

# Safety of Journalists Country Report

## Australia

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### Report Authors

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Australian respondents acknowledged considerable fears for psychological safety, with journalists reflecting damaging elements including verbal aggression, harassment or hate speech. The global ranking for psychological safety was the nation's lowest across the four dimensions, contributing to Australia's overall worldwide position. In contrast, journalists generally considered themselves physically safe, ranking much higher in this dimension, with the results outlining limited concerns of threats or actions that may lead to physical harm. Journalists were slightly more concerned about financial safety. This was slightly surprising as this category links with job security concerns in an industry that has experienced widespread restructures and redundancies over the previous 15 years. A similar result occurred with digital safety, highlighting aspects related to threats to journalists' digital privacy.

### Safety Index Scores

#### Overall Safety Score

**82.61**

#### Safety Dimensions

##### Physical Safety

**91.73**

##### Psychological Safety

**68.76**

##### Digital Safety

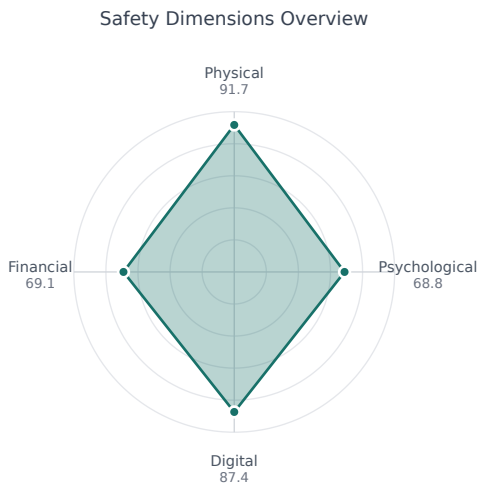
**87.37**

##### Financial Safety

**69.06**

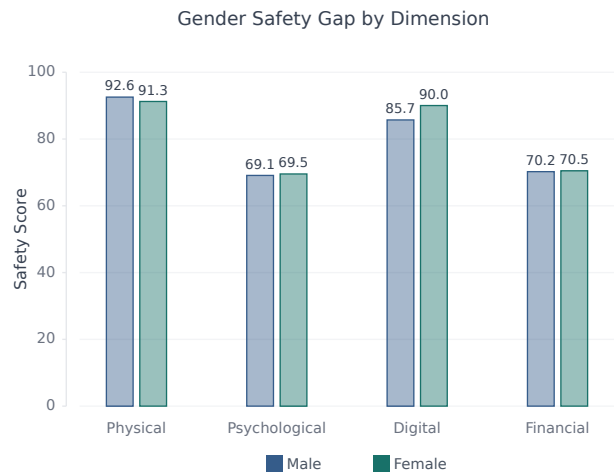
# Overview

The Safety of Journalists Index provides a comprehensive measurement of journalist safety across four dimensions. The charts below show how Australia performs across each dimension and highlight any gender-based disparities.



*Safety Dimensions*

This radar chart displays how the country performs across all four safety dimensions, revealing areas of strength and concern.



*Gender Safety Gap*

This comparison highlights differences in safety experiences between male and female journalists, revealing potential gender-based disparities.

## Physical Safety

The physical dimension carries **50% weight in the safety index**.

# 0

### Journalist Killings

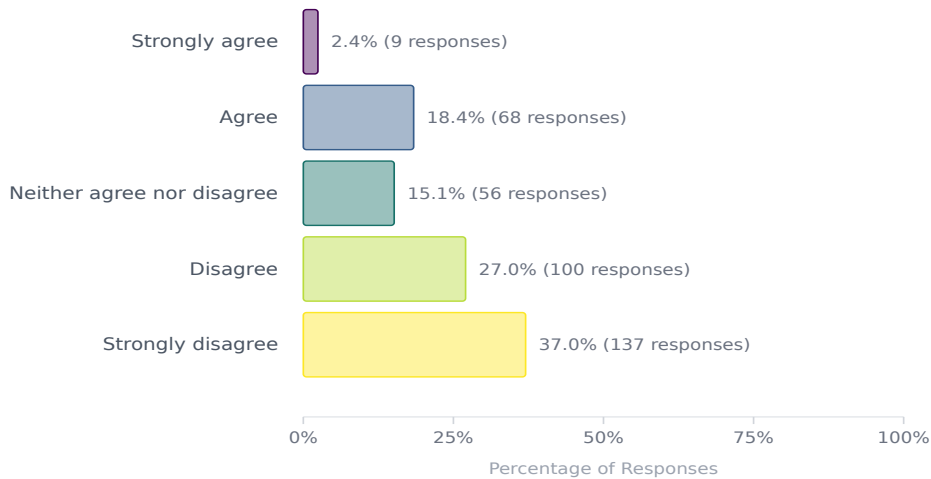
2016-2024

**No journalist killings have been recorded in Australia between 2016 and 2024.**

**Note:** This indicator carries 35% of the weight within the physical dimension of the Safety Index, making it the most significant factor in this category.

Data sourced from UNESCO Observatory of Killed Journalists.

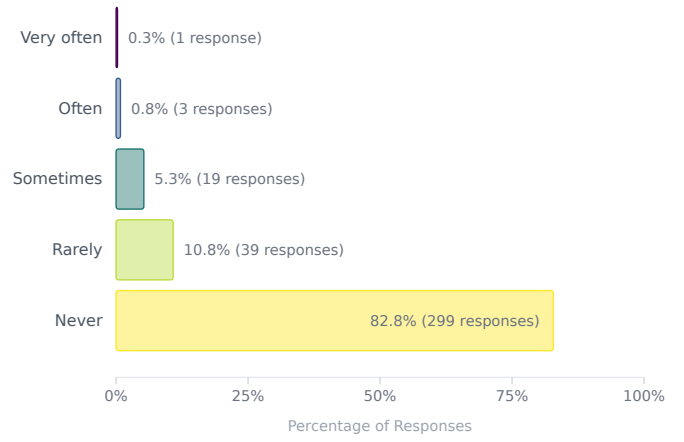
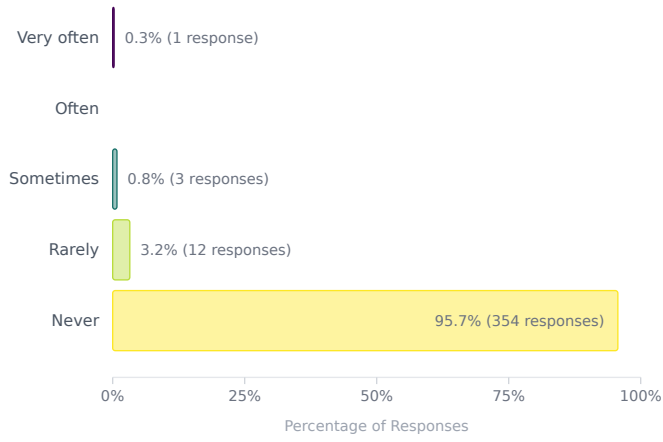
## Responses to: "I am concerned about my physical wellbeing" (20% weight in physical dimension)



## Responses to: "In the last five years, how often have you experienced any of the following actions related to your work as a journalist?"

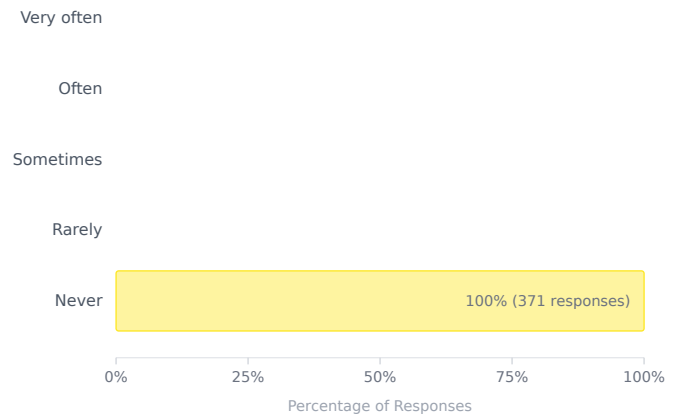
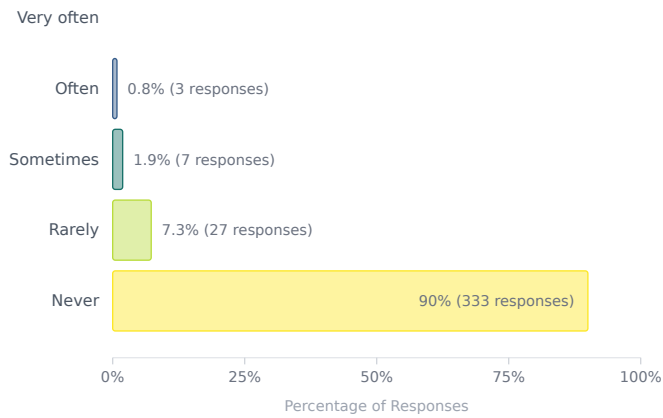
**Arrests, detentions or imprisonment (15% weight in physical dimension)**

**Sexual assault or sexual harassment (15% weight in physical dimension)**



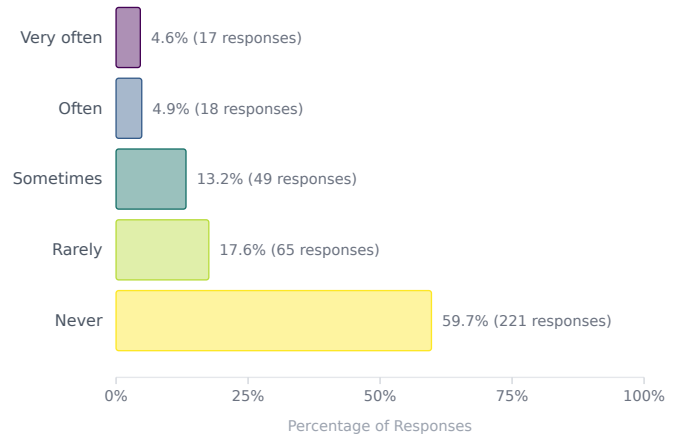
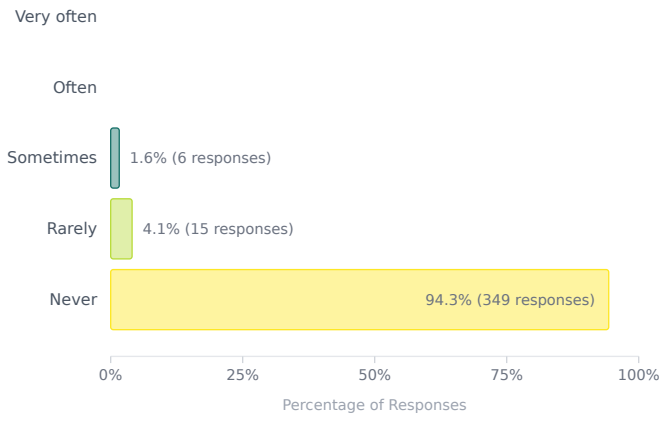
**Other physical attacks (15% weight in physical dimension)**

**Abductions (did not contribute to calculation)**



**Office raids or seizures or damage of equipment (did not contribute to calculation)**

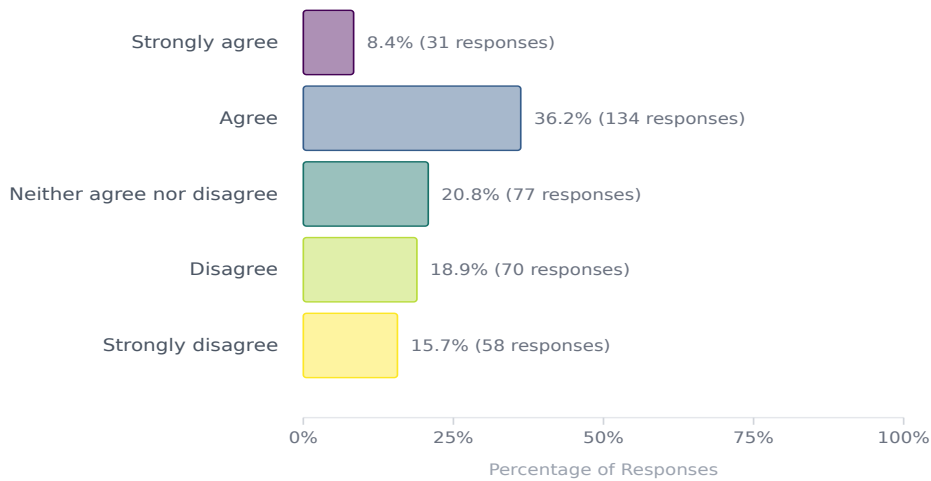
**Being required to work in an environment where COVID-19 had easily spread (did not contribute to calculation)**



# Psychological Safety

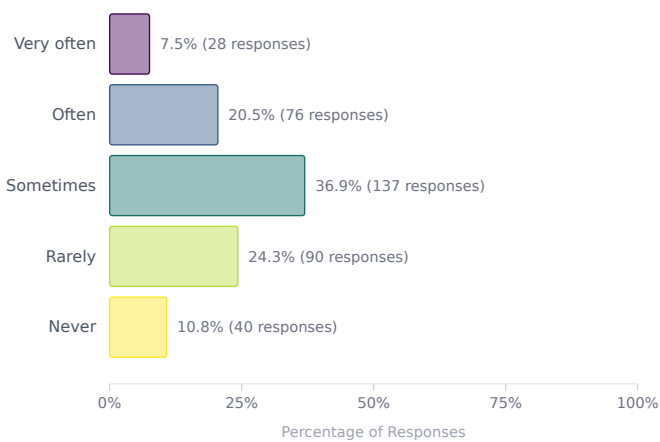
The psychological dimension carries **25% weight in the safety index**.

## Responses to: "I am concerned about my emotional wellbeing" (20% weight in psychological dimension)

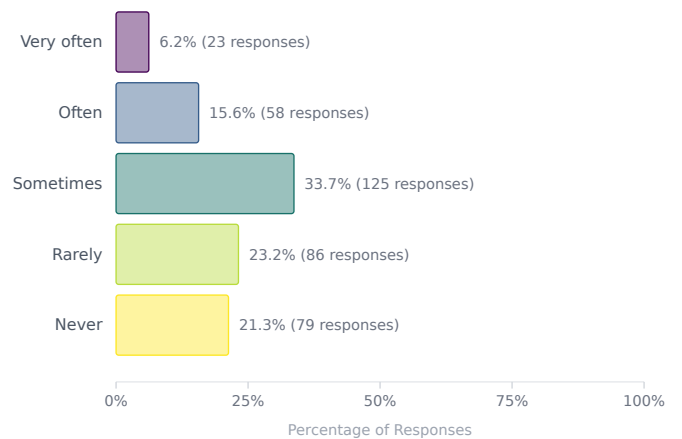


## Responses to: "In the last five years, how often have you experienced any of the following actions related to your work as a journalist?"

### Demeaning or hateful speech directed at you (16% weight in psychological dimension)



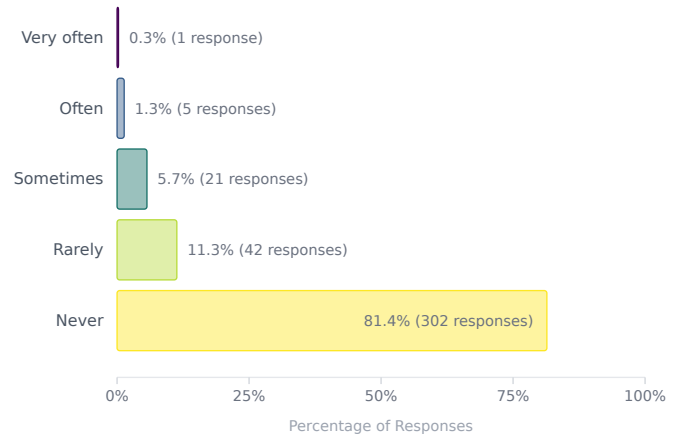
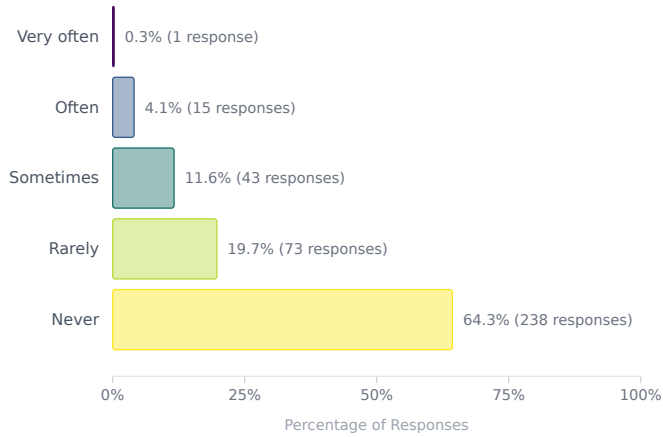
### Public discrediting of your work (16% weight in psychological dimension)



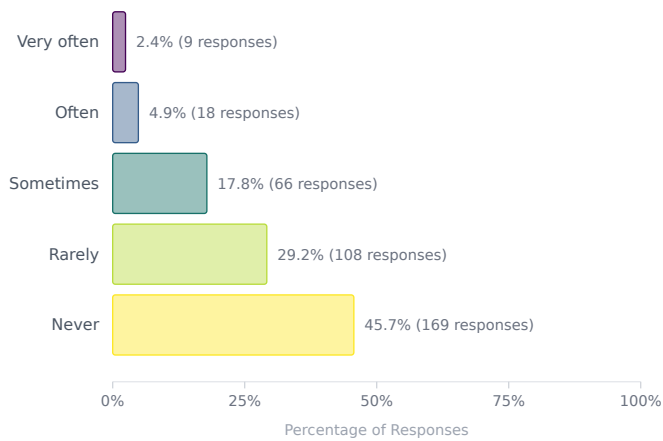
### Legal actions against you because of your work (16% weight in psychological dimension)

### Stalking (16% weight in psychological dimension)

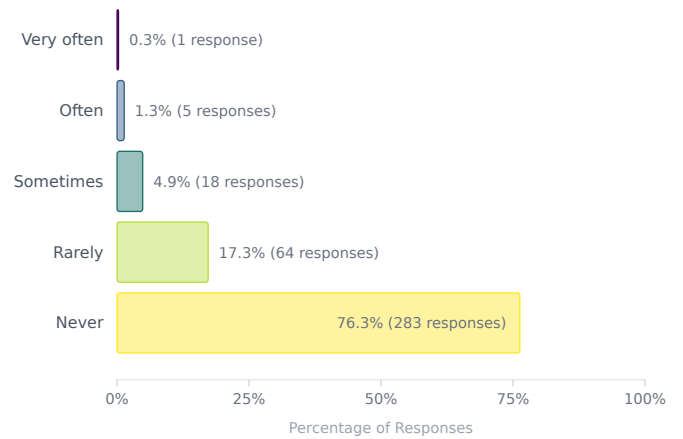
## dimension)



## Other threats or intimidation directed at you (16% weight in psychological dimension)

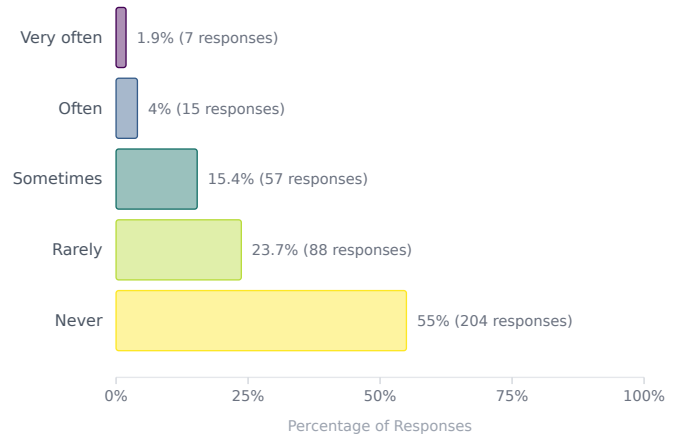
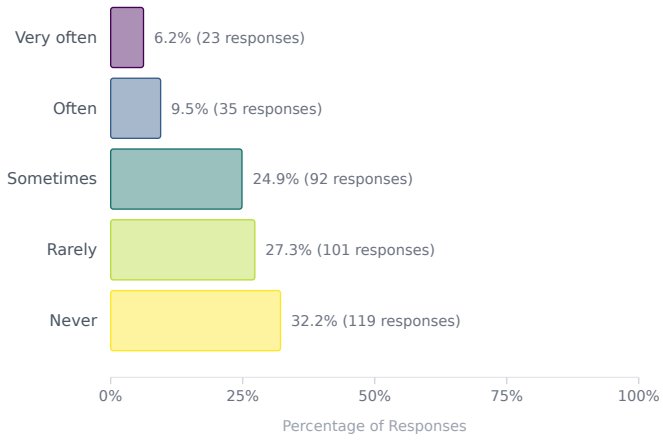


## Coercion (did not contribute to calculation)

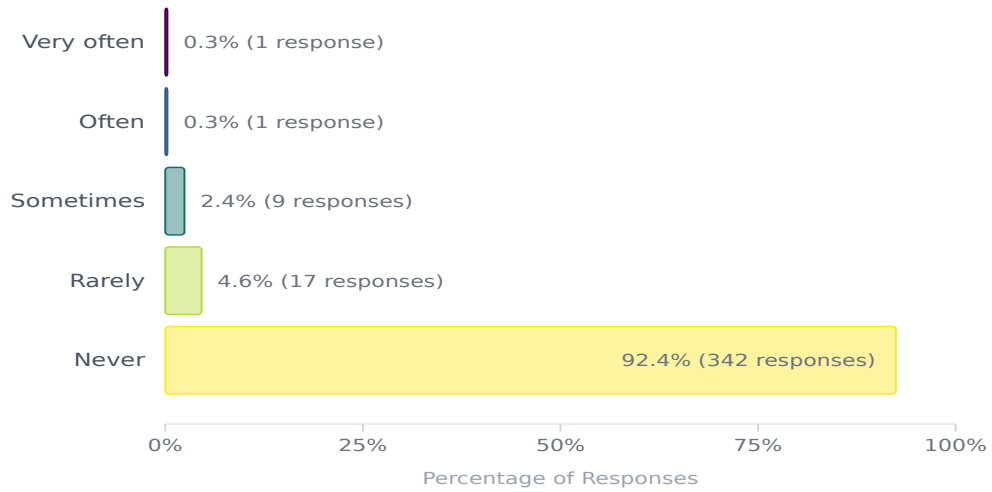


## Questioning of your personal morality (did not contribute to calculation)

## Workplace bullying (did not contribute to calculation)



**Intimidation that targets your family or close associates (did not contribute to calculation)**

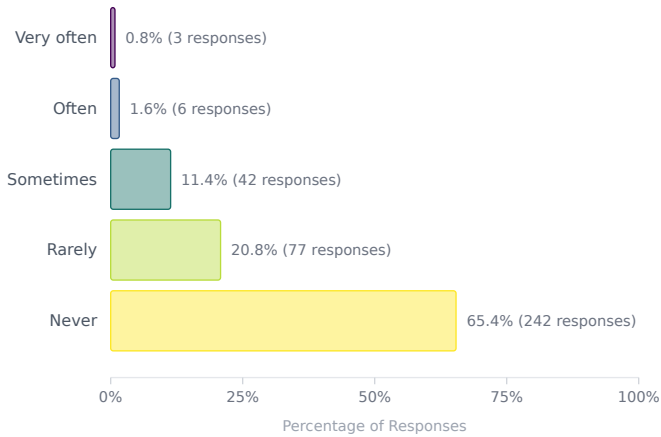


# Digital Safety

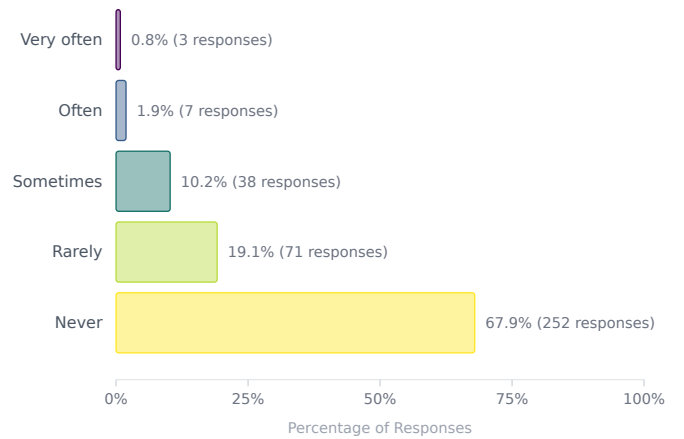
The digital dimension carries **12.5% weight in the safety index.**

**Responses to: "In the last five years, how often have you experienced any of the following actions related to your work as a journalist?"**

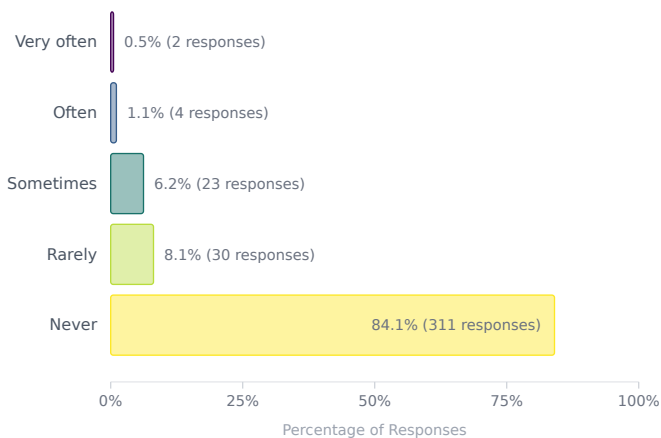
## Surveillance (50% weight in digital dimension)



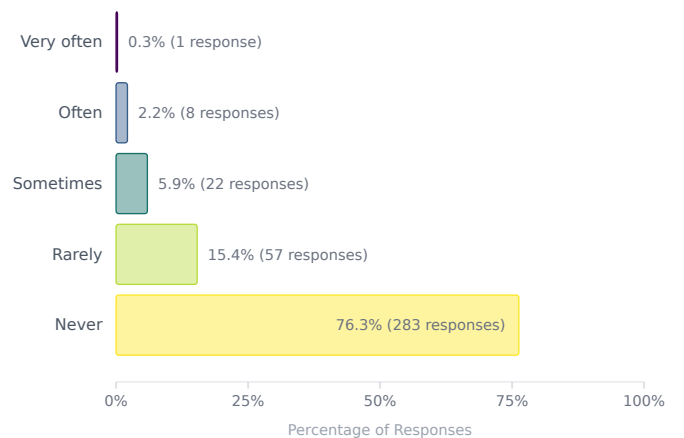
## Hacking or blocking of social media accounts or websites (50% weight in digital dimension)



## Others using your byline for fabricated or manipulated stories (did not contribute to calculation)



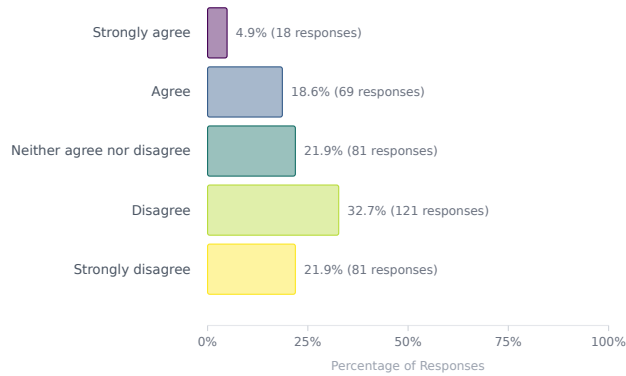
## Others disseminating your personal information (did not contribute to calculation)



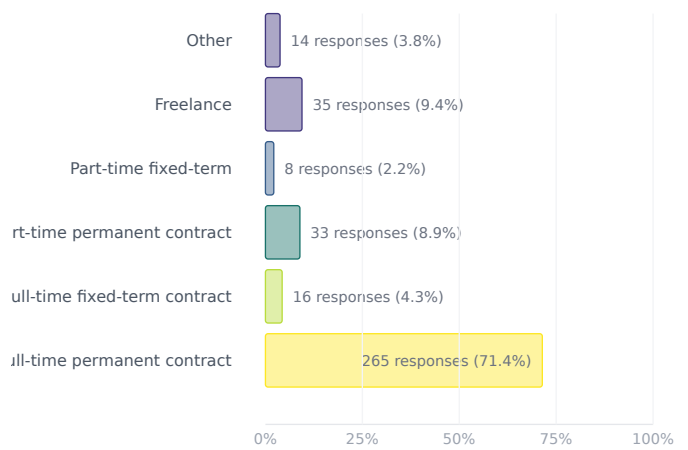
# Financial Safety

The financial dimension carries **12.5% weight in the safety index.**

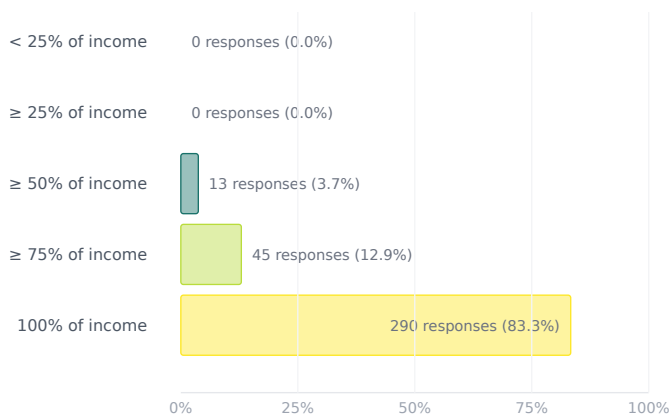
## Responses to: "I am worried about losing my job in journalism within the next 12 months" (20% weight in financial dimension)



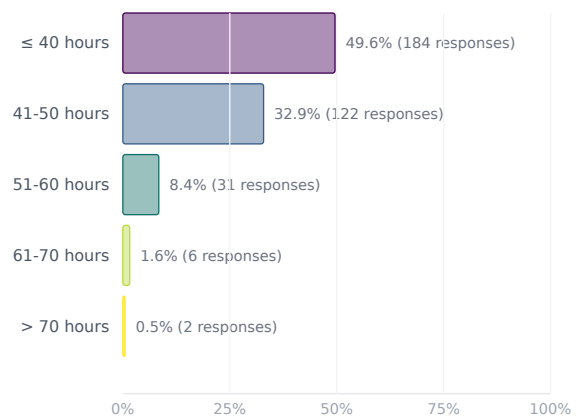
## Responses to: "Which of the following categories best describes your current working situation as a journalist?" (20% weight in financial dimension)



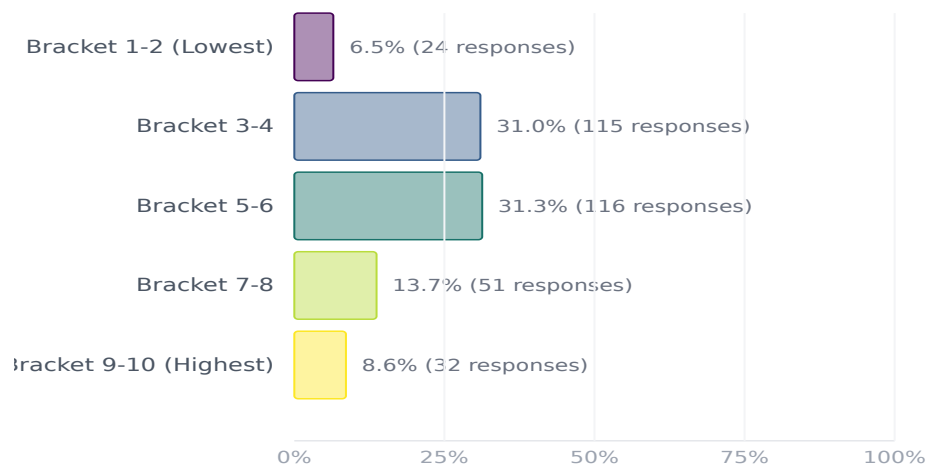
## Responses to "Approximately what percentage of your overall work-related income comes from your work as a journalist?" (20% weight in financial dimension)



## Responses to: "How many hours a week on average do you work as a journalist?" (20% weight in financial dimension)



## Responses to: "In which of the following categories does your salary as a journalist fall?" (20% weight in financial dimension)



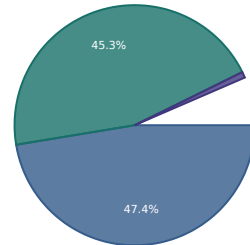
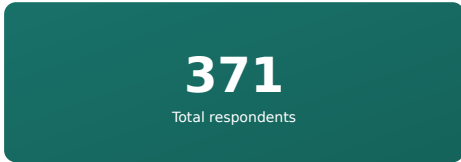
Options are given on a 10-point scale specific to each country.

# Demographics

This section contains demographic information about survey respondents from Australia.

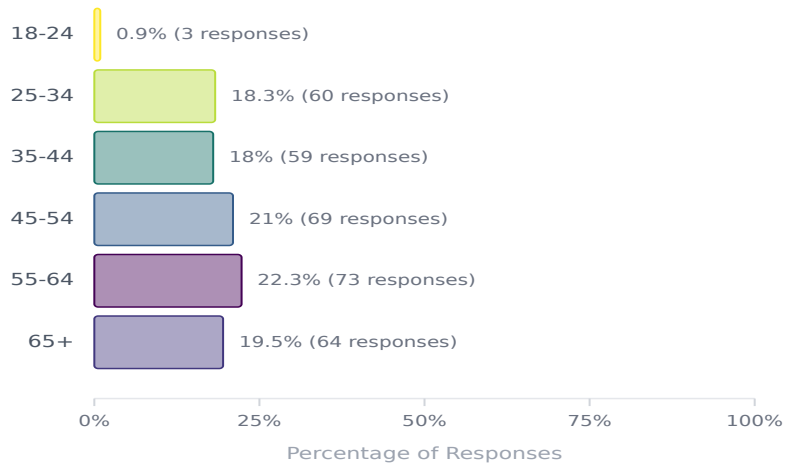
## Gender Breakdown of Respondents

### Survey Participation

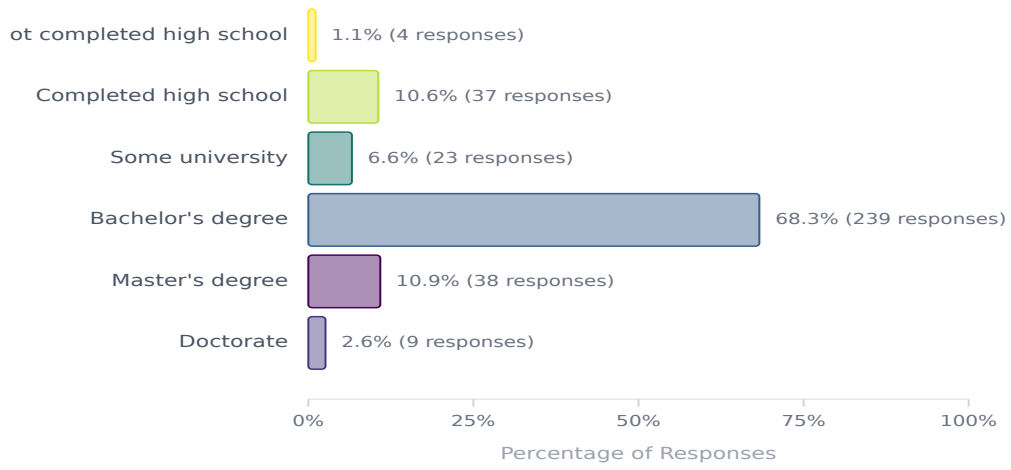


Male (176, 47.4%) Female (168, 45.3%) Other (3, 0.8%)

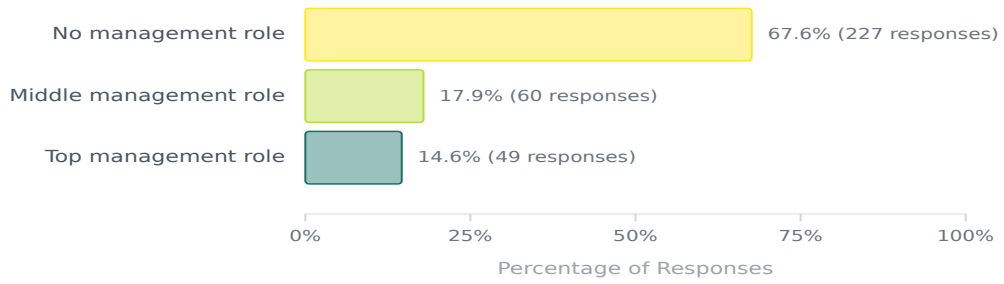
## Age Distribution of Respondents



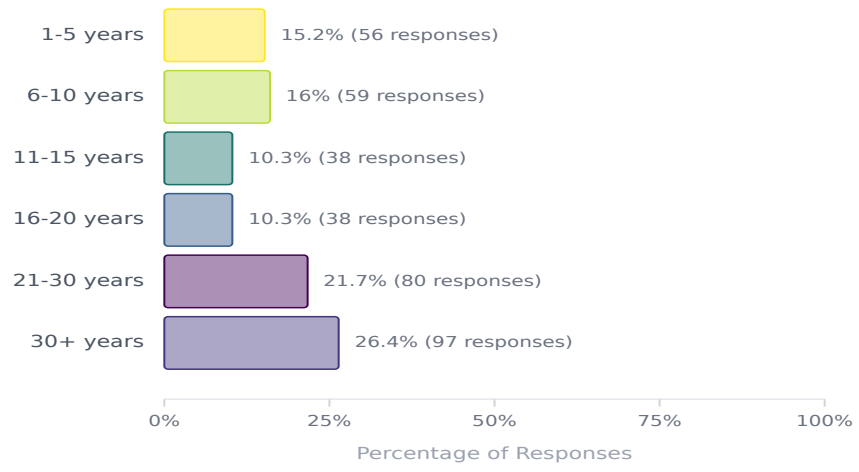
## Education Level of Respondents



## Workplace Position of Respondents



## Years of Experience as Journalist



For more detailed information about the methodology and complete findings, please visit the full country page at: <https://safetyofjournalists.org/index/country/australia>

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