# Western Australian Public Sector Quarterly Workforce Report – December 2021

## 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 2020-21](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/state-of-the-wa-government-sector-workforce-2020-21).

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 December 2021

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Headcount | 155,963 |
| Full-time equivalent (FTE) | 122,361 |
| General government salaries expenses (December quarter) | $3,574 M |
| Public sector median age | 45 |
| Top 3 occupation groups (FTE) | Teachers | 18.8% |
| Clerical workers | 16.9% |
| Nurses and midwives | 11.0% |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Diversity groups | December 2021 | Aspirational target |
| Women in the SES | Representation | 44.5% | 50.0% |
| Headcount | 165 |  |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people | Representation | 2.7% | 3.7% |
| Headcount | 3281 |  |
| People with disability | Representation | 1.5% | 5.0% |
| Headcount | 1,836 |  |
| Culturally and linguistically diverse people | Representation | 15.3% | 15.5% |
| Headcount | 17,121 |  |
| Youth (aged 24 and under) | Representation | 4.7% | 5.8% |
| Headcount | 7,357 |  |
| Mature (aged 45 and over) | Representation | 51.4% | n.a. |
| Headcount | 80,179 |  |

## Sector profile

### Employment trends

In December 2021 the WA public sector employed 155,963 people, equating to 122,361 full‑time equivalent (FTE) employees.

In headcount terms, this reflected a quarterly increase of 32 (+0.0%) since September 2021, and an annual increase of 7,431 (+5.0%) since December 2020.

In FTE terms, this reflects a quarterly decrease of 673 (-0.5%) since September 2021 and an annual increase of 4,697 (+4.0%) since December 2020.

The Department of Education decreased by 432 headcount (-0.7%) and 926 FTE (-2.1%), in line with the end of year holiday period.

The WA Health portfolio saw total headcount and FTE stable between quarters, after several quarters of sustained increase. Where growth occurred for Health Service Providers this quarter, this related largely to COVID-19 vaccination response, including expanded capacity, vaccination, analysis and recruitment to allow existing staff to clear leave liability.

### Salaries expenditure

General government salaries totalled $7,086 million in the first six months of 2021-22 (an increase of $417m or 6.3% compared to the same period in the prior year). Salaries represent the single largest component of general government sector expenses (41.5% for December 2021, or 45.8% if concurrent superannuation costs are also included). For more information on salaries expenditure, please refer to Department of Treasury’s [Quarterly Financial Results Report](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/quarterly-financial-results-report)**.**



 [ALT text - Salaries growth for the December quarter of 2021-22 was 6.3%, compared to a ten-year average of 4.4%.]

Source: Department of Treasury

## Historical headcount, FTE and salaries expenditure

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Quarter | Headcount | FTE | Quarterly salaries expenditure ($M) |
| September 2015 | 139,277 | 109,919 | 2,837 |
| December 2015 | 137,520 | 108,325 | 2,888 |
| March 2016 | 137,371 | 108,722 | 2,801 |
| June 2016 | 135,770 | 107,809 | 2,857 |
| September 2016 | 137,746 | 109,295 | 2,887 |
| December 2016 | 135,936 | 106,830 | 2,931 |
| March 2017 | 139,144 | 109,895 | 2,880 |
| June 2017 | 140,403 | 110,662 | 2,912 |
| September 2017 | 141,609 | 111,472 | 2,980 |
| December 2017 | 137,878 | 108,371 | 3,029 |
| March 2018 | 140,799 | 110,404 | 3,049 |
| 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 |

## WA public sector agencies’ staffing levels

| Agency | Dec-21Headcount | Dec-21FTE | FTE change from Sep-21 | FTE change from Dec-20 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WA public sector** |  **155,963**  |  **122,361**  | **-673**  | **4,697**  |
| Department of Education | 57,283 | 42,693 | -926 | 1,478 |
| WA Health | 54,707 | 41,135 | -13 | 2,833 |
| WA Health (North Metropolitan Health Service) | 11,836 | 8,842 | -96 | 175 |
| WA Health (South Metropolitan Health Service) | 10,818 | 8,142 | -34 | 972 |
| WA Health (WA Country Health Service) | 10,759 | 8,151 | -173 | 339 |
| WA Health (East Metropolitan Health Service) | 9,178 | 7,042 | 125 | 460 |
| WA Health (Child and Adolescent Health Service) | 6,149 | 4,264 | 41 | 607 |
| WA Health (PathWest) | 2,388 | 1,886 | 28 | 79 |
| WA Health (Health Support Services) | 2,313 | 1,701 | 103 | 104 |
| WA Health (Department of Health) | 1,266 | 1,107 | -8 | 96 |
| Department of Justice | 7,527 | 6,921 | 0 | 23 |
| Department of Communities1 | 5,798 | 5,101 | 174 | -240 |
| Western Australia Police | 2,914 | 2,141 | -24 | -23 |
| Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions | 2,394 | 2,020 | 70 | 40 |
| Public Transport Authority | 2,264 | 2,167 | 5 | 49 |
| Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development | 1,932 | 1,729 | 28 | 101 |
| Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety | 1,861 | 1,613 | -13 | -13 |
| Department of Fire and Emergency Services | 1,807 | 1,691 | 20 | 10 |
| Department of Transport | 1,620 | 1,458 | -15 | 41 |
| North Metropolitan TAFE | 1,427 | 1,180 | -11 | 83 |
| South Metropolitan TAFE | 1,341 | 1,134 | -26 | 26 |
| Main Roads Western Australia | 1,219 | 1,150 | -17 | 12 |
| Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries | 1,171 | 922 | -15 | 5 |
| Department of Finance | 1,083 | 1,016 | -3 | 17 |
| Department of Water and Environmental Regulation | 956 | 854 | 10 | 1 |
| Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage | 886 | 794 | 11 | 4 |
| Department of the Premier and Cabinet | 657 | 593 | 11 | 37 |
| South Regional TAFE | 543 | 403 | -6 | 29 |
| Department of Training and Workforce Development | 488 | 433 | 0 | 2 |
| Landgate | 486 | 443 | -7 | -18 |
| VenuesWest | 475 | 260 | 10 | -17 |
| Insurance Commission of Western Australia | 430 | 383 | 2 | 7 |
| Mental Health Commission | 425 | 352 | 22 | 60 |
| Central Regional TAFE | 398 | 333 | -8 | 7 |
| Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia | 395 | 347 | 12 | 28 |
| Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation | 392 | 333 | 4 | 42 |
| North Regional TAFE | 326 | 303 | -12 | 26 |
| Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions | 318 | 283 | 6 | 6 |
| Lotterywest | 297 | 274 | 17 | 32 |
| Department of Treasury | 273 | 241 | -3 | -15 |
| Office of the Auditor General | 204 | 179 | -9 | 15 |
| Forest Products Commission | 192 | 178 | 20 | -7 |
| Public Sector Commission | 165 | 131 | 5 | 8 |
| ChemCentre | 157 | 140 | 3 | 7 |
| Metropolitan Cemeteries Board | 154 | 143 | -3 | -6 |
| WorkCover Western Australia | 142 | 128 | 1 | -4 |
| Corruption and Crime Commission | 122 | 117 | 3 | -10 |
| Ombudsman Western Australia | 80 | 68 | 0 | 2 |
| Economic Regulation Authority | 69 | 64 | 1 | 1 |
| Small Business Development Corporation | 67 | 57 | -1 | 3 |
| GESB | 64 | 59 | 0 | 6 |
| Animal Resources Centre | 64 | 63 | 4 | 4 |
| Western Australian Electoral Commission | 51 | 48 | -3 | 3 |
| Legal Practice Board | 43 | 40 | -1 | -2 |
| Department of the Registrar, Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission | 39 | 36 | 1 | -3 |
| Construction Training Fund | 35 | 29 | 2 | 9 |
| Western Australian Meat Industry Authority | 32 | 20 | 3 | 2 |
| National Trust of Australia (W.A.) | 29 | 22 | -1 | -3 |
| MyLeave | 24 | 23 | 1 | 23 |
| Health and Disability Services Complaints Office | 19 | 14 | -5 | 0 |
| Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority | 19 | 16 | -1 | -25 |
| Commissioner for Children and Young People | 18 | 14 | -1 | 0 |
| Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services | 18 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| Office of the Information Commissioner | 14 | 13 | 1 | 1 |
| Infrastructure WA | 14 | 14 | 0 | -2 |
| Burswood Park Board | 8 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Keep Australia Beautiful WA | 8 | 7 | -1 | -4 |
| Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA) | 7 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Veterinary Surgeons' Board | 6 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Architects Board of Western Australia | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Salaries and Allowances Tribunal | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 |

1A change to the reporting method has resulted in a one-off apparent increase of 125 FTE since September 2021.

## 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.