

Musculoskeletal Disorder Strategy 2017 – 2022

2019 short-term outcome evaluation Report

instinct and
reason

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Report Contents

Musculoskeletal Disorder Strategy 2017 – 2022: 2019 Short-Term Evaluation

1	Short-term evaluation overview
2	Key findings
3	Detailed findings
3a	MSD prevalence in NSW PCBUs An analysis of SIRA workers compensation data to 2017/2018
3b	PCBU leadership with safe workplaces
3c	PCBU knowledge and awareness of MSDs
3d	PCBU willingness and ability to address MSD risks
3e	PCBU awareness and access to SafeWork NSW's 2018/19 MSD initiatives
3f	PCBU access to SafeWork NSW's digital data
3g	Impact of SafeWork initiatives - Segmentation of the awareness of SafeWork's 2018/18 initiative
3h	PCBU channels of engagement
4	Sample and data notes



1

Short-term evaluation overview

Background, methodology, objectives

Background

Context for the 2019 short-term evaluation

- SafeWork NSW commenced delivery of the 2017-2022 Musculoskeletal Disorder (MSD) Strategy in October 2017 to deliver on its commitment to the NSW Work Health and Safety Roadmap 2022.
- The Strategy aims to achieve a 50% reduction in serious MSD claims by 2022, a more ambitious target set after NSW met the original 30% target, through three key objectives to influence behavioural change in NSW workplaces. This decline is to be measured over ten years from 2012 to 2022.
- SafeWork NSW aims to address these objectives through yearly actions plans targeting short, medium- and long-term outcomes. The action plans follow a risk-based targeted approach identifying and supporting industry sectors and occupations with the highest number of serious MSD injuries in NSW each year. The 2017-2018 MSD Action Plan focused on the supermarket and grocery store sector, and government (local and state) while the 2018-2019 MSD Action Plan focuses on healthcare / social assistance and manufacturing.
- The overall objectives of the program seek to change embed safe design as a principle in leadership, embed a systematic and to open collaboration. This requires the evaluations to ensure data collection is focused on PCBU attitude, knowledge and behaviour changes that improve the way work-related MSDs are prevented and managed. This highlights the way work is done that can minimise risk to all workers.

MSD Strategy Objectives

The Strategy has the following three key objectives, to influence a mindset change in businesses (or PCBUs) across the state of NSW

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

Description of success	NSW businesses embed a work health and safety landscape that addresses risks that lead to MSDs	NSW businesses use a systematic approach to eliminate and/or reduce exposure to MSD hazards and risk factors	NSW businesses, injured workers and health professionals work together to learn from MSD injuries and make improvements
Outcomes	<p>MSD prevention is given priority in all work processes and decisions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> leadership from the top safe design of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> systems of work plant and structures understanding the relationship between a person's physical and psychological wellbeing and MSDs ensuring worker capability for the task. 	<p>Businesses have capacity to effectively manage MSD hazards and risks by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> eliminating hazards at the planning and design stage increasing the use of high level controls and reducing reliance on low level controls ensuring MSD risk factors are considered in operational decision making including purchasing ensuring effective systems for reporting and resolving MSD issues and risk factors ensuring compliance with systems, control measures and legislation. 	<p>All parties work together to support injured workers to recover at work and learn from injury experiences by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring suitable work design by proactively managing MSD risk factors throughout the recovery at work process applying learnings to improve work health and safety practices and integrate into safe design and systems across the workplace.
NSW businesses use consultation and communication as the foundation for the effective management of MSDs			

Background

Context for the 2019 short-term evaluation

The Strategy's evaluation framework schedules regular reviews to assess the achievement of the Strategy's periodic goals. The evaluation commenced with the 2018 baseline data collection and is to be followed by two interim evaluations in 2019 and 2021 to assess the short and medium-term outcomes. It will be finalised with a long-term outcome evaluation in December 2022. The outcomes are split into short-term outcomes, medium-term outcomes and long-term outcomes as follows:

•• Short-term outcomes - June 2019

- PCBUs accessing SafeWork NSW MSD resources and programs
- PCBUs have increased knowledge and awareness regarding hazardous material tasks, control measures and the impact of the safety landscape
- PCBUs have increased willingness and confidence to address MSD risks

•• Medium-term outcomes - June 2021

- PCBUs demonstrate strong leadership support and worker consultation for prevention of MSDs
- PCBUs are using safe-design principles in MSD related systems and procedures
- PCBUs are using a systematic approach to preventing MSDs
- PCBUs are compliant with MSD related legislation

•• Long-term outcomes - December 2022

- PCBUs are providing MSD-safe workplaces
- PCBUs have embedded an MSD safety landscape
- NSW workers have reduced exposure to MSD risks



The 2018 Baseline Evaluation – where did we stand and where does the evaluation need to go?

The 2018 Baseline Evaluation provides a starting point for the rest of the evaluation. Specifically:

- Downward trend in the incidence rate and claims (to financial year 2016/17) could not be attributed to the Strategy -> largely because there was a downward trend before the implementation of the strategy in October 2017.
- Development of Strategy was evidence-based and consultative, but further promotion was required to increase reach and the understanding of the need to change behaviour.
- Limited data on what initiatives were working as the Baseline showed 29% awareness of SWNSW MSD initiatives (59% used), with limited capacity to determine the impact of initiatives. The 2019 Evaluation needed to understand potential reasons for this and any impact of higher awareness. It was understood that an engagement plan being developed, with planned funding for an MSD awareness campaign.
- A change in focus for the Evaluation to outcome focused results for SWNSW on PCBU attitude, knowledge and behaviours to improve risks; this is to move away from segment (e.g. specific employee segments focus such as gender, age, body location) focus of the Baseline Evaluation.

Also, there needs to be an understanding on the physical injury as well as the impact of psychological risk to MSDs, as expressed by SafeWork NSW. The 2019 evaluation will need to test the level of awareness and knowledge of psychological impacts on MSD-related claims among PCBUs, as well as the effectiveness of implementing initiatives.

The 2019 evaluation needs to create new baseline readings that measure progress on medium-term and long-term outcomes not currently available. The previous material in the 2018 baseline evaluation do not adequately cover PCBU leadership and consultation changes, safe-design changes, systematic approach changes and legislative changes. This be included with respect of existing baseline evaluation measurements that track key evaluation measures; such as awareness, knowledge and willingness to change. This is with the aim to ensure changes over the last 12 months have a greater chance of being attributed to the strategy.

Short-Term Evaluation Objective

The initial data collection and analysis will enable the evaluation to assess the strategy over the 2018/2019 financial year. This will enable progress of the Strategy from the baseline evaluation (that is the last 12 months) and to specifically measure the short-term outcomes as per the program logic of 3.1 of the evaluation plan. Any findings will be used to improve or adjust the Strategy.

Research objectives

Review 2017/18 claims data and determine if any trends can be attributed to the strategy

Measure progress on the short-term outcomes the interim June 2019 evaluation is to measure:

- PCBUs have increased knowledge and awareness of MSD hazards, prevention control measures and the impact of the safety landscape
- PCBUs have increased willingness and confidence to address MSD risks
- PCBUs accessing SafeWork NSW MSD resources and programs

Investigate the reach of PCBUs for targeted intervention that can inform the development of an engagement plan for addressing MSD risks, including an MSD awareness campaign.

Establish baseline reads on key medium-term outcomes and long-term outcomes critical for assessment in the scheduled evaluations of 2021 and 2022.

Methodology Overview

Key objectives per phase

The short-term evaluation data collection methodology involved a mixture of qualitative depth interviews and quantitative research, including analysis of data sources and a survey of persons conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU). These are discussed in more detail below.

INCEPTION

Completed: May 2019

Briefing workshop
Sharing the existing body of knowledge
Alignment to the project plan

01

STAKEHOLDER EXPLORATION

Fielded: May 2019; Completed: June 2019

Qualitative discussions with three stakeholder groups, gaining a triangulated perspective informing the survey
We spoke with the Consultative Committee stakeholders, SafeWork Inspectors and Industry WH&S decision makers

03

CONSOLIDATED REPORT

Completed: November 2019

Consolidation and synthesis of the claims data, other existing data sources (touchpoint data – website etc.), 2019 primary research data and the two case studies.

05

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Completed: May 2019

An initial review of the available knowledge to inform the primary research, to understand the known capabilities and weaknesses of Safework NSW efforts to address MSDs through identifying insights, gaps and weaknesses.

02

CUSTOM PCBU SURVEY

Fielded: July 2019; Completed: August 2019

A 12-minute online survey of n=372 PCBUs recruited through a multi-mode approach (online and phone). This will be targeting high-risk industries with quotas of n=50 per target industry; owners, senior managers and WH&S managers/coordinators will be recruited.

04

CASE STUDY DEVELOPMENT

Completed: November 2019

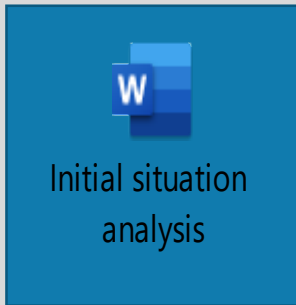
Three case studies developed to highlight positive changes in MSD policy, recruited through the primary research stage

06

Methodology detail – Phase 2 situation analysis

Quantitative data sources reviewed

A total of five existing quantitative data sources were reviewed as part of the short-term evaluation situation analysis:



- State Workers' Compensation Insurance Data
- SafeWork NSW Customer Service Telephone Data
- New South Wales Government Workforce Profile
- Household Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey
- Indicators of a Thriving Workplace Survey.

Findings from analysis of the existing SafeWork NSW data sources (State Workers' Compensation Insurance Data and SafeWork NSW Customer Service Telephone Data) and the custom PCBU Survey are included in this report.

Data sources with no contributing analysis.

While the HILDA and Indicators of a Thriving Workplace Surveys were reviewed, they did not provide relevant information for the short-term evaluation data collection, as per the Baseline Evaluation. These data sources continue to provide information that is potentially relevant to workplace MSDs (e.g. unscheduled leave, mental and physical health within the workplace, policies and practices put in place within working environments), but they do not directly reference MSD incidence or prevalence, nor the reach or impact of the Strategy.

Analysis of the State Workers' Compensation Insurance Data

Please Note: Data Consideration Issues when considering the results

1. Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year. Therefore, conclusions about the progress of Strategy in the 2018/2019 year, that is the subject of this evaluation's primary research, cannot be attributed to any changes in claims data as this information is not yet available.
2. Progress towards achieving a 50% reduction in the incidence of major MSD claims cannot yet be calculated. At the time of data compilation, static claims data and denominator data (number of employees) for the 2017/18 year were not available.
3. Discrepancies in the analysis of SIRA MSD worker's compensation claims (see next slide for comparison to a previous data release) needs to be considered when understanding the progress to meeting the overall Strategy's aim to reduce major MSD claims

Methodology detail – Phase 2 situation analysis

Key considerations for the 2019 Evaluation

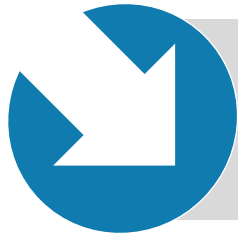
This situation analysis looked to the position of SafeWork and that available data source that showed the key findings, insights, gaps and potential weaknesses in the existing data that will need to be considered by the primary data to be collected. The key considerations for the development of the primary research to achieve the requirements of the evaluation framework are:

1. **Consistent and actionable insights aligned to SafeWork’s strategic capability** – the MSD strategy purpose is to design the work to avoid prolonged stress. The primary research and actionable outcomes must be focused on insights gained from an employer focus about safe design across leadership, systematic approaches and collaboration efforts with workers.
2. **Review 2018 claims data and determine if any trends can be attributed to the strategy** - the 2019 Evaluation is awaiting claims data for up to the year 2018 to review and analyse any trends since the strategy began. A key consideration of the baseline evaluation was the inability to attribute these trends to the Strategy.
3. **Deeper understanding of the action plans and activity streams** - the action plans provide information on the activities planned for implementation, but they do not detail the adequacy of the inputs, the reach to their target audiences, nor the barriers and enablers influencing implementation. The PCBU primary research provides an opportunity to understand the access to resources as part of the Strategy. Further information will be sought from SafeWork to understand those tasks that have been implemented and reasons why other tasks have not yet.
4. **Investigate the reach of PCBUs for targeted intervention that can inform the development of an engagement plan for MSD, including an MSD awareness campaign**
 - a. Determine if more detail can be extracted on customer experience touchpoints and from Activity and Website data.
 - b. Explore the exemplar regulatory activity stream with stakeholders to determine if this impact reach and potential access to its resources.
 - c. Determine if a lack of understanding to the problem and a willingness to change may impede strategy implementation.
 - d. Assess what Safework NSW MSD initiatives are working
5. **The following are identified gaps that prevent a full realisation of the short-term outcomes for evaluation, which can be broadened in the primary research.**
 - a. **Psychological MSD related focus** - test PCBU level of awareness and knowledge of psychological impacts on MSD-related claims.
 - b. **Ascertaining more detailed information on resource access through stakeholder interviews and SafeWork internal data, answering:**
 - c. **Reception to SafeWork initiatives** – understand why initiatives may not be well received to provide insight into the level of awareness and utilisation. This should be compared to previous promotions or campaigns for greater context on what and why they may not be received well.
6. **Prepare baseline readings to measure medium-term and long-term outcomes that have not currently being considered in the PCBU survey** –baseline evaluation metrics should be explored to consider longer-term metrics on a change in PCBU mindset and behaviour to safe design - from PCBU leadership, systematic approaches and worker collaboration.

Methodology detail – Phase 3 stakeholder exploration

How we completed the stakeholder qualitative exploration

This reports contains the results of discussion with three separate stakeholder groups, where different perspectives were sought to help inform the 2019 Short-Term Evaluation:



1 focus group session with members of the MSD consultative committee:

- Held on June 4 at the SafeWork NSW Musculoskeletal Disorder - Consultative Group meeting
- The purpose was to gain a deeper understanding of expert perception on MSD issues and the ideal outcome for the strategy



7 telephone in-depth interviews with SNSW Inspectors:

- Held from June 3 to June 7
- 2 x North Inspectors, 2 x South Inspectors, 2 x Construction Inspectors, 1 x Metro Inspector
- To gain a front-line, practical perspective on the issue of MSDs in the workplace, and the Strategy's implementation



11 telephone in-depth interviews with high-risk industries; interviewees had WH&S decision-making responsibilities:

- Held from 31 May 2019 to 17 June 2019 (18 days)
- 3 x Healthcare, 4 x Manufacturing, 3 x Construction, 1 x Transport
- To gain an industry perspective on those factors impacting the awareness and prioritisation of musculoskeletal injuries. This perspective was sought from those with no SafeWork interaction and those without any interaction.

Methodology detail – Phase 3 stakeholder exploration

Sample structure



PCBU Sample Structure	Small Employee Base (<20)	Medium Employee Base (20-99)		Large employee base (>100)	
Healthcare (n=3)	Senior Manager at a small retirement village in the Hunter	Quality Risk & Compliance Manager at a residential & community aged care service for migrant populations in Sydney		Health and safety coordinator at a Sydney based local hospital area network	
Manufacturing (n=4)	Senior Manager at a small regional manufacturer of steel and welding services	Health & Safety Manager at a regional mill	Senior Manager at a multinational compression manuf. with a Sydney presence	Health Safety and Environment manager at a multinational food manufacturer with a factory in Sydney	
Construction (n=3)	Sole franchisee at a small tile and grout technician franchise across NSW			NSW HSE Manager at a Perth based mining, energy & infrastructure construction company	HSE Manager Sydney based civil construction company
Transport (n=1)			Group Health and Safety Manager for an ANZ transport company involved in distributing commercial vehicles, with related parts and servicing		

Inspector Sample Structure (region/ focus of respondents)
Construction East Inspector
Construction South Inspector
Metropolitan Operation & Sector Initiatives MOSI Inspector
Regional Operation & Sector Initiatives North Inspector
Regional Operation & Sector Initiatives North Inspector
Regional Operation & Sector Initiatives South Inspector
Regional Operation & Sector Initiatives South Inspector

Metro - city n=5; Regional n=3; Mixed Metro/regional n=3

Methodology detail – phase 4 custom PCBU survey

How we completed the stakeholder **quantitative** survey

The phase four, quantitative methodology quantifies the awareness, knowledge and engagement with MSDs among New South Wales PCBUs, with the sample boosted by a focused recruitment of SafeWork NSW's five target industries.



Custom PCBU survey

- **Method:** 12-minute online questionnaire (panel sample)
- **Timing:** July 5 to July 22 (18 days in field)
- **Sample*:** n=372 (weighted^)
 - n= 54 Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
 - n= 58 Construction
 - n= 53 Health Care and Social Assistance
 - n= 51 Manufacturing
 - n= 52 Transport, Postal and Warehousing
 - n= 104 Other industries
- **Objective:** to gain an industry perspective on factors impacting knowledge and prioritisation of musculoskeletal injuries. This perspective was sought from those with SafeWork interaction and those without any interaction.



to



- **Screening criteria:** the following screening criteria were applied to those participants to the custom PCBU survey. All participants met these criteria:
 - **Business operation:** Business must operate within NSW.
 - **Business size:** Awareness and willingness to provide employee numbers in Australia and New South Wales.
 - **Primary workplace role:** Be either a business owner, organisation manager, front line manager, operations manager, senior manager, health and safety manager or supervisor
 - Key WHS decision maker

*Detailed unweighted sample structure found in the appendix

*Detailed data notes are found in the appendix

The phase four, quantitative methodology quantifies the awareness, knowledge and engagement with MSDs among New South Wales PCBUs, with the sample boosted by a focused recruitment of SafeWork NSW's five target industries.



Custom PCBU survey data notes

^Weighting:

- All NSW PCBU figures represented in this report have been weighted to reflect the natural representation of industries across NSW. Recruitment for the custom PCBU survey was influenced by the need to boost target industry sample to a quota of n=50. Each target industry data is unweighted in this report.
- All NSW PCBU figures were weighted according to the following three factors: region (Sydney/ rest NSW), industry sector and business size as determined by the latest ABS Census data.
- The Baseline Evaluation results were not representative of the population, as indicated in the report. There are no indications that the results were weighted to reflect the natural representation of industries across NSW. Any comparison of results should be taken with caution.

Significance Testing:

Target industries are significantly tested against NSW PCBUs at a 95% confidence level.

*Detailed unweighted sample structure found in the appendix

*Detailed data noted are found in the appendix



2

Key findings

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

The Strategy is improving its reach, and positively impacts those who know about it...



Impact on major MSDs?
Too early to tell...but
indications suggest
downward trend...

Current claims data is only available until 2017/18, and can't guide progress for the last 12 months (2018/19).

During the implementation year 2017/18, a **1.90% reduction in major MSD claims occurred**, highlighting a positive advancement in reducing major MSD claims since the introduction of the Strategy, though there is a continued downward trend as noted in the Baseline Evaluation.

Successful increase in the
awareness of SW NSW
MSD initiatives in 2018/19

The **reach of SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives has increased significantly over the last twelve months**, reaching 44% of NSW PCBUs.

This reach is critical to improve further to aid a reduction in MSD claims, and to achieve the Strategy's 50% aim. This evaluation highlights the important role that SafeWork interactions play in driving positive attitudes and behaviour to address MSD risks, as those with interactions have stronger attitudes and behaviour.

Engagement with SW NSW
on MSD influences
positive behaviour

Over the last twelve months, the strategy evaluation highlights that **engagement with SafeWork NSW (via one of the MSD initiatives) is likely to influence positive attitudes and behaviours towards MSDs**. Those PCBUs that interacted with a 2018/19 SafeWork NSW MSD initiative are more likely to have a strong willingness to act and the ability to address MSD risks, they are the disciples!

Creating 'presence' and
value is critical

These PCBUs see MSD as having a real 'presence' in the workplace. In other words where PCBUs become aware of the MSD problem, they do buy-in to its impact because they can measure it and understand the physical, emotional and financial damage it can wreak. They are more likely to talk about, plan for and act on MSD. A reinforcement approach is required to guarantee the Disciples maintain or improve attitudes and behaviours.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

...but the Strategy is not reaching enough PCBUs, and lacks presence in many



MSD continues to lack 'presence' among those unable to engage

But the Strategy has not reached enough PCBUs, which will be a difficult goal to achieve in an area that is not overly resonating with, nor prioritised by, PCBUs.

The risk of MSDs continues to lack high levels of 'presence' in the minds of those NSW PCBU's unable to engage with the issue of MSDs.

While the importance of addressing MSD risks is agreed, there is weak acknowledgment or recognition of the actual human and financial impact MSDs can have on their workplace and this results in low levels of positive and proactive behaviours to address MSD risks, particularly among small businesses.

There are several factors at play here: PCBUs don't clearly understand the impacts of MSD injuries; they do not easily identify the potential risks in their workplace; MSDs are not a priority within PCBUs (compared to other WHS issues like falls from heights) nor even among. With these adverse PCBU 'values' plus the low levels of 'presence' of the issue then action to address MSDs remains relatively weak. In fact MSD has only 15% of PCBUs holding both positive attitudes and behaviours .

MSDs also lacks presence among SW NSW Inspectors

A lack of prioritisation of MSDs in the work of SafeWork NSW Inspector has been reported that impacts the influence an Inspector can have when undertaking site visits (who focus on risks that result in immediate severe injury).

Inspectors also report minimum direction from within SafeWork to prioritise MSDs.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

Opportunity exists to improve the influence of initiatives

Focusing on facilitation of change (Spectators) and confrontation of the status quo (Lost)

The segmentation shows 2 in 3 PCBUs are not acting in the right way on MSDs, they are either Spectators (willing and unable) or the Lost (unwilling and unable) – two segments that require differing approaches to changing behaviour.

Spectators require facilitation of behaviour change by providing them capability/simple/relevant actions they can invest in to make a difference.

The Lost first need to be shown that MSD matters before they address the risks. This usually takes the form of a confrontation strategy to challenge the status quo – maybe a shock approach that dials up the massive impact that can flow from an MSD injury. The only other alternative is greater enforcement.

Enabling behaviour change on MSD among SMEs without a WHS focus

Small PCBUs present a particularly difficult challenge as they do not have a WHS focus and are less likely to actively engage in MSD initiatives at all. Further investigation is warranted of the major MSD claims data to determine the number of major MSD claims that are being made by small PCBUs. This analysis will help guide a more effective use of resources, based on whether there is a warranted high focus on small PCBUs within the strategy with the aim to reduce further the number of major MSD claims.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

MSD prevalence in NSW PCBUs

Research objectives

Review 2017/18 claims data and determine if any trends can be attributed to the strategy

Goals of the Strategy

The Strategy includes a goal to reduce the incidence of major MSD workers' compensation claims in NSW workplaces by 50% by 2022.

To enable measurement of this goal throughout the Strategy, the short-term evaluation has included analysis of the State Workers' Compensation Insurance Data relating to Musculoskeletal Injuries and Diseases (MSID) claims. This data provides information about all MSD claims, and then provides a breakdown of minor and major claims for the 2017/18 financial year. As the goal of the Strategy is to reduce major claims, analysis has focused on data relating to all claims and major claims.

■ ■ Overall

SIRA workers' compensation claim data for the implementation year of the Strategy, 2017/18, shows a decline in major MSD claims by 1.90% from 18,336 to 17,987; and is a potential indication of successful measures being implemented by SafeWork NSW.

Currently, the short-term evaluation does not have access to SIRA's static claims data and denominator data (number of employees) for the 2017/18 year. Consequently, determining progress towards achieving a 50% reduction in the incidence of major MSD claims cannot yet be calculated. An analysis of MSD injury causes highlights further education and communications around countering these injuries by muscular stress from carrying objects (not lifting, carrying, putting down) and same level falls are increasing as causal factors.

■ ■ By target industry (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, Construction, Health Care and Social Assistance; Manufacturing; Transport, Postal and Warehousing)

Over the course 2017/18 Strategy implementation year, the Manufacturing and Agriculture target industries had a substantial reduction in major MSD claims, whereas Health and Transport had minor rises and Construction had a more substantial rise in major claims. The target industries remain, bar Agriculture, as the largest contributors to the number of major MSD worker's claims – consideration could be given to treating retail or public administration as a target industry.

Healthcare and social assistance workers and store persons were a prioritised occupation in this period, with mixed results on major claims; only aged care claims declined while nurse and store persons rose. Consideration could be given to a focus truck drivers who account for one of the largest contributors to all major MSD claims.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

Are PCBUs accessing SafeWork NSW MSD resources?

Research objectives

PCBUs accessing SafeWork NSW MSD resources and programs

Among all NSW PCBUs

There are significant increases in the awareness of SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives in 2018/19, reaching 44%. However awareness for any one initiative is low, highest awareness was for the strategy itself and the customer service centre. This indicates that PCBUs are only knowledgeable about a bare minimum of the initiatives that are underway.

Of those initiatives PCBUs are aware of, the strategy, the PERforM website and safety in purchasing were most used/attended. Within the qualitative work, only two key 2018 initiatives mentioned. The 2018 MSD Symposium was well received, with those attending stating an improvement in MSD knowledge; this positive reception indicates potential success for the planned 2020 forum. PERforM has mixed comments, with mentions that its focus may not be directly relevant to those who attend. Inspectors indicate that time and cash poor workplaces cannot address all issues even if they want to, less resourced companies will struggle. This is compounded by limited awareness and discussion internally leave many Inspectors with limited knowledge on the strategy and ability to aid with access to initiatives.

Only 1 in 5 enquiries to SafeWork NSW's helpline relate to weight limits for manual handling, with 5% of enquiries about PERforM. According to the Baseline Evaluation, weight limits were also one of the top three enquiries over twelve months ago. We do see that direct communications influence the searching of knowledge for SafeWork, with the Symposium leading to a direct spike in Strategy page views and the promotion of PERforM likely influencing spikes in HMT page views.

Among target industries

Awareness across the target industries is generally higher, indicating that the Strategy is making headway into reaching the target industries. 3 in 5 Manufacturing and Construction PCBUs are significantly more likely than the state average to be aware of at least one initiative; 3 in 5 Manufacturing PCBUs while 3 in 4 Construction PCBUs are aware of an initiative, mainly the customer service centre and the strategy. Over 1 in 2 Healthcare PCBUs are aware of an initiative, mainly the customer service centre, the strategy and the patient handling project; 1 in 2 Transport PCBUs are aware of at least one initiative, mainly the strategy. But for Agriculture PCBUs, awareness of any MSD initiative is lower than the norm.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

What is the impact of SafeWork initiatives and how can PCBUs be engaged?

Research objectives

Investigate the reach of PCBUs for targeted intervention that can inform the development of an engagement plan for addressing MSD risks, including an MSD awareness campaign.

Awareness segmentation

When determining the impact of being aware of 2018/19 SafeWork initiatives, there is a direct relationship between positive MSD behaviour in the business and those NSW PCBUs that are aware of the 2018/19 initiatives.

While those unable to engage are not likely to show that behaviour and therefore require facilitation and confrontation to change behaviour if they do not become aware of the initiatives SafeWork NSW is doing. Furthermore, there is distinct relationship on the willingness to address MSD risks among those who have engaged with a SafeWork initiative. Those who engage are significantly more likely to have positive behaviour as well, while those who haven't are likely to indicate negative behaviour changes.

Awareness of MSD initiatives is lower amongst small businesses and given workplaces with greater focus on WHS are more likely to be aware of MSD Initiatives, facilitating or confronting small businesses into action may be a key strategy moving forward. We can see from other results among those aware that there is a greater buy-in to the impact and willingness, and therefore the related actions to address MSD risks when a workplace has interacted with SafeWork on MSDs. Interestingly, those PCBUs that have interacted are significantly more likely to state that MSDs have declined within their workplace as they are more likely to believe in the impact MSDs have.

Channels of engagement

NSW PCBUs are most likely to source WHS information and MSD information from the SafeWork NSW website; although nearly 1 in 4 PCBUs have no idea how the information is sourced for MSD. This is particularly pronounced among those not aware of MSD initiative, with 4 out of 5 unaware of where to go for MSD information which presents communication challenges and opportunities.

The SafeWork NSW website, industry magazines, emails and email newspapers and word of mouth sources appear to be the most channels for driving awareness. Word of mouth sources i.e. peers, colleagues, businesses, industry consultants have the potential to drive engagement with PCBUs around MSDs and ultimately lead them to utilize other information channels such as the SafeWork NSW website. Opportunities exist to link businesses with key opinion leaders and experts as a way of driving engagement and raising awareness.

NSW PCBUs are requesting best practice information be provided, with further education and training as well. Manufacturer PCBUs stand out on educations/training and site visits. 1 in 5 PCBUs do not see a need for SafeWork's involvement.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

What is the level of knowledge and awareness of MSD risks?

Research objectives

PCBUs have increased knowledge and awareness of MSD hazards, prevention control measures and the impact of the safety landscape

Among all NSW PCBUs

Awareness of what defines an MSD is high, 74% of PCBUs able to provide some definition of an MSD (unprompted) and half of PCBUs indicating an increased awareness of MSDs within their workplace. However, knowledge of the potential impacts of MSD hazards remains low. There is minimal top of mind knowledge of the potential hazards that can cause injuries with most descriptions of MSD focusing on the type of injury rather than the cause. While MSDs are not top of mind, critical preventative control measures are not likely to be in place.

In addition to the 26% who openly state they do not know what an MSD is, there is an ongoing need to raise awareness of the need to address risks, first and foremost. This is highlighted by the impact of seeing the definition of MSDs, with strong agreement by PCBUs of the need to address MSD risks; 77% of NSW PCBUs state it is important to some degree (48% say it's very important). The inevitability of risks being present and the attitude that these injuries are 'a part of the job' are the top attitudes that prevent buy-in to addressing risks. In other words buy-in is inhibited by a disbelief that their business is directly at risk.

Despite this strong belief in the need to address MSD risks, there is minimal 'buy-in' amongst NSW PCBUs that MSDs impact their business because 59% of PCBUs think that MSDs are having no or little impact on their business. A clear recognition that MSD hazards can impact the finances of any business is not present.

Among target industries

Awareness of what defines MSDs is highest among Healthcare and Manufacturing PCBUs, where 9 in 10 of PCBUs were able to provide some definition of an MSD (unprompted). For Transport it was 67%, Agriculture (72%) and Construction (76%).

Where PCBUs have a lower proportion of the target industries who cannot describe an MSD – critical preventative control measures are not likely to be in place in such industries and a greater focus on raising the profile of MSDs in these industries is required.

Interestingly, Agriculture has the highest agreement with the need to address MSD risks when shown a definition of MSDs. However, Agriculture PCBUs also have the highest proportion indicating that they do not have an impact – there is no buy-in to MSDs as being an issue in their industry, which may be due to a belief that MSD injuries are inevitable and the risk of them cannot be eliminated completely.

Manufacturers, on the other hand, have high awareness to define MSDs and strong agreement with the importance of addressing MSD risks and consequently buy-in, relative to other PCBUs, to the need to act on prevention.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

What is the willingness to address MSD risks?

Research objectives

PCBUs have increased willingness and confidence to address MSD risks

Among all NSW PCBUs

In the short-term evaluation, willingness to address MSD risk has been measured across all PCBUs (which was not completed in the baseline evaluation). Currently, willingness to address MSD risks is moderate among NSW PCBUs, with 1 in 2 indicating a desire to do so while 3 in 10 are neither willing nor unwilling.

This willingness is likely influencing behavioural changes for MSDs in the last 12 months. Within the last 6 months, only half of NSW PCBUs indicate they have made at least one change to a control measure to address MSD risks. This is relatively consistent across each control types. This lack of change in in MSD controls is likely affected by a lack of experience in dealing with MSDs; only 2 in 5 NSW PCBUs state an MSD injury has occurred in the last 12 months within their business. This is largely neck/back/shoulder pains.

More broadly, recognition of behavioural and attitudinal changes on MSDs vary over the last twelve months, but with no more than half of NSW PCBUs noticing changes to any one factor. This includes the key factors of staff consultation to reduce MSDs and to redesign jobs.

Contrapuntally, more than half of PCBUs have not noticed any positive changes and key barriers remain to proactive action on MSD risks. This evaluation highlighted that pressure to meet deadlines, prioritising customer needs overrides their own needs, are all key barriers PCBUs have identified in preventing more action on MSDs.

Among target industries

In the short-term evaluation, willingness to address MSD risk is significantly higher for manufacturing PCBUs, where 3 in 4 PCBUs are willing; all other target industries remain close to the state average. Similarly, manufacturing PCBUs have significantly higher injuries, indicating that higher knowledge of MSDs could lead to a higher awareness and greater likelihood to report an MSD injury. While the majority of PCBUs state injury rates have remained constant; Manufacturing and Construction PCBUs have significantly higher mentions of decreasing MSD injuries. Among the target industries, a significantly higher number of Manufacturing, Construction and Healthcare PCBUs are making changes.

There are strong associations between the target industries and the type of changes occurring in the last 12 months. Healthcare is associated with offering training to prevent MSDs and with measuring and recording MSD injuries. Manufacturing is associated closely with staff consultation to reduce /eliminate actions & redesigning jobs. Construction is linked with increasing mentions of MSD risks to workers (toolbox meetings, and then to awareness of the cost to the workplace.

The perceptual map of factors preventing action on MSDs reinforces the qualitative insights that clear associations exist in the barriers each target industry faces. Healthcare PCBUs have pressure to meet deadlines, changes are costly, workers prioritise getting the job done and put customer needs first. Manufacturers PCBUs have a lack of time to focus on the issue and Agriculture PCBUs don't know the solution and see other risks as more important. Whereas Construction and Transport PCBUs don't see MSD injuries as costing much, with workers not caring about the risks.

Short-term Evaluation Key Findings

PCBU focus on workplace, health and safety and MSDs

Research objectives

Establish baseline reads on key medium-term outcomes and long-term outcomes critical for assessment in the scheduled evaluations of 2021 and 2022.

Where businesses sit regarding leadership and consultation, safe-design principles

When considering workplace, health and safety from a holistic perspective, NSW PCBUs state a strong self belief in their focus on workplace health and safety, with 2 in 5 NSW PCBUs believing they have a targeted and proactive response to preventing incidents – particularly evident in Manufacturing and Construction PCBUs. Focus on mental wellbeing is less proactive in comparison. Furthermore, 3 in 4 NSW PCBUs have a role focused on WHS. A significantly higher proportion of Manufacturing, Construction and Transport PCBUs have a dedicated WHS role, whereas almost half of the Agriculture PCBUs do not have any WHS position. The direct focus on WHS looks to influence the ability of a workplace to focus on MSD prevention as well.

Small PCBUs present a large problem in addressing risks to drive down claims as they do not have a WHS focus and so are less likely to actively engage in MSD initiatives. This could well inform the coming marketing campaign.

Mind-sets differ across PCBUs

A segmentation of MSD behaviours and attitudes (positive and negative) emphasizes that majority of PCBUs are not address MSD risks, despite more than half of PCBUs having a willingness to address risks.

The segmentation shows 2 in 3 PCBUs are not acting in the right way on MSDs. The ideal situation is for the long-term outcome of the Strategy to strengthen the number of disciples (positive behaviour and willingness) among NSW PCBUs. This leads to an approach to addressing MSD risks that is more likely to be embedded in leadership and the fabric of the workplace. However, addressing MSD risks remains a relatively weak WHS issue with only 15% of PCBUs acting as disciples.

The majority of PCBUs, according to the segmentation, are acting in a negative way, showing an inability to address MSD risks for a variety of reasons.

This can be addressed through targeted actions with Spectators (willing and unable) or the Lost (unwilling and unable) – two segments that require differing approaches to influencing behaviour change.

Spectators require facilitation initiatives that enable behaviour change to address risks while the Lost require a confrontation strategy to challenge the status quo. Without these targeted approaches, it's hard to see how more PCBUs will be improve their MSD actions moving forward.



3

Detailed Findings



3a

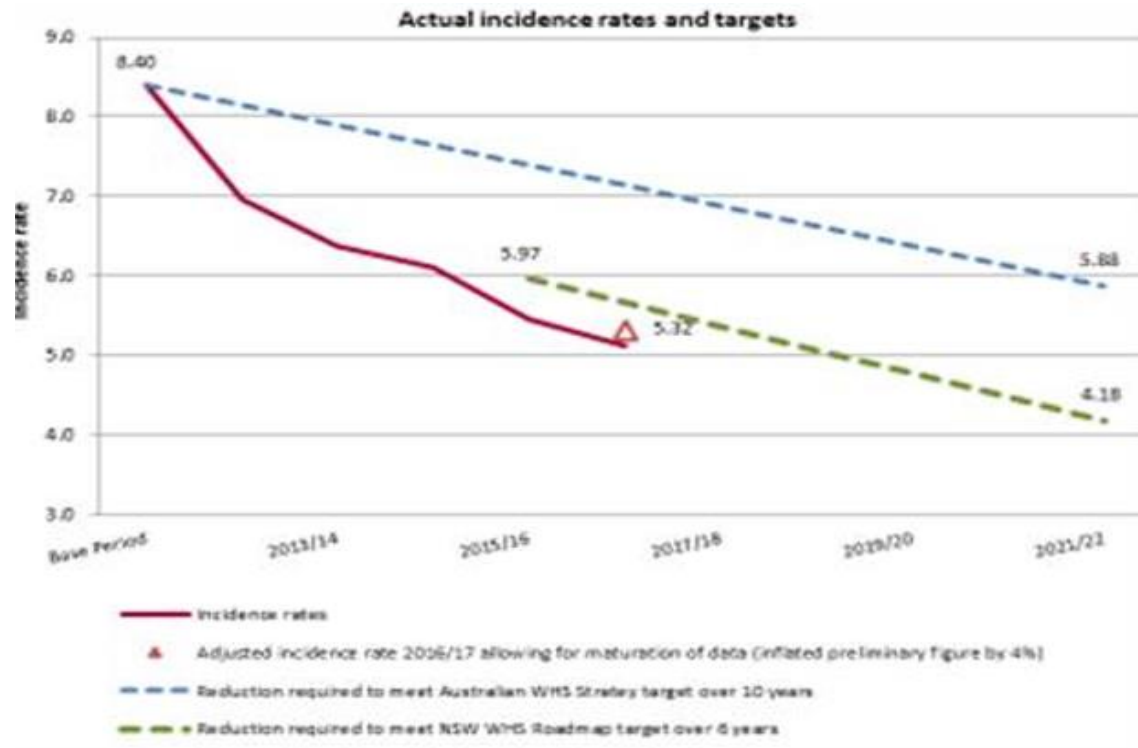
MSD prevalence in NSW PCBU's

An analysis of SIRA workers compensation data to 2017/2018

MSD prevalence in NSW PCBUs

Trend in incidence rates for MSD (2016/17 claims data)

At the time of delivering the 2019 Short-term Evaluation report, only 2016/17 incidence rates are available to determine progress towards the NSW WHS Roadmap target for reducing major MSDs. These incidence figures indicate NSW remains on track to achieve a 50% reduction by 2022, with an ongoing decline in claims keeping the trajectory below the reduction required to achieve targets. 2017/18 claims data will be available in January 2020, where any incidence can be measured against the required trajectory for 2017/18 to assess the Strategy's 2017 implementation year (Strategy launch in October 2017, some tasks commenced in July 2017).



Analysis of the State Workers' Compensation Insurance Data

Please Note: Data Consideration Issues

The SW NSW target was based on incidence of serious claims and developed based on a methodology to assess progress against targets which mirrored the SafeWork Australia methodology.

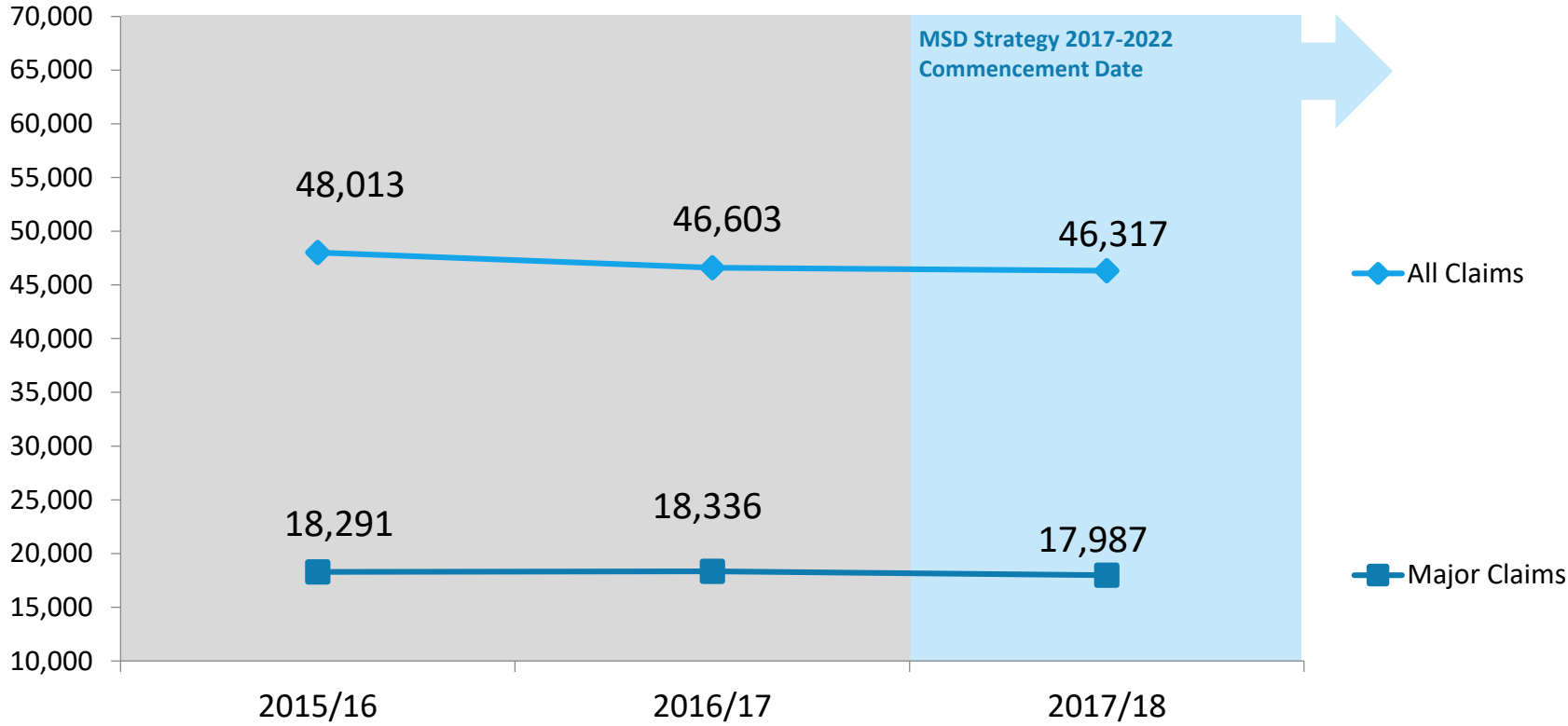
All remaining claims data in this report is data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year. With incidence rates only shown for 2016/17, conclusions on the 2018/2019 progress of Strategy (i.e. the last 12 months of the Strategy's work) cannot be attributed to any changes in claims data as this information is not yet available.

NSW workers' compensation claims for MSD

2017/18 claims data (12-month data period)



Workers compensation data for the 2017/18 financial year is available for this report, providing initial indications on the Strategy's progress as this information transgresses the Strategy's implementation year. The changes seen in major MSD claims may not be an indication of success of the Strategy as they may be due to changes in the number of worker exposure or through random fluctuations.



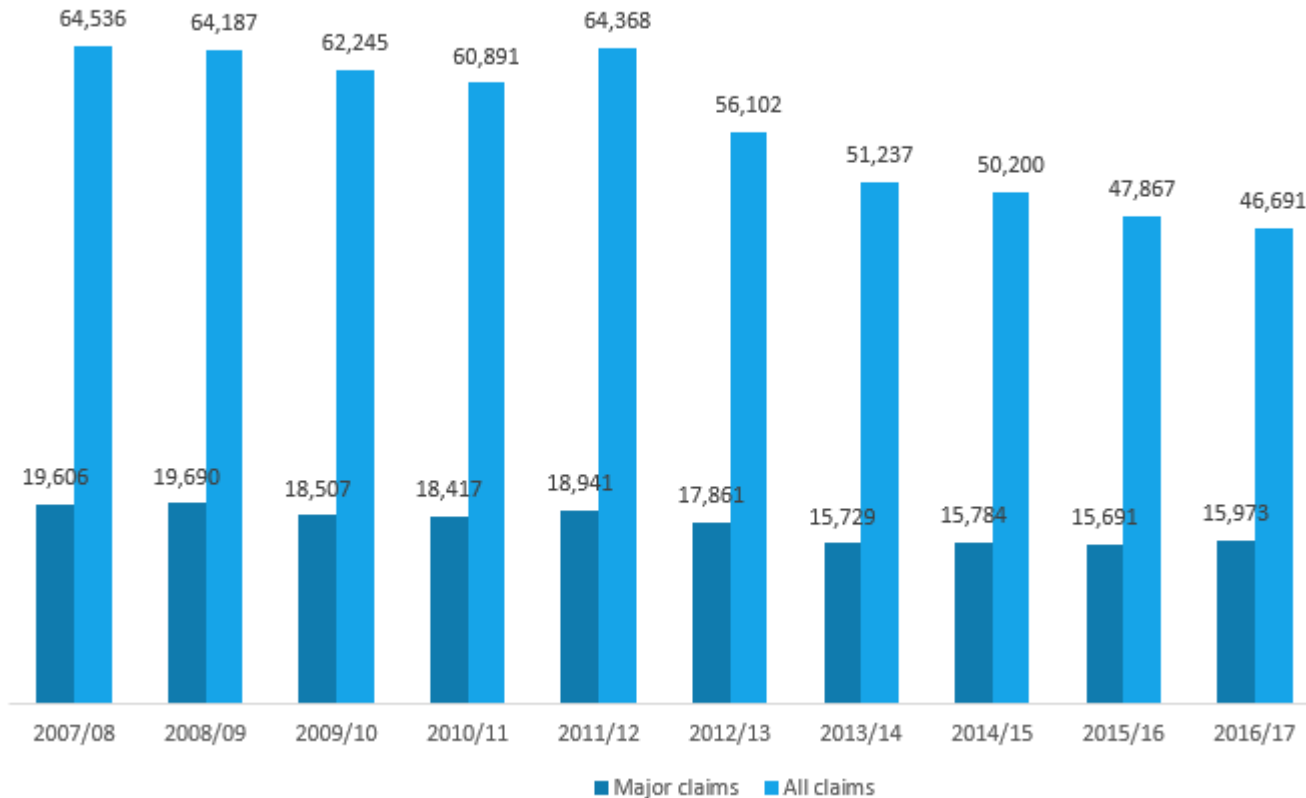
Source: State Insurance Regulatory Authority - SAS dynamic files as at June 2019

NSW workers' compensation claims for MSD

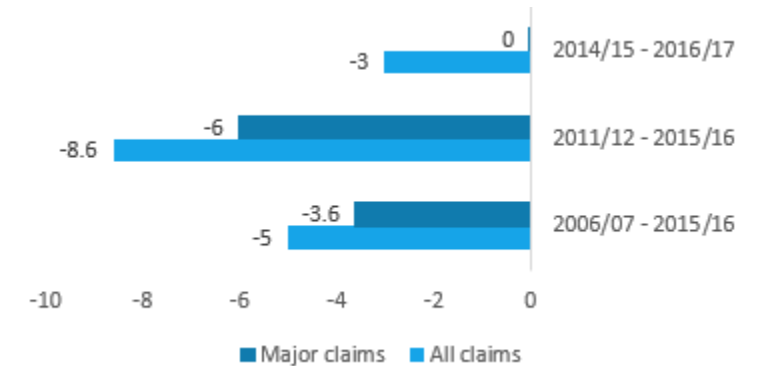
Trend in workers' compensation claims for MSD (12-month data period)

SIRA's Annual Statistical Files (data as at end of November for each financial year) as seen in the below table and reported on in previous evaluations, has a discrepancy of around 2,500 for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years when compared with the SIRA's SAS dynamic files (June 2019) and should be considered in an analysis of MSD claim reductions on 2012 yearly figures. There will be differences in claim numbers and classification of claims as they develop, and the severity of claims emerges.

No. of MSD Claims (financial year)



Average annual % change



MSD claims by target industry sector

Trend in workers' compensation claims for MSD (12-month data period)

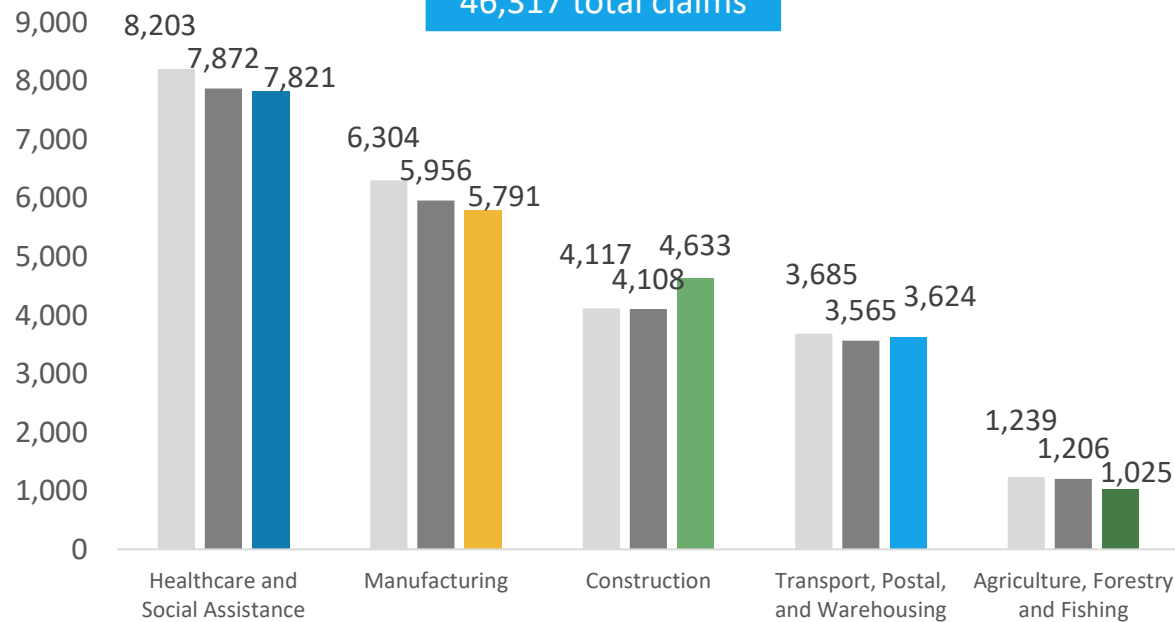


Over the course 2017/18 Strategy implementation year, there are no significant changes in the level of claims data among the target industries. The target industries remain, bar Agriculture, as the largest contributors to the number of major MSD worker's claims – consideration could be given to treating retail or public administration as a target industry. Any changes in the number of claims alone may not be correct indication of success. It could be due to changes in the number of workers exposure or random fluctuations.

High relative proportion of major claims: Healthcare remains the top industry for major claims, accounting for 20%, followed by construction (12%) and manufacturing (11%), transport (9%); while agriculture only account for 3% of all major claims, unlike retail (9%) and public administration (8%). This has remained consistent over the past three years.

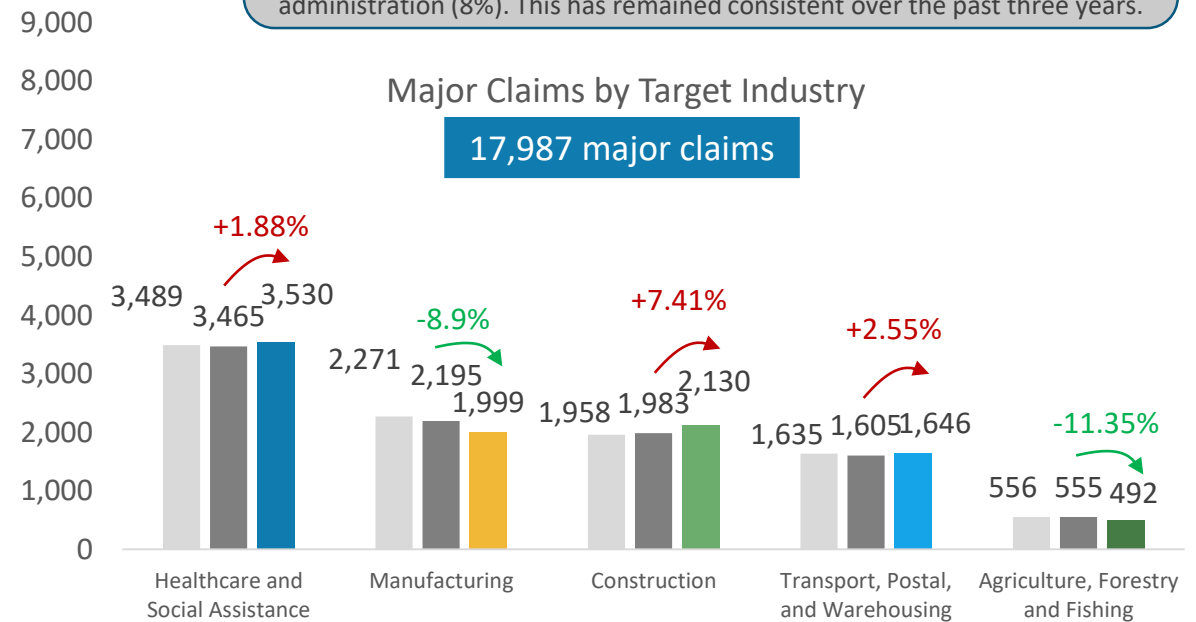
All Claims by Target Industry

46,317 total claims



Major Claims by Target Industry

17,987 major claims



2015/16 2016/17 2017/18

Please Note: Data Consideration Issues

Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year. Therefore, conclusion on the 2018/2019 progress of Strategy (i.e. the last 12 months of the Strategy's work) cannot be attributed to any changes in claims data as this information is not yet available.

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than 2016/17 claims data, ↓ significantly lower than 2016/17 claims data

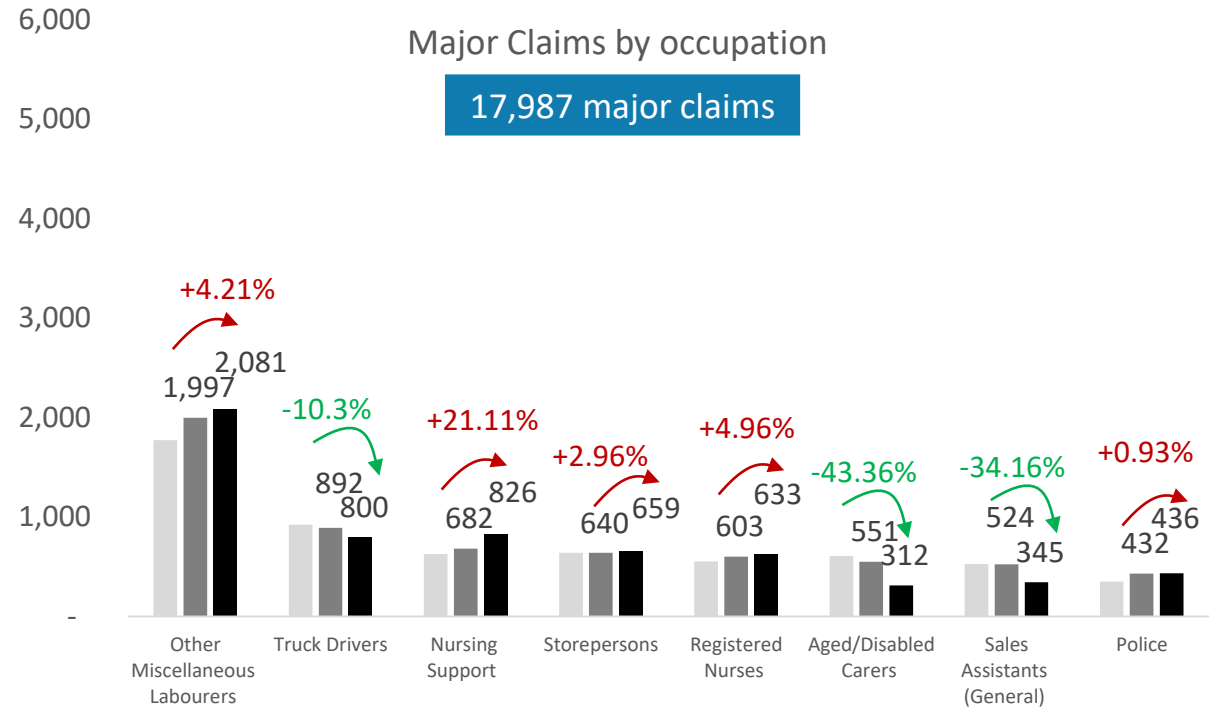
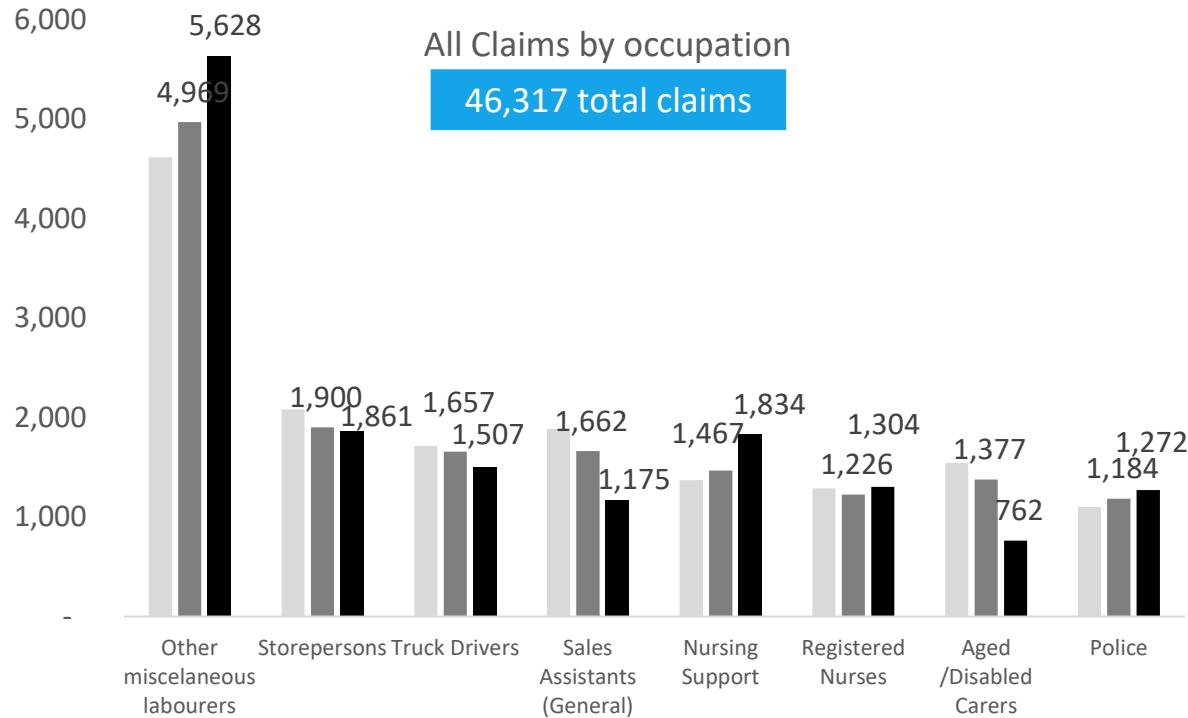
Source: State Insurance Regulatory Authority - Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year

MSD claims by occupation

Trend in workers' compensation claims for MSD (12-month data period)



Over the course 2017/18 Strategy implementation year, there are no significant changes in the level of claims data among occupations, with the changes noted possibly due to changes in the number of workers exposed or random fluctuations. It will be important to continue monitoring trends in the healthcare occupations, as nursing support is trending up in the number of major claims while it's trending down for aged care workers.



Please Note: Data Consideration Issues

Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year. Therefore, conclusion on the 2018/2019 progress of Strategy (i.e. the last 12 months of the Strategy's work) cannot be attributed to any changes in claims data as this information is not yet available.

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than 2016/17 claims data, ↓ significantly lower than 2016/17 claims data

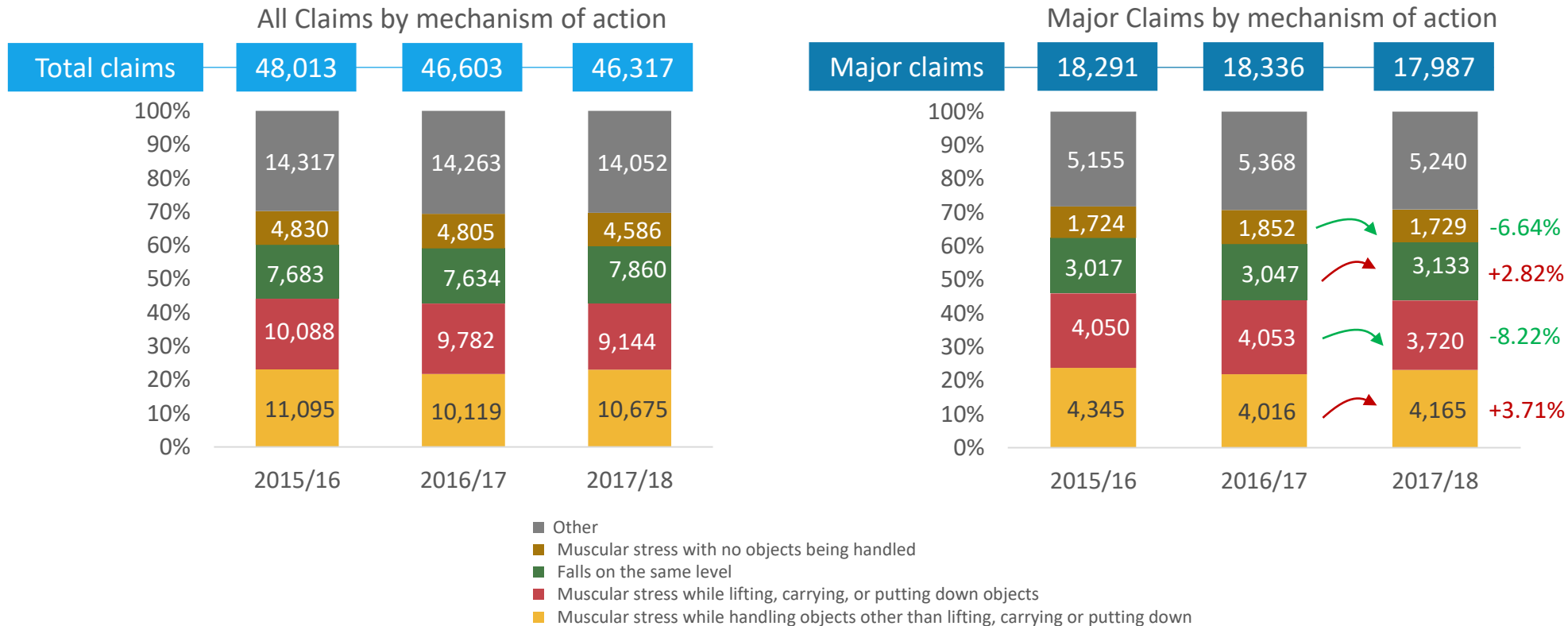
Source: State Insurance Regulatory Authority - Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year

MSD claims by mechanism of action

Trend in workers' compensation claims for MSD (12-month data period)



Over the course 2017/18 Strategy implementation year, there are no significant changes in the level of claims data among the mechanisms of action for major MSD injuries; the changes noted could be due to changes in the number of workers exposed or random fluctuations. Muscular stress (from both handling objects and no objects being handled) and same level falls account for 7 in 10 major MSD injuries in 2017/18; education and communications around countering these movements could be a point of focus moving forward.



Please Note: Data Consideration Issues

Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year. Therefore, conclusion on the 2018/2019 progress of Strategy (i.e. the last 12 months of the Strategy's work) cannot be attributed to any changes in claims data as this information is not yet available.

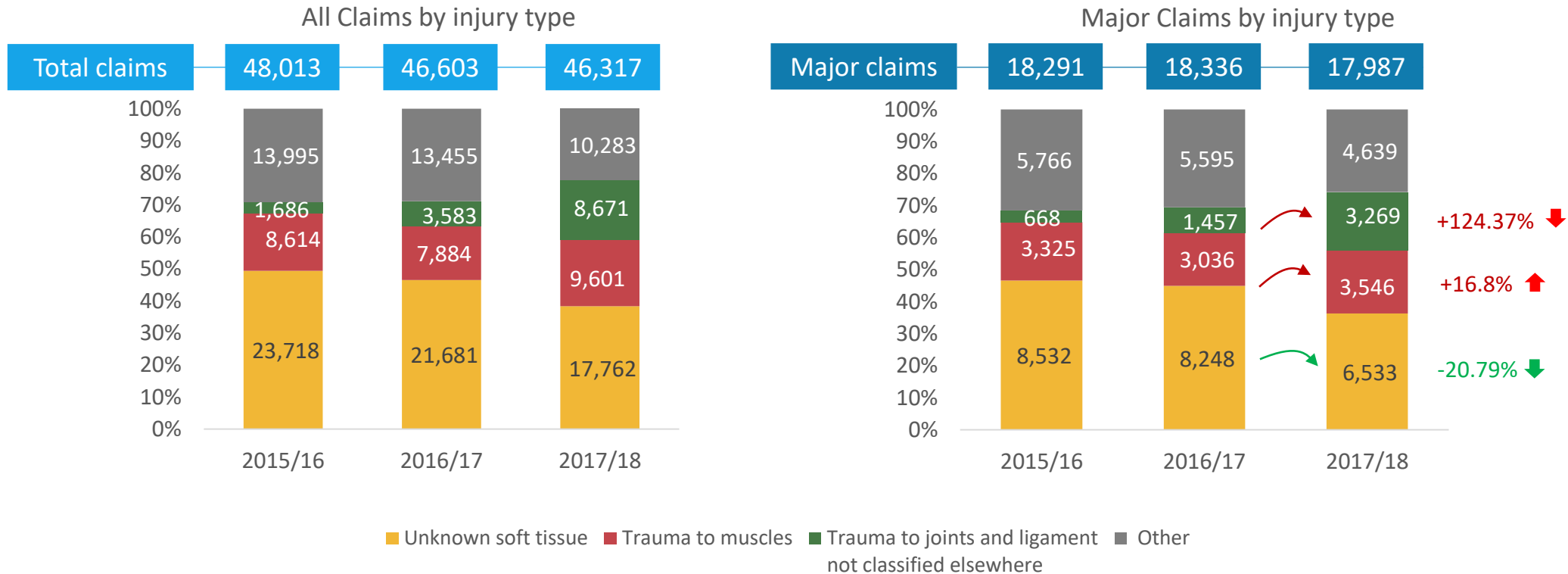
Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than 2016/17 claims data, ↓ significantly lower than 2016/17 claims data

Source: State Insurance Regulatory Authority - Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year

MSD claims by injury type

Trend in workers' compensation claims for MSD (12-month data period)

Significant changes in the injury types has occurred between 2016/17 and 2017/18. There has been a significant increase in trauma to joint and ligaments over the past three years as the source of major MSD claims, as soft tissue injuries reduce as a focal point of major claims. In 2017/18, these broad injury types, as well as muscle trauma, account for 75% of all major claims and indicate a high variety of non-specific injuries that are occurring.



Please Note: Data Consideration Issues

Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year. Therefore, conclusion on the 2018/2019 progress of Strategy (i.e. the last 12 months of the Strategy's work) cannot be attributed to any changes in claims data as this information is not yet available.

Significance Testing: ▲ significantly higher than 2016/17 claims data, ▼ significantly lower than 2016/17 claims data

Source: State Insurance Regulatory Authority - Data as at 30th June 2019, extracted in August 2019 for the 2017/18 financial year



3b

PCBU leadership with safe workplaces

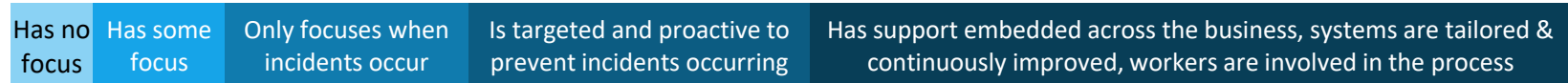
Leadership support, worker consultation and safe-design principles

Leadership focus on WHS and mental wellbeing

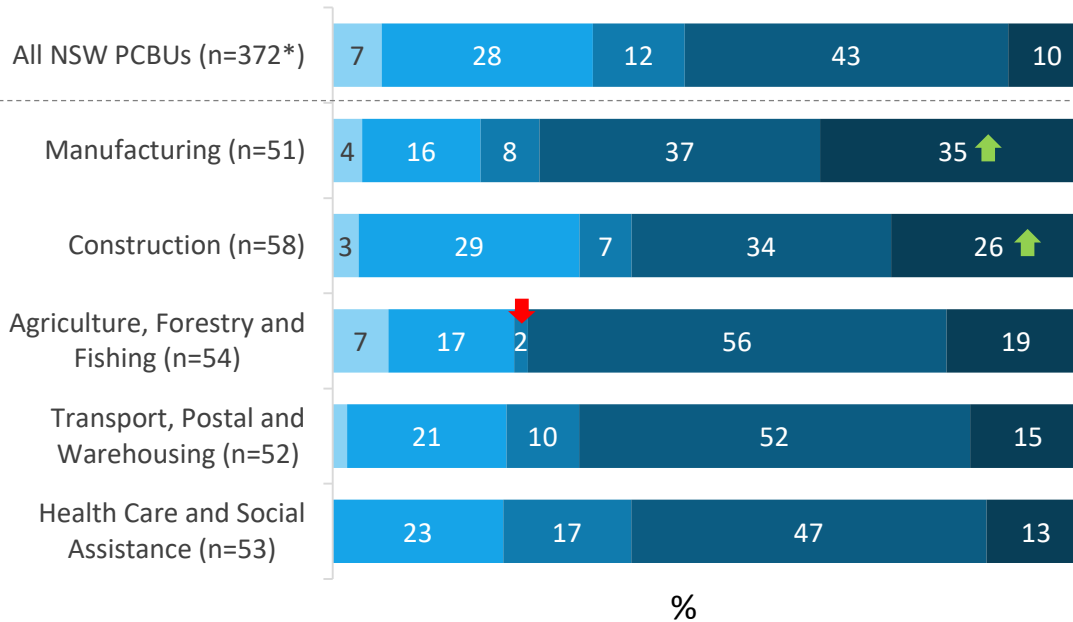
How embedded, responsive and collaborative is leadership?

NSW PCBUs have a strong self belief in their focus on workplace health and safety, with 2 in 5 NSW PCBUs believing they have a targeted and proactive response to preventing incidents – particularly evident in Manufacturing and Construction PCBUs. Focus on mental wellbeing is less proactive in comparison

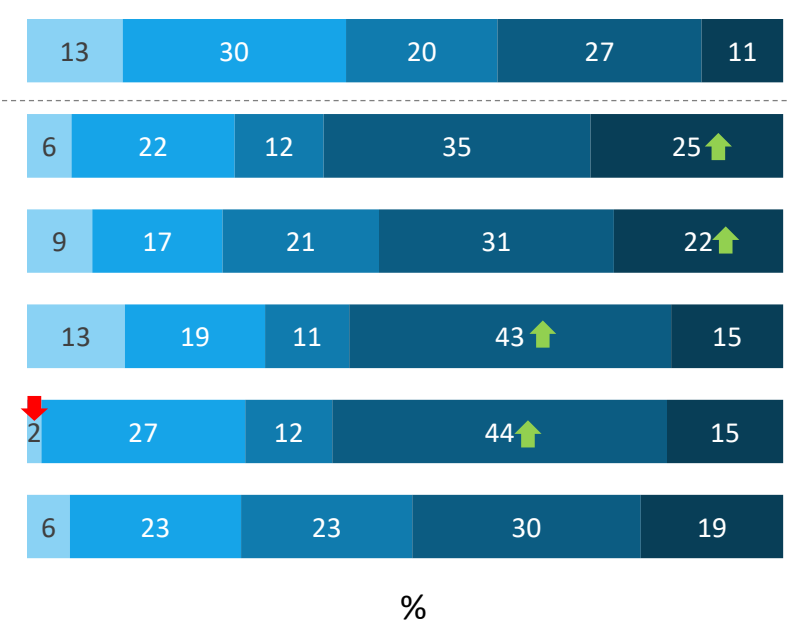
How embedded, responsive and collaborative is leadership?



Approach to WHS



Approach to mental wellbeing



Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

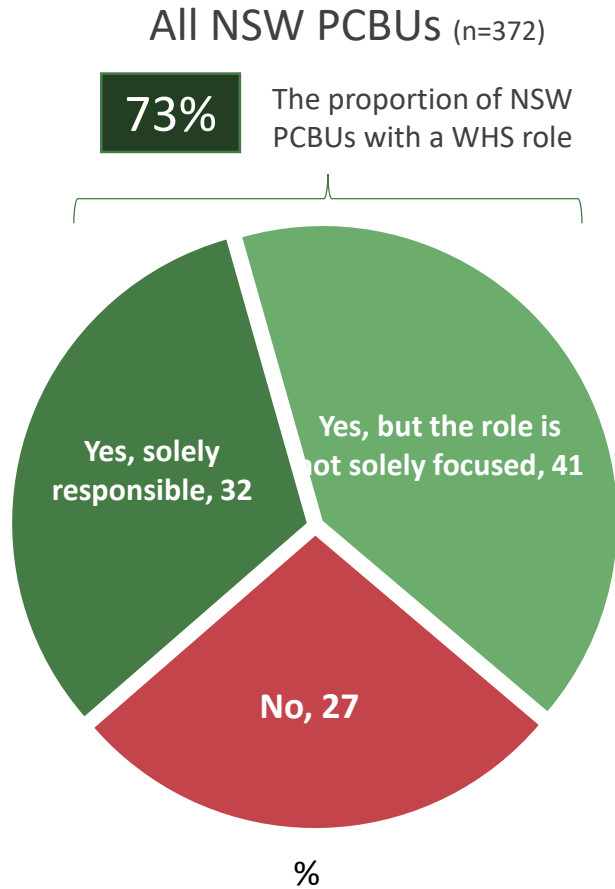
Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question A2a/b: Please indicate on the following scale where you believe your workplace's leadership is regarding workplace health and safety / mental wellbeing? Please select one option

Leadership focus on WHS

Allocation of a specific staff position or role responsible for WHS

Almost 3 in 4 NSW PCBUs have a role focused on WHS, but only ~1 in 3 have a role solely responsible for WHS. A significantly higher proportion of Manufacturing, Construction and Transport PCBUs have a dedicated WHS role, whereas almost half of the Agriculture PCBUs do not have any WHS position.



MSD Strategy Target Industries %	YES		No
	Yes, solely responsible	Yes, but the role is not solely focused	
Construction (n=58)	91 ↑	31	9 ↓
Manufacturing (n=51)	60 ↑	25 ↑	14 ↓
Transport, Postal and Warehousing (n=52)	61 ↑	25 ↑	15
Health Care and Social Assistance (n=53)	52 ↑	33	15
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (n=54)	38	47	15
	54 ↓	35	46 ↑

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

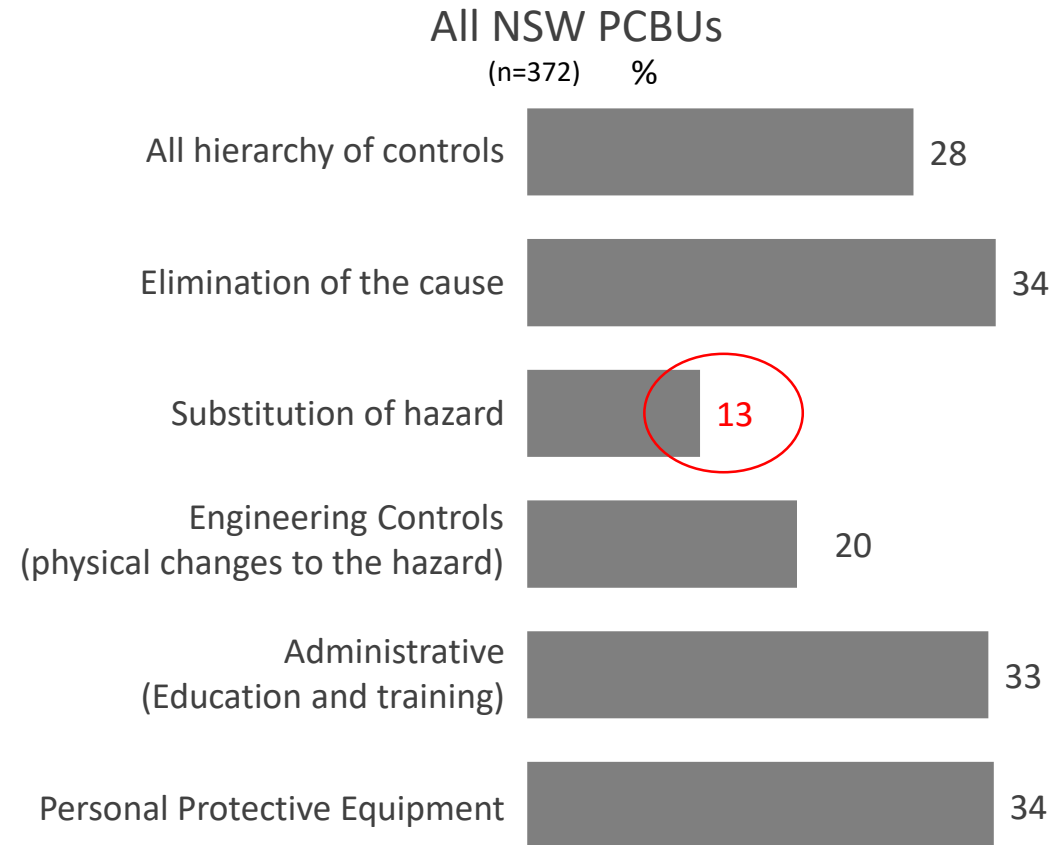
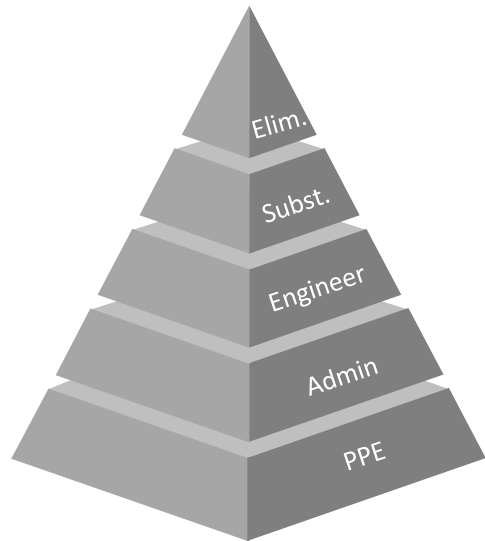
Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question A1: Does your organisation have a specific staff position or role that is responsible for health and safety? *Please select one option*

The approach of NSW PCBUs to the use of controls

The health and safety controls NSW PCBUs will likely use

Nearly 3 in 10 NSW PCBUs believe their organisation make use of all the hierarchy of controls to address health and safety issues; beyond this, elimination of the cause and personal protective equipment are key controls while substitution of the hazard is least likely to be used



NB: 6% of respondents indicated they were not aware of the controls their organisation is likely to use

Significance Testing: Not conducted

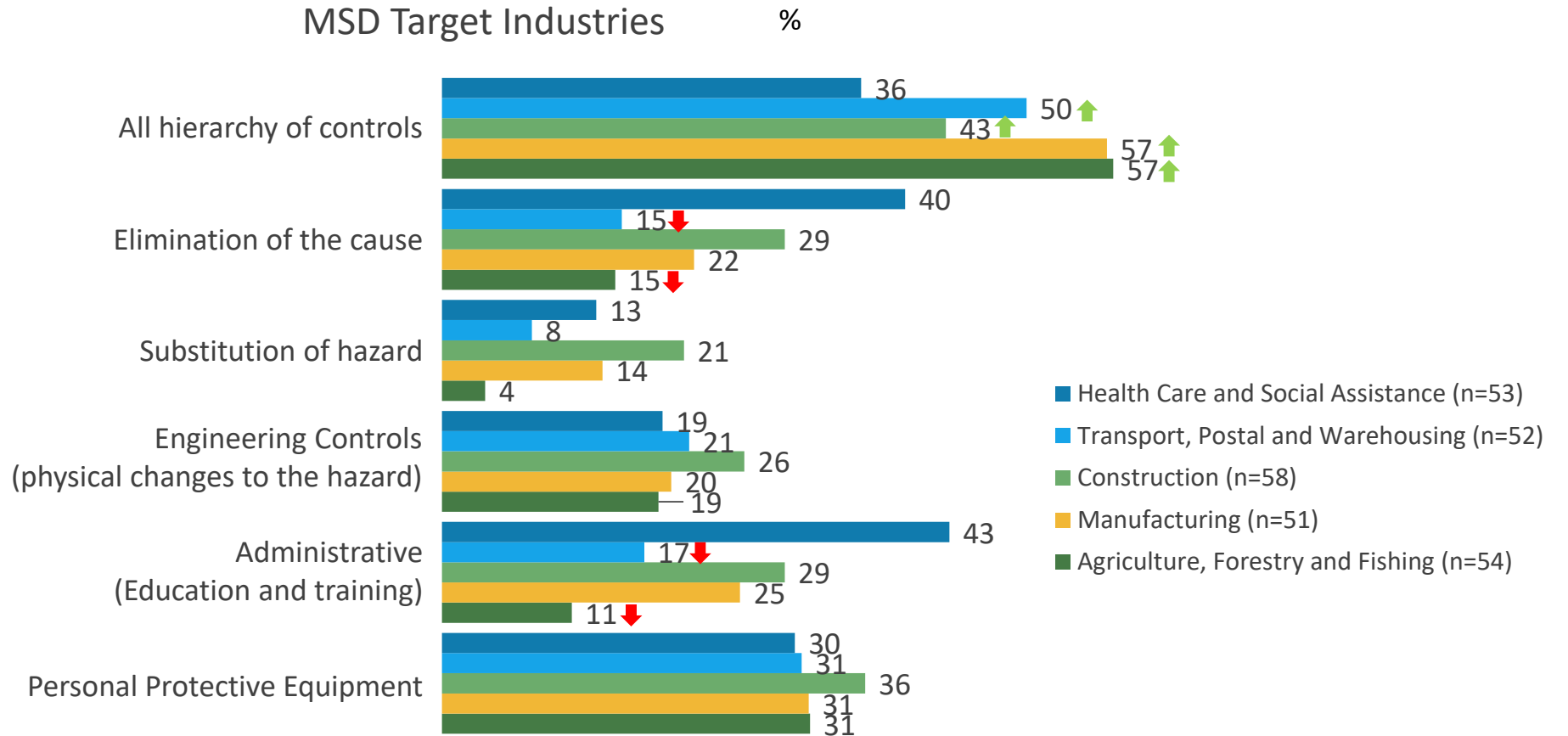
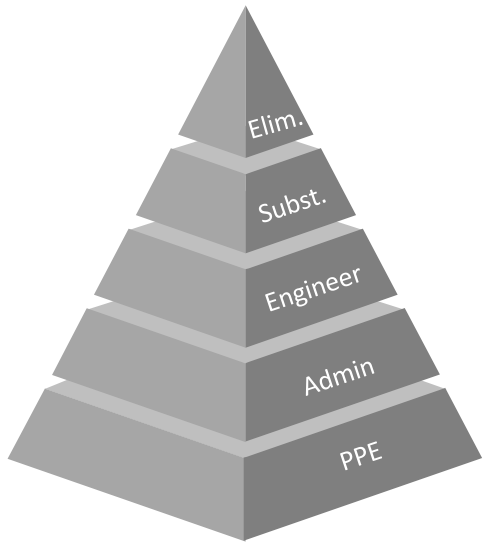
Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted)]

Question A3: When it comes to the types of health and safety controls that an organisation can use, what is/are your organisation most likely to use?

The approach of NSW PCBUs to the use of controls

The health and safety controls target industries will likely use

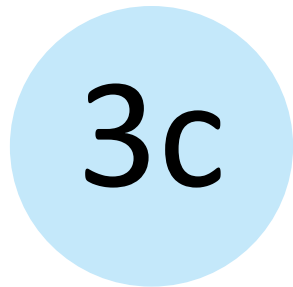
Compared to all NSW PCBUs, all target industries besides Healthcare are significantly more likely to use all WHS controls. Healthcare PCBUs were most likely to select administrative controls or elimination while Transport and Agriculture are significantly less likely to eliminate the cause.



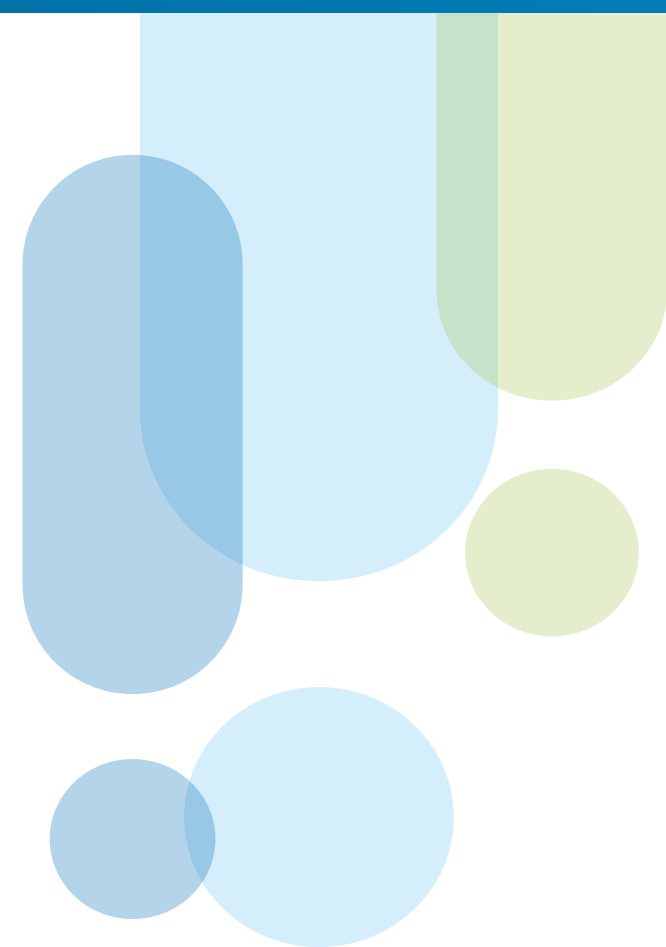
Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question A3: When it comes to the types of health and safety controls that an organisation can use, what is/are your organisation most likely to use?



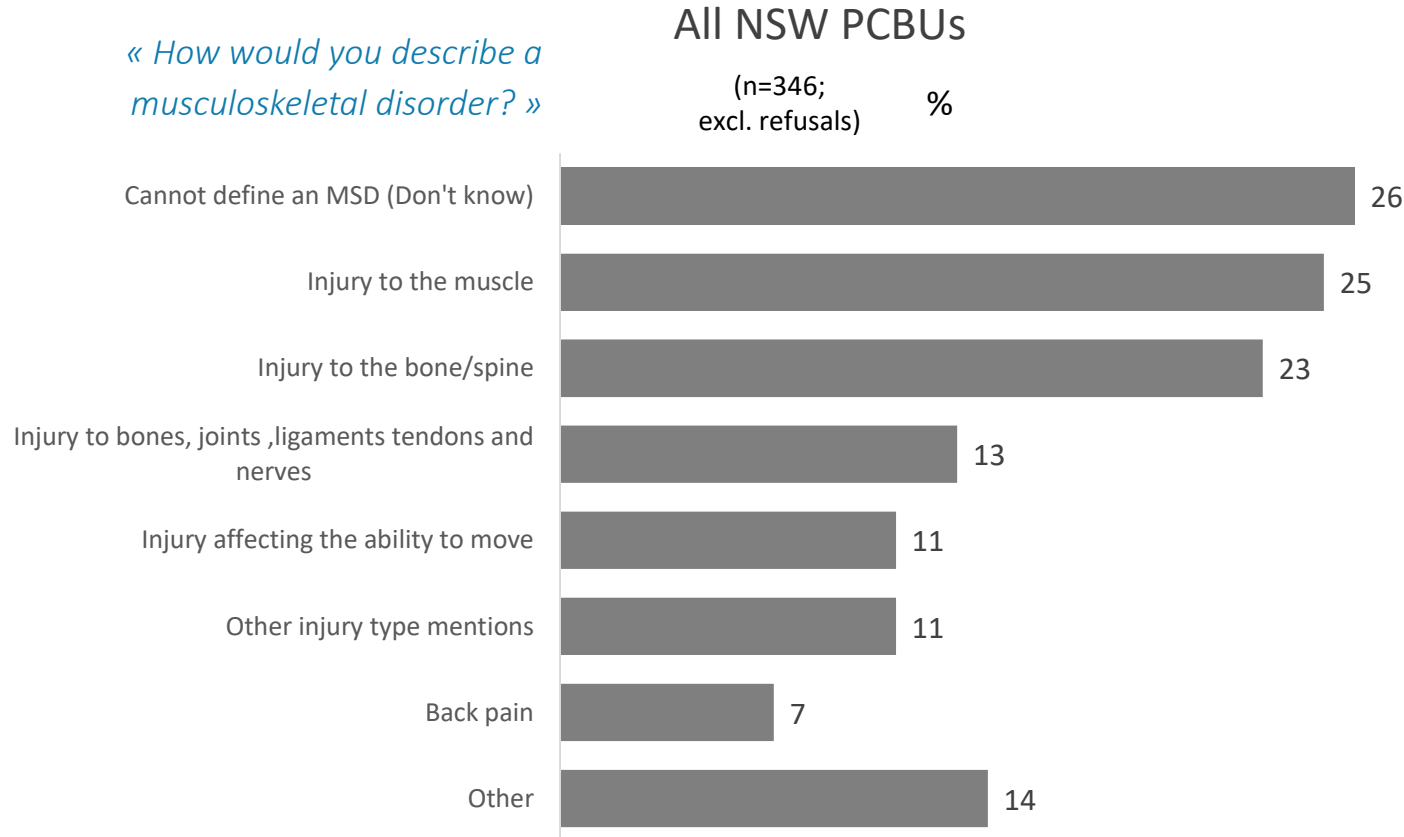
PCBU knowledge and awareness of MSDs



Awareness and knowledge of MSDs

Unprompted defining of a Musculoskeletal Disorder by NSW PCBU

1 in 4 NSW PCBU cannot describe a musculoskeletal disorder. Most of the stated descriptions focused on the type of injury that can occur rather than the cause of the injury, highlighting the lack of focus PCBU have towards the potential of injuries to occur in the workplace.



Minimal mentions were made about the causes of injuries when defining an MSD
3% of NSW PCBUs mention that an MSD is an injury caused by repetitive movements, with 1% caused by no objects being handled (namely awkward postures) and 1% stating an injury caused by a slip or fall.

*NB: mentions less than 5% not shown

Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents excluding refusals [All NSW PCBU (n= 346 weighted)]

Question B1: How would you describe a musculoskeletal disorder (MSD)?

Awareness and knowledge of MSDs

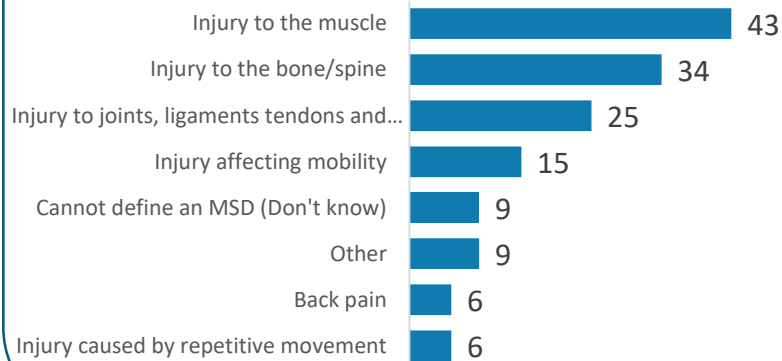
Unprompted defining of a Musculoskeletal Disorder by target industry

Awareness of MSDs looks highest among Healthcare and Manufacturing PCBUs, where only a small proportion cannot describe an MSD and a high proportion defined injury types. Transport, Agriculture and Construction PCBUs have the highest proportion of target industries who cannot describe an MSD.

« How would you describe a musculoskeletal disorder? »

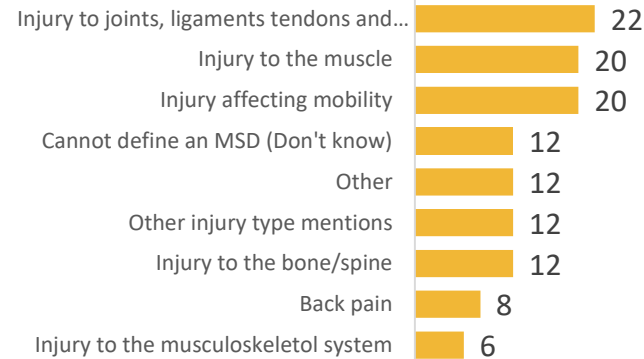
Healthcare, Social Assistance

(n=49; excl. refusals) %



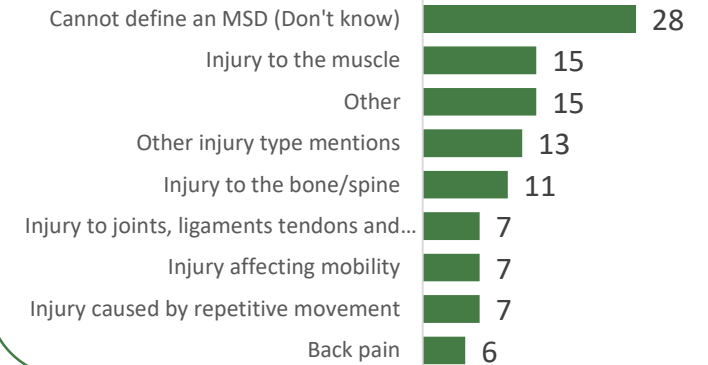
Manufacturing

(n=44; excl. refusals) %



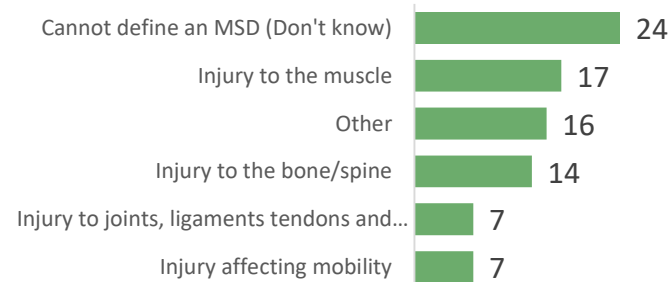
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing

(n=49; excl. refusals) %



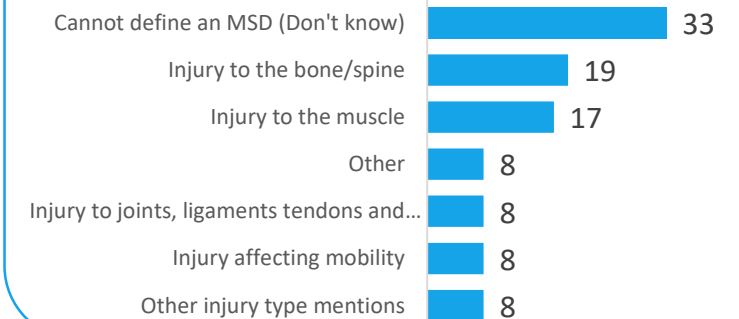
Construction

(n=47; excl. refusals) %



Transport, Postal, Warehousing

(n=44; excl. refusals) %



*NB: mentions less than 5% not shown

Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents excluding refusals [targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=49, construction, n=47, healthcare n=49, manufacturing n=44, transport n=44)] excluding refusals

Question B1: How would you describe a musculoskeletal disorder (MSD)?

Risk perception with addressing MSDs

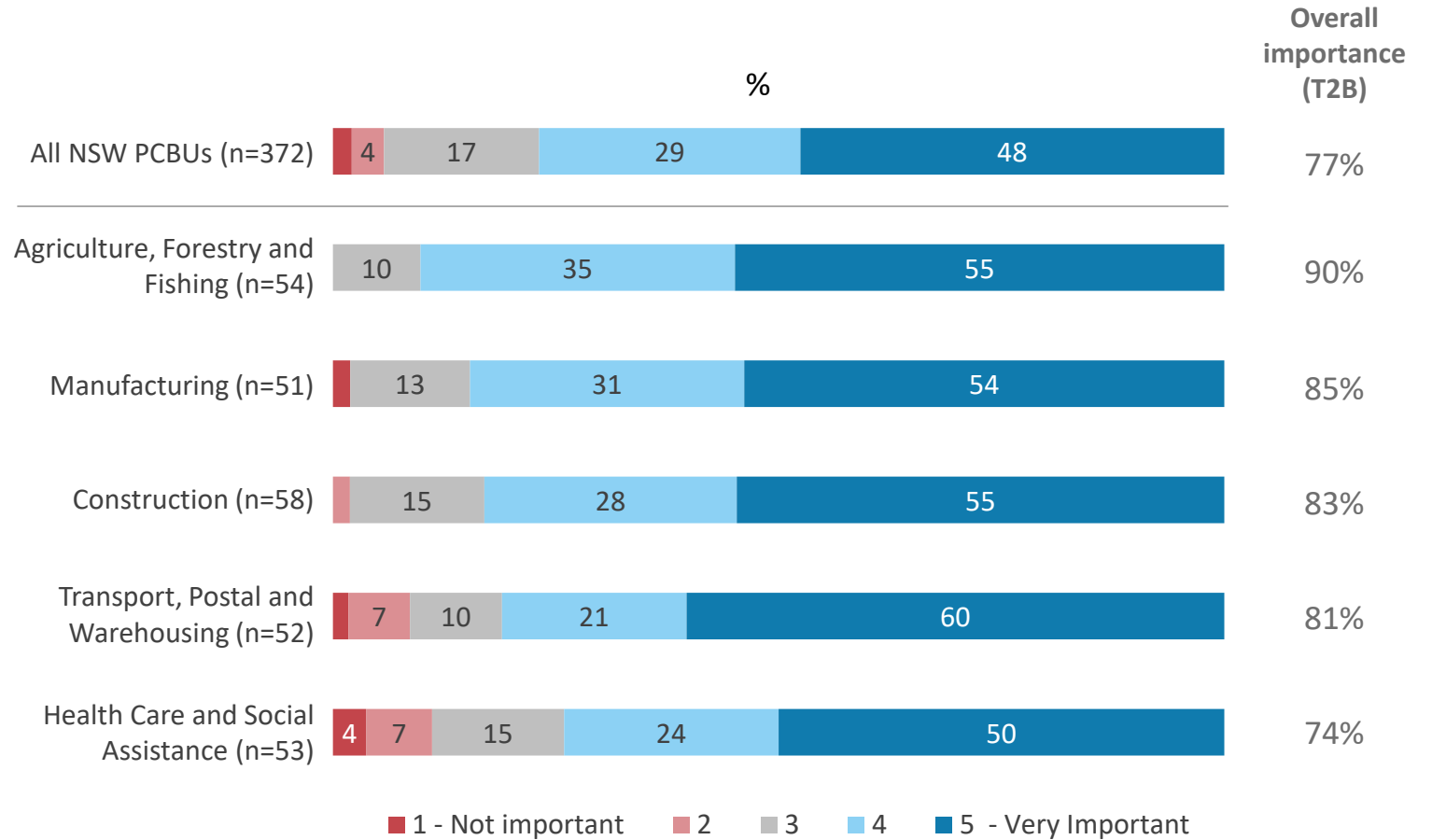
The importance of addressing MSD risks to prevent MSD injuries



Belief in the need to address MSD risks is strong once PCBUs are presented with the definition of a MSD, with nearly 8 in 10 NSW PCBUs believing it is important to address risks to prevent an MSD injury from occurring; Agriculture PCBUs have the highest level of agreement among target industries once presented with the definition of an MSD

SafeWork NSW MSD Definition Shown:

« An MSD is an injury to, or disease of, the body's musculoskeletal system and includes sprains and strains. MSDs can result from gradual wear and tear (such as RSI) and/or sudden damage to muscles, ligaments, tendons and joints, and are commonly caused by hazardous manual tasks and slips, trips and falls »



Significance Testing: No significance found

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

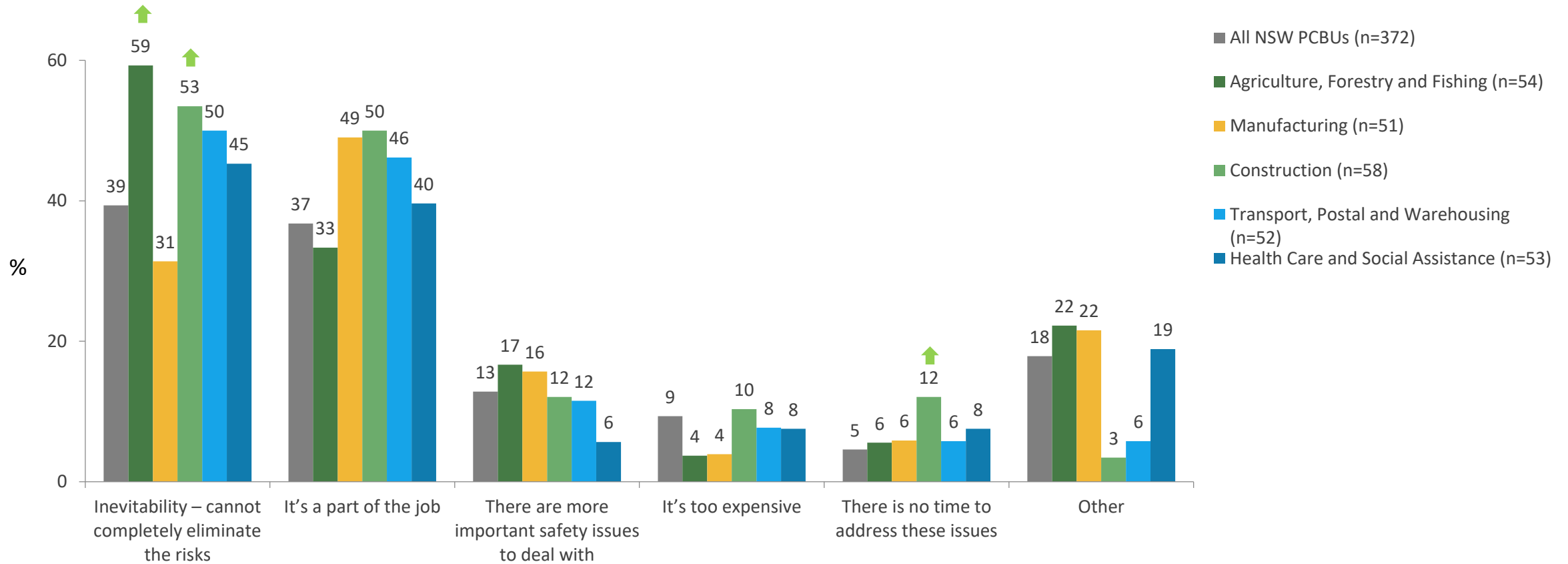
Question B2: How important is it to address MSD risks within your business to prevent an MSD injury from occurring?

Attitudinal barriers regarding the need to address MSD risks

Potential barriers to the buy-in



Inevitability of risks being present and an attitude that injuries are ‘a part of the job’ are the top attitudes taken regarding the need to address MSD risks; inevitability is a significant factor in Agriculture and Construction PCBUs.



Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

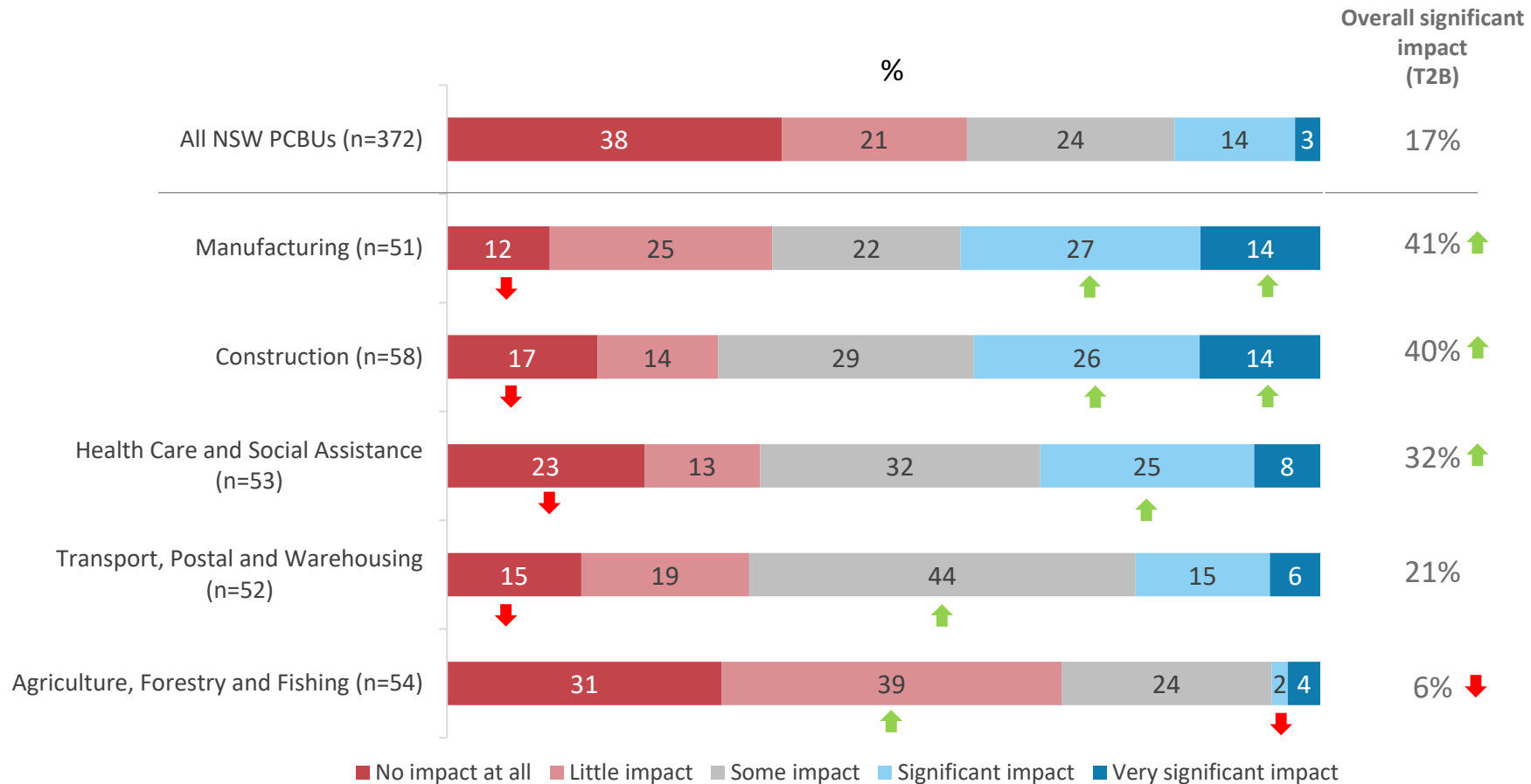
Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBU (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53 , manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question B6: Within your organisation, please indicate if any of the following attitudes are taken regarding the need to address risks that lead to MSD injuries.

Belief in the impact of MSD risks

PCBU reported belief that MSDs impact their business

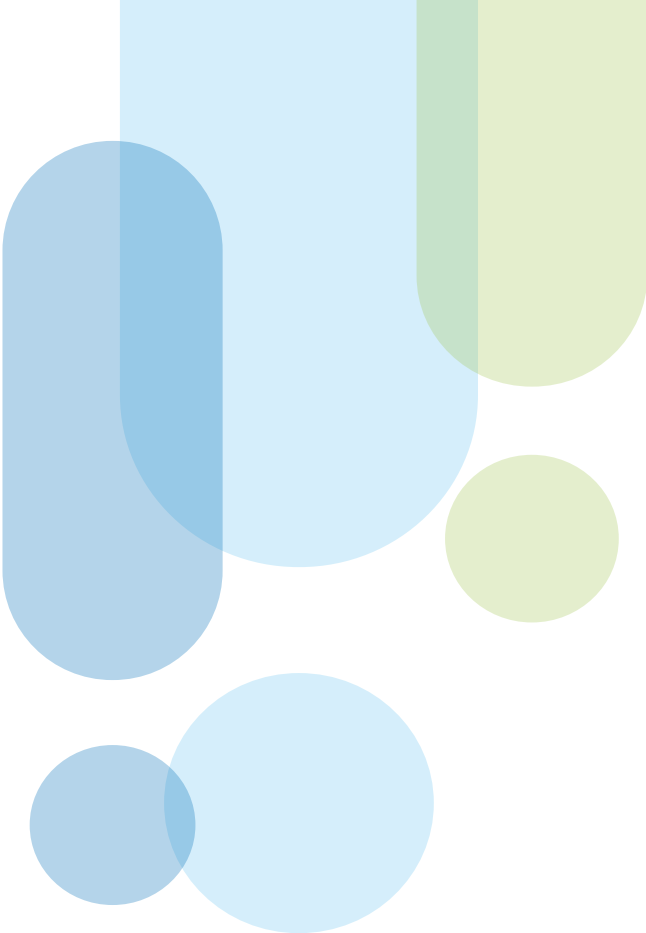
Despite strong belief in the need to address MSD risks, there is minimal 'buy-in' amongst NSW PCBUs that MSDs impact their business, particularly among Agriculture PCBUs. However Manufacturing, Construction and Healthcare PCBUs are significantly more likely to believe it is having an impact.



Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question B8: What impact are work injuries (caused by repetitive movements, awkward positions and / or forceful exertions leading to MSD) having on your business?



3d

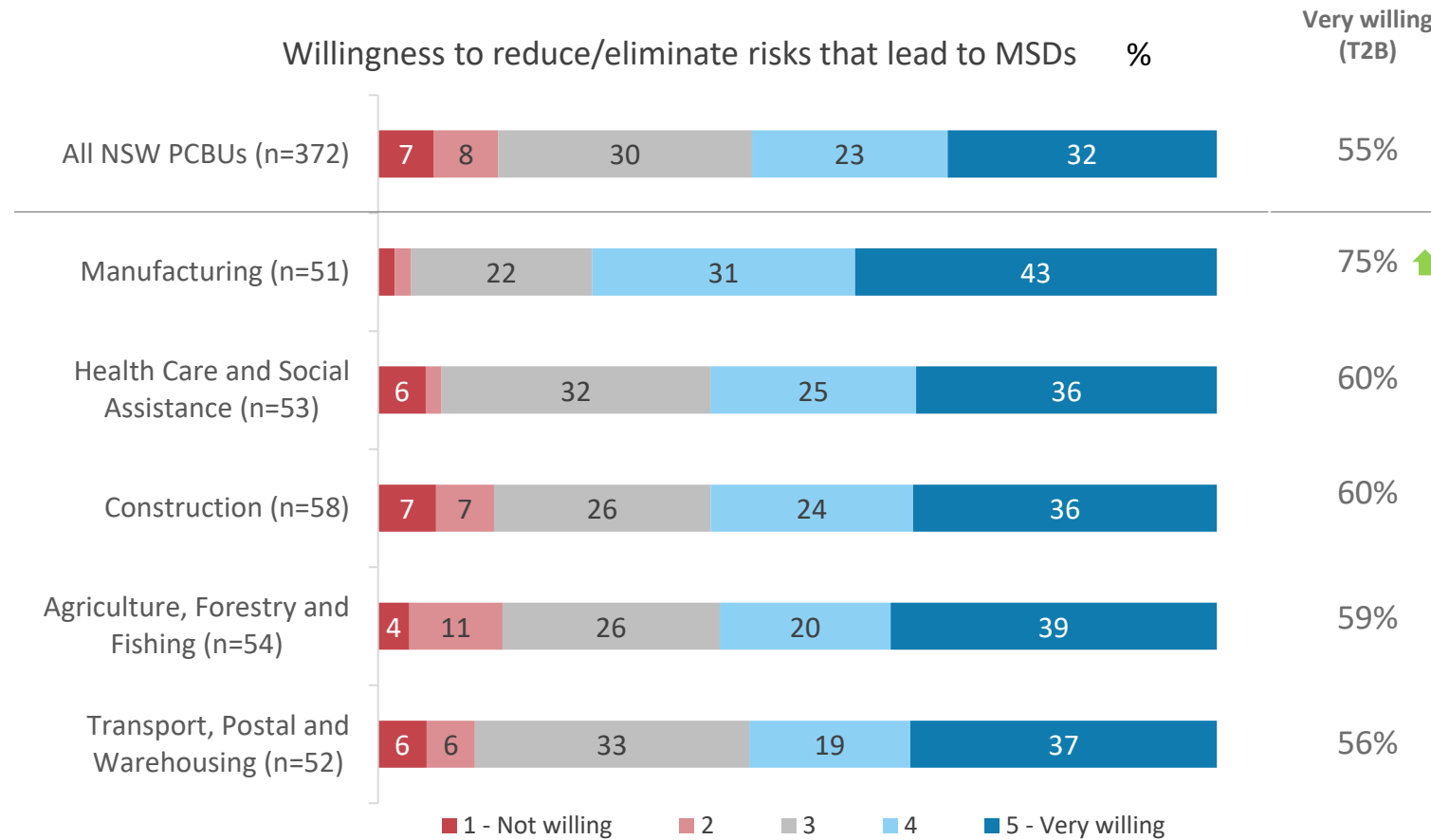
PCBU willingness and ability to address MSD risks

Willingness to address MSD risks

NSW PCBU reported willingness to address MSD risks



Willingness to address MSD risks is moderate among NSW PCBUs, with 1 in 2 indicating a desire to do so. Manufacturing PCBUs have significantly higher willingness, where 3 in 4 PCBUs are willing; all other target industries remain similar to the state average.



Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question B9: How willing is your organisation to redesign work to reduce or eliminate repetitive movements, awkward positions and / or forceful exertions that lead to MSD?

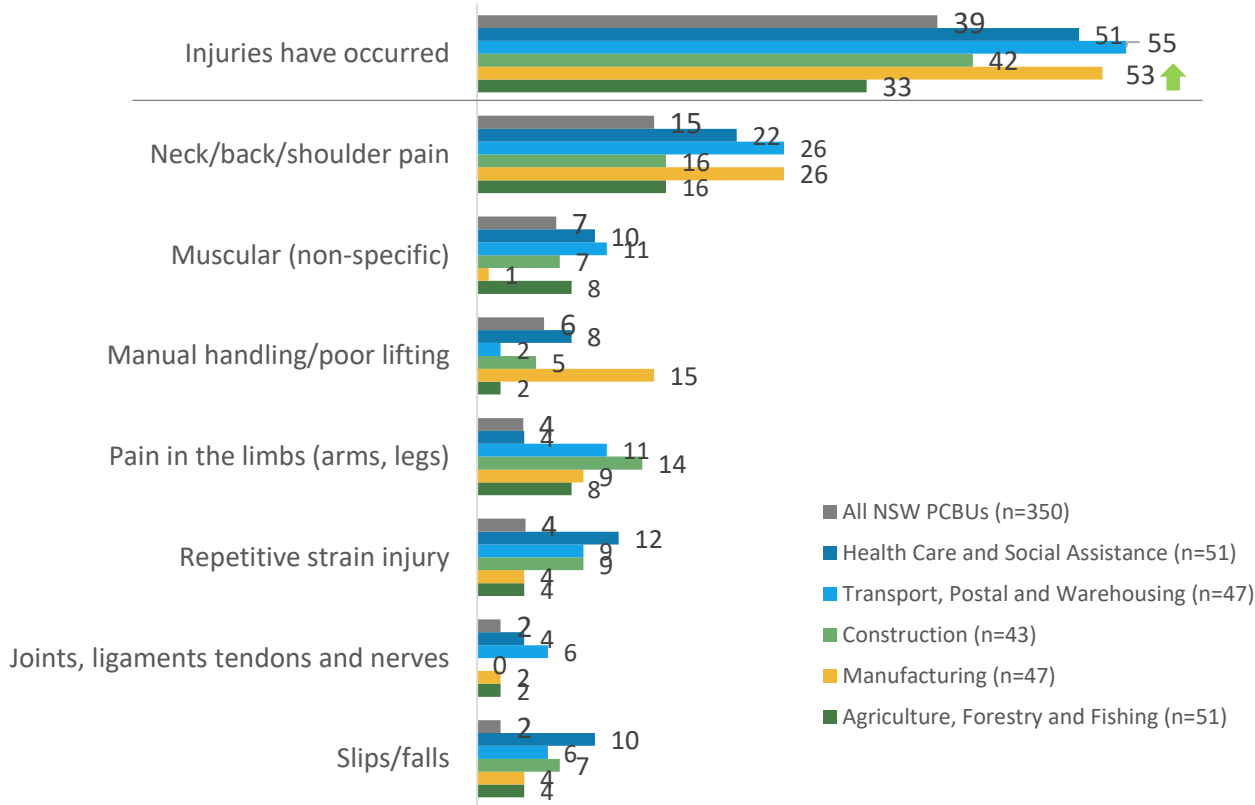
NSW PCBU experience with MSDs in the last 12 months

Type of injury and reported changes occurring

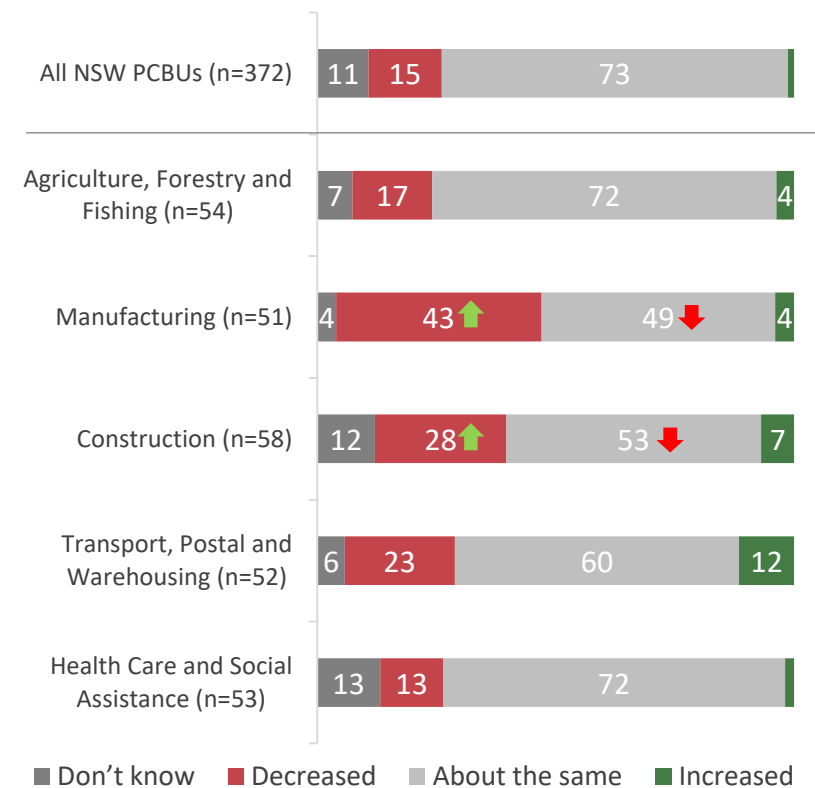


2 in 5 NSW PCBUs state an MSD injury has occurred in the last 12 months, largely neck/back/shoulder pains; Manufacturing PCBUs have significantly higher stated injuries occurring. While the majority of PCBUs state injury rates have remained constant; Manufacturing and Construction PCBUs have significantly higher mentions of decreasing MSD injuries.

MSD injuries occurred/reported last 12 months (excluding refusals) %



Change in MSD injuries in the last 12 months %



*NB: Sig testing on B4 only conducted for whether injuries have occurred

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question B4: What kinds of musculoskeletal disorder (MSD) injuries have occurred or been reported in the last 12 months within your workplace?

Question B5: Has the number of these MSD injuries changed in the last 12 months within your organisation?

Controls NSW PCBUs have changed to address MSD risks

Those changes made in the last 6 months

Within the last 6 months, only half of NSW PCBUs indicate they have made at least one change to a control measure to address MSD risks, this is relatively consistent across each control types. Among the target industries, a significantly higher number of Manufacturing and Construction PCBUs are making changes, and at each control type.

	Total (n=372)		Manufacturing (n=51)		Construction (n=58)	
HOW MANY PCBUs HAVE CHANGED A CONTROL?	Proportion of All NSW PCBUs that have made at least 1 change: 53%		Proportion of Manufacturing PCBUs that have made at least 1 change: 75%↑		Proportion of Construction PCBUs that have made at least 1 change: 69%↑	
THE NUMBER OF CONTROL TYPES CHANGED:	Made a change %	Median number of changes	Made a change %	Median number of changes	Made a change %	Median number of changes
Elimination of the cause	28	1.0	47↑	2.0	45↑	1.0
Substitution of hazard	25	1.0	37	2.0	43↑	1.0
Engineering controls (physical changes to the hazard)	28	1.0	49↑	2.0	47↑	1.0
Administrative controls (Education/training)	32	1.0	61↑	1.0	48↑	1.0
Personal Protective Equipment	30	2.0	49↑	2.0	52↑	2.0

NB: Outliers have been removed from the median calculations. On all scores 1 or more, 2 standard deviations above the mean were calculated per control, then the average standard deviation was taken. This average standard deviation resulted in any score of 15 or more being removed from the calculation.

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

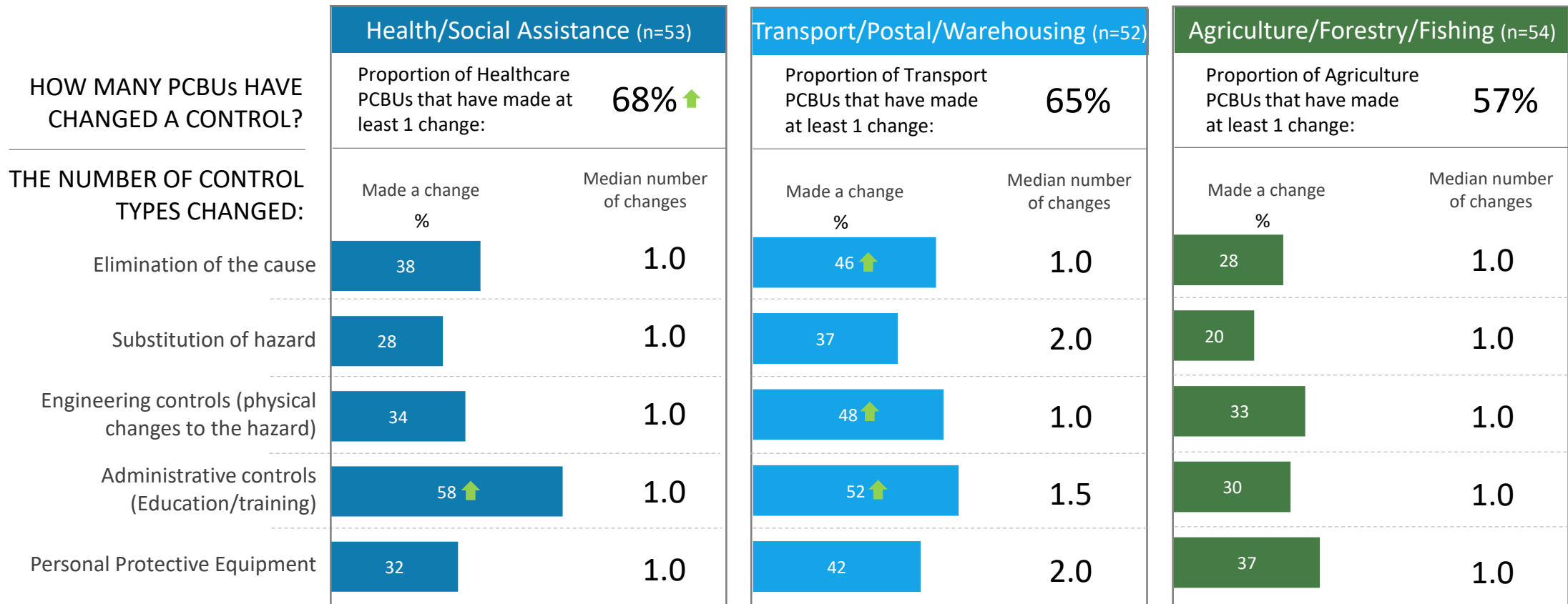
Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question B7: Within the last six months, how many of the following controls have been changed to address MSD risks within your organisation?

Controls NSW PCBUs have changed to address MSD risks

Those changes made in the last 6 months

Among the other target industries, the message is not as consistent; there are significantly higher Healthcare PCBUs making changes, albeit concentrated in administrative controls; While there are not more Transport and Agriculture PCBUs making changes compared to the NSW average, there are significantly more changes on certain controls for Transport PCBUs



NB: Outliers have been removed from the median calculations. On all scores 1 or more, 2 standard deviations above the mean were calculated per control, then the average standard deviation was taken. This average standard deviation resulted in any score of 15 or more being removed from the calculation.

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBUs (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question B7: Within the last six months, how many of the following controls have been changed to address MSD risks within your organisation?

NSW PCBU changes that have occurred regarding MSDs

Changes occurring in the last 12 months



Nearly half of NSW PCBUs are noticing changes in the last 12 months with staff consultation to reduce MSDs and to redesign jobs, and awareness to the level of risk. Manufacturing PCBUs are more likely to notice changes while Agriculture PCBUs are less likely.

All NSW PCBUs (n=372)	Change noticed	No change	Changes noticed in the target industries				
			Agriculture Forestry Fishing (n=54)	Manufact. (n=51)	Construct. (n=58)	Transport Postal Warehouse (n=52)	Healthcare Social Assistance (n=53)
Staff consultation about ways to reduce or eliminate the risk of MSDs	48%	46%	39%	65%↑	62%↑	56%	58%
Jobs being redesigned to reduce or eliminate the risk of MSDs	48%	46%	46%	71%↑	57%	58%	49%
Awareness of the level of risk of MSD injuries	47%	48%	28%↓	63%↑	64%↑	52%	53%
Risk assessment of MSD injury exposure	45%	49%	31%	65%↑	59%↑	56%	53%
Awareness of the cost of an MSD injury	43%	52%	28%↓	55%	62%↑	54%	43%
Training being offered to prevent MSD injuries	40%	54%	22%↓	61%↑	53%	52%	55%↑
Investment in technology that eliminates the risk of MSDs	39%	55%	43%	63%↑	59%↑	48%	47%
Increasing mentions of MSD risks at toolbox/other meetings	38%	56%	19%↓	53%↑	57%↑	54%↑	47%
Measuring and recording of MSD injuries	37%	58%	15%↓	51%	60%↑	50%	51%

*NB: Do not know results account for percentages not adding to 100%

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBU (n= 372 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51, transport n=52)]

Question D1: Have you noticed any of the following changes in your organisation regarding the issue of muscular skeletal disorders (MSD) in the last 12 months?

PCBU reported change on MSDs among target industries

Correspondence Analysis (perceptual map) for changes noticed

There are strong associations occurring between the target industries and the type of changes occurring in the last 12 months.

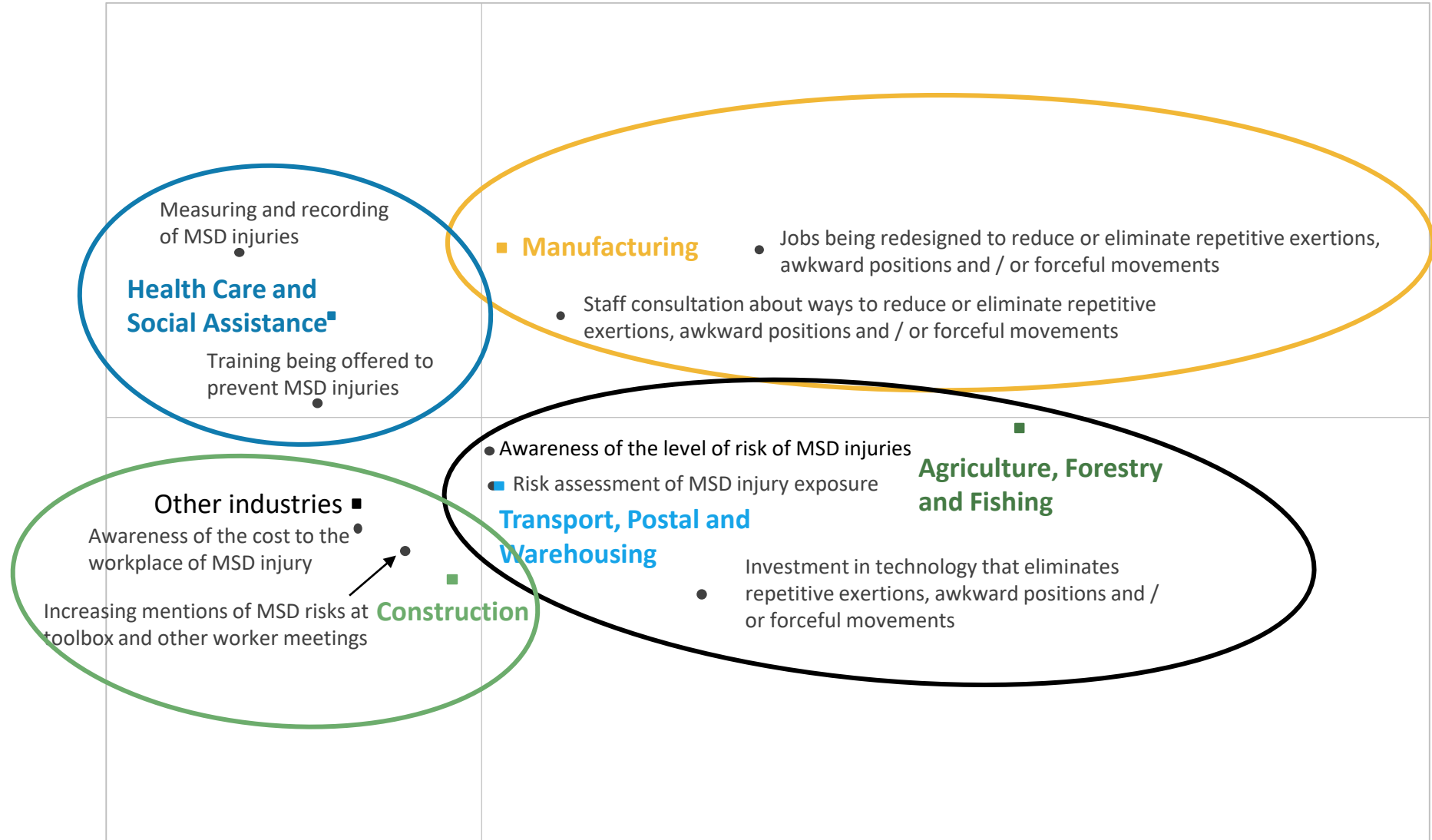
Healthcare is associated offering training to prevent MSDs and with measuring and recording MSD injuries.

Manufacturing is associated closely with staff consultation to reduce /eliminate actions & redesigning jobs.

Construction is linked with increasing mentions of MSD risks to workers (toolbox) meetings, and then to awareness of the cost to the workplace.

Transport has a weak association with risk assessments and awareness of the level of risk.

Although weak in association, Agriculture is mostly linked to investment in technology, risk assessment and awareness.



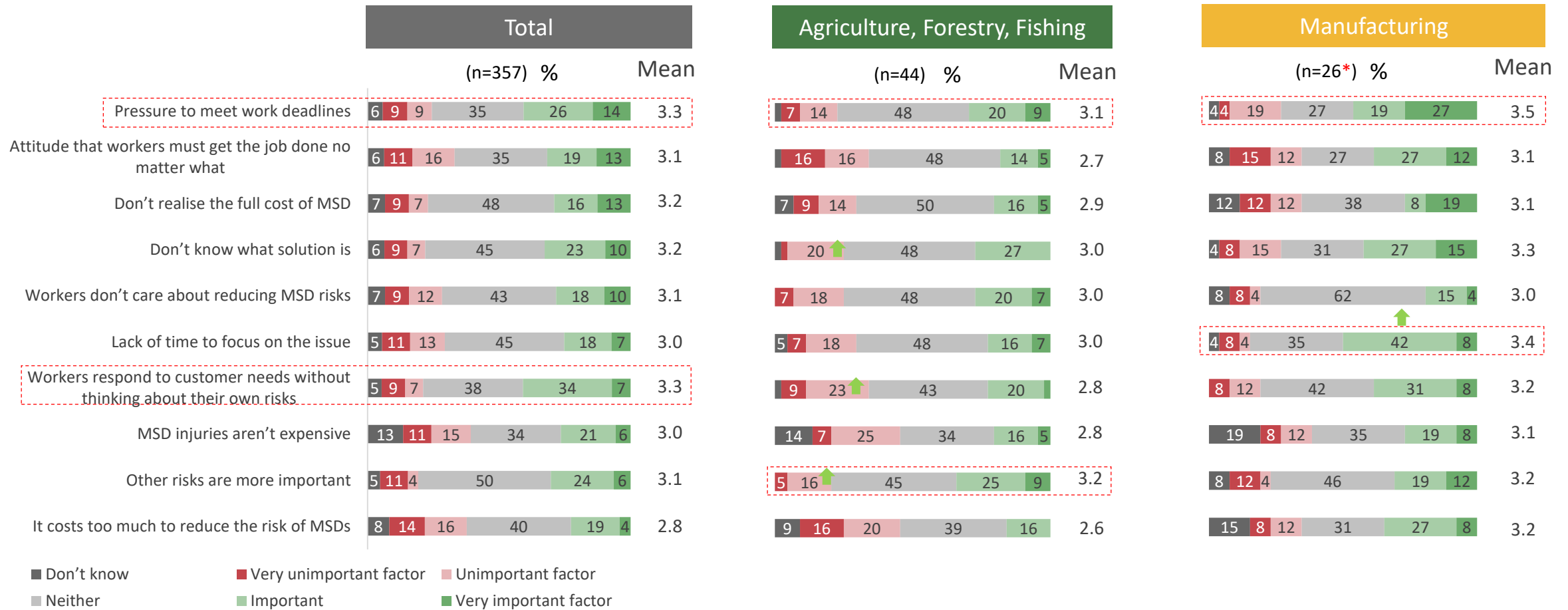
Axis 1
46%

Axis 2
25%

Perceived barriers to PCBU action on MSDs among target industries



Pressure to meet deadlines is a key barriers that PCBUs have identified in preventing more action on MSDs, including for each target industry; Agriculture PCBUs also see other risks as more important while Manufacturing PCBUs also state a lack of time to focus on the issue as a key barrier.



*NB: small base sizes <30, interpret with caution

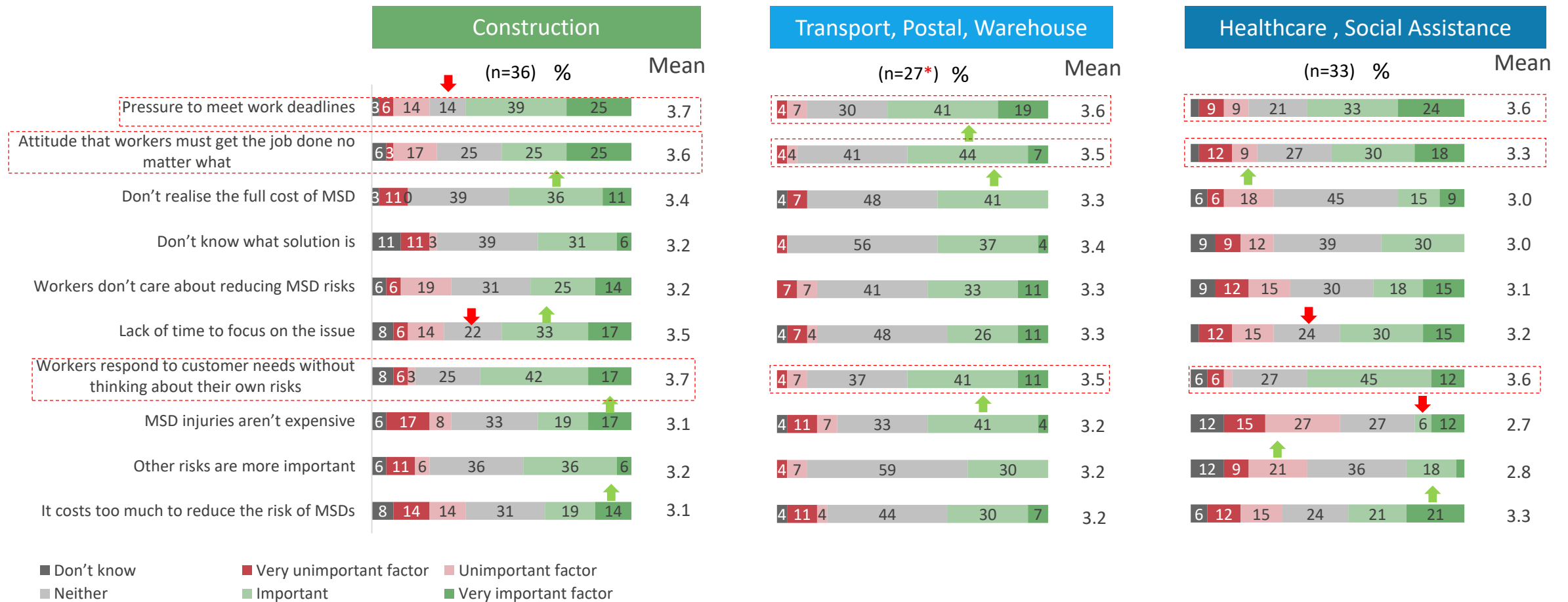
Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: Respondents state 'no change' in D2 [All NSW PCBU (n= 357 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=44, construction, n=36, healthcare n=33, manufacturing n=26, transport n=27)]

Question D2: Which factors are preventing your business taking more action on MSD?

Perceived barriers to PCBU action on MSDs among target industries

For Healthcare, Construction and Transport PCBUs, responding to customer needs without thinking of their own risks and having an attitude that they need to get the job done are the key factors preventing action on MSDs as well.



*NB: small base sizes <30, interpret with caution

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: Respondents state 'no change' in D2[All NSW PCBU (n= 357 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=44, construction, n=36, healthcare n=33, manufacturing n=26, transport n=27)]

Question D2: Which factors are preventing your business taking more action on MSD?

Perceived barriers to PCBU action on MSDs among target industries

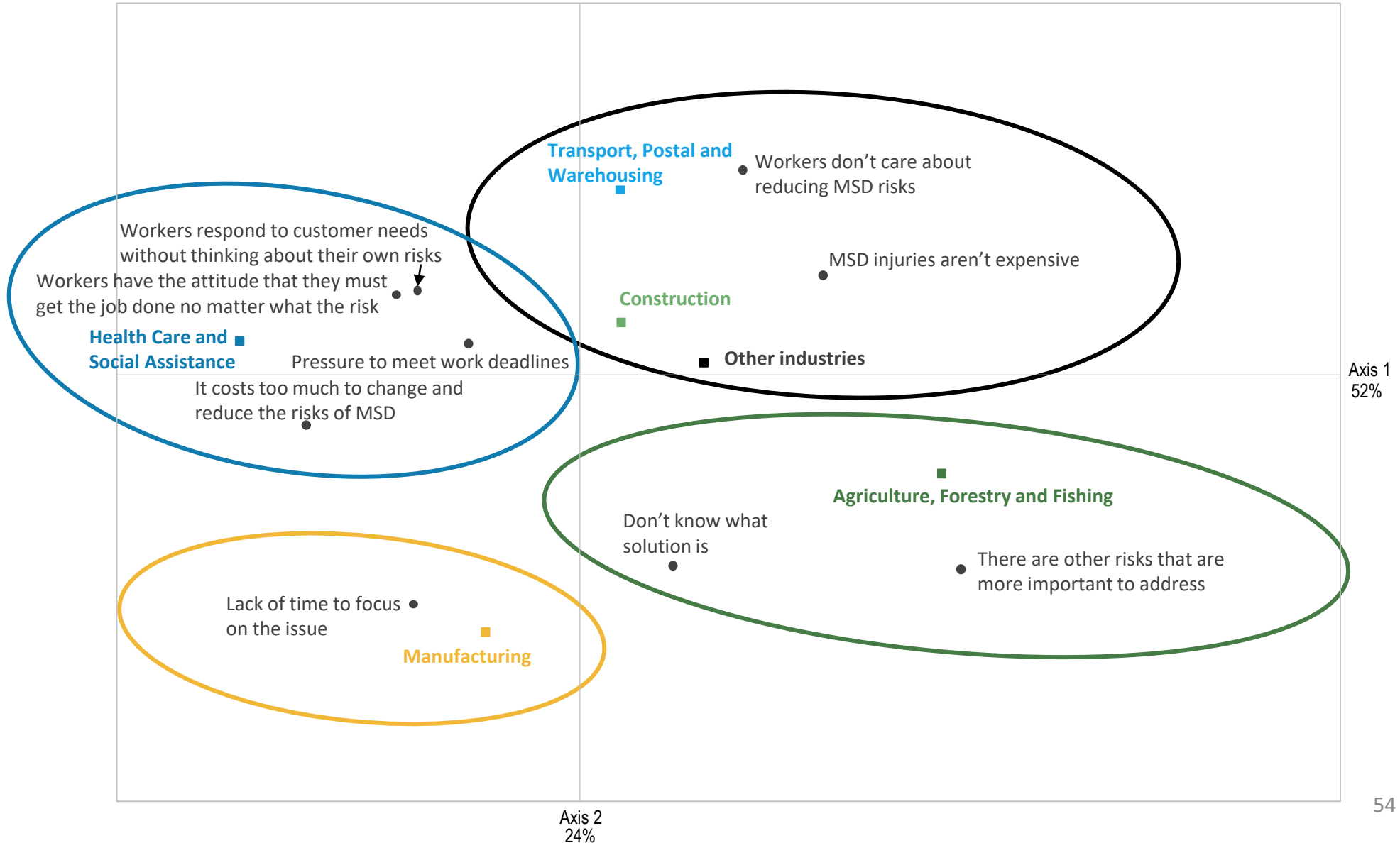
Correspondence Analysis (perceptual map) factors preventing action on MSD

The perceptual map of factors preventing action on MSDs reinforces the qualitative insights, with clear associations between certain barriers and each target industry.

Healthcare PCBUs are associated with pressure to meet deadlines, costs of change, worker attitude on the job getting done and thinking about customer needs first.

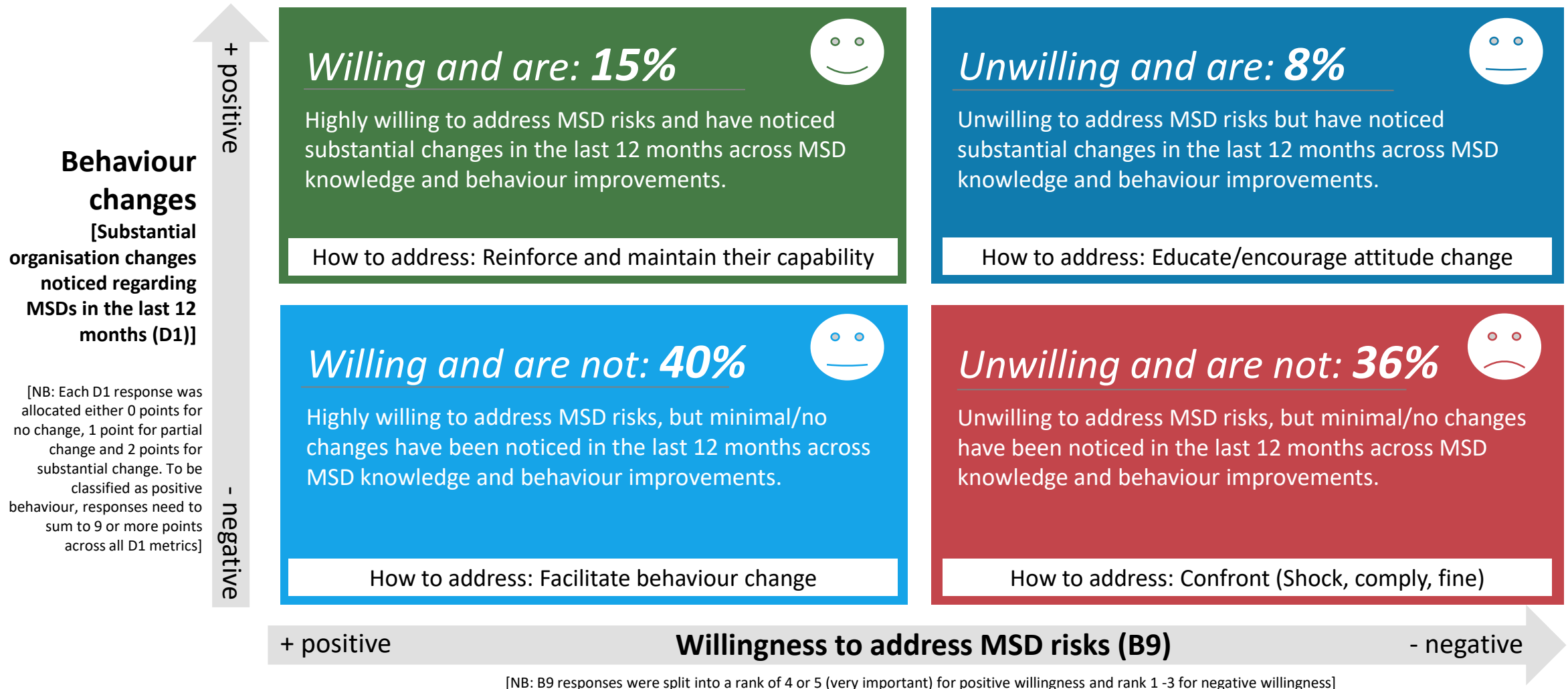
Manufacturers PCBUs have a lack of time to focus on the issue, Agriculture PCBUs don't know the solution and see other risks as more important.

Whereas Construction and Transport PCBUs don't see MSD injuries as costing much, with workers not caring about the risks.



PBCU MSD Segmentation

Sheth-Frazier analysis of actual behaviour changes and a willingness to address



[NB: Each D1 response was allocated either 0 points for no change, 1 point for partial change and 2 points for substantial change. To be classified as positive behaviour, responses need to sum to 9 or more points across all D1 metrics]

Question B9: How willing is your organisation to redesign work to reduce or eliminate repetitive movements, awkward positions and / or forceful exertions that lead to MSD?
Question D1: Have you noticed any of the following changes in your organisation regarding the issue of muscular skeletal disorders (MSD) in the last 12 months?

PBCU MSD Segmentation profile

Sheth-Frazier analysis of actual behaviour changes and a willingness to address



Willing and able:

Who are they

- This segment makes up 41% of Manufacturing PCBUs, 31% of Construction, 25% of Transport, 19% Healthcare, 9% of Agriculture.
- Likely to be a large business nationwide. 13% are large nationwide, 28% medium.

MSD Attitudes

- High MSD knowledge; describe them as an injury to the muscle (42%).
- WHS and mental wellbeing are embedded in leadership, with a role solely responsible for WHS.
- Believe MSD injuries are significantly impacting their organisation (54%).
- Have significantly more changes to control measures than NSW PCBUs.

Factors preventing business to take more action on MSD:

- *Very Important factor:* Workers don't care (73%), it costs too much (64%), other risks that are more important to address (66%), workers respond to customer needs first (78%), pressure to meet work deadlines (83%).

Willing and unable:

Who are they

- Accounting for 50% of Agriculture PCBUs, 42% Healthcare, 33% of Manufacturing, 31% of Transport, and 29% of Construction.
- 81% are a small business in NSW.

MSD Attitudes:

- Cannot describe an MSD (28%).
- Believes it is important to address MSD risks (87%), but do not believe MSD injuries are making an impact on their organisation (72%).
- 1 in 3 do not have a WHS role.

Factors preventing business to take more action on MSD:

- *Very unimportant factor:* Workers don't care (32%), costs too much to change (44%), workers believe the job must get done no matter what (35%), work deadlines (27%).

Unwilling and able:

Who are they

- Accounting for 19% of Transport PCBUs, 15% Healthcare, 10% of Construction, 6% of Manufacturing, and 2% of Agriculture.
- 12% are large businesses nationwide, 22% are medium.

MSD Attitudes:

- Cannot describe an MSD (27%)
- More likely to have a role solely responsible for WHS.
- Middle of the road in believing it has an impact on their business.

Factors preventing business to take more action on MSD:

- *Very Important factor:* Don't realise the full cost of MSD (74%), MSD injuries aren't expensive (99%).

Unwilling and unable:

Who are they

- Accounting for 39% of Agriculture PCBUs, 29% of Construction, 25% of Transport and Healthcare, 20% of Manufacturing.
- 81% of this segment are small businesses

MSD Attitudes:

- Cannot describe an MSD (31%).
- No focus on WHS/mental wellbeing or respond when incidents occur.
- There is no time to address MSD issues (10%) and they make no impact on their business.
- 3 in 10 do not have a WHS role.
- Not willing to redesign their work process to reduce or eliminate the risk of MSD injuries (36%), with significantly higher results for making no changes to the controls available.

PBCU MSD Segmentation profile

Sheth-Frazier analysis of actual behaviour changes and a willingness to address

Willing and able:

SafeWork Initiatives and Information on MSDs

- Have heard of the SafeWork NSW 2017-2022 MSD Strategy (47%), PERforM workshop (27%), PERforM website (20%), PERforM program overall (23%), Patient handling in aged care research project (15%), Inclusion of MSD risk factor review on SafeWork NSW RTW visits (18%), Safety in purchasing – research and understand phase (28%), NSW MSD Symposium (20%), University student program (SafeWork placement) (18%), MSD Stakeholder Consultative Committee (10%)
- Get information on MSD from industry magazines or newsletters (32%), via emails/newsletters on WHS (25%), inspector visits (26%), key advisers like consultants (35%), online social news/networking sites, (22%) technology suppliers (21%), workshops and events held by SafeWork (16%), Video sharing content/community websites (16%)

Willing and unable:

SafeWork Initiatives and Information on MSDs

- Have heard of none of the SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives (67%)
- Get information on MSD from peers and colleagues (26%)

Unwilling and able:

SafeWork Initiatives and Information on MSDs

- Have heard of PERforM website (31%), Inclusion of MSD risk factor review on SafeWork NSW RTW visits (24%), PERforM case studies (17%)
- Get information on MSD via industry websites, online forums/communities (29%)

Unwilling and unable:

SafeWork Initiatives and Information on MSDs

- Have heard of none of the SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives (74%)
- Not sure where their workplace gets information on MSD (33%)



3e

PCBU awareness and access to SafeWork NSW's
2018/19 MSD initiatives

Awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

All NSW PCBU's



Significant increase in awareness of SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives in 2018/19, reaching 44%. However awareness for any one initiative is low, highest awareness was for the strategy itself and the customer service centre. Of those initiatives aware of, the strategy, the PERforM website and safety in purchasing were most used/attended.

Awareness SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives

44%

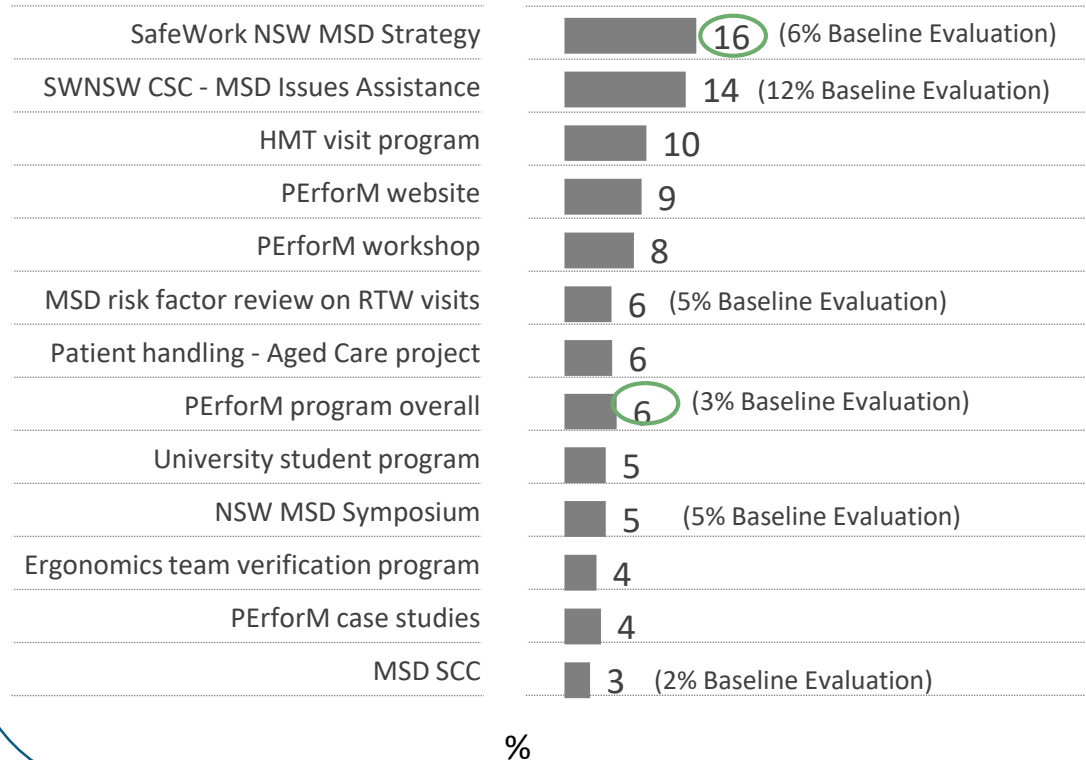
aware of any
one initiative
(n=372)

29%

aware of any one initiative
Baseline Evaluation
(n=518)

2018 SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives

(n=372)



NB: initiatives' list measured has changes since the Baseline evaluation. Only those indicated with Baseline Evaluation figures were present

Significance Testing: ○ significantly higher than the Baseline Evaluation, ○ significantly lower than the Baseline Evaluation

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBU (n= 372 weighted) **Question C1:** Which of the following SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives have you heard of?

Awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018 MSD Initiatives

Target industries



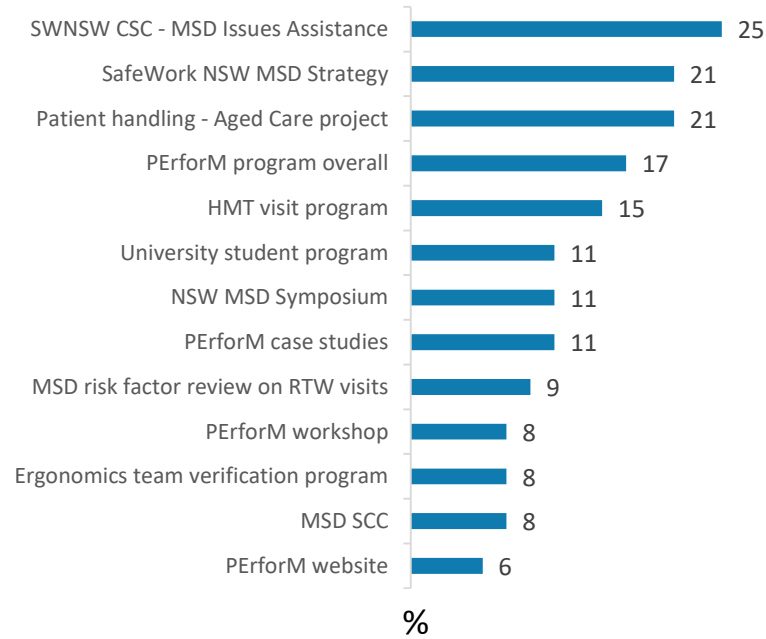
But awareness across the target industries is generally higher. Over 1 in 2 Healthcare PCBUs are aware of an initiative, mainly the customer service centre, the strategy and the patient handling project; 3 in 5 Manufacturing PCBUs are aware of at least one initiative, mainly the customer service centre and the strategy.

Healthcare

(n=53)

55% aware of any one initiative → **34%** Of those aware, have used / attended at least 1 initiative (n=29*)

Awareness of each initiative

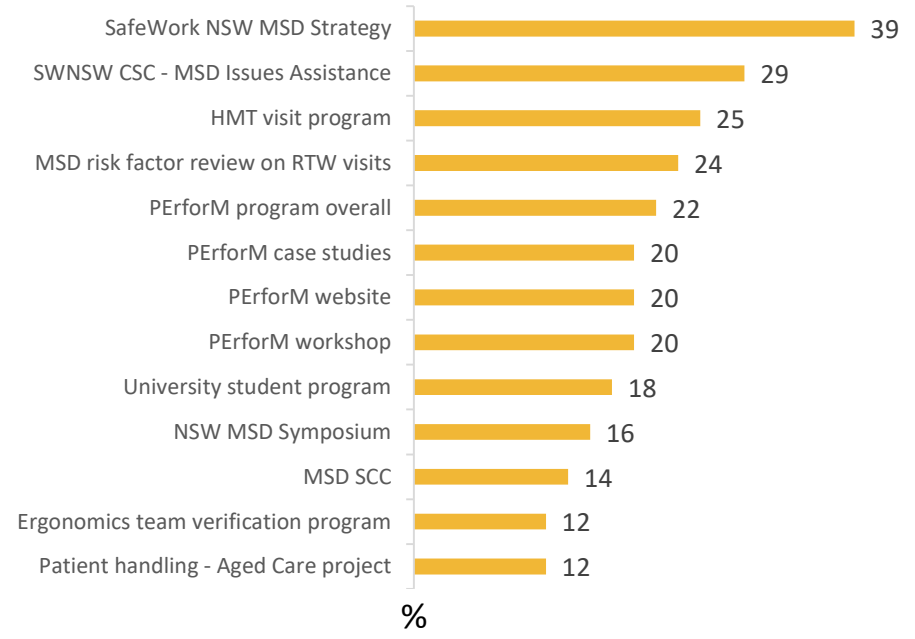


Manufacturing

(n=51)

61% aware of any one initiative → **32%** Of those aware, have used / attended at least 1 initiative (n=31)

Awareness of each initiative



*NB: small base sizes <30, interpret with caution

Significance Testing: ▲ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ▼ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [targeted industries unweighted (healthcare n=53, manufacturing n=51)]

Question C1: Which of the following SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives have you heard of?

Awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018 MSD Initiatives

Target industries



3 in 4 Construction PCBUs state they are aware of an initiative, mainly the customer service centre and the strategy; 1 in 2 Transport PCBUs are aware of at least one initiative, mainly the strategy. But for Agriculture PCBUs, awareness of any MSD initiative is lower than the norm.

Construction (n=58)

Transport, Postal, Warehousing (n=52)

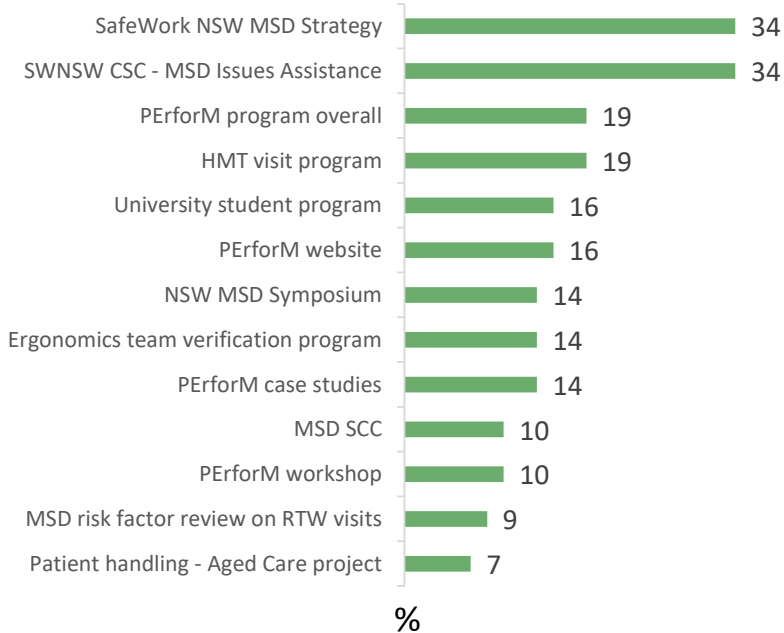
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (n=54)

74% aware of any one initiative → **21%** Of those aware, have used / attended at least 1 initiative
(n=43)

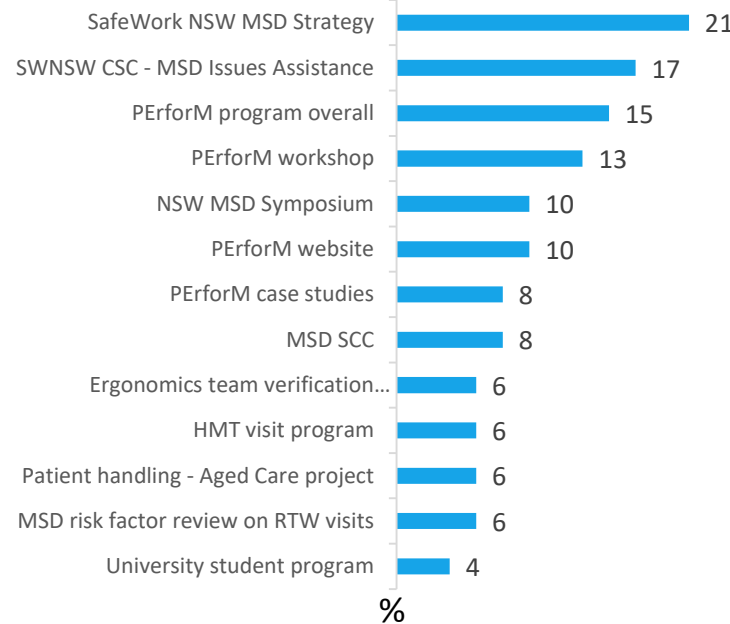
54% aware of any one initiative → **36%** Of those aware, have used / attended at least 1 initiative
(n=28*)

37% aware of any one initiative → **45%** Of those aware, have used / attended at least 1 initiative
(n=20*)

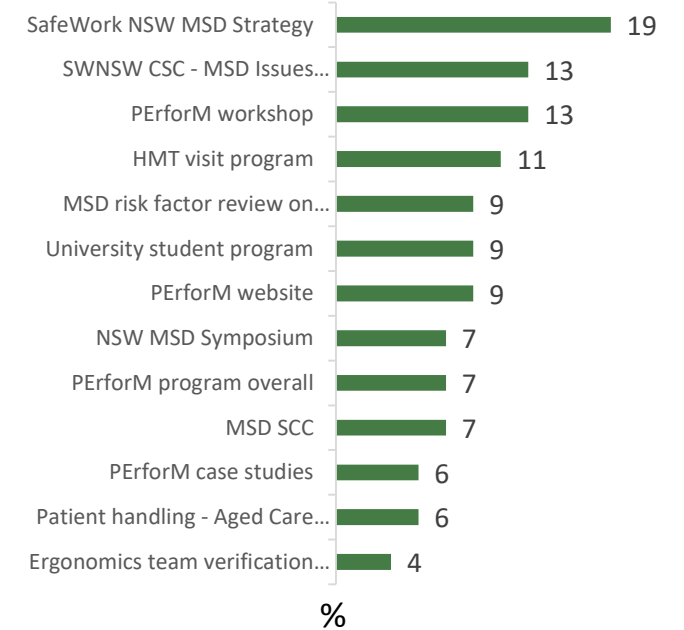
Awareness of each initiative



Awareness of each initiative



Awareness of each initiative



*NB: small base sizes <30, interpret with caution

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents [targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=54, construction, n=58, transport n=52)]

Question C1: Which of the following SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives have you heard of?

Use and effectiveness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

All NSW PCBU's



The proportion of those who are aware of any one SafeWork MSD initiative remains relatively stable (no significant increase in use). Of those initiatives aware of the Strategy, the PErforM website and program overall were most used/attended, as well as access to the MSD Strategy page as well

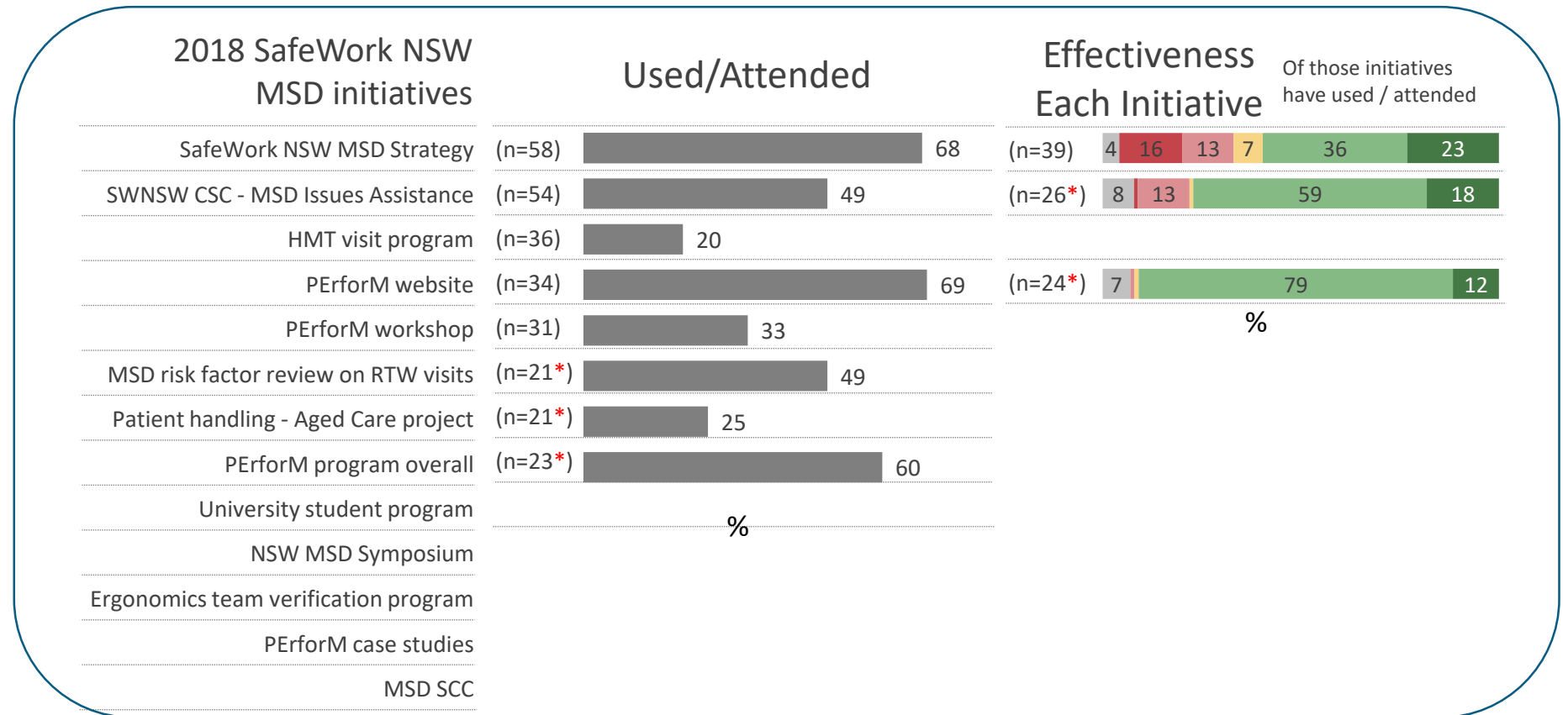
Used/Attended

63%

Of those aware, have used / attended at least 1 initiative
(n=164)

59%

Of those aware, have used / attended at least 1 initiative
Baseline Evaluation
(n=149)



*NB: small base sizes <30, interpret with caution; bases less than 20 not shown

Significance Testing: ○ significantly higher than the Baseline Evaluation, ○ significantly lower than the Baseline Evaluation

Base: respondents aware of that initiative Question C2: Which of the following SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives have you used or attended?

Base: respondents who used that initiative Question C3: Please rate the effectiveness of the SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives you are aware of, used or attended?

Use and effectiveness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Qualitative feedback



There were only two key 2018 initiatives mentioned in the qualitative depths. The 2018 Symposium was well received, but only half were aware of it. The improvement in MSD knowledge, and its positive reception indicate potential success for the planned 2020 forum, if repeated well. PErforM has mixed comments.

THE 2018 SYMPOSIUM was well received by those who attended, but was not known by the remaining attendees

“Attended the Symposium - found it excellent, some focus on aged care which was useful. There was a Professor doing her research on patient handling, so her research is very much focused on aged care.” **Medium aged care service**

“Symposium was really quite interesting - statistics and are we measuring the right things. Disappointed with some focus by detracting somewhat from the panel, advisory, countered with an enforcement approach that took away.” **Large construction**

“MSD forum one of the best forums been to, key outcome was to use labour hire company and picking the right people for roles as discussed, content and speakers were well received).” **Large construction**

“Aware of the Symposium, colleague attending and found it very useful.” **Hospital**

“MSD Forum was valuable - heard and informed on what SNSW is doing.” **Large Transport**

PErforM – WORKSHOPS, WEBSITE, CASE STUDIES mainly just aware it exists, but not great use made of it, Associations to QLD were made

“Excellent risk assessment tool called PErforM, but doesn't speak to aged care, good for manufacturing/machine handling”. **Medium aged care service**

“PErforM aware, come across it, came out of QLD (more so aware from QLD than NSW.” **Large manufacturing**

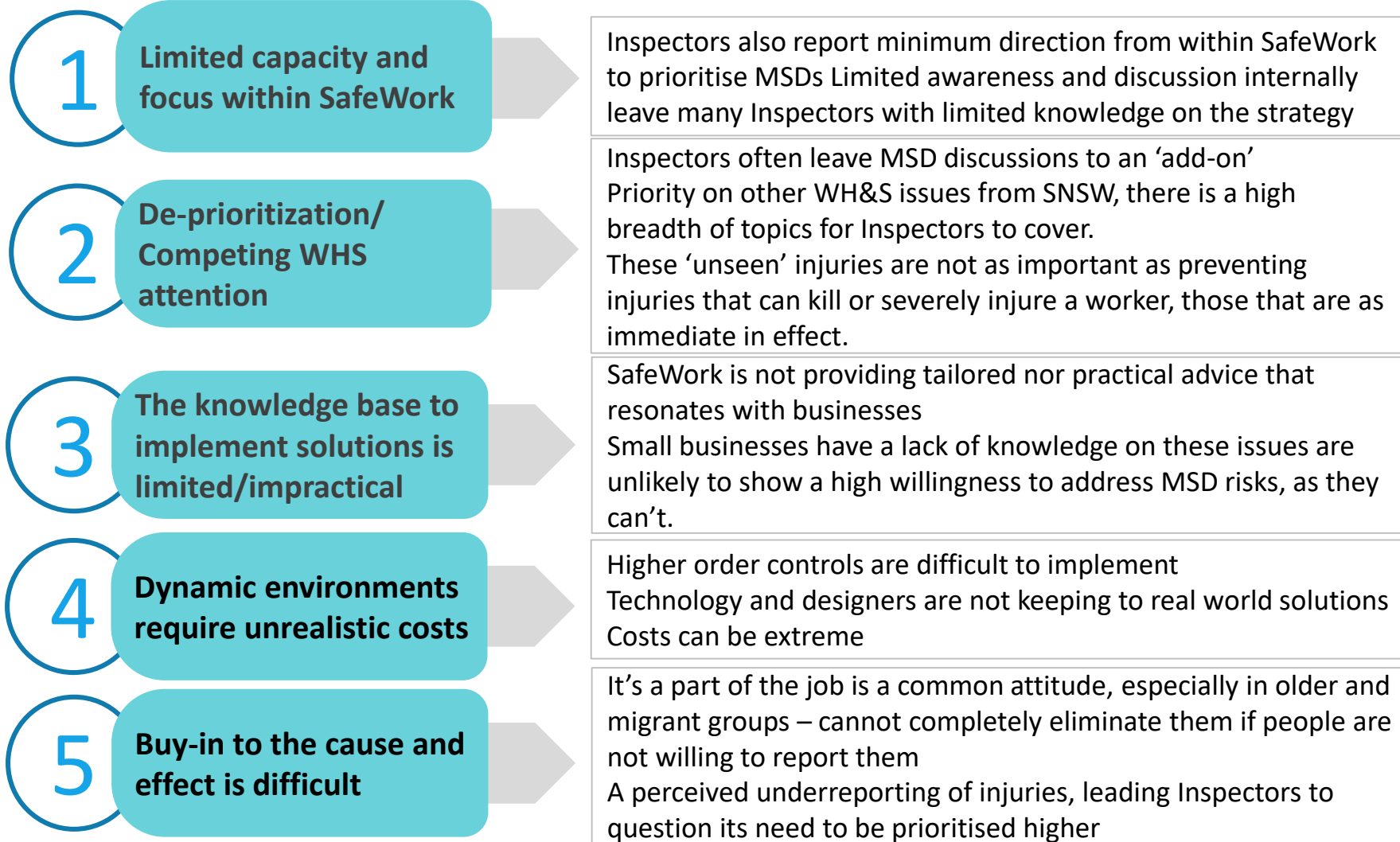
“Know about PErforM workshops, but had to cancel on it. It was for small to medium companies but could be applied to larger companies.” **Large Construction**

“Only slight knowledge of seeing it and looking at it. but not a lot of attention of it.” **Medium manufacturing**

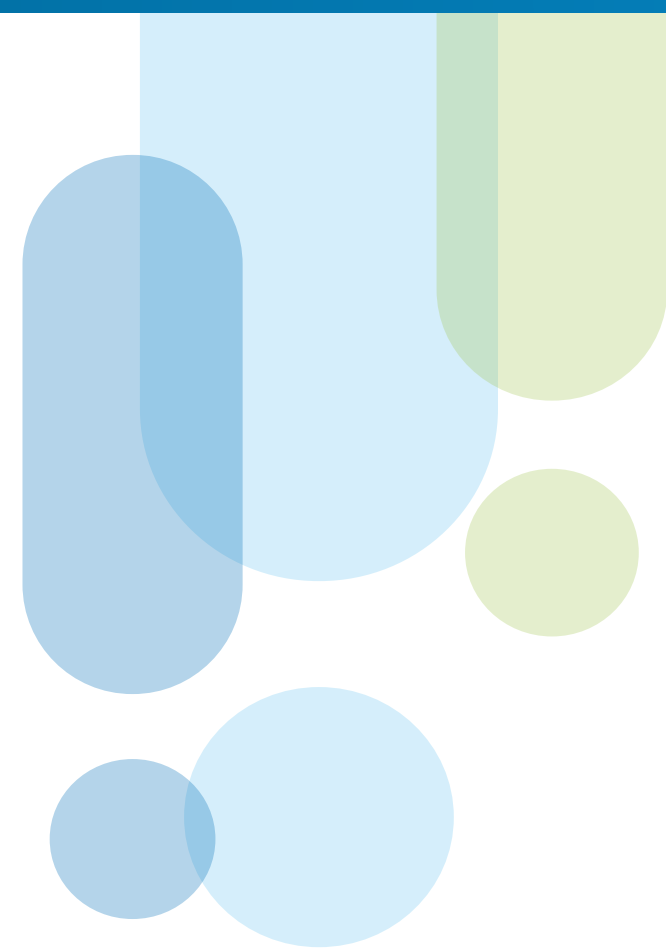
SMALL COMPANIES has made no access to SafeWork’s 2018 MSD initiatives, and were not aware of them

Barriers to addressing MSD risks

Qualitative feedback - Inspector reported barriers



Inspectors also report minimum direction from within SafeWork to prioritise MSDs. MSDs are not a priority within PCBUs (compared to other WHS issues like falls from heights) nor even among SafeWork NSW Inspector visits (who focus on risks that result in immediate severe injury)



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PCBU access to SafeWork NSW's digital data

An analysis of SafeWork NSW's digital access data

PCBU's accessing SafeWork customer support for MSD enquiries

What are the customer queries related to SafeWork NSW Initiatives?



Close to one in five enquiries to SafeWork NSW's helpline relate the weight limits for manual handling, with 5% of enquiries about PERforM. According to the Baseline Evaluation, weight limits were also one of the top three enquiries over twelve months ago.

A key focus for SafeWork NSW is to understand what MSD issues PCBU's are facing.

Information relating to PCBU-reported MSD issues was identified through analysis of SafeWork NSW's customer service data, data highlighting the phone service that PCBU's can contact for general work health and safety advice and support (i.e. it is not an MSD specific helpline). But the data is filtered to MSDs

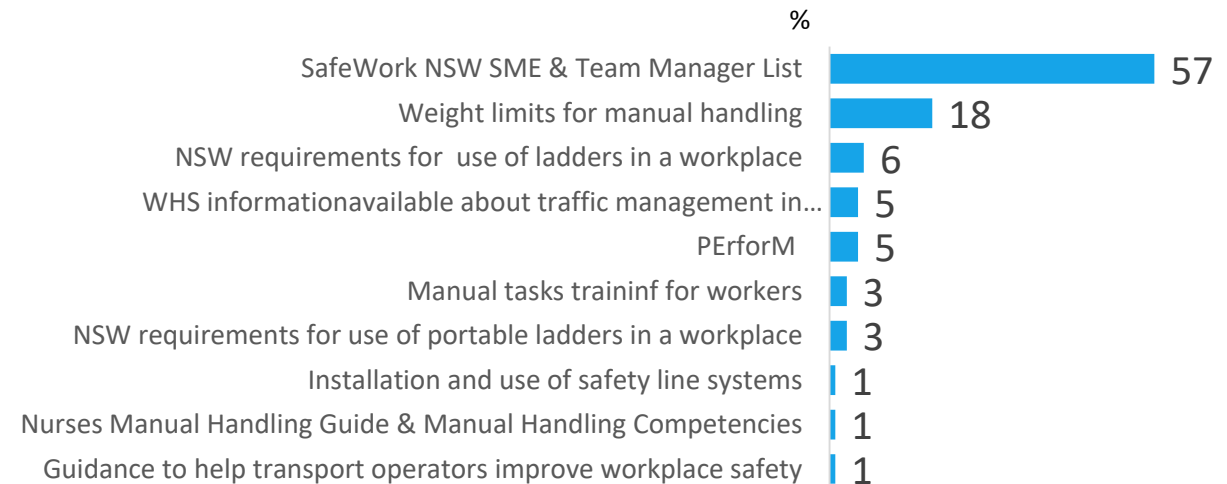
The time period over which the calls were received is identified as Jan 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019.

Safework NSW Customer service data
1 Jan. 2018 – 30 April 2019

MSD-related calls made: **1430** ↑

*NB: there is a time period cross over to the 2017/18 results

2017/2018 MSD-related calls made: **469**



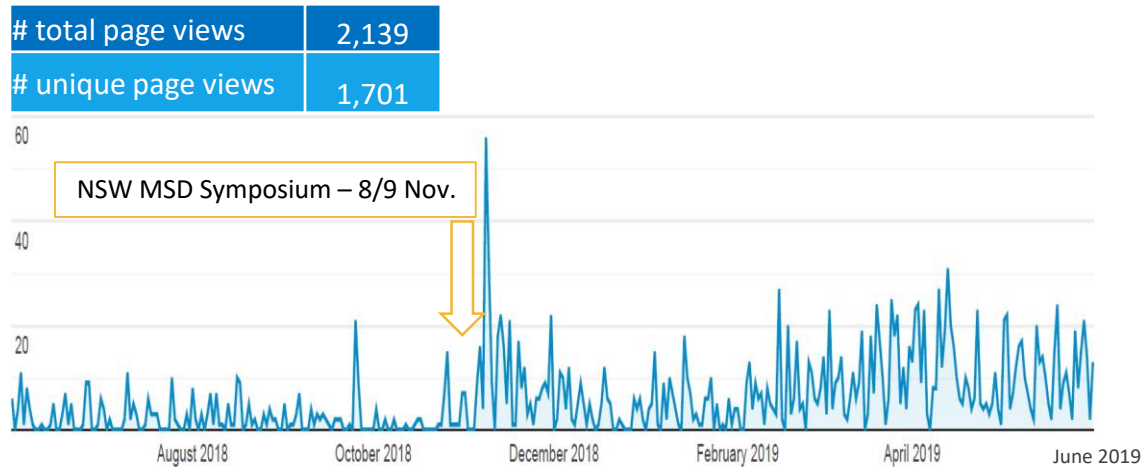
PCBU access to SafeWork websites

MSD Strategy and Hazardous Manual Tasks page views

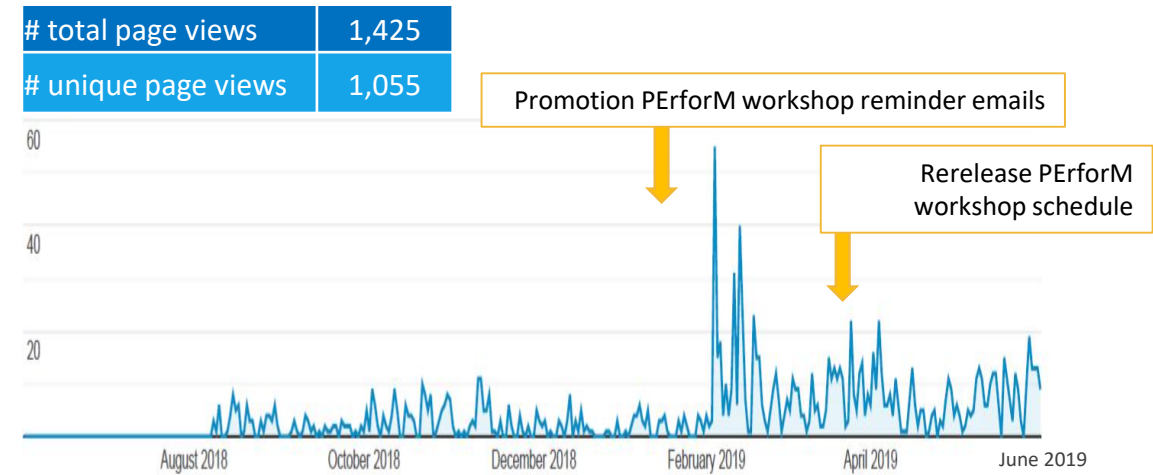


During the June 2018-June 2019 period, PCBU access to the MSD Strategy page peaked in December 2018, likely related to the 2018 MSD Symposium being held in the day shortly before the rise in page views of the Strategy. Hazardous Manual Tasks page views peaked in February 2019, likely driven by the promotion of Perform workshops in early 2019.

MSD Strategy page views



Hazardous Manual Tasks Analytics



b.i. MSD Strategy downloads

Date Range	Segment	Total Events	Unique Events
Oct 21, 2018 - Jun 3, 2019	All Users	236	225

The spike in access in the HMT data is possibly linked to the email promotion of the Jan to June 19 PERforM workshop dates. This reaches 1000+ former attendees, including anyone who would cancel and all wait listed registrations. SafeWork NSW email the PERforM schedule late November 2018 and follow up late Jan / early Feb 2019.

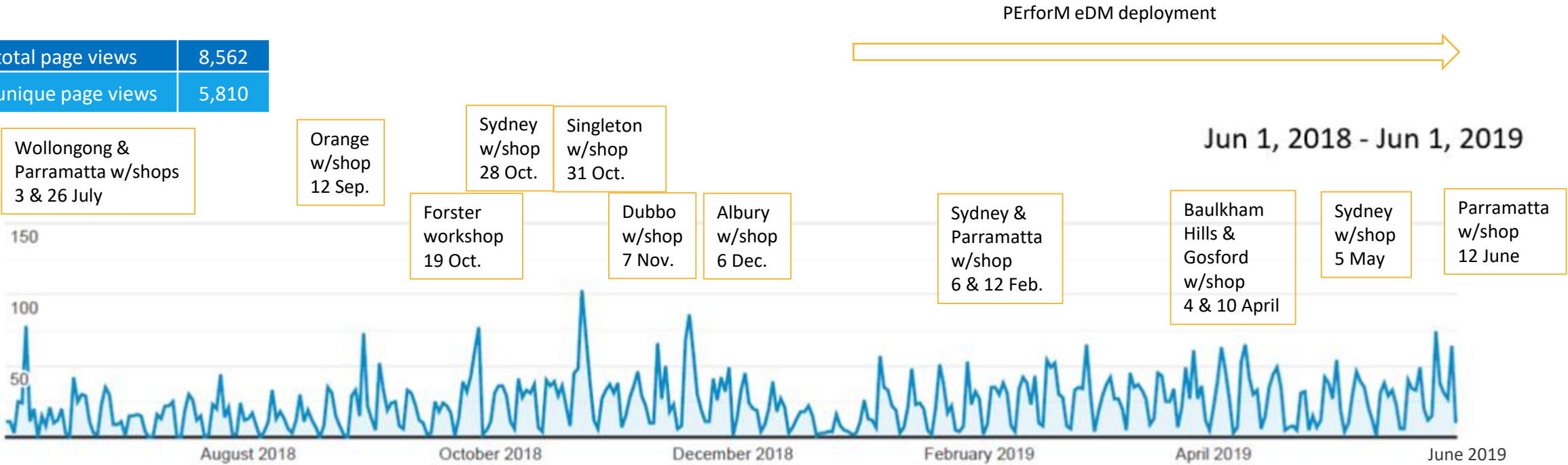
PCBU access to SafeWork websites

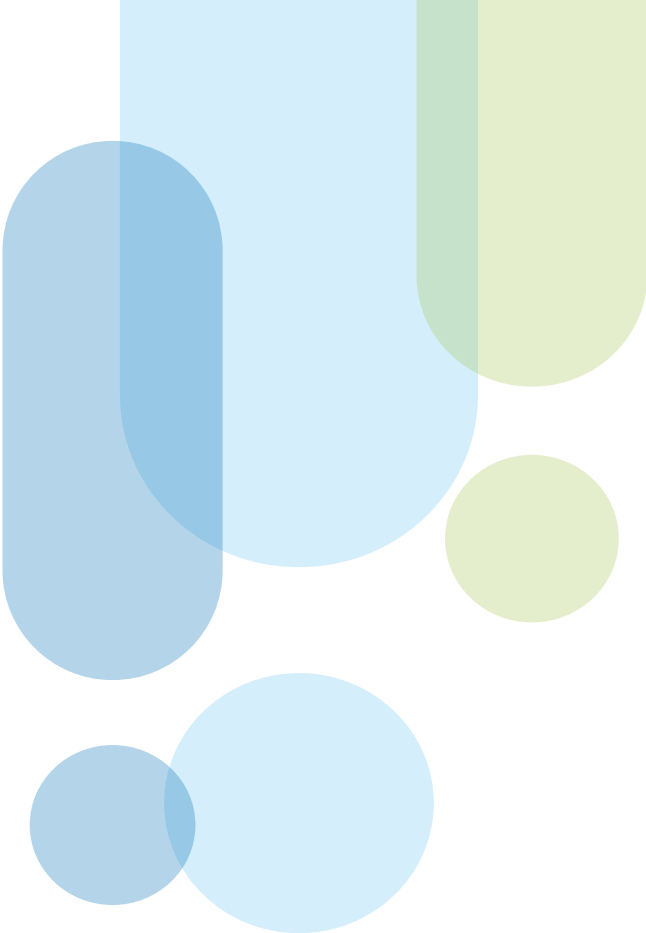
PERforM page views



Interest in accessing SafeWork NSW MSD websites is highest over the 18/19 financial year for PERforM page views. During this period, page views peaked in Oct. – Dec. 2018, seemingly related to a high number of workshops being undertaken as PERforM workshops were running throughout this period in regional and metro centres.

# total page views	8,562
# unique page views	5,810





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Impact of SafeWork initiatives

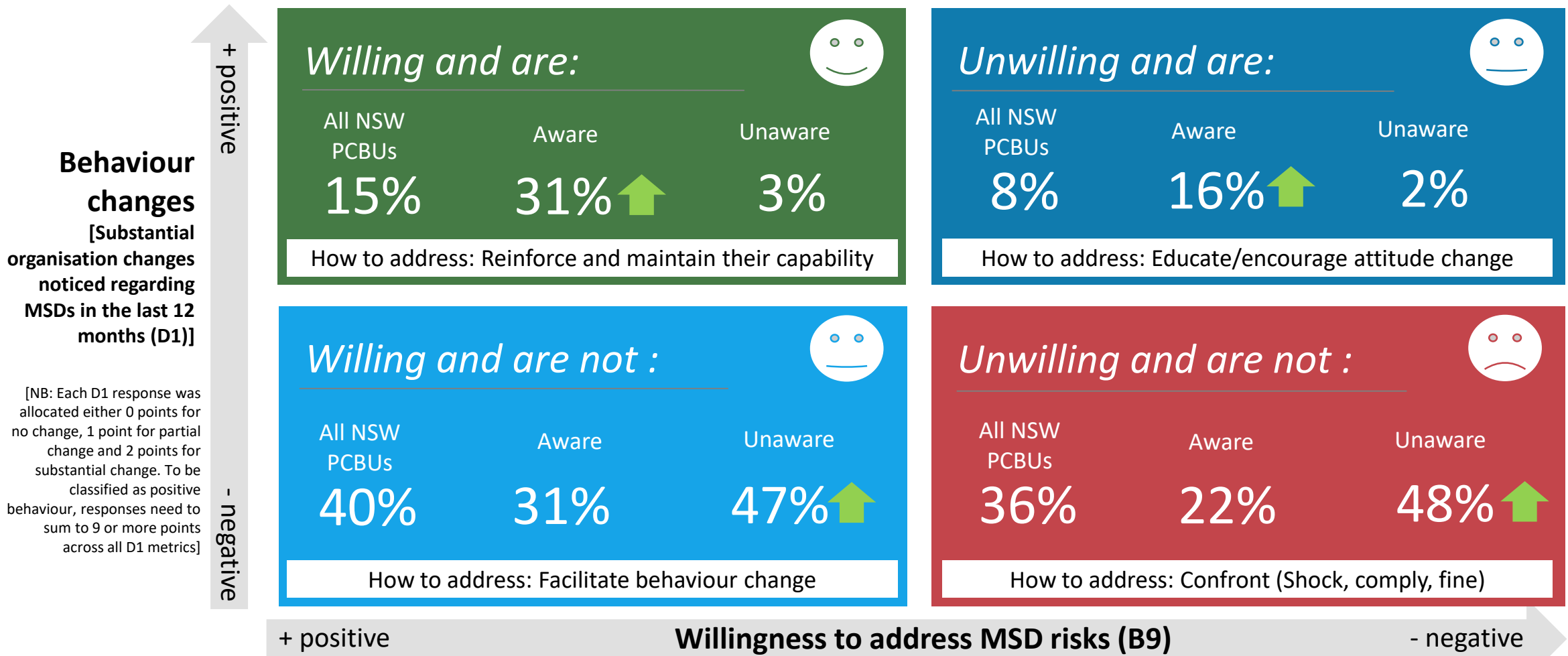
Profiling of the awareness of SafeWork's 2018/18 initiative

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Sheth-Frazier analysis – THOSE AWARE vs NOT AWARE



Firstly, when determining the impact of being aware of 2018/19 SafeWork initiatives, we can see a direct relationship between positive MSD behaviour in the business and those NSW PCBUs that are aware of the 2018/19 initiatives, while those unaware are not likely to be show that behaviour and therefore require facilitation and confrontation to change behaviour if they do not become aware of the initiatives SafeWork NSW is doing.



[NB: Each D1 response was allocated either 0 points for no change, 1 point for partial change and 2 points for substantial change. To be classified as positive behaviour, responses need to sum to 9 or more points across all D1 metrics]

[NB: B9 responses were split into a rank of 4 or 5 (very important) for positive willingness and rank 1 -3 for negative willingness]

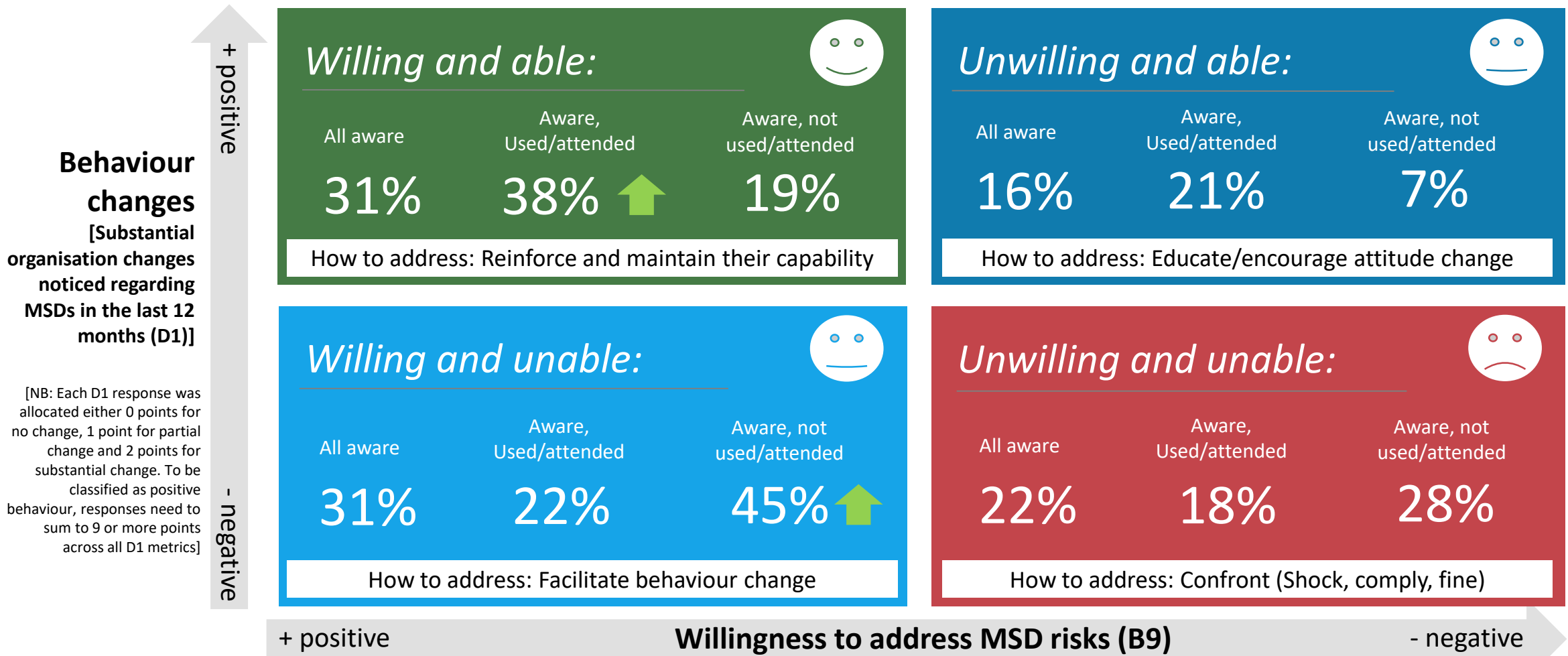
Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Sheth-Frazier analysis – THOSE AWARE & USED/ATTENDED vs THOSE AWARE BUT DIDN'T



Furthermore, there is distinct relationship on the willingness to address MSD risks among those who have stated they attended/utilized a SafeWork initiative. Those who have/attended are significantly more likely to have positive behaviour as well, while those who haven't are likely to indicate negative behaviour changes.



[NB: B9 responses were split into a rank of 4 or 5 (very important) for positive willingness and rank 1 -3 for negative willingness]

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Workplace, Health and safety focus

Awareness of MSD initiatives lower amongst small and medium businesses. Workplaces with greater focus on WHS are more likely to be aware of MSD Initiatives. Less of a correlation with awareness of initiatives and mental well being. Attendance at/usage of MSD initiatives either incident led or businesses with more targeted approaches.

	Unaware of MSD Initiatives (n=210)	Aware of MSD Initiatives (n=162)	Not used/attended (n=60)	Used/attended (n=103)
Small business	89%	69% ↓	76%	65% ↓
Medium business	11%	30%	23%	33%
Sole person responsible for health & safety	24%	43% ↑	23%	54% ↑
Leadership focus on WHS – no focus	10%	1% ↓	1%	2%
Leadership focus on WHS – some focus	31%	24%	20%	26%
Leadership focus on WHS – only following incident	11%	13%	22%	9% ↓
Leadership focus on WHS – targeted & proactive to prevent injuries	43%	44%	34%	49% ↑
Leadership focus on WHS – support embedded/tailored systems	5%	18% ↑	23%	14%
Leadership focus on mental wellbeing – no focus	18%	5% ↓	1%	8%
Leadership focus on mental wellbeing – some focus	28%	31%	29%	32%
Leadership focus on mental wellbeing – only following incident	24%	15%	18%	14%
Leadership focus on mental wellbeing – targeted & proactive to prevent injuries	25%	30%	27%	32%
Leadership focus on mental wellbeing – support embedded/tailored systems	5%	18% ↑	24%	14%

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended

Base: all respondents [weighted (unaware/aware of MSD initiatives at C1 n=210/n=162, Of those aware at C1, Used or attended initiatives/Not used or attended initiatives at C2 n=60/n=103)]

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Knowledge and buy-in to the impact

Less than 1 in 5 PCBUs aware of initiatives can describe/define an MSD injury. Those businesses aware of MSDs recognize its importance within the workplace. Awareness of MSDs is higher amongst those seeing a reduction in MSDs in the past 12 months suggesting they are a business focus. An increased incidence of repetitive strain injury has been the most significant reported MSD injury in the last 12 months which suggests that this has been a particular area of focus for businesses over this time period.

	Unaware of MSD Initiatives (n=210)	Aware of MSD Initiatives (n=162)	Not used/attended (n=60)	Used/attended (n=103)
PCBU is unable to describe an MSD	31%	18% ↓	16%	19%
Importance of addressing an MSD – very/fairly important	71%	85% ↑	87%	84%
No. of MSD injuries in last 12 months has decreased	12%	20% ↑	10%	26% ↑
No. of MSD injuries in last 12 months about the same	77%	66% ↓	66%	67%
Type of injuries increased in last 12 months - repetitive strain injury	87%	76% ↓	0%	86% ↑
Workplace attitudes to MSD injuries – it's inevitable	38%	41%	38%	42%
Workplace attitudes to MSD injuries – it's part of the job	34%	40%	32%	45%
Workplace attitudes to MSD injuries – more important safety issues to deal with	13%	13%	21%	8% ↓
Workplace attitudes to MSD injuries – it's too expensive	4%	17% ↓	11%	20%
Workplace attitudes to MSD injuries – there's no time to address these issues	7%	1%	3%	1%

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended

Base: all respondents [weighted (unaware/aware of MSD initiatives at C1 n=210/n=162, Of those aware at C1, Used or attended initiatives/Not used or attended initiatives at C2 n=60/n=103)]

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Willingness and capability



Businesses aware of MSD initiatives have made changes to their workplace in the last 6 months recognizing the importance of MSD injuries. However, there is considerable scope to drive MSD awareness and significance amongst many businesses.

	Unaware of MSD Initiatives (n=210)	Aware of MSD Initiatives (n=162)	Not used/attended (n=60)	Used/attended (n=103)
Changes made in the last 6 months – administrative controls – education/training	19%	48% ↑	44%	41%
Changes made in the last 6 months – engineering controls	14%	46% ↑	33%	53% ↑
Changes made in the last 6 months – elimination of the cause	16%	44% ↑	39%	46%
Changes made in the last 6 months – personal protective equipment	21%	42% ↑	44%	41%
Changes made in the last 6 months – substitution of hazard	15%	39% ↑	30%	45% ↑
Impact of workplace injuries caused by repetitive movements/forceful exertions – significant/very significant	11%	24% ↑	13%	31% ↑
Willingness of organisation to redesign or eliminate repetitive movements – very/fairly willing	50%	62% ↑	65%	60%

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended

Base: all respondents [weighted (unaware/aware of MSD initiatives at C1 n=210/n=162, Of those aware at C1, Used or attended initiatives/Not used or attended initiatives at C2 n=60/n=103)]

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Substantial/partial change noticed in last 12 months

Awareness is driving workplace MSD initiatives and SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives appear to be impacting changing attitudes to MSDs in the last 12 months but there is still some way to go in terms of driving changes in technology or redesigning the workplace.

	Unaware of MSD Initiatives (n=210)	Aware of MSD Initiatives (n=162)	Not used/attended (n=60)	Used/attended (n=103)
Awareness of the level of risk of MSD injuries	22%	78% ↑	66%	85% ↑
Awareness of the cost to the workplace of MSD injury	22%	70% ↑	51%	80% ↑
Measuring and recording of MSD injuries	11%	71% ↑	53%	82% ↑
Risk assessment of MSD injury exposure	23%	73% ↑	59%	81% ↑
Increasing mentions of MSD risks at toolbox and other worker meetings	16%	66% ↑	46%	77% ↑
Training being offered to prevent MSD injuries	16%	72% ↑	57%	80% ↑
Staff consultation about ways to reduce or eliminate repetitive exertions/forceful movements etc	22%	81% ↑	74%	85%
Jobs being redesigned to reduce or eliminate repetitive exertions/forceful movements etc	24%	78% ↑	74%	81% ↑
Investment in technology that eliminates repetitive exertions/forceful movements etc	15%	70% ↑	68%	71%

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended

Base: all respondents [weighted (unaware/aware of MSD initiatives at C1 n=210/n=162, Of those aware at C1, Used or attended initiatives/Not used or attended initiatives at C2 n=60/n=103)]

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

Barriers to taking more action on MSDs – important/very important



Awareness is driving workplace MSD initiatives and SafeWork NSW MSD initiatives appear to be impacting but still some way to go in terms of driving changes in technology or redesigning the workplace.

	Unaware of MSD Initiatives (n=210)	Aware of MSD Initiatives (n=162)	Not used/attended (n=60)	Used/attended (n=103)
Workers don't care about reducing MSD risks	21%	44% ↑	58%	26% ↓
It costs too much to change and reduce the risks of MSD	15%	11% ↑	14%	7%
There are other risks that are more important to address	27%	38% ↑	42%	33%
Workers respond to customer needs without thinking about their own risks	36%	53% ↑	62%	40% ↓
Workers have the attitude that they must get the job done no matter what the risk	26%	45% ↑	45%	45%
Pressure to meet work deadlines	34%	55% ↑	61%	48% ↓
Don't know what solution is	29%	40% ↑	39%	42%
Don't realise the full cost of MSD	23%	42% ↑	44%	39%
The cost of MSD isn't that much	16%	30% ↑	26%	35%
MSD injuries aren't expensive	20%	41% ↑	39%	45%
Lack of time to focus on the issue	22%	32% ↑	32%	32%

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware; used attended/not used attended

Base: all respondents [weighted (unaware/aware of MSD initiatives at C1 n=210/n=162, Of those aware at C1, Used or attended initiatives/Not used or attended initiatives at C2 n=60/n=103)]

Profiling awareness of SafeWork NSW 2018/19 MSD Initiatives

WHS & MSD workplace key information sources



One quarter of PCBUs are unaware of information sources for WHS with 4 out of 5 unaware of where to go for MSD information which presents communication challenges and opportunities. The SafeWork NSW website, industry magazines, emails and email newspapers and word of mouth sources appear to be the most channels for driving awareness. Word of mouth sources (i.e. peers, colleagues, businesses) could have the potential to drive engagement with PCBUs around MSDs and ultimately lead them to utilize other information channels.

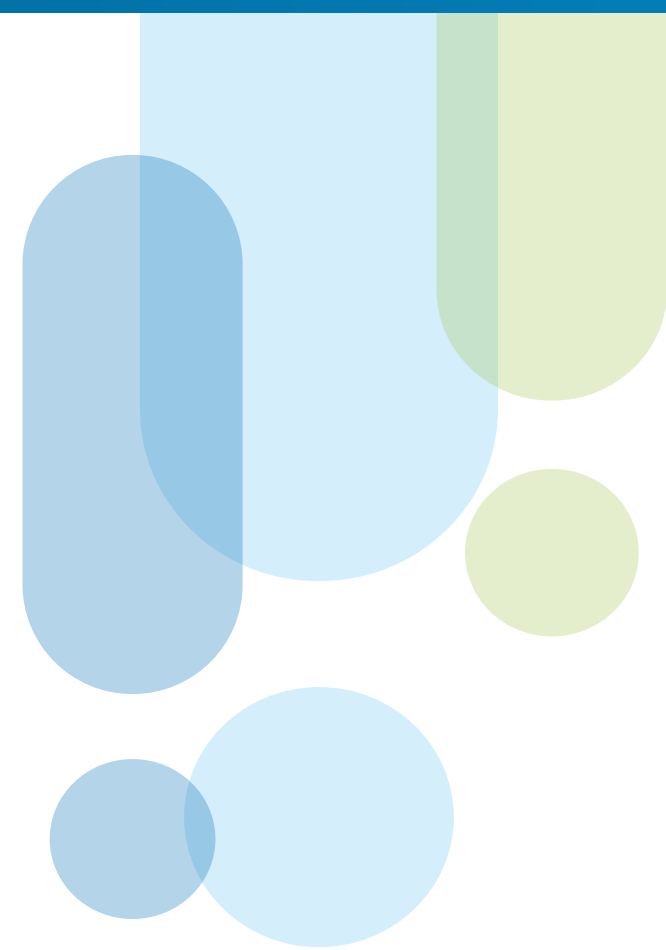
	Workplace Information source - WHS		Workplace Information source - MSD	
	Unaware of MSD Initiatives (n=210)	Aware of MSD Initiatives (n=162)	Unaware of MSD Initiatives (n=210)	Aware of MSD Initiatives (n=162)
SafeWork NSW website	37%	59% ↑	24%	47% ↑
Information from peers and colleagues	22%	30%	14%	21%
Via emails or email newsletters I tend to receive and read about WHS/MSD	12%	30% ↑	7%	21% ↑
Via industry networks	22%	24%	11%	16%
Via industry websites, online forums/ communities	15%	25% ↑	5%	19% ↑
Industry magazine or newsletter	14%	20%	9%	26% ↑
Information or ideas from other businesses I know	15%	16%	15%	20%
Via emails or email newsletters I tend to receive and read from SafeWork NSW	7%	22% ↑	6%	25% ↑
Workshops and events that SafeWork NSW (including symposiums)	5%	17% ↑	1%	10%
Television	9%	12%	11%	8%
Key advisers like consultants	8%	14%	1%	19% ↑
Not sure/don't know	25% ↑	1%	39% ↑	3%

Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than aware/not aware; ↓ significantly lower than aware/not aware

Base: all respondents [weighted (unaware/aware of MSD initiatives at C1 n=210/n=162)]

3h

PCBU channels of engagement



Channels of engagement for MSD information

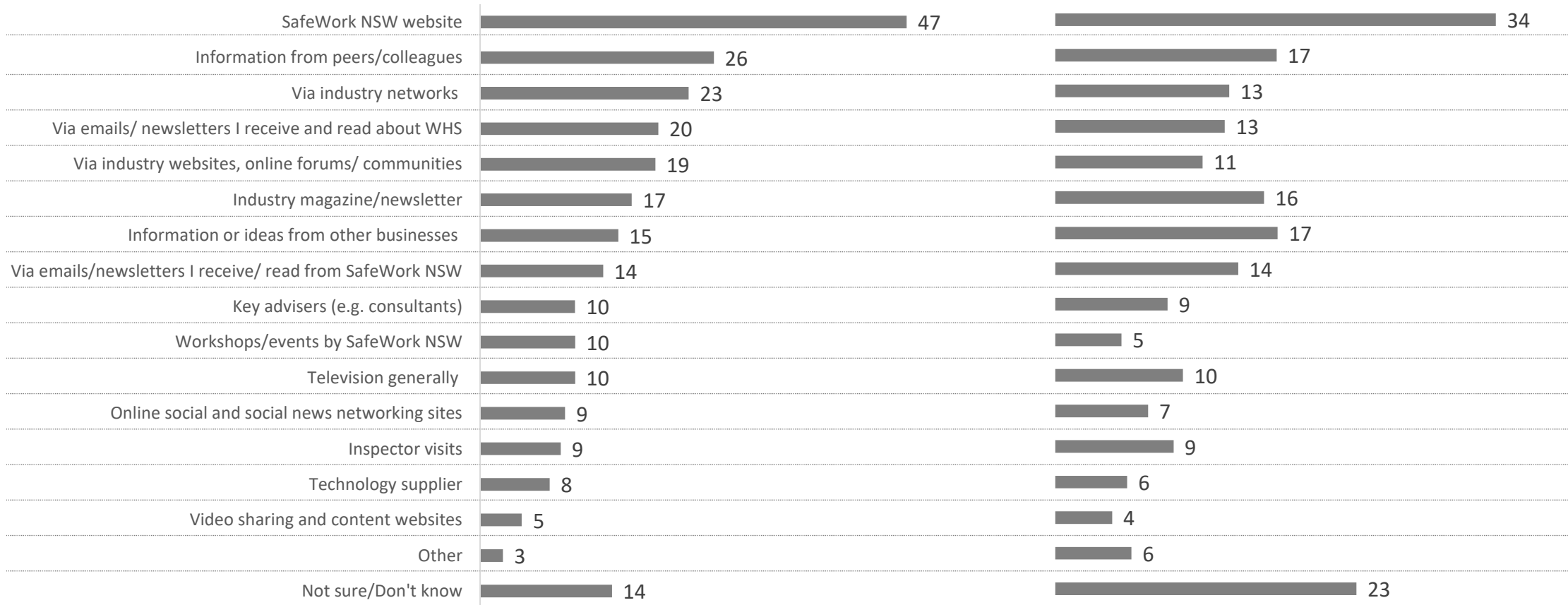
Keys ways with which workplaces get information – All NSW PCBU's



NSW PCBU's are most likely to source WHS information and MSD information from the SafeWork NSW website; although nearly 1 in 4 PCBU's have no idea how the information is sourced for MSD.

Ways workplace gets information on WHS

Ways workplace gets information on MSD



Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents [All NSW PCBU's (n= 372 weighted)]

Question G1a: Which ways does your workplace get information on WH&S? Question G1b: Which ways does your workplace get information on MSD?

Channels of engagement for MSD information

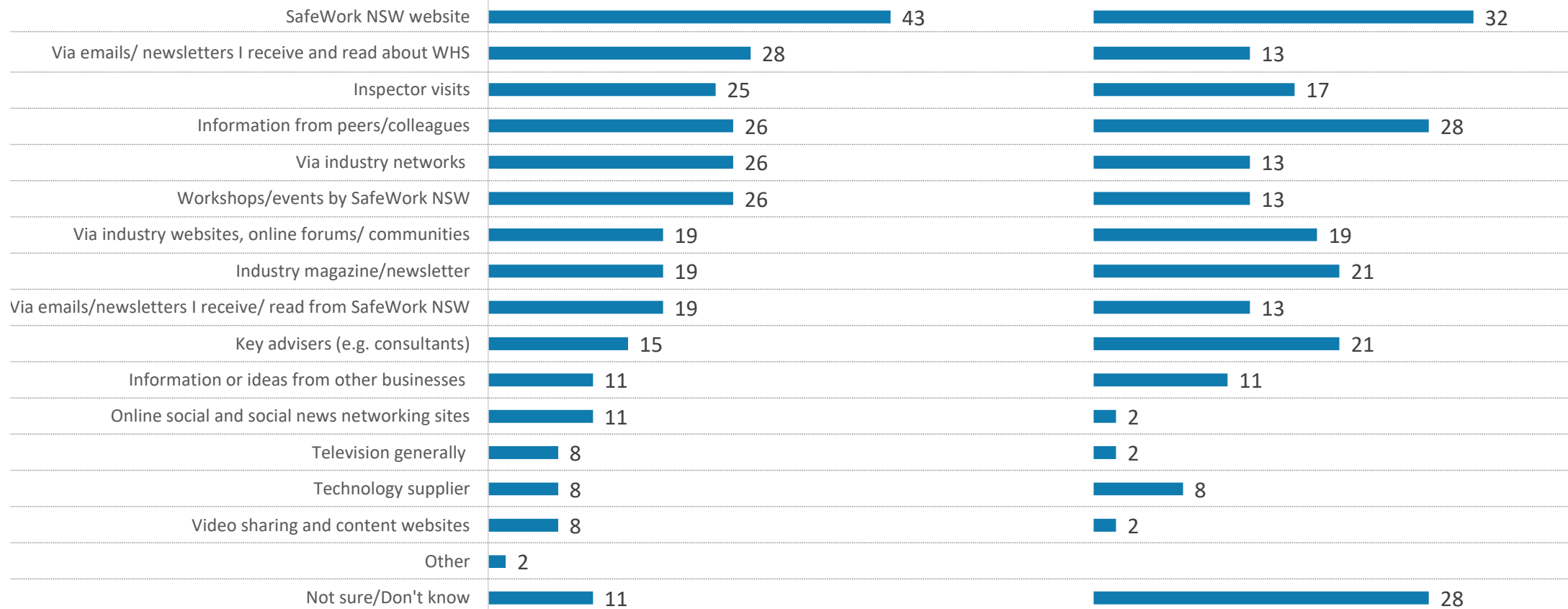
Keys ways with which workplaces get information – Health Care and Social Assistance



Similarly, over 2 in 5 Healthcare PCBUs indicate that the SafeWork NSW website is where WHS is sourced; Nearly 3 in 10 rely on the SafeWork NSW website and word of mouth from peers for MSD information, but 3 in 10 are not aware of how the information for MSD is sourced.

Ways workplace gets information on WHS

Ways workplace gets information on MSD



Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents [targeted industry healthcare (n=53)]

Question G1a: Which ways does your workplace get information on WH&S? Question G1b: Which ways does your workplace get information on MSD?

Channels of engagement for MSD information

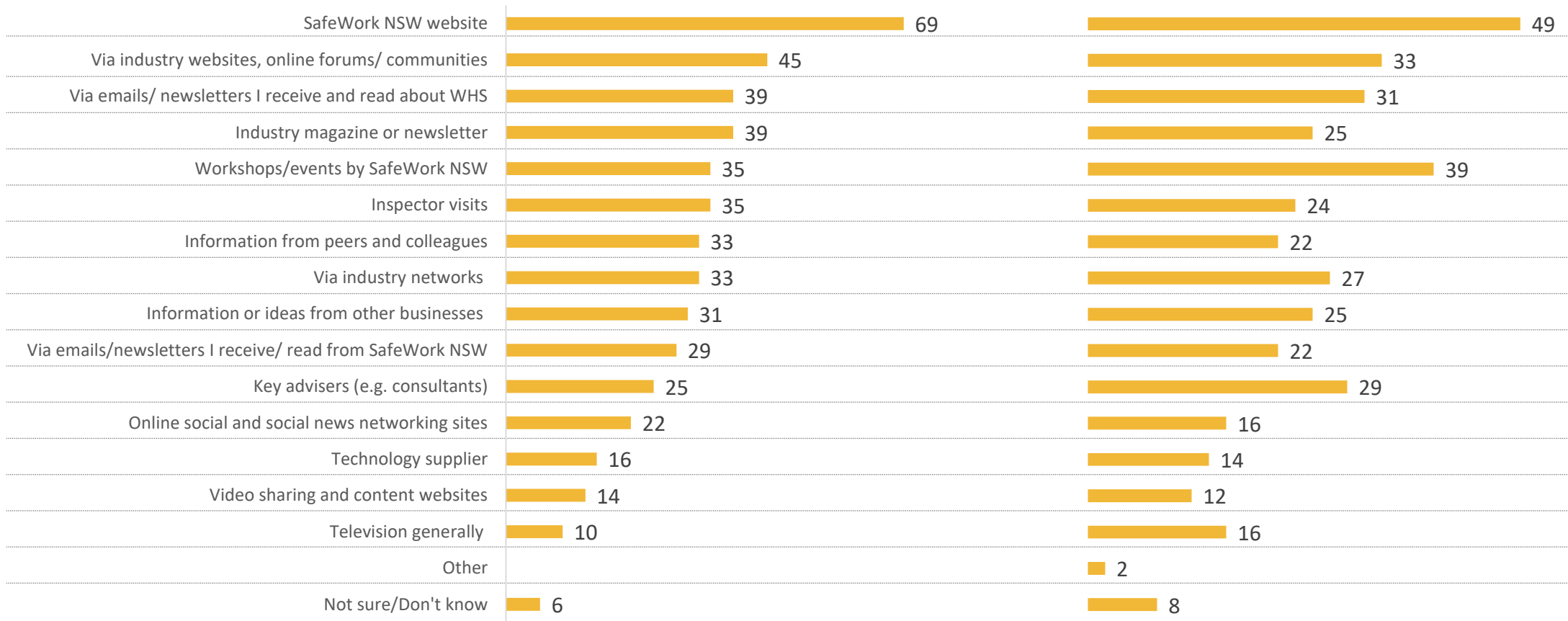
Keys ways with which workplaces get information – Manufacturing



Manufacturing PCBUs indicate the highest use of the SafeWork NSW website for WHS information (7 in 10) and MSD information (1 in 2); Manufacturers are also likely to rely on SafeWork NSW workshops and events for MSD information.

Ways workplace gets information on WHS

Ways workplace gets information on MSD



Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents [targeted industry manufacturing (n=51)]

Question G1a: Which ways does your workplace get information on WH&S? **Question G1b:** Which ways does your workplace get information on MSD?

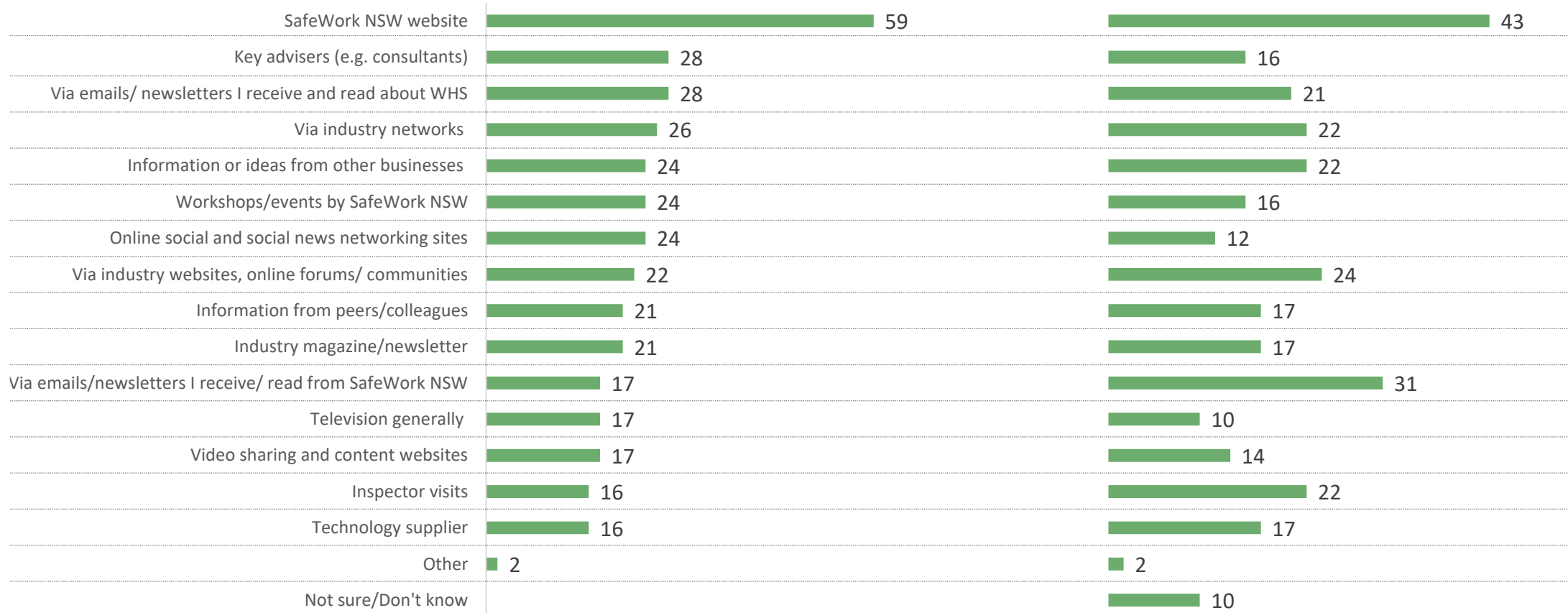
Channels of engagement for MSD information

Keys ways with which workplaces get information – Construction

Construction PCBUs also indicate high use of the SafeWork NSW website for WHS information (3 in 5) and MSD information (2 in 5); Construction PCBUs are also likely to use SafeWork NSW emails and newsletters for MSD information.

Ways workplace gets information on WHS

Ways workplace gets information on MSD



Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents [targeted industry construction (n=58)]

Question G1a: Which ways does your workplace get information on WH&S? Question G1b: Which ways does your workplace get information on MSD?

Channels of engagement for MSD information

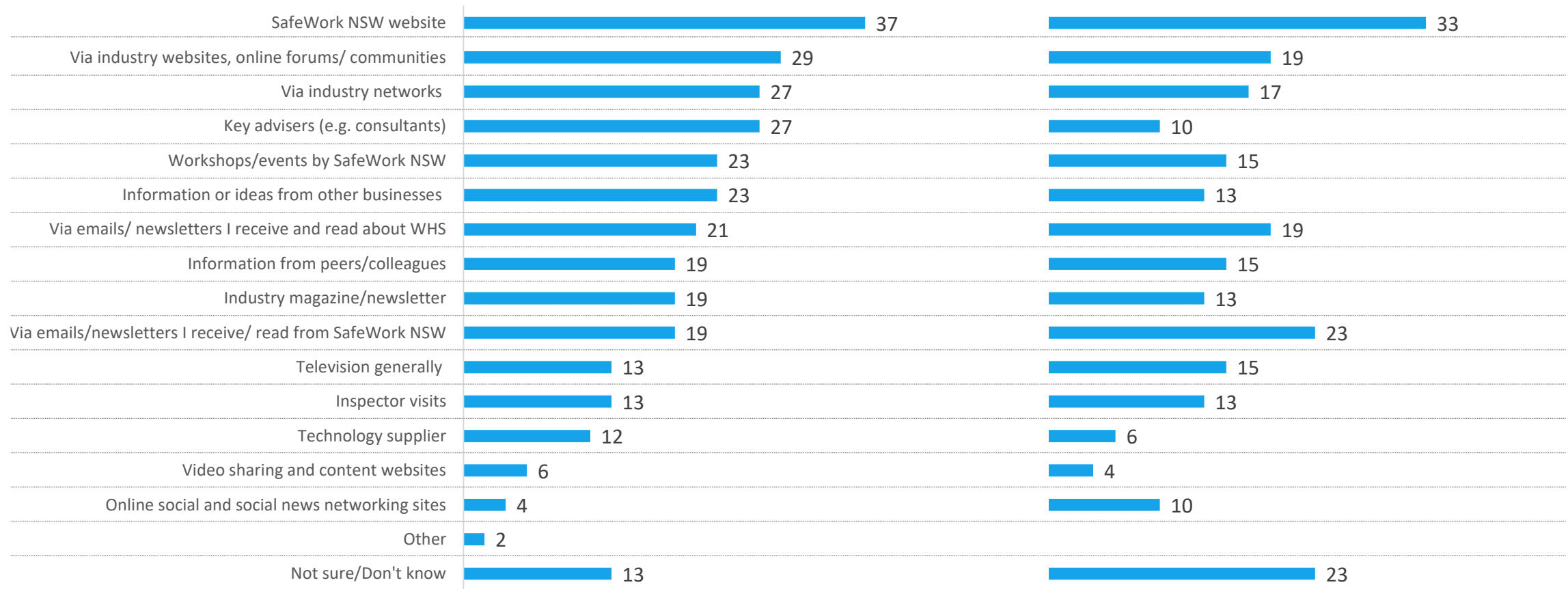
Keys ways with which workplaces get information – Transport, Postal and Warehousing



Transport PCBUs indicate strong use of the SafeWork NSW website for WHS information (nearly 2 in 5) and MSD information (1 in 3); Construction PCBUs are also likely to use SafeWork NSW emails and newsletters for MSD information.

Ways workplace gets information on WHS

Ways workplace gets information on MSD



Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents [targeted industry transport (n=52)]

Question G1a: Which ways does your workplace get information on WH&S? Question G1b: Which ways does your workplace get information on MSD?

Channels of engagement for MSD information

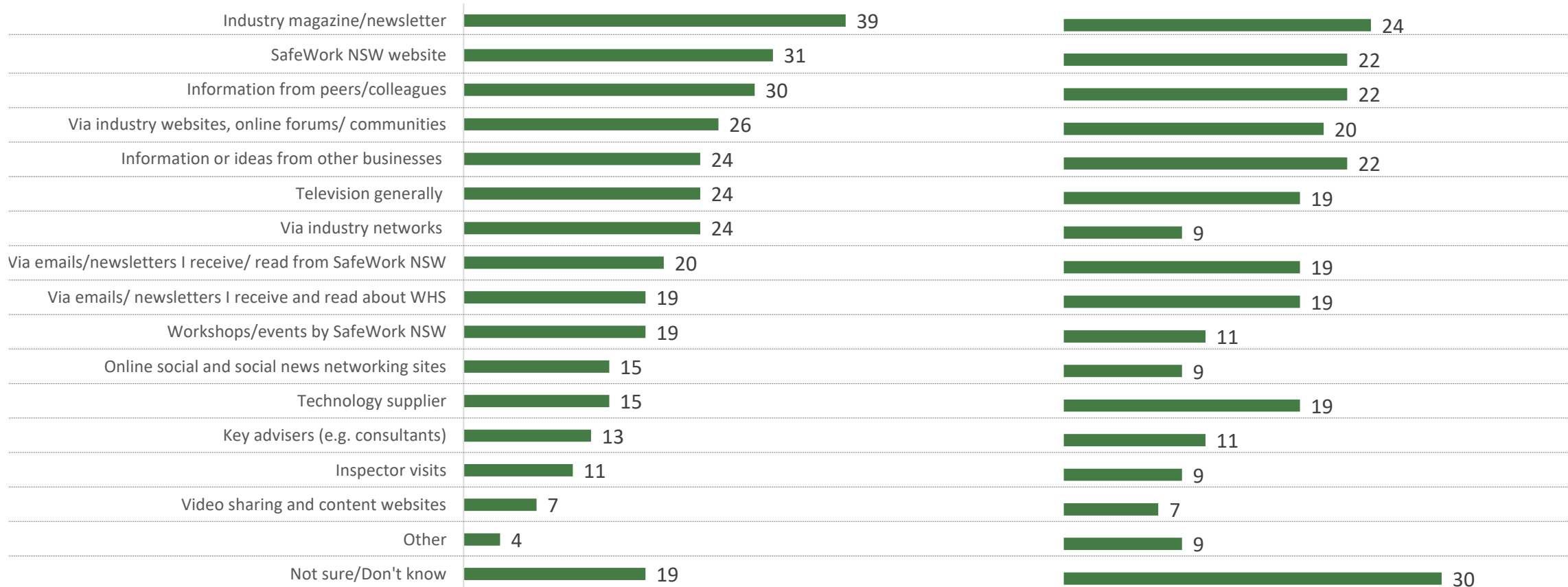
Keys ways with which workplaces get information – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing



Agriculture PCBU's have the highest level of uncertainty on how WHS and MSD information is found, and when they do, indicate a broader number of channels through which they may engage; Industry sources and peers feature highly as sources of information.

Ways workplace gets information on WHS

Ways workplace gets information on MSD



Significance Testing: Not conducted

Base: all respondents [targeted industry agriculture (n=54)]

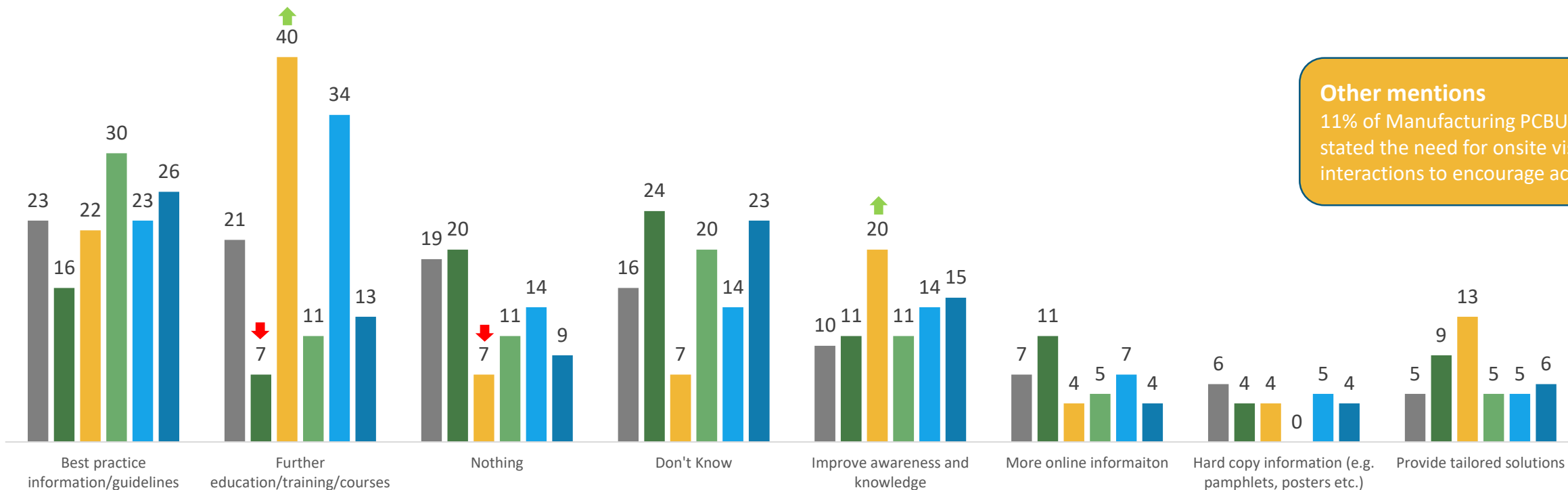
Question G1a: Which ways does your workplace get information on WH&S? Question G1b: Which ways does your workplace get information on MSD?

SafeWork as the appropriate source of information

How SafeWork can help PCBUs systematically reduce the risk of MSDs



NSW PCBUs are requesting best practice information be provided, with further education and training as well. Manufacturer PCBUs stand out on educations/training and site visits. 1 in 5 PCBUs do not see a need for SafeWork's involvement.



Other mentions
 11% of Manufacturing PCBUs stated the need for onsite visits or interactions to encourage action.

■ All NSW PCBUs (n=349) ■ Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (n=54) ■ Manufacturing (n=51) ■ Construction (n=58) ■ Transport, Postal and Warehousing (n=52) ■ Health Care and Social Assistance (n=53)

*NB: mentions less than 5% for All NSW PCBUs are hidden from chart for all categories

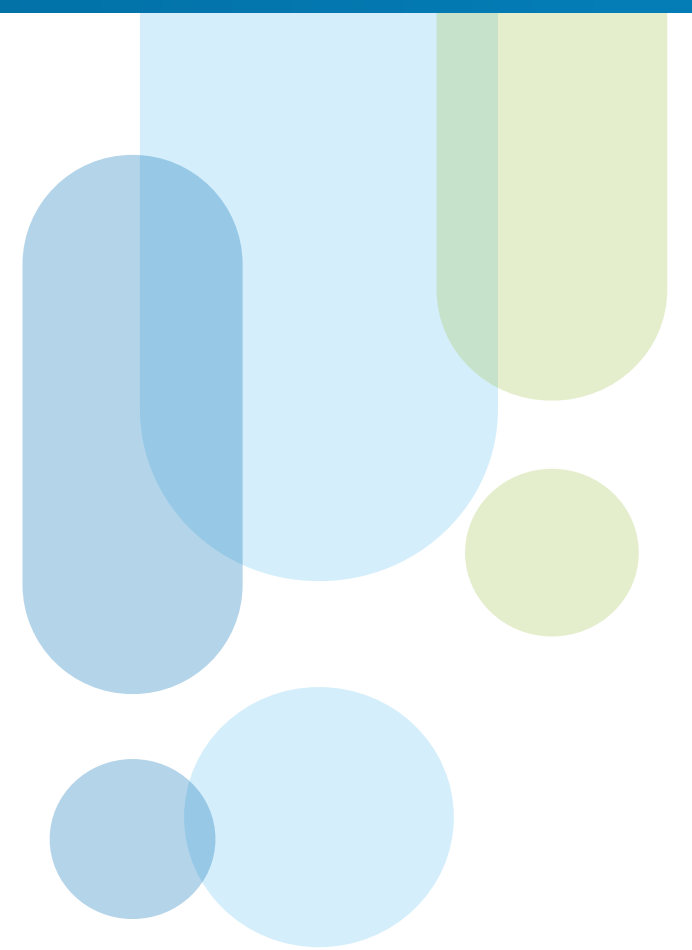
Significance Testing: ↑ significantly higher than the average NSW PCBU, ↓ significantly lower than the average NSW PCBU

Base: all respondents excluding refusals [All NSW PCBUs (n= 349 weighted), targeted industries unweighted (agriculture n=45, construction, n=45, healthcare n=44, manufacturing n=44, transport n=47)]

Question G2: How can SafeWork NSW help you to systematically reduce the risk of MSD?



Sample and data notes



Short-term Evaluation

Considerations for the next evaluation

The short-term evaluation revealed several areas that will be important to consider in future evaluations.

Claims data

- Progress towards achieving a 50% reduction in the incidence of major MSD claims could not be calculated at the time of this report's production. At the time of data compilation, static claims data and denominator data (number of employees) for the 2017/18 year were not available. If denominator data for 2017/18 is not yet available from Safe Work Australia, it has been suggested by SIRA to use 2016/17 as indication, but this has not yet occurred. It will be important to assess the change in claims data once this is known to determine if the target remains on track, particularly as this the 2017/18 data period provides the first opportunity to assess claims data during the implementation period of the strategy.
- Claims data as at March 2018 (as previously reported) is not comparable with data measured 14 months later as at June 2019. There will be differences in claims number and classification of claims as they develop, and the severity of claims emerged.
- The segmentation revealed the prevalence of small businesses in weaker attitudinal and behavioural metrics for addressing MSD risks. It will be important to assess their influence on major MSD claims to determine where the strategy's priorities should be focused as varying strategies can be applied as determined in the segmentation analysis.

The data analysis

- Many open responses were found to have been googled (e.g. such as in the definition of an MSD). While these obvious responses were removed from the analysis, the next evaluation will need to adjust and monitor for such events for quality assurance.
- In question B2, modify definition so not to influence B3 results. The inclusion of '*slips, trips and falls*' and '*(such as RSI)*' is likely to have influenced results in B3 and so should be remove the entire second statement that discusses how MSDs can occur.
- Continue to monitor the public data set for any information that might assist in the evaluation of the strategy.
- Continue to build a representative sample to be able to match progress on key initiatives from the short-term evaluation onwards. The baseline evaluation was not considered representative.

Sample

Musculoskeletal Disorder Strategy 2017 – 2022

The 2019 Short-Term Evaluation: Phase 4 Quantitative Findings

Industries	n=	%
Total sample	372	100
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	54	15
Mining	1	<1
Manufacturing	51	14
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	3	1
Construction	58	16
Wholesale Trade	16	4
Retail Trade	10	3
Accommodation and Food Services	8	2
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	52	14
Information Media and Telecommunications	8	2
Financial and Insurance Services	3	1
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	6	2
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	22	6
Administrative and Support Services	8	2
Public Administration and Safety	1	<1
Education and Training	7	2
Health Care and Social Assistance	53	14
Arts and Recreation Services	4	1
Other Services	7	2

Primary Role	n=	%
Total sample	372	100
Business owner	142	38
Organisation Manager (e.g. CEO, Director, Executive)	63	17
Operations manager	61	16
Front Line Manager (e.g. Shift manager, Duty manager, Supervisor, Foreperson)	53	14
Other senior manager (e.g. HR manager)	33	9
Health and safety manager	11	3
Health and safety coordinator	9	2
Other	2	1

Key decision	n=	%
Total sample	354	100
Yes key decision maker	226	64
Yes, involved in decision making	128	36

Sample

Musculoskeletal Disorder Strategy 2017 – 2022

The 2019 Short-Term Evaluation: Phase 4 Quantitative Findings

Locations in Australia	n=	%
Total sample	372	100
New South Wales	372	100
Victoria	19	5
Queensland	16	4
Tasmania	7	2
South Australia	9	2
Western Australia	9	2
ACT	12	3
Northern Territory	5	1



Locations in NSW	n=	%
Total sample	372	100
Sydney	239	64
Newcastle	49	13
Wollongong	31	8
North Coast	47	13
South Coast	28	8
North-Western NSW	37	10
Western NSW	44	12
South-Western NSW	38	10
Other	27	7

Employees in Australia	n=	%
Total sample	372	100
Sole Trader	56	15
2 - 19	112	30
20 - 49	35	9
50 - 99	37	10
100 - 199	37	10
200 - 499	28	8
500 - 999	24	6
1000+	43	12
Small	168	45
Medium	72	19
Large	132	35

Employees in NSW	n=	%
Total sample	372	100
Sole Trader	56	15
2 - 19	117	31
20 - 49	42	11
50 - 99	39	10
100 - 199	33	9
200 - 499	36	10
500 - 999	17	5
1000+	32	9
Small	173	47
Medium	81	22
Large	118	32

Weighting of the data – The actual sample profile provides the unweighted responses. The results presented in the rest of the report is weighted to the population based on ABS data by ward area, age and gender.

Statistical significance – 5% at 95 per cent level of confidence – All tests for statistical significance have been undertaken at the 95 per cent level of confidence, and unless otherwise noted, any notation of a ‘difference’ between subgroups means that the difference discussed is significant at the 95 per cent level of confidence. When reporting significant differences in segments, (+x%; x%) represents the difference in % above total sample, and % of total sample respectively.

A red circle or green square around a value denotes that the result is significantly lower or greater (respectively) than that of the total sample for that question. E.g.  

Treatment of means – Where responses are scale variables, for example 1 to 5 where 1 is disagree strongly and 5 is agree strongly, the mean is also calculated with the removal of don’t know.

Rounding of figures – may result in anomalies of +/- 1% - All results have been rounded to the nearest whole percentage figure and anomalies of about +/- 1% may occur in charts i.e. total percentages for each bar add to 99%, or 100% or 101% due to rounding error.

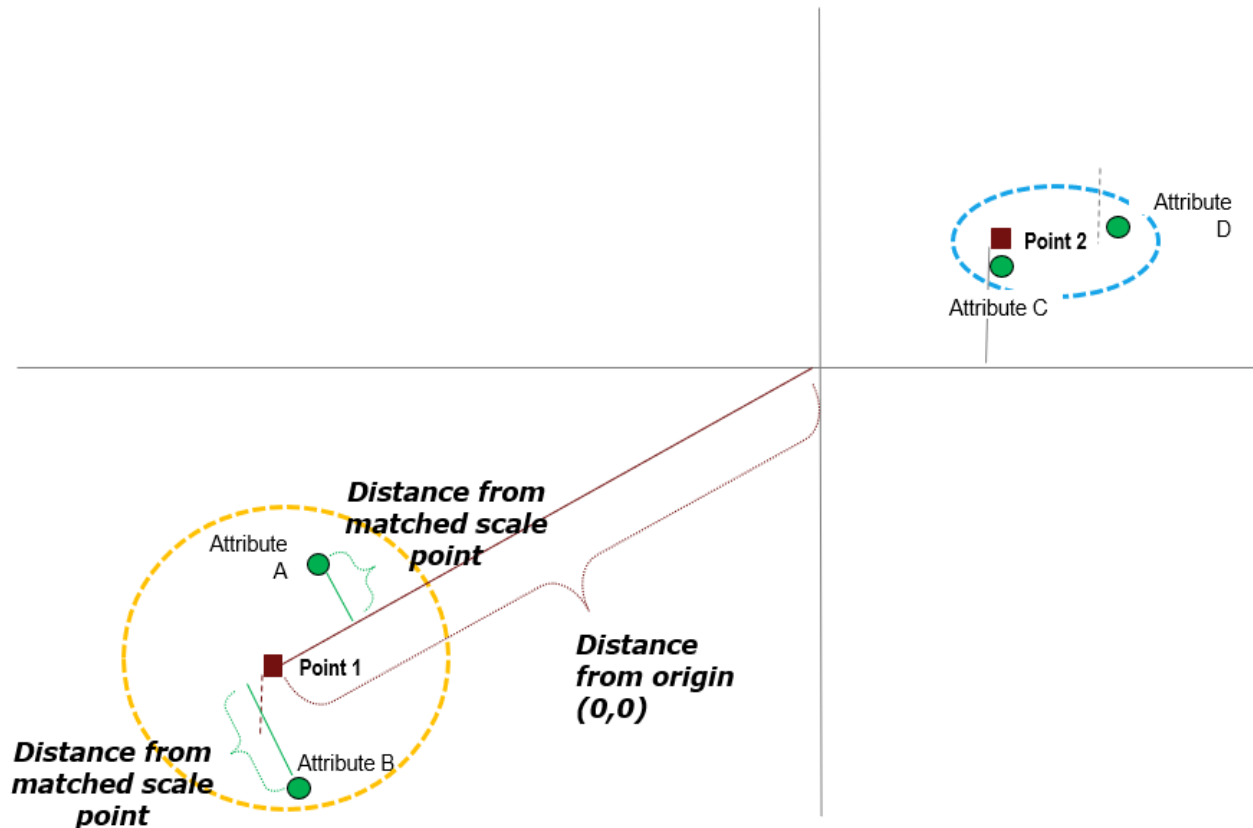
Data figures shown – All data labels with <4% are not shown in the chart unless important to the insight being represented.

Nett figures are also rounded – which may also result in anomalies – Nett results are also rounded after summing the separate proportions rather than simply summing two rounded figures (e.g. ‘% total agree’). For this reason, anomalies of about 1% sometimes occur between net results and rounded results shown in charts. For example, a proportion of 33.3% ‘agree’ rounds to 33%, and a proportion of 12.4% ‘strongly agree’ rounds to 12%. However, when combined to derive the total agree (i.e. agree plus strongly agree), 33.3% plus 12.4% equals 45.7%, which would be rounded to 46%. In this case, the results would be shown in a chart as 33% agree and 12% strongly agree, but the proportion reported as ‘total agree’ would be 46%.

Correspondence Analysis

How to understand Correspondence Analysis (perceptual maps)

Perceptual or positioning maps help develop an industry/market strategy by showing where the existing industries are positioned in terms of market defining factors. It assists in identifying where work should be done to position an industry relative for change.



Correspondence analysis is a statistical technique of graphical representation highlighting the relative strength of an industry compared to other industries, as determined by how close together things are on the map. At a nuanced level, we look at the distance between the row and column categories from the centre of the map. The further they are from the centre of the map, the stronger the relationship. The actual correct interpretation is even more complex than this yet.

How to Read:

- Greater **distance from origin** indicates a greater degree of differentiation from the other levels in the traffic scale. Applies to both attributes and to scale points.
 - in this example, Point 1 is more differentiated than Point 2
- Smaller **distance from matched indicator** indicates greater strength of description. Applies to attributes only
 - in this example, attribute A is a better descriptor than attribute B for Point 1
 - of the 4 attributes shown, attribute C has the best fit with its matched scale point as it has the smallest distance from the Point 2 plot

Questions?

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The logo for 'instinct and reason' features the words in a sans-serif font. 'instinct' is on the left, 'and' is smaller and positioned between 'instinct' and 'reason'. 'reason' is on the right. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic of a hand with fingers spread, rendered in light blue and green tones. The background of the slide features a large, faint version of this hand graphic and several overlapping circles in shades of blue and green.

instinct and reason

August, 2019