

500 Workers Initiative
Jurisdictional high-level status as of 31 January 2025

Note:

* + Data is as of 31 January 2025 and is subject to regular changes.
	+ Not all state and territory data is updated monthly as this is dependent on individual jurisdictional contractual arrangements with service providers already in place.
	+ States and territories have requirements to receive Commonwealth funding including annual reporting obligations to the Commonwealth under the [National Partnership on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2021-27](https://federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/agreements/family-domestic-and-sexual-violence-responses-2021-27).
	+ Use of the word ‘commenced’ in the below table means workers who have started in their roles and are working with victim-survivors.
	+ The 500 Workers Initiative has a phased approach, with 352.43 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers committed to by 30 June 2024, 462.61 FTE workers by 30 June 2025 and 500 FTE workers by 30 June 2026.

| **Jurisdiction** | **Commenced Workers** | **Commenced FTE** | **Next Steps** |
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| **New South Wales (NSW)** | 135 | 121.6 | The recruitment of new workers is progressing in line with NSW’s plan: * 135 workers (121.6 FTE) are now delivering domestic, family and sexual violence services (DFSV) across NSW.
* The majority of 2024-25 quota have recruitment activity underway (24.8 FTE).
* NSW has awarded contracts to 78 service providers to deliver 146.4 FTE. The contracts for the remaining 2 FTE are in an active procurement process.
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| **Victoria** | 55 | 53 | * The recruitment of new workers is progressing in line with Victoria’s plan:
	+ 55 workers (total 53 FTE) have commenced
* The filled roles include:
	+ 16 case managers at multicultural agencies. Collectively, they speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Tamil, Hindi, Urdu, Arabic, Ukrainian and Russian, as well as all speaking English.
	+ 2 workers employed at an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.
	+ The remaining 6 positions are being advertised.
	+ Of the 6 positions advertised 2 positions are in rural/regional areas.
* Victoria is working with peak bodies on the next stage of this important project.
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| **Queensland** | 114  | 98.1 | * Queensland has now allocated all funding and FTE and has over-delivered on its target of 111.6 workers with funding allocated for a total of 113 FTE workers.
* Queensland will continue to monitor the rollout and support organisations with their recruitment and service delivery.
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| **Western Australia** | 35 | 35 | * Service contracts with organisations were awarded for all workers in May 2024.
* Recruitment is ongoing. with WA providing advice and support to organisations to help navigate unanticipated challenges.
* Commenced FTE is as at 30 January 2025.
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| **South Australia** | 39 | 28.1 | * All service agreements for the 2023-24 allocation have been executed, totalling 29.6 FTE.
* 28.1 FTE (39 workers) have been successfully recruited.
* For 2024-25, an additional 7.2 FTE has been allocated.
* Of this, all but one service agreement has been fully executed.
* Providers have commenced recruitment processes.
* Overall: SA now has a total of 36.8 FTE allocated across both years.
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| **Tasmania** | 30  | 23.4  | * Recruitment continues, with Tasmania on track to deliver 24.6 FTE workers by the end of 2024-25.
* The number of FTE workers commenced has increased by 7.8 in 2024-25, with recruitment action underway for the remaining FTE workers.
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| **Australian Capital Territory (ACT)** | 8 | 7.6 | * The ACT has delivered its total 500 Workers Initiative FTE target of 7.6 FTE.
* 4 workers (4.0 FTE) have commenced with Canberra Rape Crisis Centre.
* 2 workers (2.0 FTE) have commenced with YWCA.
* 1 worker (1.0 FTE) has commenced with Multicultural Hub.
* 1 worker (0.6 FTE) has commenced with DVCS.
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| **Northern Territory** | 9 | 8.6 | * Service providers are currently recruiting for the 18 allocated positions for 2023-24 with 9 positions (8.6 FTE) already commenced in 2024, including 1 in October 2024.
* Commenced workers include:
	+ 1 (1 FTE) worker with Wadeye Safe House
	+ 1 (1 FTE) worker with Galiwinku Women’s Space
	+ 1 (1 FTE) worker with Tennant Creek Women’s Refuge
	+ 1 (0.6 FTE) worker with Salvation Army
	+ 1 (1 FTE) worker with CatholicCare NT
	+ 1 (1 FTE) worker with Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation
	+ 1 (1 FTE) worker with Women’s Safety Services of Central Australia
	+ 2 (2 FTE) workers with YWCA.
* The 0.2 FTE worker allocation for 2023-24 has been carried over and allocated to additional children’s worker for the Salvation Army, reflected below.
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* Funding agreements have been executed and active recruitment is underway for a further 10.6 roles including:
	+ 5.6 children’s DFSV workers
	+ 2 non-legal court support workers
	+ 2 co-responder pilot victim-survivor case managers
	+ 1 Men’s Behaviour Change Program partner contact worker
* The 0.2 FTE worker allocation for 2023-24 is still under negotiation.
* The Department has been working with service providers to provide support and navigate recruitment challenges.
* A further 2 positions will be allocated to meet the 20 workers allocation from 2024-25 with the worker allocation to be determined based on identified need.
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| **TOTAL** | **425** | **375.4** |  |