



Stat Report 2017/28

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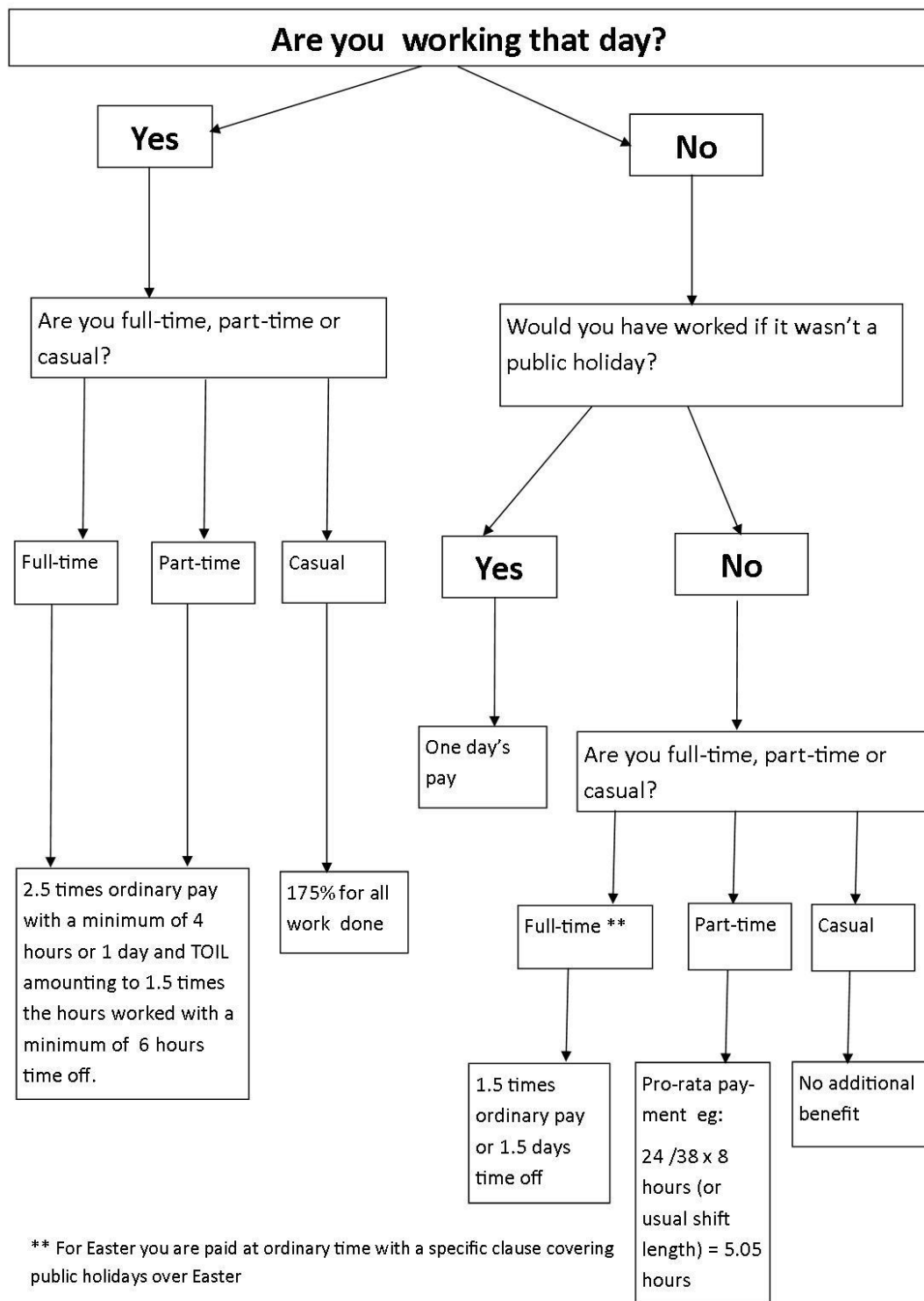
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Know your entitlement for Public Holidays

It's been a while since our last public holiday and with the Grand Final public holiday coming up it's important to remind yourself about what your current public holiday entitlement, and what you can expect to see in your next pay slip.

Unfortunately the new public sector EBA is not yet in place so it's important to know your entitlement. To help with that we have produced this handy flowchart.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY PAYMENTS



Contribute to vital workforce research – Medical Scientists, Dietitians and Audiologists

All medical laboratory scientists, dietitians and audiologists are encouraged to complete this survey commissioned by the Department of Health and Human Services.

[complete the online survey](#)

The survey is part of the Victorian Allied Health Workforce Research program which is scoping the size and distribution of the allied health workforce, as well as issues affecting satisfaction, recruitment, retention, and attrition.

Your contributions will help guide workforce strategies being developed by Government, employers, professional associations and educators.

The research program has already informed a number of important initiatives including the allied health careers pathway blueprint and the creation of 20 new senior jobs for allied health professionals.

The more responses we get, the more confident we can be of our findings. Please forward this email to your professional networks across the medical laboratory science workforce and encourage them to participate. Responses from people who work, or have worked, in government, private practice, not-for-profit organisations, and universities in Victoria are all important.

The survey will take no more than 15-20 minutes to complete. If you can't finish it in one sitting, it can be saved and completed later. The survey will close on Friday 27 October 2017.

The survey is being carried out by Southern Cross University on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services. Ethics approval number ECN 15-253.

[complete the online survey](#)

To find out more, [visit the project webpage](#)



Change the Rules - Australia Wide All Union Member Survey 2017

The rules that once made Australian workplaces fair are broken.

With inequality at 70 year highs, wage growth the lowest on record and 40% of people now in insecure work, our union, together with the ACTU and Australia's other unions have launched a campaign to change the rules for working people.

This month we take a big step forward in this campaign by asking you to complete a 5-minute survey about what's happening to working people and what we need to do about it.

This survey will allow you to tell us about your priorities and it will give you a voice as we work to swing the pendulum back towards working people.

To have your say complete the survey using this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XCWP956>

No answers to the survey that would identify you will be used or shared. The survey is open now and will close on 1 December 2017.

Please take the survey and help us build a strong movement for change.

Mental Health Week 2017

Every year the 10th of October marks World Mental Health Day. In 2017, Mental Health Week will run from Sunday 8th to Saturday 14th October.

Mental Health Week aims to activate, educate and engage Victorians about mental health, through a week of interactive events across the state, including an official launch, community festivals, art exhibitions, music, theatre and seminars.

Mental Health Wellbeing Walk

Mental Health Foundation Australia presents the Mental Health Wellbeing Walk as part of Mental Health Week 2017. The perfect opportunity to meet good people, in a good environment and move together for a great cause.

The walk takes place on Sunday the 8th of October from 8:00am – 9:30am, Federation Square to the banks of the Yarra River where refreshments, exciting Bollywood dance entertainment and great company is guaranteed.

Sign up for the Mental Health Wellbeing Walk at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=316272>

Find out what other events and activities are happening for Mental Health Week 2017 at:

<http://www.mhfa.org.au/Events.aspx?cid=18>

Marriage Equality

Eligible voters should have received the ballot pack from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) by now but if you haven't received your pack make sure you contact the ABS to get a replacement ballot.

The deadline to return your ballot is 6pm on 7 November but the ABS strongly recommends you aim to have it in the post by 27 October.

Here are some key dates:

- Wednesday, October 18 — Deadline to request replacement ballot packs.
- Friday, October 27 — The date the ABS recommends you return your vote by.
- Tuesday, November 7 (6pm AEST) — The final cut off point for votes to be received by the ABS.
- Wednesday, November 15 — Results of the same-sex marriage survey released.

There are lots of different ways you can support the campaign in your workplace and community but here are just a couple of ways you can get behind the Yes campaign.

Supporting marriage equality and prepared to show it? Send us an email and we'll send you a marriage equality wrist band so you can show everyone you're supporting marriage equality.

[Email us here but be quick as numbers are limited!](#)

If you want to organise something in your community and need materials then check out the great resources that the Victorian Trades Hall have prepared at:

<http://www.weareunion.org.au/equality>

You can also find some great resources at the Marriage Equality campaign website and/or sign up to be part of the campaign at: <http://www.equalitycampaign.org.au/home>

Allied Health in Mental Health “Shape the future of your

Discipline” - State Wide Forum

Allied health practitioners are a vital part of multidisciplinary teams providing mental health services within clinical settings in Victoria. The Department of Health and Human Services needs your expertise and input to contribute to the development of a mental health workforce study being undertaken for the Mental Health Workforce Reference Group of the Expert Taskforce on Mental Health and support priority setting for allied health workforce development.

This forum will:

- bring together mental health practitioners from allied health disciplines, their management, professional associations and relevant unions to participate in an engaging and interactive event about allied health workers in mental health
- highlight known issues relating to the attraction, recruitment and retention of allied health professionals in the mental health sector
- present and discuss results on current research activity commissioned by the department on allied health workers in mental health
- focus on identifying strategies and setting priorities to improve allied health careers in mental health
- support the department to shape workforce planning initiatives for allied health disciplines in mental health settings
- provide an opportunity to network and interact with peers from across the state, as well as engage with experts in allied health and mental health workforce development in discussions about allied health careers and workforce development.

The forum is relevant to all Allied Health roles in health settings including mental health network coordinators, mental health practitioners, seniors in allied health disciplines (particularly with co-located mental health services), representatives from professional associations and the unions representing allied health workers in mental health, and mental health service management and relevant.

When: Thursday 12 October 2017 (full day)

Where: Marriott Hotel, Melbourne CBD

Who: Mental health network coordinators, mental health practitioners, discipline seniors in Allied Health, representatives from professional associations and the unions representing Allied Health workers in mental health, mental health service management

RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/allied-health-in-mental-health-shape-the-future-of-your-discipline-tickets-37719779877>

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.

Stop the Victorian Government from selling our Land Titles Office

The Victorian Government has announced its intention to privatise Victoria's Land Titles Office. For 155 years, the Land Titles Office has tirelessly scrutinised every survey, mortgage and transaction on Victoria's four million-odd properties, perfecting this priceless public asset. This decision must be reversed.

The CPSU have a petition on Megaphone. [calling on Daniel Andrews to reverse this decision.](#)

Please sign and share the petition with your friends and family and stop the privatisation of public services.

<https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/stop-the-victorian-government-from-selling-our-land-titles-office>

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>

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.

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](#)

[Women's refuges](#)

Worth Reading: Quitting coal: a health benefit equivalent to quitting tobacco, alcohol and fast-food

"Imagine, for a moment, that climate change was not synonymous with doomsday scenarios, but rather presented an opportunity to radically transform society for the better. This is not an attempt to downplay the seriousness of the risks facing our climate. Rather, it is about reframing the choice we face, away from the prospect of bleak minimalism often associated with a low-carbon future.

Consider the following realities: the World Health Organisation estimates 7 million deaths are attributed to air pollution every year; and rates of obesity and chronic diseases are rising in nearly all regions of the world. Burning fossil fuels, especially coal, accounted for 78% of the total increase in carbon dioxide between 1970 and 2010, with deforestation comprising the balance of emissions. Burning coal also releases pollutants such as fine particulates, eg PM2.5, which are deadly to human health."

Read the entire article by Jonathan Patz in The Guardian at:

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/25/quitting-coal-a-health-benefit-equivalent-to-quitting-tobacco-alcohol-and-fast-food>

Worth Reading: Australia's 'big' problem – what to do with our ageing super-sized statues?

"Australians have been fascinated by "Big Things" since the 1960s, when statues such as Adelaide's Big Scotsman and the Big Banana in Coffs Harbour were opened to great fanfare. These super-sized structures can be found in other countries, too. The United States is known for its Big Donut, Canada has the world's largest fiddle, but the attachment to Big Things here has an almost patriotic quality.

Many will recall childhood road trips punctuated by such highlights as a giant Merino sheep or a towering rocking horse, or an assortment of fruits – the Big Avocado, the Big Orange and the Big Mango. When the latter was reported "missing" in 2014, the news made national headlines, only to be later revealed as a publicity stunt.

But in a nation now littered with at least 200 Big Things, there is a sizeable problem. What to do with them as they age and wear out? Many Big Things were built cheaply from concrete and fibreglass – materials that inevitably fade and decay."

Read the entire article by Amy Clarke in The Conversation at:

<https://theconversation.com/australias-big-problem-what-to-do-with-our-ageing-super-sized-statues-83424>

Worth Reading: Sustainable cities? Australia's building and planning rules stand in the way of getting there

"Australia's building and land-use policy settings fall well short of what's needed to make meaningful progress toward creating sustainable cities.

You will find environmental sustainability goals and objectives in government strategy documents. But [our newly released review](#) of building and land-use planning policies around Australia has found New South Wales is the only state without serious gaps in legislation and enforcement.

Research [shows](#) a large percentage of new dwellings in Australia fail to meet even minimum building requirements when checked after construction."

Read the entire article by Andreeanne Doyon, Joe Hurley, Susie Moloney and Trivess Moore in The Conversation at: <https://theconversation.com/sustainable-cities-australias-building-and-planning-rules-stand-in-the-way-of-getting-there-84263>

Worth Reading: Killing Ground: An Aussie Horror Film That May Scare Us Into Breaking The Silence

"The outback may just be the most formidable character in Australian film and literature. More than just scenery or background, the bush is active in creating or enabling the horror that plays out in our much-loved Australian gothic stories.

Damien Power's film [Killing Ground](#) is a textbook expression of post-colonial anxiety, grounded in white Australians' fear of the bush. It can go from idyllic playground to unpredictable captor in seconds.

At first *Killing Ground* looks like just another foray into this genre. However, it is Power's overly predictable use of tropes and cinematic techniques which make the film so terrifying – these familiar structures reinforce our post-colonial story, by shoving latent fears into our face, with a new level of ferocity."

Read the entire article by Catherine McGauran in New Matilda at: <https://newmatilda.com/2017/09/23/killing-ground-an-aussie-horror-film-that-may-scare-us-into-breaking-the-silence/>

Join the Union

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

To protect our professions and stand up for our rights at work we must strengthen our collective voice and strengthen our bargaining position by increasing our membership. And you can help right now by sharing one of the images below through 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.](#)



Share STAT Report

Is there a copy of STAT Report on your Union noticeboard or in your staff room?

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