

# STATE OF MINISTRY WORKERS IN AUSTRALIA

## How are Australia's Pastors and Ministry Workers going?

In the lead up to Oxygen 2023, we invited Ministry Workers across Australia to participate in our confidential and anonymous State of Ministry Workers Survey. The purpose of this survey was to check-in on and gauge how Christian leaders are going and what resources might be helpful for serving and supporting them.



Job roles included:

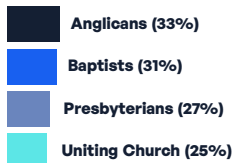
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|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrator</li> <li>• Assistant Pastor/Minister</li> <li>• CEO</li> <li>• Chaplain</li> <li>• Children's Minister</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director/Manager</li> <li>• Marketing/Communications</li> <li>• Ministry Apprentice/MTS</li> <li>• Missionary</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pastoral care</li> <li>• Schools Ministry</li> <li>• Senior Pastor/Minister</li> <li>• Women's Minister</li> <li>• Youth Minister</li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|

## MENTAL HEALTH + WELLBEING

**3 in 10 people reported they were, or suspected they might be, experiencing mental health issues.**



Children's Ministers, Youth Ministers and those in School Ministry all reported high rates of experiencing mental health issues compared to other job roles.

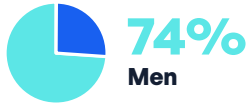


Anglicans are the most likely to be experiencing or suspect they might be experiencing mental health issues.

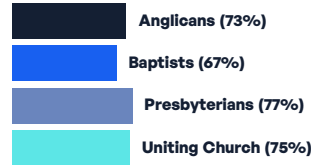


Women are more likely to experience or suspect they are experiencing a mental health issue.

## When it comes to rest days...



Men are more likely to have a day of rest than women.



Presbyterians are the most likely to have a regular day of rest.

## FRIENDSHIPS



**76%**

of all people reported having a close friend.



**65%**  
Assistant Pastors & Ministers



**93%**  
Missionaries

Assistant Pastors and Ministers are less likely to have a close friend. Missionaries are the most likely to have a close friend.



**71%**  
Church



**85%**  
Non-profit Organisations

Those in non-profit organisations are more likely to have a close friend compared to those in churches.



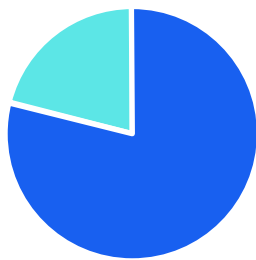
**73%**  
Men



**84%**  
Women

Men are less likely to have a close friend compared to women.

## LONELINESS



of people reported they felt lonely.

**27%**  
Regional Areas

**21%**  
Capital Cities

**14%**  
Other Major Cities

Loneliness is highest in regional areas with 27 per cent saying they often felt lonely, compared with 21 per cent in capital cities and 14 per cent in other major cities.

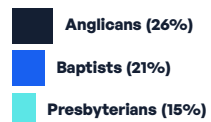


**25%**  
Church



**15%**  
Non-profit Organisations

Those in churches are more likely to feel lonely compared to non-profit organisations.



Assistant Pastors and Ministers are the most likely to feel lonely; Anglicans are the most likely to feel lonely.



Oxygen is a Ministry of Katoomba Christian Convention

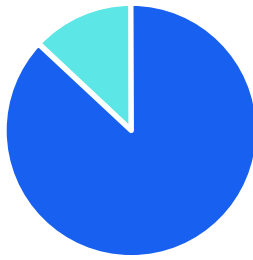
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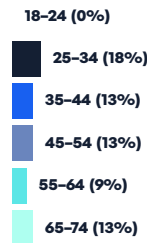
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# JOB SATISFACTION



**13%**

of people reported they would like a role outside ministry if one became available.



The percentage was highest at 18% among those aged 25-34.

The people who feel least supported in their role are between the ages of 65-74. These people are also the least likely to consider they are part of a healthy team; however, they are most likely to spend time with the Lord and consider that their love for the Lord is increasing.



Those in churches are less likely to be part of a healthy team compared with those in non-profit organisations.

Men are less likely to feel supported in their role than women.

They are also more likely to be looking for a role outside ministry – 6 percent compared with 2 percent.



Church administrators are the most likely to be actively looking for a role outside of ministry.



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