Highlights Report ACIAR



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Responses:	
78 of 86	

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 will be the lower results, and/or those which are scoring notably below your comparators.



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.

2024 APS Employee Census PAGE 02.



Employee Engagement: Say, Stay, Strive

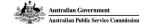


How engaged is your team?

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			% Positive	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies		
	Index score				0	-3	-3	-3		
	My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	75	17 8	75 %	-2	-4	-4	-2		
visor	My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	79	14	79 %	+5 ☆	0	0	-1		
Super	My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	79	13 8	79 %	+4	-3	-4	-3		
Immediate Supervisor	My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	74	19	74%	-3	-8 ©	-80	-8 0		
<u> </u>	My supervisor is invested in my development	70	23	70%	-3	-8 👁	-80	-8 ©		
	My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	82	13	82%	+3	-6 ©	-6 ©	-7 ©		
	Other similar questions									
	My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	71	18 10	71 %	-2	-7 ⊙	-5♥	-6♥		
	My immediate supervisor encourages me	75	20	75 %	+7 0	-3	-3	-4		
	My supervisor actively ensures that everyone can be included in workplace activities	81	16	81%	+1	-4	-3	-3		
	My supervisor encourages me to take on new tasks and gain experience doing things I've never done before	78	16	78%	-	-3	-3	-3		
Key	Positive Neutral Negative									

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

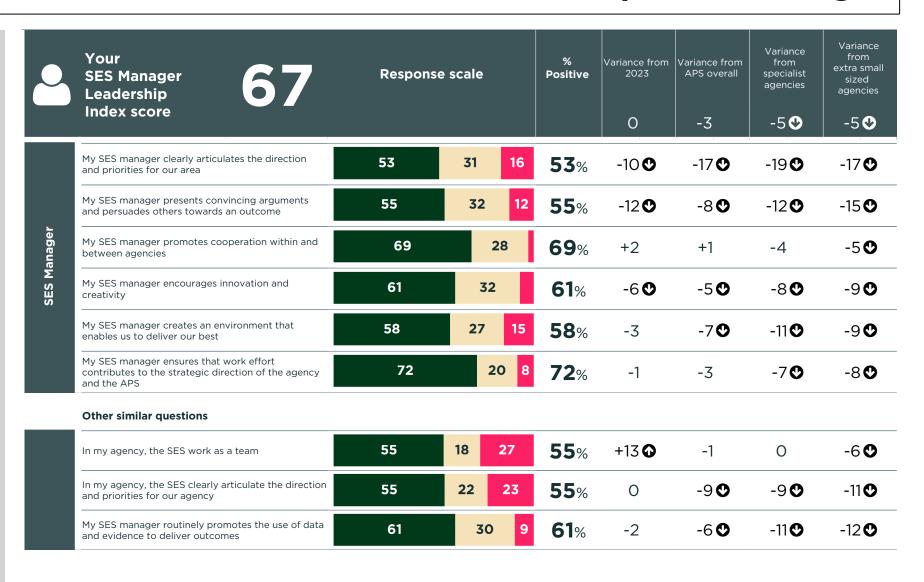
2024 APS Employee Census PAGE 04.

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.



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

Communication and change



Communication

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

P	Your Communication Index score	Response	scale	% Positive	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
					-1	-5♥	-5♥	-4
tion	My supervisor communicates effectively	78	12 1	78 %	+2	-3	-3	-1
Communication	My SES manager communicates effectively	58	26 16	58%	-5♥	-12♥	-14♥	- 12 ♥
Con	Internal communication within my agency is effective	50	27 23	50%	-12♥	-8♥	-7 ♥	-5♥

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	61		22	17	61%	-5♥	-7 ⊙	-9 ♥	-11 👁
Cnange	Staff are consulted about change at work	55		31	15	55 %	+7 6	+4	+4	+3
	Change is managed well in my agency	33	31	3	6	33 %	-15♥	-10 ூ	-9 ♥	- 12 ♥

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

Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

2024 APS Employee Census PAGE 06.

Enabling Innovation



Enabling Innovation

The 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	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall +3	Variance from specialist agencies +2	Variance from extra small sized agencies
	I believe that one of my responsibilities is to continually look for new ways to improve the way	84	15	84%	-2	+5 ⊙	+2	0
ation	we work My immediate supervisor encourages me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	73	21	73%	+4	+1	-1	-3
ng Innovation	People are recognised for coming up with new and innovative ways of working	56 31	13	56%	-3	-2	-4	-80
Enabling	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	55 35	9	55%	-14 O	+5 ۞	+3	-6 •
	My agency recognises and supports the notion that failure is a part of innovation	43 48	9	43%	-24♥	+2	+3	0

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



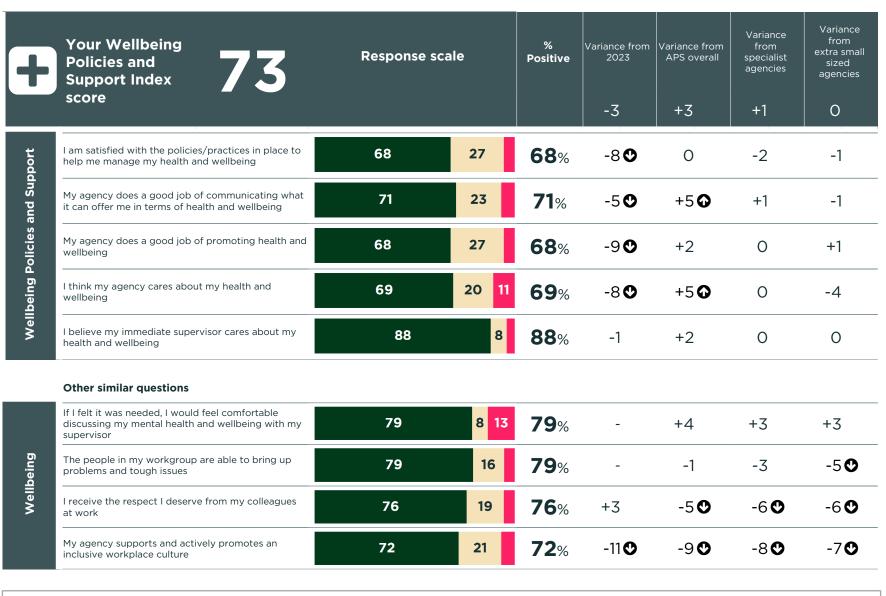
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Wellbeing Policies and Support

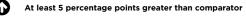


Wellbeing

The Wellbeing 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 less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



2024 APS Employee Census PAGE 08.

Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
In general, would you say that your health is:						
Excellent		13%	+3	+3	+1	-1
Very good		37 %	-3	+3	0	0
Good		43 %	+6 	+5 ⊘	+7 0	+80
Fair		7 %	-3	-7 0	-5♥	-5 0
Poor		0%	-3	-3	-3	-2
What best describes your current workload?						
Well above capacity - too much work		24%	0	+1	+2	0
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		45%	+7 6	+5 ૄ	+5 ♦	+3
At capacity – about the right amount of work to do		21%	-8 👁	-10 🛡	-9♥	-7♥
Slightly below capacity – available for more work		5 %	-2	0	-1	0
Well below capacity - not enough work		4%	+3	+3	+3	+3

Key

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

0

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator





Wellbeing

	Response scale	%	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
How often do you find your work stressful?						
Always		4%	0	-1	+1	+1
Often		19%	-80	-6♥	-4	-4
Sometimes		55%	+10 🐼	+6♠	+5♠	+6 ☆
Rarely		20%	-2	+1	0	-2
Never		1%	0	-1	-1	-1
To what extent is your work emotionally demanding?						
To a very large extent		4%	0	-4	-2	-2
To a large extent		16%	+1	-4	-2	+1
Somewhat		52 %	+3	+14 🐼	+15 🕢	+14 🚱
To a small extent		19%	-4	-6 0	-80	-9 ♥
To a very small extent		9%	+1	0	-2	-3
I feel burned out by my work						
Strongly agree		7 %	0	-1	0	0
Agree		15%	-10 🗷	-8 O	-7 O	-5♥
Neither agree nor disagree		36%	+9 🚱	+4	+6•	+80
Disagree		32 %	-2	+2	-1	-1
Strongly disagree		11%	+4	+4	+2	-2

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2024 APS Employee Census

Key

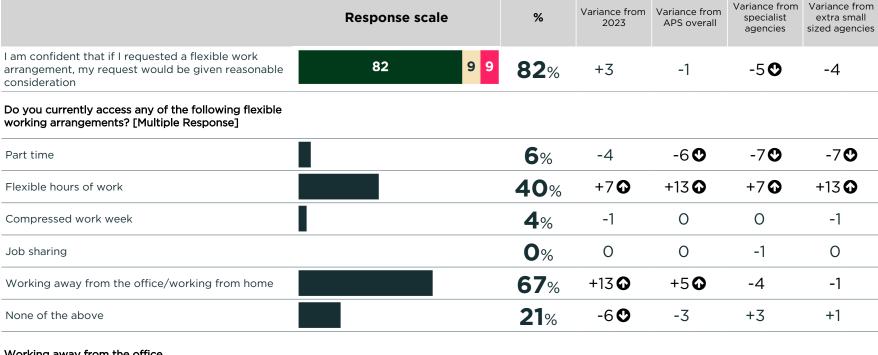
At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



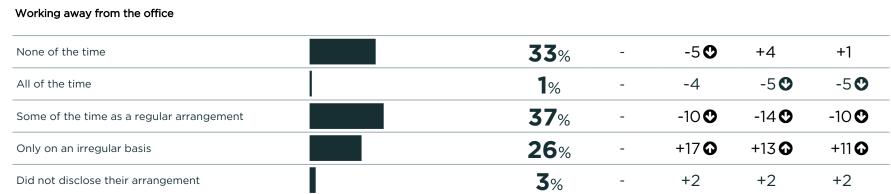
At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

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



2024 APS Employee Census PAGE 11.

Working in the APS

	Response	scale	% Positive	Variance from 2023	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	60	20 20	60%	-	-5♥	-7 0	-9 0
The people in my workgroup demonstrate stewardship	78	21	78 %	-	+1	-2	-6 O
The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	64	23 13	64%	-	-13 ♥	-15 ♥	-16 ♥
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	83	17	83%	+9 &	-4	-3	-2
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	52	39 9	52 %	+1	-12 ♥	-7 ♥	-3
My workgroup considers the people and businesses affected by what we do	91		91%	-	+6 ♠	+3	-1

Key



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Positive Neutral Negative



2024 APS Employee Census PAGE 12.

At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Job satisfaction

	Response	scale	% Positive	Variance from 2023	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	66	22 12	66%	-1	-2	-5♥	-7 ♥
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	70	16 14	70 %	-6♥	+7 0	+6 	-4
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	82	9 9	82%	+5 0	0	-3	-2
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	66	14 19	66%	-7♥	-19♥	-15 ♥	-15♥

Clarity and autonomy

	Response scale		% Positive	Variance from 2023	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%	+4	+3	+3	+2
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	77	19	77 %	-7♥	-2	-2	-3
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	76	19	76 %	-3	+10 🚱	+1	-2
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	66 16	18	66%	-4	-5 O	-80	-12 0

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 2023	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		25%	0	-2	-5 O	-7 O
Very good		51 %	-6♥	-4	-3	-3
Average		21%	+7 ♠	+6 ⊘	+80	+9 0
Below average		1%	0	-1	0	0
Well below average		1%	-1	+1	+1	+1

	Response	scale		% Positive	Variance from 2023	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	84		13	84%	-1	+6 🚱	+3	-1
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	60	21	19	60%	-13 ♥	+1	+1	-2
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	78		17	78 %	+5 0	+2	-1	-4
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	81		17	81%	-7♥	+1	-2	-4
In the last 12 months, the formal learning I have accessed has improved my performance	50	29	21	50 %	-	-8♥	-7 ♥	-12 ♥

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

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Australian Government
Australian Public Service Commission

Retention



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

Response scale	%	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
Which of the following statements best reflects your current thoughts about working in your current position?					
I want to leave my position as soon as possible	9%	+1	0	+2	+1
I want to leave my position within the next 12 months	23%	+ 7 ♦	0	+2	0
I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years	39 %	-7♥	+1	-1	-2
I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three years	28%	-1	-2	-2	+1
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current position?					
I am planning to retire	4%	+4	-1	0	-2
I am pursuing another position within my agency	8%	+80	-35♥	-19 ♥	-3
I am pursuing a position in another agency	50 %	-3	+230	+14 🐼	+2
I am pursuing work outside the APS	13%	- 17 ♥	+3	-1	+1
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	8%	+2	+6 🐼	+3	+1
Other	17 %	+5 	+4	+3	+1

Key At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Australian Government

Australian Public Service Commission

Retention



Employees were also asked for the primary reason behind their desire to leave and could select one response from a list of 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.

Response scale	%	Variance from 2023	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 position? (5 high responses):	nest				
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my agency	24%	-	-	-	-
Senior leadership is of a poor quality	12%	-	-	-	-
I am looking to further my skills in another area	6%	-	-	-	-
My expectations for work in my current position have not been met	6%	-	-	-	-
I have achieved all I can in my current position	6%	-	-	-	-

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 what the basis was for the discrimination. Employees could select one or more responses from a list of items.

Only the three types of discrimination with the highest proportion of responses are presented here. These may vary between agencies, work units and with results for the APS overall.

Discrimination	Response scale	%	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
During the last 12 months and in the course of your endiscrimination on the basis of your background or a po						
Yes		7 %	-4	-3	-1	0
No		93%	+4	+3	+1	0
Did this discrimination occur in your current agency?						
Yes	The data for this question has been hi	dden for anony	mity reasons.			
No	The data for this question has been hi	dden for anony	mity reasons.			

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



2024 APS Employee Census

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Unacceptable behaviour



Employees who perceived harassment or bullying in the last 12 months were asked what type of harassment or bullying 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.

I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's

policies and procedures

It was reported by someone else

I did not report the behaviour

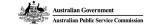
Harassment and bullying	Response scale	%	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to harassm workplace?	nent or bullying in your current					
Yes		12%	-2	+2	+4	+2
No		77 %	-6 O	-7 ♥	-10 👁	-80
Not sure		11%	+80	+5 0	+6 🐼	+60
Did you report the harassment or bullying?						

The data for this question has been hidden for anonymity reasons.

The data for this question has been hidden for anonymity reasons.

The data for this question has been hidden for anonymity reasons.

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



Unacceptable behaviour



Employees who indicated that they had witnessed potential corrupt behaviour were asked to describe the behaviour. Employees could select one or more responses from a list of items.

Only the three types of corrupt behaviours with the highest proportion of responses are presented here. These may vary between agencies and with results for the APS overall.

Corruption	Response scale	%	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
Excluding behaviour reported to you as part of you witnessed another APS employee in your agency e may be serious enough to be viewed as corruption	ngaging in behaviour that you consider					
Yes		7 %	-4	+4	+4	+4
No		79 %	-6 0	-11 🔿	-13 👁	-12 🗸
Not sure		11%	+80	+70	+80	+7 •
Would prefer not to answer		3 %	+3	0	+1	+2

Did you report the potentially corrupt behaviour?

I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures	The data for this question has been hidden for anonymity reasons.
It was reported by someone else	The data for this question has been hidden for anonymity reasons.
I did not report the behaviour	The data for this question has been hidden for anonymity reasons.

Key



At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator



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Demographics

How do you describe your gender?	Responses
Man or male	27%
Woman or female	65%
Non-binary	0%
I use a different term	0%
Prefer not to say	8%

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	5%
No	95%

Do you have carer responsibilities?	Responses
Yes	55%
No	45%

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	Responses
Yes	4%
No	96%

Do you identify as culturally and linguistically diverse?	Responses
Yes	37%
No	63%

How would you describe your cultural background? [Multiple Response]	Responses
Australian (excluding Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander)	54%
Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	0%
New Zealander (excluding Maori)	1%
Maori, Melanesian, Papuan, Micronesian, and Polynesian	4%
Anglo-European	4%
North-West European (excluding Anglo-European)	1%
Southern and Eastern European	3%
South-East Asian	22%
North-East Asian	1%
Southern and Central Asian	5%
North American	3%
South and Central American and Caribbean Islander	1%
North African and Middle Eastern	1%
Sub-Saharan African	7%

Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent?	Responses
Yes	6%
No	69%
Maybe	6%
I am unsure what neurodivergent means	18%

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Agency position

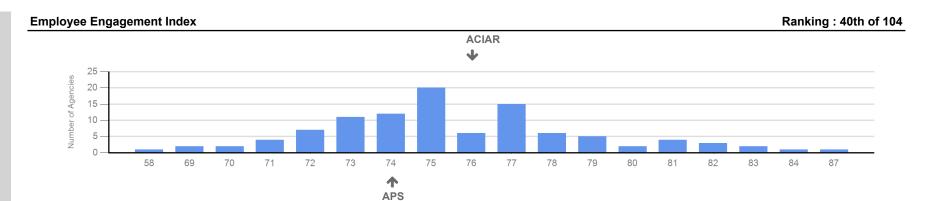


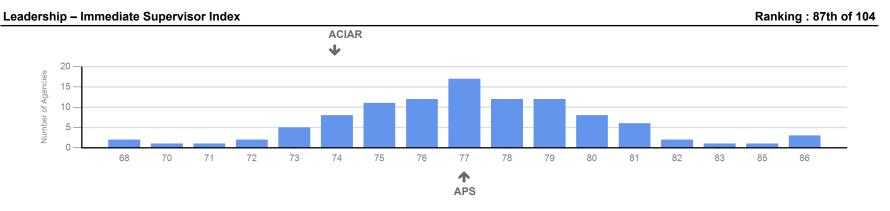
Agency position

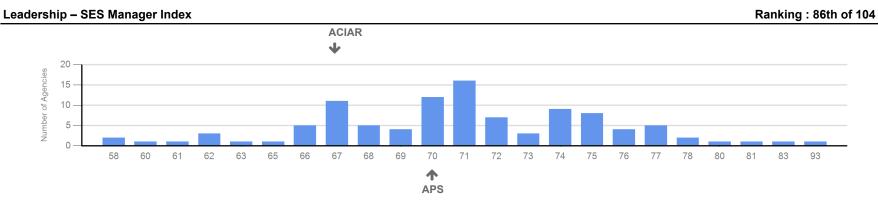
These graphs display the overall index score of each agency for the Employee Engagement, Leadership - Immediate Supervisor, Leadership - SES Manager, Communication, **Enabling Innovation** and Wellbeing Policies and Support indices. These are to assist you to see where your agency sits in comparison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

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

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









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Agency position



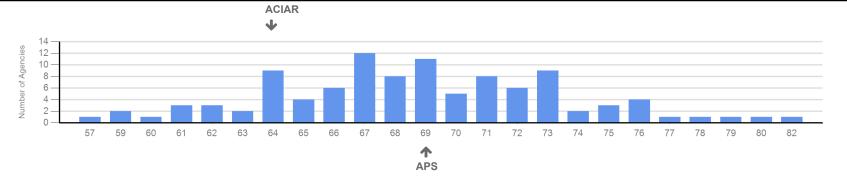
Agency position

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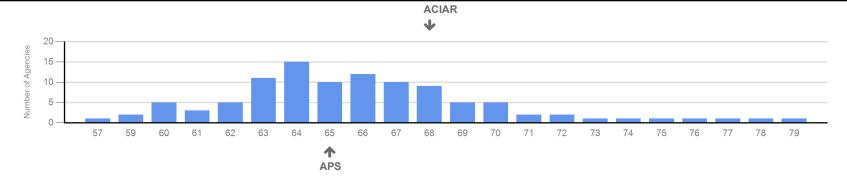
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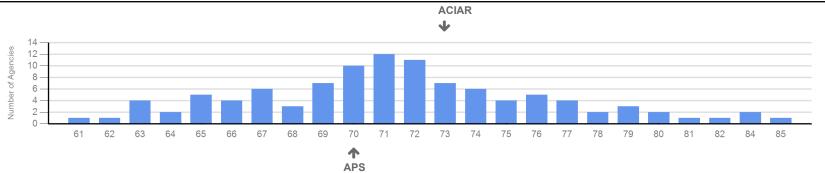




Enabling Innovation Index Ranking: 28th of 104



Wellbeing Policies and Support Index





Ranking: 33rd of 104

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 least 5 percentage points less than comparator	% Positive	Variance from 2023	Variance from APS overall	Variance from specialist agencies	Variance from extra small sized agencies
.1	I am supported to use my expertise to provide frank and fearless advice	60 %	-	-5 ⊙	-7 o	-9 0
.2	The culture in my agency supports people to act with integrity	64%	-	-13 o	-15 ⊙	-160
.3	Internal communication within my agency is effective	50 %	-120	-80	-7 ⊙	-5 º
.4	I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	66%	-7 o	-19 o	-15 º	-15 º
.5	I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	66%	-1	-2	-5 º	-7 o
.6	In my agency, the SES clearly articulate the direction and priorities for our agency	55 %	0	-9 o	-9 0	-110



ACIAR specific questions

	Response	scale	% Positive	Variance from 2023
The CEO provides effective leadership of ACIAR	58	19 23	58 %	-
The CEO clearly communicates ACIAR's future direction	64	18 19	64%	-
ACIAR has a culture of sharing ideas, thoughts and concerns	68	24 8	68%	-
Overall, our Agency's culture is heading in a more positive direction	56	29 15	56%	-
I have access to information and tools to support me during change	69	20 11	69%	-
I know where to access support and information, should I be subject to, or witness, discrimination, bullying, or harassment	78	14 8	78 %	-

Key



At least 5 percentage points less than comparator

Australian Government

Positive Neutral Negative

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At least 5 percentage points greater than comparator

Time to take action

₩ Celebra	ate (gate further h our teams	<u>~</u>	Opportunities
What things do we do well?		e there any other opportun the results that we want to	9	Areas we need to focus o plans:	n and turn into action
	_				
Think about how we can build on our strengths and le from what we are good at.		w could we investigate? Through l ore detail or through discussions wi		What are the key things we nee working here better?	d to improve to make



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

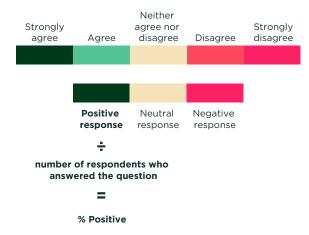
	Prioritise 3 areas for action	Timescales	Owner	Resources required	Target/Success measure
1					
2					
3					



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).

Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never







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. To see how agencies are categorised visit:

https://www.apsc.gov.au/ aps-agencies-size-andfunction

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.

