

# Decoding Global Talent 2021

## Part 2: Decoding Global Work Preferences

31 MARCH 2021

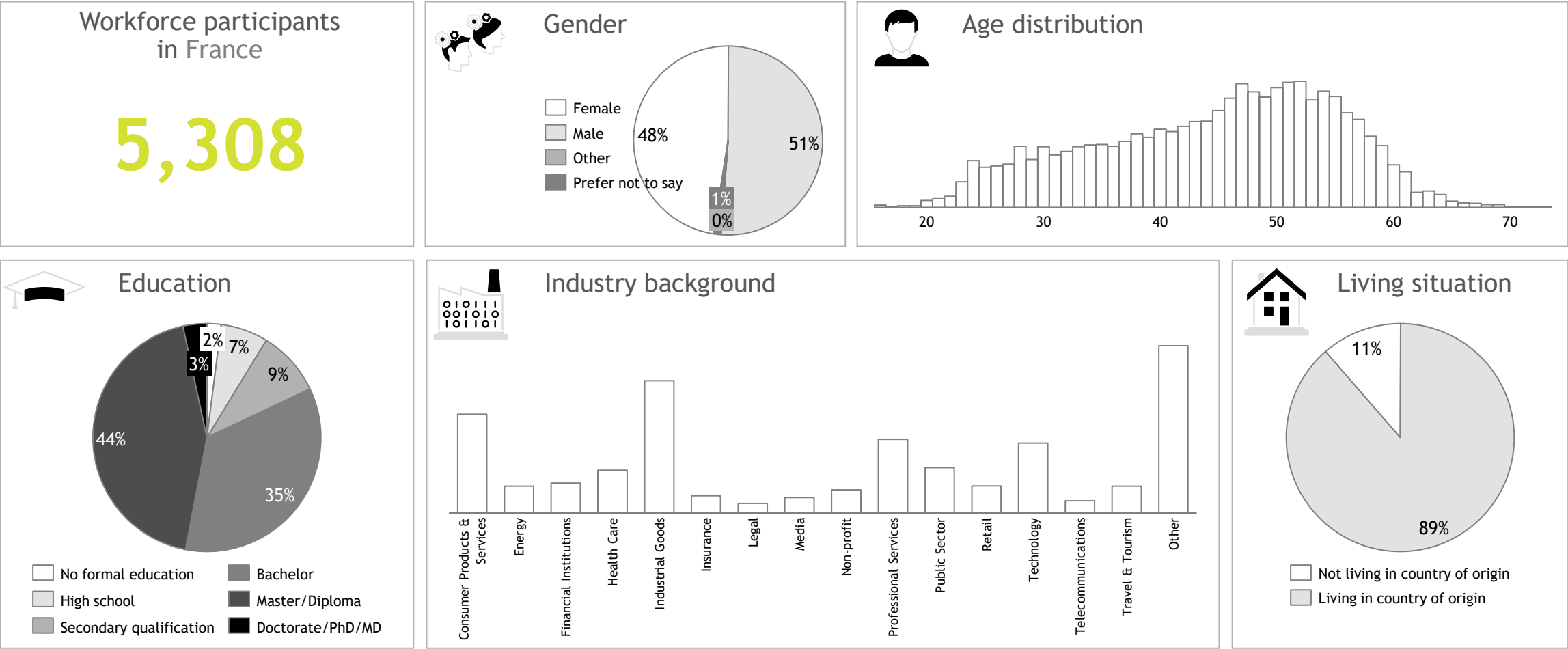


# Messages clés

- 1 Le bureau n'est pas mort ! 78% des talents français plébiscitent un modèle hybride, mêlant télétravail et bureau.
- 2 Lorsqu'ils se projettent dans ce nouveau modèle, les talents français désirent passer plus de temps au bureau qu'à leur domicile : 63% des répondants français désirent bénéficier d'un maximum de 2 jours de télétravail par semaine (41% à l'international).
- 3 Au-delà du lieu de travail, la crise remet en question la journée de travail classique avec des horaires fixes. 80% des talents français souhaitent s'orienter vers un modèle flexible, leur permettant de choisir partiellement ou totalement leurs horaires (64% à l'international).
- 4 Le top 5 des facteurs d'attractivité professionnelle des talents français demeure inchangé vs 2018. On note toutefois une importance accrue accordée au contenu du poste et à l'intérêt des missions. Avec le télétravail, entretenir de bonnes relations avec son équipe et son manager reste crucial. La flexibilité permise par le télétravail - lieu et horaires - semble répondre au besoin d'équilibre vie professionnelle - vie personnelle.
- 5 Ces enseignements invitent à une remise en cause profonde des pratiques managériales et de l'organisation du travail. Un nouveau modèle de leadership est à faire émerger pour répondre à ces attentes et mettre en place de nouveaux modes de travail flexibles et agiles à l'échelle et de façon pérenne.



# Demographics of 2020 survey respondents in France



Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Responses to questions: “What is your gender?”, “What is your year of birth?”, “What is the highest level of education you have completed?”, “What is/was your employer’s/company’s main activity/services you offer?”, “Do you currently live in your country of origin?”

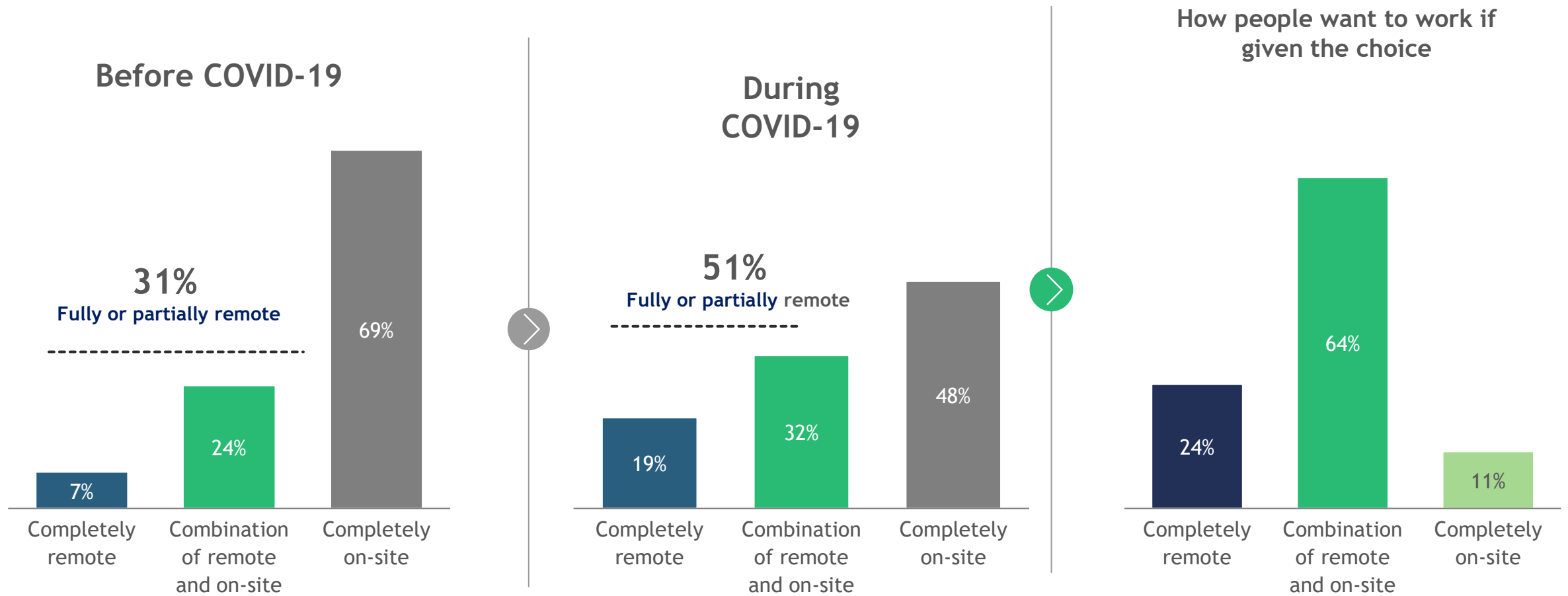
---

**A desire for flexibility : where  
they want to work**



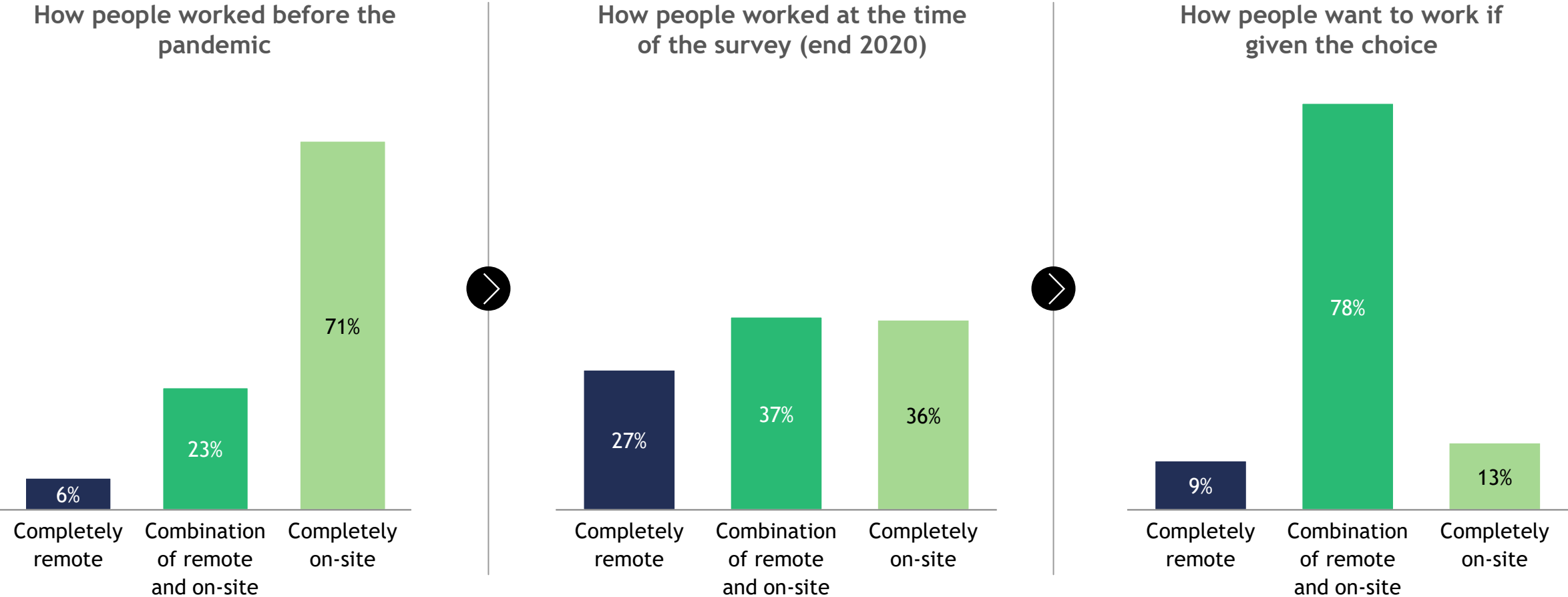
# 88% of people would like to have some flexibility in where work gets done

Percentage of global respondents who work from home, part or full-time





# 78% of French respondents favor hybrid work post-COVID



Change due to COVID was quite significant, but people want even more flexibility

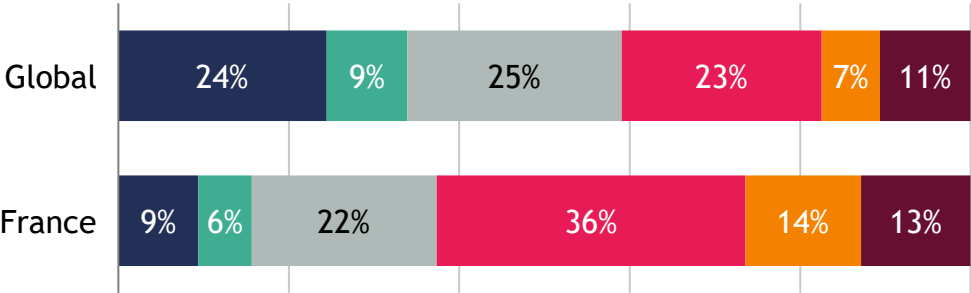
Source: 2020 BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis



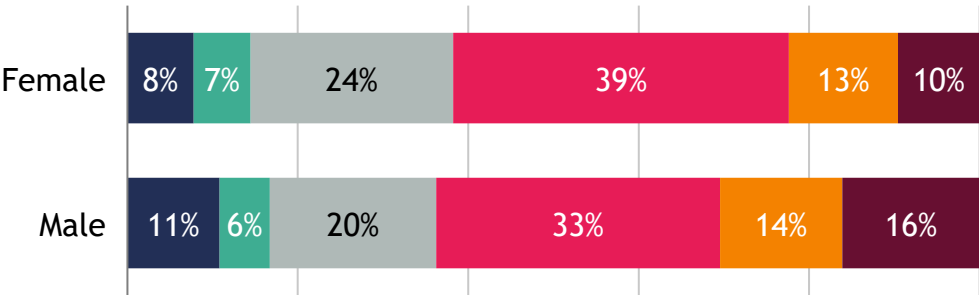
# French respondents are much less open to fully virtual set-ups compared to global average, 63% would like to spend at least 3 days per week in the office

Desired flexibility in **where** work gets done

Global and French respondents



Female and male respondents in France

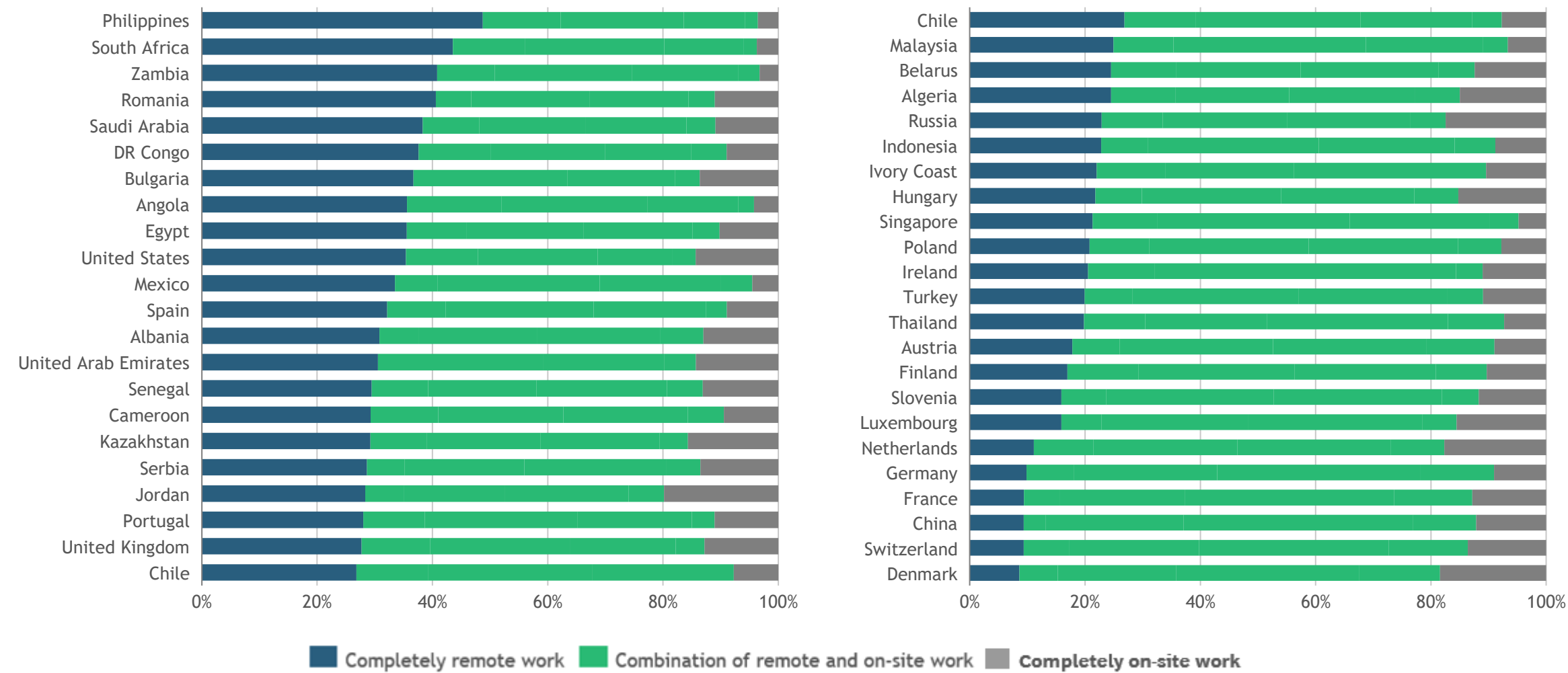


Days spent remotely per week    5   4   3   2   1   0

Source: 2020 BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis

# Who Would Prefer Never Being in an Office Again

Filipinos, South Africans, Zambians, and Romanians top the list

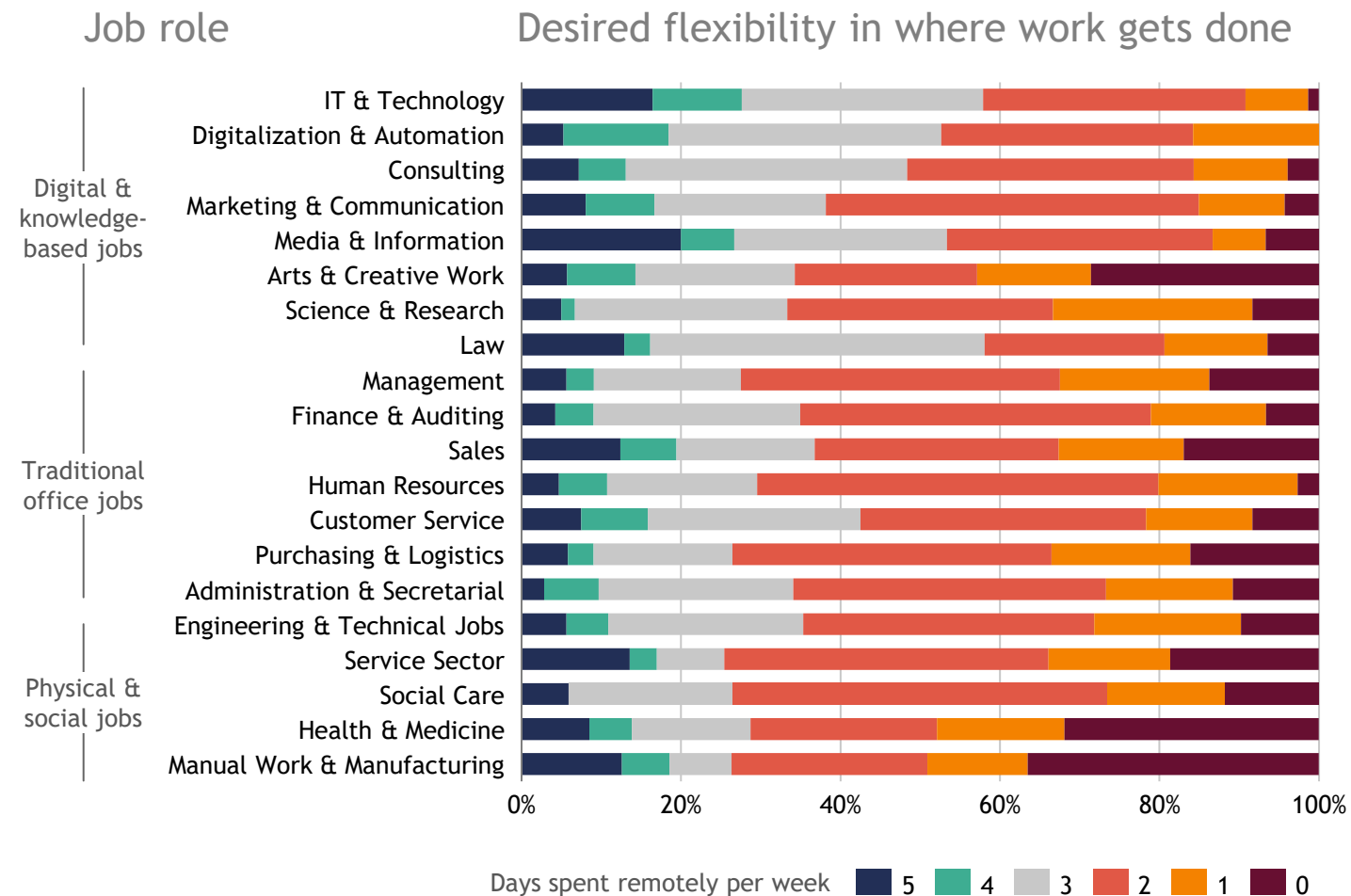


Source: 2020 BCG/The network proprietary web survey and analysis  
Note: Countries shown have at least 500 survey participants.





# Irrelevant of job, French talents still prefer to be a few days a week in the office



Source: 2020 BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis

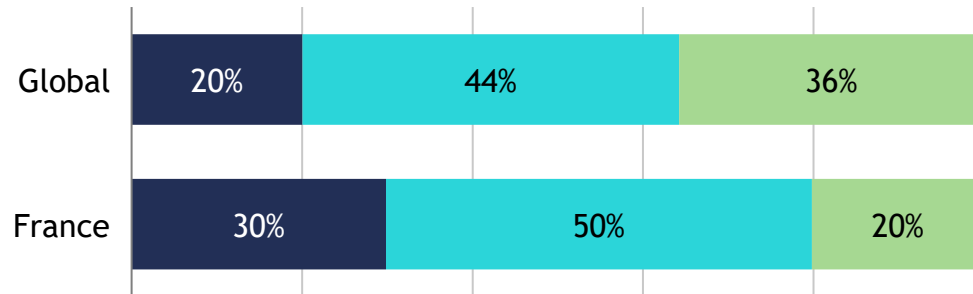
---

**A desire for flexibility : when  
they want to work**

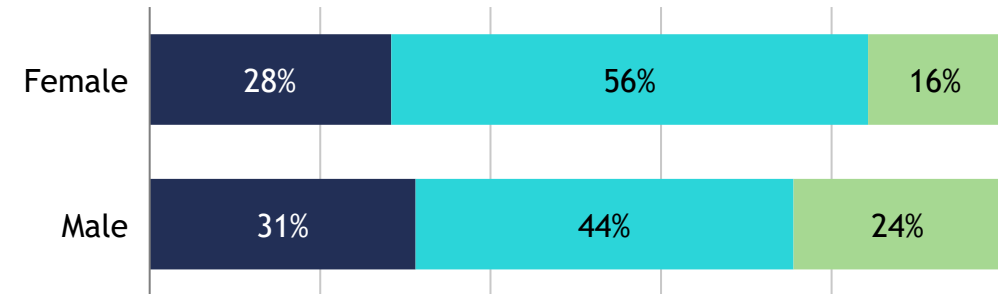
# French talents are more open to flexible working hours

## Desired flexibility in **when** work gets done

Global and French respondents



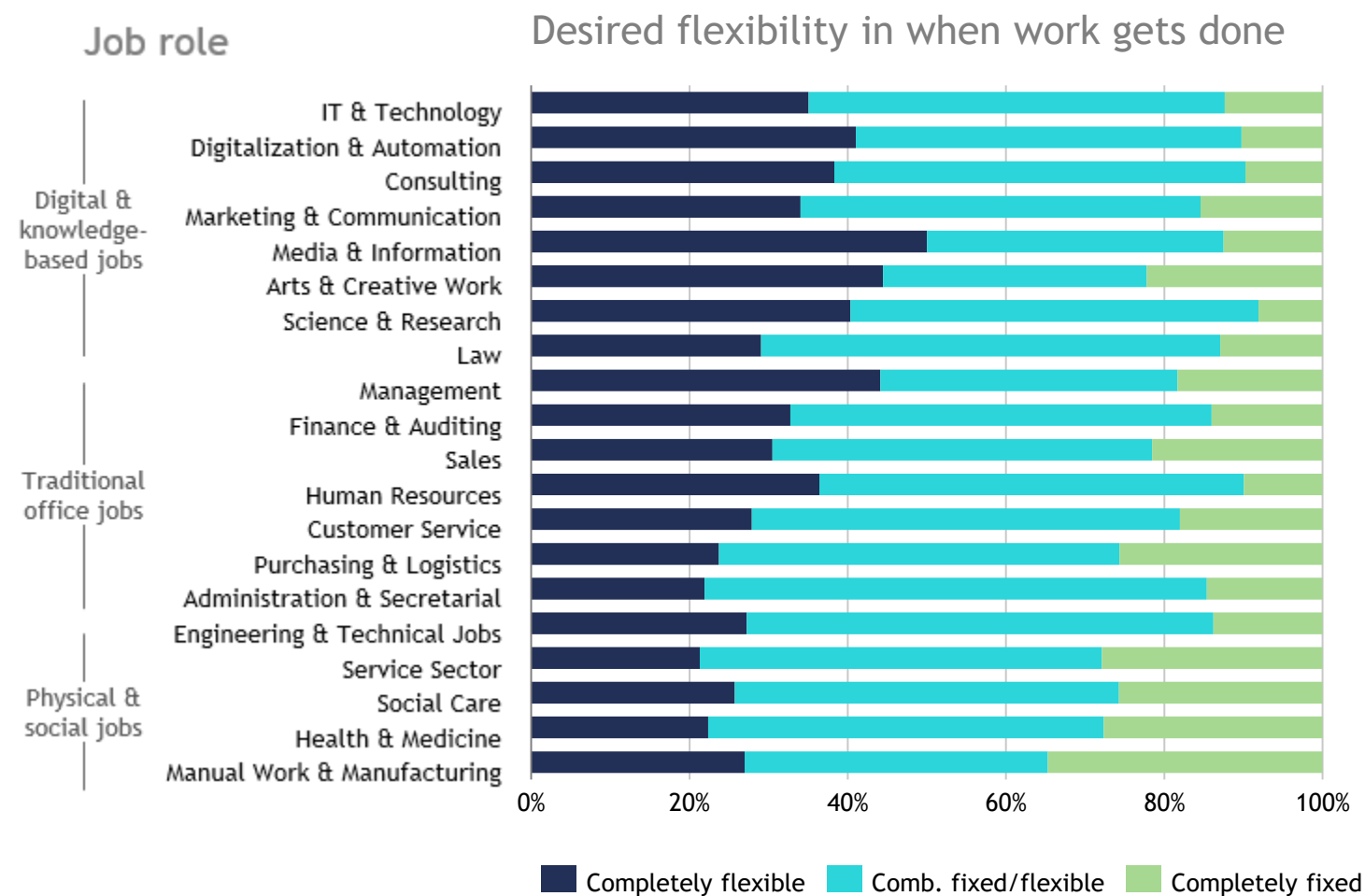
Female and male respondents in France



Working hours ■ Completely flexible ■ Combination fixed & flexible ■ Completely fixed



# Irrelevant of job, French talent desire flexibility in WHEN to work



Source: 2020 BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis

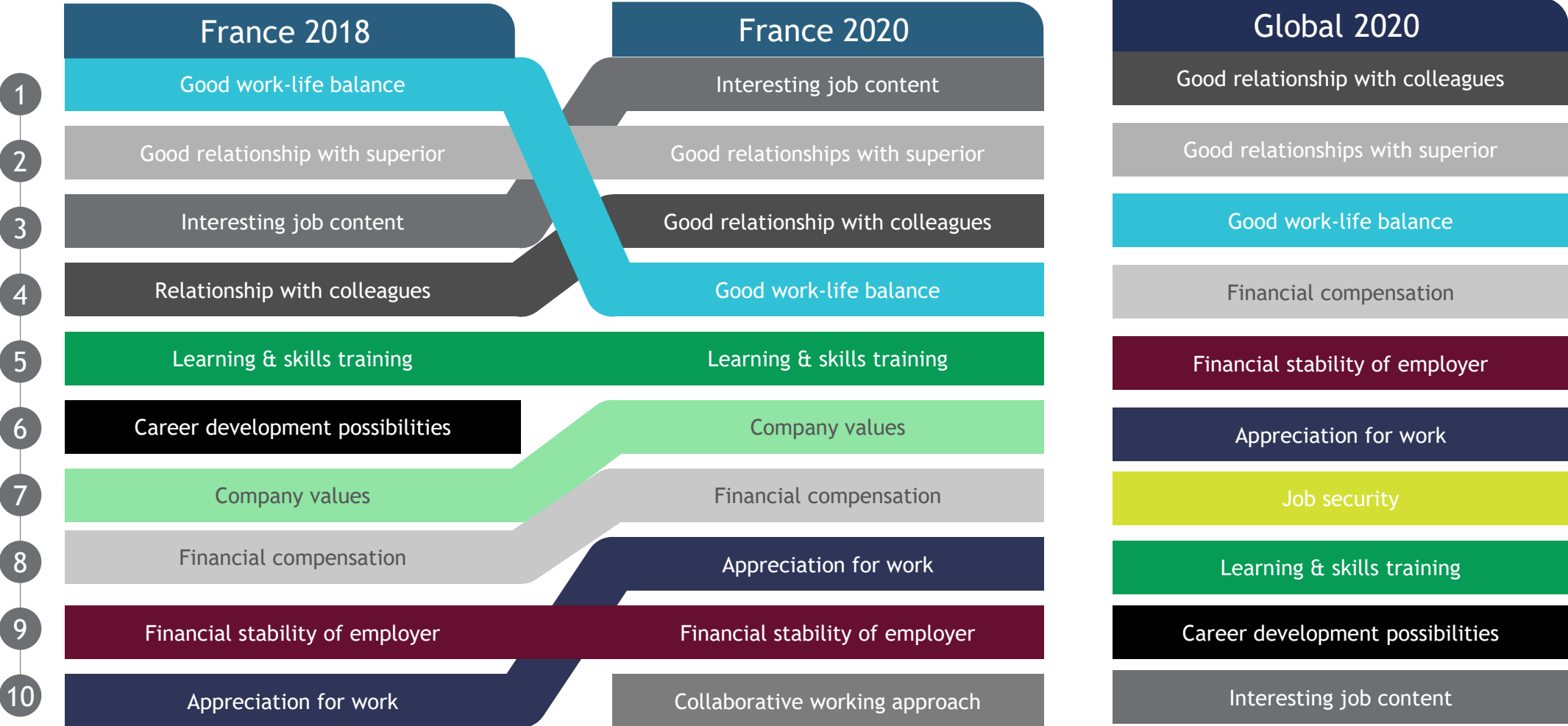
---

# Shifts in what matters to people at their jobs



# Job Content Has Surged in Importance Among French respondents

Job preferences of people in France compared to global respondents



Note: Score calculated as average of answers ranging from 1 (not important at all) to 4 (very important)  
Source: BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis

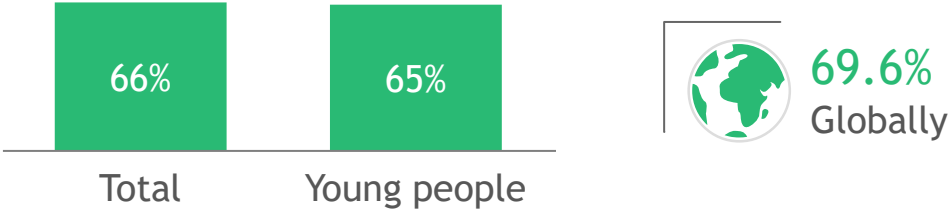
# One French respondent in two would not work for employers not Environmentally friendly and/or promoting Diversity and Inclusion



## Environmental Responsibility

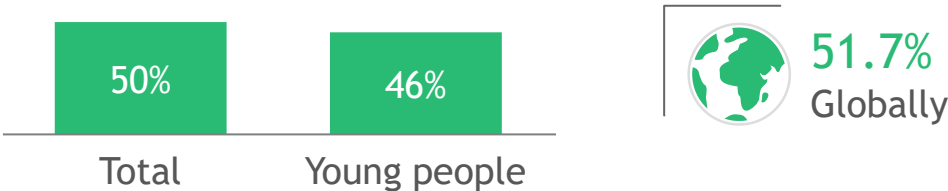
Issue of Environmental Responsibility became more important over the last year

France



Would exclude companies that don't match their beliefs in Environmental Responsibility

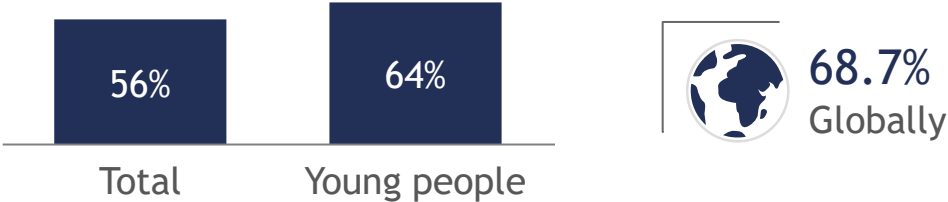
France



## Diversity and Inclusion

Issue of Diversity & Inclusion became more important over the last year

France



Would exclude companies that don't match their beliefs in Diversity & Inclusion

France

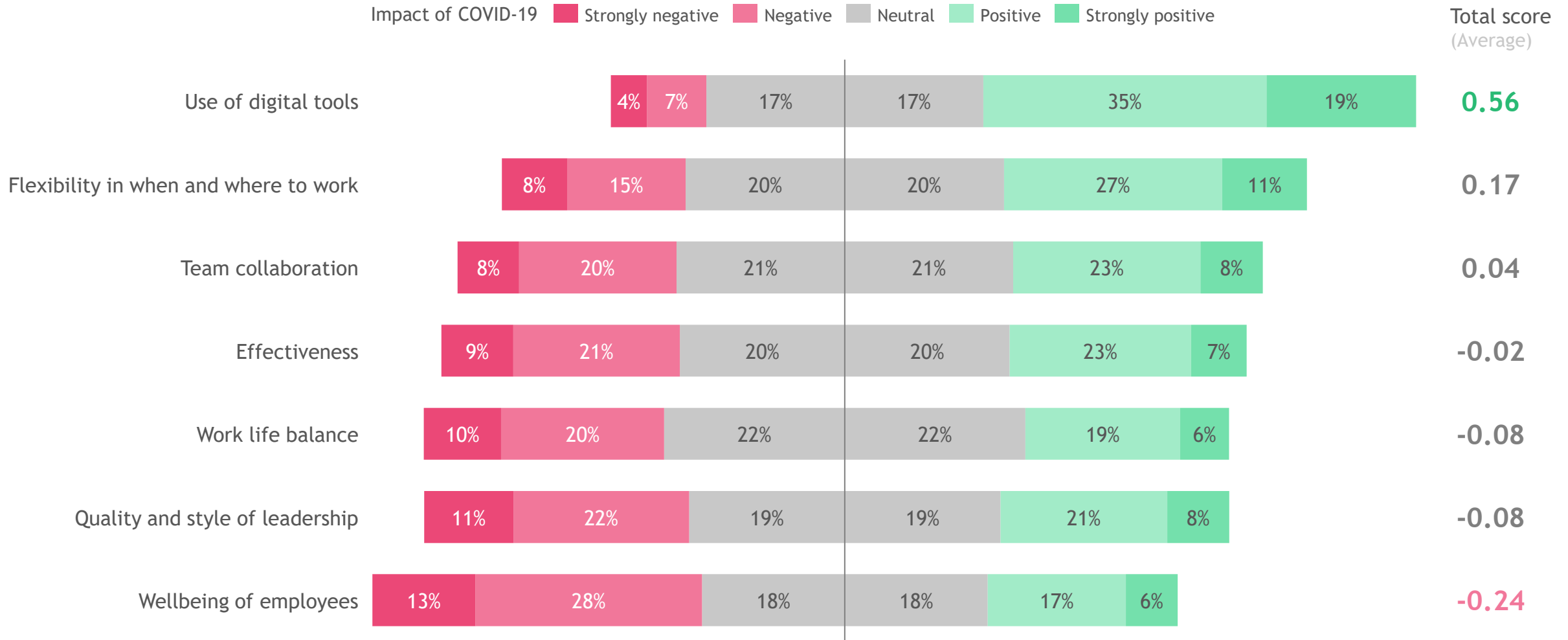


Note: 'Young people' are respondents below 30 years old  
Source: BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis

---

# Impact of COVID on work practices

# COVID-19 also impacted how people collaborate and their work-life balance



Source: 2020 BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis

Note: Average score calculated as average of answers ranging from +2 (strongly positive) to -2 (strongly negative)

---

# How companies can meet expectations



# How to build an attractive future workplace?



## Develop a thoughtful remote working strategy

Carefully consider what model works for which job role.

Balance governance and flexibility.

Ensure the right enablers are in place

Pilot and monitor success



## Build a value-based workplace culture

Enable leaders to succeed in the new world, post-COVID leadership models will be different

Encourage virtual connections

Focus on employee well-being holistically

Get serious about social and environmental issues

# Conclusions:

## Develop a thoughtful remote working strategy



### What workers want

- Our data shows that workers in all job roles desire at least some level of flexibility - but it may not be easy to provide this, or managers may not be ready
- A previous BCG survey shows managers expect 35% of employees to work (partially) remotely after COVID, which is a big contrast with our findings where 89% of employees expect this!

### How to meet expectations

#### Carefully consider what model works for which job role.

- Evaluate "remoteability" of job families based on infrastructure need, frequency of interaction with stakeholders, etc.
- Think in different personas, the activities they perform, the experiences they go through, and how remote work may affect them
- Models may range from offering remote working as a *perk* (few days a week based on request in selected job roles) to moving to remote work *by design* (where most employees work from home and come to office only for special occasions)

#### Balance governance and flexibility.

- Introduce guidelines on what models are available under what circumstances, and how to request these...
- ...but leave space for individual employees to decide on what they personally prefer
- Workers who can't benefit from remote working due to the nature of their jobs may feel disadvantaged, which can cause huge imbalance within the same company. Consider offering them different benefits, e.g. provide good health services, or additional days off.

#### Ensure the right enablers are in place

- New collaboration tools and mechanisms (e.g. asynchronous instead of meeting-based, virtual agile stand-ups...)
- Right infrastructure at home and at the office (e.g. financial support for home office set-up, hybrid meeting rooms...)
- Virtual learning solutions

#### Pilot and monitor success

- Think in smaller experiments before full rollout of new policies
- Continuously monitor employee engagement, experience, output, and adjust models as needed

# Conclusions:

## Build a value-based workplace culture



### What workers want

- Cultural elements such as relationships, appreciation for work, and work-life balance are still top importance for workers, even when working virtually
- Meanwhile, majority felt their wellbeing suffered during the last year
- Social and environmental issues are increasingly important, especially for younger generations

### How to meet expectations

#### Enable leaders to succeed in the new world

- Post-COVID leadership models will be different, multi-faceted - leaders need to be able to use their head, heart and hands
- Trust is essential, the crisis has shown that people will still perform even without being continuously monitored
- Leaders must be technology champions to enable bionic organizations to emerge & support switch to virtual work

#### Encourage virtual connections

- Informal communication needs to be formally organized (e.g. buddy system, virtual watercooler chats, team evenings on zoom...)
- Set up virtual team routines (e.g. morning coffee, evening checkout...)
- Ensure regular feedback on how employees feel and perform, both through surveys/apps and in person with leaders

#### Focus on employee well-being holistically

- Provide mental health offering: measure stress levels, design wellbeing programs
- Improve physical health standards and build socially distanced work areas
- Improve health services and insurance offer

#### Get serious about social and environmental issues

- Take a proactive stand on social issues that matter to the company
- Encourage employees to speak up and contribute, e.g. provide time off for social impact activities
- Set targets, monitor KPIs and adhere to high D&I and environmental standards
- Upgrade employer brand to reflect these values

---

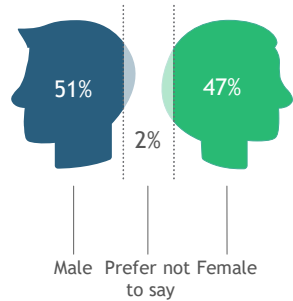
# Methodology



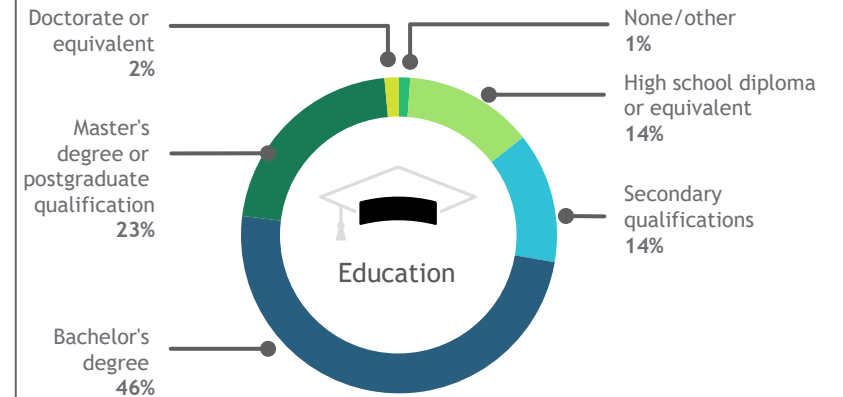
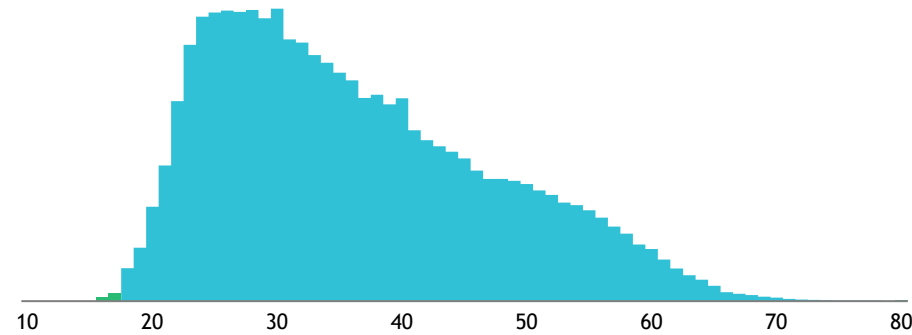
# Demographics of Survey Respondents

208,807

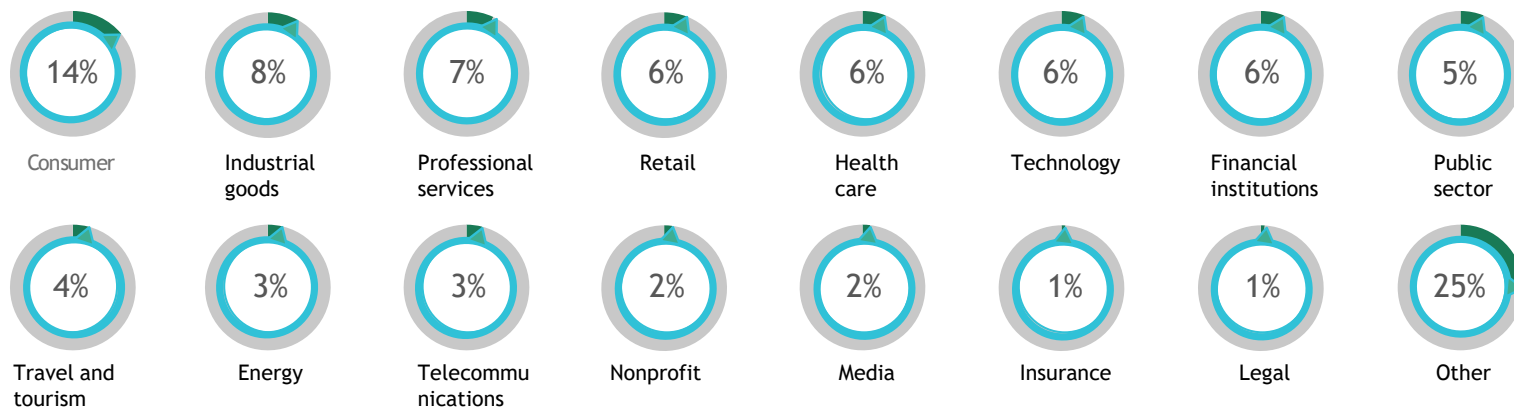
Workforce respondents



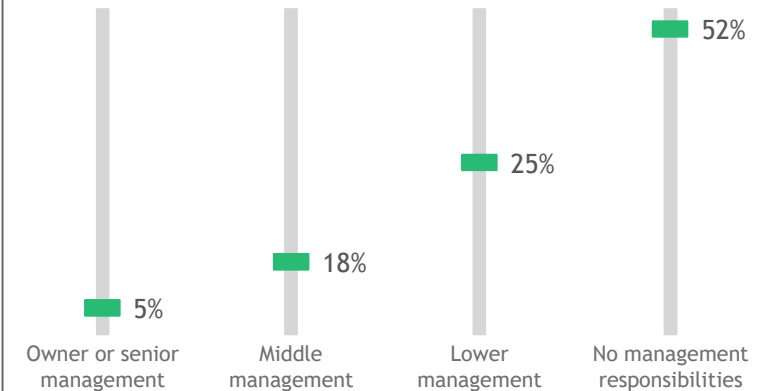
Age distribution



Industry



Position

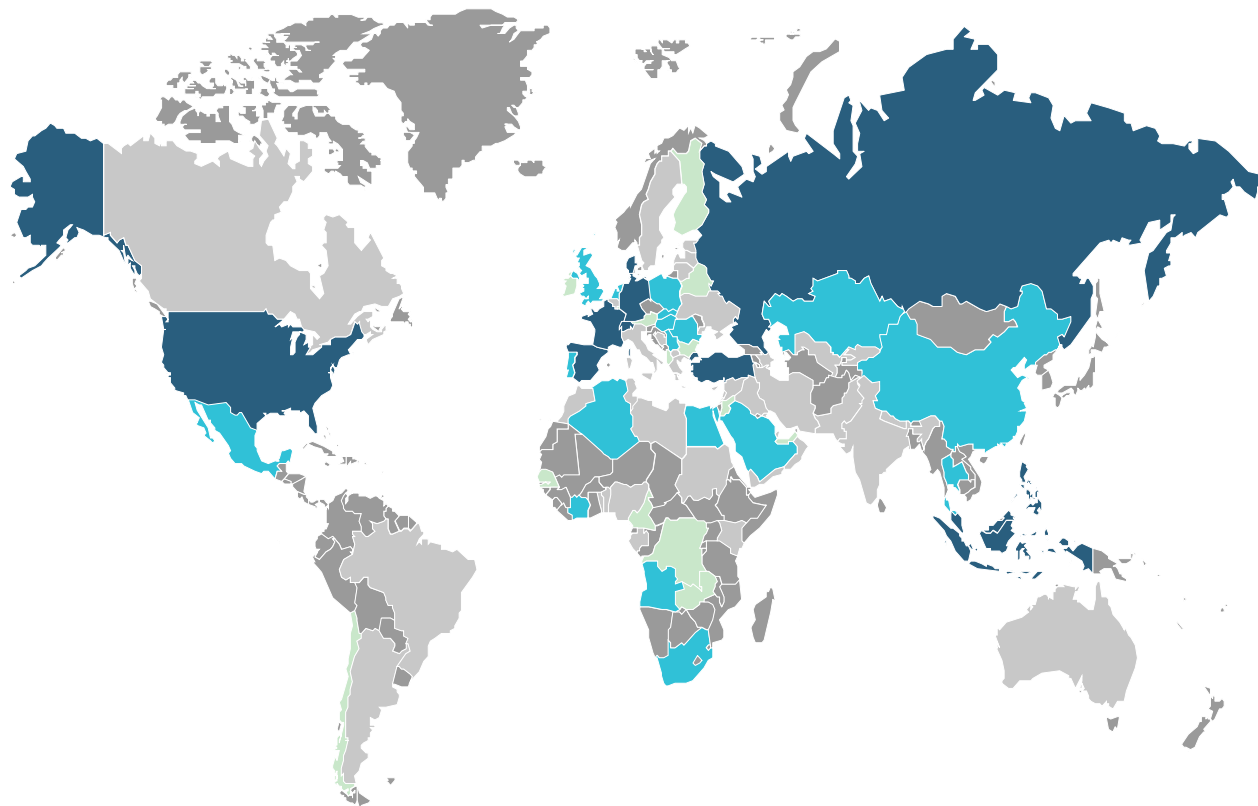


Source: 2020 BCG/The Network proprietary web survey and analysis.

Note: Some percentages do not total 100 because of rounding.



# A Survey of 208,807 Workforce Respondents in 190 Countries



	Americas	Middle East and Africa	Europe	Asia-Pacific
5,000 or more Respondents	US		Turkey Russia Denmark France Germany Spain Switzerland	Indonesia Philippines Singapore Malaysia
1,000-4,999 respondents	Mexico	Angola Algeria Egypt Ivory Coast Saudi Arabia South Africa	Hungary Kazakhstan Netherlands Poland Portugal Romania Serbia Slovenia UK	China (incl. Hong Kong) Thailand
500-999 respondents	Chile	Cameroon Democratic Republic of Congo Jordan Senegal United Arab Emirates Zambia	Albania Austria Belarus Bulgaria Finland Ireland Luxembourg	
50-499 respondents	Argentina Brazil Canada	Benin Gabon Iraq Iran Kenya Kuwait Lebanon Libya Morocco	Nigeria Oman Qatar Sudan Syria Togo Tunisia Yemen	Azerbaijan Belgium Bosnia and Herzegovina Cyprus Estonia Greece Italy Kosovo
Less than 50 respondents	Other Americas	Other Middle East and Africa	Other Europe	Other Asia and Pacific

# Contacts Presse

Lebret Claire - 06 07 46 63 25 - [lebret.claire@bcg.com](mailto:lebret.claire@bcg.com)

Julie Busson - 06 13 95 31 58 - [juliebusson@little-wing.fr](mailto:juliebusson@little-wing.fr)

# Disclaimer

The services and materials provided by Boston Consulting Group (BCG) are subject to BCG's Standard Terms (a copy of which is available upon request) or such other agreement as may have been previously executed by BCG. BCG does not provide legal, accounting, or tax advice. The Client is responsible for obtaining independent advice concerning these matters. This advice may affect the guidance given by BCG. Further, BCG has made no undertaking to update these materials after the date hereof, notwithstanding that such information may become outdated or inaccurate.

The materials contained in this presentation are designed for the sole use by the board of directors or senior management of the Client and solely for the limited purposes described in the presentation. The materials shall not be copied or given to any person or entity other than the Client ("Third Party") without the prior written consent of BCG. These materials serve only as the focus for discussion; they are incomplete without the accompanying oral commentary and may not be relied on as a stand-alone document. Further, Third Parties may not, and it is unreasonable for any Third Party to, rely on these materials for any purpose whatsoever. To the fullest extent permitted by law (and except to the extent otherwise agreed in a signed writing by BCG), BCG shall have no liability whatsoever to any Third Party, and any Third Party hereby waives any rights and claims it may have at any time against BCG with regard to the services, this presentation, or other materials, including the accuracy or completeness thereof. Receipt and review of this document shall be deemed agreement with and consideration for the foregoing.

BCG does not provide fairness opinions or valuations of market transactions, and these materials should not be relied on or construed as such. Further, the financial evaluations, projected market and financial information, and conclusions contained in these materials are based upon standard valuation methodologies, are not definitive forecasts, and are not guaranteed by BCG. BCG has used public and/or confidential data and assumptions provided to BCG by the Client. BCG has not independently verified the data and assumptions used in these analyses. Changes in the underlying data or operating assumptions will clearly impact the analyses and conclusions.



[bcg.com](https://www.bcg.com)