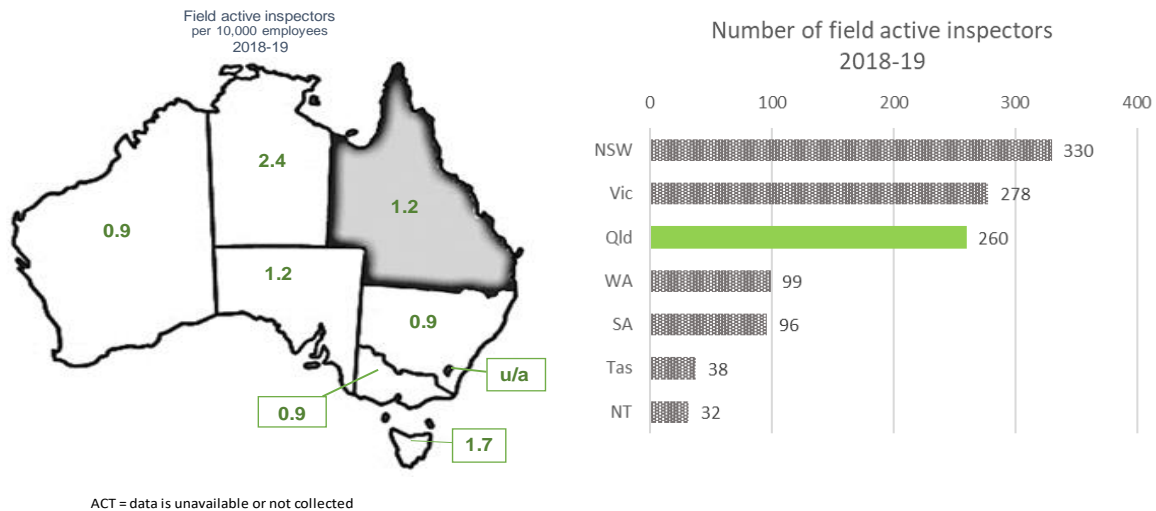


## Executive summary – Queensland performance

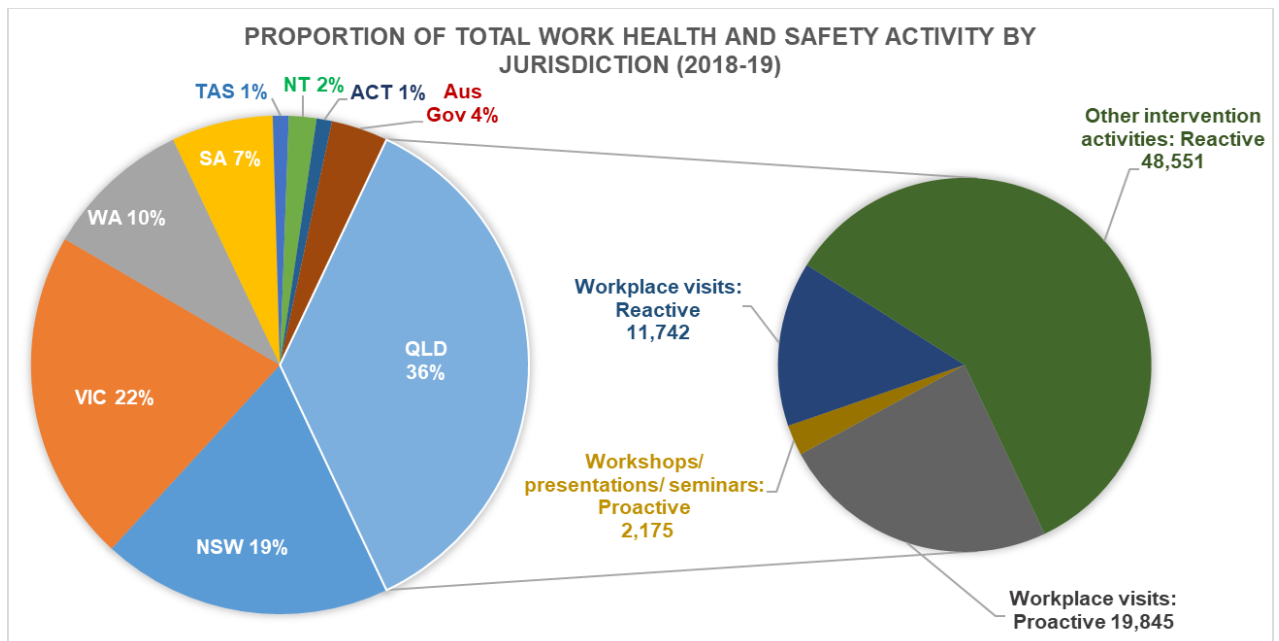
### Indicators of Queensland WHS performance against other Australian jurisdictions

Based on: Safe Work Australia Annual Comparative Performance Monitoring Report 22nd Edition (CPM 22 – Part 2) for 2018–19 (February 2021).

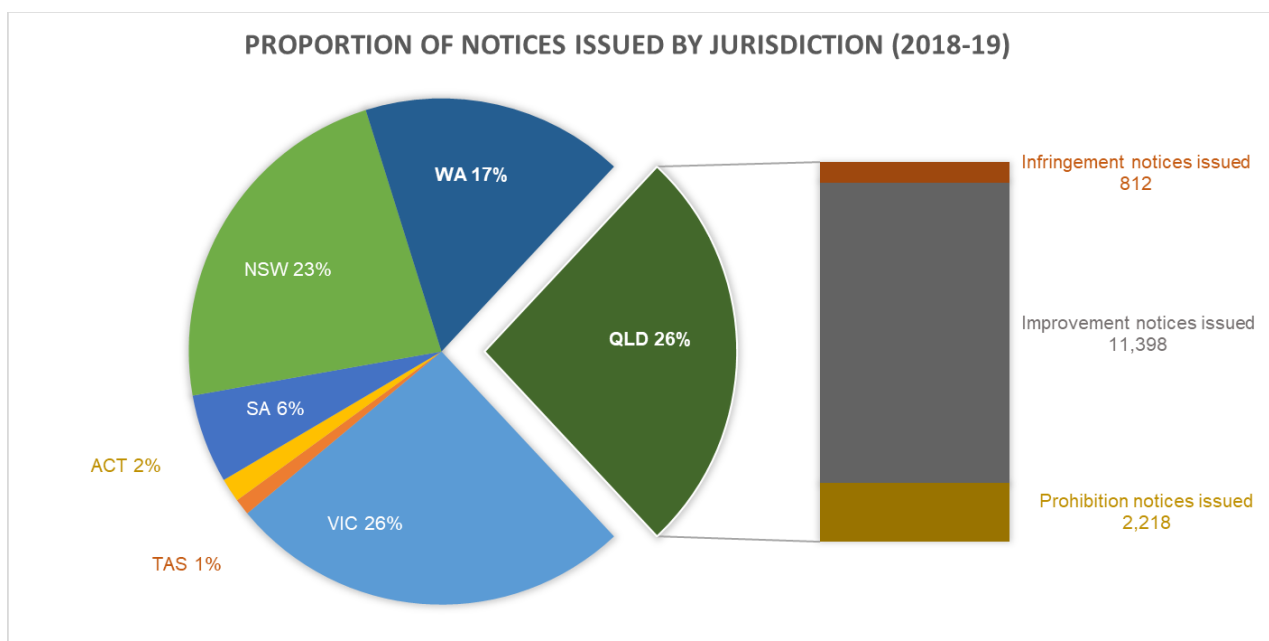


The number of field active inspectors in Queensland, at 1.2 inspectors per 10,000 employees is almost equal to the national average ratio of inspectors to employees (1.3). In 2018–19, Queensland had the third highest number of field active inspectors at 260.

In 2018–19, there were 82,313 proactive and reactive activities undertaken by work health and safety officers across Queensland. Queensland represented 36 per cent of all WHS activities performed in Australia, making Queensland the biggest contributor of all jurisdictions.



In 2018–19, there were 14,428 notices issued within Queensland, or 26 per cent of all notices issued in the states and territories of Australia. Resulting in Queensland being the highest, marginally ahead of Victoria in the number of notices issued by jurisdiction.



# Indicators of Queensland WHS performance against other Australian jurisdictions

This report summarises the data contained in the Safe Work Australia Annual Comparative Performance Monitoring Report 22nd Edition (CPM 22—Part 2) for 2018–19. (Released February 2021.)

*The Comparative Performance Monitoring (CPM) report is produced annually by Safe Work Australia (SWA) to provide trend analysis on work health and safety and workers' compensation schemes operating in Australia and New Zealand.*

*However, Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ) cautions against the reliance of this data for a meaningful comparison of inspectorate activity across jurisdictions. WHSQ believes that attempts at the national level to establish a meaningful comparison of inspectorate activity between States and Territories has not been achieved in CPM reports over the past 10 years. This is largely due to ambiguity in the interpretation of definitions and methodology around reactive and proactive work by each jurisdiction. The inspectorate activity datasets maintained by each jurisdiction are not aligned, with each jurisdiction autonomously applying their own operational requirements and coding parameters to record inspectorate activity. Each jurisdiction then attempts to align their individual datasets with nationally agreed definitions to extract relevant data to best satisfy SWA reporting requirements, resulting in highly inconsistent inspectorate activity being reported within each category and compared across jurisdictions.*

## Jurisdictional capacity

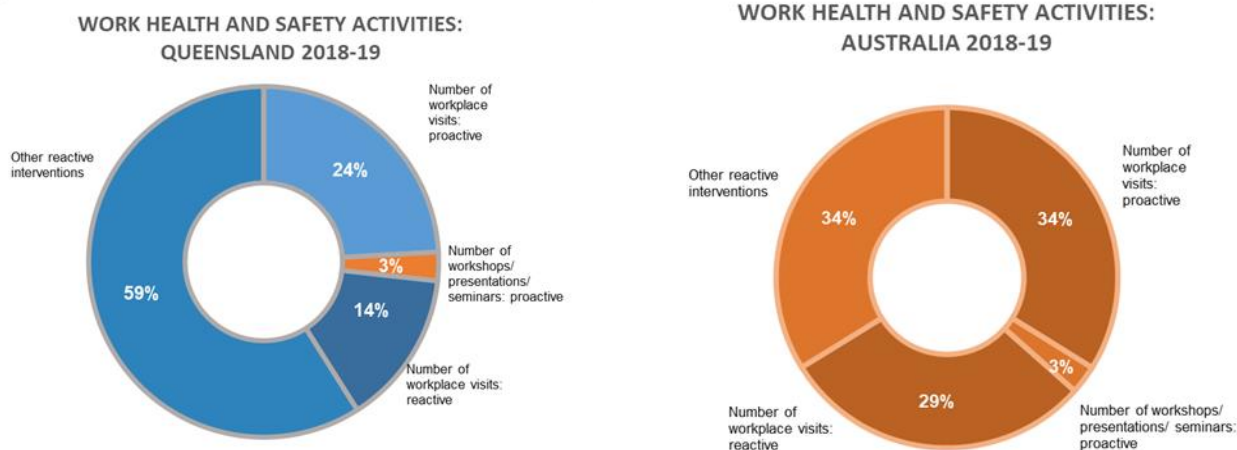
As at 2018–19, Queensland had the third highest number of field active inspectors, at 260, behind New South Wales (330 inspectors) and Victoria (278 inspectors). However, the ratio of field active inspectors to employees was higher in Queensland, compared to New South Wales and Victoria.

**Table 1: Field Active Inspectors, number and rate (number per 10,000 employees)**

	YEAR	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	NT	ACT
Number of active field inspectors	2014–15	315	261	210	103	93	23	25	u/a
	2018–19	330	278	260	99	96	38	32	u/a
Rate (no. per 10,000 employees)	2014–15	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.3	1.1	2.0	u/a
	2018–19	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.7	2.4	u/a

## Inspectorate activity

In 2018–19, Queensland inspectors had the highest number of other reactive interventions than any other jurisdiction. Queensland had the highest number of proactive workplace visits and workshops/presentations/seminars and forums.

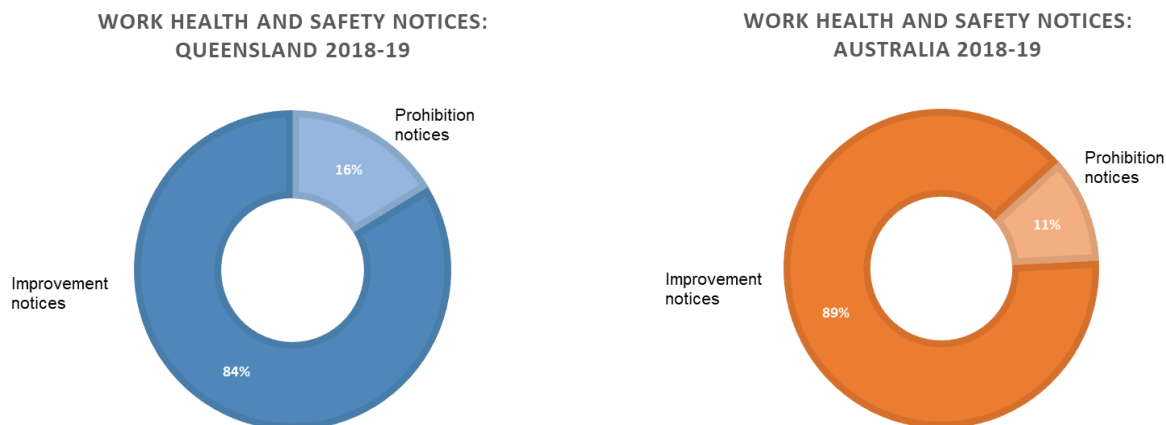


**Table 2: WHS jurisdictional inspectorate activity 2018–19**

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	Total Australia
Number of workplace visits: proactive	19,809	23,606	19,845	4,861	3,282	77,632
Number of workshops/presentations/seminars/forums: proactive	1,421	n/a	2,175	236	269	6,230
Number of workplace visits: reactive	12,669	25,907	11,742	3,184	7,465	67,836
Other reactive interventions	9,302	n/a	48,551	13,555	4,092	77,538
<b>Total workplace visits</b>	<b>43,201</b>	<b>49,513</b>	<b>82,313</b>	<b>21,836</b>	<b>15,108</b>	<b>229,163</b>

## Notices

Throughout 2018–19, Queensland inspectors issued a higher proportion of prohibition notices (at 16 per cent) when compared with Australia as a whole, where inspectors issued 11 per cent.



Based on the latest CPM report, the table below outlines the number of infringement, improvement and prohibition notices issued by WHS jurisdictions. This highlights that WHSQ inspectors issued the highest number of prohibition and infringement notices and issued the second highest number of improvement notices in 2018–19. Direct comparisons of notices issued cannot be made due to differences in jurisdictional policy about the number of breaches that can be addressed on a single notice.

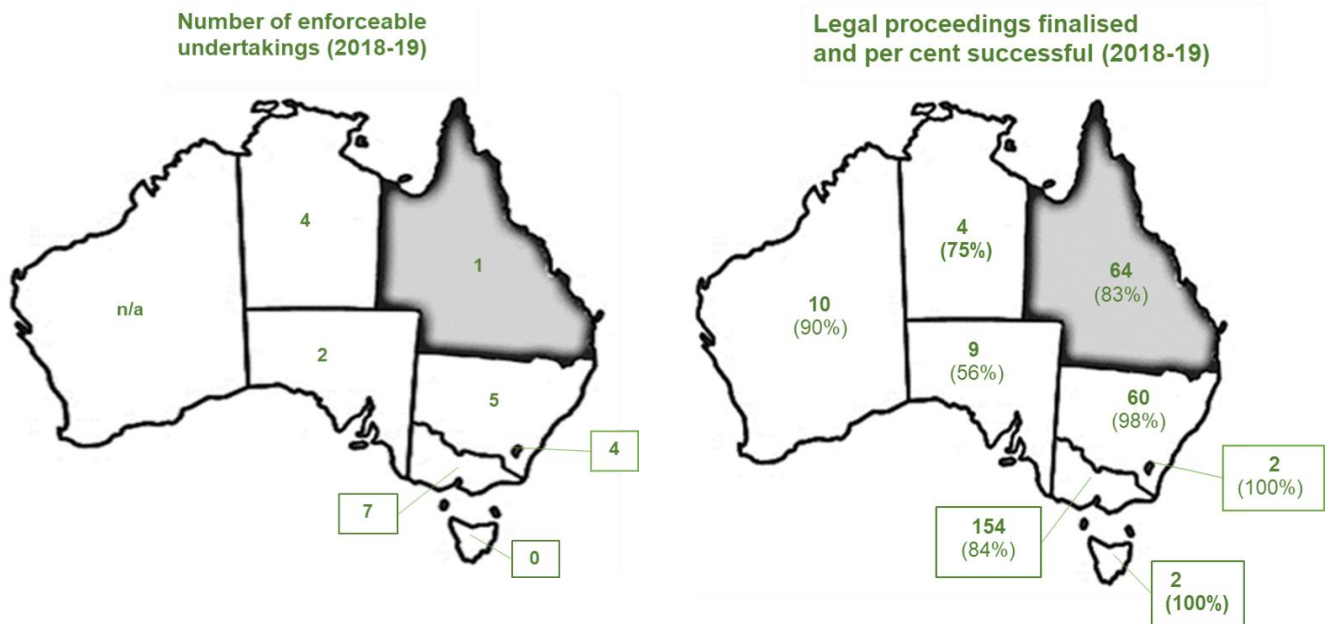
**Table 3: WHS notices issued**

		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	NT	ACT
Number of infringement notices issued	2014–15	92	n/a	29	n/a	2	14	1	n/a
	2018–19	636	n/a	812	n/a	1	26	4	24
Number of improvement notices issued	2014–15	6,545	15,730	1,749	12,039	1,728	241	74	n/a
	2018–19	10,157	13,871	11,398	9,049	2,441	460	116	669
Number of prohibition notices issued	2014–15	673	542	760	427	832	106	131	n/a
	2018–19	1,905	477	2,218	256	703	94	66	151
<b>Total notices issued</b>	<b>2014–15</b>	<b>7,310</b>	<b>16,272</b>	<b>2,538</b>	<b>12,466</b>	<b>2,562</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>n/a</b>
	<b>2018–19</b>	<b>12,698</b>	<b>14,348</b>	<b>14,428</b>	<b>9,305</b>	<b>3,145</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>844</b>

## Sanctions

Of all Australian jurisdictions that carry out enforceable undertakings, Queensland ranked sixth in Australia in the number of enforceable undertakings in 2018–19.

With regard to legal proceedings, over 2018–19 Queensland ranked second in the number of legal proceedings finalised by each State and Territory (64), and with a success rate of 83 per cent, ranked sixth in this measure against other Australian jurisdictions.



The material presented in this publication is distributed by the Queensland Government for information only and is subject to change without notice. The Queensland Government disclaims all responsibility and liability (including liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses, damages and costs incurred as a result of the information being inaccurate or incomplete in any way and for any reason.

© State of Queensland 2021