REMOTE WORKING SURVEY MALAYSIA

The Truth about **Working from Home**

How do professionals in Malaysia feel about remote working? And how can we go about making the 'new WFH normal' work?



Satisfaction towards remote working

More than 4 in 6 professionals in Malaysia reflect being satisfied with their current remote working arrangements, with about 6 out of 8 noting a similar or increased level of productivity while at home.

Resultingly, 7 in 9 professionals want more work from home arrangements in the future, and this may become an increasingly important factor in determining employee job satisfaction or when they choose a new role.



per month) Yes - I would like to work from home frequently (at least

14%

Yes – I would like to work from home permanently (with some office visits when required)

once a week)

Factors affecting remote working environment

While professionals in Malaysia enjoy greater flexibility in the comfort of their homes, they are also more distracted, less socially engaged, and have to make do without a proper office set-up.

Their biggest bugbear? Longer than usual working hours.

What factor(s) have caused increased productivity when working from home?



74% More flexibility in working hours



62% Less commuting time



51% Comfortable / relaxed environment

What factor(s) have caused decreased productivity when working from home?



64% Less ability to focus / more distractions



44% Fewer meetings / less physical interaction with colleagues



36% Not having a proper office furniture or set-up

What are the three biggest frustrations you are currently facing while working from home?







29% Internet connectivity



29% Social isolation / lack of socialising with peers

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HOW TO THRIVE WHEN WORKING FROM HOME

With most professionals in Malaysia desiring at least some form of remote work arrangement in a 'post COVID-19 normal', it pays to optimise home environments for greater productivity by setting boundaries - both physically and mentally. Try creating dedicated work spaces that are "distraction-free" zones, and set up a routine that allows you to mentally start and leave work at specific hours.

To retain and attract top talent, companies also need to start embracing and implementing flexible working arrangements. This will involve more than just a change in HR policy - providing the right technologies to support flexible working, and training for managers and team members to ensure effective collaboration and communication will also be key.

For more expert insights, visit our Robert Walters Career Advice and Hiring Advice hubs.

Survey Methodology

Data derived from surveying over 240 respondents in Malaysia, identified through Robert Walters database, from 16 April to 13 May 2020. All figures here have been rounded to the nearest whole number.