



Stat Report 2019/12

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Nation-wide protests to Change the Rules!

Earlier this week, workers from across Australia joined together in capital cities, regional centres and rural towns to send a message to the Morrison Government – the rules are broken and it's time to Change the Rules.



Right here in Melbourne over 150,000 workers and their families hit the streets to highlight how the rules are broken. The assembled crowd heard about the wage theft being exposed in the hospitality industry, the exploitation in the textiles industry, the intimidation of workers fighting to protect their well-being in the construction industry, the increasing casualization of work across a range of industries and the cuts to healthcare making it harder for health workers to deliver the best care possible.

It was great to be with workers from every possible industry and from every possible walk of life. Everyone was there for the same reason. And from what we learned as we listened to union leaders and delegates is that there is no worker who isn't affected by the anti-worker agenda of the Morrison Government. It was clear that Australian workers and their families are tired of the lies coming from the Morrison Government. There has been no improvement in wages as they continue to stagnate. There has been no improvement in job prospects when many jobs are being casualised. There continues the exploitation of workers in the gig economy and there has been little improvement in people's living conditions.

Let's not forget that Morrison along with many in his cabinet voted multiple times to cut penalty rates. It has effectively made it more difficult for hundreds of thousands of Australians to make ends and has increased the stress on low income households. And let's not forget that the Morrison Government wants to give more tax cuts to their corporate mates who already don't pay their fair share in taxes.



Undoubtedly you would've heard about how huge the rallies were; but what you didn't hear about is the passion workers and their families had as we marched through Melbourne calling to change the rules. But to change the rules we have to vote out the Morrison Government.

Now that the election has been called you can help change the rules by getting involved in activities across Victoria by visiting <http://www.weareunion.org.au/when> or you can join one of our organising groups on Facebook to work on activities in your workplaces and neighbourhoods.

MSAV members – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/348061059362550/>
VPA members – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/361680581227455/>
AHP members – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/376346993187375/>

Over the coming weeks the Union will be analysing the policies of the major parties and discussing how they address (or fail to address) the issues facing our members – stay tuned for the next edition of STAT Report.

Paul Elliott
Secretary

IT Issues at the Union

Late on Monday evening the Union experienced a major technical issue with our servers. The result of which meant that we were unable to process memberships or associated matters and we were unable to send or receive emails. It's important that members know that their details and information was not compromised during the technical issues we were experiencing.

We sincerely apologise for the inconvenience this may have caused members, especially those who were seeking our assistance during that period.

The issues preventing us from sending or receiving emails have now been resolved but if you sent us an email between Monday night and Wednesday night you will need to resend it to us. Unfortunately the online membership portal has not yet been restored and the Union is working hard to get this part of the site up and running again as soon as possible.

Bargaining Update

Dorevitch

The lump sum payment negotiated as part of the settlement agreement was paid this week. Let us know if you didn't receive it or if you think your amount is incorrect.

Australian Clinical Labs

We have contacted ACL management to immediately resume negotiations.

Australian Clinical Labs - Geelong

Meanwhile, we are asking members to provide the Union with information about what is happening on the ground. This information is critical to helping with our continued industrial work

Melbourne Pathology

Negotiations with Melbourne Path for a new agreement will resume, with the next meeting scheduled for 6th May.

Check your Voter Enrolment

Now that the federal election has been called for 18 May it's essential that you check that your voter enrolment is up-to-date. This is particularly important if you have recently moved house or have recently changed your name through marriage or deed poll.

The only way to make sure your vote counts is to ensure you're enrolled correctly - you only have until 8pm on Thursday 18 April 2019. Visit the [Australian Electoral Commission's website to check your enrolment](#) as well as ways of updating your relevant details.

Easter and Public Holiday Pay

Easter is nearly upon us and so is Anzac Day, which means there will be public holiday pay. With

Wednesday 30th October at the Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia.

Australians living and working in rural and remote areas are only able to access mental health services at a fifth of the rate of those in urban areas. This inequality poses serious risks for a large population of Australians, resulting in increased suffering of those seeking help, support and treatment for mental health issues.

Connect with professionals working to advance the services and support mental health receives in rural and remote areas, from renowned keynote speakers and industry workers through to government, academics, researchers and individual service providers.

Registrations are now open at: <https://anzmh.asn.au/rrmh/registration/>



Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA Raffle

Need a holiday? It's Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA raffle time!

The annual raffle raised more than \$60,000 last year. Your support is vital in keeping Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA independent, effective and strong, and helps build unions and social movements.

As well as knowing your money goes to great things, you'll be in the draw for some terrific prizes.

FIRST PRIZE: Take the holiday of your dreams with an \$8,000 travel voucher.

- Can be used on domestic or international travel through any Australian accredited travel agent.
- Can be used to take one big holiday or a number of smaller trips.

SECOND PRIZE: Ride off into the commuter sunset on a fabulous Gazelle bicycle (valued at \$2199). Dutch-made, the Ultimate C1 is a premium lightweight city bike designed to be the lightest hub drive city bike in its class.

THIRD PRIZE: Escape into a world of books with a \$500 book voucher from Gleebooks, Sydney's leading independent bookseller for more than 40 years – available online or in-store.

How to buy your tickets:

[Buy online](#)

[Download and complete this form](#); or

FREECALL 1800 888 674 or email office@apheda.org.au

Spread the word and help us blitz the raffle this year - **raffle closes Friday 17 May**

Psychologists: If you need help at work you need the VPA Inc.

If you are a psychologist and not in the VPA, you are taking unnecessary risks with your reputation and career. [Download an application form and join today.](#)

Common beaches of employment entitlements and negotiation of enterprise agreements

The VPA routinely assists members over issues such as harassment and bullying, under classification, organisational re-structuring, incorrect calculation of leave entitlements and health and safety. In addition, it negotiates enterprise agreements for psychologists in the public and

private sectors to ensure that rates of pay and conditions remain up to date.

Support the Healthy Futures campaign



The Union strongly believes that climate change is union business. We know that climate change threatens our health by increasing the risks of heatwaves, bushfires, droughts and storms, displacing people and straining our health systems.

And right now HESTA and First State Super (FSS), Australia's biggest health industry super funds, are investing our money in fossil fuels - coal, oil and gas.

Join us in asking HESTA and FSS to divest from fossil fuels at www.healthyfutures.net.au/divest.

Stopping Gendered Violence at Work

Far too often women are attacked, harassed and threatened in their workplaces. And it needs to stop. That's why the Union is fighting back against gendered violence in the workplace – it's a very serious occupational health and safety issue.

Gendered violence is like a disease in our workplaces. Working women's experience of violence at work indicates that the problem of gendered violence is endemic in our workplaces.

Sign up to support the campaign at: <http://www.unionwomen.org.au/stopgv>

Do you need access to Domestic Violence services?

If you're experiencing domestic violence and need help, here is a list of Victorian services which may be able to assist you.

[Safe Steps \(formerly Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service of Victoria\)](#)

[Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service Victoria \(FVPLS\)](#)

[Centre Against Sexual Assault \(CASA\) Forum](#)

[Community Legal Centres](#)

[Court Network](#)

[Domestic Violence Victoria](#)

[Elder Rights Advocacy \(ERA\)](#)

[Elizabeth Morgan House Aboriginal Women's Service](#)

[inTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence](#)

[Men's Referral Service](#)

[No To Violence](#)

[QLife Australia](#)

[Seniors Rights Victoria \(SRV\)](#)

[The Jewish Taskforce Against Family Violence](#)

[Victoria Legal Aid \(VLA\)](#)

[Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency](#)

[Women with Disabilities Victoria \(WDV\)](#)

[Women's Housing Ltd](#)

[Women's Information Referral Exchange \(WIRE\)](#)

[Women's Legal Service](#)

Worth Reading: STEM is worth investing in, but Australia's major parties offer scant details on policy and funding

"Evidence from around the world shows that [public investment in science, technology, engineering and mathematics \(STEM\) can advance nations](#) towards a strong economy, a healthy population and a sustainable environment.

To achieve this, however, countries need ambitious, internationally competitive levels of investment in research and development, stable leadership for the sector within government, and a long-term, whole-of-government strategy for science.

Although Labor has announced clear targets for public investment in research and development, very few of the critical details of a vision for STEM have been outlined by any party in 2019 policy statements."

Read the entire article by Kylie Walker and Emma Johnston in The Conversation at: <https://theconversation.com/stem-is-worth-investing-in-but-australias-major-parties-offer-scant-details-on-policy-and-funding-113739>

Worth Reading: A spike in measles cases in Australia has prompted immunisation warnings. Are you at risk?

"Australians are being urged to check their immunisation history as the number of measles cases in the country climbs towards a five-year high.

Nationally, there have been [92 confirmed cases](#) of measles so far this year, compared to 103 for the whole of 2018, and 81 for the whole of 2017.

Just five years ago, Australia was declared measles-free, and high vaccination rates have meant the virus has been largely kept at bay.

However, because it is so highly infectious, measles outbreaks occasionally happen when people travelling overseas catch the infection and bring it back into Australia, said Kristine Macartney, director of the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance."

Read the entire article by Olivia Willis in The ABC at: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/health/2019-04-10/measles-spikes-prompts-immunisation-warning-are-you-at-risk/10986172>

Worth Reading: The Coalition's report card on health includes some passes and quite a few fails

"The Turnbull/Morrison government has a mixed record, at best, on health.

The 2019 budget cash splash includes more promises on health but these will not come into effect until after the election. So they are just promises, not actions that have changed the health system.

In 2016-17, the Commonwealth government spent A\$74.5 billion on health care, mostly on:

- grants to the states for public hospitals (29% of total spending)
 - medical specialists and diagnostic tests (18%)
 - general practice (14%)
-

- the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (14%)
- support for private health insurance (8%).

Here's the report card on the Coalition's performance since the 2016 election."

Read the entire article by Stephen Duckett in The Conversation at:

<https://theconversation.com/the-coalitions-report-card-on-health-includes-some-passes-and-quite-a-few-fails-113734>

Join the Union

Are your workloads increasing? Are your stress levels increasing? Are you doing longer hours at work? Join the Union today!

To protect our professions and stand up for our rights at work we must strengthen our collective voice by increasing our membership. You can help by sharing one of the images below on Facebook.



[Share on Facebook](#)



[Share on Facebook](#)



[Share on Facebook](#)

Your Union is on Facebook

Keep up to date with what's happening by liking us on Facebook

[Medical Scientists Association of Victoria](#) | [Victorian Psychologists Association Inc](#) | [Association of Hospital Pharmacists](#)

Get the most out of the Union's website

The Union's website has a number of special features for members. These features, like the Members section and the Forums, require you to have a log-in and password.

But to ensure that your privacy is protected we have created the website in such a way that you will need a separate log-in and password for the Members section and the Forums section. It might seem to be inconvenient but it does better protect you and your private information. It also means that we can be more certain about the source of a hack if such an event is ever to arise.

Australian Unions Member Benefits app

Over the last month Australian Unions launched some new and exclusive Member Benefits - did you see our recent email telling you about this? If not, check your inbox! Search for "Lifestyle Rewards" for your login code.

Our program has expanded to include:

- Discounted movie tickets for Village, Hoyts, Palace and Event cinemas.
- Discounted electronic gift cards including major theme parks, zoos and aquariums.
- A discounted accommodation booking site.
- A new secure member only website and smart phone app.

All this is free to all members of affiliated unions. If you have not got a login and would like join in [register for Member Benefits now.](#)



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