

What do workers want – and how can your business respond?

People at Work 2022: A Global Workforce View



The COVID-19 pandemic has proven to be a global phenomenon reshaping the employment landscape. To confuse matters even further, a challenging economic and political landscape has conspired to create a formidable cocktail of pressures. Against this backdrop, the sentiment and needs of the global workforce today are changing rapidly.

Discover the key findings from ADP Research Institute's latest global workforce sentiment report that identifies emerging and escalating workforce trends. Download the full report to explore employee attitudes towards the current world of work and what they expect and hope for from the workplace of the future.

Workers want change



Seven in 10 workers (71%) have contemplated a major career move this year, and there's a sense that they're questioning what job security means post COVID-19.



Flexible hours in their jobs is important to a third (33%) of workers.

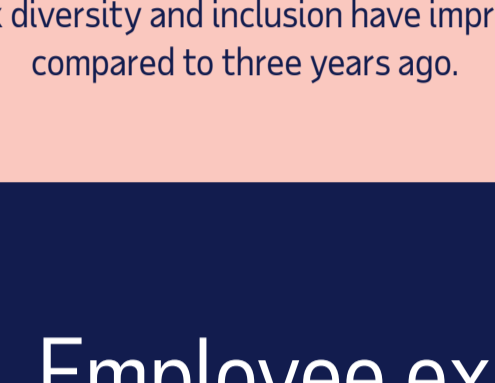


Job security: what does it mean today?

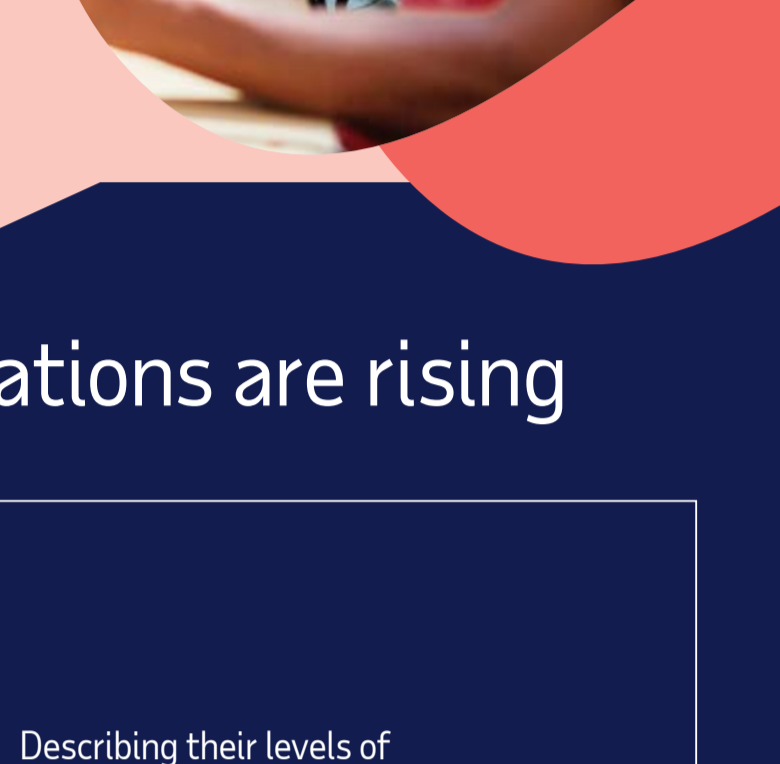
Half of employees (54%) rate job security as important to them, yet only a quarter (25%) think their job or industry is secure. That's down from a third (36%) in 2021.

DEI: A make-or-break issue

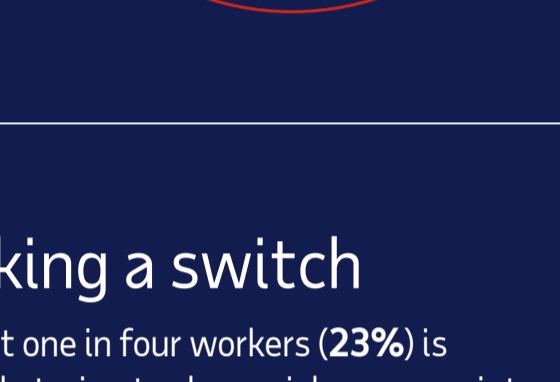
Three quarters (76%) would consider looking for a new job if they discovered their company had an unfair gender pay gap or no diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) policy.



50% of workers say their employer has got better at gender pay equality and 48% think diversity and inclusion have improved compared to three years ago.



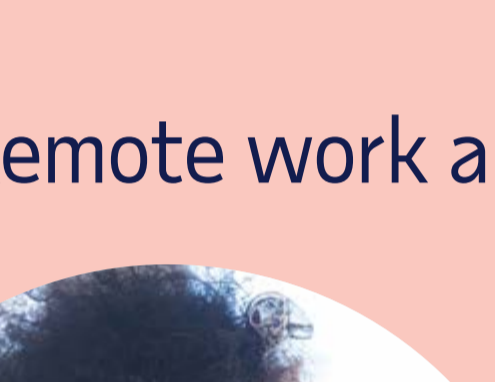
Employee expectations are rising



Describing their levels of optimism for the next five years in the workplace, almost nine in 10 (88%) put themselves in the 'optimistic' category. This is higher than 2021 (86%), but still below pre-pandemic levels (92% in 2020).

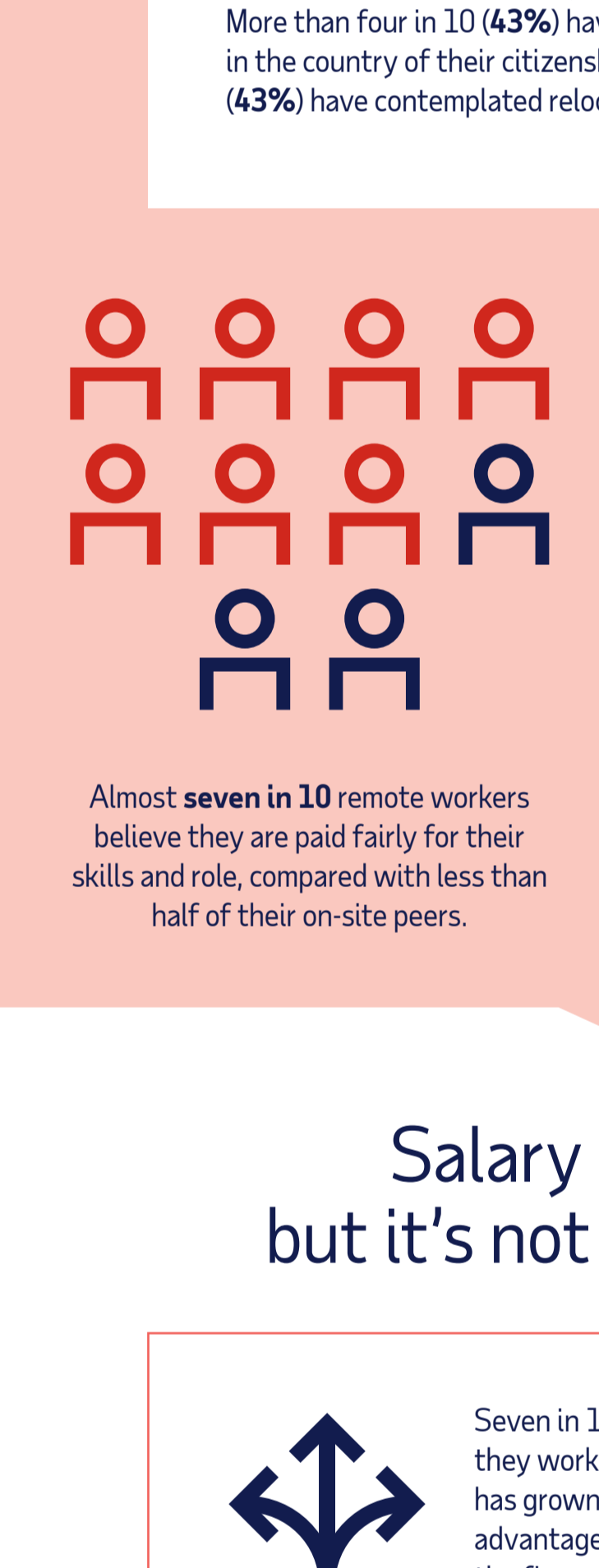
Making a switch

Almost one in four workers (23%) is actively trying to change jobs or move into another industry that they believe is more futureproof. This is an increase from just over one in seven (15%) who said the same in 2021.



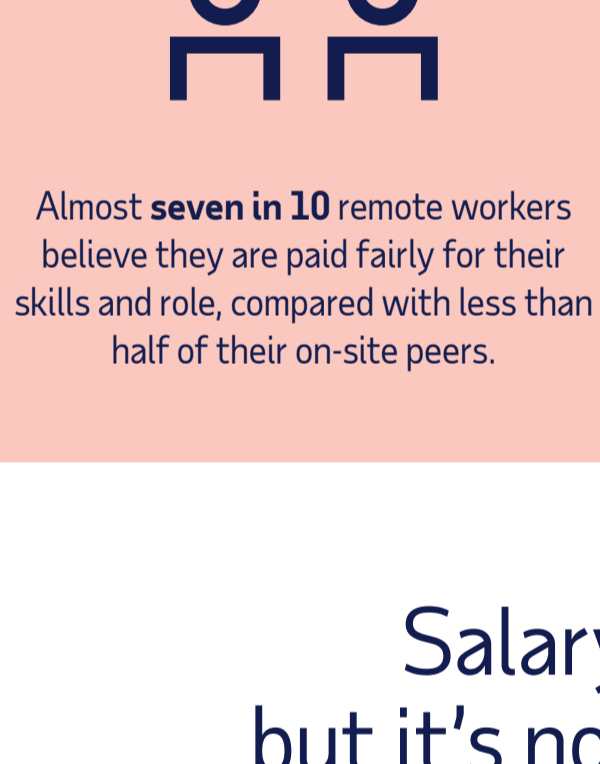
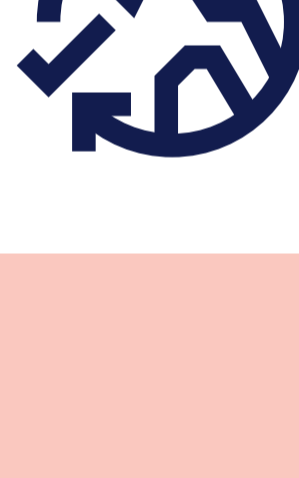
Nine in 10 (90%) say they feel satisfied in their current employment, although they could be happier still: a sizeable proportion are only 'somewhat satisfied'.

Remote work and living arrangements

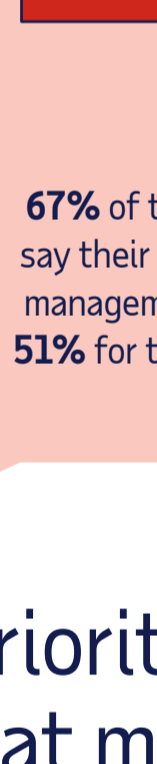


Forcing people to return to the workplace full-time unnecessarily could backfire: two thirds (64%) would consider looking for a new job if this happened.

Globally, over half (52%) of employees have thought about relocating within the country where they currently reside. More than four in 10 (43%) considered returning to live in the country of their citizenship, while the same proportion (43%) have contemplated relocating elsewhere overseas.

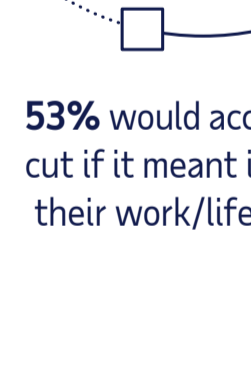


Almost seven in 10 remote workers believe they are paid fairly for their skills and role, compared with less than half of their on-site peers.

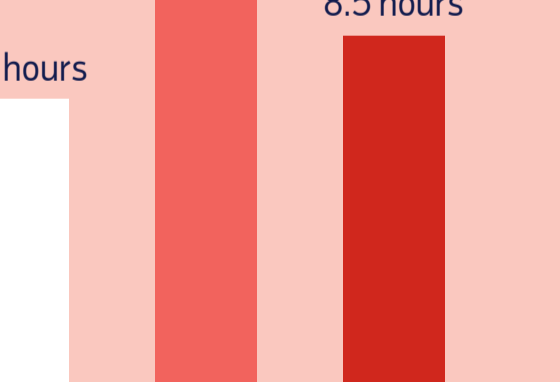


67% of those working from home say their efforts are recognised by management ... that figure dips to 51% for those working on-premise.

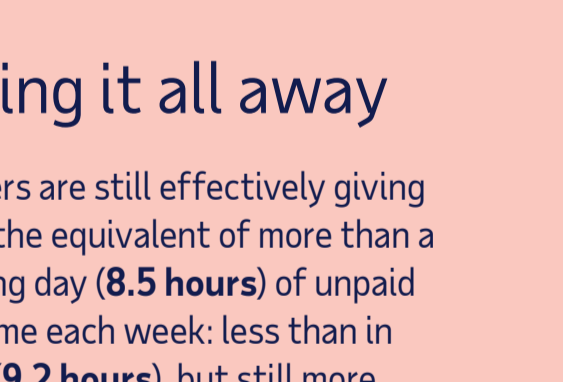
Salary is a priority, but it's not all that matters



Seven in 10 (71%) would like more flexibility as to when they work, such as condensing five days into four. That figure has grown since 2021 when 67% said they'd like to take advantage of flexible working arrangements. Pre-pandemic, the figure was 26%.



53% would accept a pay cut if it meant improving their work/life balance.



50% would take a pay cut to guarantee flexibility in how they structure their hours – even if it meant the total hours they worked did not change.



Giving it all away

Workers are still effectively giving away the equivalent of more than a working day (8.5 hours) of unpaid overtime each week: less than in 2021 (9.2 hours), but still more than pre-pandemic (7.3 hours).



Almost a quarter of workers (24%) say they are always or often underpaid, up from one in five (20%) in 2021.



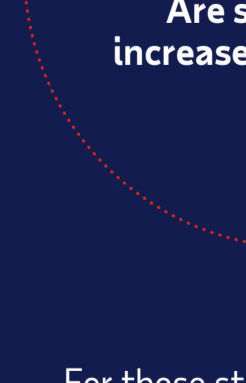
Hopes are high for pay raises, with more than six in 10 workers (61%) anticipating one in the next year, and three quarters (76%) prepared to ask for one.



Stress levels are growing



Workplace stress is widespread, with 67% of workers experiencing it at least once a week, up from 62% pre-pandemic.



One in seven (15%) feel stressed every day.



A staggering 53% believe their work is suffering because of poor mental health.



For those struggling with stress, the most common cause is having increased responsibility as a result of the pandemic (41%).



Other key sources of stress include the length of the working day (28%) and concerns over job security (25%).



Employers trying to do the right thing

Only one in eight (13%) say their employer isn't doing anything to promote positive mental health at work.

Seven in 10 remote workers (69%) say they feel supported by managers when it comes to mental health at work, up from 65% last year.

Use our research as a tool to support your business transformation. Download the full report at sg.adp.com/paw22

People at Work 2022: A Global Workforce View explores the seismic shift in employee expectations of the workplace and what they hope for from the workplace of the future. ADP Research Institute® surveyed 32,924 workers in 17 countries around the world between 1 November and 24 November 2021 including over 8,685 working exclusively in the gig economy.