# Attitudes towards work

February 2022





### 2 in 3 UK working adults perform work-related tasks outside of official working hours

Which, if any, of the following do you ever do during your official working hours in a typical working week? And which, if any, do you do outside your official working hours, in a typical working week?

During official working hours

Outside official working hours

#### Check work related communications **62%** such as emails, texts, instant 43% messages, voicemail messages, etc. Respond to work related 64% communication such as emails, texts, 40% instant messages, phone calls, etc. Send work related communication such 61% as emails, texts, instant messages, 34% phone calls, etc. 85% NET Any work-related actions 67% 13% None of these 30% Don't know

Base: 698 Online working UK adults 16-75, 4-5 February 2022



4 in 5 UK working adults with a total household income of £55,000+ perform work-related tasks outside of official working hours

Which, if any, of the following do you ever do outside your official working hours, in a typical working week?

### Total

#### £55,000 and above

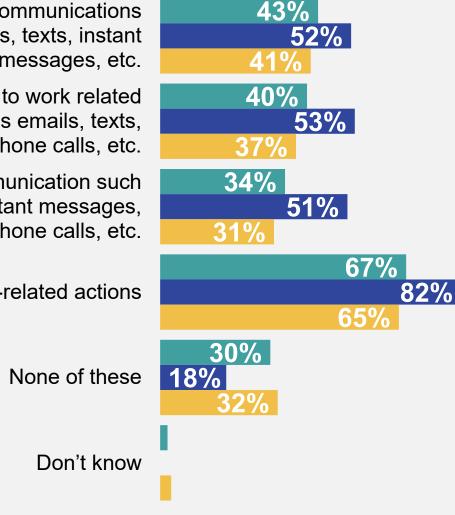
Up to £54,999

Check work related communications such as emails, texts, instant messages, voicemail messages, etc.

Respond to work related communication such as emails, texts, instant messages, phone calls, etc.

Send work related communication such as emails, texts, instant messages, phone calls, etc.

NET Any work-related actions



Base: 698 Online working UK adults 16-75, 4-5 February 2022, £55,000+ (151), up to £55,000 (501).



Younger respondents are more likely to report that they perform work-related tasks outside of official working hours

Which, if any, of the following do you ever do outside your official working hours, in a typical working week?

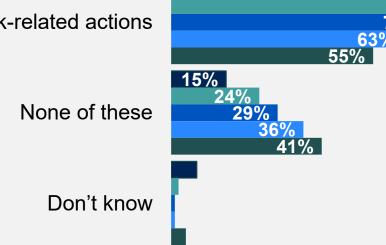
16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-75

Check work related communications such as emails, texts, instant messages, voicemail messages, etc.

Respond to work related communication such as emails, texts, instant messages, phone calls, etc.

Send work related communication such as emails, texts, instant messages, phone calls, etc.

NET Any work-related actions



35%

35%

35%

30%

31%

32%

38%

42%

51%

44%

45% 44%

40% 40%

Base: 698 Online working UK adults 16-75, 4-5 February 2022, 16-24 (54), 25-34 (151), 35-44 (168), 45-54 (178), 55-75 (147)



78%

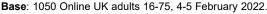
# 1 in 2 UK adults believe that it is not acceptable for employees to be expected to check, respond to <u>and</u> send work related communication outside of working hours

To what extent is it acceptable or not for an employee to be expected to do each of the following outside of their official working or on-call hours?

#### Acceptable

Check work related communications such as emails, texts, instant messages, voicemail messages, etc.

41%	55%
Respond to work related communication such as emails, texts, instant messages, phone calls, etc.	
38%	58%
Send work related communication such as emails, texts, instant messages, phone calls, etc.	
39%	57%



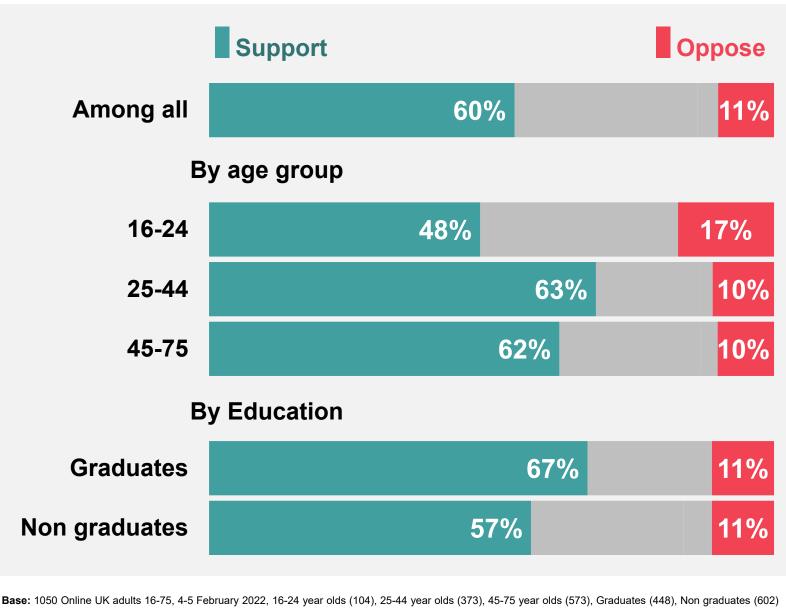


Not acceptable

### 6 in 10 UK adults support the introduction of a law giving employees the right to ignore workrelated communication outside of working hours

Now please imagine that the UK Government was considering introducing a law giving employees the right to ignore work related communication outside of their official working or on-call hours. This could include emails, texts, instant messages, phone calls, etc.

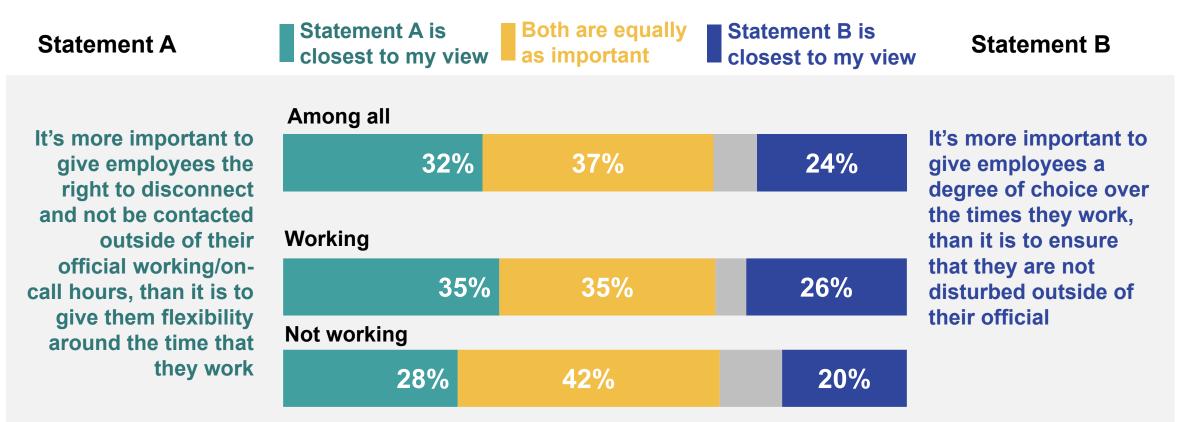
To what extent would you support or oppose the introduction of such a law, or do you have no feelings either way?





# 1 in 3 UK adults believe it is more important to give employees the right to disconnect than to give them flexibility with working hours

Some employees want to have more choice over the times of the day or night they are working, whilst others do not want to be contacted with work related communication outside of their official working/on-call hours. Which of the following is closest to your view?





Base: 1050 Online UK adults 16-75, 4-5 February 2022, Working (698), Not working (352)

## **Technical notes**

- The research was carried out by Ipsos UK.
- Ipsos UK interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,050 adults aged 16-75 in the United Kingdom using its online i:omnibus between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
- The sample obtained is representative of the population with quotas on:
  - o Age
  - $_{\circ}$  Gender
  - Region
  - Working Status
- The data has been weighted to the known offline population proportions for age, working status and social grade within gender, and for government office region and education, to reflect the adult population of the United Kingdom.

For more information please contact the team at <u>ipsos.com/en-uk/omnibus-surveys</u>



# Thank you.

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