

2025 APS Employee Census

5 May - 6 June

Highlights Report

Responses:

460 of 491

Response rate:

94%



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.

0	Your Employee Engagement Index score	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from APS overall +5 🏠	Variance from regulatory agencies +4	Variance from medium sized agencies +4
	Overall, I am satisfied with my job	81 1	1 8	81%	+4	+4	+5 🐼
<u>></u>	I am proud to work in my agency	88	9	88%	+60	+5 	+5
Say	I would recommend my agency as a good place to work	80 13	7	80%	+3	+2	+50
	I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of my agency	94		94%	+6♠	+2	+4
Я	I feel a strong personal attachment to my agency	75 17	8	75 %	+10 🐼	+96	+90
Stay	I feel committed to my agency's goals	94		94%	+6♠	+5♠	+5 ♦
	I suggest ideas to improve our way of doing things	91	7	91%	+4	+2	+2
Strive	I am happy to go the 'extra mile' at work when required	93		93%	+3	+3	+2
Stri	I work beyond what is required in my job to help my agency achieve its objectives	87	11	87%	+80	+11 🟠	+80
	My agency really inspires me to do my best work every day	69 19	12	69%	+3	0	+1

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 APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
	Index score			-1	-1	-1
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	80 12	80%	-1	-1	0
visor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	79 14	79 %	0	-1	0
Super	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	82 11 8	82 %	-1	-3	-1
Immediate Supervisor	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	80 13 7	80%	-2	-2	-2
<u>m</u>	My supervisor is invested in my development	74 16 10	74%	-4	-4	-4
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	85 10	85%	-3	-3	-3
	Other similar questions					
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	78 13 9	78 %	-2	-1	0
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	76 16 8	76 %	-1	-2	-2
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	83 11	83%	-2	-2	-1
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	78 15 7	78%	-3	-3	-3
Key	At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator At lea	st 5 percentage points less than comparator		Positive N	leutral Negative)

Australian Government
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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.

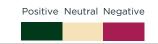
-	Your SES Manager Index score	Response	scale	% Positive	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
					+2	+1	+1
	My SES manager clearly articulates the direction and priorities for our area	74	15 11	74 %	+4	+2	+3
	My SES manager presents convincing arguments and persuades others towards an outcome	68	21 11	68%	+4	+2	+2
Manager	My SES manager promotes cooperation within and between agencies	76	17	76 %	+7 6	+4	+5♠
SES M	My SES manager encourages innovation and creativity	71	18 11	71 %	+3	+1	+2
	My SES manager creates an environment that enables us to deliver our best	71	17 12	71 %	+4	+3	+3
	My SES manager ensures that work effort contributes to the strategic direction of the agency and the APS	80	15	80%	+4	+1	+2
	Other similar questions						
	In my agency, the SES work as a team	54	27 19	54%	-4	-2	-1
	In my agency, the SES clearly articulate the direction and priorities for our agency	62	22 16	62%	-4	-4	-3
	My SES manager routinely promotes the use of data and evidence to deliver outcomes	74	19	74 %	+5 ☆	+3	+4

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





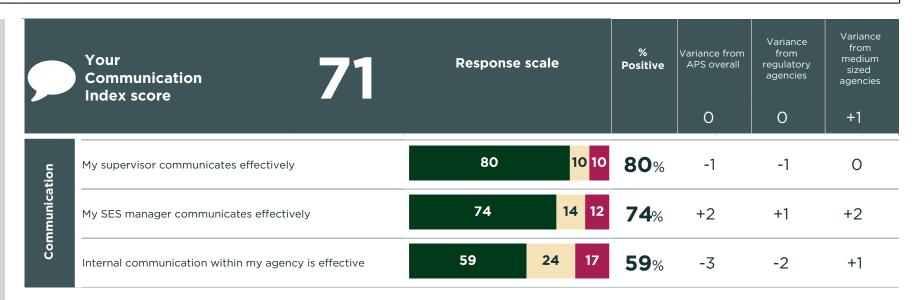
2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 05.

Communication and change



Communication

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



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	62	2	16	62 %	-5♥	-4	-4
Change	Staff are consulted about change at work	44	41	15	44%	-7 ©	-7 ©	-5♥
	Change is managed well in my agency	39	30	31	39 %	-9 ©	-7 0	-5♥

Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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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.

	Your Enabling Innovation Index score	Respons	se scale		% Positive	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
	*					-1	-1	-1
	I believe that one of my responsibilities is to continually look for new ways to improve the way we work	85	85 12 85		85%	+1	+2	0
Innovation	My immediate supervisor encourages me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	77		15 7	77 %	+1	0	0
	People are recognised for coming up with new and innovative ways of working	60	25	15	60%	-4	-5♥	-3
Enabling	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	57	28	15	57 %	-2	-2	-2
	My agency recognises and supports the notion that failure is a part of innovation	39	43	18	39 %	-12 ♥	-12 0	-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 07.

Wellbeing Policies and Support



Wellbeing

The Wellbeing Policies and Support Index provides a measure of the practical and cultural elements that allow for a sustainable and healthy working environment.

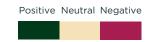
#	Your Wellbeing Policies and Support Index score	Response scale	e	% Positive	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
					+2	0	+1
port	I am satisfied with the policies/practices in place to help me manage my health and wellbeing	76	15 9	76 %	+3	0	+4
and Support	My agency does a good job of communicating what it can offer me in terms of health and wellbeing	72	20 8	72 %	+2	-2	+1
Policies	My agency does a good job of promoting health and wellbeing	73	19 8	73 %	+2	-1	+2
Wellbeing F	I think my agency cares about my health and wellbeing	75	17 8	75 %	+6 🚱	+2	+5♠
Well	I believe my immediate supervisor cares about my health and wellbeing	88	8	88%	+1	-1	-1
	Other similar questions						
бı	If I felt it was needed, I would feel comfortable discussing my mental health and wellbeing with my supervisor	75	13 13	75 %	-1	-2	-2
Wellbeing	I receive the respect I deserve from my colleagues at work	83	13	83%	+1	+1	+2
S	My agency supports and actively promotes an inclusive workplace culture	81	13	81%	-3	-4	-1

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 08.

Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:					
Excellent		13%	+1	0	0
Very good		39 %	+4	+1	+2
Good		35 %	-2	-1	-1
Fair		11%	-2	-1	-1
Poor		3 %	0	0	0
What best describes your current workload?					
Well above capacity - too much work		15%	-1	-3	-4
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		50%	+11 🔷	+10 🐼	+11 🐼
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		29%	-7♥	-5♥	-4
Slightly below capacity - available for more work		4%	-2	-2	-2
Well below capacity - not enough work		1%	0	0	-1

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 09.

Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?					
Always		3 %	-1	-1	-1
Often		23%	0	+1	+1
Sometimes		53 %	+3	+1	+3
Rarely		19%	0	-1	-2
Never		1%	-1	-1	-1
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?					
To a very large extent		5%	-2	0	-1
To a large extent		21%	+1	+4	+3
Somewhat		39 %	-1	-1	0
To a small extent		26%	+1	-1	0
To a very small extent		10%	0	-2	-2
I feel burned out by my work					
Strongly agree		5%	-2	-2	-2
Agree		20%	-2	-1	-1
Neither agree nor disagree		33 %	0	+2	+2
Disagree		35 %	+4	+1	+2
Strongly disagree		8%	0	-1	-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

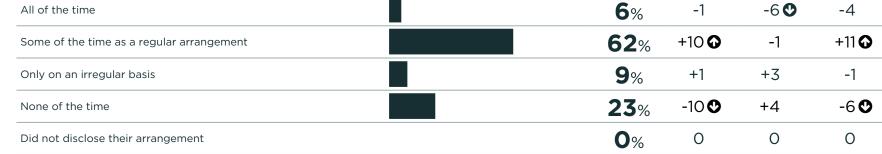
Key

Flexible work



	Response scale	%	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
I am confident that if I request a flexible work arrangement, my request would be given reasonable consideration	90	90%	+3	-1	+2
Do you currently access any of the following flexible working arrangements? [Multiple Response]					
Part time		6%	-7♥	-7♥	-6♥
Flexible hours of work		25 %	-5♥	-11 👁	-7♥
Compressed work week		6%	+1	-3	+1
Job sharing		0%	0	0	0
Working away from the office/working from home		77 %	+10 🐼	-4	+6♠
None of the above		17 %	-3	+90	0
Working away from the office					
All of the time	I	6%	-1	-6 🗸	-4
Some of the time as a regular arrangement		62 %	+10 🐼	-1	+11 🐼
Only on an irregular basis		9%	+1	+3	-1

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.



Positive Neutral Negative At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator
At least 5 percentage points less than comparator Key

2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 11.

Working in the APS

	Response s	scale	% Positive	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	69	18 13	69 %	-1	0	0
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	78	18	78 %	+1	0	0
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	75	14 10	75 %	-6♥	-7♥	-6♥
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	81	15	81%	-8♥	-9♥	-7 ♥
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	57	31 13	57 %	-12 ♥	-10 ♥	-8♥
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	87	9	87%	+2	-1	+1
The people in my workgroup value others' individual skills and talents	85	10	85%	+2	0	+1
People in my workgroup are comfortable checking with each other if they have questions about the right way to do something	90		90%	+2	0	+1
The people in my workgroup are able to bring up problems and tough issues	82	10 7	82%	+3	+1	+2
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	19 9	72 %	+5 ⊙	0	+1

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 APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	67 21 12	67 %	-1	-2	-2
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	77 12 11	77 %	+11 🐼	+10 🐼	+10 🚳
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	90	90%	+5 ♦	+1	+5 ♦
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	80 11 8	80%	-6♥	-3	-1

Clarity and autonomy

	Response scale	% Positive	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	94	94%	+1	+1	+1
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	89 8	89%	+5 ૄ	+5 ⊘	+7
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	78 17	78 %	+10 🐼	+5 ☆	+4
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	70 17 13	70 %	-2	-3	-3

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

Performance

	Response scale	%	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
In the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance					
Excellent		28%	+4	+4	+2
Very good		56%	-1	-1	0
Average		13%	-3	-3	-1
Below average		2%	0	0	0
Well below average		0%	0	0	0

	Response s	scale	% Positive	Variance from APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	87	9	87 %	+80	+7 6	+7 ₲
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	55	24 21	55 %	-5♥	+2	+1
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	79	14 7	79 %	+4	+3	+3
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	81	11 7	81%	+2	+1	+2
During the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	49	36 15	49%	-10 O	-9 0	-9 ©

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

2025 APS Employee Census

PAGE 14.

Australian Public Service Commission
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 APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
Which of the following statements best reflects your thoughts about w	orking in your current position?				
I want to leave my position as soon as possible		5 %	-4	-3	-3
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months		14%	-7 ♥	-6♥	-6♥
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years		34 %	-5♥	-9 0	-7 ⊙
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years		47 %	+16 🐼	+18 🚱	+17 🐼
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current posi	tion?		-		
I am planning to retire		9%	+4	+6 🏠	+60
I am pursuing another position within my agency		26%	-20 O	-7 ⊙	-2
I am pursuing a position in another agency		28%	+3	-7 O	-10 👁
I am pursuing work outside the APS		19%	+10 🐼	+7 0	+80
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment		3 %	+1	0	-3
Other		15%	+2	+1	+1

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 APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current position	? (5 highest responses):				
I have achieved all I can in my current position		16%	-	-	-
I wish to pursue a promotion opportunity		16%	-	-	-
My immediate supervisor's leadership is of a poor quality		11%	-	-	-
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my agency		10%	_	-	-
Senior leadership is of a poor quality		8%	-	-	-

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



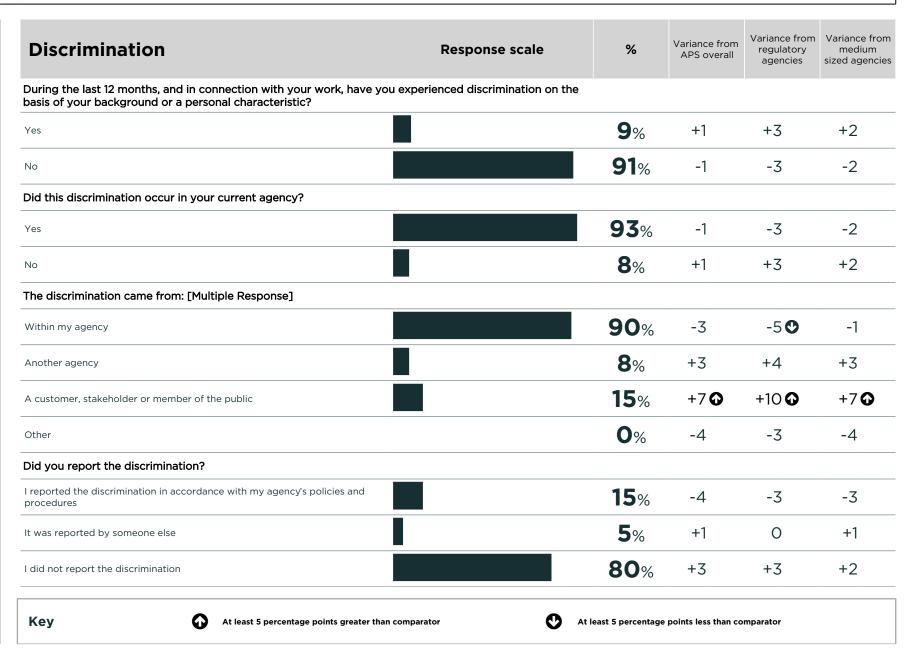
At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



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.





2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 17.

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 APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to bullying or harassme	nt in your current workplace?				
Yes		12%	+3	+4	+3
No		83%	-3	-5♥	-3
Not sure		5 %	0	+1	0
Types of bullying or harassment experienced (3 highest responses):					
Interference with work tasks (e.g. withholding needed information, undermining or sabotage)		55 %	-	-	-
Verbal abuse (e.g. offensive language, derogatory remarks, shouting or screaming)		38 %	-	-	-
Inappropriate and unfair application of work policies or rules (e.g. performance management, access to leave, access to learning and development)		36 %	-	-	-
Did you report the bullying or harassment?					
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		29%	-80	-80	-6♥
It was reported by someone else		9%	+2	+1	+1
I did not report the behaviour		62 %	+70	+6 🐼	+50



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 APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
During the last 12 months, excluding behaviour reported to you as public official engaging in conduct in your agency that you would					
Yes		3 %	+1	0	+1
No		90%	-3	-3	-3
Not sure		4 %	-1	0	0
Prefer not to answer		4 %	+2	+2	+2
Which of the following reflects the conduct you witnessed? [Multip	ple Response]				
Abuse of office		79 %	-	-	-
Adversely affecting the honesty or impartiality of a public official		21%	-	-	-
Misuse of information or documents		14%	-	-	-
A breach of public trust		14%	-	-	-
Did you report the conduct?					
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures		21%	-4	-1	0
It was reported by someone else		29%	+11 🐼	+12 🐼	+11 🐼
I did not report the behaviour		50 %	-7 ©	-11 👁	-11 👁



Demographics

How do you describe your gender?	Responses
Man or male	51%
Woman or female	43%
Non-binary	0%
I use a different term	1%
Prefer not to say	5%

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	8%
No	92%

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

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

Do you identify as culturally or linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	21%
No	79%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	71%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	2%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	4%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	1%
Anglo-European Anglo-European	15%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	4%
Southern and Eastern European	5%
South-East Asian	10%
North-East Asian	2%
Southern and Central Asian	4%
North American	1%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	1%
North African and Middle Eastern	1%
Sub-Saharan African	0%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	9%
No	72%
Maybe	11%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	8%

2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 20.



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.

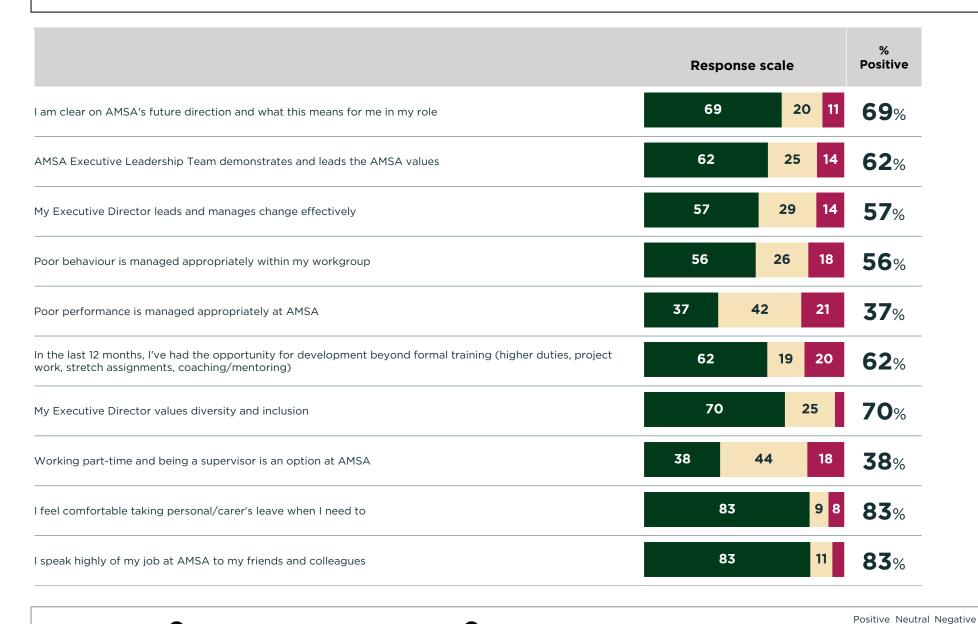
Some will be areas to improve upon and some will be areas to maintain.

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 APS overall	Variance from regulatory agencies	Variance from medium sized agencies
.1	Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	70 %	-2	-3	-3
.2	I think my agency cares about my health and wellbeing	75 %	+60	+2	+5 0
.3	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	57 %	-2	-2	-2
.4	The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	75 %	-60	-7 º	-60
.5	I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	67 %	-1	-2	-2
.6	I feel I have the same opportunities as anyone else of my ability or experience	68%	-1	-1	-2



AMSA specific questions



Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

Key

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

2025 APS Employee Census PAGE 22.

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

AMSA specific questions

	Response scale	% Positive
I am proud of the work I do	93	93%
I am committed to doing what is required to perform my job well	97	97%
I am committed to doing what is required to help AMSA succeed	95	95%
Overall, I am satisfied with AMSA as an employer	83 11	83%
I speak highly of AMSA's services	85 11	85%

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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?

nd 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.

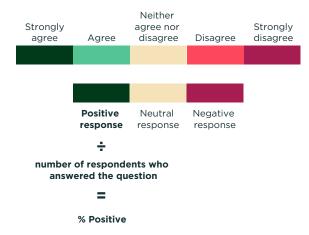
Prioritise 3 areas to take forward

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

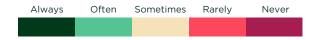
Guide to this report

% 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.