

2025 APS Employee Census

5 May - 6 June

Highlights Report

Responses:

559 of 642

Response rate:

87%



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.

0	Your Employee Engagement	Response sc	ale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
	Index score				+2	О	-1	-1
	Overall, I am satisfied with my job	77	15 8	77 %	+1	+1	+1	+1
Say	I am proud to work in my agency	79	17	79 %	+4	-2	-3	-3
Й	I would recommend my agency as a good place to work	80	14	80%	+7 0	+3	+3	+5♠
	I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of my agency	87	11	87 %	+3	-2	-5♥	-4
Stay	I feel a strong personal attachment to my agency	62	28 11	62 %	+4	-3	-4	-4
st	I feel committed to my agency's goals	86	13	86%	+4	-2	-4	-3
	I suggest ideas to improve our way of doing things	90	9	90%	0	+3	+1	+1
Strive	I am happy to go the 'extra mile' at work when required	92		92%	+1	+1	+1	+1
Sti	I work beyond what is required in my job to help my agency achieve its objectives	77	19	77 %	-2	-1	+2	-1
	My agency really inspires me to do my best work every day	67	24 9	67%	+10 📭	0	-2	-1

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

Positive Neutral Negative

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Key

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 Tour To	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
	Index score				+2	+1	+1	+1
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	82	11	82%	+2	+1	+1	+2
isor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	81	13	81%	+2	+2	+1	+2
Superv	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	86	10	86%	+2	+3	+2	+3
Immediate Supervisor	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	85	10	85%	+6 ۞	+2	+2	+3
mmI	My supervisor is invested in my development	79	14	79 %	+2	+1	+1	+1
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	91		91%	+3	+3	+3	+3
	Other similar questions							
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	79	13 8	79 %	+3	0	0	+1
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	81	15	81%	+3	+3	+2	+3
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	87	10	87%	+2	+2	+2	+3
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	82	13	82%	+1	0	0	+1
Key	At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator	At least 5 percentage p	oints less th	an comparator		Positive N	leutral Negative	9

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

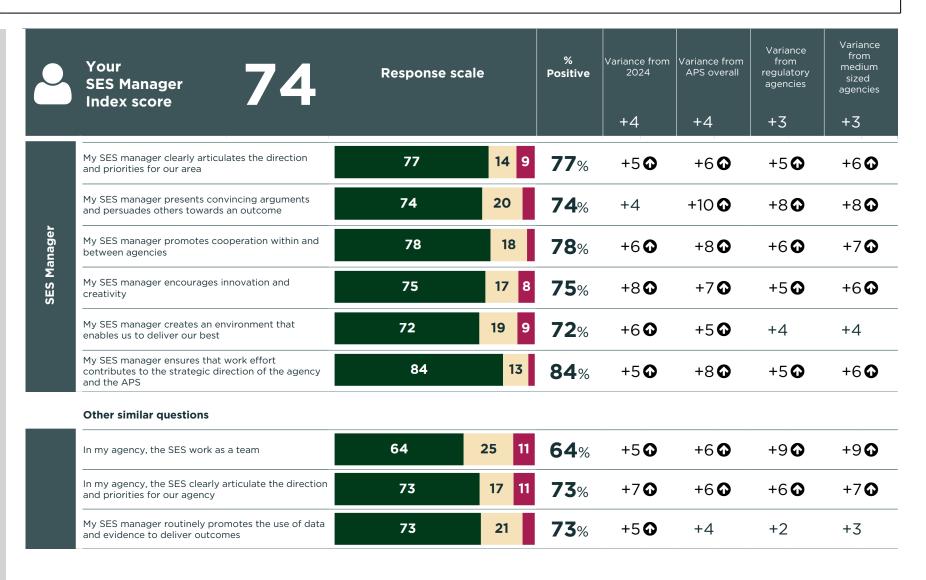
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Leadership - SES Manager



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.



Key

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



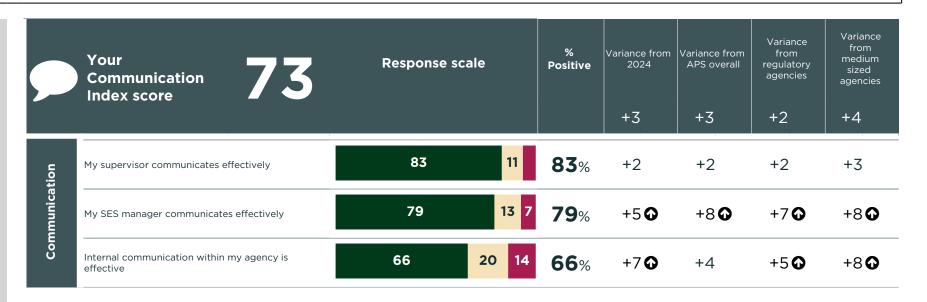
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Communication and change



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

	When changes occur, the impacts are communicated well within my workgroup	70	18	12	70%	0	+3	+3	+4
Change	Staff are consulted about change at work	49	38	14	49%	-1	-3	-3	-1
	Change is managed well in my agency	42	34	23	42%	+3	-6♥	-4	-2

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

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

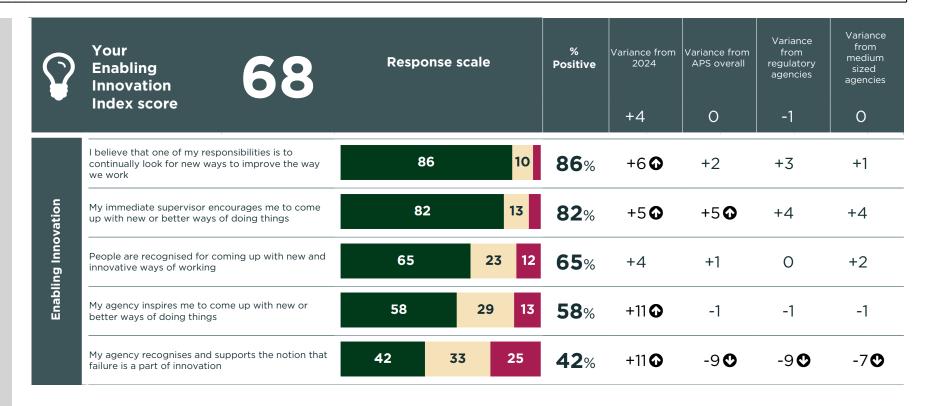
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Enabling Innovation



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

Positive Neutral Negative



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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.

+	Your Wellbeing Policies and Support Index	Response sca	ıle	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
	score				+1	+1	-1	0
port	I am satisfied with the policies/practices in place to help me manage my health and wellbeing	74	18 8	74%	+6 	+1	-1	+2
Policies and Support	My agency does a good job of communicating what it can offer me in terms of health and wellbeing	73	20 7	73 %	+4	+2	-2	+2
olicies	My agency does a good job of promoting health and wellbeing	70	21 10	70 %	+3	-1	-4	-1
Wellbeing F	I think my agency cares about my health and wellbeing	71	19 11	71 %	+4	+2	-2	0
Well	I believe my immediate supervisor cares about my health and wellbeing	90		90%	+1	+3	+1	+1
	Other similar questions							
Б	If I felt it was needed, I would feel comfortable discussing my mental health and wellbeing with my supervisor	75	14 11	75 %	+3	-1	-2	-2
Wellbeing	I receive the respect I deserve from my colleagues at work	81	15	81%	-1	0	0	0
- >	My agency supports and actively promotes an inclusive workplace culture	83	12	83%	+9 0	-1	-2	0

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



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Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:						
Excellent		10%	+4	-1	-2	-2
Very good		41%	+2	+5♠	+3	+4
Good		34%	-2	-3	-2	-2
Fair		12%	-4	-1	0	-1
Poor		3 %	0	0	0	0
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		19%	-2	+2	+1	-1
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		39 %	-7 ♥	0	0	0
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		34%	+6 🏠	-3	-1	+1
Slightly below capacity – available for more work		7 %	+2	+1	0	0
Well below capacity - not enough work		1%	0	0	0	-1

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

0

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		2%	-1	-2	-1	-2
Often		20%	-2	-3	-2	-3
Sometimes		53 %	-1	+3	+1	+3
Rarely		23%	+2	+4	+3	+2
Never		2%	+1	0	0	-1
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?						
To a very large extent	ı	3 %	-1	-4	-3	-4
To a large extent		15%	+2	-4	-2	-3
Somewhat		39 %	-2	0	0	+1
To a small extent		30 %	-2	+60	+3	+4
To a very small extent		13%	+3	+4	+2	+2
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		4%	0	-3	-3	-3
Agree		19%	-3	-2	-1	-2
Neither agree nor disagree		31 %	+1	-1	+1	+1
Disagree		36 %	-1	+5 0	+3	+4
Strongly disagree		9%	+3	+1	0	0

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Key

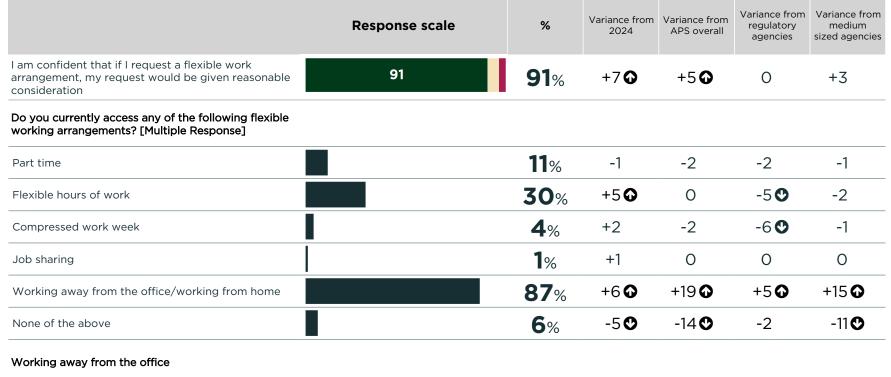
At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



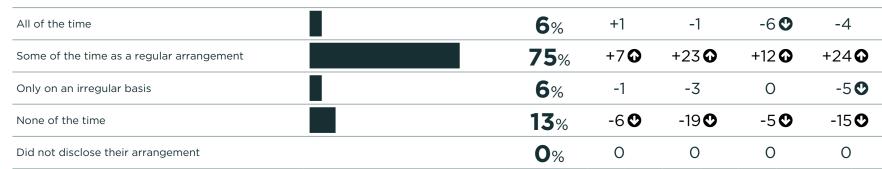
At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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



Working in the APS

	Response sca	ale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	71	19 11	71 %	+7 6	+1	+2	+2
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	79	18	79 %	-2	+2	+1	+1
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	85	10	85%	+4	+4	+3	+4
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	90	9	90%	+3	+1	0	+2
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	68	25 7	68%	+5♠	-1	+1	+3
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	90	8	90%	0	+5♠	+2	+4
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	90	7	90%	-	+6 ☆	+4	+50
People in my workgroup are comfortable checking with each other if they have questions about the right way to do something	90	7	90%	-	+2	0	+1
The people in my workgroup are able to bring up problems and tough issues	83	10 7	83%	+1	+3	+2	+2
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)	74	18 9	74%	-	+7 •	+1	+2

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Key



Positive Neutral Negative

Job satisfaction

	Response so	cale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	73	17 11	73 %	+1	+4	+3	+3
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	65	18 18	65%	+4	-1	-2	-3
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	89		89%	+5 ⊘	+4	0	+4
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	87	9	87%	-2	+1	+4	+5♠

Clarity and autonomy

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	93	93%	+1	0	-1	0
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	86 10	86%	+8	+2	+2	+4
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	79 18	79 %	+4	+12 🐼	+6 🐼	+60
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	76 13 1	76 %	+1	+4	+3	+3

Key

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



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Performance

Australian Public Service Commission

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
In the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance						
Excellent		29%	-2	+4	+4	+2
Very good		57 %	+1	0	0	+1
Average		12%	+1	-4	-4	-3
Below average		2%	+1	0	0	0
Well below average		0%	0	0	0	0

	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	84	9	84%	+3	+6 🚱	+5♠	+5♠
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	53 21	25	53 %	+2	-6♥	0	-1
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	80	14	80%	+2	+5♠	+5♠	+5 0
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	80	12 8	80%	-1	+1	0	0
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	56 33	10	56 %	+4	-3	-2	-2

Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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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 regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
Which of the following statements best reflects your thoughts position?	about working in your current					
I want to leave my position as soon as possible		6%	-2	-2	-2	-2
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months		21%	-1	0	+1	0
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years		43%	0	+4	0	+2
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years		29%	+3	-2	0	-1
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your cur	rent position?					
I am planning to retire		5 %	+1	+1	+2	+2
I am pursuing another position within my agency		26%	-5♥	-20 ♥	-7 O	-1
I am pursuing a position in another agency		40%	+9	+15 🕢	+6 🚱	+2
I am pursuing work outside the APS		10%	-2	+2	-1	-1
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment		4 %	+1	+2	0	-2
Other		14%	-4	+1	0	0

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

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

Retention



Employees who indicated that they were pursing another position within their agency, another agency, or outside the APS were asked for the primary reason behind their desire to leave. They could select one response from a list of 18 items.

Only the five reasons for leaving with the highest proportion of responses are presented here. These may vary between agencies, work units and with results for the APS overall, therefore those comparisons are not included.

Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current position? (5 highest responses):					
I want to try a different type of work or I'm seeking a career change	19%	-	-	-	-
I wish to pursue a promotion opportunity	17 %	-	-	-	-
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my agency	10%	-	-	-	-
I am looking to further my skills in another area	9%	-	-	-	-
Senior leadership is of a poor quality	8%	-	-	-	-

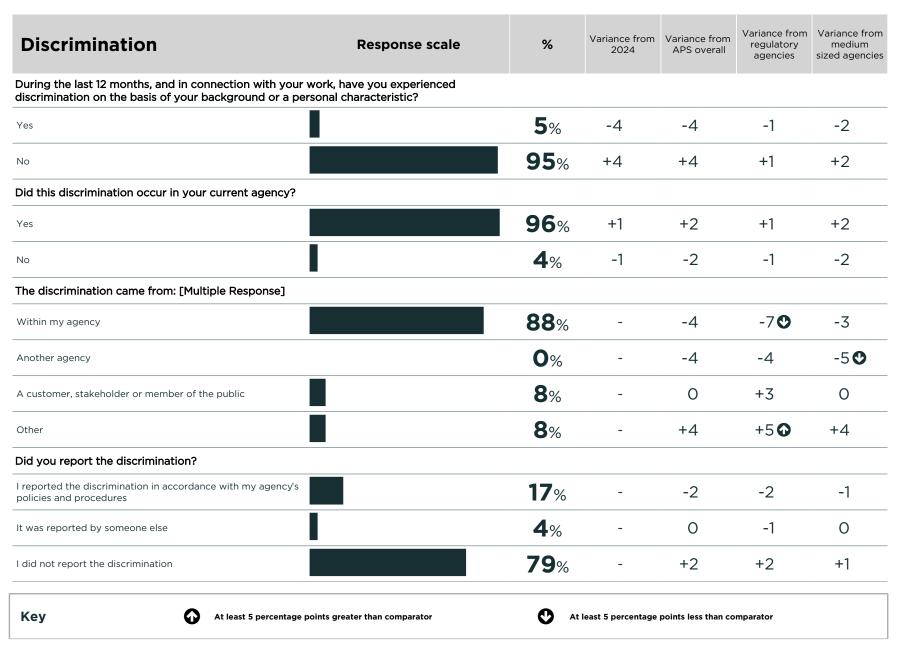
Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



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 regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to bull workplace?	ying or harassment in your current					
Yes		5 %	-2	-4	-3	-4
No		91%	+1	+5 ♦	+3	+5 ۞
Not sure		3 %	+1	-1	0	-1
Types of bullying or harassment experienced (3 highest re-	sponses):					
Interference with work tasks (e.g. withholding needed information, undermining or sabotage)		63%	-	-	-	-
Deliberate exclusion from work-related activities		56 %	-	-	-	-
Inappropriate and unfair application of work policies or rules (e.g. performance management, access to leave, access to learning and development)		44%	-	-	-	-
Did you report the bullying or harassment?						
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		24%	+14 🚱	-13 👁	-13 👁	-11 👁
It was reported by someone else		4%	-9♥	-4	-4	-4
I did not report the behaviour		72 %	-5♥	+17 🐼	+17 🐼	+15 🐼



Unacceptable behaviour



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 regulatory agencies	Variance fro medium sized agenci
During the last 12 months, excluding behaviour reported you observed a public official engaging in conduct in you to be corruption?						
Yes		2%	+1	0	-1	0
No		93%	-4	+1	0	+1
Not sure		4%	+2	0	0	0
Prefer not to answer		1%	0	0	0	-1
Which of the following reflects the conduct you witnesse	d? [Multiple Response]					
Abuse of office		100%	-	-	-	-
Adversely affecting the honesty or impartiality of a public official		27 %	-	-	-	-
A breach of public trust		18%	-	-	-	-
Misuse of information or documents		9%	-	-	-	-
Did you report the conduct?						
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		9%	+9	-16 🔮	-13 🔮	-12 🔮
It was reported by someone else		0%	0	-17 O	-17 🔮	-18♥
I did not report the behaviour		91%	+91 ♠	+34	+30 🏠	+30 ♦
Key At least 5 percentage poi	ints greater than comparator	O At	least 5 percentage	points less than co	omparator	



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Demographics

How do you describe your gender?	Responses
Man or male	37%
Woman or female	57%
Non-binary	1%
I use a different term	0%
Prefer not to say	6%

Do you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person?	Responses
Yes	1%
No	99%

Do you have an ongoing disability?	Responses
Yes	9%
No	91%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	46%
No	54%

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	Responses
Yes	13%
No	87%

Do you identify as culturally or linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	24%
No	76%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	74%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	1%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	2%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	1%
Anglo-European Anglo-European	18%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	3%
Southern and Eastern European	6%
South-East Asian	9%
North-East Asian	5%
Southern and Central Asian	3%
North American	2%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	1%
North African and Middle Eastern	1%
Sub-Saharan African	1%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	12%
No	74%
Maybe	11%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	4%

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Agency position

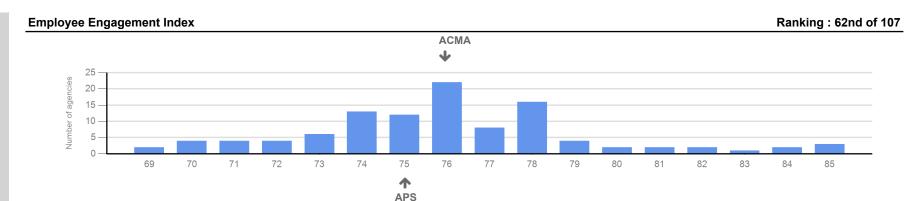


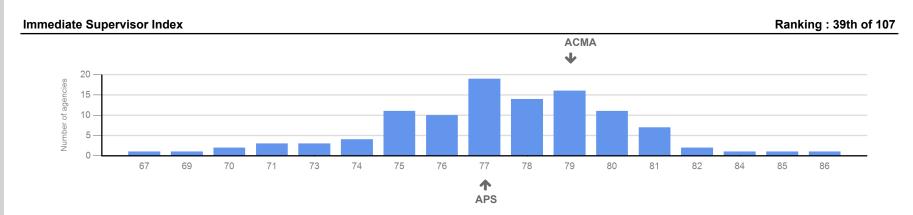
Agency position

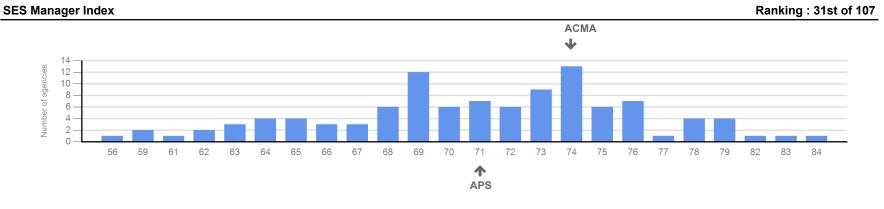
These graphs display the overall index score of each agency for the Employee Engagement, Immediate Supervisor, SES Manager, Communication, **Enabling Innovation** and Wellbeing Policies and Support indices. These are to assist you to see where your agency sits in comparison to the overall APS index score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

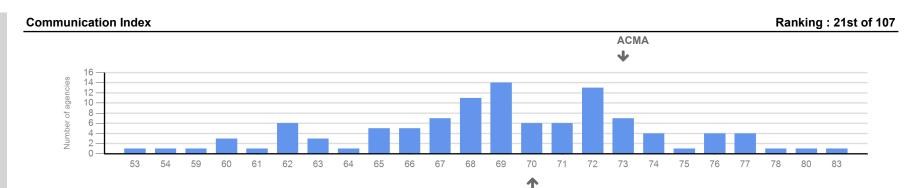


Agency position

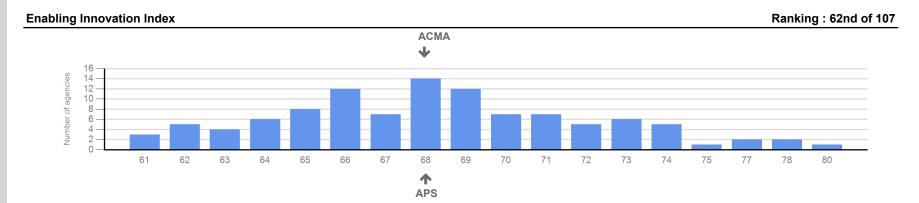
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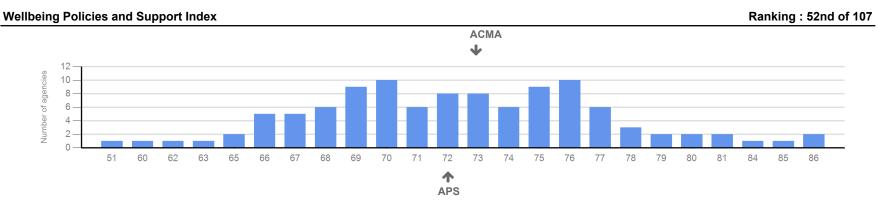
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APS







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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.

	at 5 percentage points greater mparator At least 5 percentage points less than comparator	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
.1	I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	71 %	+7 o	+1	+2	+2
.2	The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	85%	+4	+4	+3	+4
.3	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	58 %	+110	-1	-1	-1
.4	My SES manager ensures that work effort contributes to the strategic direction of the agency and the APS	84%	+5 0	+80	+5 0	+60
.5	I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	73 %	+1	+4	+3	+3
.6	My SES manager creates an environment that enables us to deliver our best	72 %	+60	+5 0	+4	+4



ACMA specific questions

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024
My workgroup has a documented forward workplan and we are held accountable for making progress towards the work plan	74 19	74 %	+4
I understand how my workgroup's work plan fits into the Corporate Plan and the divisional plan	77 17	77 %	+3
My work and team behaviors reflect the ACMA's Culture and Values of being purposeful, curious and questioning, and collaborative	87 1	87%	-
I have the ICT tools and resources to perform my role well	56 18 26	56%	-
My workgroup has the people and financial resources we need to perform well	42 25 33	42%	-
I feel comfortable reporting issues of integrity	74 18	74 %	-

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

Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

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?

<u>~</u>	Opportunities
Areas we nee plans:	ed to focus on and turn into actio
	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					

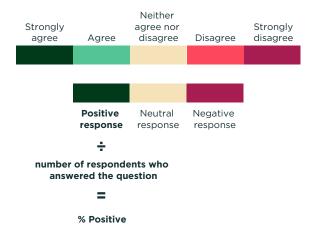
Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

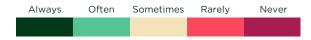
Guide to this report

% 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.

