# Western Australian public sector quarterly workforce report – June 2023

## About this information

This page presents a snapshot of the public sector workforce based on the most recent data available. More detailed workforce information (including information on other government entities) is available in the [State of the WA Government Sector Workforce 2021-22](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/state-of-the-wa-government-sector-workforce-2021-22).

Please see the Commission’s [About our workforce data](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/about-our-workforce-data) page for additional contextual information.

## Overview of the public sector as at June 2023

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Headcount | | 164,657 |
| Full-time equivalent (FTE) | | 128,745 |
| General government salaries expenses  (June quarter) | | $3,983 M |
| Public sector median age | | 44 |
| Top 3 occupation groups (FTE) | Teachers | 18.3% |
| Clerical workers | 16.7% |
| Nurses and midwives | 11.2% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Diversity groups | June 2023 | | Aspirational target |
| Women in the SES | Representation | 49.8% | 50.0% |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people | Representation | 2.8%[[1]](#footnote-1) | 3.7% |
| Headcount | 3,450 |  |
| People with disability | Representation | 1.6% | 5.0% |
| Headcount | 1,957 |  |
| Culturally and linguistically diverse people | Representation | 16.7% | 15.5% |
| Headcount | 19,546 |  |
| Youth  (aged 24 and under) | Representation | 5.2% | 5.8% |
| Headcount | 8,612 |  |
| Mature  (aged 45 and over) | Representation | 49.8% | n.a. |
| Headcount | 82,064 |  |

## Sector profile

### Employment trends

In June 2023 the WA public sector employed 164,657 people, equating to 128,745 full time equivalent (FTE) employees.

In headcount terms, this reflected a quarterly increase of 516 (+0.3%) since March 2023, and an annual increase of 4,376 (+2.7%) since June 2022.

In FTE terms, this reflected a quarterly decrease of 39 (<0.1%) since March 2023, and an annual increase of 3,122 (+2.5%) since June 2022.

There were minimal changes to the size of the public sector workforce between March and June 2023:

* WA Health was down 315 FTE overall, however the change in FTE varied at each health agency
* all five TAFEs reported an increase in FTE, up 184 FTE combined
* Animal Resources Centre wound down and officially transitioned to a private entity.

### Salaries expenditure

Salaries represent the single largest component of general government sector expenses (40.9% in 2022-23, or 45.4% if concurrent superannuation costs are also included).

At $15,727 million, general government salaries spending increased by $1,448 million or 10.1% in 2022-23.

Source: Department of Treasury

## Historical headcount, FTE and salaries expenditure

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Quarter | Headcount | FTE | Quarterly salaries  expenditure ($M) |
| June 2018 | 139,812 | 110,373 | 3,135 |
| September 2018 | 141,744 | 111,255 | 3,023 |
| December 2018 | 138,678 | 108,601 | 3,091 |
| March 2019 | 142,278 | 112,099 | 2,982 |
| June 2019 | 142,735 | 111,932 | 3,172 |
| September 2019 | 143,775 | 113,367 | 3,140 |
| December 2019 | 143,586 | 113,143 | 3,212 |
| March 2020 | 146,343 | 115,548 | 3,147 |
| June 2020 | 146,562 | 116,878 | 3,366 |
| September 2020 | 148,408 | 117,773 | 3,319 |
| December 2020 | 148,532 | 117,664 | 3,350 |
| March 2021 | 151,753 | 120,357 | 3,298 |
| June 2021 | 153,396 | 121,298 | 3,502 |
| September 2021 | 155,931 | 123,034 | 3,512 |
| December 2021 | 155,963 | 122,361 | 3,574 |
| March 2022 | 159,839 | 125,623 | 3,476 |
| June 2022 | 160,281 | 125,623 | 3,717 |
| September 2022 | 161,530 | 126,421 | 3,721 |
| December 2022 | 160,923 | 126,136 | 3,942 |
| March 2023 | 164,141 | 128,784 | 4,081 |
| June 2023 | 164,657 | 128,745 | 3,983 |

## WA public sector agencies’ staffing levels

| Agency | Jun-23  Headcount | Jun-23  FTE | FTE change from  Mar-23 | FTE change from  Jun-22 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WA public sector** | **164,657** | **128,745** | **-39** | **3,122** |
| Department of Education | 59,760 | 44,254 | -14 | 666 |
| WA Health | 58,732 | 44,017 | -315 | 623 |
| WA Health (North Metropolitan Health Service) | 12,704 | 9,426 | -23 | 241 |
| WA Health (South Metropolitan Health Service) | 12,173 | 8,970 | -29 | 295 |
| WA Health (WA Country Health Service) | 11,093 | 8,344 | -387 | -74 |
| WA Health (East Metropolitan Health Service) | 9,939 | 7,598 | -95 | 2 |
| WA Health (Child and Adolescent Health Service) | 6,389 | 4,570 | 64 | 33 |
| WA Health (Health Support Services) | 2,708 | 2,040 | 135 | 196 |
| WA Health (PathWest) | 2,415 | 1,941 | 39 | -68 |
| WA Health (Department of Health) | 1,311 | 1,128 | -19 | -2 |
| Department of Justice | 7,198 | 6,623 | -60 | -92 |
| Department of Communities | 6,344 | 5,570 | 68 | 370 |
| Western Australia Police | 2,886 | 2,098 | 1 | -12 |
| Public Transport Authority | 2,511 | 2,338 | 16 | 179 |
| Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions | 2,441 | 2,072 | -16 | 55 |
| Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development | 1,998 | 1,805 | 31 | 49 |
| Department of Fire and Emergency Services | 1,847 | 1,702 | 1 | 3 |
| Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety | 1,804 | 1,676 | 17 | 61 |
| Department of Transport | 1,671 | 1,494 | 17 | 32 |
| North Metropolitan TAFE | 1,620 | 1,310 | 55 | 99 |
| South Metropolitan TAFE | 1,475 | 1,264 | 41 | 86 |
| Main Roads Western Australia | 1,426 | 1,348 | 28 | 197 |
| Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries | 1,208 | 1,042 | -18 | 70 |
| Department of Finance | 1,159 | 1,063 | 5 | 55 |
| Department of Water and Environmental Regulation | 1,056 | 944 | 8 | 57 |
| Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage | 1,047 | 935 | 27 | 111 |
| Department of the Premier and Cabinet | 708 | 638 | -11 | 54 |
| South Regional TAFE | 648 | 489 | 53 | 74 |
| VenuesWest | 555 | 259 | -19 | 10 |
| Department of Training and Workforce Development | 512 | 463 | -5 | 25 |
| Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation | 496 | 452 | 9 | 95 |
| Landgate | 488 | 437 | 4 | 5 |
| Insurance Commission of Western Australia | 481 | 435 | 4 | 42 |
| Central Regional TAFE | 471 | 387 | 33 | 45 |
| Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia | 463 | 409 | 17 | 57 |
| Mental Health Commission | 461 | 385 | 3 | 23 |
| Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions | 351 | 313 | -1 | 30 |
| North Regional TAFE | 311 | 287 | 2 | -11 |
| Department of Treasury | 308 | 270 | -10 | 25 |
| Lotterywest | 297 | 279 | 9 | 14 |
| Office of the Auditor General | 239 | 209 | -1 | 18 |
| Public Sector Commission | 187 | 142 | 4 | 20 |
| Forest Products Commission | 185 | 172 | 22 | 5 |
| ChemCentre | 158 | 140 | -4 | -2 |
| Metropolitan Cemeteries Board | 154 | 139 | 0 | -2 |
| WorkCover Western Australia | 143 | 128 | -2 | 1 |
| Corruption and Crime Commission | 138 | 128 | -4 | 6 |
| Ombudsman Western Australia | 86 | 73 | 4 | 12 |
| Economic Regulation Authority | 72 | 63 | 4 | 0 |
| GESB | 71 | 67 | 2 | 6 |
| Small Business Development Corporation | 70 | 59 | 1 | -4 |
| Western Australian Electoral Commission | 50 | 46 | 0 | 2 |
| Department of the Registrar, Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission | 48 | 43 | 1 | 10 |
| Legal Practice Board | 46 | 43 | 1 | 1 |
| Western Australian Meat Industry Authority | 37 | 19 | 0 | -3 |
| Construction Training Fund | 36 | 34 | 3 | 3 |
| National Trust of Australia (W.A.) | 31 | 25 | 1 | 2 |
| MyLeave | 28 | 27 | 0 | 5 |
| Health and Disability Services Complaints Office | 25 | 22 | 1 | 3 |
| Infrastructure WA | 20 | 18 | -2 | 1 |
| Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority | 17 | 16 | 1 | 2 |
| Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services | 16 | 14 | -1 | -1 |
| Commissioner for Children and Young People | 14 | 11 | -3 | -4 |
| Office of the Information Commissioner | 14 | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| Burswood Park Board | 11 | 10 | 0 | 3 |
| Keep Australia Beautiful WA | 9 | 8 | 0 | 1 |
| Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA) | 8 | 8 | 0 | 2 |
| Veterinary Practice Board | 6 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Salaries and Allowances Tribunal | 3 | 3 | 0 | -1 |
| Architects Board of Western Australia | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Animal Resources Centre[[2]](#footnote-2) | 0 | 0 | -48 | -62 |

## Data quality statement

Information is based on an aggregate of agency supplied data, collected quarterly through the Human Resource Minimum Obligatory Information Requirements (HR MOIR). Data is supplied by agencies according to the guidelines set out in *HR MOIR Data Definitions 1.5.1*.

The information provided reflects the Commission’s holdings at the date of release. Workforce data is occasionally revised for quality, and corrections applied may result in figures being adjusted over time. This information relates only to public sector (Department, SES and non-SES agencies), and excludes sworn officers of the WA Police Force, public universities, local governments, government trading enterprises and other authorities.

All data is accurate as reported to us by contributing agencies.

As some figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Salaries expenditure data and information is provided by the Department of Treasury.

## Contact

All enquiries about the Public Sector Commission’s data should be directed to [stateadministrator@psc.wa.gov.au](mailto:stateadministrator@psc.wa.gov.au).

1. Representation reported as 2.8% (due to rounding of the 2 decimal figure of 2.75%). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Animal Resources Centre has wound down and officially transitioned to a private entity as at 30 June 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)