



Workplace sexual harassment is bad for business



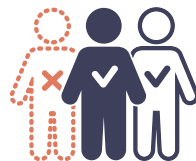
Workplace sexual harassment cost Australia an estimated **\$3.8 billion in 2018**. The majority of these costs were borne by businesses.

Sexual harassment in a workplace leads to:



Decreased productivity

In 2018, decreased productivity as a result of workplace sexual harassment cost businesses **an estimated \$1.82 billion**.



Increased absenteeism

Decreased job satisfaction can lead to greater absenteeism and withdrawal from employment.



Increased staff turnover

Workers may be more likely to leave the workplace if workplace sexual harassment is prevalent or poorly addressed.

Organisations also incur costs responding to and investigating complaints, including through:



Time and organisational resources absorbed.



Increase in workers' compensation premiums.



Reputational damage i.e. share market value and the trust of workers.



Emotional energy and time spent i.e. handling compensation claims and sick leave.



Increased legal costs i.e. for legal representation, court costs and financial compensation payments.