

2025 APS Employee Census

5 May - 6 June

Highlights Report

Responses:

195 of 231

Response rate:

84%



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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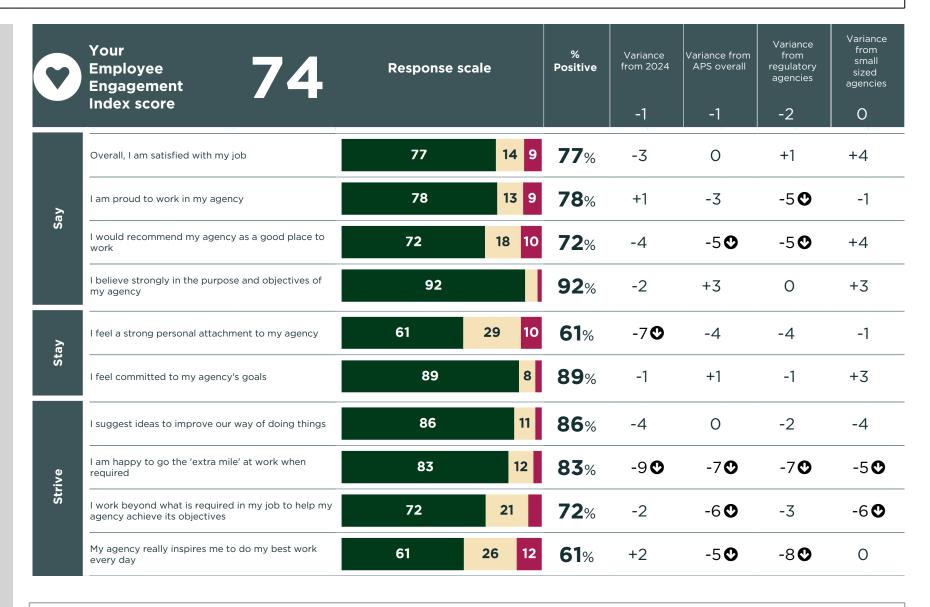


Employee Engagement: Say, Stay, Strive



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

Positive Neutral Negative



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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	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
	Index score			-4	-2	-3	-1
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	77 15 9	77 %	-2	-4	-4	-1
visor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	77 15 9	77 %	-5♥	-3	-4	-1
Immediate Supervisor	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	81 12	81%	-3	-1	-3	0
nediate	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	77 15 8	77 %	-2	-6♥	-6♥	-3
<u>m</u>	My supervisor is invested in my development	74 16 10	74%	-6♥	-4	-4	-1
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	86 11	86%	-5♥	-2	-3	0
	Other similar questions						
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	72 21	72 %	-7 ♥	-7 ♥	-6♥	-2
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	72 20 8	72 %	-2	-6♥	-7 ♥	-4
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	80 14	80%	-2	-5♥	-5 ♥	-2
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	76 16 8	76%	-3	-5♥	-5♥	-4
Key	At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator	r 🔥 At least 5 percentage points less t	nan comparator		Positive N	Neutral Negativ	e

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

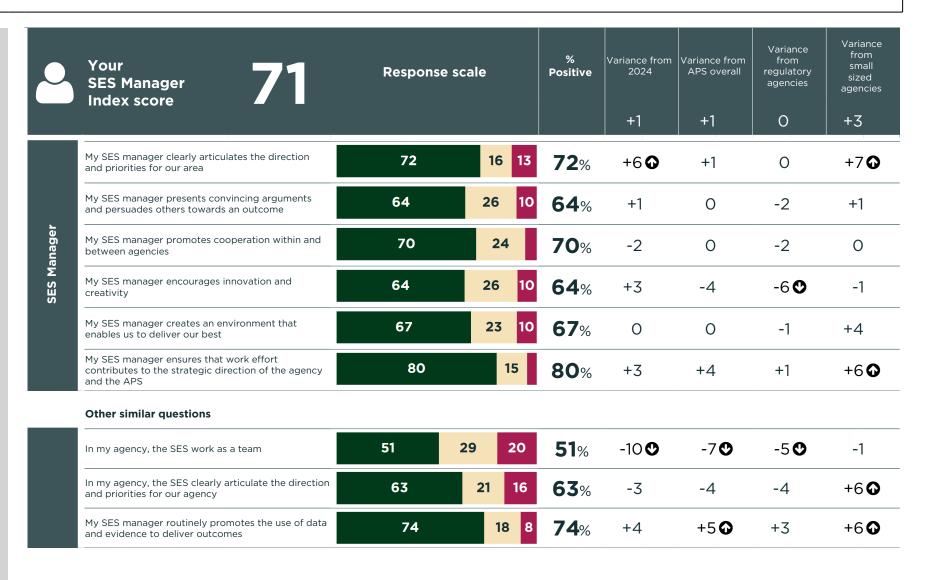
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Leadership - SES Manager



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.



Kev

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

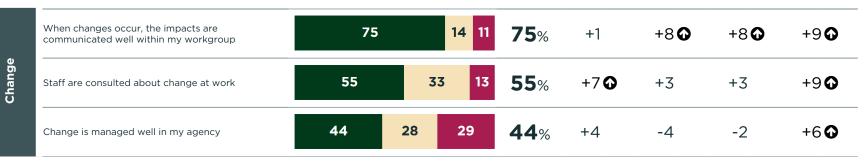
The Communication Index measures communication at the individual, group and agency level.

•	Your Communication Index score	68	Response s	cale	% Positive	Variance from 2024 -3	Variance from APS overall -2	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
tion	My supervisor communicates ef	fectively	78	13 9	78 %	-4	-4	-4	0
Communication	My SES manager communicates	s effectively	69	17 14	69%	+1	-2	-3	+2
Con	Internal communication within reffective	ny agency is	59	22 19	59%	-5♥	-3	-2	+7 6

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



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

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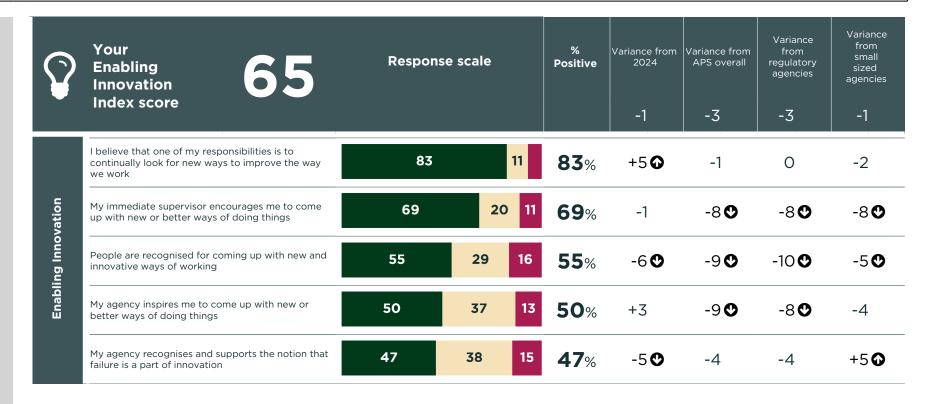
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Enabling Innovation



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.





Kev



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 score	Response sca	ale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
					-1	+2	-1	+2
port	I am satisfied with the policies/practices in place to help me manage my health and wellbeing	79	16	79 %	+3	+6 🚱	+3	+96
and Support	My agency does a good job of communicating what it can offer me in terms of health and wellbeing	75	17 8	75 %	-1	+5 ♠	+1	+6
Policies a	My agency does a good job of promoting health and wellbeing	76	16 8	76 %	+6 ⊙	+5♠	+2	+9 0
Wellbeing P	I think my agency cares about my health and wellbeing	71	20 8	71 %	-2	+3	-2	+4
Well	I believe my immediate supervisor cares about my health and wellbeing	85	10	85%	-5♥	-3	-4	-3
	Other similar questions							
5	If I felt it was needed, I would feel comfortable discussing my mental health and wellbeing with my supervisor	73	15 11	73%	-1	-3	-3	-1
Wellbeing	I receive the respect I deserve from my colleagues at work	77	16	77 %	0	-4	-4	-1
3	My agency supports and actively promotes an inclusive workplace culture	79	13 9	79 %	-6 ©	-5♥	-6♥	+2

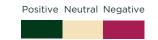
Key



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 regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:						
Excellent		13%	+1	+1	+1	+1
Very good		37 %	-3	+2	0	0
Good		34 %	+1	-3	-2	-2
Fair		12%	+1	-1	0	-1
Poor		4 %	0	+1	+2	+1
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		30%	+50	+13 🐼	+12 🐼	+70
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		40%	-1	+1	+1	-1
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		27 %	-1	-10 👁	-80	-3
Slightly below capacity – available for more work		3 %	-2	-3	-4	-3
Well below capacity - not enough work		1%	-1	-1	-1	-1

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		3 %	0	-1	-1	-1
Often		27 %	+6 🚱	+3	+5♠	+2
Sometimes		52 %	+2	+2	0	+2
Rarely		17%	-7♥	-3	-4	-3
Never		2%	-1	-1	0	0
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?						
To a very large extent		5%	+4	-2	0	-2
To a large extent		19%	+1	-1	+1	+1
Somewhat		40%	0	0	0	-1
To a small extent		26%	-3	+2	0	+1
To a very small extent		10%	-3	+1	-1	+1
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		9%	+3	+2	+2	0
Agree		22%	-1	+1	+2	-1
Neither agree nor disagree		33%	+7 0	+1	+3	+3
Disagree		29%	-7 •	-2	-4	-1
Strongly disagree		7 %	-2	-1	-2	-1

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

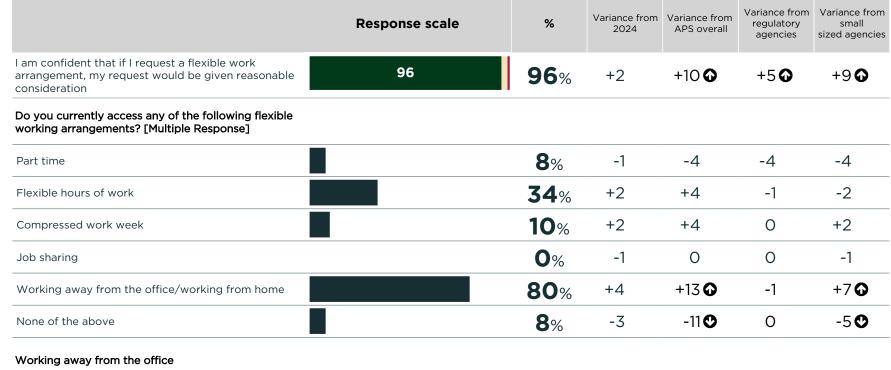
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Key

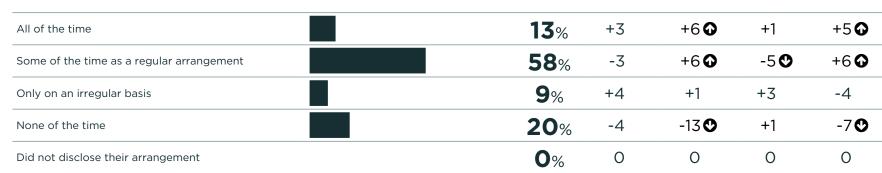
At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

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



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Working in the APS

	Response so	ale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	70	17 13	70 %	+7 •	+1	+1	+6 0
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	73	21	73 %	-8♥	-3	-5♥	-5♥
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	73	14 13	73 %	+1	-8♥	-9♥	-2
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	93		93%	-1	+4	+3	+5♠
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	68	26	68%	-2	0	+1	+9 0
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	85	11	85%	-5♥	0	-2	-1
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	87	8	87 %	-	+4	+2	+3
People in my workgroup are comfortable checking with each other if they have questions about the right way to do something	88	7	88%	-	-1	-2	-1
The people in my workgroup are able to bring up problems and tough issues	85	8	85%	+4	+60	+4	+5 ©
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)	76	16 9	76 %	-	+96	+3	+4

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 scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	66 20 14	66%	-3	-3	-4	-1
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	87 8	87%	0	+210	+20 0	+21
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	93	93%	-2	+80	+4	+7 0
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	81 12	81%	-7 ♥	-5♥	-2	+2

Clarity and autonomy

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	95	95%	-1	+3	+2	+5 ☆
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	89 8	89%	+3	+5 🐼	+5 🐼	+7 ©
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	78 17	78 %	-1	+10 🐼	+5 🐼	+4
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	73 18 9	73 %	-6♥	+1	0	+2

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

0

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 regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
In the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance						
Excellent		24%	-3	0	-1	-2
Very good		53%	-2	-3	-3	-1
Average		18%	+3	+2	+2	+2
Below average		3 %	+1	+1	+1	0
Well below average		2%	+2	+1	+1	+1

	Response s	cale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	81	10 9	81%	0	+2	+2	+2
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	36 25	38	36 %	-80	-23♥	-17 ♥	-13 O
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	81	11 8	81%	+1	+6 ☆	+5♠	+6 ☆
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	79	13 8	79 %	-3	-1	-1	0
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	57	32 11	57 %	0	-3	-2	+2

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 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 small sized agencies
Which of the following statements best reflects your thought position?	ts about working in your current					
I want to leave my position as soon as possible		4%	0	-5♥	-4	-5♥
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months		17 %	-3	-5♥	-4	-3
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years		40%	+3	+1	-3	-1
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years		40%	0	+90	+11 🐼	+90
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your co	urrent position?					
I am planning to retire		11%	+1	+6 🚱	+7 0	+7 0
I am pursuing another position within my agency		16%	-18♥	-30 🛇	- 17 ⊘	0
I am pursuing a position in another agency		55 %	+34 🚳	+30 🍑	+210	+6 ♦
I am pursuing work outside the APS		8%	-6 0	-1	-3	-6♥
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment		3 %	0	0	-1	-3
Other		8%	-11 👁	-6♥	-6♥	-4

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	e scale %	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current positio responses):	n? (5 highest				
I don't think my work performance is fairly assessed in comparison to others	17%	-	-	-	-
I wish to pursue a promotion opportunity	13%	-	-	-	-
I am expected to do more work than I reasonably can	13%	-	-	-	-
Senior leadership is of a poor quality	13%	-	-	-	-
My immediate supervisor's leadership is of a poor quality	10%	-	-	-	-

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

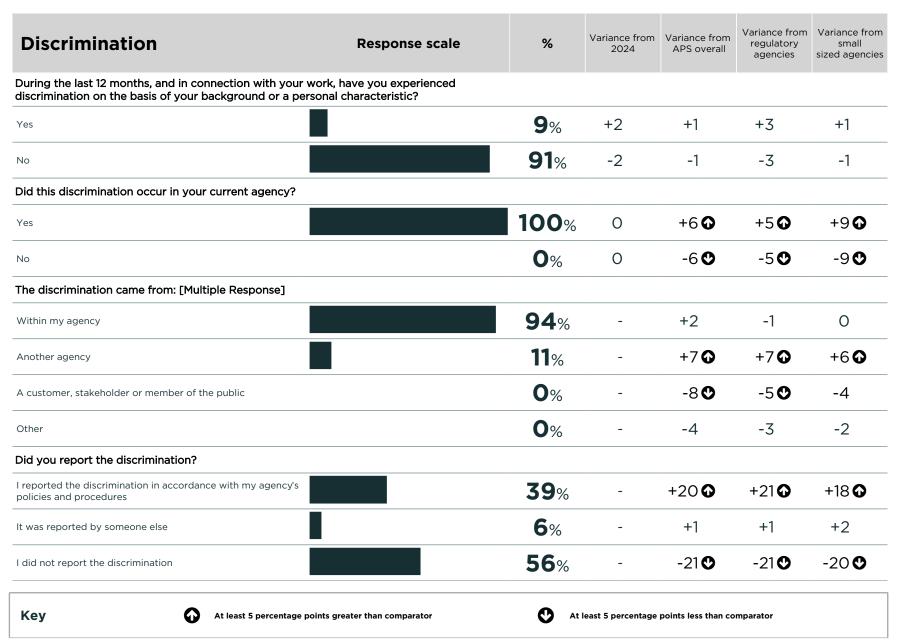


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Unacceptable behaviour



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 regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to bull workplace?	ying or harassment in your current					
Yes		6%	-1	-4	-2	-4
No		87 %	+1	+1	-1	+2
Not sure		7 %	0	+3	+4	+2
Types of bullying or harassment experienced (3 highest res	sponses):					
Interference with work tasks (e.g. withholding needed information, undermining or sabotage)		55 %	-	-	-	-
Inappropriate and unfair application of work policies or rules (e.g. performance management, access to leave, access to learning and development)		36 %	-	-	-	-
Verbal abuse (e.g. offensive language, derogatory remarks, shouting or screaming)		36 %	-	-	-	-
Did you report the bullying or harassment?						
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		55 %	+13 🚳	+17 🐼	+18 🚱	+210
It was reported by someone else		9%	+1	+2	+1	+2
I did not report the behaviour		36 %	-14 👁	-19 ♥	-19 ♥	-23♥



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 small sized agenci
During the last 12 months, excluding behaviour reported t you observed a public official engaging in conduct in you to be corruption?						
Yes		6%	+1	+4	+3	+2
No		83%	-3	-10 👁	-10 👁	-4
Not sure		7 %	+2	+3	+4	+1
Prefer not to answer		4%	0	+2	+3	+2
Which of the following reflects the conduct you witnessed	d? [Multiple Response]					
Abuse of office		82%	-	-	-	-
Adversely affecting the honesty or impartiality of a public official		55 %	-	-	-	-
A breach of public trust		27 %	-	-	-	-
Misuse of information or documents		9%	-	-	-	-
Did you report the conduct?						
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		36 %	+36♠	+11 🐼	+14 🐼	+21
It was reported by someone else		18%	+18 🐼	+1	+2	+50
I did not report the behaviour		45%	+450	-12 O	-16♥	-26♥
Key At least 5 percentage poin	its greater than comparator	₽ At	least 5 percentage	noints less than co	mparator	



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Demographics

How do you describe your gender?	Responses
Man or male	40%
Woman or female	53%
Non-binary	1%
I use a different term	0%
Prefer not to say	7%

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	14%
No	86%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	44%
No	56%

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	Responses	
Yes	9%	
No	91%	

Do you identify as culturally or linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	36%
No	64%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	63%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	2%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	2%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	2%
Anglo-European Anglo-European	16%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	5%
Southern and Eastern European	4%
South-East Asian	10%
North-East Asian	1%
Southern and Central Asian	9%
North American	2%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	2%
North African and Middle Eastern	2%
Sub-Saharan African	4%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	13%
No	70%
Maybe	13%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	4%

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Agency position

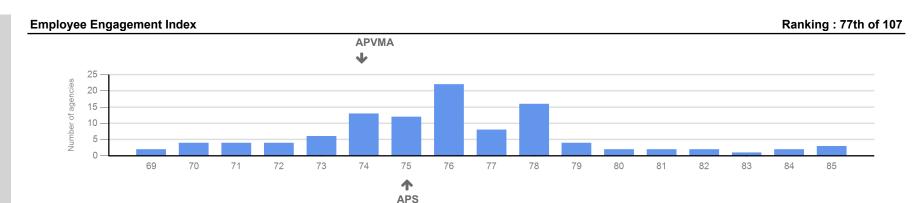


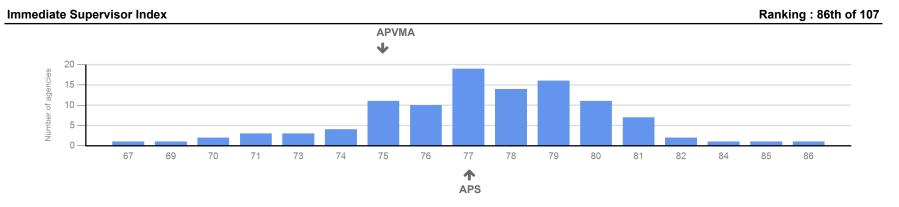
Agency position

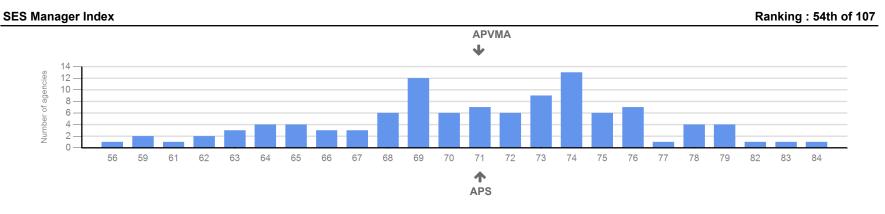
These graphs display the overall index score of each agency for the Employee Engagement, Immediate Supervisor, SES Manager, Communication, **Enabling Innovation** and Wellbeing Policies and Support indices. These are to assist you to see where your agency sits in comparison to the overall APS index score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

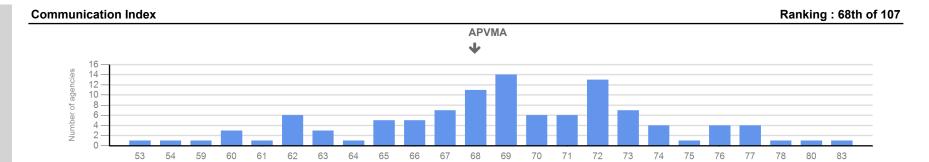


Agency position

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.

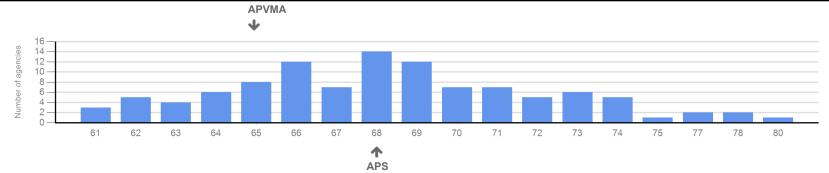
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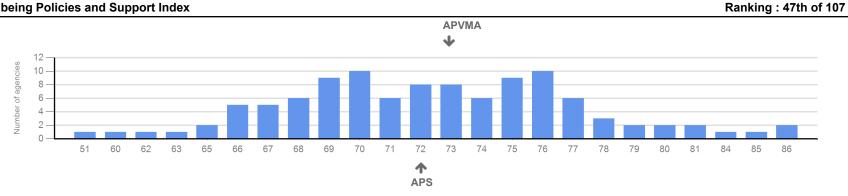




APS



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.

	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 small sized agencies
.1	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	50 %	+3	-9 o	-80	-4
.2	I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	70 %	+70	+1	+1	+60
.3	I think my agency cares about my health and wellbeing	71 %	-2	+3	-2	+4
.4	The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	73 %	+1	-80	-9 o	-2
.5	Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	73 %	-60	+1	0	+2
.6	Change is managed well in my agency	44%	+4	-4	-2	+60



Time to take action

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

Q	Investigate further with our teams
	ner opportunities coming out t we want to explore further?

How could we investigate? Through looking at the data in

more detail or through discussions with staff?

d turn into actic



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					

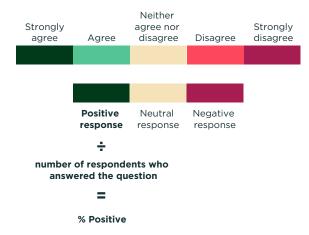
Australian Government

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.

