



# 500 Workers Initiative

## Jurisdictional high-level status as at 31 August 2025

### Notes:

- Data is as at 31 August 2025 and is subject to regular changes.
- Due to individual jurisdictional contractual arrangements with service providers already in place, not all state and territory data is updated monthly.
- 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](#).
- 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
<b>New South Wales (NSW)</b>	159	146.4	The recruitment of new workers is progressing in line with NSW's plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 159 workers (146.4 FTE) are now delivering domestic, family and sexual violence services (DFSV) across NSW.</li><li>• The remaining 2024-25 quota have recruitment activity underway (2 FTE).</li><li>• NSW has awarded contracts to 82 service providers to deliver 148.4 FTE.</li><li>• NSW is working with service providers to support recruitment for the remaining 2 FTE.</li></ul>
<b>Victoria</b>	65	59	The recruitment of new workers is progressing in line with Victoria's plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 65 workers (total 59 FTE) have commenced.</li></ul> The filled roles include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 16 case managers at multicultural agencies. Collectively, they speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Tamil, Hindi, Urdu, Arabic, Ukrainian and Russian, as well as all speaking English.</li><li>• 3 workers employed at an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.</li><li>• The next stage of this important project commenced on 1 July 2025 and recruitment is underway.</li></ul>

Jurisdiction	Commenced Workers	Commenced FTE	Next Steps
<b>Queensland</b>	131	112	Queensland has now allocated all funding and FTE and has over-delivered on its target of 111.6 FTE, with funding allocated for a total of 113 FTE workers.
<b>Western Australia (WA)</b>	49	49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service contracts with organisations were awarded for all workers in May 2024.</li> <li>• Recruitment to fill 1 trainee worker in the Pilbara is ongoing with WA providing advice and support to help navigate the challenges of a small recruitment pool and geographic isolation.</li> <li>• 12 of 13 organisations have filled their quota.</li> </ul>
<b>South Australia</b>	46	34.1	<p>South Australia has fully achieved its target under the 500 Workers Initiative with all service agreements executed for the total allocation of 36.8 FTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2023–24, service agreements were finalised for 29.6 FTE.</li> <li>• An additional 7.2 FTE was allocated for 2024–25, with all corresponding service agreements now fully executed.</li> <li>• This completes the full allocation of 36.8 FTE for South Australia.</li> <li>• As of 30 June 2025, 34.1 FTE (equivalent to 46 workers) have been successfully recruited.</li> <li>• Service providers continue to work towards filling the remaining 2.7 FTE, subject to workforce availability.</li> </ul>
<b>Tasmania</b>	33	24.6	Tasmania has now met its total 500 Workers Initiative target of 24.6 FTE commenced workers across 13 services.
<b>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</b>	8	7.6	<p>The ACT has delivered its total 500 Workers Initiative FTE target of 7.6 FTE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 workers (4.0 FTE) have commenced with Canberra Rape Crisis Centre.</li> <li>• 2 workers (2.0 FTE) have commenced with YWCA.</li> <li>• 1 worker (1.0 FTE) has commenced with Multicultural Hub.</li> <li>• 1 worker (0.6 FTE) has commenced with Domestic Violence Crisis Service.</li> </ul>
<b>Northern Territory</b>	19	18.6	<p>Recruitment has increased with 19 commenced workers, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 FTE Children’s safety workers.</li> <li>• 1 (.6 FTE) Children’s safety worker.</li> <li>• 5 FTE non legal support workers, and</li> <li>• 2 FTE co-responder pilot victim-survivor case manager.</li> </ul> <p>The remaining 1 FTE role has been allocated with recruitment to commence once the program design phase concludes.</p>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>451.3</b>	