

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

LEVEL 17, 111 ST GEORGES TERRACE PERTH WA 6000

MEDIA STATEMENT

2025 State Wage Case

Thursday, 12 June 2025

The Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission has increased the State Minimum Wage by 3.75%, which brings the State Minimum Wage to \$953.00 per week from 1 July 2025. The Commission also increased award rates by 3.75% from that time.

The increases apply only to employees who are paid the minimum wage or award rates in the State industrial relations system. Approximately 27,000 employers and more than 300,000 employees are estimated to be affected by the decision.

In making its decision, the Commission is required to consider a broad range of economic and labour market factors, and social and equity considerations.

The Commission noted that in this year's case, as for 2023 and 2024, the cost of living has been a significant factor. Whilst inflation is now moderating, State Minimum Wage and minimum award wage earners have had reductions in their purchasing power as a result of the inflation 'spike' over the 2021-2024 period. The increase will provide low wage earners in the State industrial relations system with a real wage increase, and is aligned with wage movements in the community generally.

The State economy remains strong, as one of the best performing in the nation. The labour market is particularly robust, with very solid, although easing, wages growth in the community generally. As a result, household consumption and discretionary spending have also been elevated. Business investment also remains robust, along with housing investment. Despite these factors, low levels of productivity, especially in the market sector, remain of concern. So too, are risks to the outlook, resulting from trade tensions between the United States and other countries, especially China, being a major trading partner with Western Australia. This is reflected in some measures of business confidence.

A full copy of the decision can be found on the Commission's website: <u>www.wairc.wa.gov.au</u>.

For more information, please contact Susan Bastian, Registrar, on (08) 9420 4444.