

2025 APS Employee Census

5 May - 6 June

Highlights Report

Responses:

128 of 141

Response rate:

91%



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.

2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 02.

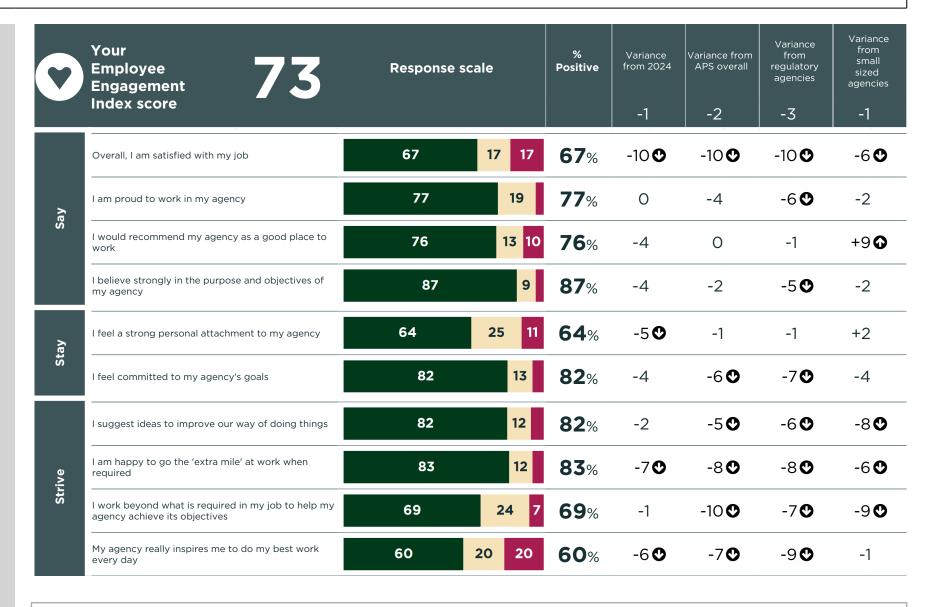


Employee Engagement: Say, Stay, Strive



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.



Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

Positive Neutral Negative

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

PAGE 03.

2025 APS Employee Census

Kev

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 regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
	Index score				-3	-4	-5♥	-3
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	71	15 14	71 %	-5♥	-9 0	-9 0	-7 ⊙
visor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	74	14 12	74%	-4	-5♥	-6♥	-3
Super	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	78	9 13	78 %	-4	-4	-6♥	-3
Immediate Supervisor	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	78	12 10	78 %	-2	-5♥	-5♥	-2
FIELD IN	My supervisor is invested in my development	74	15 11	74 %	-5♥	-4	-4	-1
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	81	12 7	81%	-4	-7 ©	-8 0	-5♥
	Other similar questions							
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	71	15 14	71 %	-5♥	-8♥	-7♥	-3
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	76	18	76 %	-6♥	-2	-3	-1
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	77	13 10	77 %	-8♥	-8♥	-8♥	-5♥
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	78	12 10	78 %	-5 0	-3	-3	-1
Key	At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator	At least 5 percentag	ge points less thai	n comparator		Positive N	Neutral Negative	:

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 04.

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	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
				-	-	-	-
	My SES manager clearly articulates the direction and priorities for our area	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			
	My SES manager presents convincing arguments and persuades others towards an outcome	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			
Manager	My SES manager promotes cooperation within and between agencies						
SES Ma	My SES manager encourages innovation and creativity	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	rrve privacy.			
	My SES manager creates an environment that enables us to deliver our best	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			
	My SES manager ensures that work effort contributes to the strategic direction of the agency and the APS	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	rrve privacy.			
	Other similar questions						
	In my agency, the SES work as a team	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			
	In my agency, the SES clearly articulate the direction and priorities for our agency	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			
	My SES manager routinely promotes the use of data and evidence to deliver outcomes	The data for this question has been h	idden to prese	erve privacy.			

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 05.

Communication and change



Communication

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

9	Your 63	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies			
				-3	-7 ♥	-7 ♥	-3			
tion	My supervisor communicates effectively	75 10 15	75 %	-4	-6♥	-6♥	-3			
Communication	My SES manager communicates effectively The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.									
Com	Internal communication within my agency is effective	49 23 28	49%	-7 0	-13 👁	-12 🗸	-3			

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	54	18	27	54 %	-7 0	-13 👁	-12 O	-12 •
Staff are consulted about change at work	48	33	20	48%	0	-4	-4	+2
Change is managed well in my agency	43	24	33	43 %	-6 0	-5♥	-3	+5 0

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

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

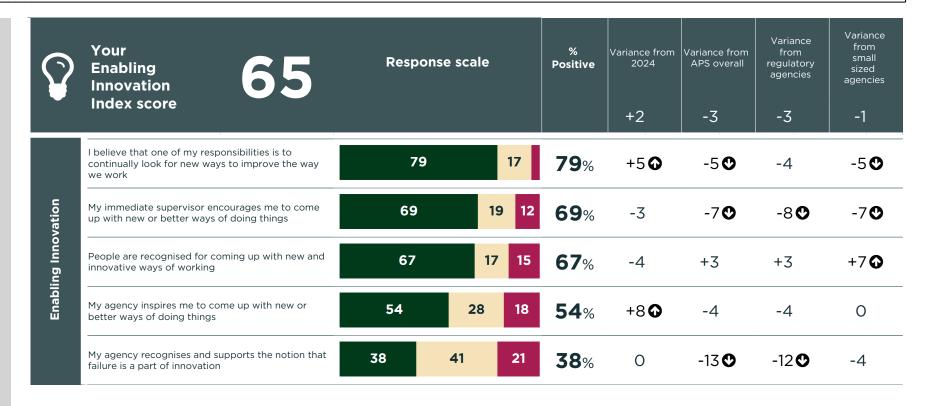
2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 06.

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



PAGE 07. 2025 APS Employee Census

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



2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 08.

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		10%	+4	-2	-2	-3
Very good		34 %	-5♥	-1	-3	-3
Good		40%	-4	+3	+4	+4
Fair		15%	+7 0	+3	+4	+3
Poor		1%	-1	-2	-2	-2
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		19%	+1	+2	0	-4
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		39 %	+2	0	0	-2
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		37 %	-2	0	+2	+7 ♦
Slightly below capacity - available for more work		5 %	0	-1	-2	-1
Well below capacity - not enough work		1%	0	-1	-1	0

Key



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 small sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		3 %	-1	-1	0	-1
Often		28%	+4	+5 ☆	+7♠	+4
Sometimes		52 %	+1	+2	0	+2
Rarely		14%	-5♥	-6♥	-7 ♥	-5♥
Never		2%	+1	0	0	+1
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?						
To a very large extent		7 %	+6 	0	+2	+1
To a large extent		19%	-4	-1	+1	+1
Somewhat		48%	-1	+9♠	+9♠	+7♦
To a small extent		17 %	-1	-7♥	-9 ©	-80
To a very small extent		9%	-1	-1	-2	-1
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		11%	-1	+4	+5♠	+3
Agree		26%	+9 	+5♠	+6 ♦	+3
Neither agree nor disagree		28%	-3	-4	-2	-2
Disagree		28%	-7♥	-3	-6♥	-2
Strongly disagree		7 %	+2	-1	-2	-1

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 10.

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Key

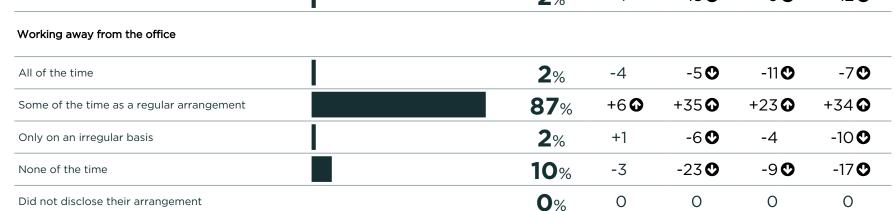
Flexible work

Variance from Variance from



	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	regulatory agencies	small sized agencies
I am confident that if I request a flexible work arrangement, my request would be given reasonable consideration	85 8 7	85%	+1	-1	-6 O	-2
Do you currently access any of the following flexible working arrangements? [Multiple Response]						
Part time		14%	-4	+2	+2	+2
Flexible hours of work		44%	+11 🐼	+14 🐼	+9 0	+80
Compressed work week		9%	+2	+3	-1	+1
Job sharing		1%	0	0	0	0
Working away from the office/working from home		90%	+3	+23 •	+9 	+17 🟠
None of the above		2%	-4	-18 🛡	-6 O	-12 🛡

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 scale	% 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	64 18	18 64%	+6 	-5♥	-5♥	0
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	70 1	9 10 70%	-10 O	-6♥	-8♥	-8♥
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	80	15 80%	+1	-1	-2	+6 ♠
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	89	9 89%	+5 ⊙	0	-1	+1
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	61 27	12 61%	+2	-8♥	-6♥	+1
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	81	13 81%	-4	-4	-7 ♥	-5♥
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	82	11 7 82%	-	-2	-4	-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	74 1	4 12 74%	-2	-6♥	-8♥	-7 •
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)	70 16	70%	-	+3	-3	-2

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 12.

Job satisfaction

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	regulatory	Variance from small sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	62 21	62 %	-11 👁	-6♥	-7 ♥	-5♥
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	64 21	15 64%	+2	-2	-3	-2
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	83	83%	-1	-2	-6♥	-3
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	80 1	80%	-10 👁	-6♥	-4	0

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	91		91%	0	-2	-2	+1
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	78	20	78 %	-3	-6 •	-6♥	-4
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	64	28 7	64%	-1	-4	-9 •	-10 🛡
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	61	22 17	61%	-10 👁	-11 ♥	- 12 ♥	-10 ©

Key

•

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 13.

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		33 %	+3	+80	+80	+7•
Very good		47 %	-1	-9 0	-9 O	-7 O
Average		15 %	-3	-1	-1	-2
Below average		4%	+1	+2	+2	+1
Well below average		2%	0	+1	+1	+1

	Response scale		% 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	74	15 10	74 %	-6♥	-4	-5♥	-5 O
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	49 19	32	49%	-4	- 11 ♥	-5♥	-1
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	67	21 12	67 %	-5♥	-80	-8♥	-8♥
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	66	17 17	66%	-11 👁	-13 O	-14 	- 13 ♥
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	62	27 11	62 %	+2	+3	+4	+7•

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

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 thoughts about working in your current position?					
I want to leave my position as soon as possible	15%	+5 ♦	+7♦	+7 0	+7 •
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months	26%	+3	+5 ☆	+6 ☆	+7 •
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years	45%	-3	+6 🐼	+2	+4
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years	14%	-5 0	-17 👁	- 15 ♥	-17 🛇
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current position?					
I am planning to retire	2%	+2	-3	-2	-1
I am pursuing another position within my agency	29%	+10 🐼	-16 ♡	-4	+13 🐼
I am pursuing a position in another agency	43%	-4	+18 🐼	+9 &	-6♥
I am pursuing work outside the APS	12%	-5♥	+3	+1	-2
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	4%	+4	+2	0	-1
Other	10%	-7 ூ	-4	-4	-2

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

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 small sized agencies
What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current position? (5 hig responses):	hest				
I wish to pursue a promotion opportunity	16%	-	-	-	-
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my agency	14%	-	-	-	-
I am looking to further my skills in another area	12%	-	-	-	-
Senior leadership is of a poor quality	12%	-	-	-	-
I want to try a different type of work or I'm seeking a career change	7 %	-	-	-	-

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 16.

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 regulatory 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		6%	-4	-3	0	-2
No		94%	+4	+3	0	+2
Did this discrimination occur in your current agency?						
Yes	The data for this question has been h	nidden to prese	rve privacy.			
No	The data for this question has been h	nidden 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.					
A customer, stakeholder or member of the public	er 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	nidden to prese	rve privacy.			
It was reported by someone else	The data for this question has been h	nidden to prese	rve privacy.			
I did not report the discrimination	The data for this question has been h	nidden to prese	rve privacy.			
Key At least 5 percentage	points greater than comparator	♣ 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 regulatory agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to bully workplace?	ng or harassment in your current					
Yes		8%	0	-1	0	-2
No		89%	+1	+3	+1	+4
Not sure		3 %	-1	-1	-1	-2
Types of bullying or harassment experienced (3 highest resp	oonses):					
Interference with work tasks (e.g. withholding needed information, undermining or sabotage)		50 %	-	-	-	-
Inappropriate and unfair application of work policies or rules (e.g. performance management, access to leave, access to learning and development)		30 %	-	-	-	-
Verbal abuse (e.g. offensive language, derogatory remarks, shouting or screaming)		30 %	-	-	-	-
Did you report the bullying or harassment?						
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		20%	+20 ♦	- 17 ♥	-17 O	-14 •
It was reported by someone else		0%	0	-80	-80	-7 ♥
I did not report the behaviour		80%	+80	+25 ♦	+25 ♠	+21♦

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

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 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	0	-2
Not sure		2%	0	-2	-1	-4
Prefer not to answer		0%	-3	-2	-1	-3
No		95%	+1	+3	+3	+80
Which of the following reflects the conduct you witn	essed? [Multiple Response]					
Abuse of office	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.			
Misuse of information or documents	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.			
A breach of public trust	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.			
Adversely affecting the honesty or impartiality of a public official	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve 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	dden to prese	rve privacy.			
It was reported by someone else	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.			
I did not report the behaviour	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.			







At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 19.

Demographics

How do you describe your gender?	Responses
Man or male	30%
Woman or female	59%
Non-binary	2%
I use a different term	1%
Prefer not to say	9%

Do you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person?	Responses
Yes	2%
No	98%

Do you have an ongoing disability?	Responses
Yes	17%
No	83%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	38%
No	62%

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	Responses
Yes	20%
No	80%

Do you identify as culturally or linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	27%
No	73%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	66%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	2%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	2%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	0%
Anglo-European Anglo-European	21%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	0%
Southern and Eastern European	7%
South-East Asian	14%
North-East Asian	8%
Southern and Central Asian	8%
North American	0%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	2%
North African and Middle Eastern	2%
Sub-Saharan African	0%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	17%
No	67%
Maybe	11%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	5%

2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 20.



Agency position

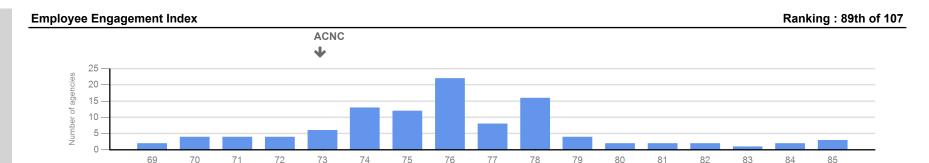


Agency position

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.

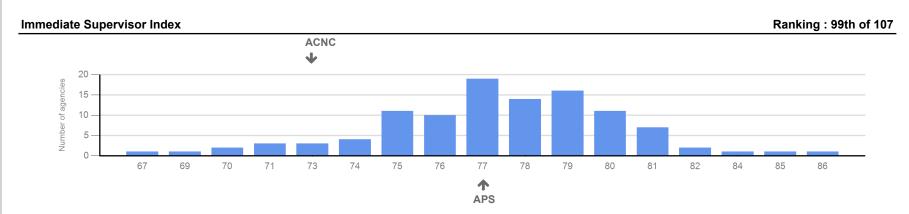
Along the bottom line (x-axis) are the index scores. The height of the bar (y-axis) is how many agencies have that index score.

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



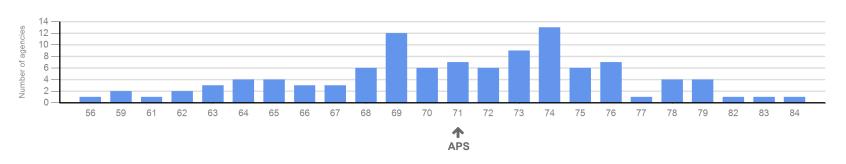
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The agency data for this index has been hidden for anonymity reasons.





Agency position



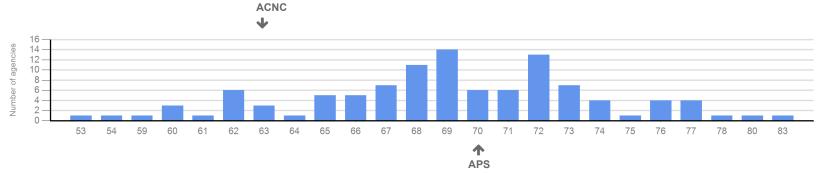
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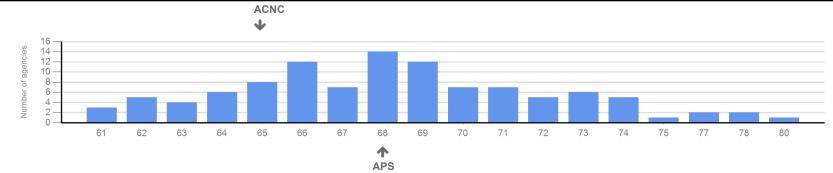
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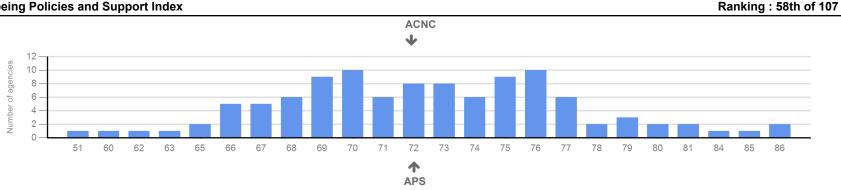




Ranking: 86th of 107 **Enabling Innovation Index**



Wellbeing Policies and Support Index





PAGE 22. 2025 APS Employee Census

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	54 %	+80	-4	-4	0
.2	I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	64%	+60	-5 º	-5 ⊙	0
.3	My immediate supervisor encourages me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	69%	-3	-7 o	-80	-7 o
.4	Change is managed well in my agency	43%	-6 º	-5 º	-3	+5 0
.5	I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	78 %	-3	-6 º	-60	-4
.6	My agency supports and actively promotes an inclusive workplace culture	85%	-1	+2	+1	+80



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.

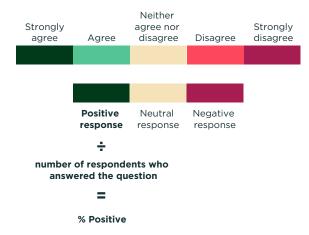
Prioritise 3 areas to take forward

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

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.

