

# **2025 APS Employee Census**

5 May - 6 June

# Highlights Report

Responses:

194 of 222

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

## **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 specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
	Index score			+2	+2	+1	+3
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	84 12	84%	+9 <b>0</b>	+4	+3	+6 <b>☆</b>
visor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	85 9	85%	+80	+5 <b>0</b>	+5 <b>⊙</b>	+86
Immediate Supervisor	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	86 8	86%	+3	+3	+2	+4
nediate	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	85 10	85%	+60	+3	+3	+6 🔂
<u>#</u>	My supervisor is invested in my development	81 15	81%	+80	+3	+2	+6 <b></b>
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	93	93%	+60	+5 <b>0</b>	+4	+7 <b>6</b>
	Other similar questions						
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	81 <mark>10</mark> 9	81%	+9 <b>0</b>	+2	+3	+6�
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	82 11	82%	+9 <b>0</b>	+5 <b>⊘</b>	+4	+6 <b>☆</b>
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	89 9	89%	+9 <b>0</b>	+4	+4	+7 <b>6</b>
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	86 11	86%	+8�	+50	+4	+6•
Key	At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator	At least 5 percentage points less tha	n comparator		Positive N	Neutral Negative	9

Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

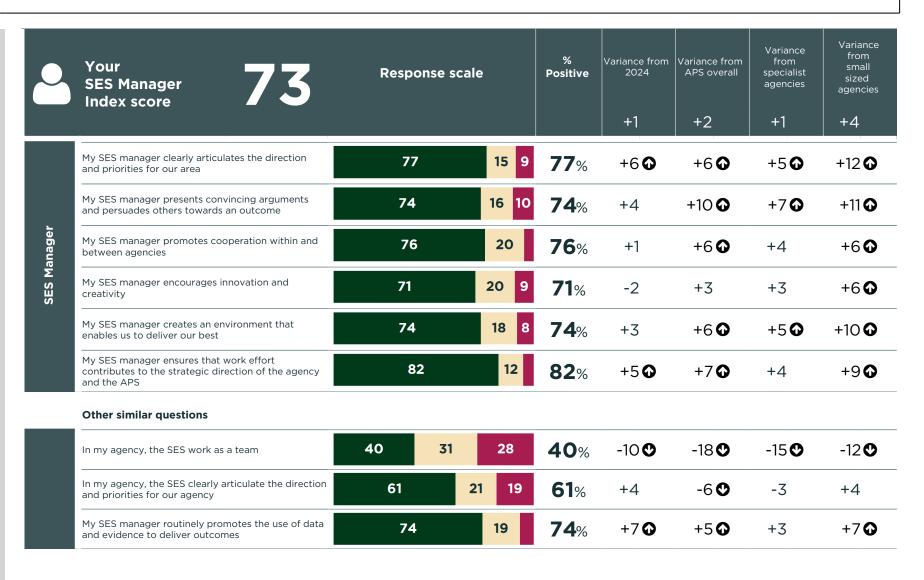
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#### **Leadership - SES Manager**



#### **SES Manager**

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



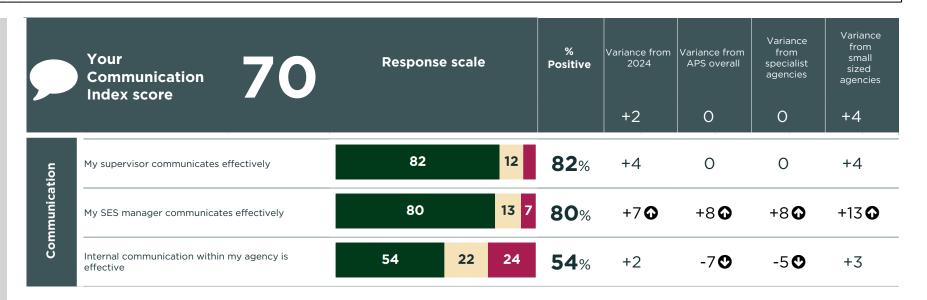
Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator 
At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

## **Communication and change**



#### Communication

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

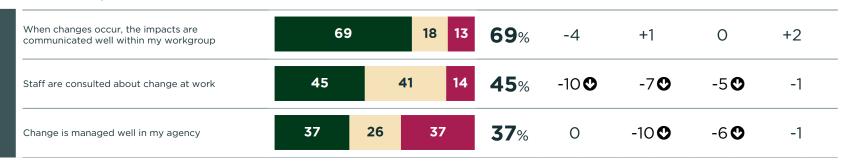


#### Change

Effective communication is an important part of any change process. Note these questions do not contribute to the above index score.

#### Other similar questions

Change



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

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

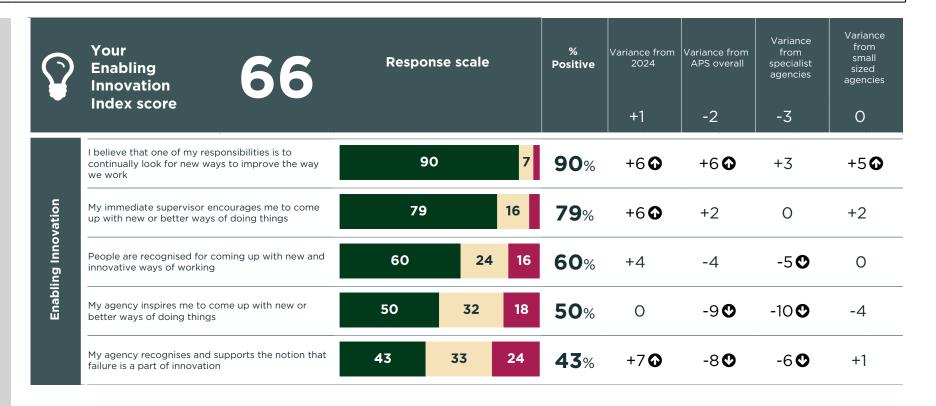
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#### **Enabling Innovation**



#### **Enabling Innovation**

The Enabling Innovation Index assesses both whether employees feel willing and able to be innovative, and whether their agency has a culture which enables them to be SO.



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.



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 specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:						
Excellent		13%	-1	+1	-1	0
Very good		45%	+3	+10 🐼	+80	+80
Good		<b>35</b> %	+1	-2	0	-1
Fair		<b>7</b> %	-2	-6♥	-5♥	-6♥
Poor		1%	-2	-2	-2	-2
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		21%	-2	+4	+2	-2
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		41%	<b>+</b> 7 <b>♦</b>	+1	+1	-1
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		23%	-1	-14 🔮	-11👁	-6♥
Slightly below capacity - available for more work		13%	-5♥	+7 <b>0</b>	+6 <b>♦</b>	<b>+</b> 7 <b>♦</b>
Well below capacity - not enough work		<b>3</b> %	+1	+1	+1	+1

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

0

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



# Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		<b>3</b> %	-1	-1	-1	-1
Often		<b>21</b> %	+5 <b>0</b>	-2	0	-3
Sometimes		49%	-2	-1	-2	-1
Rarely		22%	0	+3	+1	+3
Never		4%	-1	+2	+2	+2
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?						
To a very large extent		2%	-1	-5♥	-4	-5♥
To a large extent		18%	+2	-1	+1	0
Somewhat		<b>39</b> %	+1	-1	0	-2
To a small extent		29%	+1	+4	+2	+4
To a very small extent		13%	-2	+3	+1	+3
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		5%	+1	-2	-2	-4
Agree		19%	+1	-2	-1	-4
Neither agree nor disagree		<b>34</b> %	+10 🐼	+1	+3	+3
Disagree		<b>31</b> %	-13 🗨	0	-3	+1
Strongly disagree		12%	+1	+4	+2	+4

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Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

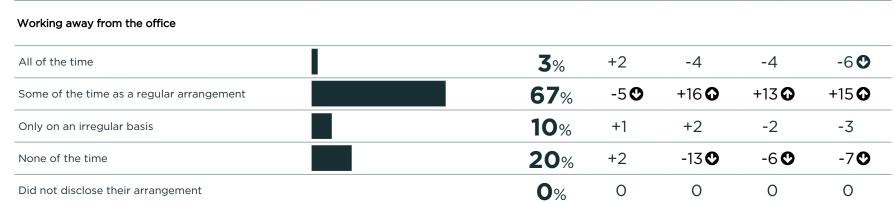
#### Flexible work

Variance from Variance from



	Response scale	%	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	specialist agencies	small sized agencie
I am confident that if I request a flexible work arrangement, my request would be given reasonable consideration	95	95%	+2	+9♠	+80	+8♠
Do you currently access any of the following flexible working arrangements? [Multiple Response]						
Part time		6%	+1	<b>-7♥</b>	<b>-7♥</b>	-6♥
Flexible hours of work		<b>36</b> %	+7♠	+5♠	-1	0
Compressed work week		8%	+4	+3	+4	+1
Job sharing		2%	+2	+1	+1	+1
Working away from the office/working from home		80%	-2	+13 🚱	+6 <b>♦</b>	+7 <b>•</b>
None of the above		9%	-4	-10 ♥	-6 <b>©</b>	-4

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 specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	67 16 18	<b>67</b> %	+1	-3	-3	+2
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	77 19	<b>77</b> %	-5♥	+1	-2	-1
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	85 8	85%	0	+4	+3	+11 🐼
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	94	94%	+6 <b>₽</b>	+5♠	+6 <b>☆</b>	+60
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	66 27 7	66%	-2	-2	+3	+6•
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	88 7	88%	0	+4	+1	+2
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	82 12	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	91	91%	-	+3	+1	+2
The people in my workgroup are able to bring up problems and tough issues	86 8	86%	0	+6 <b>☆</b>	+4	+5 <b>♠</b>
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)	77 14 9	<b>77</b> %	-	+10 🐼	+3	+5 <b>@</b>

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Key



Positive Neutral Negative

#### Job satisfaction

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	75 14 10	<b>75</b> %	+6 <b></b>	+7 <b>₲</b>	+4	+8♠
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	57 15 27	<b>57</b> %	0	-9 <b>0</b>	-9 <b>0</b>	-9 <b>0</b>
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	93	93%	+3	+80	+7 <b>0</b>	+7 <b>₲</b>
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	93	93%	+2	+7 <b>0</b>	+10 🐼	+13 🚱

## **Clarity and autonomy**

	Response scale		% sitive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	94	9	4%	0	+1	+1	+3
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	85	12 8	5%	+86	+1	+2	+2
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	69 22	8 6	9%	-4	+2	-6♥	-5♥
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	77 11	12 7	7%	+6 <b></b>	+5 <b>♠</b>	+2	+6 <b></b>

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

**9** A

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 small sized agencies
In the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance					
Excellent	17%	-80	-7 <b>⊙</b>	-9 <b>0</b>	-9 <b>0</b>
Very good	63%	+2	+6 <b>⊘</b>	+6♠	+80
Average	<b>15</b> %	+4	-1	0	-1
Below average	<b>5</b> %	+3	+3	+3	+2
Well below average	1%	-1	0	0	-1

	Response s	cale	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	77	12 11	<b>77</b> %	-4	-1	-3	-2
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	51 18	31	<b>51</b> %	+6 🐼	-9 <b>0</b>	-5♥	+1
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	75	17 8	<b>75</b> %	-4	+1	-2	0
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	76	11 13	<b>76</b> %	-3	-3	-5♥	-3
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	53	32 15	<b>53</b> %	+5 <b>♠</b>	-6♥	-4	-1

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 specialist 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	9%	+2	0	+2	0
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months	<b>25</b> %	+5 <b>0</b>	+4	+6 🐼	+6
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years	46%	-5♥	+7 <b> </b>	+3	+5 <b>♦</b>
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years	20%	-1	-11♥	-11 👁	-11👁
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current position?					
I am planning to retire	<b>3</b> %	+1	-2	0	0
I am pursuing another position within my agency	23%	+5 <b>♦</b>	-23 ♥	-5♥	+7 <b>•</b>
I am pursuing a position in another agency	<b>52</b> %	-3	+27 <b>♦</b>	+16 🐼	+3
I am pursuing work outside the APS	12%	0	+4	-2	-2
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	2%	-5♥	-1	-3	-4
Other	8%	+2	-6 <b>O</b>	-6♥	-4

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 specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current position responses):	? (5 highest				
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my agency	18%	-	-	-	-
Senior leadership is of a poor quality	18%	-	-	-	-
I wish to pursue a promotion opportunity	16%	-	-	-	-
My expectations for work in my current position have not been met	9%	-	-	-	-
I want to try a different type of work or I'm seeking a career change	<b>7</b> %	-	-	-	-

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 small sized agencies			
During the last 12 months, and in connection with your discrimination on the basis of your background or a pe									
Yes		<b>5</b> %	-4	-4	-2	-3			
No		95%	+4	+4	+2	+3			
Did this discrimination occur in your current agency?									
Yes The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.									
No The data for this question has been hidden to preserve privacy.									
The discrimination came from: [Multiple Response]									
Within my agency	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.						
Another agency	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.						
A customer, stakeholder or member of the public	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.						
Other	The data for this question has been hi	dden to prese	rve 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 hi	dden 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 hi	dden to prese	rve privacy.						
Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator									



## 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 specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to bully workplace?	ying or harassment in your current					
Yes		<b>7</b> %	-3	-2	-1	-3
No		<b>87</b> %	+2	+2	0	+3
Not sure		<b>5</b> %	+1	+1	+1	0
Types of bullying or harassment experienced (3 highest res	sponses):					
Verbal abuse (e.g. offensive language, derogatory remarks, shouting or screaming)		<b>71</b> %	-	-	-	-
Interference with work tasks (e.g. withholding needed information, undermining or sabotage)		<b>57</b> %	-	-	-	-
Inappropriate and unfair application of work policies or rules (e.g. performance management, access to leave, access to learning and development)		<b>36</b> %	-	-	-	-
Did you report the bullying or harassment?						
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		50%	+60	+13 🚱	+16 🐼	+16 🚱
It was reported by someone else		<b>7</b> %	+7 <b>0</b>	0	-1	0
I did not report the behaviour		43%	-13 ♥	-12 <b>0</b>	-14 👁	-16♥



## 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 specialist 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		<b>3</b> %	0	+1	+1	-1
No		92%	-2	0	0	+5♠
Not sure	1	4%	+2	0	0	-3
Prefer not to answer		<b>2</b> %	0	0	0	-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.						
Alisuse 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 hidden to preserve 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 hidden to preserve 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	45%
Woman or female	52%
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	8%
No	92%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	42%
No	58%

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	24%
No	76%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	80%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	1%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	2%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	1%
Anglo-European	18%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	5%
Southern and Eastern European	8%
South-East Asian	7%
North-East Asian	2%
Southern and Central Asian	3%
North American	1%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	2%
North African and Middle Eastern	2%
Sub-Saharan African	1%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	8%
No	79%
Maybe	10%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	4%

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### **Agency position**

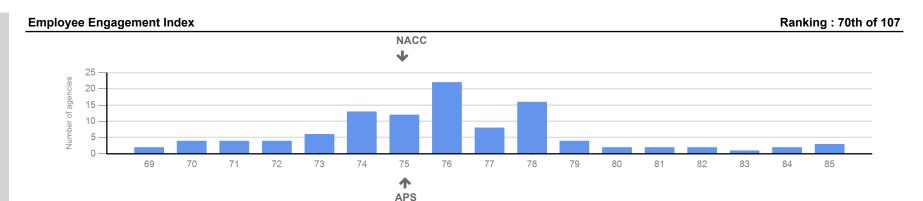


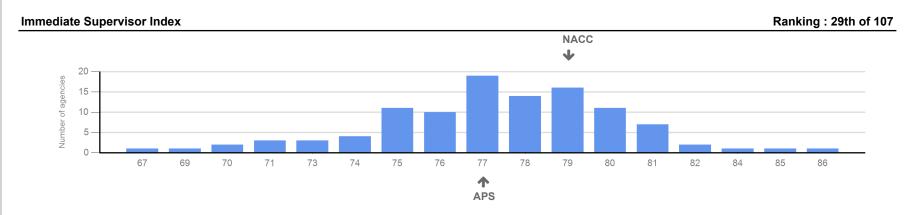
# Agency position

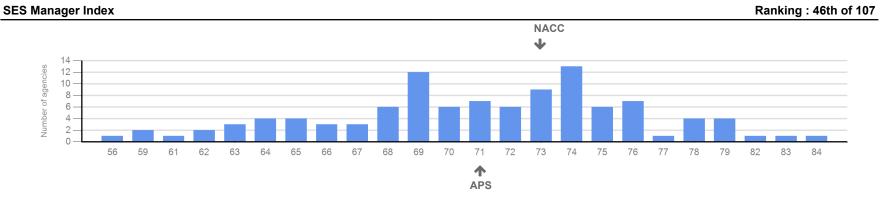
These graphs display the overall index score of each agency for the Employee Engagement, Immediate Supervisor, SES Manager, Communication, **Enabling Innovation** and Wellbeing Policies and Support indices. These are to assist you to see where your agency sits in comparison to the overall APS index score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

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

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









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## **Agency position**

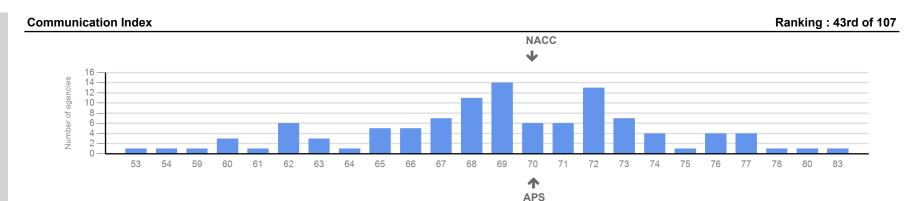


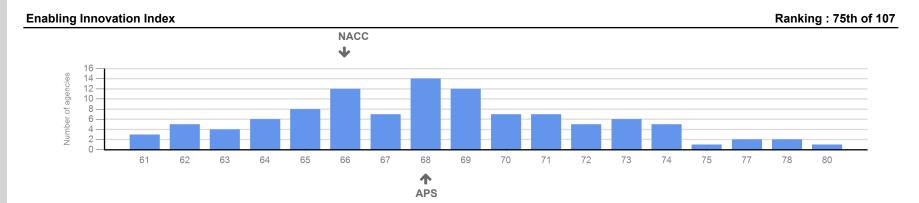
# Agency position

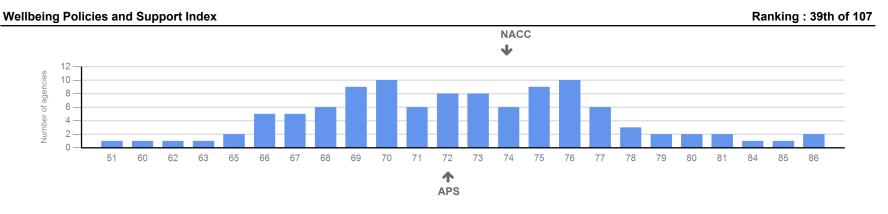
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## Suggested questions to focus on



# 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.

	t 5 percentage points greater mparator At least 5 percentage points less than comparator	% Positive	Variance from 2024	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from small sized agencies
.1	I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	<b>67</b> %	+1	-3	-3	+2
.2	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	<b>50</b> %	0	-9 <b>o</b>	-100	-4
.3	Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	<b>77</b> %	+60	+5 <b>0</b>	+2	+60
.4	I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	<b>75</b> %	+60	+70	+4	+80
.5	I feel I have the same opportunities as anyone else of my ability or experience	<b>69</b> %	-80	0	-2	+2
.6	My agency supports and actively promotes an inclusive workplace culture	<b>75</b> %	+2	-9 <b>o</b>	-80	-2



#### Time to take action

<b></b>	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.

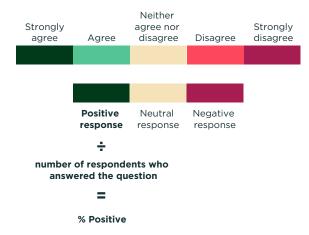
Prioritise 3 areas to take forward

	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.

