



Airservices Exposure Study 2025-2028

– Overview of the First Blood Collection Round (2025/26)

Overview

Airservices Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting Services (ARFFS) and Emergency Vehicle Technician (EVT) employees have historically been exposed to PFAS through the use of PFAS-containing firefighting foams, particularly 3M Light Water AFFF.

The 2025–2028 Airservices PFAS Exposure Study continues to assess PFAS levels in blood serum among current and former ARFFS and EVT employees to evaluate changes over time, identify any evidence of recent or ongoing occupational exposure, and support the ongoing management of PFAS exposure risks.

What are the current PFAS Levels Among the Study Participants?

- Participants who commenced service while 3M Light Water AFFF was in use continue to have the highest PFHxS, PFHpS and PFOS levels¹
- Participants who commenced service after the replacement of 3M Light Water AFFF generally have PFAS levels comparable to the Australian population

How have the PFAS Levels Changed Since 2018/19?

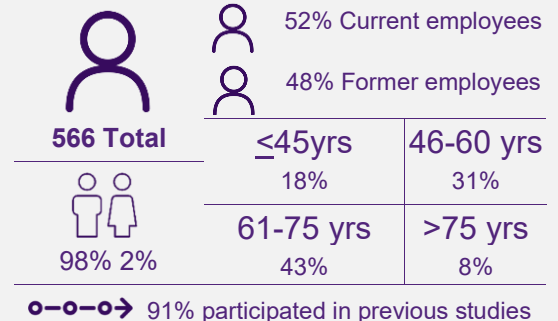
- PFAS levels declined at a similar rate among current employees and former employees, suggesting that ongoing occupational exposure was unlikely to have been a major contributor during the study period
- Participants who donated blood/plasma showed faster declines in PFAS levels than non-donors
- Participants with higher initial PFAS levels experienced faster declines than those with lower initial levels
- Most stations showed similar declining PFAS trends. Avalon station remained the only clearly identifiable exposure event
- Variability in individual PFAS trends limited the ability to detect small changes over time and highlights the importance of continued biomonitoring

What are the conclusions?

- Historical occupational exposure remains the primary driver of elevated PFAS levels among current and former Airservices ARFFS and EVT employees
- PFAS levels continue to decline over time
- No evidence of widespread recent or ongoing elevated occupational exposure was identified
- Avalon remains the only clearly identifiable exposure event during the time assessed in this study, due to the previously identified contaminated mains water exposure event

Study Cohort Demographics

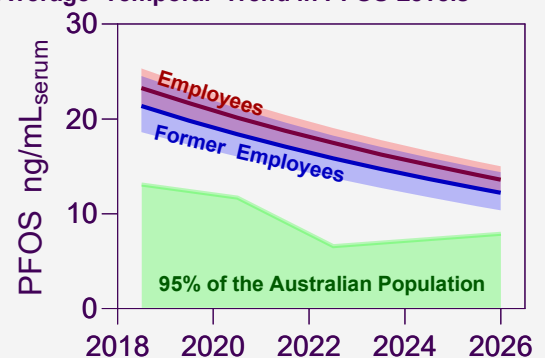
16/05/2025 - 13/03/2026



PFOS Levels by Foam Used at Commencement



Average Temporal Trend in PFOS Levels



What are the next steps?

- Continue monitoring through 2028
- Refine estimates of PFAS elimination and assess health biomarkers in relation to PFAS exposure trends

Why is your participation important?

- Continued and new participation helps us identify any potential emerging exposure trends
- Current employees without a history of 3M Light Water AFFF use are particularly valuable for helping us assess potential low-level ongoing PFAS exposure
- Every sample contributes to the research to improve our understanding of PFAS

¹ PFHpS: perfluoroheptane sulfonic acid, PFHxS: perfluorohexane sulfonic acid, PFOS: perfluorooctane sulfonic acid
Evaluation of changes in per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in Airservices Australia's Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting Services (ARFFS) and Emergency Vehicle Technicians (EVT) employees over time (2025-2028)