

Australian Public Service **Employee Census 2021** 10 May–11 June



Highlights Report **APS Overall**

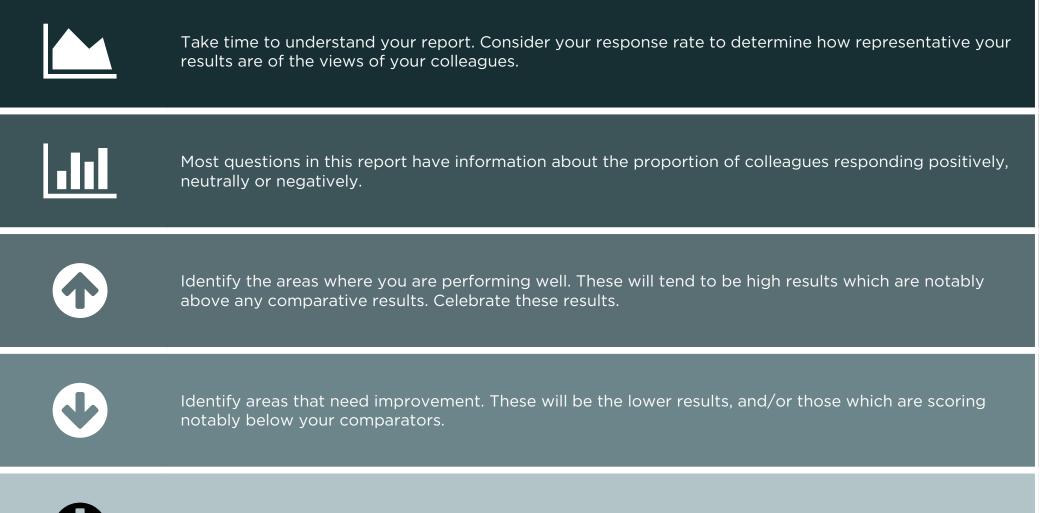


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RESPONSES: 109,537 of 142,493 RESPONSE RATE: 77%

EXPLORING YOUR RESULTS



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.



EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT: SAY, STAY, STRIVE

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HOW ENGAGED IS YOUR TEAM?

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SCORES AREN'T JUST ABOUT HOW MUCH PEOPLE LIKE WORKING FOR AN AGENCY. IT IS A MEASURE OF THE EMOTIONAL CONNECTION AND COMMITMENT EMPLOYEES HAVE TO WORKING FOR THE AGENCY.

7	YOUR EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SCORE 73%	RESPONSE SC	ALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020
	Overall, I am satisfied with my job	73	15 11	73%	-1
SAY	I am proud to work in my agency	76	17	76 %	-1
SA	I would recommend my agency as a good place to work	68	19 13	68 %	-1
	I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of my agency	83	13	83%	+1
STA Υ	I feel a strong personal attachment to my agency	65	22 13	65%	-1
ST,	I feel committed to my agency's goals	82	14	82 %	-1
	I suggest ideas to improve our way of doing things	85	13	85%	0
STRIVE	I am happy to go the 'extra mile' at work when required	91		91%	-1
STR	I work beyond what is required in my job to help my agency achieve its objectives	83	14	83%	0
	My agency really inspires me to do my best work every day	56	28 15	56%	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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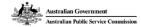
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LEADERSHIP

IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR	RESPONSE SCALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020
My supervisor engages with staff on how to respond to future challenges	79 12 9	79 %	-1
My supervisor can deliver difficult advice whilst maintaining relationships	78 14 8	78 %	+1
My supervisor invites a range of views, including those different to their own	80 13 7	80%	-
My supervisor encourages my team to regularly review and improve our work	80 13 7	80%	0
My supervisor is invested in my development	73 16 10	73 %	+1
My immediate supervisor encourages me	76 16 8	76 %	+1
My supervisor ensures that my workgroup delivers on what we are responsible for	87 9	87 %	+2
My supervisor provides me with helpful feedback to improve my performance	74 16 10	74 %	-





LEADERSHIP

IMMEDIATE SES MANAGER	RESPONSE SCALE	% VARIANCE FROM 2020
My SES manager clearly articulates the direction and priorities for our area	67 21 1	67 % +1
My SES manager presents convincing arguments and persuades others towards an outcome	61 29 1	• 61% -
My SES manager promotes cooperation within and between agencies	66 27	7 66 % +2
My SES manager encourages innovation and creativity	64 <mark>26</mark> 1	• 64% -
My SES manager creates an environment that enables us to deliver our best	62 25 1	62 % -
My SES manager ensures that work effort contributes to the strategic direction of the agency and the APS	73 20	73 % +2
ALL SES	RESPONSE SCALE	% VARIANCE POSITIVE FROM 2020
In my agency, the SES work as a team	53 32 1	53 % 0
In my agency, the SES clearly articulate the direction and priorities for our agency	60 26 1	60 % -3

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COMMUNICATION AND CHANGE

	RESPONSE SCALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020
My supervisor communicates effectively	82 9	82%	+1
My SES manager communicates effectively	69 <mark>19</mark> 1:	69%	+1
In my agency, communication between SES and other employees is effective	51 29 20	51 %	-5 👁
Internal communication within my agency is effective	58 23 20	58%	0
When changes occur, the impacts are communicated well within my workgroup	66 16 18	66%	-1
Staff are consulted about change at work	45 34 21	45%	-3
Change is managed well in my agency	43 28 29	43%	-5 🛛

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AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS GREATER THAN COMPARATOR

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AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS LESS THAN COMPARATOR

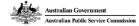
Positive Neutral Negative



WORKPLACE CONDITIONS

	RESPONSE SCALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020
My job gives me opportunities to utilise my skills	84 9 7	84%	-1
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	61 23 16	61%	+1
Where appropriate, I am able to take part in decisions that affect my job	68 18 15	68%	-
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	78 17	78 %	-3
I am satisfied with the recognition I receive for doing a good job	66 18 16	66%	0
I am fairly remunerated (e.g. salary, superannuation) for the work that I do	65 16 19	65 %	-1
I am satisfied with my non-monetary employment conditions (e.g. leave, flexible work arrangements, other benefits)	77 12 11	77 %	-2
I am satisfied with the stability and security of my job	80 <mark>10</mark> 10	80%	-1
I am confident that if I requested a flexible work arrangement, my request would be given reasonable consideration	75 12 13	75 %	-





WORKPLACE CONDITIONS

	RESPONSE S	CALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020
I feel a strong personal attachment to the APS	63	26 11	63%	-1
I understand how my role contributes to achieving an outcome for the Australian public	90		90%	-1
I believe strongly in the purpose and objectives of the APS	82	15	82 %	-3

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AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS LESS THAN COMPARATOR

Positive Neutral Negative

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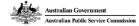


WORKPLACE CONDITIONS

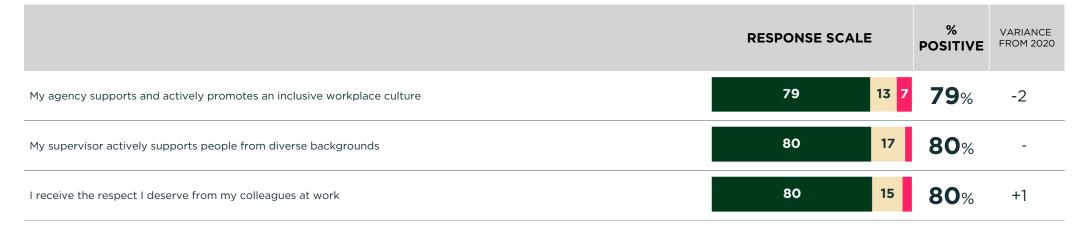
	RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020
What best describes your current workload?			
Well above capacity - too much work		24 %	+50
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		41 %	+1
At capacity – about the right amount of work to do		28%	-4
Slightly below capacity – available for more work		5%	-2
Well below capacity - not enough work		1%	-1

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INCLUSION





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Positive Neutral Negative

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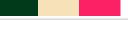


ENABLING INNOVATION

0	Ŷ	YOUR INNOVATION INDEX SCORE 66%	RESPONS	E SCALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020 -
ENABLING INNOVATION		I believe that one of my responsibilities is to continually look for new ways to improve the way we work	87	10	87 %	_
	vation	My immediate supervisor encourages me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	74	18 8	74 %	-
SCORE ASSESSES BOTH WHETHER EMPLOYEES FEEL WILLING AND ABLE	Enabling innovation	People are recognised for coming up with new and innovative ways of working	62	25 13	62 %	-
TO BE INNOVATIVE, AND WHETHER THEIR AGENCY HAS	Enabl	My agency inspires me to come up with new or better ways of doing things	48	35 17	48%	-10 🔮
A CULTURE WHICH ENABLES THEM TO BE SO.		My agency recognises and supports the notion that failure is a part of innovation	36	40 24	36%	-

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AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS LESS THAN COMPARATOR Positive Neutral Negative



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WELLBEING POLICIES AND SUPPORT

0	ŧ	YOUR WELLBEING INDEX SCORE	RESPONSE	SCALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020 -2
WELLBEING	port	I am satisfied with the policies/practices in place to help me manage my health and wellbeing	67	20 13	67 %	-5 🔮
THE WELLBEING SCORE PROVIDES A	and support	My agency does a good job of communicating what it can offer me in terms of health and wellbeing	66	21 13	66%	-6 🕑
MEASURE OF THE PRACTICAL AND CULTURAL	policies and	My agency does a good job of promoting health and wellbeing	63	23 15	63 %	-7 🔮
ELEMENTS THAT ALLOW FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND	Wellbeing	I think my agency cares about my health and wellbeing	58	24 18	58%	-4
HEALTHY WORKING ENVIRONMENT.	Ň	I believe my immediate supervisor cares about my health and wellbeing	84	10	84 %	0

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AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS LESS THAN COMPARATOR

Positive Neutral Negative



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WELLBEING

	RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020
ow often do you find your work stressful?			
lways		6%	
Dften		29%	-
Sometimes		48 %	-
Rarely		16%	-
Never		2%	-
what extent is your work emotionally demanding?			
Fo a very large extent		8%	0
Fo a large extent		23%	+1
Somewhat		40%	+1
To a small extent		22 %	+1
To a very small extent		7%	-2

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WELLBEING

	RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020
feel burned out by my work			
Strongly agree		9%	0
Agree		25%	-2
Neither agree nor disagree		31 %	-3
Disagree		28%	+4
Strongly disagree		7%	+2
general, would you say that your health is:			
Excellent		12 %	-
′ery good		35%	-
Good		35%	-
air		14%	-
Poor		4 %	-

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PERFORMANCE

n the last month, please rate your workgroup's overall performance:			
	RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020

Excellent	27 % -
Very good	55 % -
Average	15% -
Below average	2% -
Well below average	1% -

In the last month, please rate your agency's success in meeting its goals and objectives:

Excellent	16% -
Very good	56% -
Average	24 % -
Below average	3 % -
Well below average	2% -

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PERFORMANCE

	RESPONSE SCALE	% POSITIVE	VARIANCE FROM 2020
My workgroup has the appropriate skills, capabilities and knowledge to perform well	81 11 8	81%	-1
My workgroup has the tools and resources we need to perform well	63 17 19	63%	-2
The people in my workgroup use time and resources efficiently	77 15 8	77%	0
My workgroup can readily adapt to new priorities and tasks	86 9	86%	0
The people in my workgroup cooperate to get the job done	87 8	87 %	0

KEY



AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS LESS THAN COMPARATOR

Positive Neutral Negative

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RETENTION

0		RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020
	Which of the following statements best reflects your current though working in your current position?	hts about		
EMPLOYEES WHO	I want to leave my position as soon as possible		10%	-
INDICATED THAT THEY WANTED TO LEAVE THEIR CURRENT	I want to leave my position within the next 12 months		22%	-
POSITION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OR WITHIN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS	I want to stay working in my position for the next one to two years	S	36%	-
WERE ASKED WHAT THEIR PLANS WERE.	I want to stay working in my position for at least the next three ye	ars	32 %	-
	What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current	position?		
	I am planning to retire		6%	-
	I am pursuing another position within my agency		42 %	-
	I am pursuing a position in another agency		25 %	-
	I am pursuing work outside the APS		11%	-
	It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment		3 %	-
	Other		13 %	-
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RETENTION

0		RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020
	What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your curre highest responses):	ent position? (3		
EMPLOYEES WHO	I want to try a different type of work or I'm seeking a career cha	nge	14%	-
WANTED TO LEAVE WERE ASKED FOR THE PRIMARY REASON	I am looking to further my skills in another area		13%	-
BEHIND THEIR DESIRE TO LEAVE AND COULD SELECT ONE	I wish to pursue a promotion opportunity		12%	-
RESPONSE FROM A LIST OF ITEMS.				
ONLY THE THREE 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.				
	KEY	• AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS GREATER THAN COMPARATOR	AT LEAST 5 F	PERCENTAGE POINTS R



UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

0	DISCRIMINATION	RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020
	During the last 12 months and in the course of your employmer experienced discrimination on the basis of your background or characteristic?	t, have you a personal		
EMPLOYEES WHO HAD PERCEIVED	Yes		11%	0
DISCRIMINATION IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS	No		89%	0
IN THE COURSE OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT WERE ASKED WHAT THE BASIS WAS FOR	Did this discrimination occur in your current agency?			
THE DISCRIMINATION. EMPLOYEES COULD SELECT ONE OR MORE	Yes		94 %	+2
RESPONSES FROM A LIST OF ITEMS.	No		6 %	-2
ONLY THE THREE TYPES OF	Basis for the discrimination that you experienced (3 highest res	ponses):		
DISCRIMINATION WITH THE HIGHEST PROPORTION OF	Gender		32 %	-
RESPONSES ARE PRESENTED HERE.	Age		27 %	-
THESE MAY VARY BETWEEN AGENCIES, WORK UNITS AND	Caring responsibilities		23 %	-
WITH RESULTS FOR THE APS OVERALL.				
	KEY	AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS GREATER THAN COMPARATOR	AT LEAST 5 F	PERCENTAGE POINTS PR



UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

0	HARASSMENT AND BULLYING	RESPONSE SCALE	%	VARIANCE FROM 2020
	During the last 12 months, have you been subjected to harassment or bullying in your current workplace?			
EMPLOYEES WHO	Yes		12%	0
PERCEIVED HARASSMENT OR BULLYING IN THE LAST	No		82%	+1
12 MONTHS WERE ASKED WHAT TYPE OF HARASSMENT OR	Not sure		6%	-1
BULLYING THEY EXPERIENCED. EMPLOYEES COULD	Types of harassment or bullying experienced (3 highest responses):			
SELECT ONE OR MORE RESPONSES FROM A LIST OF ITEMS.	Verbal abuse (e.g. offensive language, derogatory remarks, shouting or screaming)		45 %	-
ONLY THE THREE	Interference with work tasks (e.g. withholding needed information, undermining or sabotage)		41 %	-
TYPES OF HARASSMENT OR	Inappropriate and unfair application of work policies or rules (e.g. performance management, access to leave, access to learning and development)		36%	-
BULLYING WITH THE HIGHEST PROPORTION OF RESPONSES ARE PRESENTED HERE.	Did you report the harassment or bullying?			
THESE MAY VARY BETWEEN AGENCIES, WORK UNITS AND	I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedure	25	34 %	-
WITH RESULTS FOR THE APS OVERALL.	It was reported by someone else		7%	-
	I did not report the behaviour		59 %	-
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UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

RESPONSE SCALE

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.

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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.

xcluding behaviour reported to you as part of your ave you witnessed another APS employee in your a nat you consider may be serious enough to be view	agency engaging in behaviour		
Yes		4%	0
No		89%	0
Not sure		4%	0
Would prefer not to answer		2%	0

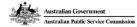
Types of corrupt behaviours witnessed (3 highest responses):

۲ ۱	Cronyism-preferential treatment of friends, such as appointing them to positions without proper regard to merit	70%	-
	Nepotism-preferential treatment of family members, such as appointing them to positions without proper regard to merit	28%	-
	Acting (or failing to act) in the presence of an undisclosed conflict of interest	19%	-

Did you report the potentially corrupt behaviour?

CORRUPTION

It was reported by someone else 15% - I did not report the behaviour 65% -	INTS LESS THAN
It was reported by someone else 15% -	
I reported the behaviour in accordance with my agency's policies and procedures 20% -	



VARIANCE

FROM 2020

%

DEMOGRAPHICS

	RESPONS	SE SCALE %	VARIANCE FROM 2020
low do you describe your gender?			
Man or male		37%	0
Woman or female		59%	-1
Non-binary		0%	-
l use a different term		0%	-
Prefer not to say		3%	0
o you identify as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait	: Islander person?		
Yes		4%	0
Νο		96%	0
o you have an ongoing disability?			
Yes		9%	+1
No		91%	-1
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DEMOGRAPHICS

	RESPONSE SCALE	E %	VARIANCE FROM 2020
oo you have carer responsibilities?			
Yes		40%	-1
No		60%	+1
o you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or g nd/or Asexual (LGBTIQA+)?	gender diverse, Intersex, Queer, Questioning		
Yes		7%	+1
No		93%	-1
n which country were you born?			
Australia		77%	-
Other country		23%	-
o you speak a language other than English at home?			
No, English only		81%	-
Yes, other		19%	-
KEY	AT LEAST 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS GREATER THAN	AT LEAST 5 PER	RCENTAGE POINTS LE



TIME TO TAKE ACTION

CELEBRATE	Q INVESTIGATE FURTHER WITH OUR TEAMS	
What things do we do well?	Are there any other opportunities coming out of the results that we want to explore further?	Areas we need to focus on and turn into action plans:
THINK ABOUT HOW WE CAN BUILD ON OUR STRENGTHS AND LEARN FROM WHAT WE ARE GOOD AT.	HOW COULD WE INVESTIGATE? THROUGH LOOKING AT THE DATA IN MORE DETAIL OR THROUGH DISCUSSIONS WITH STAFF?	WHAT ARE THE KEY THINGS WE NEED TO IMPROVE TO MAKE WORKING HERE BETTER?

0	PRIORITISE 3 AREAS FOR ACTION	TIMESCALES	OWNER	RESOURCES REQUIRED	TARGET/SUCCESS MEASURE
USE THIS					
PAGE TO	1				
START YOUR					
ACTION					
PLANS	2				
IDENTIFY AREAS TO CELEBRATE, OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT AND					
AREAS WHICH YOU NEED TO INVESTIGATE FURTHER.	3				
PRIORITISE 3 AREAS TO TAKE FORWARD					



GUIDE TO THIS REPORT

% POSITIVE

WHERE RESULTS ARE SHOWN AS POSITIVE PERCENTAGES (% POSITIVE), THESE ARE CALCULATED BY ADDING TOGETHER POSITIVE RESPONSES ("STRONGLY AGREE" + "AGREE") AND DIVIDING BY THE NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS WHO ANSWERED THE QUESTION.

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	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 ENGINE'S 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 WITH RESULTS FROM 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.







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number of respondents who answered the question

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% POSITIVE