

Air Traffic Controller Sick Leave and Staffing Data (FY2025–26)

This document was created by Airservices Australia in response to FOI request 25/26/27 and contains information extracted from Airservices records.

Request	Information	Supplementary Notes																		
1. Total number of sick leave days taken by Air Traffic Controllers by financial year.	<table><tr><th>Year (FY)</th><th>Sum of UPL Sick Days Taken</th></tr><tr><td>2025</td><td>12,253</td></tr><tr><td>2026</td><td>13,404</td></tr></table>	Year (FY)	Sum of UPL Sick Days Taken	2025	12,253	2026	13,404	Sick days taken are calculated as the number of rostered shifts on which sick leave was recorded.												
Year (FY)	Sum of UPL Sick Days Taken																			
2025	12,253																			
2026	13,404																			
2. Sick leave taken and number of Air Traffic Controllers (reported as FTE) by location for FY2025–26	Major Cities: Enroute, Terminal Control Unit (TCU) & Tower (AT) Sick Hours/Days, Total Operational FTE -FY26 <table><tr><th>Groups (City)</th><th>UPL Sick Days</th><th>FTE Jun-26</th></tr><tr><td>Adelaide</td><td>113.1</td><td>21.1</td></tr><tr><td>Brisbane</td><td>4,470.0</td><td>330.5</td></tr><tr><td>Melbourne</td><td>3,947.5</td><td>308.0</td></tr><tr><td>Perth</td><td>457.4</td><td>54.1</td></tr><tr><td>Sydney</td><td>1,953.3</td><td>114.5</td></tr></table>	Groups (City)	UPL Sick Days	FTE Jun-26	Adelaide	113.1	21.1	Brisbane	4,470.0	330.5	Melbourne	3,947.5	308.0	Perth	457.4	54.1	Sydney	1,953.3	114.5	- UPL = Unplanned Leave limited to sick leave only ie excludes other types of unplanned leave such as carers leave, bereavement leave etc - UPL sick days = shifts where sick leave was taken - Brisbane includes Enroute Groups, Shift Managers, Shift Supervisors, Ballina & Gold Coast TCU, North Queensland TCU and Brisbane TCU - Melbourne includes Enroute Groups, Shift Managers, Shift Supervisors, Canberra & Tasmania TCU and Melbourne TCU - Perth Includes Perth Tower and TCU - Sydney includes Sydney Tower and TCU - Adelaide includes Adelaide Tower - FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) is a measure of staffing based on hours worked relative to a full-time position
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Adelaide	113.1	21.1																		
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3. Number of recorded 15-day leave reviews for Air Traffic Controllers, Shift Managers and System Supervisors in all ATC locations during FY2025–26.	A total of 142 recorded 15-day leave reviews were identified during the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.	- Based on headcount - The population included all active Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs), Shift Managers and System Supervisors across all ATC locations.																		
4. Number of Air Traffic Controllers on long-term sick leave.	Over FY25/26 there has been a total of 61 Air Traffic Controllers (ATC) on long term sick leave. As at 30 June 2026, there were 19 controllers on long term sick leave.	Based on headcount																		