-9 o	-5 ⊙	0



TSRA specific questions

	Response scale	% Variance from Positive 2024
People at all levels of the TSRA proactively contribute to a positive, accountable and inclusive culture	53 30 17	53 % +7 ©
People in my workgroup reach out to others in TSRA to collaborate and share information	68 24 8	68 % -3
People in my Programme behave with a strong sense of personal responsibility and accountability for achieving results	73 20	73 % -5 0
I actively seek feedback to improve my performance at work	77 18	77 % +11 ©
I make time to learn and develop my skills and knowledge	85 10	85 % +10 ©
My supervisor gives me responsibility and holds me to account for what I deliver	78 22	78 % 0
I have found the performance discussions with my manager highly effective	61 31 8	61 % +3
As a supervisor, I feel supported to manage the performance of my team	60 28 13	60 % +7 ©
My immediate work area manages underperformance effectively	36 29 34	36 % -3
The TSRA listens to and works well with external stakeholders when developing projects, policies and programs	69 25	69 % +8 0

Australian Government

Positive Neutral Negative

Key

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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TSRA specific questions

	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2024
The TSRA communicates organisational matters and decisions to staff in an open and transparent way	49	32 1	9 49%	+9 0
I understand how my work connects with and contributes to the TSRA's objectives	95		95%	+12 🕢
I have the necessary information and support to manage my work responsibilities	71	17	71 %	+1
My immediate manager applies policies and guidelines consistently when making decisions	74	19	74%	+6 🚱
The TSRA actively encourages a pro-integrity culture which values, acknowledges and champions doing the right thing	66	27	66%	+12 🕥

Key



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



Time to take action

	Celebrate
What things do we do well?	
Think about how we can build on our from what we are good at.	strengths and learn

Q	Investigate further with our teams
	other opportunities coming out that we want to explore further?

How could we investigate? Through looking at the data in

more detail or through discussions with staff?

*	Opportunities
Areas we nee plans:	d to focus on and turn into actio
What are the key	things we need to improve to make



Use this page to start your local action plans

Identify areas to celebrate, opportunities for improvement and areas which you need to investigate further.

Prioritise 3 areas to take forward

	Prioritise 3 areas for action	Timescales	Owner	Resources required	Target/Success measure
1					
2					
3					

Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

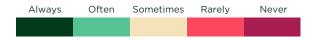
Guide to this report

% Positive

Where results are shown as positive percentages (% positive), these are calculated by adding together positive responses ("strongly agree" + "agree" or "always" + "often") and dividing by the number of respondents who answered the question.



For 5 point scale questions not asked on the *agree to disagree* scale the same rules apply, the green percent represents a **positive response** (unless the question is negatively worded).









Rounding

Results are presented as whole numbers for ease of reading, with rounding performed at the last stage of calculation for maximum accuracy. Values from x.00 to x.49 are rounded down and values from x.50 to x.99 are rounded up. Therefore in some instances, results may not total 100%.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
Number of responses	151	166	176	96	24	613
Percentage	24.63%	27.08%	28.71%	15.66%	3.92%	100%
Rounded percentage	25%	27%	29%	16%	4%	101%
Number of positive	151 + 166 = 317					
% Positive	317 ÷ 613 = 52%					

Anonymity

It is best practice not to display the results of groups of respondents to the extent where the anonymity of individuals may be compromised. Results will not be shown where there are less than 10 respondents in a group.

Comparisons

Comparisons to other similarly sized agencies are used through this report.

Comparisons to previous years

The method of analysing and reporting specific results may be periodically reviewed and revised. Such improvements are applied to current data and that of previous years. For this reason the current report is always the most accurate data source for APS Employee Census results, including comparisons with time series data.

