HAVE **YOUR** SAY

Agency Report

Office of the Children's Guardian

- Survey period: 18 August to 12 September 2025
- Completed surveys: 160
- Response rate: 55% -33 compared to 2024







Contents

High level results	3
Results by topic	11
Results by child unit and demographic group	41
Additional information about the survey	49

High level results

Discover key employee experience insights

Headline results for key topics

These are the % favourable scores for key survey topics. Each topic relates to an area of employee experience.



We've flagged the top 3 and bottom 3 topics. Use these topics as a starting point for exploring your results.

See 'Additional information about the survey' for interpretation guidance and details about the survey model.



Outcomes

Employee engagement

60

Job satisfaction

64%

Wellbeing

50%

Customer service

63%

-4 vs 2024

-6pp vs 2024

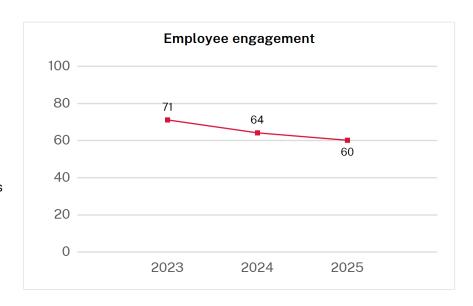
-11pp vs 2024

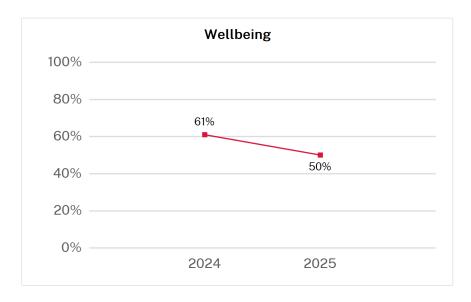
-4pp vs 2024

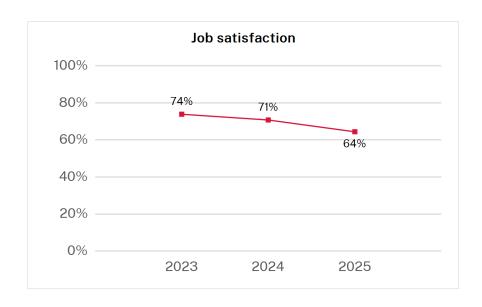
Long-term trend

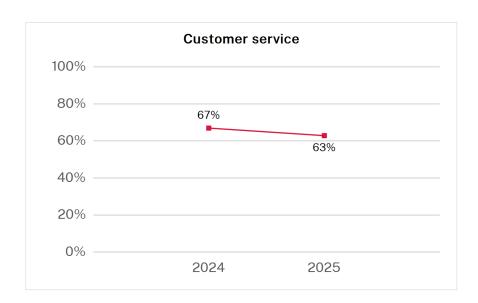
This page shows results for the past three years (2023-2025) for the key outcomes.

Comparing results side by side highlights changes over time, showing where progress has been made, where outcomes are stable, and where further focus may be needed.









Most and least improved questions

These are the most and least improved questions by difference from the previous year.

Consider why these scores have shifted. Was it due to actions taken in response to last year's survey results or something else?

Most improved questi	ons		2025 % favourable	difference from 2024
Flexible working	8h	My manager supports flexible working in my team	95%	+6
Feedback and performance management	3d	In the last 12 months, I have received feedback to help me improve my work	73%	+6
Pay	4	I am paid fairly for the work I do	70%	+5
Flexible working	8g	How satisfied are you with your ability to access and use flexible working arrangements?	94%	+4
Customer service	2c	My workgroup considers customer needs when planning our work	81%	+2

Least improved que	estions		2025 % favourable	difference from 2024
Action on survey results	9b	I am confident my organisation will act on the results of this survey	37%	-22
Health and safety	7w	There are effective resources in my organisation to support employee wellbeing	50%	-16
Learning and development	3g	I am satisfied with the opportunities available for professional development in my organisation	37%	-14
Learning and development	1j	I have the opportunity to develop the skills that I need to do my job well	58%	-14
Employee engagement	7 i	I am proud to tell others I work for my organisation	59%	-14

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Highest and lowest scoring questions

These are the questions with the highest and lowest % favourable scores. % favourable is based on the respondents who selected 'strongly agree' or 'agree'.

• Questions with the h	2025 % favourable	difference from 2024		
Ethics and values	7r	I understand what ethical behaviour means within my workplace	98%	+1
Ethics and values	7v	I am aware of my obligations under the Code of Ethics and Conduct in my organisation	96%	+1
Ethics and values	70	I support my organisation's values	96%	0
Flexible working	8h	My manager supports flexible working in my team	95%	+6
Flexible working	8g	How satisfied are you with your ability to access and use flexible working arrangements?	94%	+4

Questions with the low	vest	favourable scores	2025 % favourable	difference from 2024
Communication and change management	7b	Change is managed well in my organisation	32%	-7
Other wellbeing	1q	I am struggling to maintain enthusiasm for my work (disagree)	35%	-10
Action on survey results	9a	My organisation has made improvements based on the survey results from last year	35%	-
Learning and development	3g	I am satisfied with the opportunities available for professional development in my organisation	37%	-14
Other wellbeing	1o	I feel burned out by my work (disagree)	37%	-3

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Key drivers of engagement

The key driver analysis identifies questions with the strongest influence on your employees' engagement.

Key drivers are split into strengths (high correlation, high score) and priorities (high correlation, low score). Look for ways to maintain your strengths and improve your priorities.

Topic	Eng	gagement key driver questions	Favourable	Neutral Unfa	vourable	2025 % favourable	Action
Ethics and values	7n	My organisation shows a commitment to ethical behaviours	62	26	12	62 %	Improve
Employee voice	6e	My senior executives listen to employees	47	30	23	47 %	Improve
Ethics and values	6b	My senior executives model the values of my organisation	55	24	21	55%	Improve
Risk and innovation	7a	My organisation is making improvements to meet future challenges	56	22	22	56%	Improve
Customer service	6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work	69	17	14	69%	Maintain
Communication and change management	6a	My senior executives provide clear direction for the future of the organisation	48	23	29	48%	Improve

Maintain (high correlation, high score) - Questions that have a high correlation with engagement and also have a high favourable score.

Improve (high correlation, low score) - Questions that have a high correlation with engagement but a low favourable score.

Monitor (low correlation, low score) - Questions that have a low correlation with engagement and a low favourable score.

Review (low correlation, high score) - Questions that have a low correlation with engagement but a high favourable score.

Manager

Managers are key in translating strategy into action, driving day-today performance, fostering engagement, and ensuring a safe, inclusive, and productive team environment.

This page shows all survey questions related to employees' managers, drawn from various thematic topics.

The term 'manager' refers to the person in the workgroup, team or project that the employee reports to.

Topic	Que	stions related to manager	Favourable Ne	utral Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Flexible working	8h	My manager supports flexible working in my team	9	5	95%	+6	+27
Employee voice	5c	My manager encourages and values employee input	78	11 11	78%	-2	+3
Risk and innovation	5a	My manager encourages people in my workgroup to keep improving the work they do	76	14 10	76%	+1	+1
Communication and change management	5b	My manager communicates effectively with me	73	13 15	73%	-2	-1
Recognition	5f	My manager provides recognition for the work I do	72	17 11	72%	-1	+1
Employee voice	5d	My manager involves my workgroup in decisions about our work	72	11 17	72%	-3	+2
Job purpose and enrichment	5h	My manager communicates how my role contributes to my organisation's purpose	71	15 15	71%	-2	+2
Inclusion and diversity	5i	My manager supports my career advancement	67	20 13	67%	-	+1

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Senior executives

Leadership is key in setting direction, executing strategy, shaping culture and capability, inspiring purpose, and delivering results.

The term 'senior executives' refers to the group of senior executives in your organisation, not an individual manager.

Topic	Ques	stions related to senior executives	Favourable Neu	tral l	Jnfavou	ırable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Customer service	6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work	69		17	14	69%	0	+7
Teamwork and collaboration	6c	My senior executives promote collaboration between my organisation and other organisations we work with	60	2	25	14	60%	+1	+10
Ethics and values	6b	My senior executives model the values of my organisation	55	24		21	55%	-2	+3
Communication and change management	6a	My senior executives provide clear direction for the future of the organisation	48	23	2	9	48%	-7	0
Employee voice	6e	My senior executives listen to employees	47	30		23	47%	-3	+4

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Results by topic

Discover more about your results

Employee engagement

Employee engagement is about a person's connection to their organisation. It is a global measure of employee experience.

Many factors influence engagement: leadership, a positive and inclusive work culture, wellbeing, manager support, accountability, and flexible work to name a few.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavo	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Employee engagement (total score)*					60	-4	-3
7i I am proud to tell others I work for my organisation	59		23	18	59%	-14	-8
7j I feel a strong personal attachment to my organisation	53		31	17	53%	-7	-6
7h I would recommend my organisation as a great place to work	50		29	21	50%	-9	-10
7k My organisation motivates me to help it achieve its goals	46		37	17	46%	-9	-6
7l My organisation inspires me to do the best in my job	46		37	17	46%	-6	-8

^{*}The 'Additional information about the survey' section explains how the engagement score is calculated

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Job satisfaction

Like employee engagement, job satisfaction is a global measure of employee experience. While employee engagement operates at the organisational level, job satisfaction operates at the job or role level.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavo	urable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Job satisfaction (total score)					64%	-6	-6
1g My job gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment	6	67	19	14	67%	-5	-6
1h I am satisfied with my job	62	2	20	18	62%	-8	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Wellbeing - overall

Wellbeing means feeling good, functioning well, and experiencing satisfaction and fulfilment in work and life.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Well	being (total score)				50%	-11	-7
1i	The amount of stress in my job is manageable	52	15	33	52%	-5	-2
7t	I am satisfied with current workplace practices to help me manage my wellbeing	51	21	28	51%	-10	-4
7w	There are effective resources in my organisation to support employee wellbeing	50	25	25	50%	-16	-12
1l	In general, my sense of wellbeing is	48	3	36 17	48%	-12	-10

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Other wellbeing questions

Wellbeing means feeling good, functioning well, and experiencing satisfaction and fulfilment in work and life.

1m I am able to adapt when changes occur	2025 % respondents	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Strongly disagree	0%	-2	-1
Disagree	2%	0	0
Neither agree nor disagree	8%	+2	-2
Agree	63%	-5	-3
Strongly agree	28%	+3	+6
1n What best describes your current workload?			
Well above capacity - too much work	36%	-	+15
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do	34%	-	-2
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do	23%	-	-11
Slightly below capacity - available for more work	6%	-	-1
Well below capacity - not enough work	1%	-	0
10 I feel burned out by my work			
Strongly disagree	16%	+6	+9
Disagree	21%	-8	-7
Neither agree nor disagree	22%	+1	-7
Agree	25%	+1	0
Strongly agree	15%	+1	+4

Other wellbeing questions

The World Health Organisation has defined burnout as a syndrome resulting from chronic workplace stress which has not been properly managed.

These questions relate to the three dimensions of burnout: exhaustion, cynicism and reduced professional efficacy.

1p I feel mentally exhausted by my work on most days	— ·	D25 Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Strongly disagree	1:	3% +4	+6
Disagree	2	5% -6	-3
Neither agree nor disagree	1:	9% -4	-5
Agree	2	9% +6	+1
Strongly agree	14	4% 0	+2
1q I am struggling to maintain enthusiasm for my work			
Strongly disagree	1	1% -1	+1
Disagree	2	4% -8	-10
Neither agree nor disagree	1:	9% 0	-4
Agree	3	1% +7	+9
Strongly agree	14	4% +2	+4
1r I feel I am not as effective in my role as I used to be			
Strongly disagree	1:	2% -3	-2
Disagree	3	8% 0	0
Neither agree nor disagree	1:	9% +4	-2
Agree	2	0% +1	+1
Strongly agree	1	1% -2	+2
% respondents who experienced all three dimensions of burnout	2	1% 0	+4

Customer service

Customer means the people who you or your organisation provide a service to.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavo	urable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Cust	omer service (total score)					63%	-4	-3
2c	My workgroup considers customer needs when planning our work		81		14	81%	+2	+2
6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work		69	17	14	69%	0	+7
7g	My organisation meets the needs of the communities, people, and/or businesses of NSW	6	1	20	18	61%	-11	-3
7f	The processes in my organisation are designed to support the best experience for customers	40	29	3	80	40%	-8	-16

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Role clarity and support

Purpose and direction

An employee has role clarity when they understand their goals, how to achieve these goals, and how the goals link to broader strategy.

Employees also need the right support to deliver what is expected in their role such as time to do their job well, tools and technology, and training.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfav	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Role clarity and support (total score)					62%	-5	-6
1a I understand what is expected of me to do well in my job	8	0		13 7	80%	-3	-4
1b I get the support I need to do my job well	63		18	19	63%	-3	-2
1c I have the tools and technology to do my job well	60		15	25	60%	-5	-8
1d I have the time to do my job well	45	15	4	0	45%	-8	-8

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Job purpose and enrichment

Purpose and direction

In addition to role clarity and support, employees are likely to feel more satisfied with their job when there is a clear sense of purpose and when it is enriched with characteristics such as skill variety, autonomy, and feedback.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Job p	urpose and enrichment (total score)				76 %	-2	+2
1f	I have a choice in deciding how I carry out day to day work tasks		80	10 10	80%	-3	+8
1e	My job gives me opportunities to use a variety of skills		76	11 13	76%	-1	-4
5h	My manager communicates how my role contributes to my organisation's purpose		71	15 15	71%	-2	+2

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Risk and innovation

Purpose and direction

Risk refers to the effect of uncertainty in achieving work goals and organisational objectives. Workplace risks can have negative or positive effects on your objectives.

Innovation means creating new and better products, processes services, and technologies to improve outcomes for the people of NSW.

A healthy risk appetite can help foster innovation.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Risk	and innovation (total score)				70 %	-2	0
1k	I know how to manage risks related to my role		78	14 8	78%	-3	-5
5a	My manager encourages people in my workgroup to keep improving the work they do		76	14 10	76%	+1	+1
7a	My organisation is making improvements to meet future challenges	56		22 22	56%	-3	+3

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Ethics and values

Purpose and direction

Ethics refer to the standards for morally right and wrong conduct. Ethical behaviours means behaving in ways that are ethical, lawful, build trust, and demonstrate the sector's core values.

Values are beliefs that guide and motivate attitudes and actions. An organisation's values are a set of guiding beliefs upon which the organisation is based. They help people function together as one and shape the way employees should operate and achieve outcomes.

	Favourable Neut	ral Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Ethics and values (total score)			82%	-2	+1
7r I understand what ethical behaviour means within my workplace	98	3	98%	+1	+4
7v I am aware of my obligations under the Code of Ethics and Conduct in my organisation	96	6	96%	+1	+1
7o I support my organisation's values	96	5	96%	0	+8
7s I would know how to report unethical behaviour if I became aware of it	88		88%	+1	-1
7n My organisation shows a commitment to ethical behaviours	62	26 12	62%	-13	-9
6b My senior executives model the values of my organisation	55	24 21	55%	-2	+3

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Teamwork and collaboration

Work environment

Delivering for the people of NSW requires agencies to work together and share knowledge internally and with other sectors.

Well executed collaboration enables agencies to share knowledge ideas, resources, skills, networks, and assets, leading to better outcomes for customers.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavour	able	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Tean	nwork and collaboration (total score)					59 %	-4	-2
2a	My workgroup works collaboratively to achieve its goals		76	11	13	76%	-1	+1
6c	My senior executives promote collaboration between my organisation and other organisations we work with	60		25	14	60%	+1	+10
7d	There is good co-operation between teams across my organisation	41	27	32	-	41%	-11	-15

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Inclusion and diversity

Work environment

An inclusive workplace is one where all employees can participate and contribute. It is one where everyone feels valued, accepted, and supported to thrive at work.

	Favourable Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Inclusion and diversity (total score)			70 %	-	0
2b People in my workgroup treat each other with respect	78	9 13	78%	-2	+1
8c I feel culturally safe at work	71	15 14	71%	-7	-5
8d If I chose to, I would feel safe sharing personal aspects about myself at work	70	16 14	70%	-3	+2
5i My manager supports my career advancement	67	20 13	67%	-	+1
8b I feel that I belong in my organisation	66	18 17	66%	-5	-1

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Flexible working

Work environment

Flexible working is about rethinking where, when, and how people work, in ways that maintain or improve service delivery for the people of NSW.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Flexi	ble working (total score)				94%	+5	+30
8h	My manager supports flexible working in my team		95		95%	+6	+27
8g	How satisfied are you with your ability to access and use flexible working arrangements?		94		94%	+4	+33

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Use of flexible working

Work environment

Flexible working is about rethinking where, when, and how people work, in ways that maintain or improve service delivery for the people of NSW.

8f Type of flexible working	2025 % responde	2024	Difference from Sector
Working from home	98%	+3	+56
Flexible start and finish times	90%	+1	+46
Working additional hours to make up for time off	36%	+6	+19
Working more hours over fewer days	20%	+6	+10
Working from different locations	18%	+1	-2
Part-time work	11%	+2	-3
Leave without pay	r	-	-
Flexible scheduling for rostered workers	r	-	-
Other	r	-	-
Job sharing	r	-	-
Purchasing annual leave	r	-	-
Study leave	r	-	_
I did not use any flexible working arrangements	r	-	_

Grievance handling

Work environment

A grievance is any type of problem, concern, dispute, or complaint related to work or the work environment which cannot be resolved through usual communication.



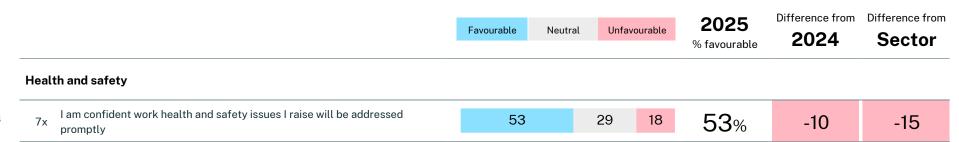
Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Health and safety

Work environment

Work health and safety (WHS) involves the management of risks to the health and safety of everyone in your workplace. Health refers to both physical and psychological health.



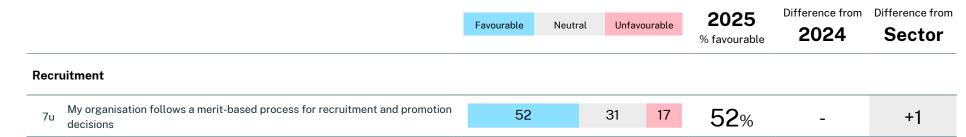
Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Recruitment

Enabling practices

Recruitment refers to the process of attracting, screening, and onboarding people.



Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Learning and development

Enabling practices

Access to learning and development programs helps employees achieve their performance and career goals. Learning and development also help agencies to grow the right employee capabilities to deliver business outcomes.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfav	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Learr	ning and development (total score)					52 %	-11	-8
3f	I have received the training and development I need to do my job well	62		19	19	62%	-4	-1
1j	I have the opportunity to develop the skills that I need to do my job well	58		23	19	58%	-14	-8
3g	I am satisfied with the opportunities available for professional development in my organisation	37	27	3	37	37%	-14	-14

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Mobility

Enabling practices

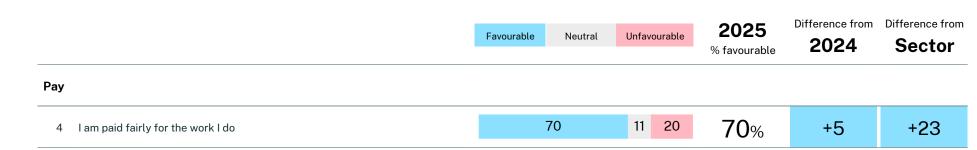
Having a mobile workforce makes it easier to redeploy resources to match priorities and respond to emerging issues.

Mobility is regarded as one of the best ways to develop leadership capability, provide enriching careers, and build and retain 'know how' in an organisation and the NSW public sector more broadly.

3h Are there barriers preventing you from moving to another role? If so, what are they?	2025 % respondents	Difference from 2024	Sector
Lack of promotion opportunities	42%	+12	+10
Lack of visible opportunities	32%	+10	+1
Personal / family considerations	30%	0	+2
The application / recruitment process is too cumbersome or time consuming	27%	-3	+6
Lack of support for temporary assignments / secondments	24%	+12	+9
There are no major barriers to my career progression	24%	-4	-4
Insufficient training and development	17%	+7	+2
Geographic location considerations	15%	-8	-7
Lack of support from my manager / supervisor	12%	+6	0
Lack of required capabilities or experience	r	-	-
Other	r	-	-

People Matter Employee Survey HAVE YOUR SAY

Pay Enabling practices



Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Recognition

Enabling practices

Recognition involves recognising employees' contributions and achievements in the workplace through formal and informal channels.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Recognition (total score)				62 %	-4	+1
5f My manager provides recognition for the work I do		72	17 11	72 %	-1	+1
7m I receive adequate recognition for my contributions from my organisation	52		25 24	52%	-7	+1

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Feedback and performance management

Enabling practices

Underpinning a high performance culture is an effective system for managing individual, team, and organisational performance.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavo	urable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Feed	back and performance management (total score)					60 %	-	+1
3d	In the last 12 months, I have received feedback to help me improve my work		73	11	16	73%	+6	+9
5g	I am confident my manager would appropriately deal with employees who perform poorly	58		19	23	58%	-	-3
3e	My performance is assessed against clear criteria	50	2	27	22	50%	-2	-4

Performance management process	2025 % respondents	Difference from 2024	Sector
3a I have a performance and development plan that sets out my individual goals	80%	+7	+4
3b I have informal feedback conversations with my manager	85%	+2	+6
3c I have scheduled feedback conversations with my manager	75 %	+1	+8

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Decision making and accountability

Leadership

Decision making is the process of making choices by identifying a decision, gathering information, and assessing alternative resolutions.

Accountability is one of the four core NSW public sector values. It is about taking responsibility for decisions and actions. Accountability can add meaning to work and foster engagement.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Decision making and accountability (total score)				61%	-4	+1
5e I have confidence in the decisions my manager makes		75	13 12	75%	+1	+5
7e People in my organisation take responsibility for their own actions	47	2	9 24	47%	-10	-2

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Communication and change management

Leadership

Effective communication is proactive and timely and focuses on the most important points. What do employees need to know and how does it affect them?

	Favourable N	eutral Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Communication and change management (total score)			53%	-5	-1
5b My manager communicates effectively with me	73	13 15	73%	-2	-1
7q I have the opportunity to provide feedback on change processes that directly affect me	^y 59	20 21	59%	-4	+3
7p I am supported through changes that affect my work	54	24 22	54%	-2	-1
6a My senior executives provide clear direction for the future of the organisation	on 48	23 29	48%	-7	0
7b Change is managed well in my organisation	32	30 37	32%	-7	-4

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Employee voice

Leadership

Ensuring employees feel like they can share a different view to others and be heard shifts the employee-employer relationship from a transactional one to an effective, dynamic one.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavo	urable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Employee voice (total score)					65 %	-4	+2
5c My manager encourages and values employee input	7	8	1	1 11	78%	-2	+3
5d My manager involves my workgroup in decisions about our work	72)	11	17	72 %	-3	+2
8a I am comfortable sharing a different view to others in my organisation	65		19	17	65%	-8	-1
6e My senior executives listen to employees	47	30	0	23	47%	-3	+4

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Negative workplace behaviours

In NSW public sector, we are committed to reducing and preventing negative workplace behaviours such as misconduct, bullying, sexual harassment, threats or physical harm, discrimination, and racism.

In the last 12 months, have you	2025 % respondents	Difference from 2024	Sector
been aware of any misconduct in your organisation	27%	+19	+14
witnessed bullying	26%	+8	+7
experienced bullying	16%	+4	+4
witnessed sexual harassment	2%	r	0
experienced sexual harassment	r	-	
experienced threats or physical harm	0%	r	-3
witnessed discrimination	6%	-3	-2
experienced discrimination	6%	-2	0
witnessed racism	4%	r	-2
experienced racism	2%	r	-1

Definitions

- Misconduct: behaviour that is unethical, illegal, corrupt, or that breaches your organisation's code of conduct
- Bullying: repeated unreasonable behaviour directed towards a worker or group of workers
- Sexual harassment: unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature that would offend, humiliate or intimidate someone
- Discrimination: when a person, or a group of people, is treated less favourably than another person or group because of their background or certain personal characteristics
- Racism: prejudice, discrimination or hatred directed at someone because of their colour, ethnicity or national origin

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

People Matter Employee Survey HAVE YOUR SAY

Action on survey results

Leadership

To improve employee experience, leaders at all levels should take on board employee feedback and act on the survey results.

Employees can become disengaged if they are asked their opinion and then no action takes place as a result.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from Sector
Actio	on on survey results (total score)				36%	-	+2
9b	I am confident my organisation will act on the results of this survey	37	35	28	37%	-22	-1
9a	My organisation has made improvements based on the survey results from last year	35	34	30	35%	-	+5

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

Intention to stay

Intention to stay refers to an employee's desire and willingness to remain with their current organisation. Intention to stay can be influenced by many aspects of employee experience, including engagement.

Intention to stay is a leading indicator for turnover. However, intention doesn't always translate into action.

21k How long do you think you will continue to work in your current organisation?	2025 % respondents	Difference from 2024	Sector
Less than 1 year	r	-	-
1 year to less than 2 years	19%	+3	+11
2 years to less than 5 years	27%	+3	+7
5 years to less than 10 years	23%	-1	-2
10 years to less than 20 years	14%	-1	-10
More than 20 years	r	-	_
21l What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current organisation?			
I am planning to retire	r	-	_
I am applying for/intend to apply for new roles in another NSW public sector organisation	64%	+17	+34
I am applying for/intend to apply for roles in the private sector	r	-	-
I am applying for/intend to apply for new roles in the not for profit / community sector	r	-	-
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	r	-	-
Other	r	-	-

Intention to stay

Intention to stay refers to an employee's desire and willingness to remain with their current organisation. Intention to stay can be influenced by many aspects of employee experience, including engagement.

Intention to stay is a leading indicator for turnover. However, intention doesn't always translate into action.

21m What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current organisation	on? (top 5 reasons)	2025 % respondents	Difference from 2024	Sector
I am emotionally exhausted		35%	-	+17

People Matter Employee Survey

Results by child unit and demographic group

Discover if employees in different groups have different views

People Matter Employee Survey

Respondent profile

This section provides a snapshot of survey respondents. Use it to assess whether the respondent group reflects your broader organisation or team.

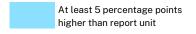
Gender	% respondents
Woman or female	64
Man or male	r
Non-binary	r
Use a different term	r
Prefer not to answer	18
Age	
15-34 years	15
35-54 years	52
55+ years	8
Prefer not to answer	24
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	
Yes	r
No	82
Prefer not to answer	r
LOTE spoken at home	
Yes	14
No	70
Prefer not to answer	16
Cultural minority	
Yes	14
No	64
Prefer not to answer	22
Disability	
Yes	10
No	80
Prefer not to answer	9

LGBQA+	% respondents	Frontline / Non-frontline	% respondents
Yes	7	Frontline	27
No	69	Non-frontline	73
l don't know	r		
Prefer not to answer	24	Type of work	
Trans or gender diverse		Service delivery involving direct contact with the public	27
Yes	r	Other service delivery work	9
No	83	Administrative support	7
I don't know	r	Corporate services	r
Prefer not to answer	r	Policy	r
		Research	r
Person with an intersex variation		Program and project management	10
Yes	r	support	
No	85	Legal	8
Prefer not to answer	r	Other	32
Working arrangement		Salary	
Full-time	88	\$97,026 and below	r
Part-time	12	\$97,027 - \$125,692	32
		\$125,693 - \$168,129	33
Caring responsibilities		\$168,130 and above	r
Yes	53	Prefer not to answer	18
No	36		
Prefer not to answer	11	Employment status	
		Senior executive	r
Organisation tenure		Ongoing / permanent	91
Less than 1 year	r	Temporary	r
1 year to less than 2 years	11	Casual	r
2 years to less than 5 years	33	Contract-non-executive	r
5 years to less than 10 years	24	Labour hire	r
10 years to less than 20 years	22	Other	r
More than 20 years	r	Don't know	r

Selected key topic results by child unit

This shows some key topic scores for the organisational units that sit one level below the report unit. These units are called child units.

	Report total	Child Safe Organisations	Executive & Corporate Services	General Counsel	NDIS Worker Check	OOHC Systems & Regulation	Reportable Conduct	Working with Children Check
Employee engagement	60	58	73	54	69	65	47	57
Wellbeing	50%	39%	51%	40%	87%	63%	29%	42%
Role clarity and support	62%	52%	66%	52%	90%	73%	49%	54%
Inclusion and diversity	70%	64%	71%	63%	84%	78%	67%	66%
Teamwork and collaboration	59%	45%	68%	52%	80%	71%	59%	50%
Learning and development	52%	42%	62%	57%	80%	59%	29%	46%
Communication and change management	53%	26%	58%	48%	82%	65%	45%	52%
Employee voice	65%	54%	83%	68%	81%	77%	62%	53%



Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

Selected key topic results by select demographics

	Report total	Woman or female	Man or male	Non-binary	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	People with disability	People who identify as LGBTIQA+	People who speak a language other than English	15-34 years	35-54 years	55+ years	Caring responsibilities*	Cultural minority
Employee engagement	60	61	r	r	r	53	65	59	58	63	67	60	59
Wellbeing	50%	52%	r	r	r	39%	r	57%	56%	55%	59%	48%	64%
Role clarity and support	62%	65%	r	r	r	53%	63%	65%	61%	66%	73%	59%	68%
Inclusion and diversity	70%	73%	r	r	r	58%	80%	72%	70%	74%	72%	68%	67%
Teamwork and collaboration	59%	61%	r	r	r	48%	80%	52%	58%	62%	69%	57%	56%
Learning and development	52%	56%	r	r	r	42%	57%	57%	59%	54%	54%	47%	51%
Communication and change management	53%	56%	r	r	r	38%	56%	54%	50%	57%	69%	49%	50%
Employee voice	65%	68%	r	r	r	55%	78%	61%	62%	69%	69%	61%	58%

At least 5 percentage points higher than report unit

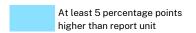
Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

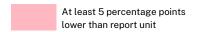
^{*} See interpretation guide for the definition of who is included in this group

Selected key topic results by type of work

	Report total	Frontline	Non-frontline	Service delivery involving direct contact with the public	Other service delivery work	Administrative support	Corporate services	Policy	Research	Program and project management support	Legal (including developing and/or reviewing legislation)	Other
Employee engagement	60	61	60	61	48	67	r	r	r	61	60	60
Wellbeing	50%	55%	50%	55%	48%	58%	r	r	r	43%	52%	51%
Role clarity and support	62%	65%	62%	65%	67%	68%	r	r	r	63%	62%	60%
Inclusion and diversity	70%	72%	70%	72%	63%	r	r	r	r	73%	68%	71%
Teamwork and collaboration	59%	58%	61%	58%	39%	63%	r	r	r	62%	56%	66%
Learning and development	52%	50%	54%	50%	54%	r	r	r	r	45%	63%	52%
Communication and change management	53%	55%	54%	55%	48%	64%	r	r	r	39%	57%	58%
Employee voice	65%	64%	66%	64%	48%	65%	r	r	r	64%	73%	68%

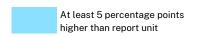


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit



Selected key topic results by organisation tenure

	Report total	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to less than 5 years	5 years to less than 10 years	10 years to less than 20 years	More than 20 years
Employee engagement	60	r	63	57	57	58	r
Wellbeing	50%	r	50%	53%	52%	35%	r
Role clarity and support	62%	r	69%	61%	64%	56%	r
Inclusion and diversity	70%	r	73%	69%	67%	70%	r
Teamwork and collaboration	59%	r	65%	57%	54%	54%	r
Learning and development	52%	r	60%	55%	48%	42%	r
Communication and change management	53%	r	64%	50%	50%	50%	r
Employee voice	65%	r	75%	66%	61%	56%	r

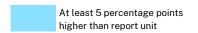


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

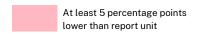
At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

Selected key topic results by geographic region (continued)

	Report total	Metro	Regional	Sydney East	Sydney West	Capital Region	Central Coast	Central West	Coffs Harbour - Grafton	Far West and Orana	Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle
Employee engagement	60	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Wellbeing	50%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Role clarity and support	62%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Inclusion and diversity	70%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Teamwork and collaboration	59%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Learning and development	52%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Communication and change management	53%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Employee voice	65%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r

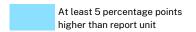


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

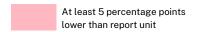


Selected key topic results by geographic region

	Report total	Illawarra	Mid North Coast	Murray	New England and North West	Newcastle and Lake Macquarie	Richmond - Tweed	Riverina	Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven	Outside of NSW
Employee engagement	60	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Wellbeing	50%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Role clarity and support	62%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Inclusion and diversity	70%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Teamwork and collaboration	59%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Learning and development	52%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Communication and change management	53%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
Employee voice	65%	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r



Within 5 percentage points of the report unit



People Matter Employee Survey

Additional information about the survey

Discover more about how the survey works and how to act on results



Survey model

The People Matter Employee Survey provides an important opportunity for more than 400,000 people to have a say about their workplace and to help make the public sector a better place to work.

The survey asks employees about their experiences with their work, workgroup, managers, and organisation. Their experiences are grouped into management practices and reported under 4 domains:

- Purpose and direction
- Work environment
- Enabling practices
- Leadership

All of these practices positively contribute towards employee and organisational outcomes, including employee engagement, job satisfaction, wellbeing, and customer service.

Purpose and direction	Work environment	Enabling practices	Leadership	Outcomes
Role clarity and support	Teamwork and collaboration	Recruitment	Decision making and accountability	Employee engagement
Job purpose and enrichment	Inclusion and diversity	Learning and development	Communication and change management	Job satisfaction
Risk and innovation	Flexible working	Pay	Employee voice	Wellbeing
Ethics and values	Grievance handling	Recognition	Action on survey results	Customer service
	Health and safety	Feedback and performance management		

Interpretation guide

Privacy

Responses from individual employees are confidential. Strict rules protect privacy at every stage of the survey process. These reports only show the results for a group of employees (i.e. a workgroup or demographic group) when there are 10 or more responses for the group.

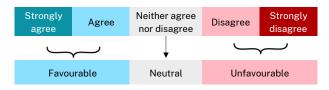
Headline Results - Key topics

Due to changes in the survey questions some topics do not have a comparison to the previous year. Where a comparison is available, the change is displayed in the box.

To improve clarity, survey questions that previously sat under multiple topics have now been assigned to a single, most relevant thematic topic. As a result, previous years' topic scores have been recalculated and may differ slightly from past reports.

% favourable calculation

Most scores are shown as % favourable, which is the sum of the 'strongly agree' and 'agree' percentages.



% favourable scores are colour coded based on these ranges:



Rounding

Results are presented as whole numbers for ease of reading. Values are rounded down if their first decimal number is less than 5. Values are rounded up if their first decimal number is equal to or greater than 5. Due to rounding, results will not always add up to 100%. Difference scores may appear to be slightly different to values derived from subtracting rounded numbers, usually within 1%.

Methodology - Burnout questions (disagree)

Burnout (disagree) questions are reported using a 5-point Likert scale from 'strongly disagree' to 'strongly agree'. For negatively framed questions, lower scores ('strongly disagree' and 'disagree') indicate more favourable responses (less burnout), while higher scores ('agree' and 'strongly agree') indicate less favourable scores (more burnout). To interpret the results, the further responses are towards 'strongly disagree', the less burnout is reported; the further towards 'strongly agree', the more burnout is reported.

Employee engagement score calculation

Each person who answered all five employee engagement questions gets an employee engagement score. Each answer is assigned a score as follows:

100 to 'strongly agree'

75 to 'agree'

50 to 'neither agree nor disagree'

25 to 'disagree'

0 to 'strongly disagree'

The employee's engagement score is calculated as the average of the 5 question scores. Employees' scores are then averaged to calculate a team or organisation engagement score.

Difference scores

Difference scores are displayed as a percentage point where available. Differences are colour coded based on these ranges:



A '-' represents there is no applicable comparison available.

Sector: The NSW public sector as a whole, including all NSW Government employees who participated in the survey.

Interpretation guide

Key driver analysis

Key drivers are split into strengths (high correlation, high score) and priorities (high correlation, low score). We recommend looking for ways to maintain your strengths and improve your priority areas.

Experience tells us that a successful response to survey results requires focus on key priorities. The key driver analysis, which uses statistical techniques including Pearson's correlation analysis, identifies individual questions with the strongest influence on your employee engagement score.

Metro and Regional

The survey collects suburb and postcode data which is mapped to the Statistical Areas 4 (SA4) geographical from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) geographical framework. They are the largest sub-state regions in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard.

Metro includes all Sydney SA4s and is divided into Sydney East and Sydney West.

Sydney East includes Sydney - City and Inner South, Sydney - Eastern Suburbs, Sydney - Inner South West, Sydney - Inner West, Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby, Sydney - Northern Beaches, Sydney - Ryde and Sydney - Sutherland SA4s.

Sydney West includes Sydney – Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury, Sydney – Blacktown, Sydney – Outer South West, Sydney – Outer West and Blue Mountains, Sydney – Parramatta and Sydney – South West SA4s.

Regional includes Capital Region; Central Coast; Central West; Coffs Harbour–Grafton, Far West and Orana; Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle; Illawarra; Mid North Coast; Murray; New England and North West; Newcastle and Lake Macquarie; Richmond – Tweed; Riverina; and Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven SA4s.

Frontline and Non-frontline

Frontline roles are those where employees spend at least 70% of their time delivering services directly to members of the public. In the PMES, frontline and non-frontline status is determined by responses to the question: "Which of the following best describes the work you do?"

Frontline is defined as 'Service delivery involving direct contact with the public (e.g., teaching, nursing, policing, shopfront / counter service, train driver, customer service)'.

Non-frontline includes all other types of work:

- Other service delivery work (work that does not involve contact with the public, but it is critical to the delivery of a service, e.g., maintenance, technical support catering, cleaning, laundry)
- Administrative support (e.g., executive / personal assistant, receptionist)
- Corporate services (e.g., HR, finance, IT, ministerial or parliamentary processes)
- Policy
- Research
- Program and project management support
- Legal (including developing and/or reviewing legislation) or
- Other

Caring responsibilities

These are employees who selected at least one of the below options from the question; 'Do you have caring responsibilities outside of work?'

- Yes, for a child
- Yes, for a child who needs support due to disability, chronic illness, mental illness or other circumstances
- Yes, for an adult who needs support due to disability, chronic illness, mental illness, dementia, frail age or other circumstances



Action planning

We are all responsible for building a world class public service. Improving employee experience is one way to work towards this goal.

Survey communication and action planning: Leaders are encouraged to share and discuss survey results with employees, and start thinking about actions using the template below. In addition to PMES results, you should consider work context and internal business data (e.g. turnover data). You should implement and monitor your plan, either on its own or as part of a broader organisational improvement strategy.

CELEBRATE	INVESTIGATE FURTHE WITH OUR TEAMS	OPPORTUNITIES
The things we do well:	Are there any other opportunities coming out or results that we want to explore further?	of the 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 damore detail or through discussions with staff?	ta in in What are the key things we need to improve to make working here better?

PRIORITISE 3 AREAS FOR ACTION	TIMESCALES	OWNER	RESOURCES REQUIRED	TARGET / SUCCESS MEASURE
01.				
02.				
03.				