

The Hybrid Work Network

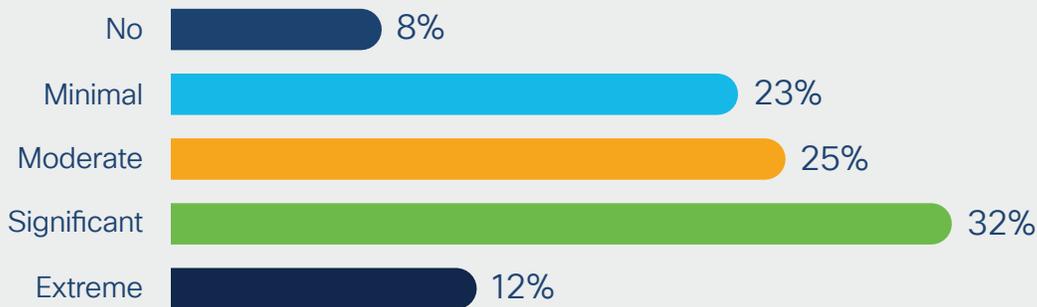
Exploring Network Confidence & Concerns in the Era of Federal Telework

Introduction

COVID-19 has caused a great migration of government work from the office to the living room. A new poll by Government Business Council (GBC) suggests that employees anticipate lasting changes to teleworking policies in response to this crisis. While network infrastructure is critical to support remote working, many employees do not have strong confidence in their network’s ability to meet current and future IT needs.

COVID-19 will cause agencies to greatly adapt their telework policies

“Because of COVID-19, my agency will need to make _____ change(s) to my agency’s hybrid work policies and practices.”



Percentage of respondents, n=259.
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding



44% of respondents say their agency will need to make significant or extreme changes to their telework policy.

Over 9 in 10 respondents believe their agency will need to revise their telework practices in the coming months.

“Maximize telework across the nation for the Federal workforce (including mandatory telework, if necessary), while maintaining mission-critical workforce needs.”

Memorandum for the Heads of Departments and Agencies, March 17, 2020¹

More than half are confident in existing cybersecurity infrastructure



of employees are very or extremely confident in the cybersecurity of their network infrastructure.



say they are not at all or slightly confident in the cybersecurity of their network.

Given the recent government-wide shift to remote working, how confident are you in the cybersecurity of your existing network infrastructure?



Percentage of respondents, n=258.
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

“They’re already taking advantage of the situation and the environment that we have on hand.”

Department of Defense Deputy CIO Essye Miller on the rise of cybersecurity attacks during the pandemic

However, 68% are not very confident their network will meet future IT needs

How confident are you that your agency’s network infrastructure can support its current and future IT needs (i.e. telework, telehealth, cloud, 5G, edge computing, artificial intelligence, machine learning, etc.)?



Percentage of respondents, n=257.
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding



of all respondents say they are slightly or not at all confident in their network’s ability to support current and future needs.



are extremely confident that their network infrastructure can support current and future needs.

Methodology

GBC fielded a 3-question poll on network infrastructure concerns to a random sample of 259 federal civilian employees in April 2020.

Sources

¹ Office of Management and Budget: “Federal Agency Operational Alignment to Slow the Spread of Coronavirus COVID-19.” March 2020.
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wpcontent/uploads/2020/03/M-20-16.pdf>

About Cisco

Cisco Federal is blazing the trail to digital transformation in the government with technologies and services that transform citizen experiences, agency processes and business models. Cisco delivers strategies for digitization that meet today’s needs 24/7 while keeping networks secure.

Learn more at cisco.com/go/federal.



The bridge to possible