

Minimum wage increase starts today

1 July 2021

The Fair Work Ombudsman is reminding employers that the national minimum wage has increased today to \$20.33 per hour (up from \$19.84) or \$772.60 per week (up from \$753.80).

On 16 June 2021, the Fair Work Commission [announced](https://www.fwc.gov.au/documents/wage-reviews/2020-21/decisions/2021fwcfb3500.pdf) a 2.5 per cent increase to the national minimum wage, following its Annual Wage Review. This increase applies from the first full pay period starting on or after today.

Employees covered by awards will also have base rates increased by 2.5 per cent, however, these increases to award wages begin on different dates for different groups of awards.

Casual employees that the national minimum wage applies to must receive a minimum \$25.41 per hour including their 25 per cent casual loading.

Most award wages will increase from 1 July 2021, with the following exceptions:

- wages in the Retail Award will increase from 1 September 2021;
- wages in 21 other awards where the Fair Work Commission deemed there were exceptional circumstances will increase from 1 November 2021. A list of these awards can be found at [Annual Wage Review 2021 \(www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/website-news/annual-wage-review-2021\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/news-and-media-releases/website-news/annual-wage-review-2021).

Employees covered by awards will have their base rate increase from the first full pay period starting on or after the relevant date.

Fair Work Ombudsman Sandra Parker said workplaces are expected to ensure all their employees are paid at least the relevant minimum wage, in line with the Fair Work Commission's decision.

"The Fair Work Ombudsman has free online tools available to help employers comply with their workplace obligations, which have been updated to reflect the new pay rates."

"We urge all businesses to use our [Pay and Conditions Tool \(https://calculate.fairwork.gov.au/\)](https://calculate.fairwork.gov.au/) to check the lawful minimum rates they need to pay their staff, or to contact us directly for free assistance," Ms Parker said.

"We encourage workers to use the [Pay and Conditions Tool \(https://calculate.fairwork.gov.au/\)](https://calculate.fairwork.gov.au/) to check their rates of pay. If workers are unsure which award applies to them, they can use our [Find my award tool \(www.fairwork.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/awards/find-my-award/\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/awards/find-my-award/)."

"If employers and employees have any queries or concerns about pay rates, they can contact the Fair Work Ombudsman for free advice and assistance," Ms Parker said.

The Fair Work Ombudsman enforces compliance with the Fair Work Act 2009, related legislation, awards and registered agreements and helps employers and employees by providing advice and education on pay rates and workplace conditions.

The Fair Work Commission is the independent national workplace relations tribunal. It is responsible for maintaining a safety net of minimum wages and employment conditions, as well as a range of other workplace functions and regulation.

Employers and employees can visit www.fairwork.gov.au or call the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 for free advice and assistance. A free interpreter service is available on 13 14 50. Know a workplace not doing the right thing but don't want to get involved? [Report it anonymously \(www.fairwork.gov.au/workplace-problems/fixing-a-workplace-problem/report-an-issue-anonymously\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/workplace-problems/fixing-a-workplace-problem/report-an-issue-anonymously) – in your language.

Follow the Fair Work Ombudsman [@fairwork_gov_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au.

Sign up to receive the Fair Work Ombudsman's media releases direct to your email inbox at [www.fairwork.gov.au/emailupdates \(www.fairwork.gov.au/emailupdates\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/emailupdates).

Media inquiries:

Claire Low, Senior Media Adviser

Mobile: 0418 825 074
claire.low@fwo.gov.au (mailto:claire.low@fwo.gov.au)

Page reference No: 10258

Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

Need language help?

Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this website is general in nature. If you are unsure about how it applies to your situation you can call our Infoline on 13 13 94 or speak with a union, industry association or workplace relations professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.