

2025 APS Employee Census

5 May - 6 June

Highlights Report

Responses:

54 of 62

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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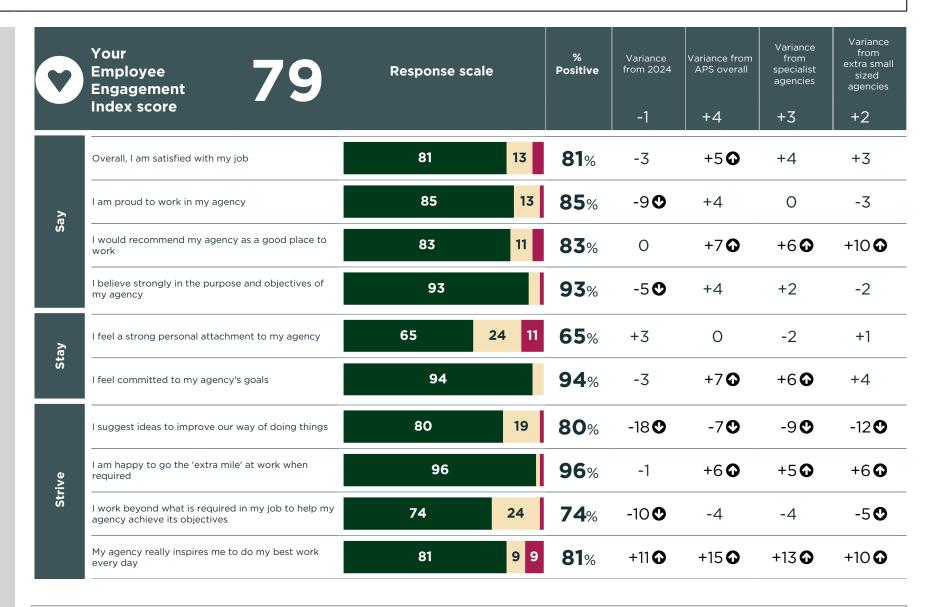


Employee Engagement: Say, Stay, Strive



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.



Key • At leas

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 scal	e	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
	Index score				-1	-4	-5♥	-4
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	73	19 8	73 %	-6♥	-7 ⊙	-8♥	-8♥
visor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	69	21 10	69%	-1	-11 👁	-10 👁	-10 👁
Super	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	77	13 10	77 %	+1	-6 O	-7 0	-4
Immediate Supervisor	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	69	23 8	69%	-7 ©	- 13 ♥	-13 ♥	-12 O
<u> </u>	My supervisor is invested in my development	73	13 13	73 %	-6 ©	-5♥	-5♥	-3
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	87	10	87 %	0	-2	-2	0
	Other similar questions							
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	71	19 10	71 %	0	-8♥	-7 ♥	-7 ⊙
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	77	19	77 %	-1	-1	-2	-1
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	88	8	88%	+2	+4	+4	+4
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	87	8	87%	0	+50	+5 ♦	+60
Key	At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator	At least 5 percentage	points less tha	n comparator		Positive N	leutral Negativ	e

Australian Government
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Leadership - SES Manager



SES Manager

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

2	Your SES Manager Index score	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2024 +2	Variance from APS overall +9 ①	Variance from specialist agencies +8 •	Variance from extra small sized agencies +8 •
	My SES manager clearly articulates the direction and priorities for our area	87	10	87%	+3	+16 🚱	+15 🕢	+15 🚱
	My SES manager presents convincing arguments and persuades others towards an outcome	83	15	83%	+10 🐼	+19 春	+16 🚱	+13 🚱
Manager	My SES manager promotes cooperation within and between agencies	90	8	90%	+4	+21	+19 春	+14 🟠
SES M	My SES manager encourages innovation and creativity	83	13	83%	-1	+15 ♠	+14 🕥	+11 🕥
	My SES manager creates an environment that enables us to deliver our best	79	15	79 %	+9	+11 👁	+11 🐼	+90
	My SES manager ensures that work effort contributes to the strategic direction of the agency and the APS	90		90%	-2	+15 ♠	+12 🚱	+10 🚱
	Other similar questions							
	In my agency, the SES work as a team	76	14 10	76 %	+1	+18 🚱	+210	+14 🚱
	In my agency, the SES clearly articulate the direction and priorities for our agency	85	10	85%	+4	+18 🚱	+20 €	+15 🚱
	My SES manager routinely promotes the use of data and evidence to deliver outcomes	92		92%	+3	+23 0	+21 	+18 🚱

Key

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.

9	Your Communication Index score	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024 +5 ↑	Variance from APS overall +4	Variance from specialist agencies +4	Variance from extra small sized agencies +5 •
Communication	My supervisor communicates effectively	77 13 10	77%	+6 	-4	-5♥	-2
	My SES manager communicates effectively	79 17	79%	+3	+80	+7 0	+80
	Internal communication within my agency is effective	79 10 12	79%	+14 🚳	+17 🕢	+19 🔷	+19 🐼

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	74	19 7	74%	+8 ♠	+7 ©	+6 ☆	+5♠
Staff are consulted about change at work	77	15 8	77 %	+12 🚱	+25♠	+27 6	+26 0
Change is managed well in my agency	73	17 10	73 %	+27♠	+25♠	+29♠	+26♠

Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

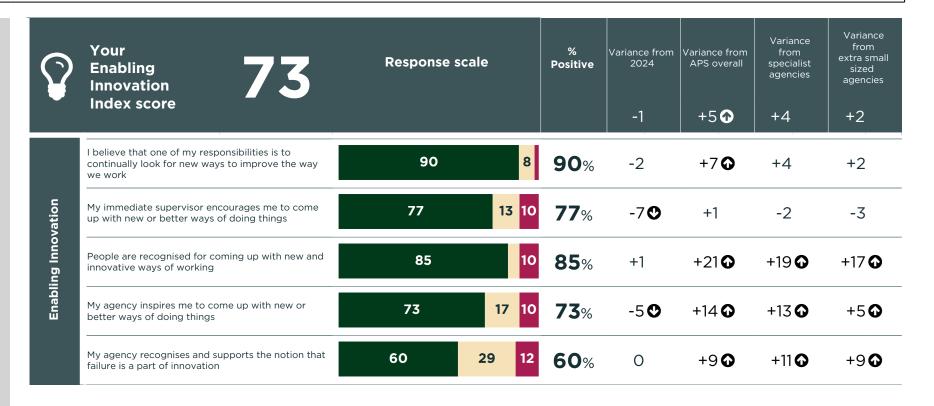
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Enabling Innovation



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



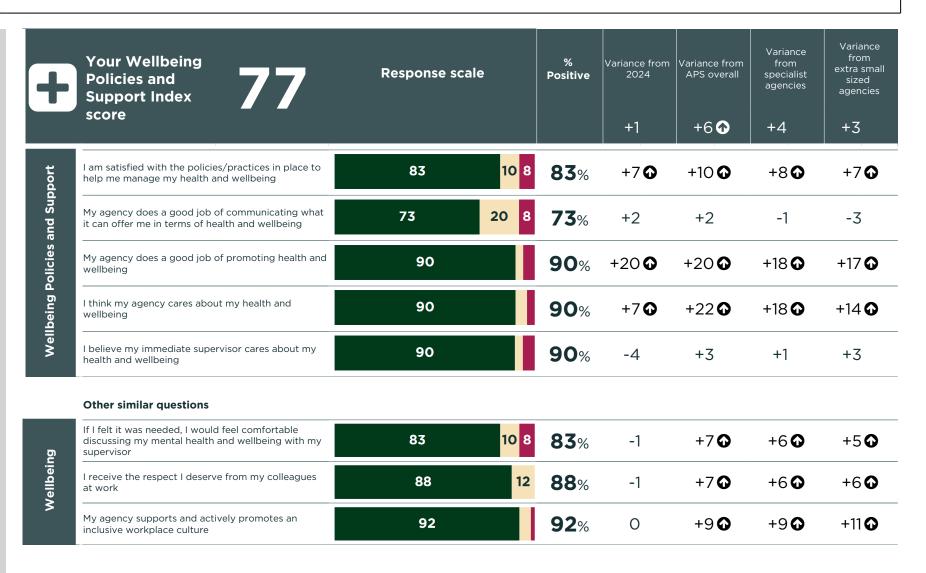
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Wellbeing Policies and Support



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.

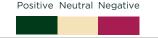


Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





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Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:						
Excellent		8%	0	-4	-5♥	-7 O
Very good		46%	-2	+11 🐼	+9♠	+80
Good		29%	+7♠	-8 👁	-7 ♥	-6♥
Fair		15%	-1	+3	+4	+5♠
Poor		2%	-3	-1	-1	0
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		17%	-7♥	+1	-1	0
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		67 %	+13 🚳	+28 🔷	+27♦	+27 0
At capacity – about the right amount of work to do		12%	-10 👁	-25♥	-22 0	-23 ©
Slightly below capacity - available for more work		4%	+4	-2	-3	-4
Well below capacity - not enough work		0%	0	-1	-1	-1

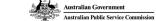
Key



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 specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		4%	+1	-1	0	+1
Often		23%	+1	0	+1	+5♠
Sometimes		46%	-5♥	-4	-4	-5♥
Rarely		25 %	+1	+5♠	+3	-1
Never		2%	+2	0	0	0
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?						
To a very large extent	I	4%	+4	-3	-2	0
To a large extent		13%	+3	-6 •	-4	0
Somewhat		38 %	-16 🔮	-1	0	-1
To a small extent		31 %	+6 🐼	+70	+4	0
To a very small extent		13%	+3	+4	+2	+1
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		6%	+3	-2	-1	-1
Agree		25%	+1	+4	+5 ♦	+80
Neither agree nor disagree		35 %	+5 ☆	+2	+4	+6
Disagree		27%	-11 👁	-4	-7 O	-9 •
Strongly disagree		8%	+2	0	-2	-4

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

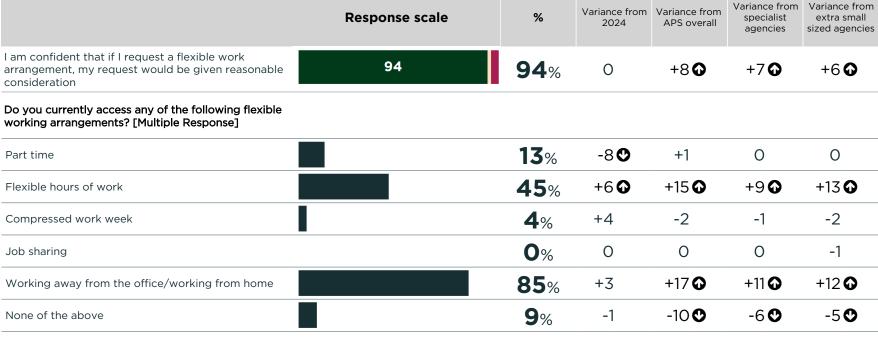
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At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

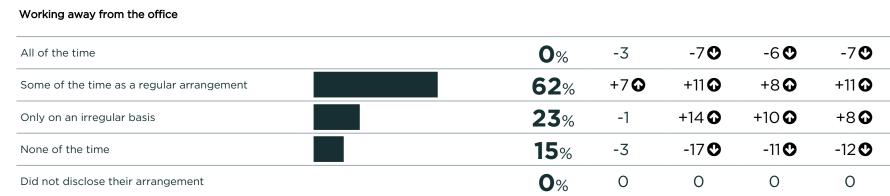
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Flexible work





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 scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	77 13 10	77 %	-9 0	+7 6	+7 6	+5 ♠
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	79 13 8	79 %	-2	+2	0	-4
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	94	94%	0	+13 🕥	+12 🕥	+14 🕥
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	98	98%	+9♠	+9 🏠	+10 🕥	+13 🕥
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	81 17	81%	+5♠	+12 🕥	+17 🕥	+20 🕥
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	87 11	87%	-2	+3	0	-4
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	87 7	87%	-	+4	+1	-2
People in my workgroup are comfortable checking with each other if they have questions about the right way to do something	94	94%	-	+6♠	+4	+4
The people in my workgroup are able to bring up problems and tough issues	76 13 11	76 %	-8♥	-4	-6♥	-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)	76 13 11	76 %	-	+9 0	+3	-2

Key



0

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 specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	81 15	81%	-5♥	+13 🚱	+10 🐼	+80
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	78 17	78 %	-6♥	+12 🕢	+12 🕢	+4
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	89	89%	+2	+4	+3	+3
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	96	96%	+2	+10 🐼	+13 🚱	+18 🏠

Clarity and autonomy

	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	96		96%	+1	+3	+3	+3
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	83	13	83%	+2	-2	0	-2
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	75	25	75 %	-14 O	+70	-1	-5 O
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	83	9 7	83%	+2	+11 🐼	+9 0	+7

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 specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
In the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance						
Excellent		33 %	0	+80	+7 	+50
Very good		58%	+6 ♦	+1	+1	+1
Average		10%	-7♥	-6 0	-5♥	-4
Below average		0%	0	-2	-2	-1
Well below average		0%	0	-1	-1	-1
	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	72 15 13	72 %	-4	-6 O	-80	-10 👁
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	61 24 15	61%	+3	+1	+5 ⊘	-2
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	91	91%	+12 春	+16 🐼	+13 🕢	+10 🚳
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	85 11	85%	-2	+60	+4	+2
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	47 23 30	47%	-9 0	- 12 ♥	-10 O	-10 🗸

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

Australian Government
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Retention



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

Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra 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	6%	+3	-3	-2	-2
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months	38 %	+11 🐼	+17 🐼	+19 🐼	+15 🕜
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years	42 %	-14 🔮	+3	0	+1
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years	13%	0	-18 🔮	-17 ♥	-14 •
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current position?					
I am planning to retire	4%	+4	0	+1	+1
I am pursuing another position within my agency	4%	-5♥	-41 ©	-24 ©	-4
I am pursuing a position in another agency	74 %	-8 🔮	+490	+380	+17 🐼
I am pursuing work outside the APS	4 %	+4	-4	-10 👁	-10 👁
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	13%	+13 🚳	+11 🐼	+80	+7 0
Other	0%	-9 0	-14 🗨	-14 👁	-10 👁

Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator 4t least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Australian Government

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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.

Respon	se scale %	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current positi responses):	on? (5 highest				
I wish to pursue a promotion opportunity	21%	-	-	-	-
I am looking to further my skills in another area	16%	-	-	-	-
I have achieved all I can in my current position	16%	-	-	-	-
My immediate supervisor's leadership is of a poor quality	11%	-	-	-	-
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my agency	11%	-	-	-	-

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.

Discrimination	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, and in connection with your discrimination on the basis of your background or a pe						
Yes		2%	-3	-6♥	-5♥	-4
No		98%	+3	+6 🐼	+5 ☆	+4
Did this discrimination occur in your current agency?						
Yes	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve privacy.			
No	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve privacy.			
The discrimination came from: [Multiple Response]						
Within my agency	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve privacy.			
Another agency	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve privacy.			
A customer, stakeholder or member of the public	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve privacy.			
Other	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve 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	hidden to prese	rve privacy.			
It was reported by someone else	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve privacy.			
I did not report the discrimination	The data for this question has been	hidden to prese	erve privacy.			
Key At least 5 percentage	points greater than comparator	♣ Af	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.

Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
llying or harassment in your current					
	4 %	-2	-6 O	-4	-5♥
	96%	+2	+10 🐼	+90	+10 🐼
	0%	0	-5 ♥	-4	-5♥
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e data for this question has been hi	idden to prese	rve privacy.			
e data for this question has been hi	idden to prese	rve privacy.			
	llying or harassment in your current e data for this question has been hi	Ilying or harassment in your current 4% 96% 0% e data for this question has been hidden to preserve data	Response scale % 2024 Illying or harassment in your current 4% -2 96% +2	APS overall APS overall	Response scale % Variance from 2024 APS overall specialist agencies 4% -2 -6 • -4 96% +2 +10 • +9 • 0% 0 -5 • -4 The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy. The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.









At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



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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.

rted to you as part of your duties, have n your agency that you would consider				agencies	sized agencies
1	2 %	+2	0	0	-1
	96%	-4	+4	+4	+5♠
	2%	+2	-2	-2	-2
	0%	0	-2	-2	-3
essed? [Multiple Response]					
The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.			
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Australian Public Service Commission

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Key

Demographics

How do you describe your gender?	Responses
Man or male	48%
Woman or female	48%
Non-binary	0%
I use a different term	0%
Prefer not to say	4%

Do you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person?	Responses
Yes	0%
No	100%

Do you have an ongoing disability?	Responses
Yes	13%
No	87%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	35%
No	65%

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	Responses
Yes	11%
No	89%

Do you identify as culturally or linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	31%
No	69%

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	0%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	4%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	0%
Anglo-European Anglo-European	24%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	4%
Southern and Eastern European	6%
South-East Asian	17%
North-East Asian	7%
Southern and Central Asian	2%
North American	0%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	0%
North African and Middle Eastern	0%
Sub-Saharan African	0%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	13%
No	76%
Maybe	11%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	O%

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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 specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
.1	I think my agency cares about my health and wellbeing	90%	+7 o	+220	+180	+140
.2	Internal communication within my agency is effective	79 %	+140	+170	+190	+190
.3	I am confident that if I request a flexible work arrangement, my request would be given reasonable consideration	94%	0	+80	+7 0	+60
.4	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	69%	-7 ⊙	-13 0	-13 0	-120
.5	I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	81%	-5 o	+130	+100	+80
.6	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	73 %	-5 ⊙	+140	+130	+50

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

Investigate further with our teams					
Are there any other opportunities coming out of the results that we want to explore further?					

How could we investigate? Through looking at the data in

more detail or through discussions with staff?

o focus on and 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

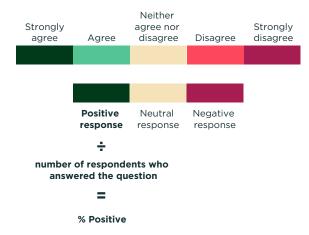
	Prioritise 3 areas for action	Timescales	Owner	Resources required	Target/Success measure
1					
2					
3					



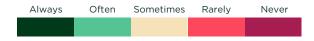
Guide to this report

% 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).



Ipsos





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	s = 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.