

## Belux Workforce Preferences Barometer 2022



# A global barometer to understand how office workers feel about hybrid work and how it impacts their priorities at work, their performance and their wellbeing



**4,317** office workers

10 countries + 2 countries

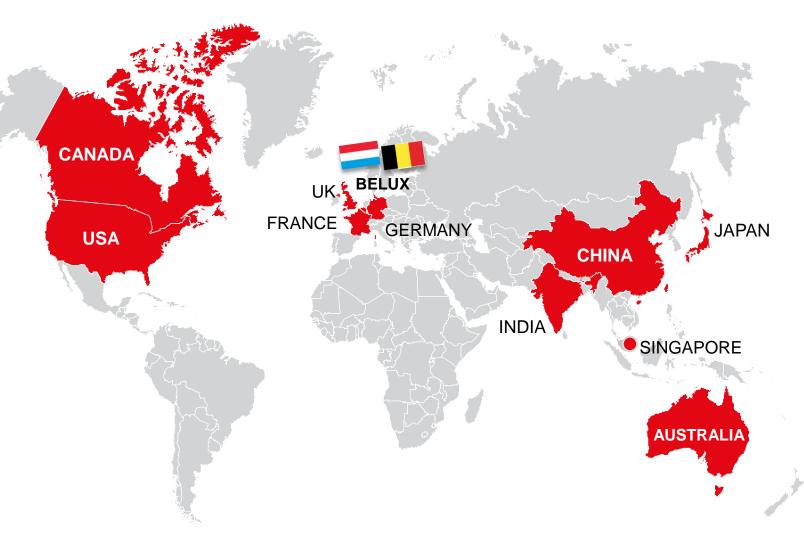
**300** respondents per country

⇒ 242 in Belgium + 60 in Luxembourg

All major industries. Online survey, April 2022 Survey in BeLux performed by CSA Research in June 2022.

#### Respondents' profile:

- 18+ years old
- Working in companies with over 100 employees
- 30% working in SMEs 70% working in big corporates
- Quotas on age, managerial responsibilities, company size and industry



## JLL's workforce preferences barometer 2022



Key insights from our global research: hybrid work is the 'new normal' and health support is at the heart of employees' expectations

Enabling hybrid work shows your people that you are a flexible and empathetic employer





Hybrid work has reached an 'optimal point'

The responsible employer of the future will focus on **taking care of the health** of their people





The long-term success of hybrid work will rely on a **holistic approach to performance** and value creation

The employer is now expected to support hybrid work in many different ways



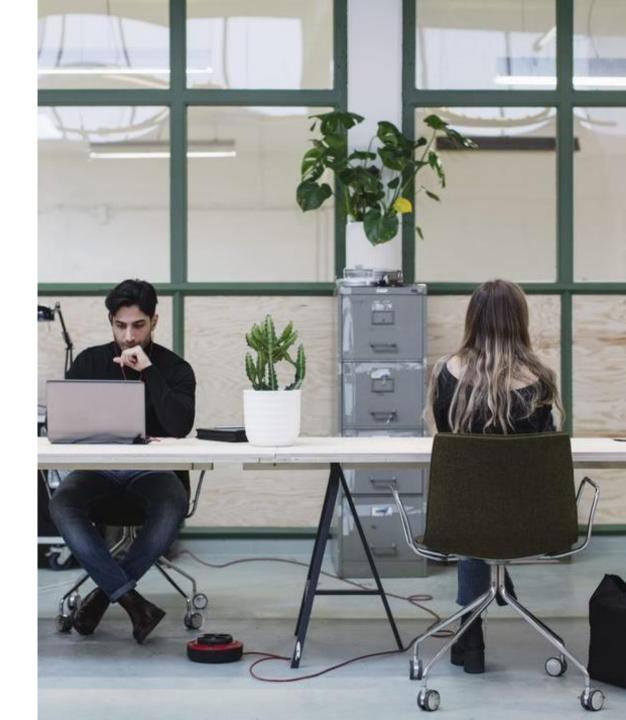


Companies have an **opportunity** to reinvent their "Employee Value Proposition"





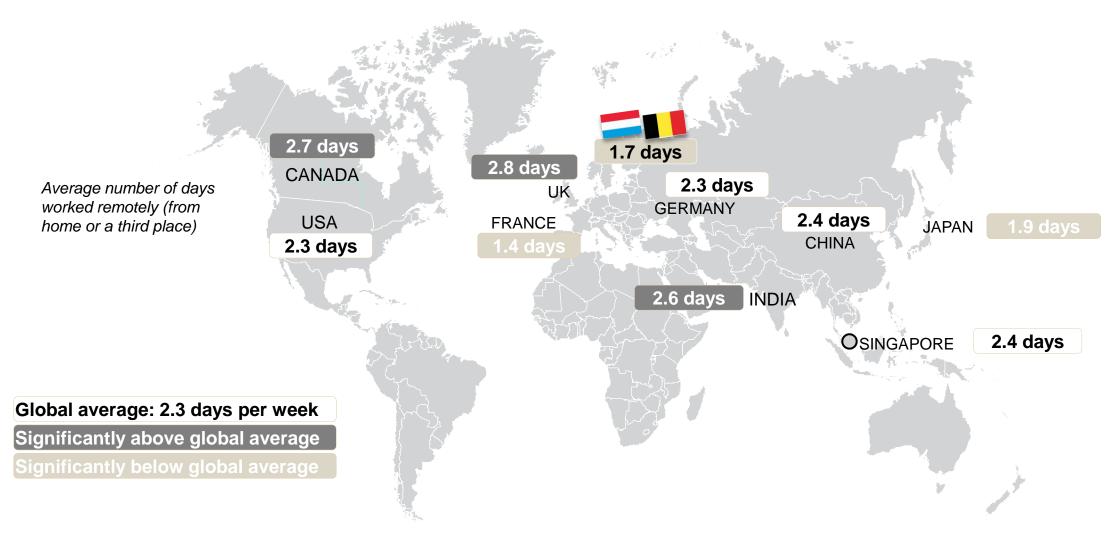
Insight #1:
Hybrid work has reached an 'optimal point'



## Remote work in BeLux is 1.7 days / week: well below the global average

In Belgium alone it is 1.9 days and in Luxembourg 1 day



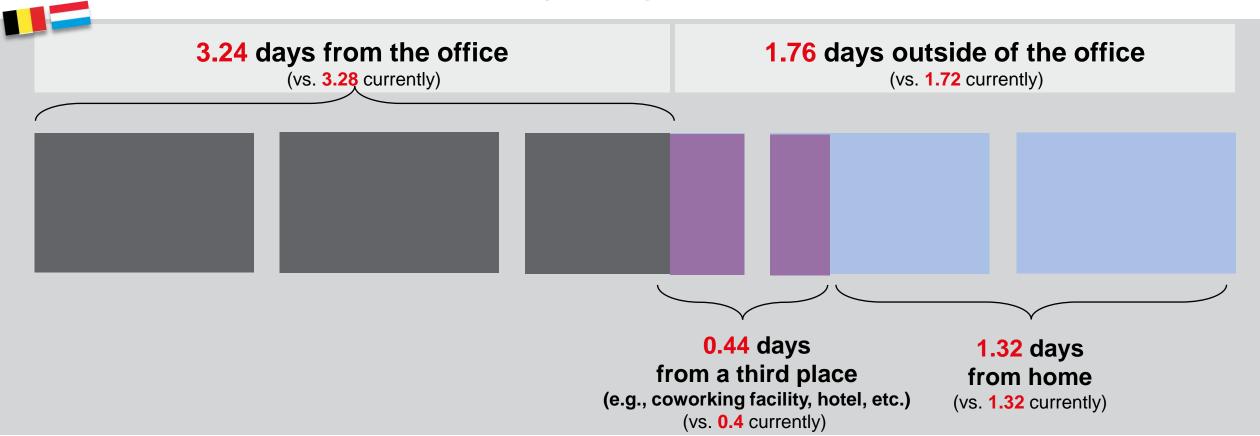


Q. How many days a week do you work remotely today?

# In terms of remote-work frequency, expectations are fully aligned with current practice



#### The expected average working week in 12 months' time

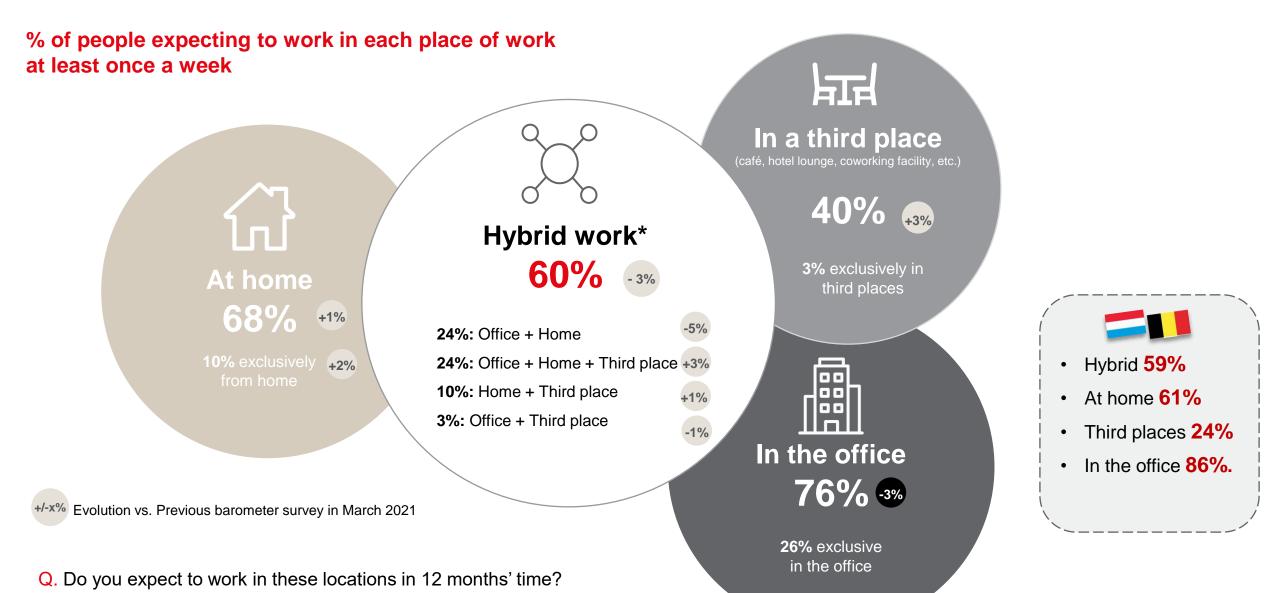


Q. How many days a week do you expect to be working in each of these locations in 12 months' time?

#### The Belux Workforce Preferences Barometer 2022

In Belux and elsewhere, the office is part of the desired working week of employees





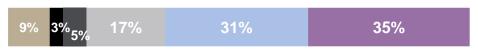
## Like the rest of the world, Belgian and Luxembourg employees will keep their office as a central part of the new hybrid routine



Global 2022

#### **Employee's Flexibility expectations**



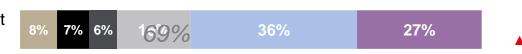


**66%** 69%

**Attractive** 

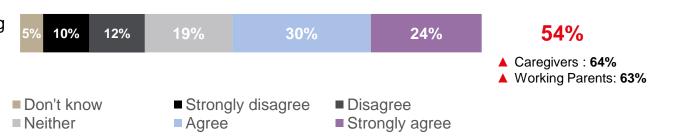
▲ 35-49 y : **75**%

In the long-term the employer will be expected to support remote/ hybrid work at home



**63%**66%
▲ Managers : 71%

In the long-term the office will remain central to my working life



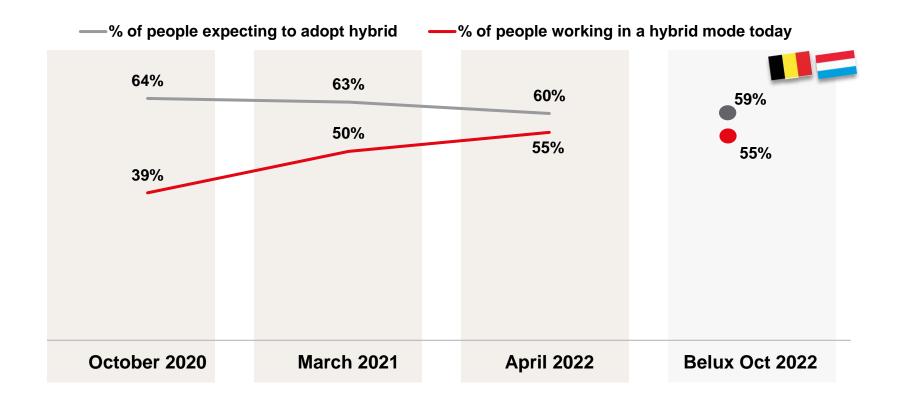
Q. What is your opinion on remote / hybrid working for the future? To what extent do you agree with the following?

60%

# An optimal point is being reached: almost all office workers that aspire to work in a hybrid mode are doing so today



#### **Hybrid Work: Expectations vs. Current practice**

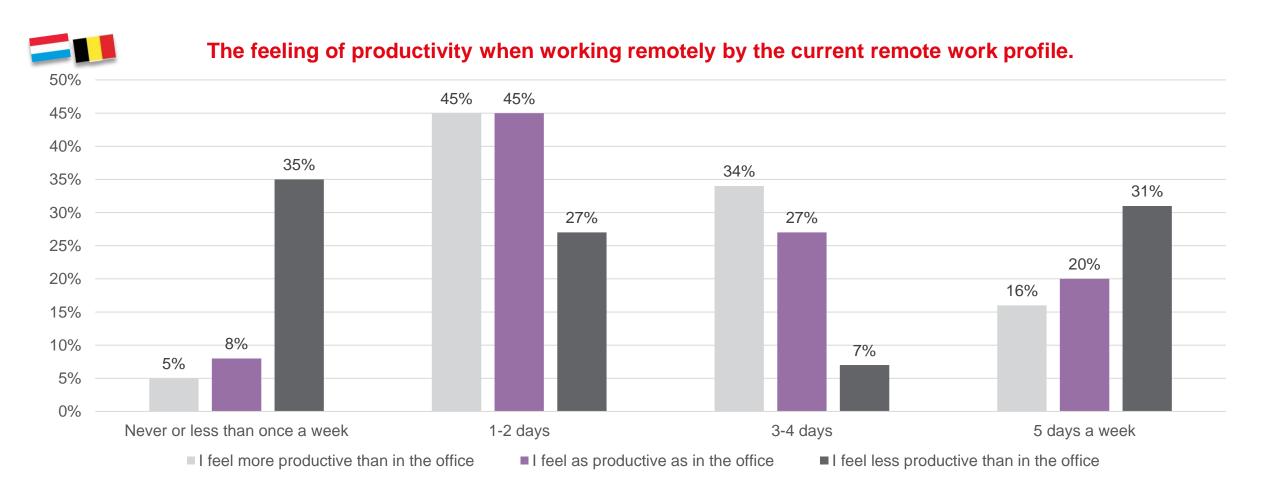


Q. How many days a week do you work remotely today and how many days do you expect to be doing in 12 months' time?

## Productivity @home is a matter of balance



Maximised sense of productivity with 1 - 2 days maximum remote working per week maximum



## **Key findings for Belgium and Luxembourg – Hybrid work**





Hybrid work is the new normal for both countries, though there are some differences related to the specificities of Luxembourg:



- Much less homeworking in Luxembourg since covid measures were leaner than in Belgium. 49% of workers were exclusively in the offices at the time of survey (June), vs. 36% in Belgium.
- Expectations within 12 months are the same as vs. current situation.
- Working remote (home or third place) at least one day is favoured by 59% of Belgian respondents, but only 38% for Luxembourgers.
- Working 1-2 days from home is the ideal situation for 38% of Belgian respondents and 41% of Luxembourgers.
- "Never from home" is an option for 36% of Belgian respondents and for 52% of Luxembourger respondents.
- So, hybrid work is dominant: 59% (37% Office + Home, 13% Office + Home + Third Place, 7% Home + Third Place and 1% Office + Third Place).





## Insight #2:

The long-term success of hybrid work will rely on a holistic approach to performance and value creation



## Currently, Belgians and Luxembourgers feel committed at work



41%

Engaged, committed to my work and having a sense of purpose

Vs Global 45%

28%

Empowered, supported and encouraged to take initiatives

Vs Global 39%

22%

Enthusiastic about all changes taking place in the world of work at the moment

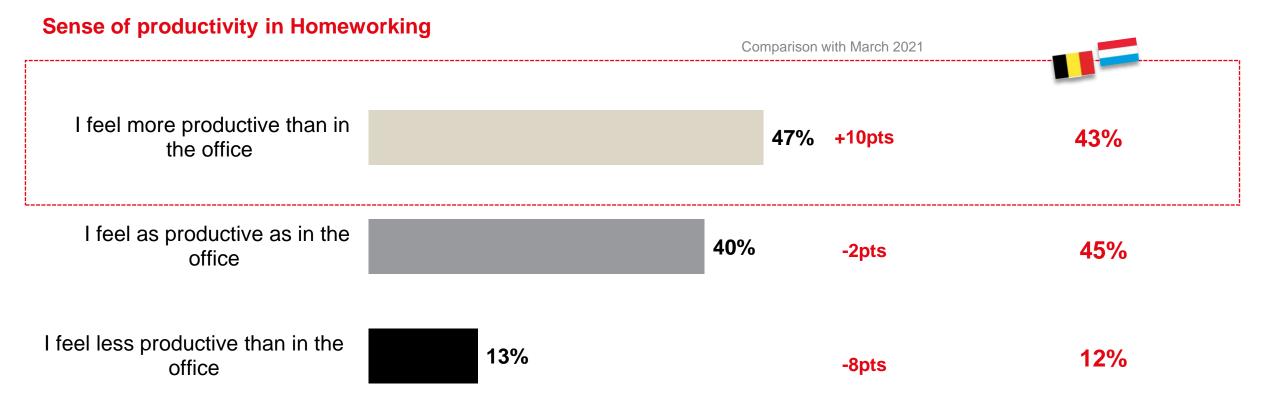
Vs Global 36%

Q: How would you describe your current state of mind?

# Remote workers have become used to their new homeworking routine & their feeling of being more productive at home keeps growing.



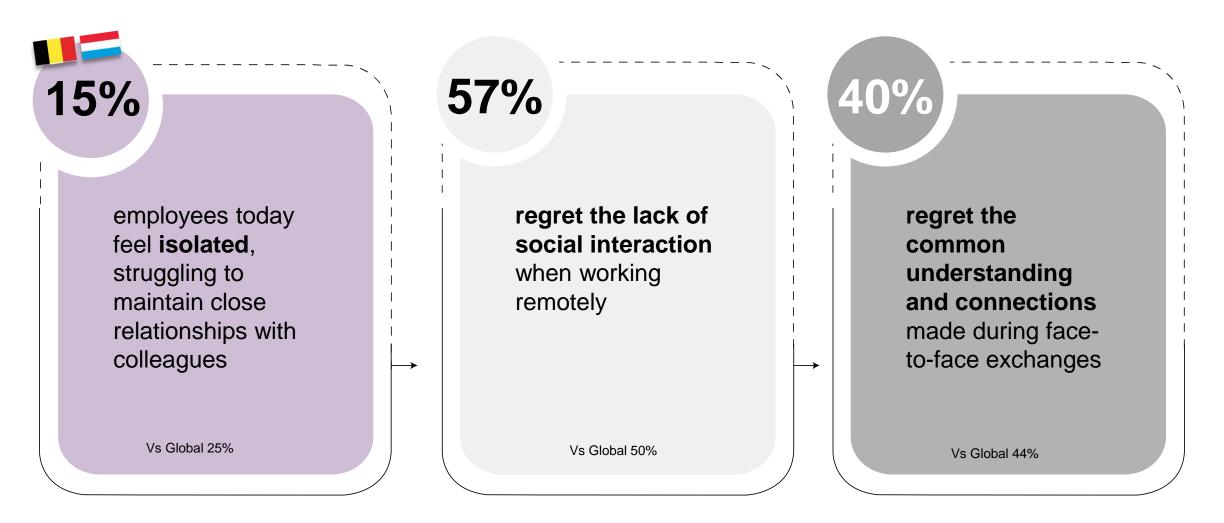
In Luxembourg, 80% of respondents do not feel more productive (vs. 53% in Belgium).



Q. To what extent do you feel productive when working from home today?

## However, human performance goes beyond the ability to deliver concentrated work



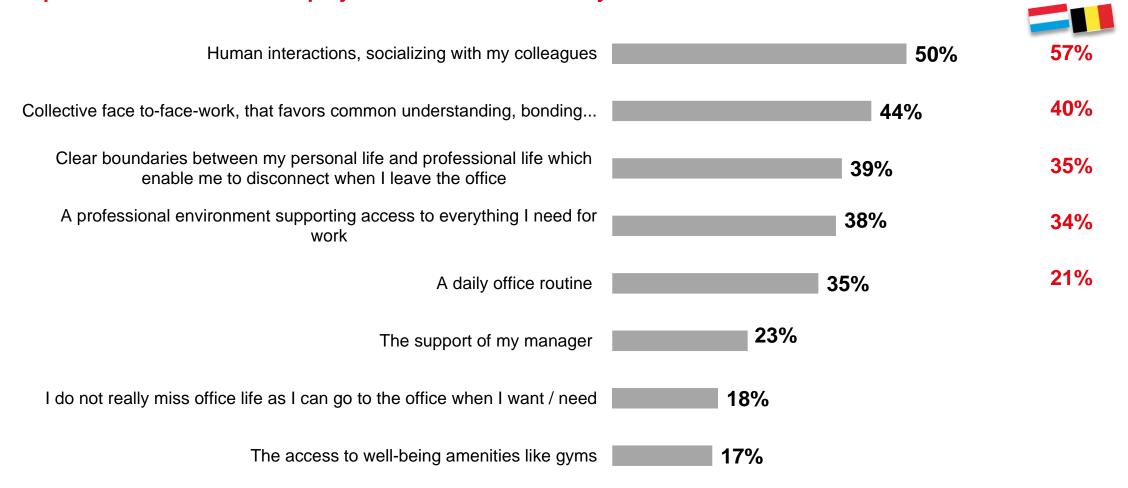


Q. What aspects of office life do you miss the most when working remotely today?

# Hybrid work poses a sustained risk in terms of the ability to create social value and unite the workforce around a shared purpose and vision



#### Aspects of office life that employees miss most when they are at a distance



Q. What aspects of office life do you miss the most when working remotely today?

# Key findings for Belgium and Luxembourg – long term success of Hybrid work mode





- The **productivity is not affected by the hybrid work mode**, and we can assume that productivity could be increased on the long term if office work and homework is organized according to the tasks that need to be performed (collaboration or focused)
- The office remains the perfect place for collaboration, collective or face-to-face interactions and teamwork, the design of working spaces will have to take those factors into account to match the needs of office users.
- All hybrid workers are not on the same time schedule, so some workers will be in the office
  while to perform focused tasks or at home to hold meetings or hold meeting from the office with
  colleagues that are at home.
- The office will increase socialization and sense of belonging





## Insight #3:

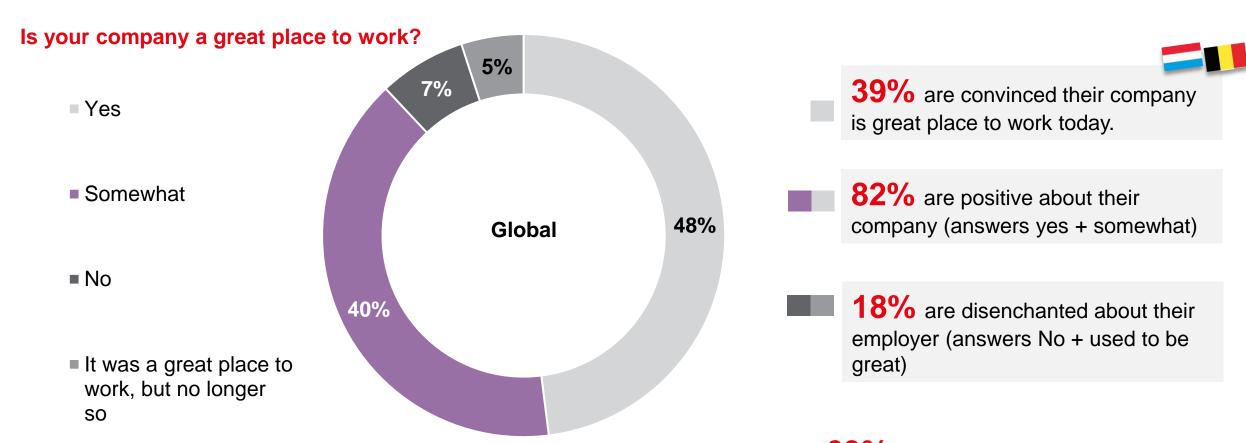
Companies have an opportunity to reinvent their EVP (Employee Value Proposition)



# Only 48% of the workforce are convinced that their company is a great place to work today.



It is even lower in BeLux.

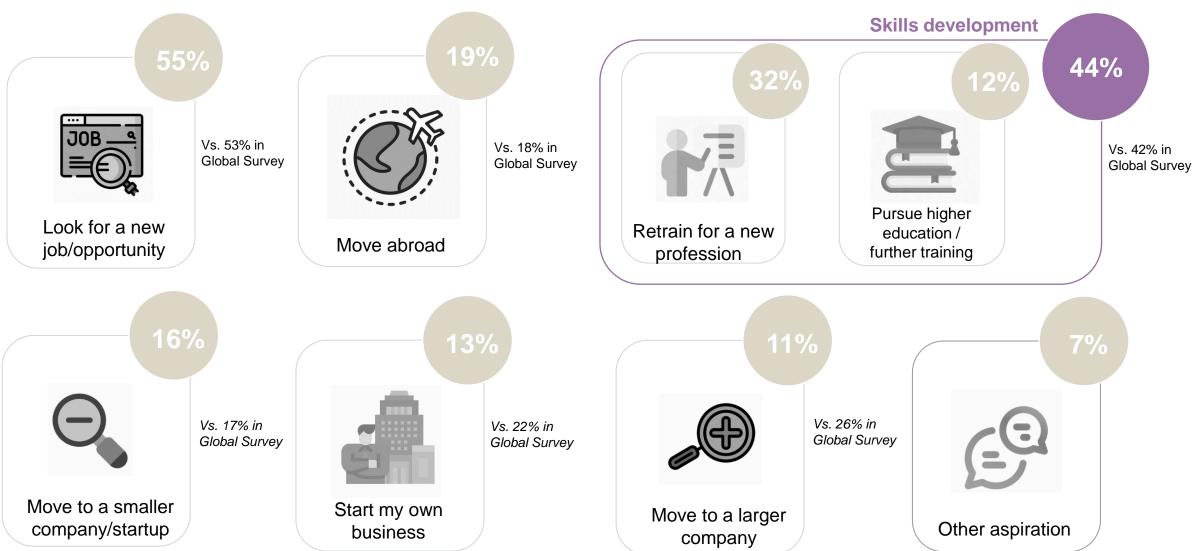


69% plan to stay with their current job.
Only 14% in both countries consider leaving their company,
18% in Luxembourg.

Q. Do you think your company is a great place to work?

# Employees would leave mainly to pursue better career opportunities and develop new skills, as seen in other countries





Q. What are your aspirations for your career move?

## As in other countries, the wish to reach a better quality of life is the top reason that could lead to a move. Financial considerations follow.



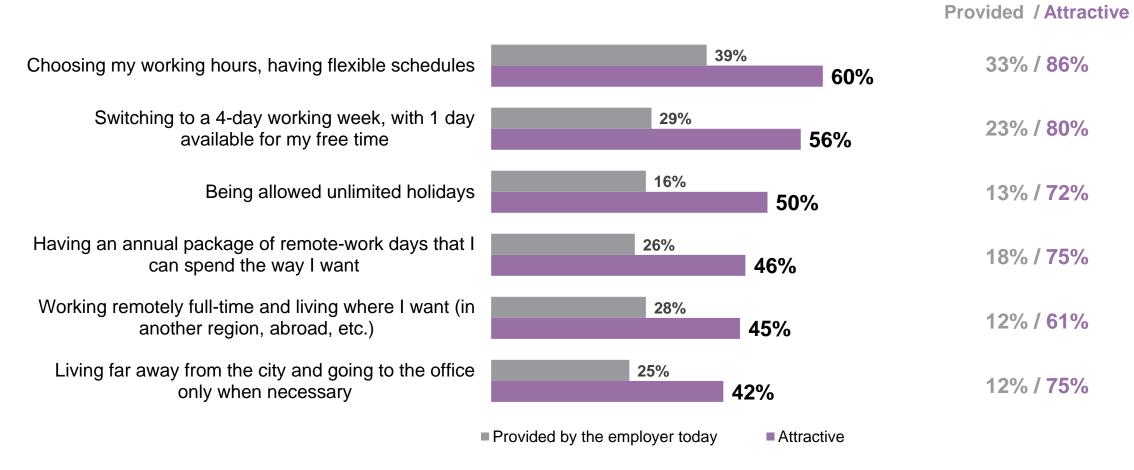


Q. Which of the following would make you consider leaving your current employer?

# There is an opportunity for employers to support the new flexibility aspirations by going beyond simple homeworking arrangements



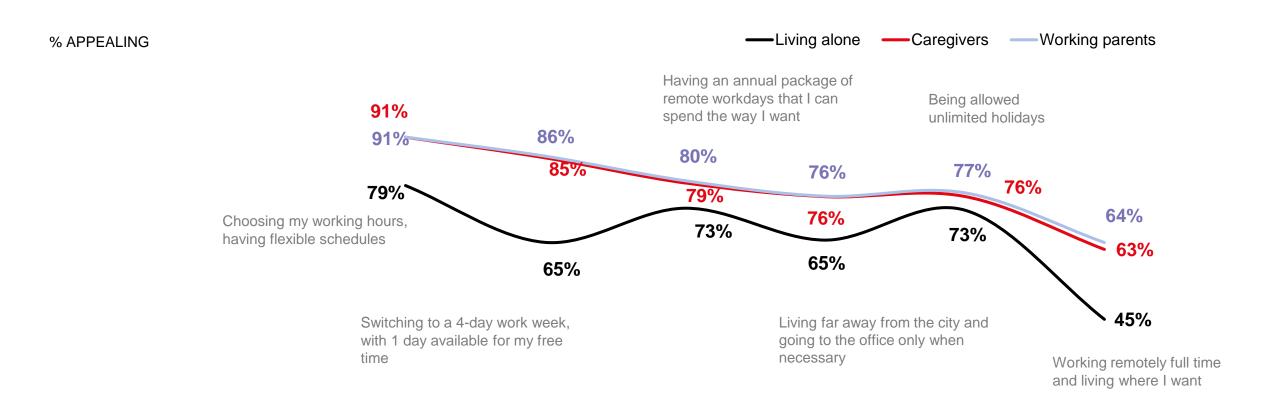
#### **Flexibility Options: Attractiveness vs Current Practices**



Q. How appealing are these flexibility options to you at the moment?

# Caregivers and working parents are more attracted by the flexibility options as flexible working hours and the 4-day week





Q. How appealing these flexibility options are they to you at the moment?

## Quality of life can also be improved in the office



Through very pragmatic initiatives like healthy food for free, free travel to the office, green spaces, etc.

Access to fresh and healthy food everyday (for free)	43%	52%
Free or subsidized travel to the office	43%	40%
Discounts and partnerships with amenities near the office	27%	26%
Social events	26%	28%
Offering free coaching and classes and/or spaces to promote health and reduce stress	25%	23%
A workplace app to book everything I need for my days in the office – a desk, a meeting room, a specific service	24%	
Green benefits (e-bike/e-car for example)	<b>24% 35%</b>	
Corporate wellness retreat facilities	23%	
Real-time air quality, contactless entry and services, etc.	22%	
Gardens, terraces and rooftops to be close to nature	<b>22</b> % <b>33</b> %	
Networking and mentoring programs	20%	

Q. Which of the following prospects would make your office a more attractive destination?

# **Key findings for Belgium and Luxembourg Employee Value Proposition re-invented**





• The vast majority of respondents think that their company is a good place to work, but only 39% think it is great. Very few intend to leave.

Reasons to leave would be a better work life balance and / or a better financial package. Sustainability or ethics reasons are less important than in other places in the world.

- Flexibility is highly demanded by both countries, not only in terms of working hours but also in terms of location.
- The 4-days working week is attractive for both countries.
- Employees in Belgium and Luxembourg are looking for pragmatic initiatives improving quality
  of life. Free healthy food, green benefits (e-bike, etc.) or gardens, roof-tops and terraces are
  the most demanded. More Luxembourgers ask for green spaces than in Belgium (43% vs.
  31%).



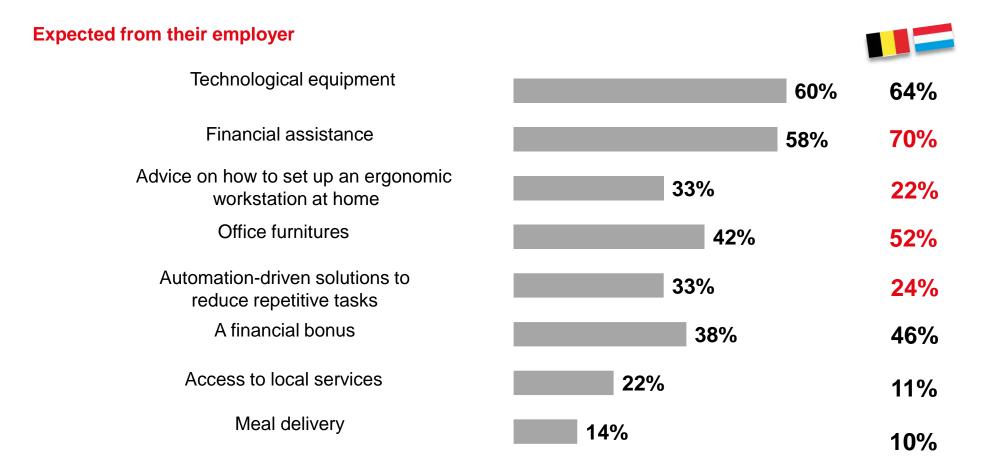


# Insight #4: The employer is expected to support hybrid work in many different ways



# The biggest gaps in terms of remote-work support are in financial assistance, tech equipment and office furniture.





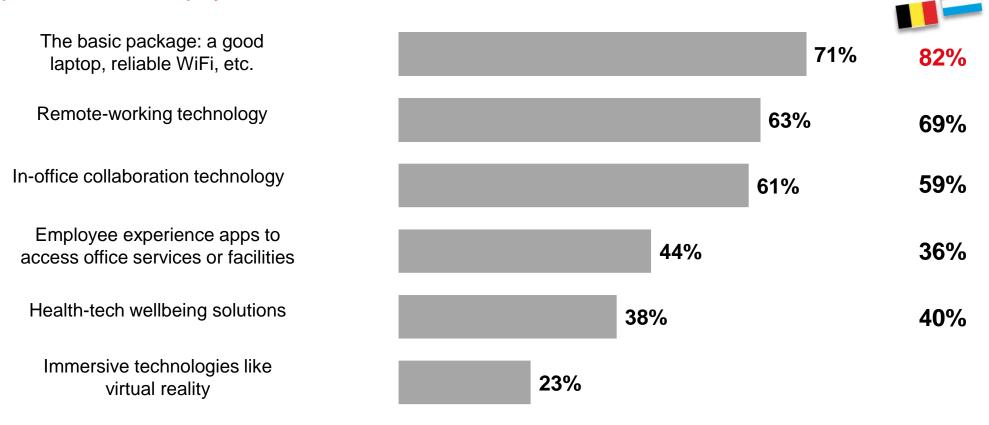
- Q. What kind of support does your employer already provide while working remotely?
- Q. What kind of support do you expect from your employer while working remotely?

# In terms of technological support, providing the 'basic package' is where employers must focus their efforts.



Managers but also Gen Y are the most demanding groups

#### **Expected from their employer**



- Q. What type of technology support does your employer already provide?
- Q. What type of technology support do you expect in your job today?

## **Key findings for Belgium and Luxembourg – Employer support**







Technical and financial support are the most in demand

- Technological equipment support is the most demanded in Luxembourg, and to a lesser extent in Belgium. 78% of Luxembourger respondents prioritize on this type of support, vs. 61% in Belgium.
  - Indirectly, 70% of BeLux respondents favour financial assistance for expenses related to remote work 72% in Belgium, 65% in Luxembourg.
- Office furniture are the third most important expected support from employers in Belgium.
   In Luxembourg it is 47%, vs. 42% globally.
- BeLux respondents have high expectations for the basic package provided.





## Insight #5:

The responsible employer of the future will focus on taking care of the health of their people



## **Focus on Health expectations**





**75%** 

Employees want to work in a space that promotes a healthy lifestyle, safety and wellbeing

Vs. Global 71%

22%

Feel overwhelmed by a heavy mental burden

Vs. Global 27%

Mental health and well-being

Vs. Global 41%

44%

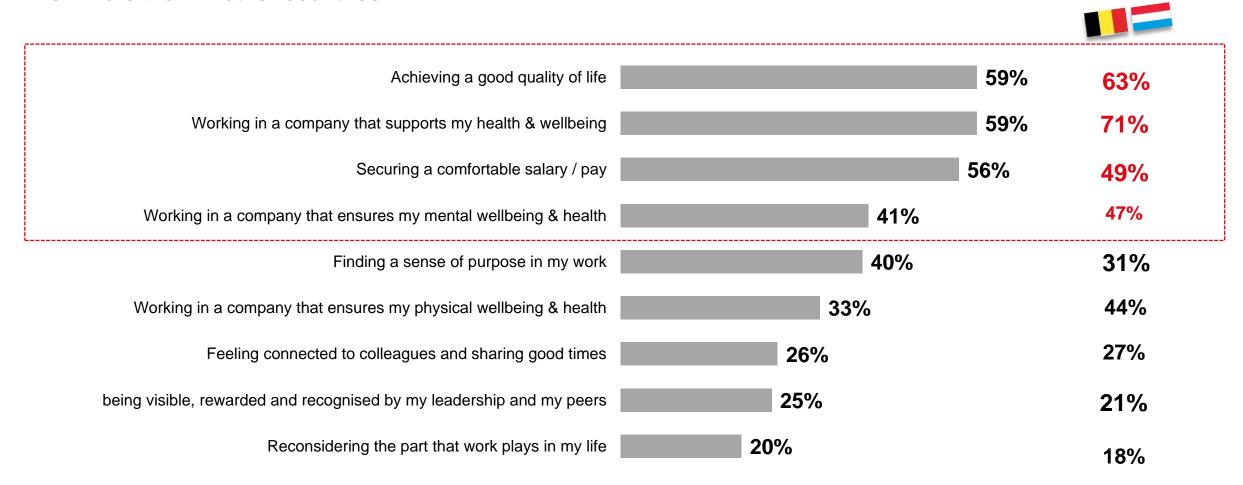
Physical health and well-being

Vs. Global 33%

# Health & wellbeing and quality of life: the priorities of employees' expectations



Even more than in other countries



Q. What are your priorities regarding your work today?

## In terms of workplace, wellbeing is by far the main priority



Followed by environmental expectations, which are more important than for the rest of the world.

Places that promote healthy lifestyle, safety and wellbeing		71% <b>75</b> %
Places that are respectful of earth resources and acting for the climate	44%	53%
Places that are digitally conncted with tools improving daily life	47%	50%
Places that promote diversity and equity within a strong community	47%	48%
Places that are able to innovate and adapt to future crises	48%	48%
Places that promote a strong sense of company culture and brand identity	43%	27%

Q. With regards to the places where you would like to work, which are your most important expectations?

## Workstyles have a direct impact on attitudes to work and the workplace





Office workers

- Are driven by quality of life and pay
- Need purpose and balance in their job
- Expect health and wellbeing amenities
- Consider the office as central to their working life
- Would appreciate free access to fresh and healthy food



Home workers

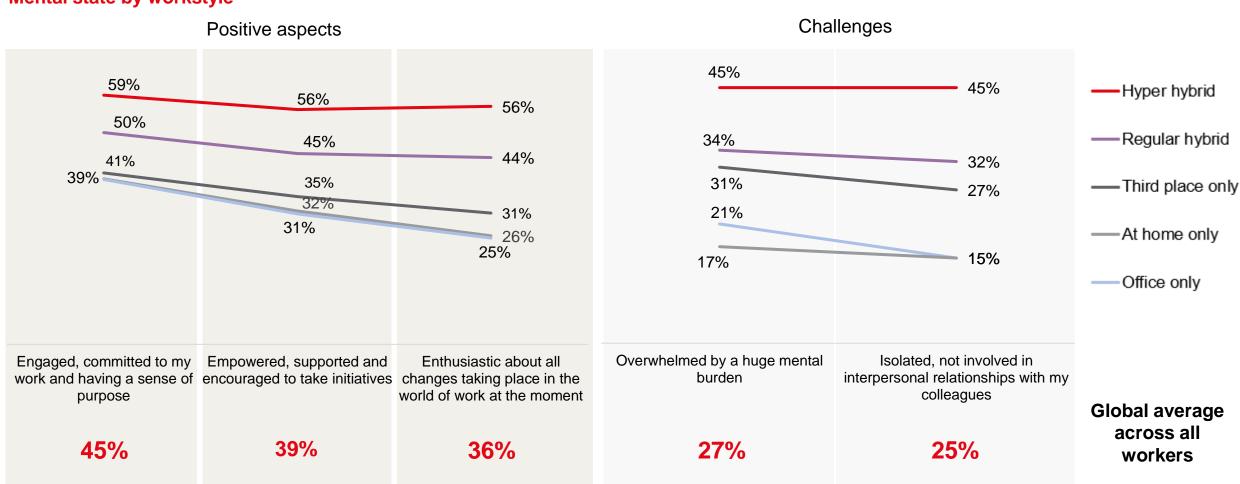
- Are driven by quality of life and pay
- Expect full flexibility in my job to work and live where they want
- Consider hybrid as key to talent retention
- Expect to be supported in their workstyle by their employer
- Go to the office to collaborate, manage and socialize
- Would be incentivized by subsidized travel to the office and access to fresh and healthy food

# If work from anywhere is the next step for hybrid work, it will be an equilibrium that is hard to achieve.



It is a workstyle both full of promises and challenges in terms of individuals' mental state. The most hybrid-oriented workers are also the most overwhelmed and stressed

#### Mental state by workstyle









#### More than others, Luxembourgers and Belgians prioritise...

- A work life balance, spending more time with my family
   61% in Belux vs 56% in the rest of the world
- The possibility to find purpose in your work
   71% vs 40%
- More than anywhere else they are working at the office 5 to 4 days a week 41% vs 33%
- Want to work in places that promote and healthy lifestyle, safety and wellbeing - 75% vs 71%

#### In terms of work experience in the Belux region:

- Employees expected greater support in the future for expenses linked to hybrid work 70% vs. 58% and a better technological equipment package 64% vs. 60%.
- Flexible schedules and choosing working hours 86% vs. 91% or switching to a 4-day working week 80% vs. 88% is also perceived as an advantage but still below global percentage.



## Less than on other parts of the world in Belgium and Luxembourg

- Employees want to work full-time at home
   14% in Belux vs 27% in the rest of the world
- Consider their company as a great place to work 39% vs 48%
- Whish to work from third party locations 24% vs 40%

#### Luxembourgian and Belgian mood

- Engaged, committed to work and having a sense of purpose
   74% vs. 74%
- Empowered, supported and encouraged to take initiatives
   67% vs. 68%
- Enthousiastic about changes taking place in the world of work at the moment - 22% vs. 64%





## Thank you

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