

2025 APS Employee Census

5 May - 6 June

Highlights Report

Responses:

94 of 111

Response rate:

85%



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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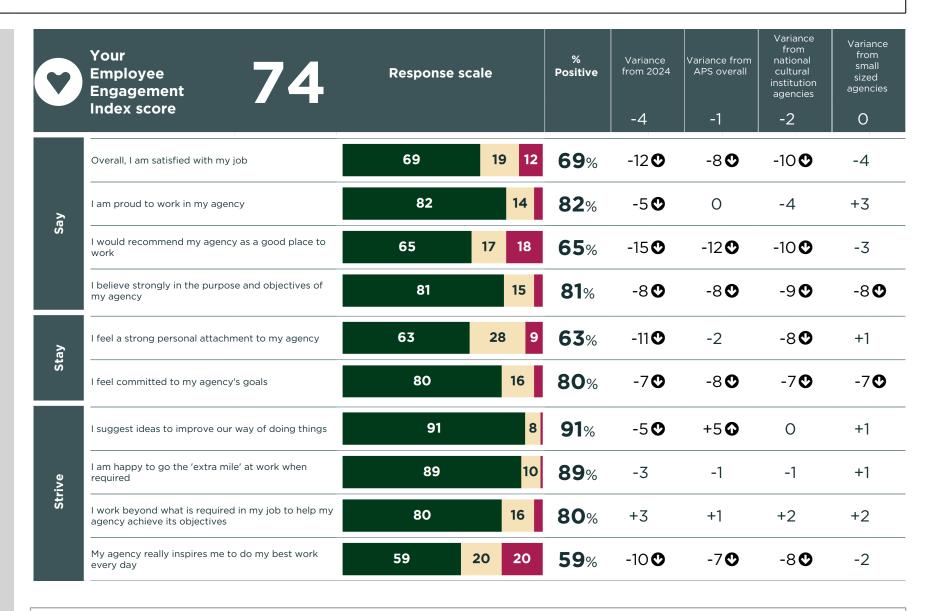


Employee Engagement: Say, Stay, Strive



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 national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies	
	Index score			-4	-1	-1	0	
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	80 12	80%	-1	0	+1	+2	
visor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	78 15	78%	-6 0	-2	-1	+1	
Supervisor	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	80 13	80%	-5 O	-2	-2	-2	
Immediate	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	80 11 9	80%	-5♥	-3	0	+1	
lm m	My supervisor is invested in my development	79 8 13	79 %	-1	+1	+1	+4	
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	88	88%	-5♥	0	-1	+2	
	Other similar questions							
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	73 20	73 %	-7♥	-7♥	-3	-2	
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	81 12	81%	+3	+4	+4	+5♠	
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	88	88%	+2	+3	+3	+6 ₽	
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	81 14	81%	+3	0	0	+2	
Key	Key • At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator • At least 5 percentage points less than comparator							

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

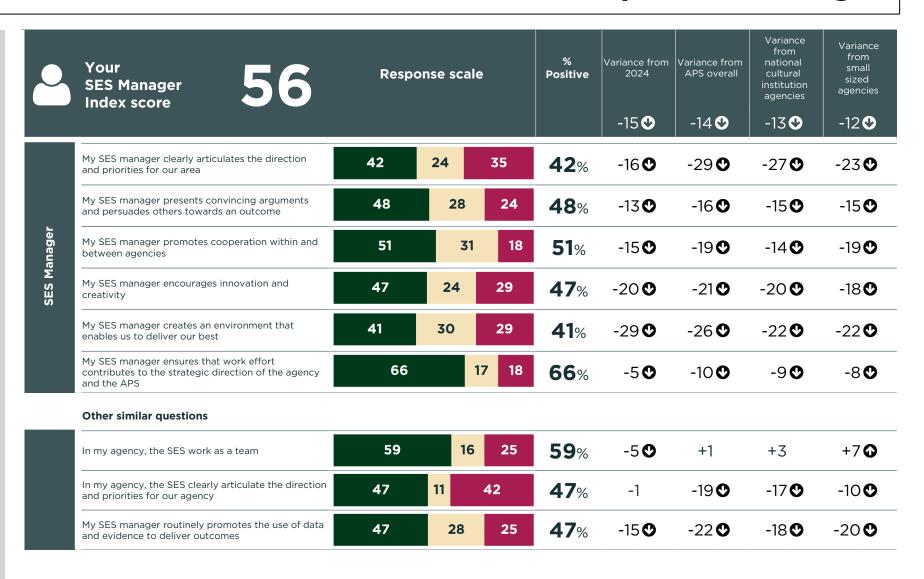
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Leadership - SES Manager



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.

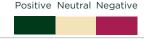


Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



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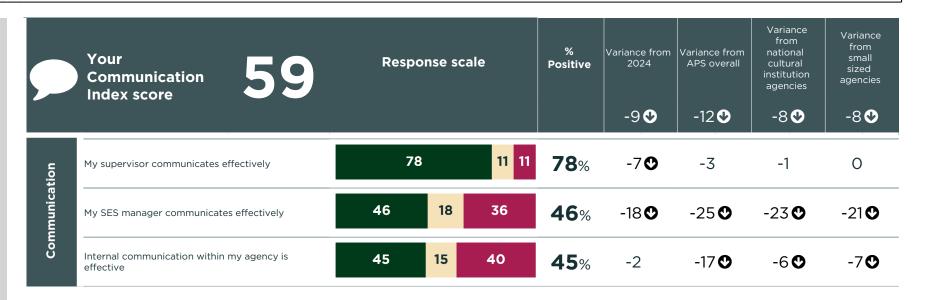


Communication and change



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

	When changes occur, the impacts are communicated well within my workgroup	60	0	17	23	60%	-14 0	-7 ♥	-8 ♥	-6♥
Change	Staff are consulted about change at work	33	33		34	33 %	-4	-19 ♥	-13 ♥	-13 O
	Change is managed well in my agency	31	26		43	31 %	-2	-17 ♥	-7 ♥	-7 ♥

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

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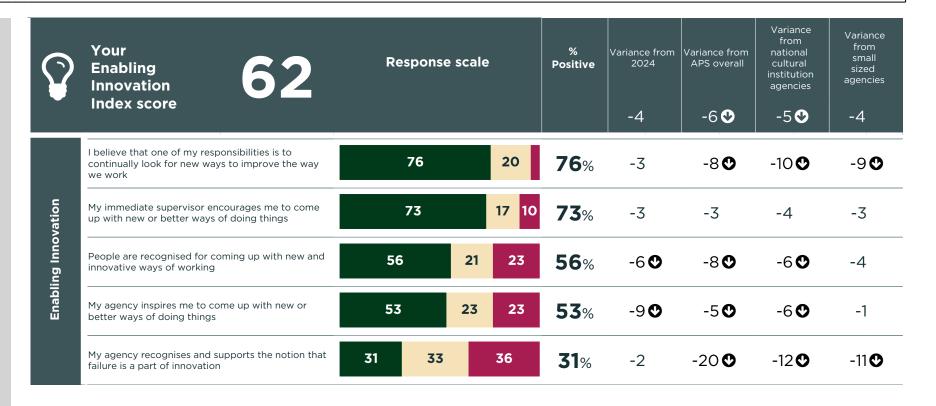
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Enabling Innovation



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

Positive Neutral Negative



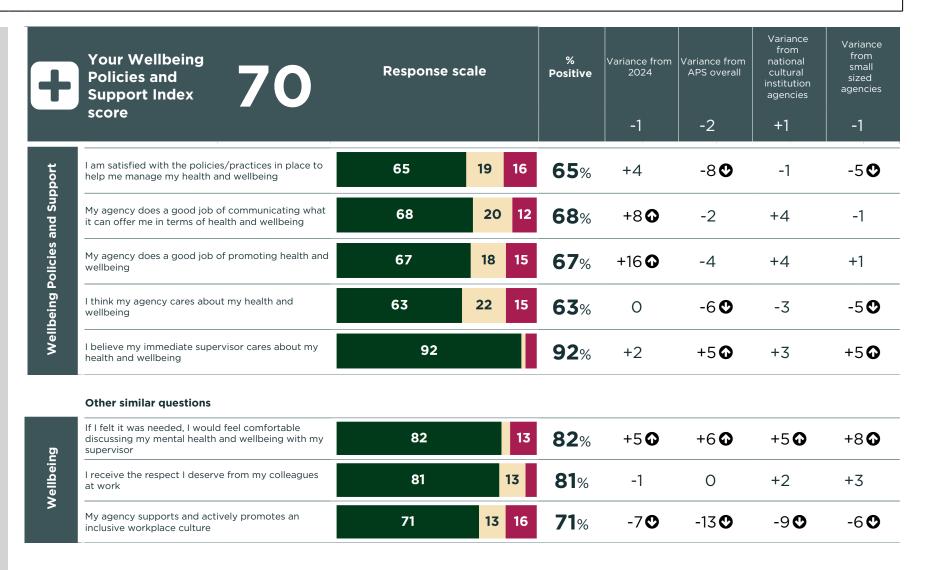
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Wellbeing Policies and Support



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.



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 national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:						
Excellent		9%	+3	-3	-1	-4
Very good		35 %	0	0	+1	-2
Good		41%	-1	+4	+3	+5 ♦
Fair		14%	-2	+1	0	+2
Poor		1%	-2	-2	-3	-2
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		20%	-5♥	+3	+1	-3
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		44%	+6♠	+5 ⊘	+1	+3
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		30 %	-6♥	-7 ♥	-2	0
Slightly below capacity - available for more work		7 %	+5♠	0	0	+1
Well below capacity - not enough work		0%	0	-1	-1	-1

Key



0

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		5%	+1	+1	+1	+1
Often		31 %	+80	+80	+80	+60
Sometimes		46%	-7♥	-4	-2	-4
Rarely		16%	-2	-3	-6♥	-3
Never		1%	О	-1	-2	-1
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?	-					
To a very large extent		11%	+7 0	+4	+50	+4
To a large extent		18%	-2	-2	-1	0
Somewhat		41%	-1	+1	+2	0
To a small extent		24%	-2	0	-1	0
To a very small extent		7 %	-1	-3	-5 O	-3
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		10%	+3	+3	+2	+1
Agree		25%	+9 0	+4	+4	+3
Neither agree nor disagree		27%	-5♥	-5 O	-4	-3
Disagree		32 %	-80	+1	+2	+2
Strongly disagree		5%	0	-2	-3	-2

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

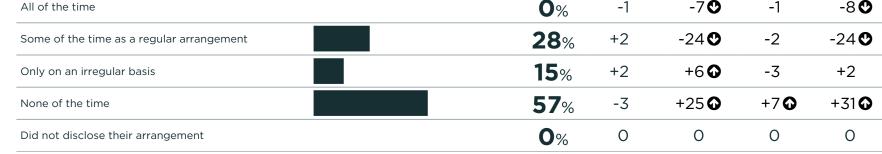
Flexible work

Variance from



	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am confident that if I request a flexible work arrangement, my request would be given reasonable consideration	81 13	81%	0	-6♥	-1	-6 •
Do you currently access any of the following flexible working arrangements? [Multiple Response]						
Part time		15%	-7♥	+3	+3	+3
Flexible hours of work		27 %	-3	-4	-7♥	-9 •
Compressed work week		0%	-4	-5 O	-2	-7♥
Job sharing		0%	0	0	-1	-1
Working away from the office/working from home		43%	+3	-25♥	-7♥	-31♥
None of the above		33 %	-6♥	+14 🐼	+3	+20 🚳
Working away from the office						
All of the time		0%	-1	-7 O	-1	-80
Some of the time as a regular arrangement		28%	+2	-24 ©	-2	-24♥
Only on an irregular basis		15%	+2	+6�	-3	+2
None of the time		57 %	-3	+25 ♦	+7 0	+310

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



Positive Neutral Negative



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Working in the APS

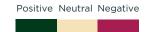
	Response so	ale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	55 2	0 25	55 %	-7 •	-15♥	-10 👁	-10 👁
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	82	14	82%	-8♥	+5♠	-1	+3
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	70	19 11	70 %	-8 0	-11 👁	-7 0	-4
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	84	16	84%	+4	-4	+3	-3
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	53	35 12	53 %	+12 🚱	-16♥	0	-7♥
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	84	9 8	84%	-6 0	-1	-4	-2
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	86	9	86%	-	+3	-2	+1
People in my workgroup are comfortable checking with each other if they have questions about the right way to do something	87	10	87%	-	-2	-4	-2
The people in my workgroup are able to bring up problems and tough issues	76	9 15	76 %	-13 ♥	-4	-6♥	-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)	72	17 11	72 %	-	+5 ♠	-2	0

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





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Job satisfaction

	Response :	scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	66	15 18	66%	-10 👁	-2	-4	-1
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	71	16 13	71 %	+1	+5♠	+80	+5♠
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	76	15 9	76 %	-3	-8♥	-4	-9♥
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	72	8 20	72 %	-6♥	-14 •	-1	-7 ♥

Clarity and autonomy

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	85 12	85%	-9 0	-8 O	-8 O	-6 ©
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	84 11	84%	+1	-1	-1	+1
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	62 23 15	62 %	-12 O	-6♥	-14 ♥	- 12 ♥
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	65 9 27	65%	-14 🔮	-7 ♥	-80	-6 0

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

0

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative

Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

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Performance

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
In the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance						
Excellent		33 %	-1	+86	+3	+70
Very good		45%	-12 O	-12 O	-10 👁	-9 ©
Average		18%	+12 🐼	+2	+6�	+1
Below average		4%	+2	+2	+2	+2
Well below average		0%	-1	-1	-1	-1

	Response so	ale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	82	10 9	82 %	-2	+3	-3	+3
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	42 22	37	42%	-25♥	-18♥	-12 O	-8 ♥
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	71	15 14	71 %	-18♥	-4	-7 ♥	-4
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	76	10 14	76 %	-15♥	-3	-6♥	-3
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	51	34 15	51 %	-12 ♥	-8♥	-3	-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 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 national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
Which of the following statements best reflects your thoughts about working in your current position?	t				
I want to leave my position as soon as possible	8%	0	-1	+2	-1
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months	30 %	+11 🐼	+90	+11 🐼	+11 🐼
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years	39 %	+3	0	-2	-2
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years	23%	-14 ூ	-80	-11 👁	-8♥
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current position?					
I am planning to retire	6%	-9♥	+1	+1	+2
I am pursuing another position within my agency	18%	-2	-28♥	-2	+1
I am pursuing a position in another agency	53 %	+18 🔷	+280	+17 🐼	+4
I am pursuing work outside the APS	9%	+9♠	0	-2	-5♥
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	9%	-6♥	+7 	-4	+4
Other	6%	-9 0	-80	-10 👁	-6 O

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 national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current position? (5 highest responses):					
Senior leadership is of a poor quality	22 %	-	-	-	-
I have achieved all I can in my current position	19%	-	-	-	-
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my agency	11%	-	-	-	-
I am looking to further my skills in another area	7 %	-	-	-	-
I am expected to do more work than I reasonably can	7 %	-	-	-	-

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

PAGE 16.



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.

Discrimination	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, and in connection with your discrimination on the basis of your background or a pe						
Yes		7 %	-7♥	-2	-2	-1
No		93%	+7 0	+2	+2	+1
Did this discrimination occur in your current agency?						
Yes	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	rve privacy.			
No	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	rve privacy.			
The discrimination came from: [Multiple Response]						
Within my agency	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.					
Another agency	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.					
ustomer, stakeholder or member of the public The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.						
Other The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.						
Did you report the discrimination?						
I reported the discrimination in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures	The data for this question has been h	idden 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 discrimination	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	rve privacy.			
Key At least 5 percentage	points greater than comparator	ひ At	least 5 percentage	points less than co	mparator	



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 national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected workplace?	to bullying or harassment in your current	t				
Yes		9%	-5 O	-1	-2	-1
No		82%	-3	-4	-1	-3
Not sure		9%	+80	+4	+3	+4
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	idden 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	idden to prese	rve privacy.			
	-					





At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



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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 national cultural institution 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		2%	+2	0	-1	-2
No		86%	-9 0	-7 O	-4	-1
Not sure		9%	+5 ♦	+5 ♠	+4	+2
Prefer not to answer		3 %	+2	+2	+1	+1
Which of the following reflects the conduct you with	essed? [Multiple Response]					
Abuse of office	The data for this question has been hidden to preserve 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 hi	idden to prese	erve 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	idden to prese	rve 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	29%
Woman or female	66%
Non-binary	1%
I use a different term	1%
Prefer not to say	3%

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	15%
No	85%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	27%
No	73%

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	Responses	
Yes	22%	
No	78%	

Do you identify as culturally or linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	9%
No	91%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	90%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	1%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	2%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	0%
Anglo-European Anglo-European	23%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	0%
Southern and Eastern European	3%
South-East Asian	0%
North-East Asian	2%
Southern and Central Asian	0%
North American	2%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	0%
North African and Middle Eastern	3%
Sub-Saharan African	0%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	14%
No	72%
Maybe	13%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	1%

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Agency position

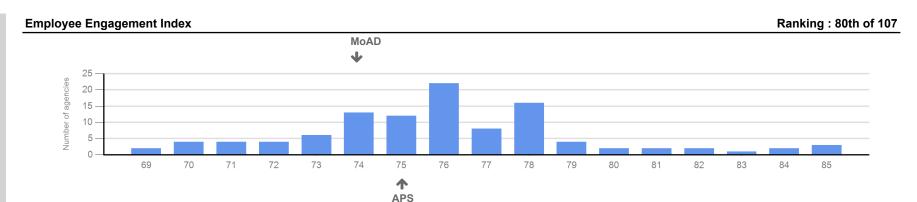


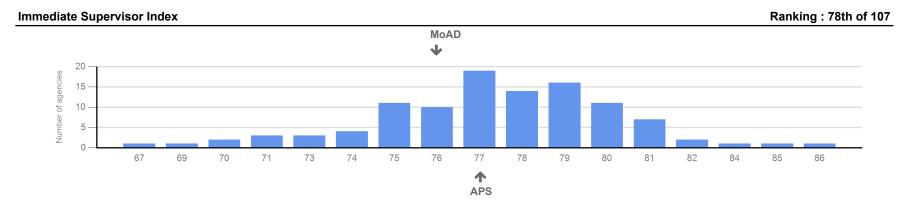
Agency position

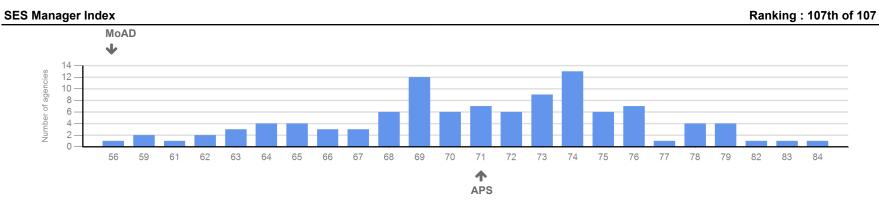
These graphs display the overall index score of each agency for the Employee Engagement, Immediate Supervisor, SES Manager, Communication, **Enabling Innovation** and Wellbeing Policies and Support indices. These are to assist you to see where your agency sits in comparison to the overall APS index score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



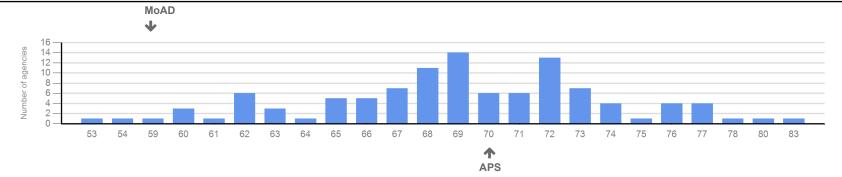
Agency position

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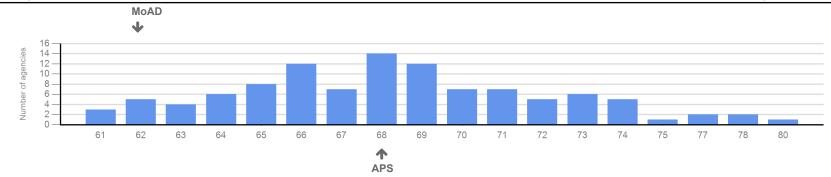
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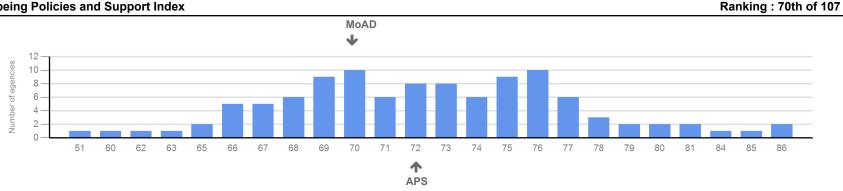




Ranking: 102nd of 107 **Enabling Innovation Index**



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 At least 5 percentage points less than comparator	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from national cultural institution agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
.1	My SES manager creates an environment that enables us to deliver our best	41%	-29 o	- 26 ♥	-22 º	-22 ©
.2	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	53 %	-90	-5 º	-60	-1
.3	People are recognised for coming up with new and innovative ways of working	56 %	-6 º	-80	-6 º	-4
.4	I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	66%	-100	-2	-4	-1
.5	Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	65 %	-140	-7 o	-80	-6 ©
.6	The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	70 %	-80	-110	-7 ⊙	-4

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 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					

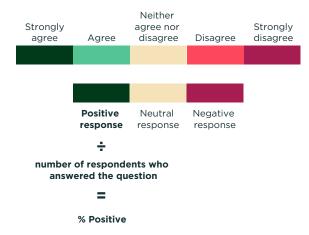
Australian Government

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.

