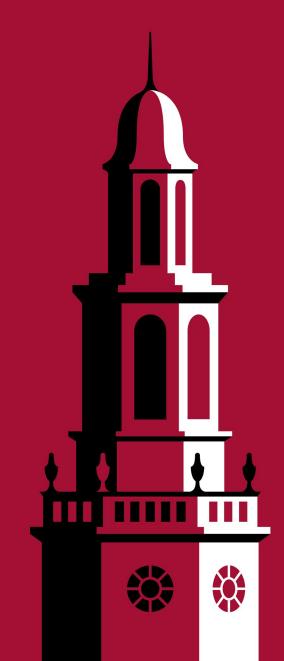
Building From the Bottom Up

Upward mobility survey of low-wage workers (Results by Firm Size)





Managing the Future of Work

Notes Worker Survey – Firm Size

Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

Introduction:

This deck represents the results from an online survey of 1,025 U.S. low-wage workers conducted September–November 2020 by the Project on Managing the Future of Work at Harvard Business School. The survey questionnaire is also available on our website. This deck shows the survey results by the size of the company the respondent works at.

Please direct inquiries to:

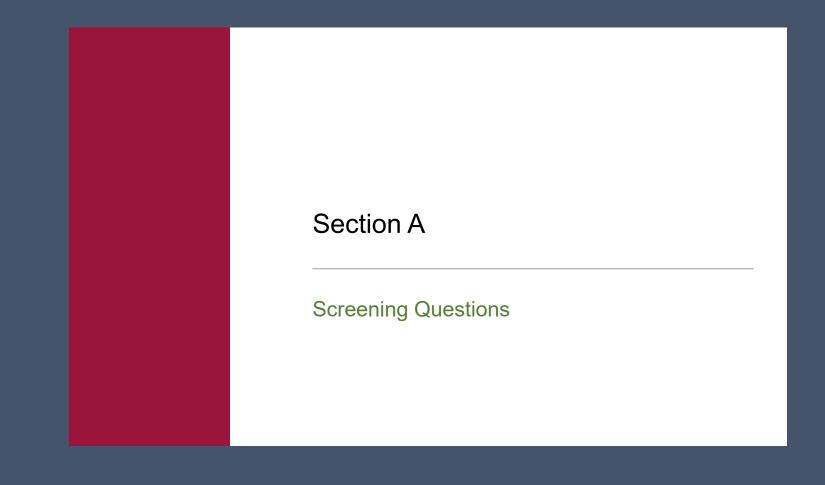
Manjari Raman, mraman@hbs.edu

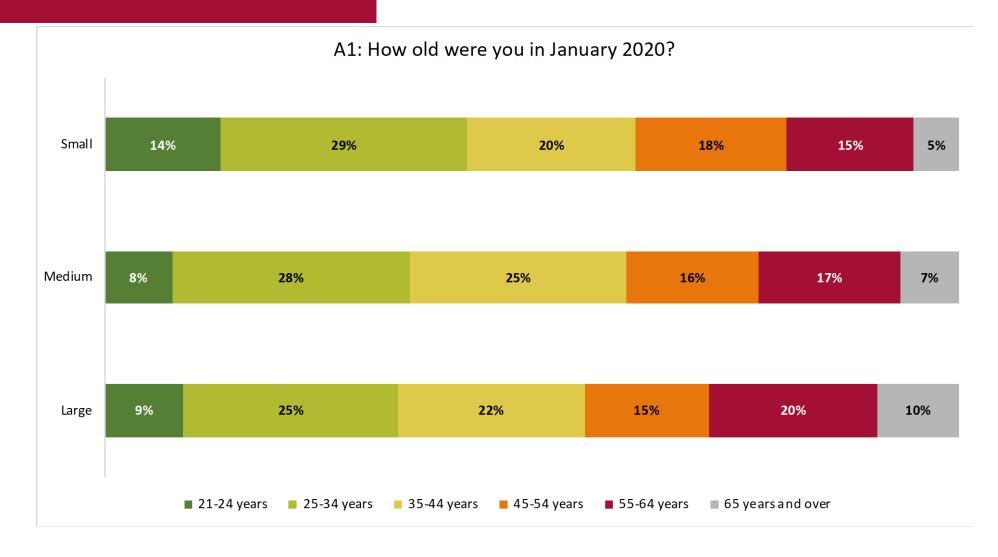
Preferred citation:

"Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

General notes:

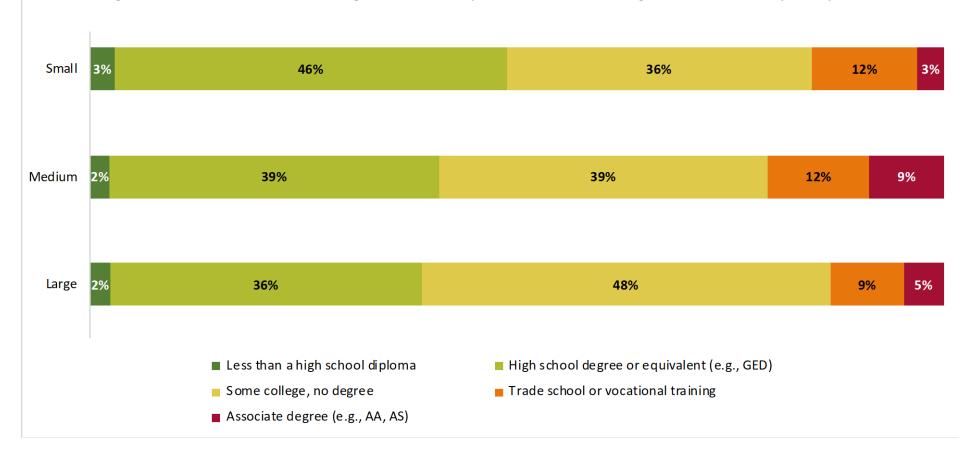
- Numbers may not sum to 100% due to rounding. All numbers are rounded to the nearest integer. However, the data is recorded to two
 decimal places thus some data points labeled "0%" may be nonzero but rounded down.
- For the purposes of this survey, we define low-wage employees as full-time or part-time employees who earn hourly wages that are 200% or below the federal poverty threshold. Depending on which part of the country they work in, these employees typically earn wages around \$7 per hour (or approximately \$14,000 per year) to \$20 per hour (or approximately \$40,000 per year).
- Firm size groups: Workers at small companies (1 99 employees): N=457; Workers at medium companies (100 999 employees): N=218; and Workers at large companies (1,000 or more employees): N=294. Additionally, 56 respondents did not know the size of their company, and the results for this group are not shown in this deck. For the rest of the deck, the three groups are referred to as Small, Medium, and Large.

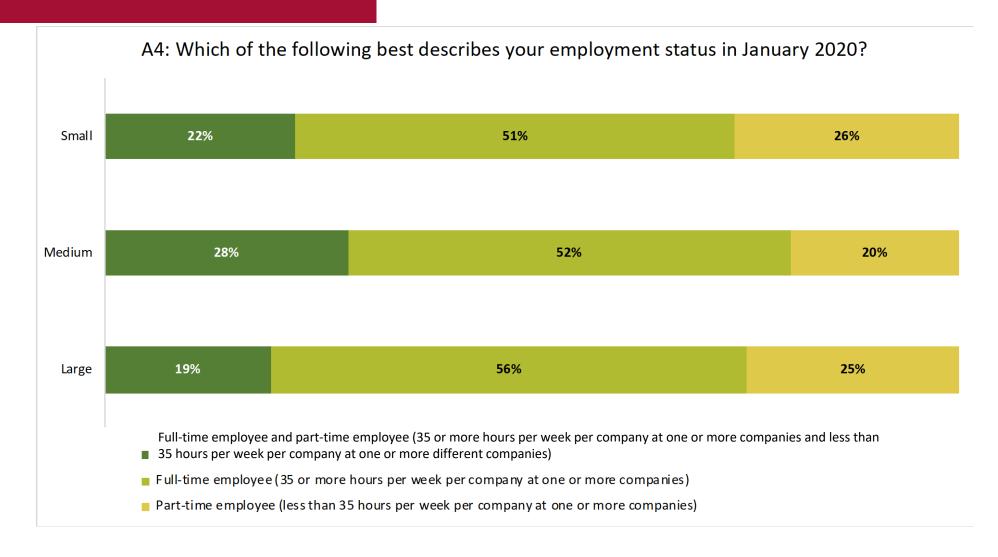


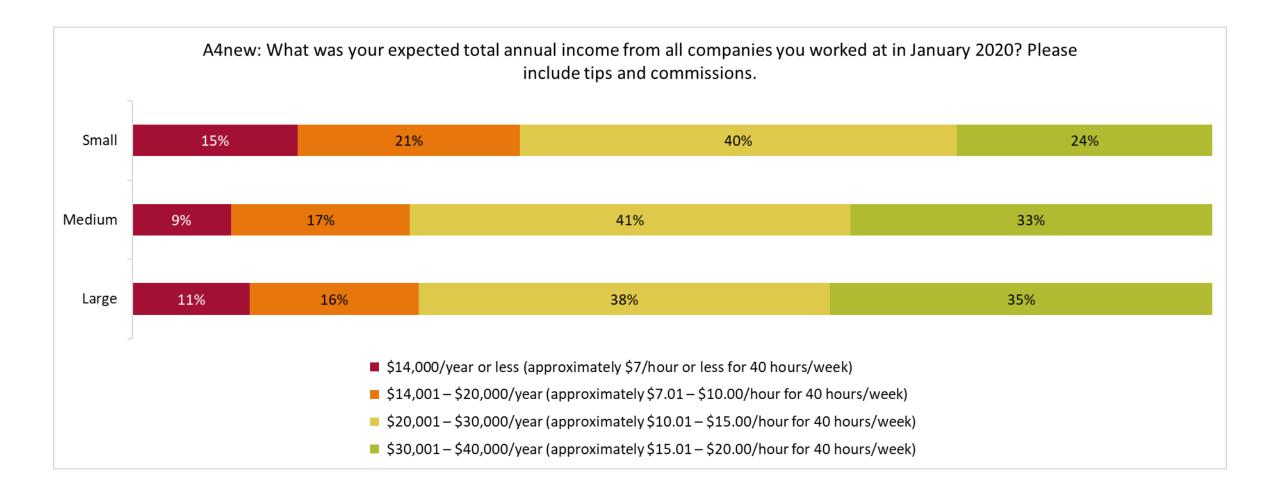


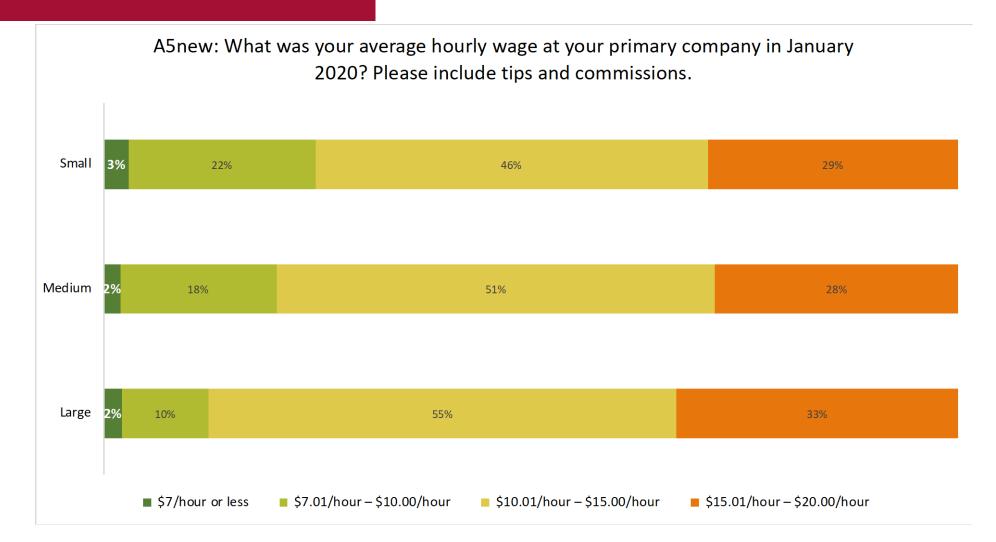
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

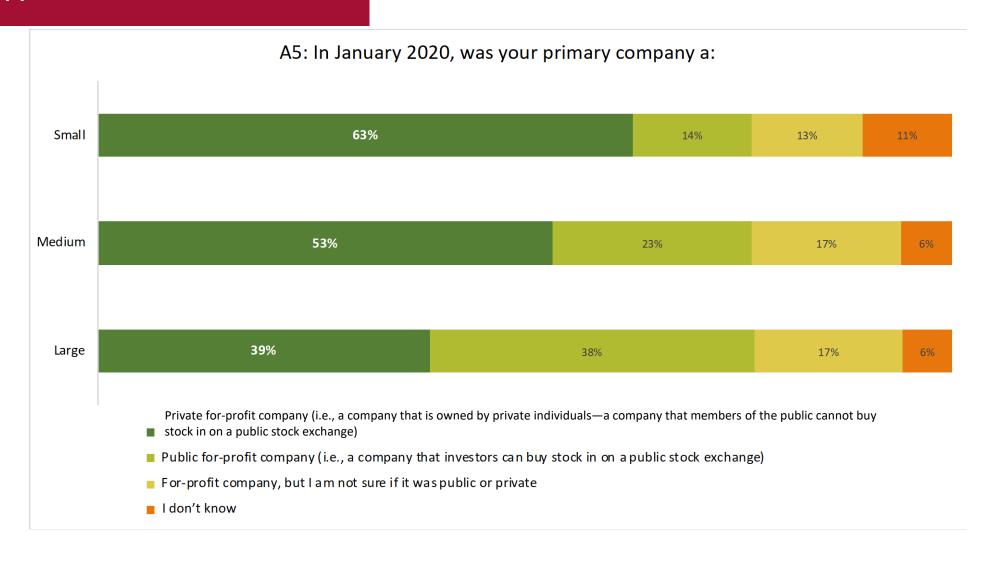
A3: What was the highest level of education you had completed by January 2020? If you were pursuing a degree or in the midst of training at that time, please choose the highest level already completed.





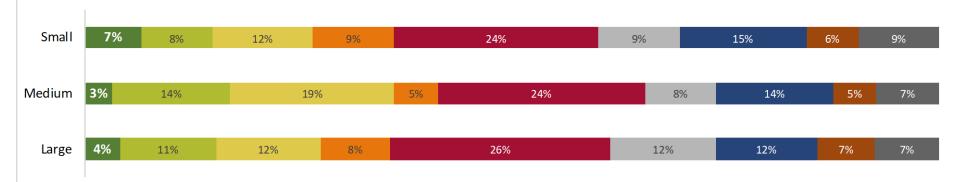






Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

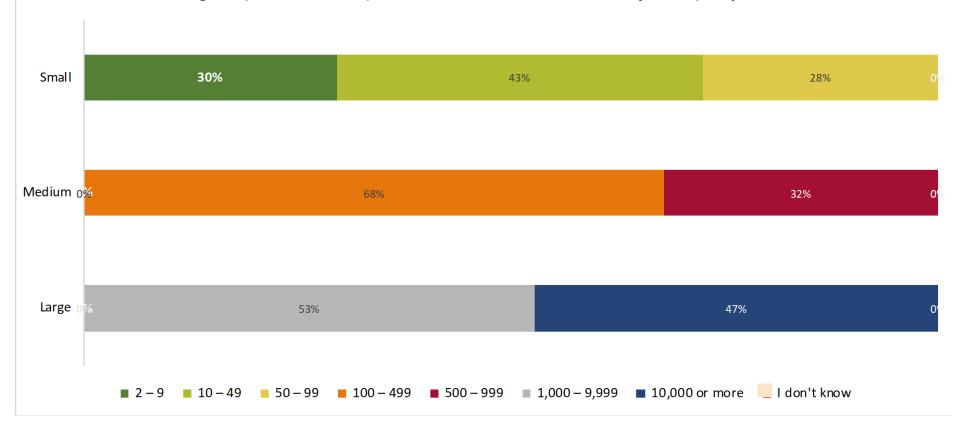
A6: Which region did you work in (i.e., where was your primary physical worksite located) in January 2020?

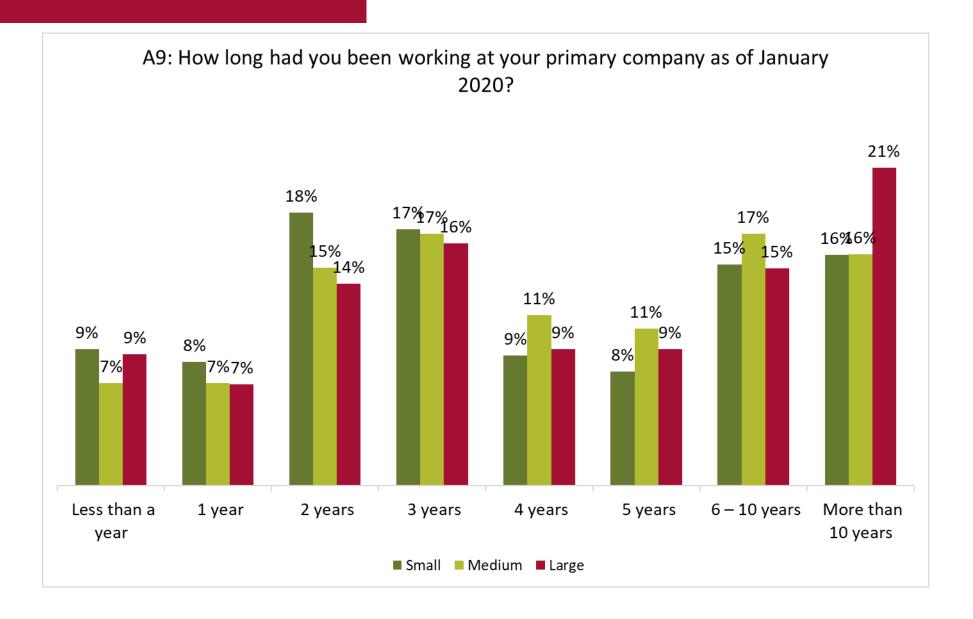


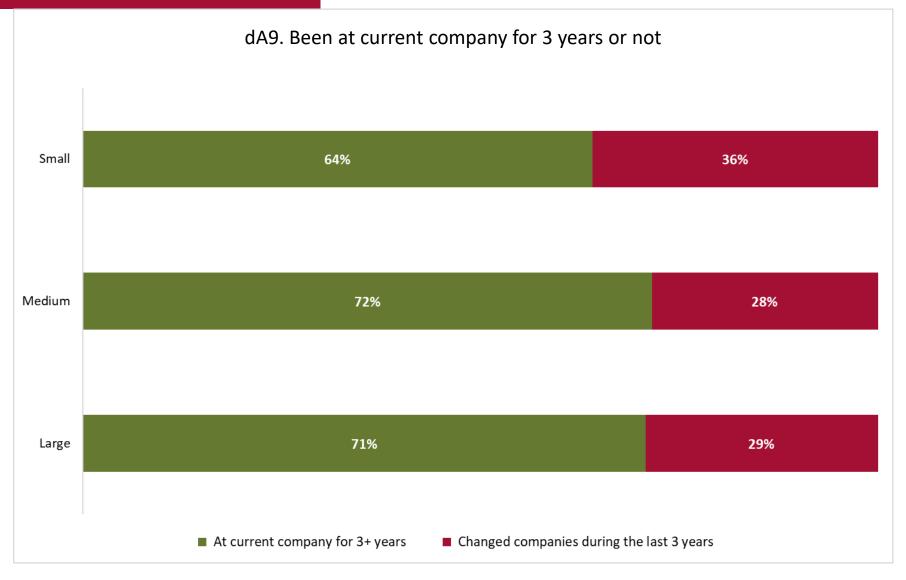
- New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)
- Middle Atlantic (New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania)
- East North Central (Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin)
- West North Central (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota)
- South Atlantic (Delaware, Washington D.C., Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia)
- East South Central (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee)
- West South Central (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas)
- Mountain (Arizona, Colora do, Idaho, New Mexico, Montana, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming)
- Pacific (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington)

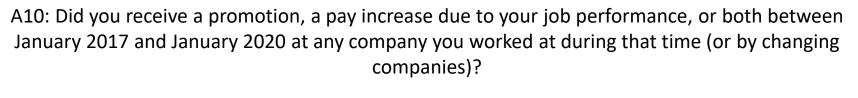
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

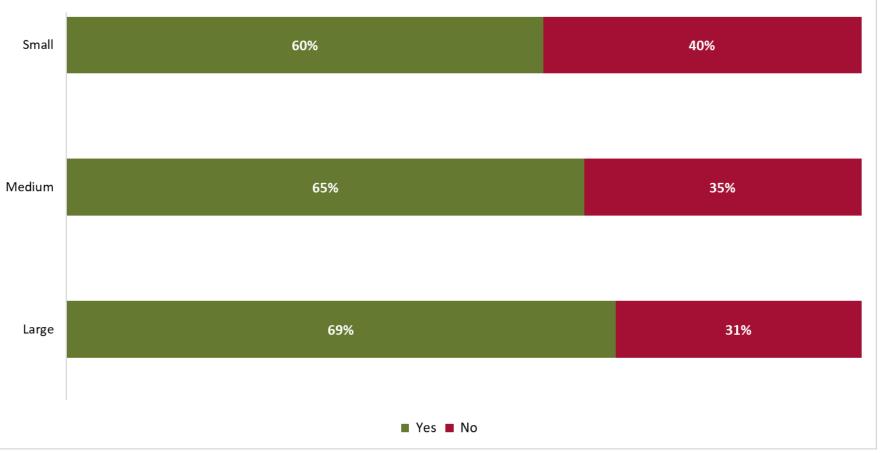
A7: Approximately how many workers did your primary company employ in January 2020? If your company has multiple locations, please include workers at all locations, including corporate headquarters, subsidiaries, and any company branches.

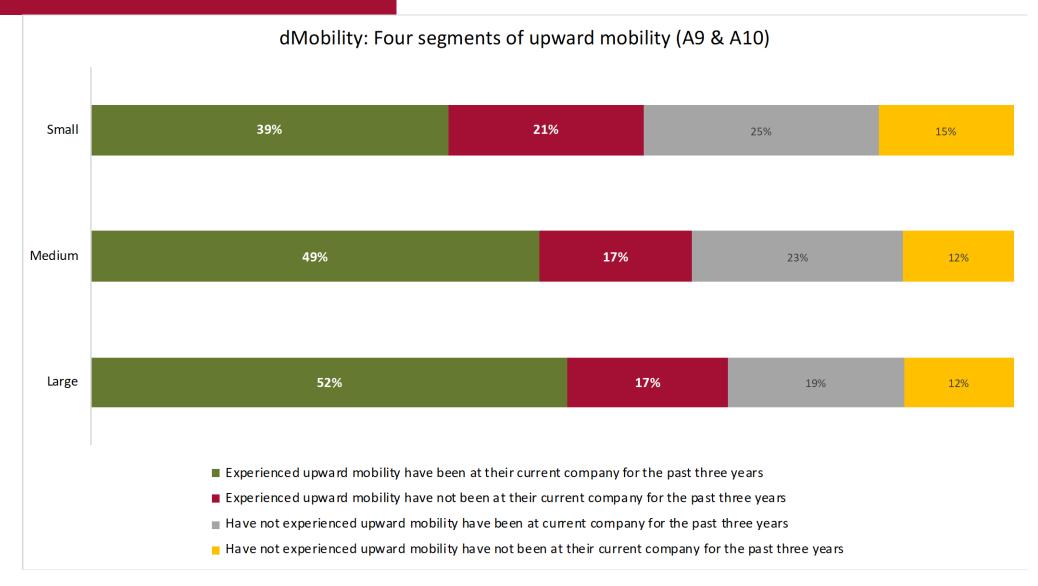


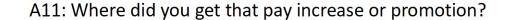


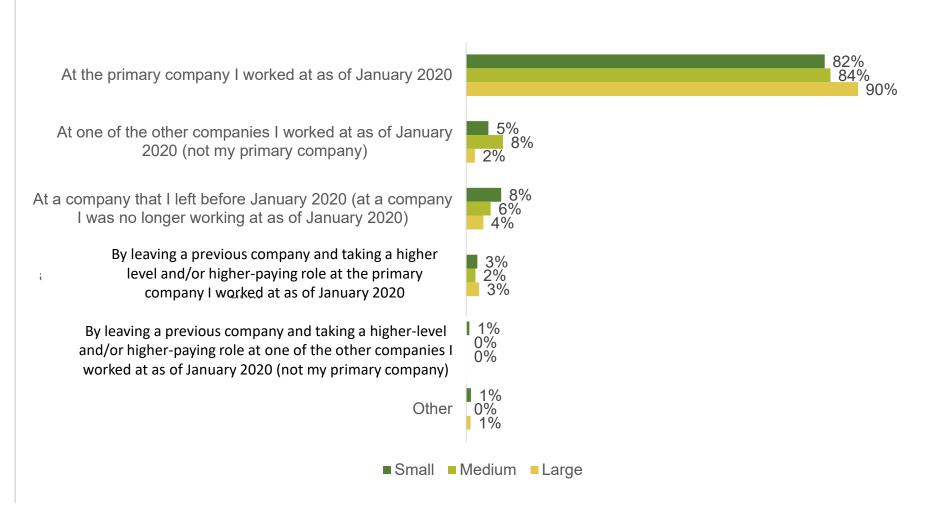




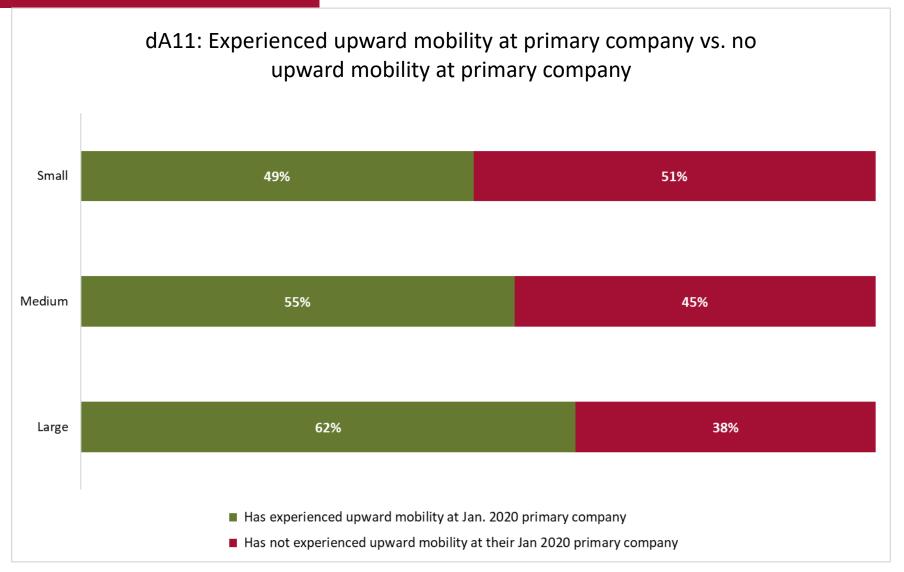




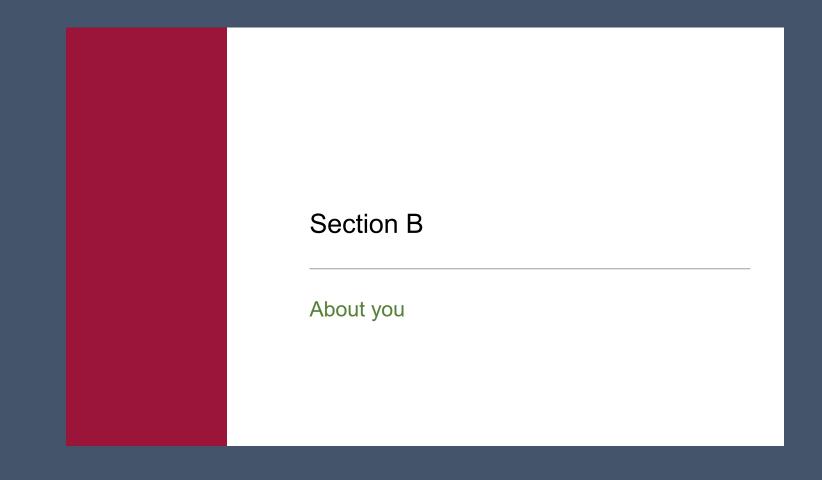


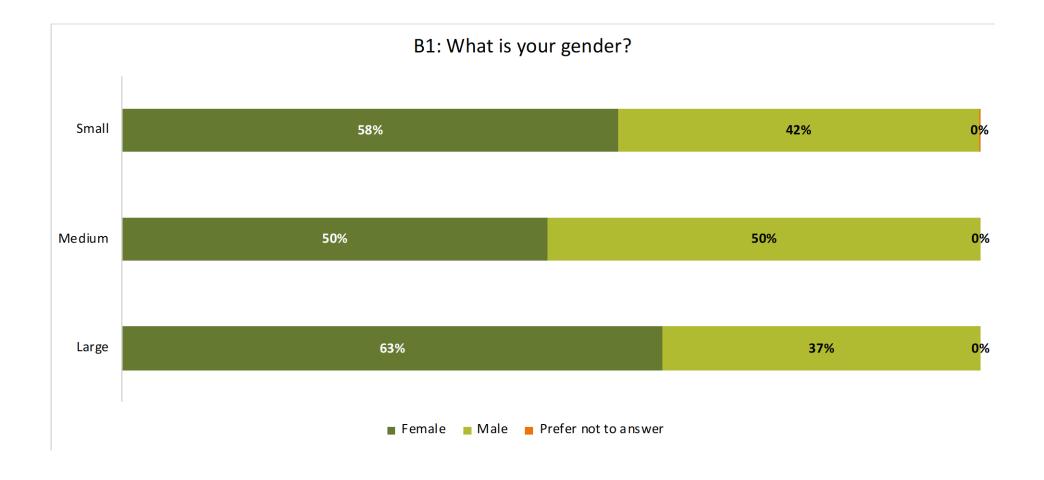


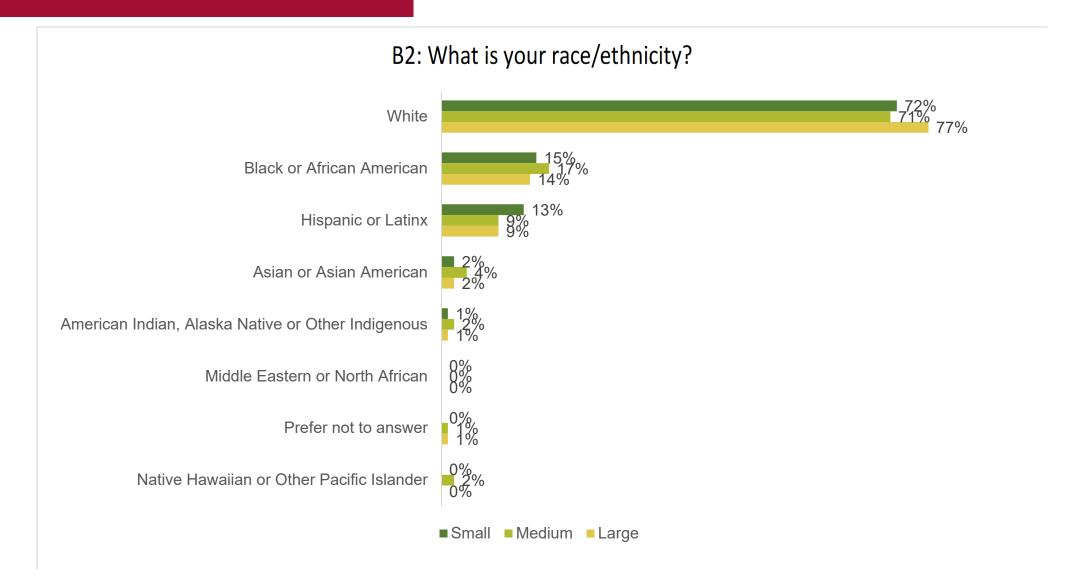
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

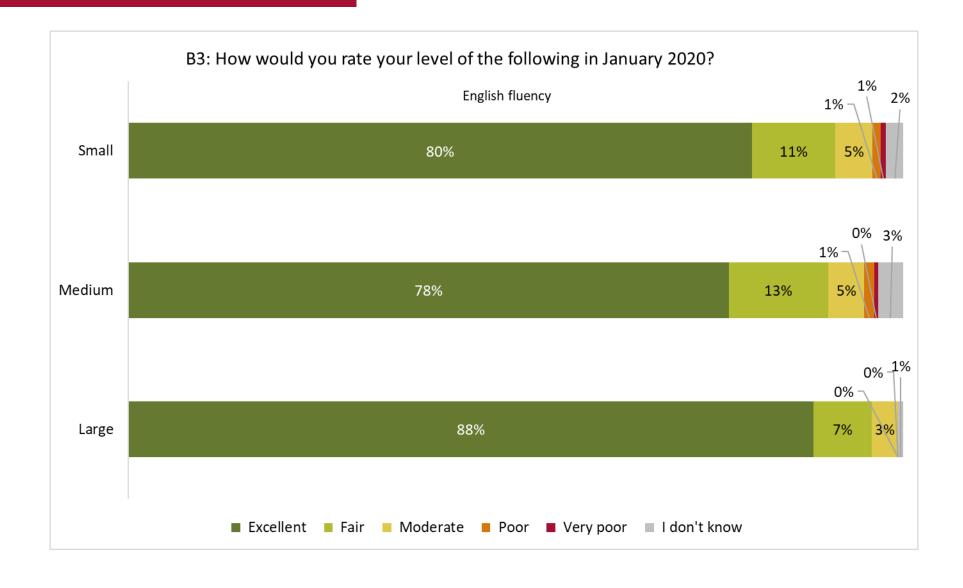


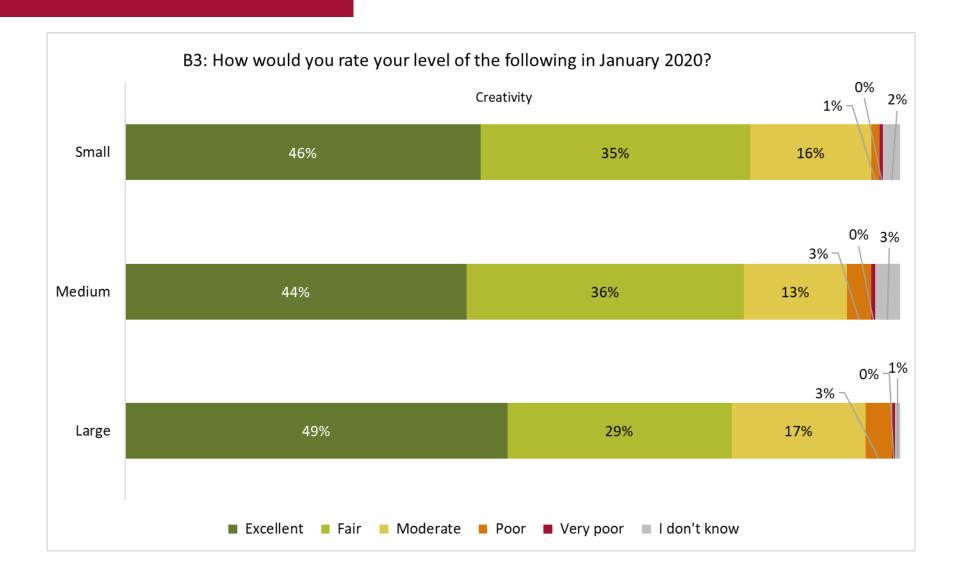
Note: this is measuring upward mobility only at a respondent's primary company, based on questions A10 and A11. The red category could include people who have achieved upward mobility in the past three years, but not at their current company as of January 2020.

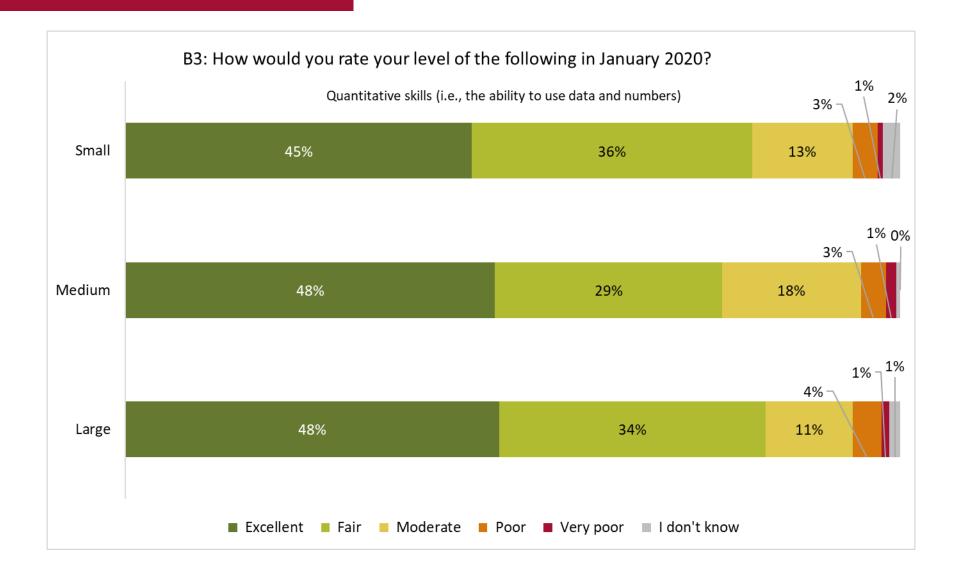


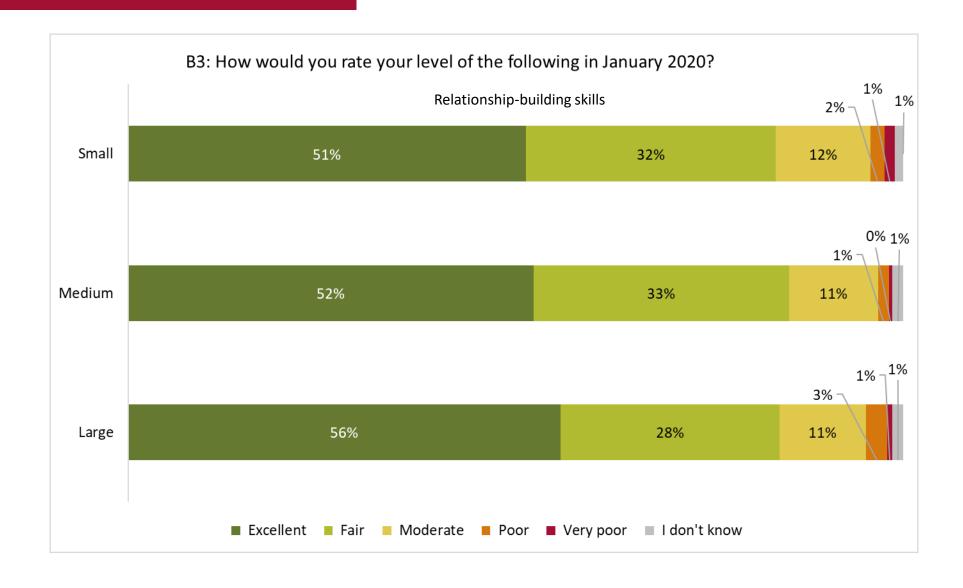


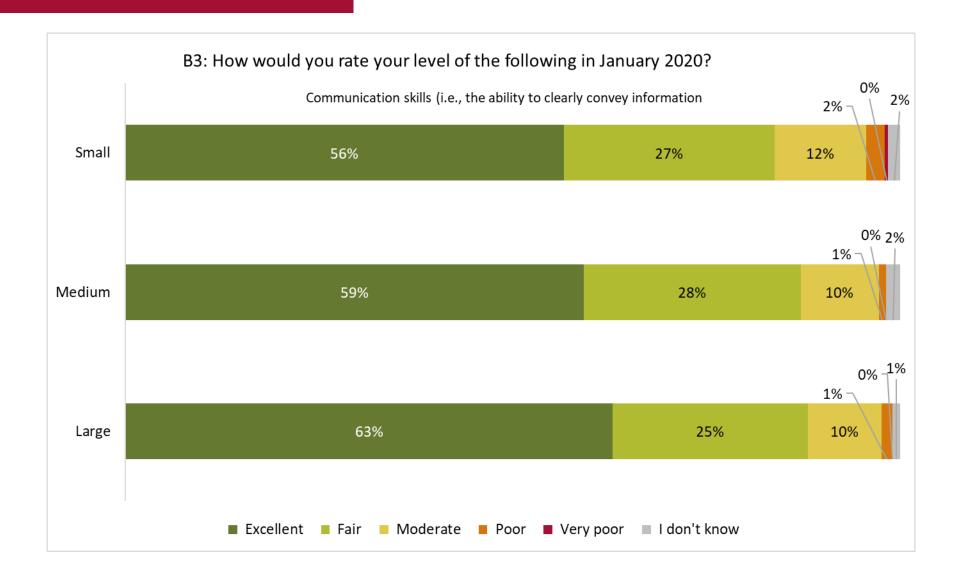


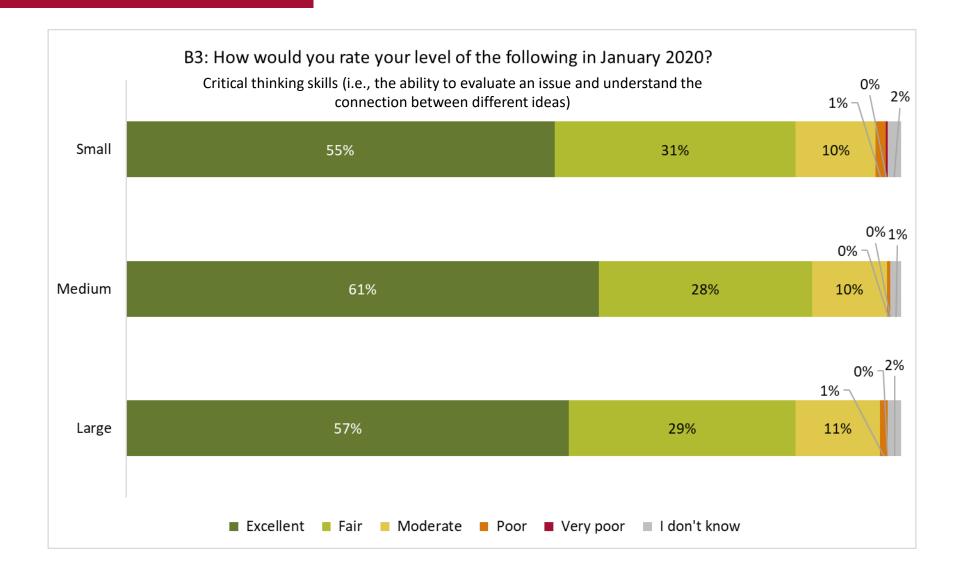


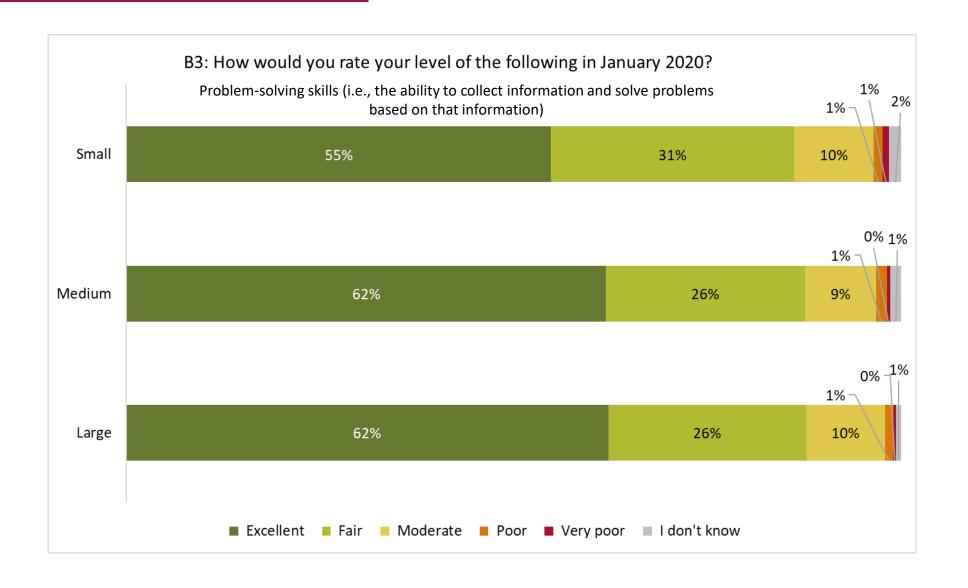


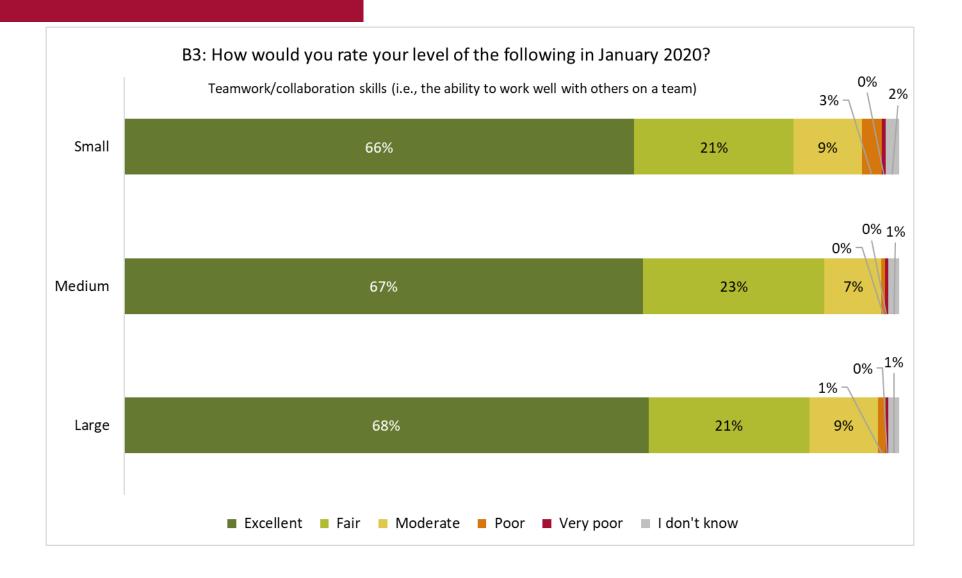


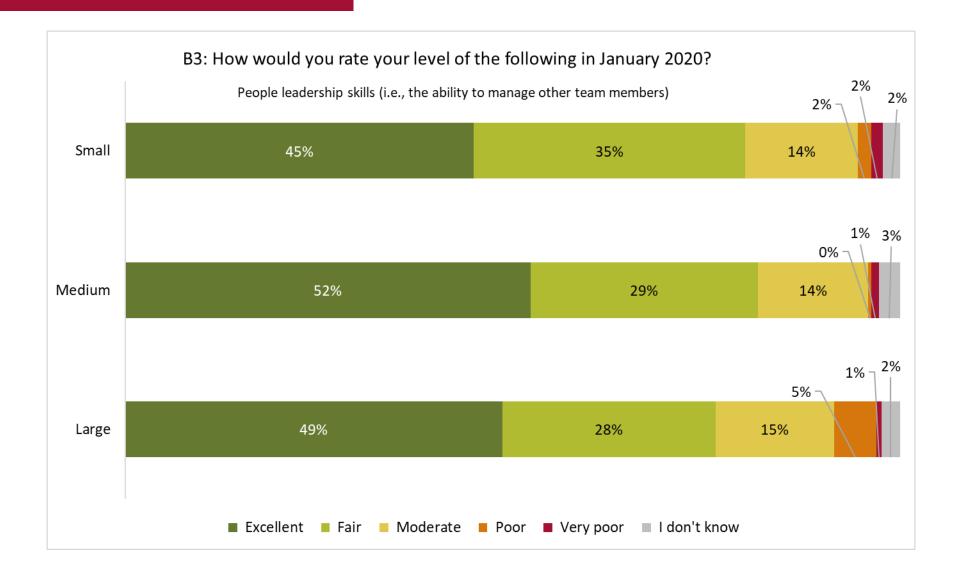


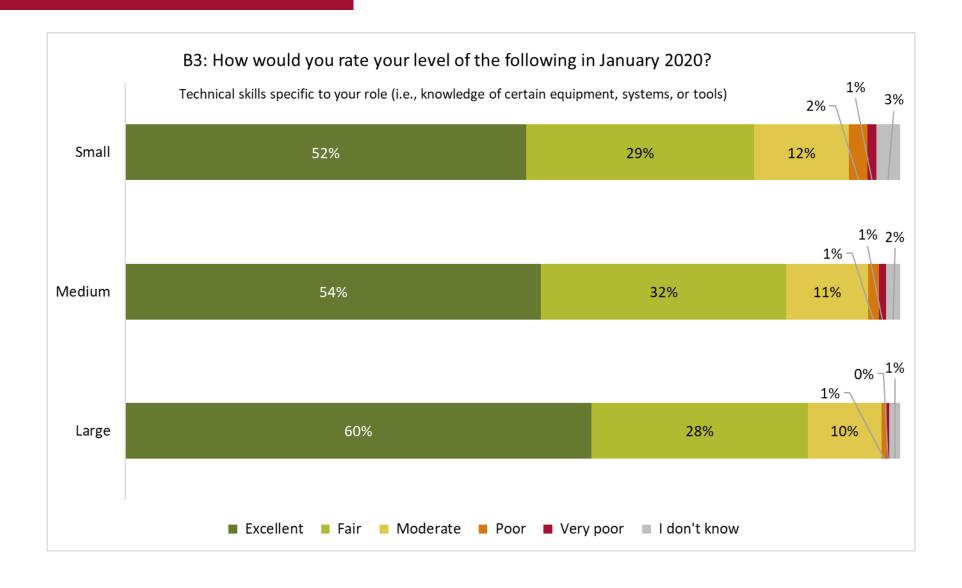


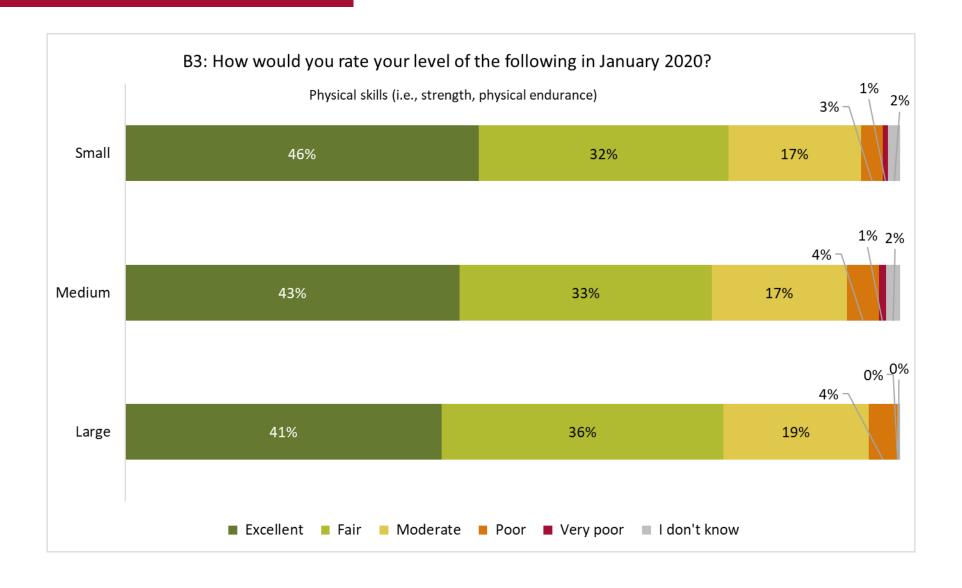






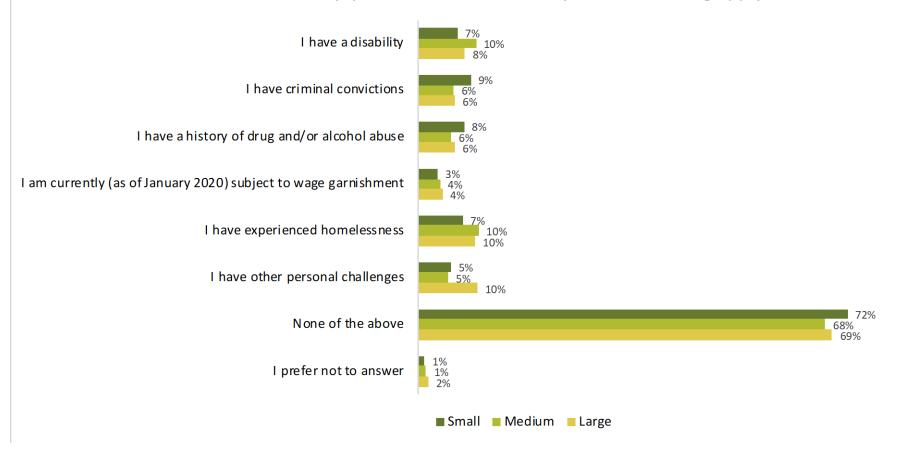


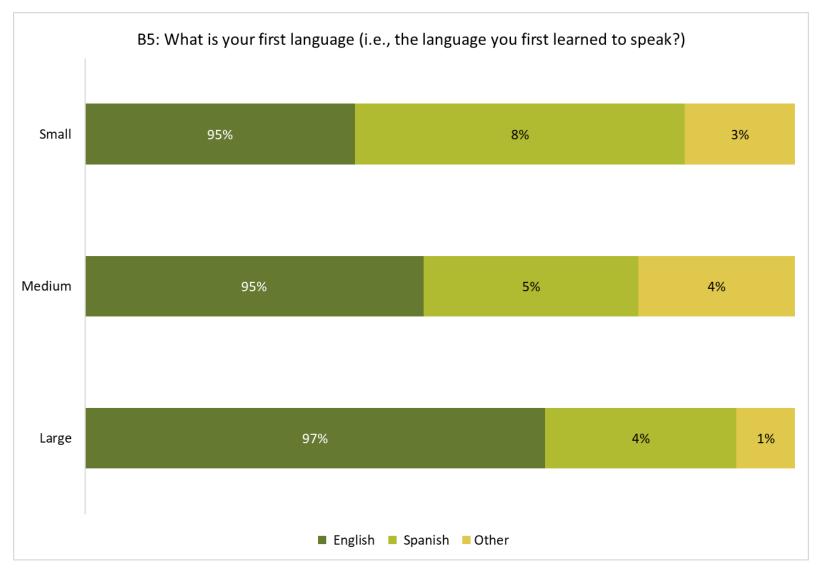


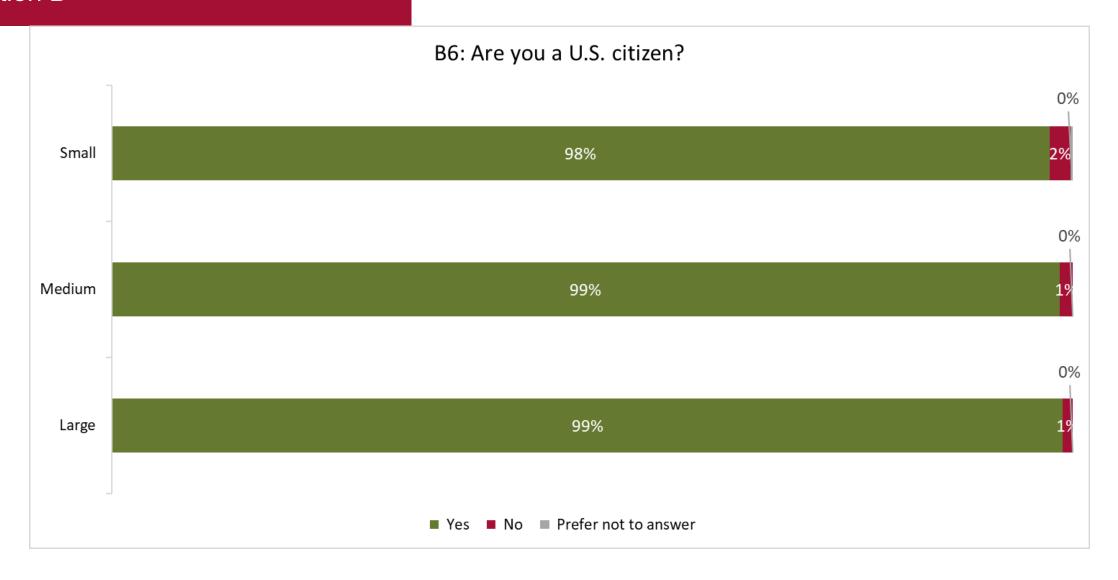


Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

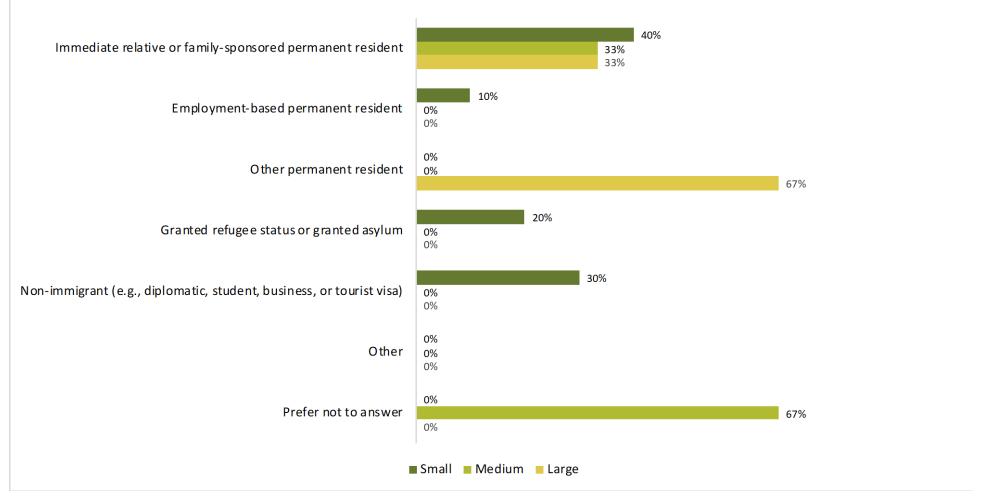
B4: To provide a more complete picture of the personal challenges that can limit upward mobility, please mark whether any of the following apply:

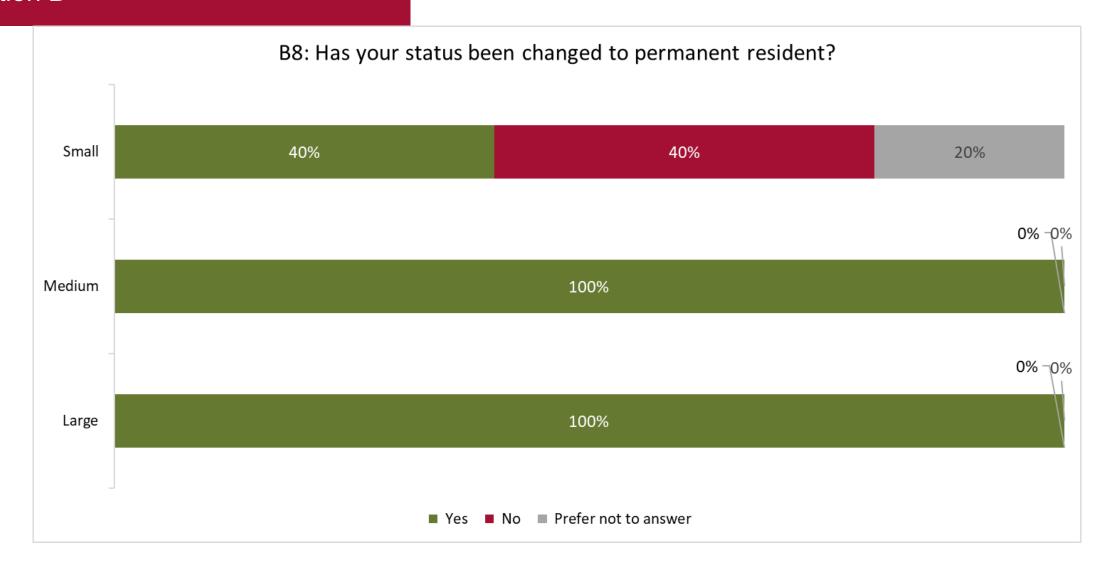




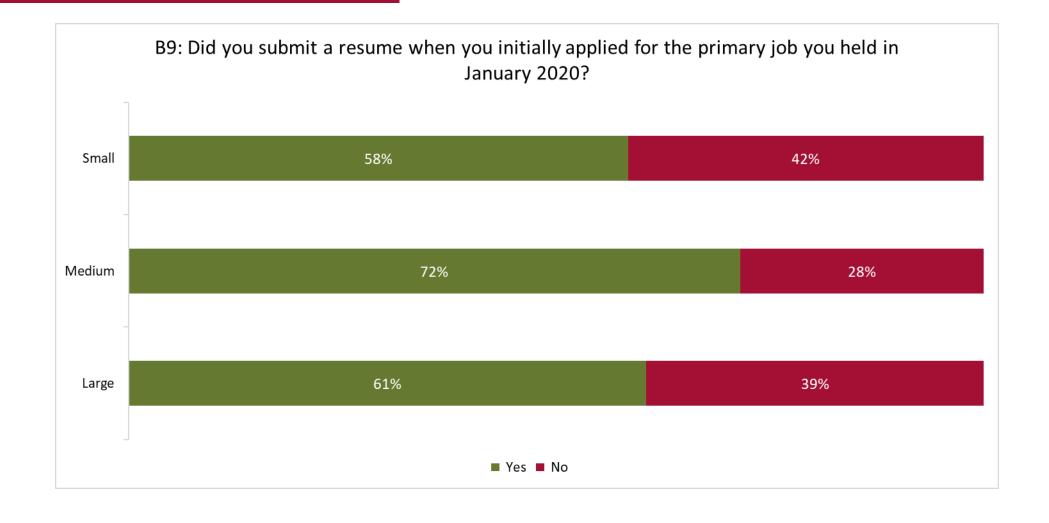


B7: When you moved to the United States to live, what was your immigration status?

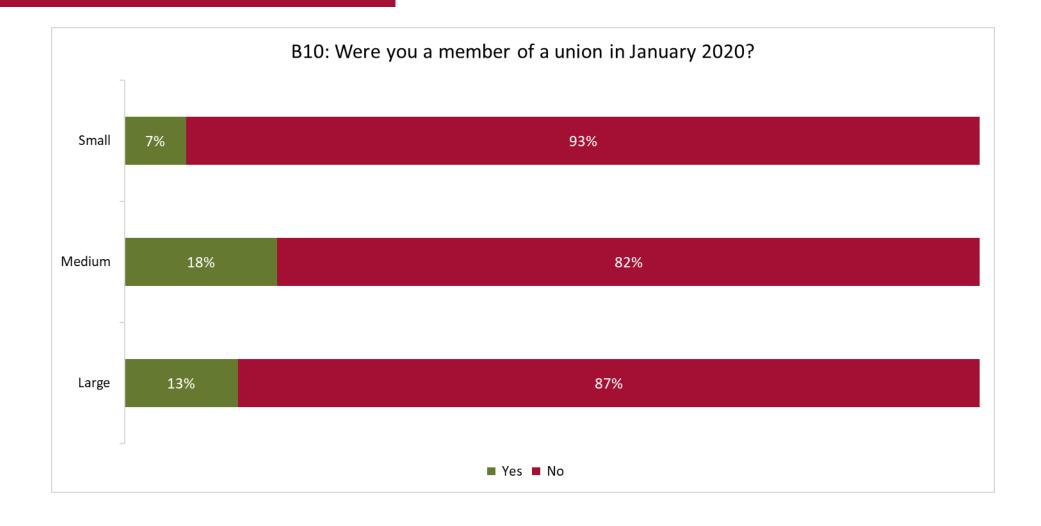




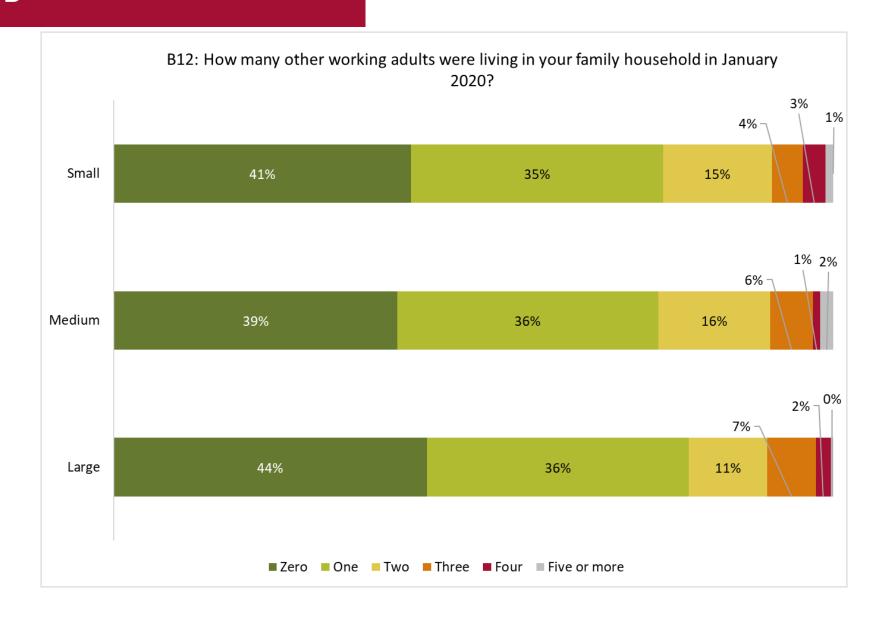
Section B



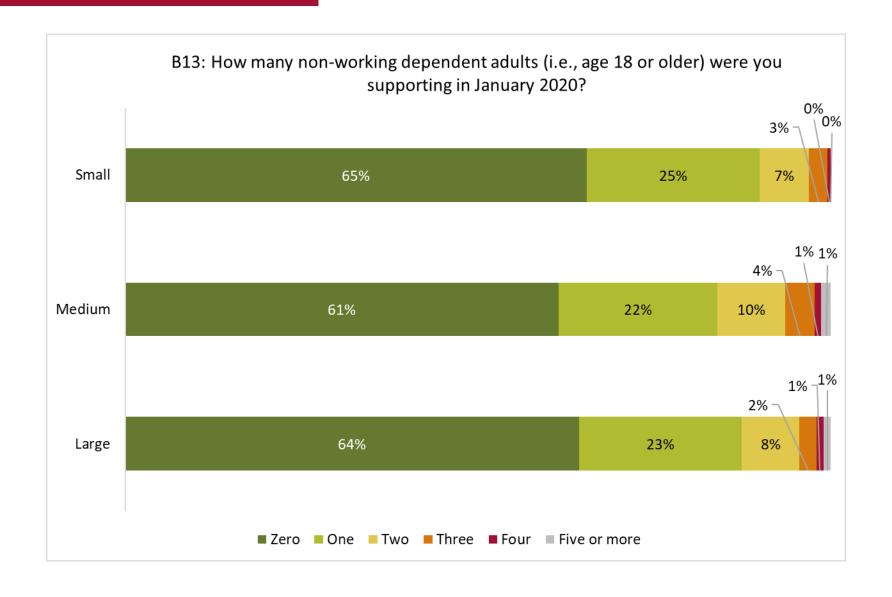
Section B

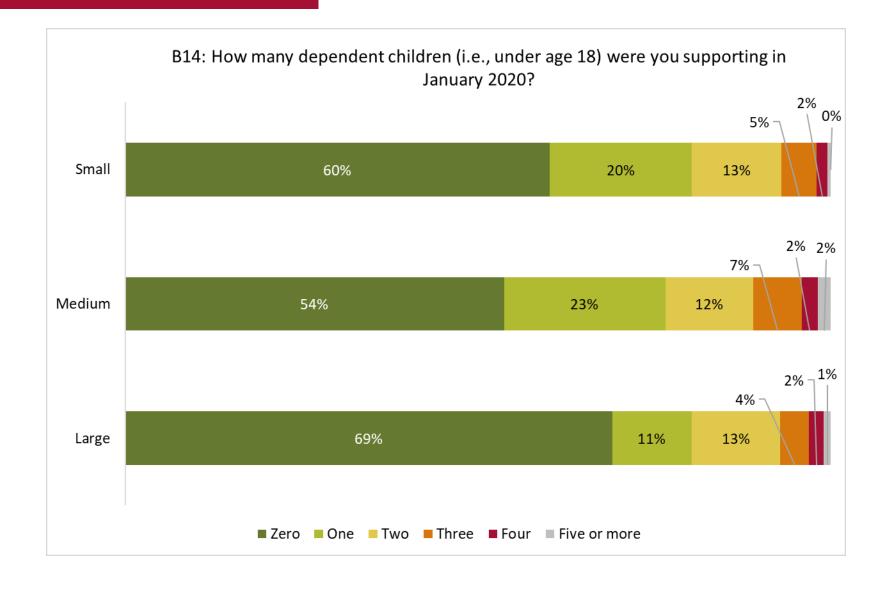


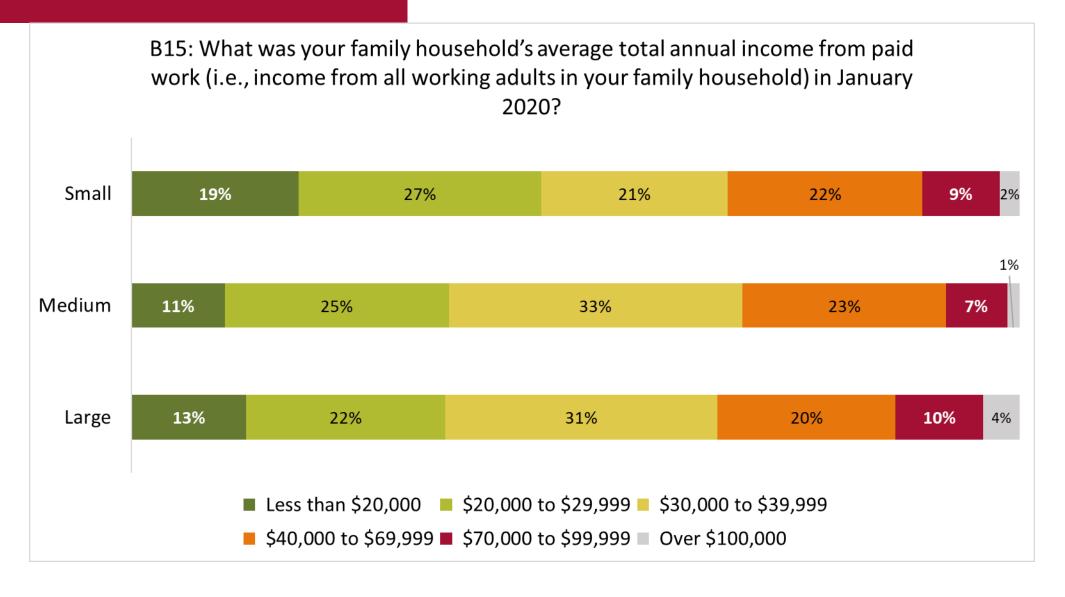




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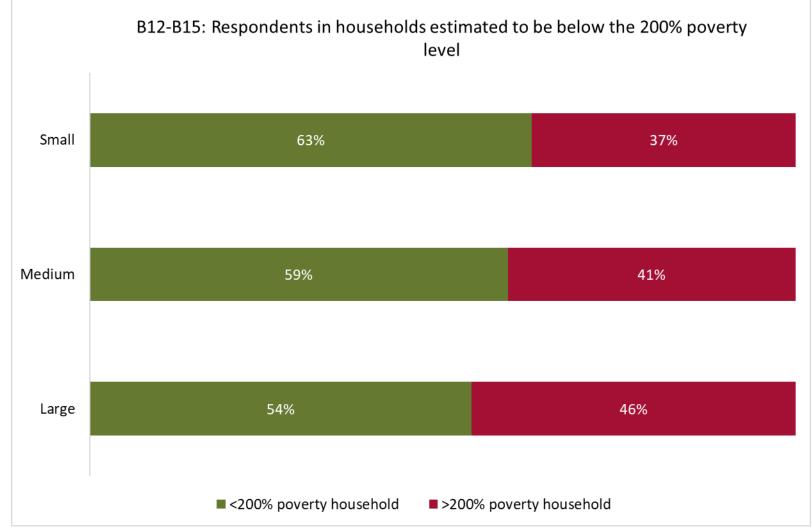




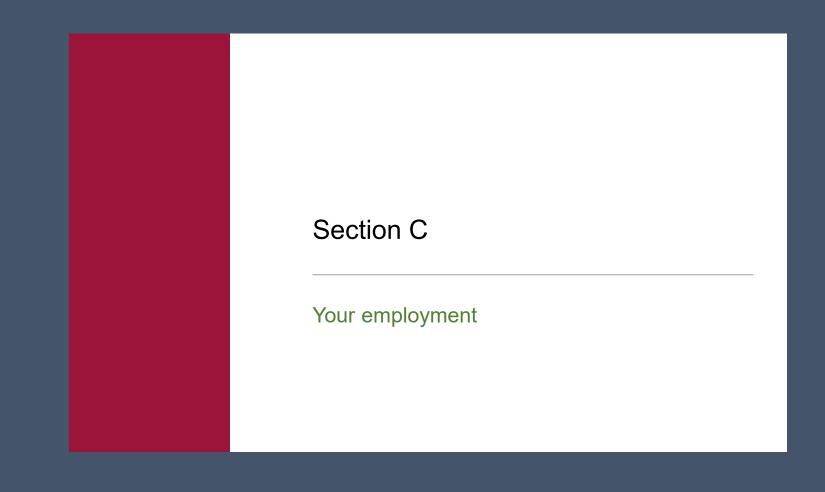


Section B

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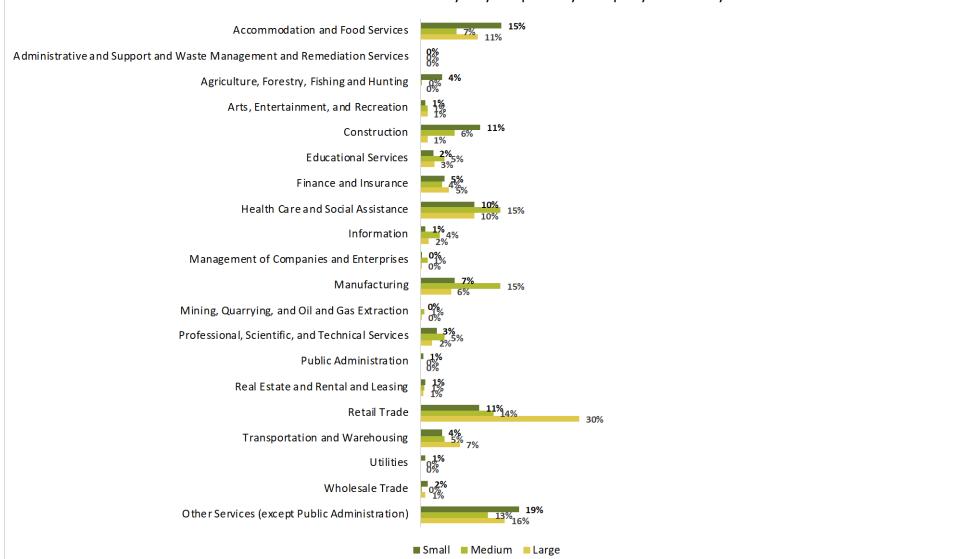


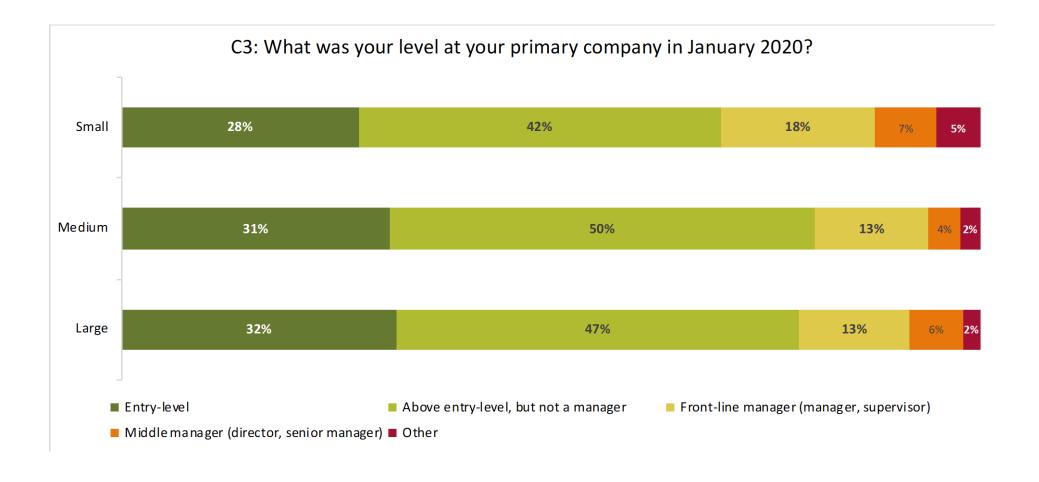
Note: this was calculated using questions B12-B15. For questions B12-B14, we totaled up the number of people in the respondent's household. We then used a table listing the 200% poverty cutoff for each household number (ex. 3 person household cutoff was \$39,970). If the salary in question B15 was below the threshold for their household number, they were deemed <200% poverty, if the salary was above the threshold, they were deemed >200% poverty. Note question B15 gave ranges of salaries, so this is an estimate.

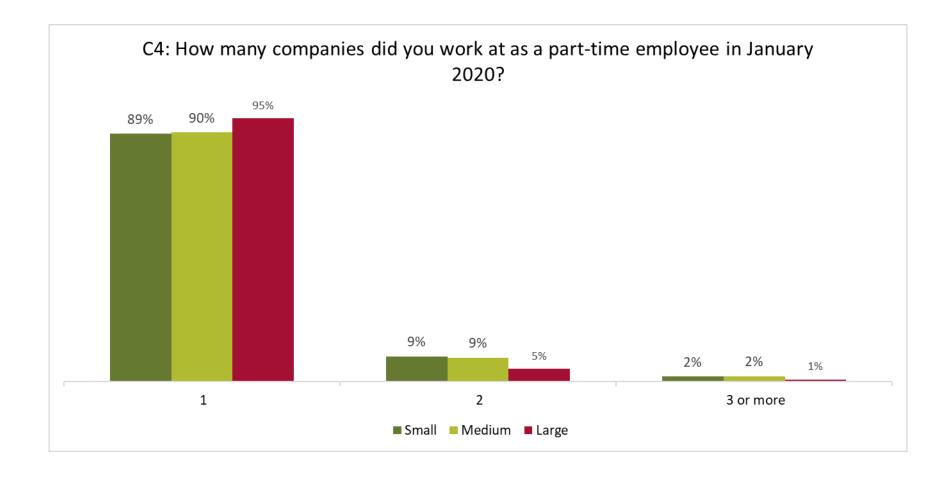


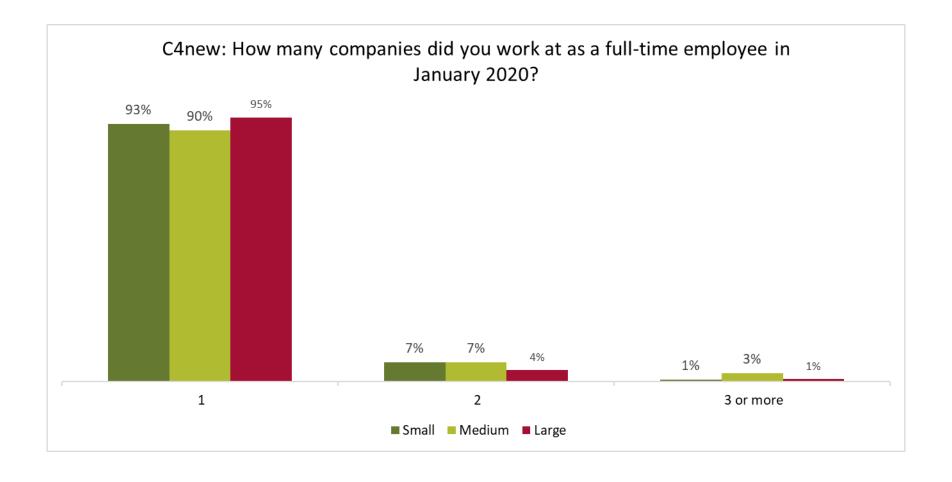
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

C1: What best describes the industry of your primary company in January 2020?



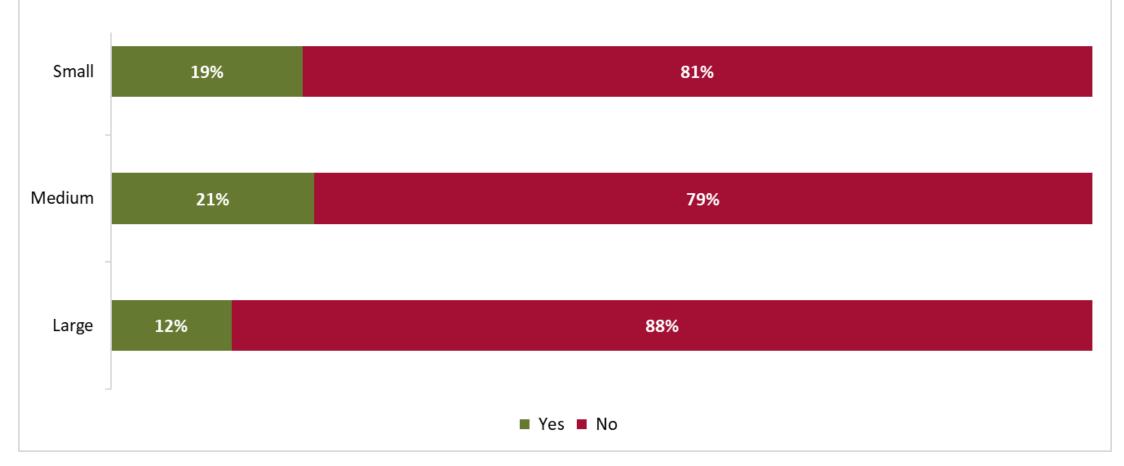


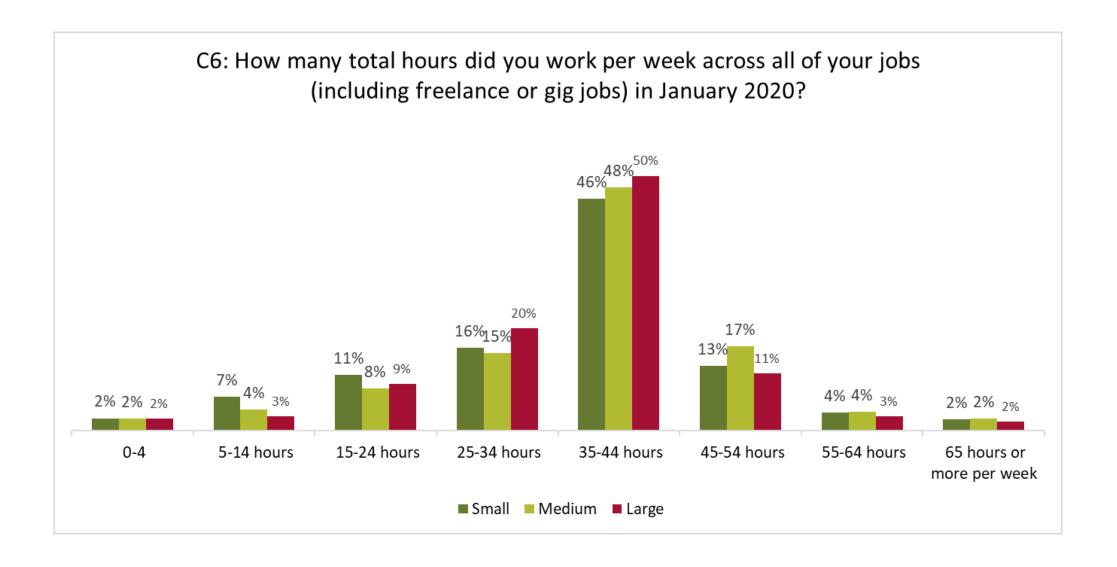


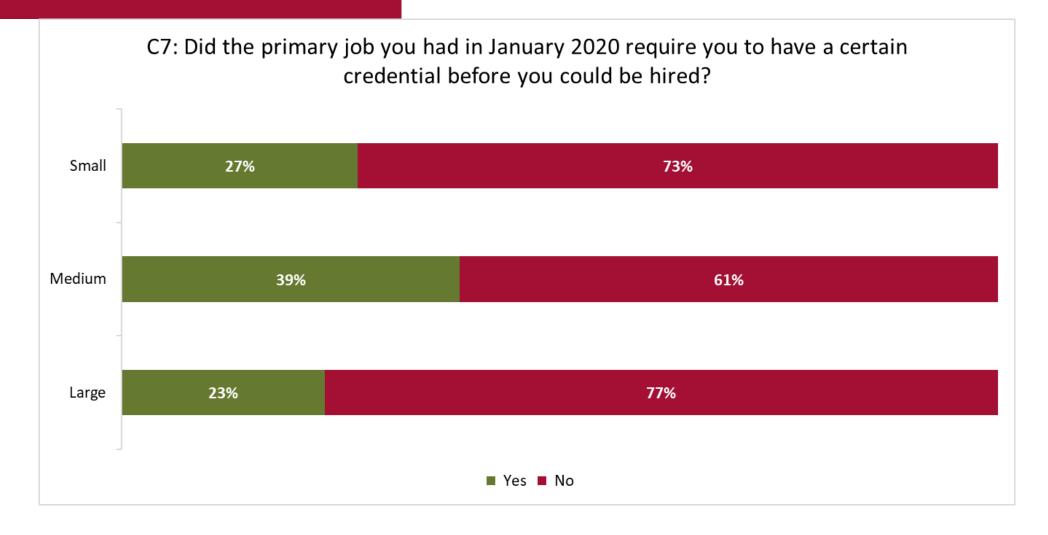


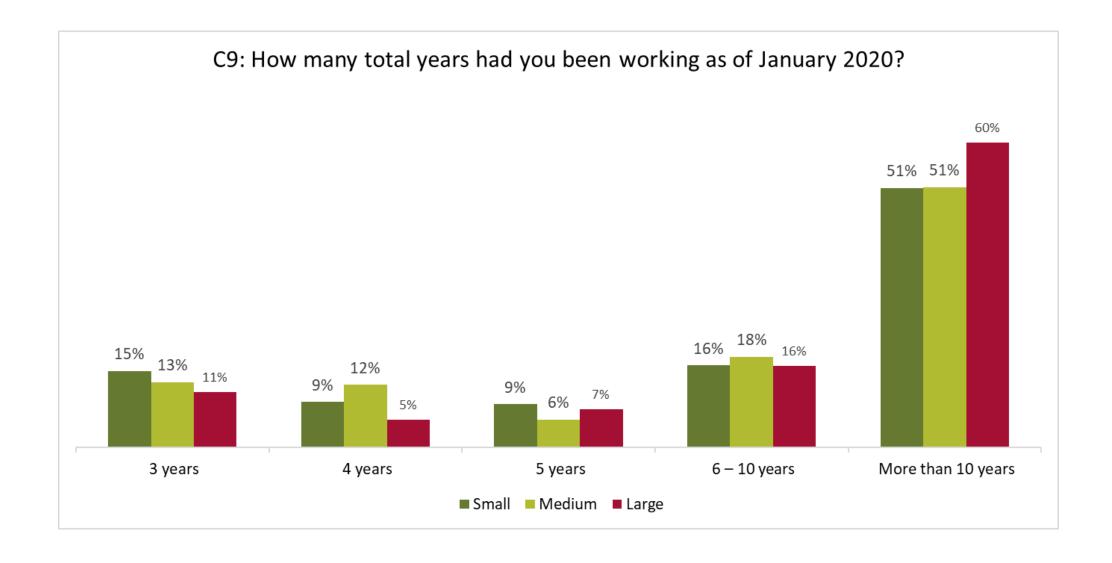
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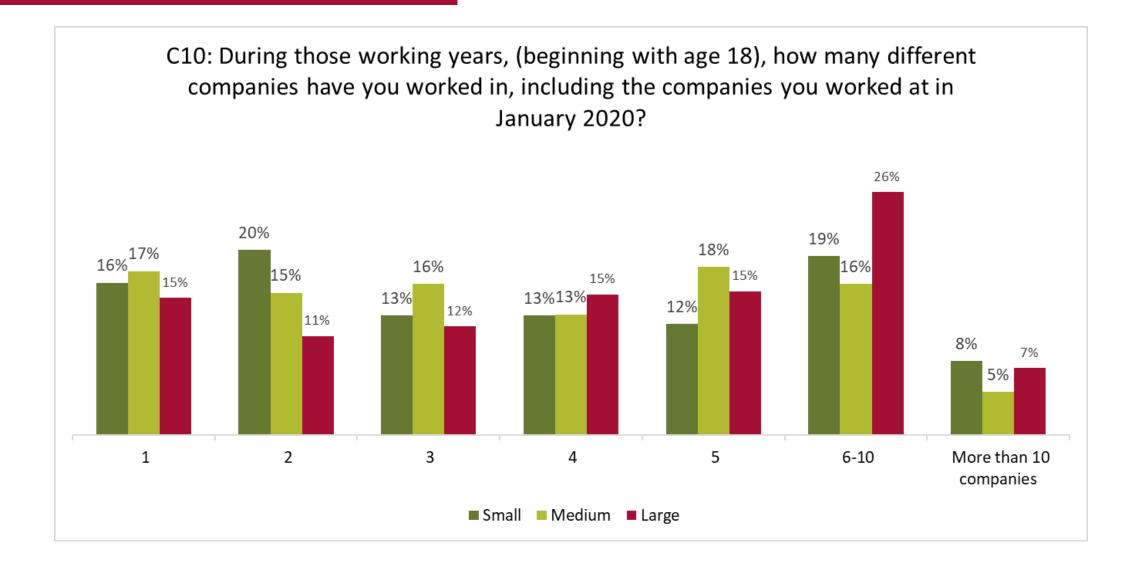
C5: In addition to your part-time and/or full-time work arrangements, did you also regularly work one or more freelance or gig jobs (i.e., work arrangements outside of a long-term employer-employee relationship, like working as a Lyft driver) in January 2020?

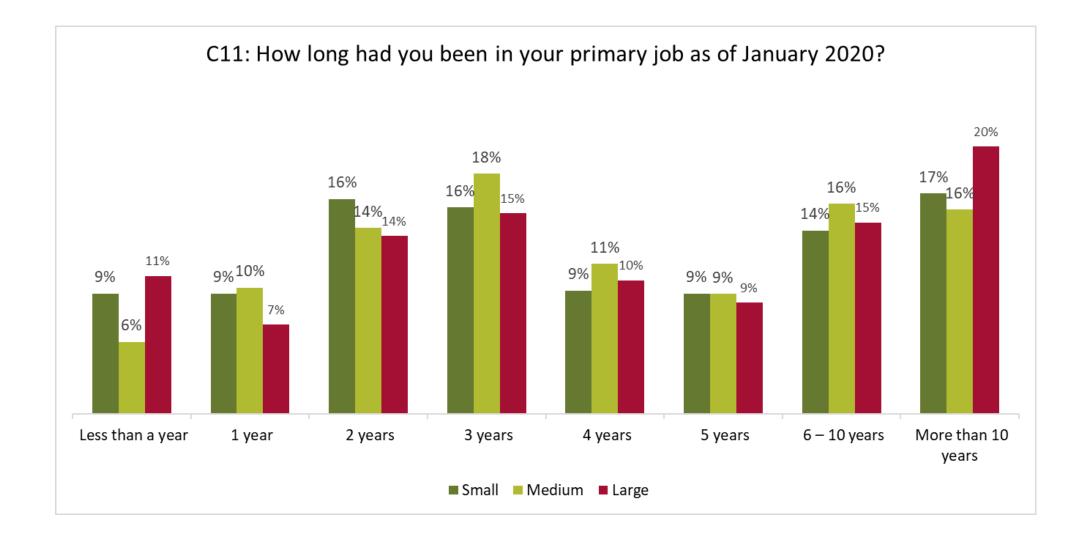


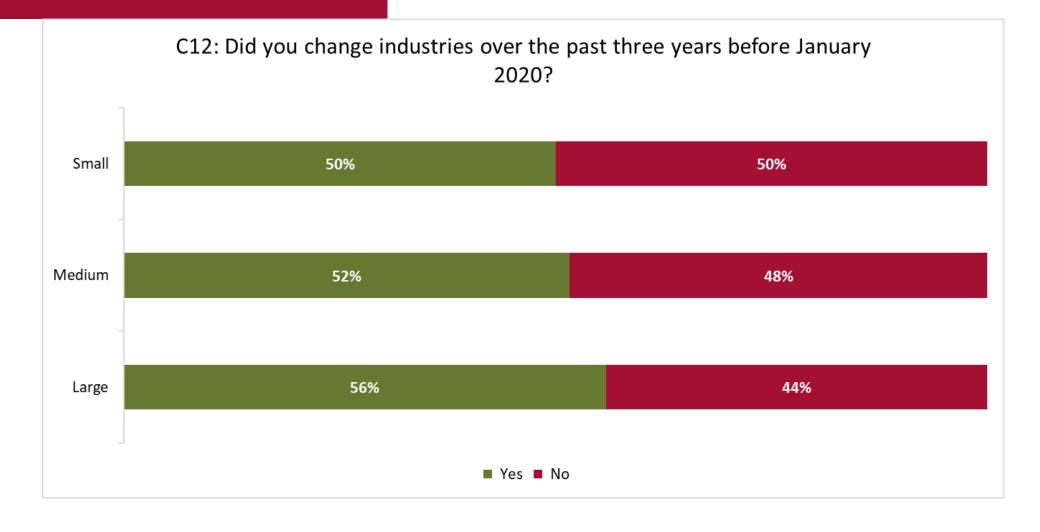


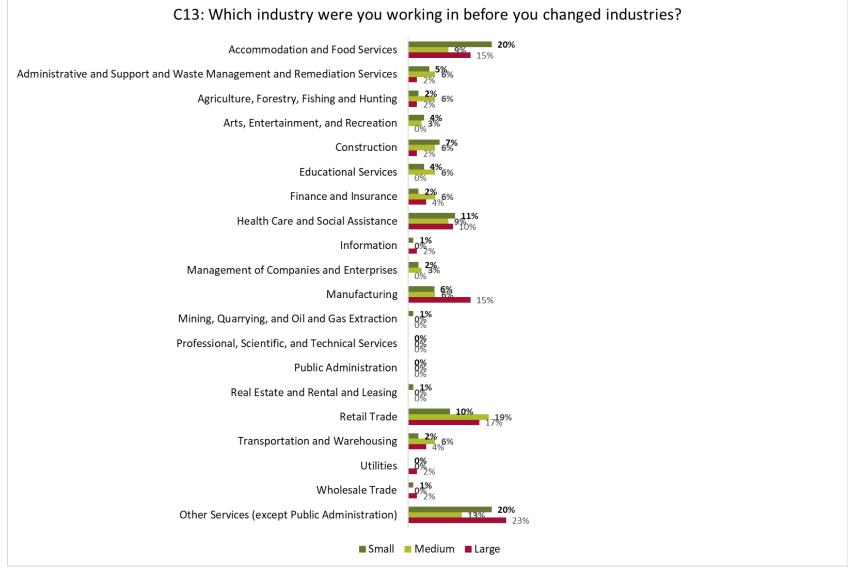


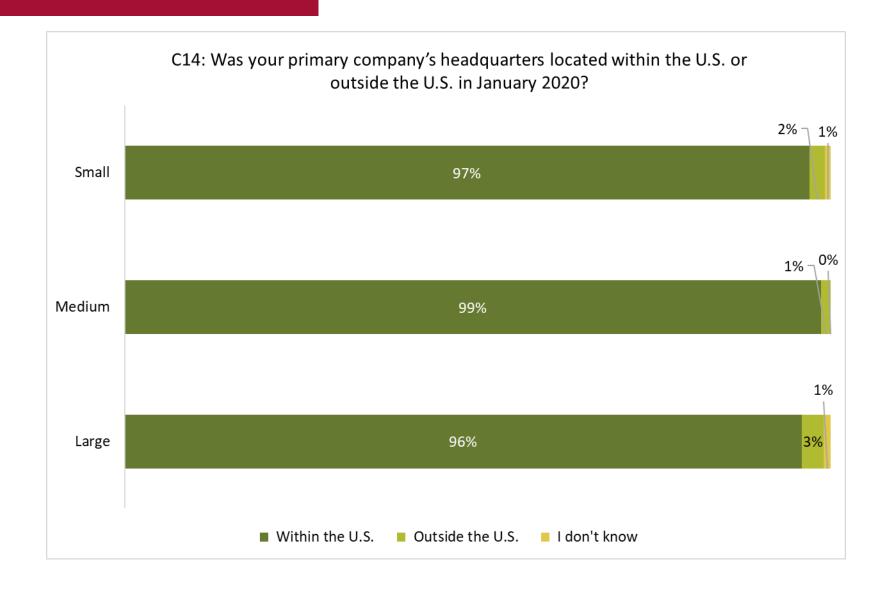


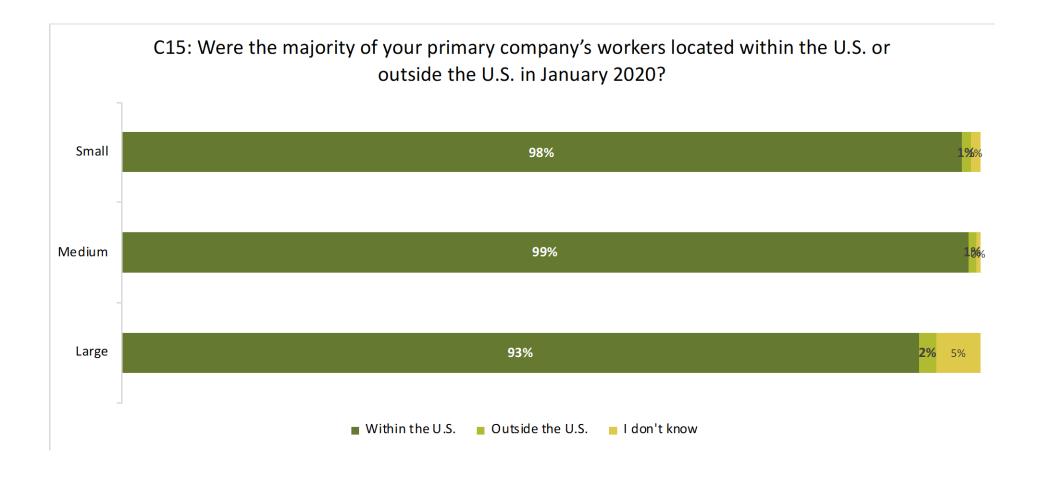


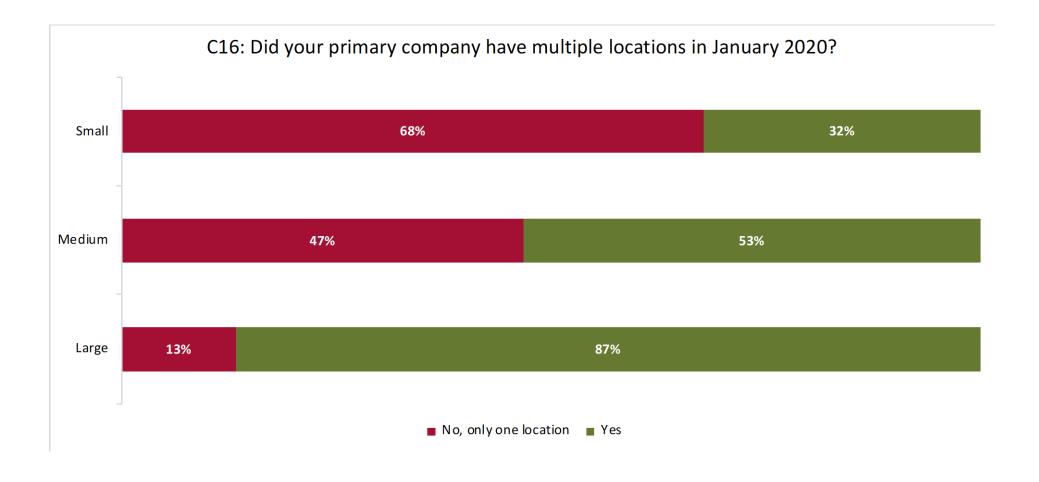


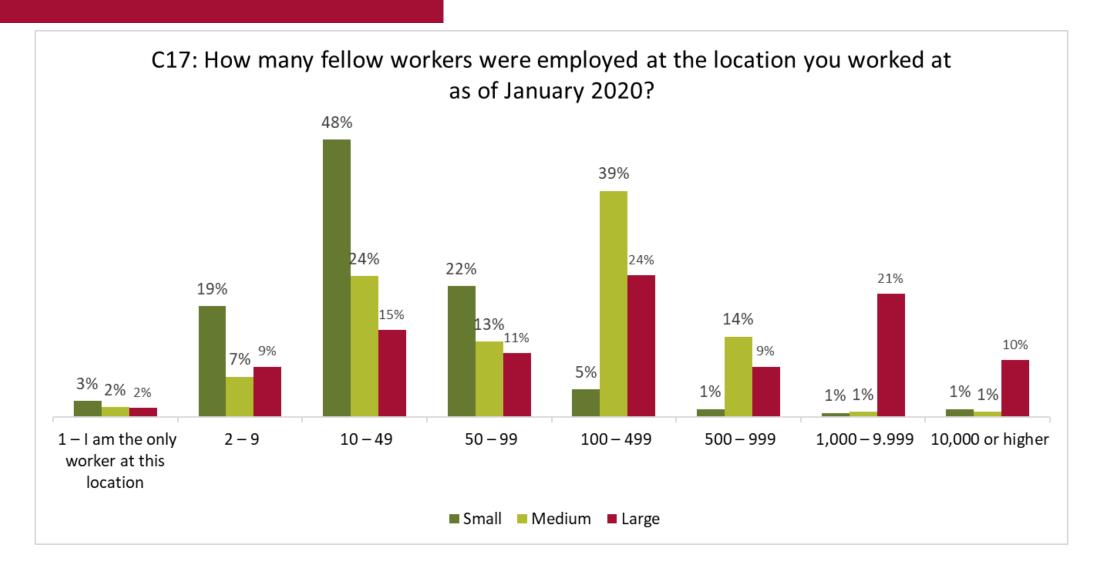




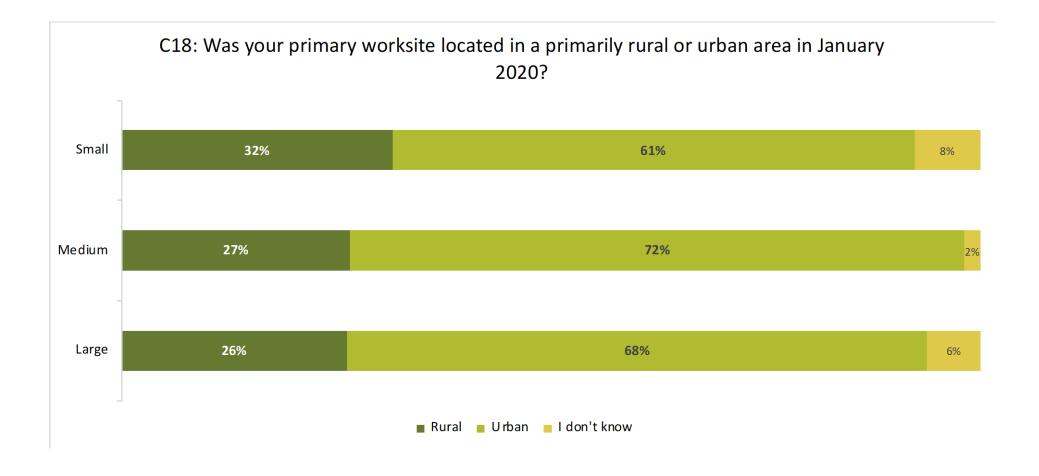


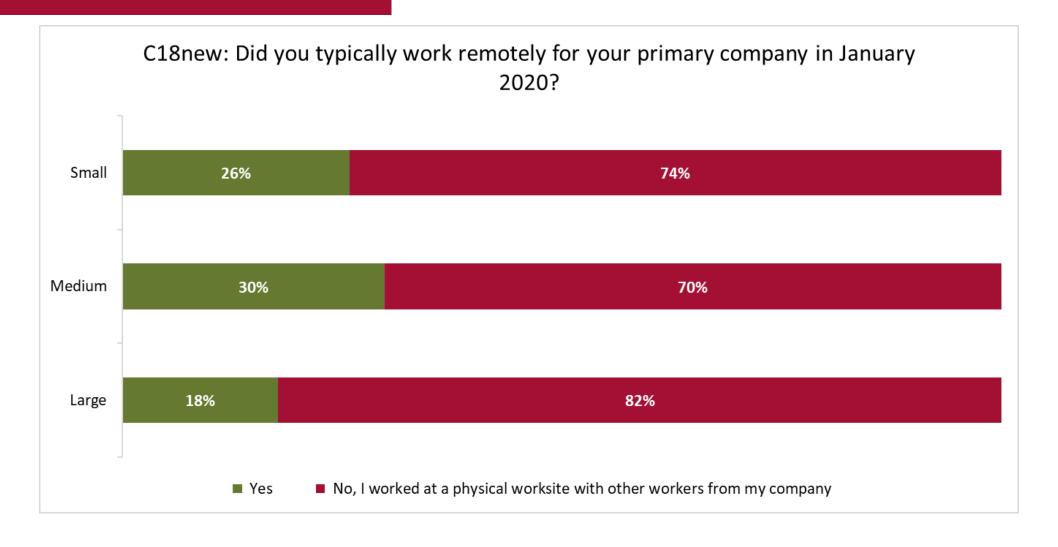


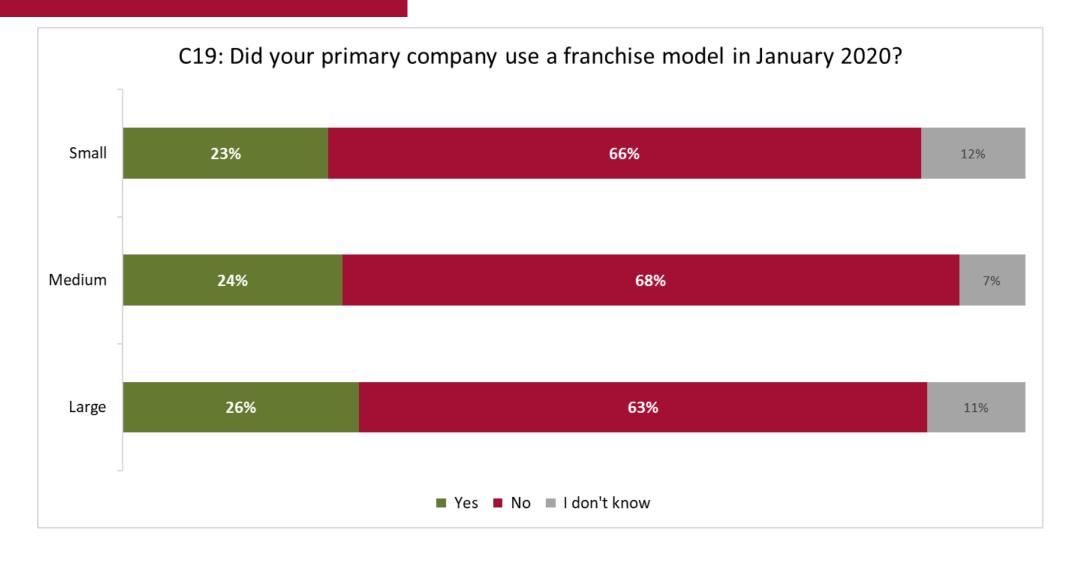


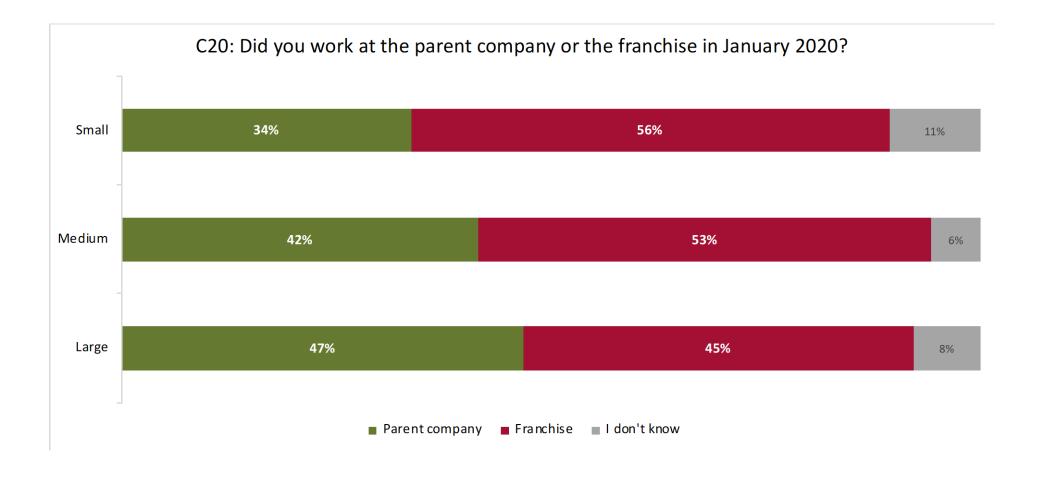


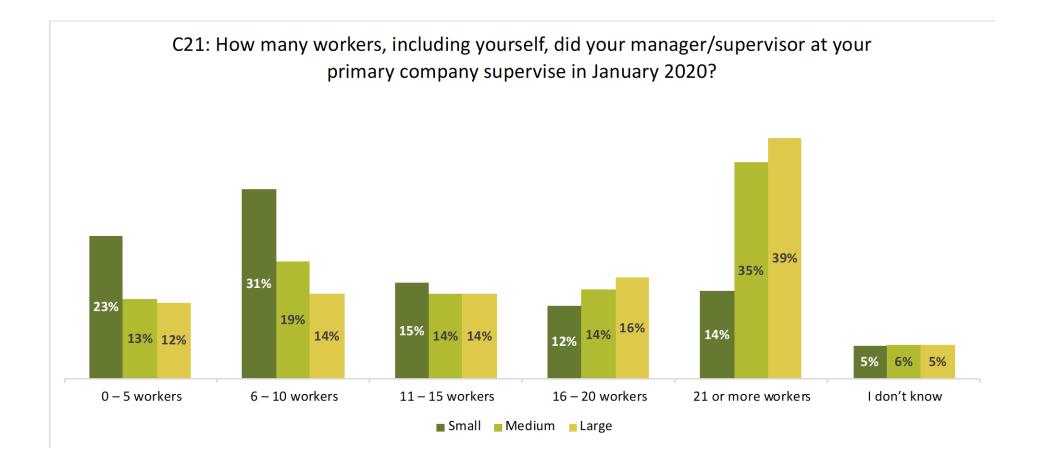
Note: Only respondents whose primary company has multiple locations answered this question

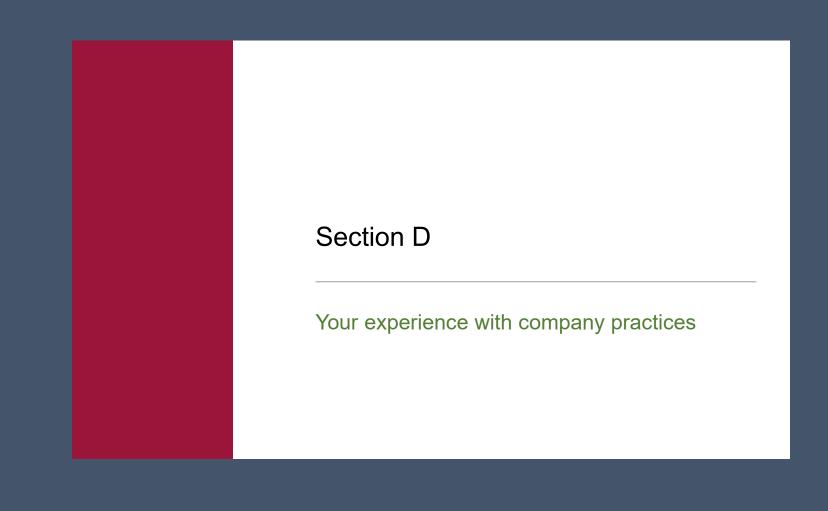


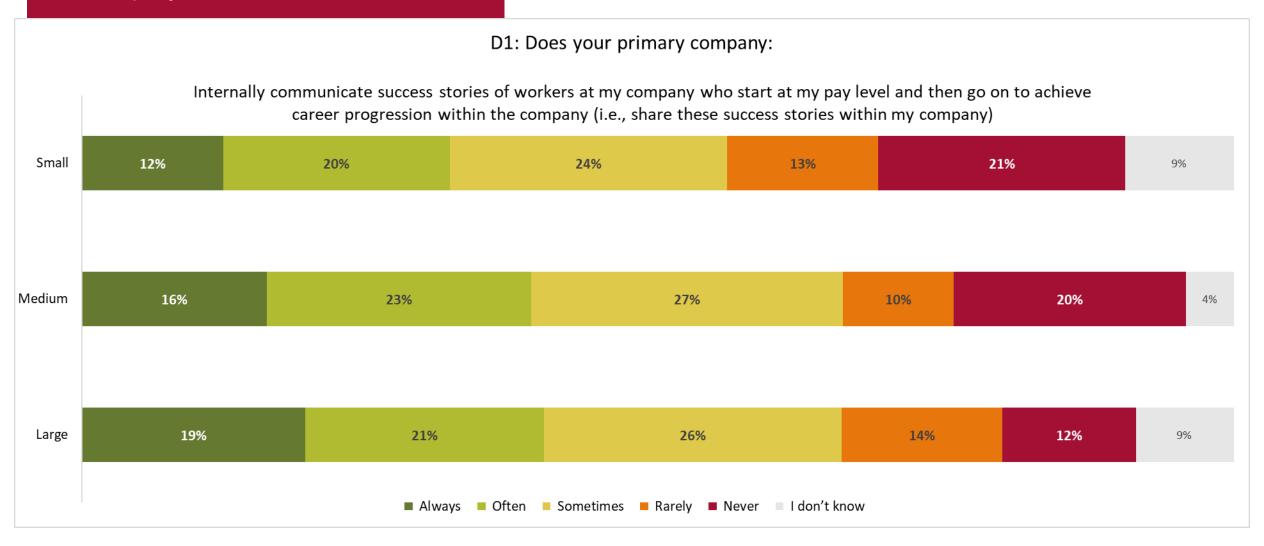


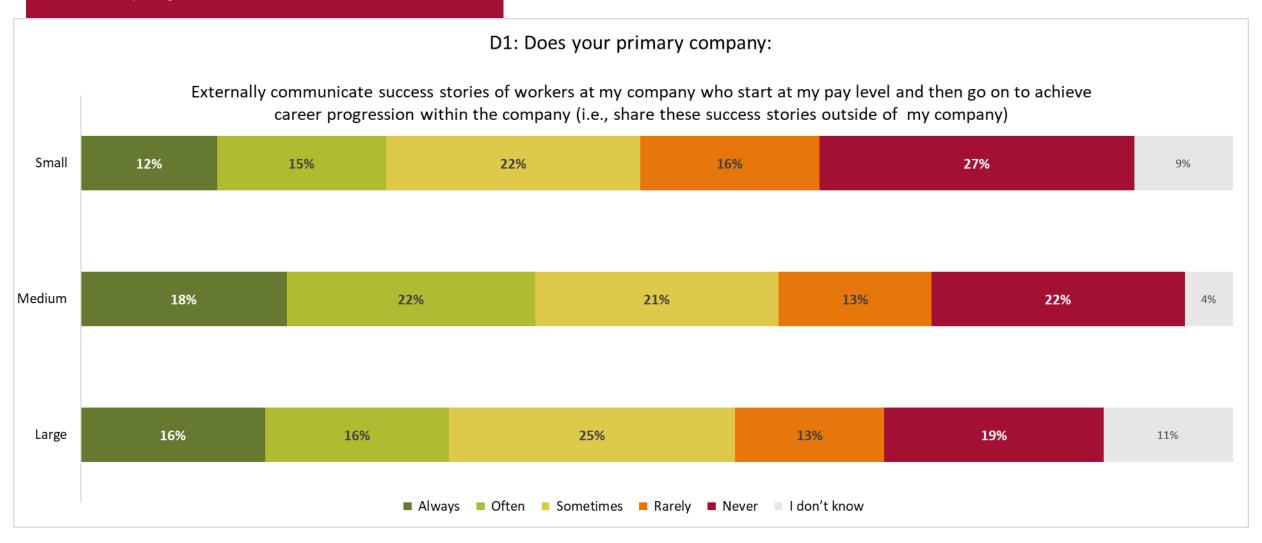


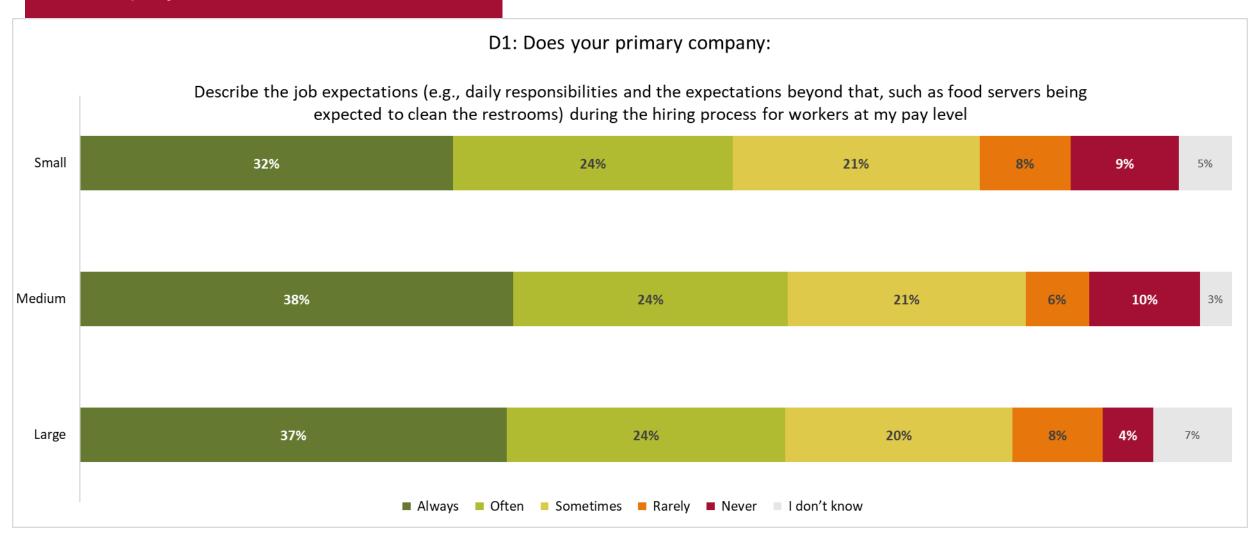


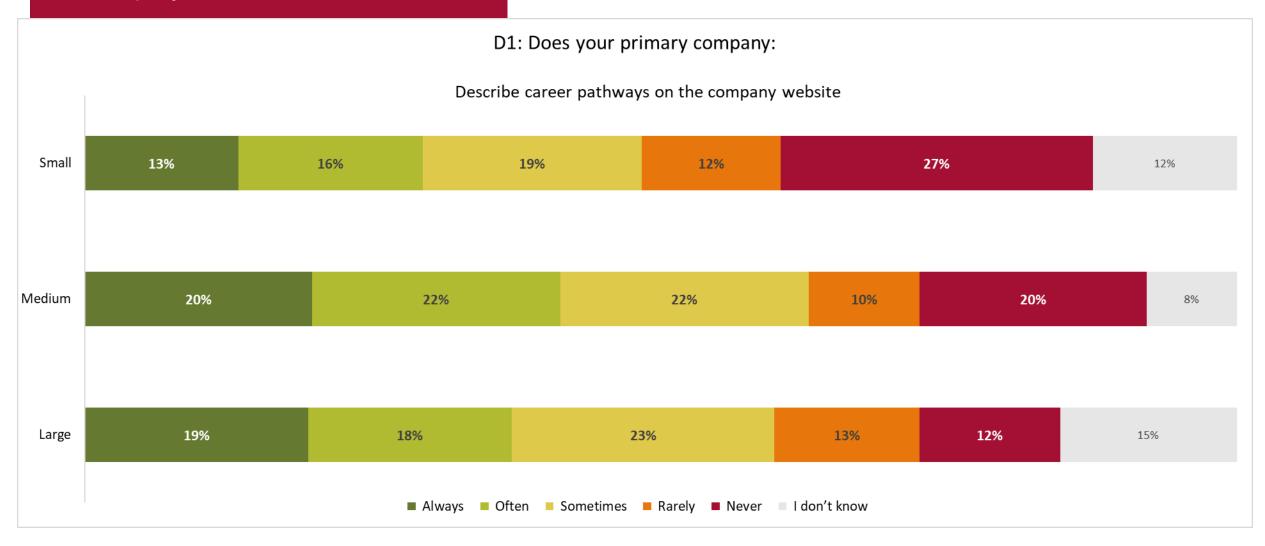


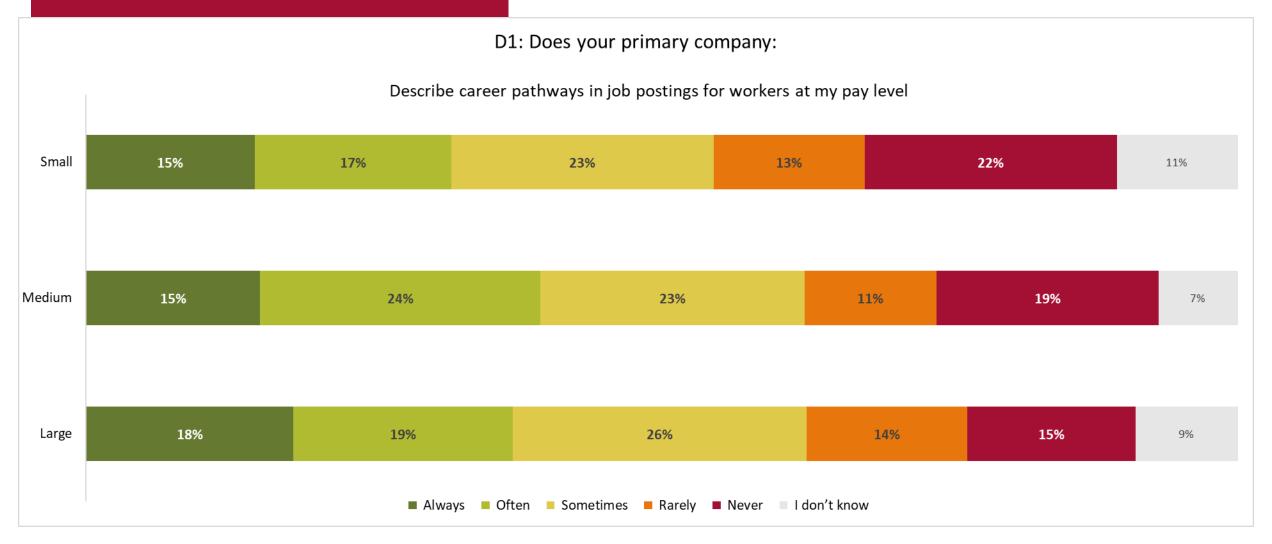


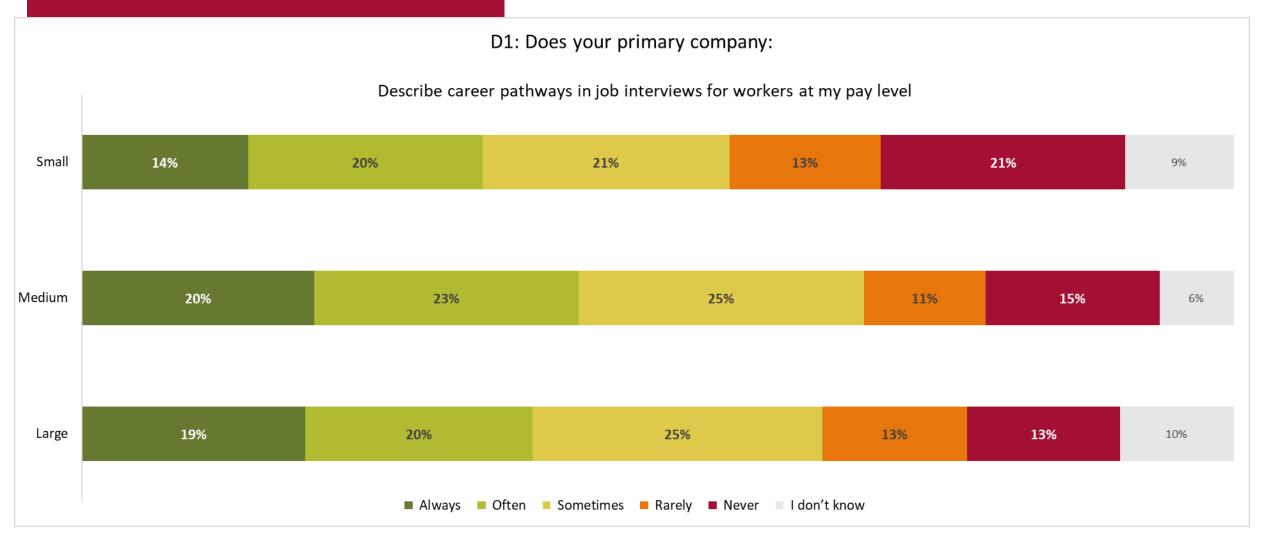


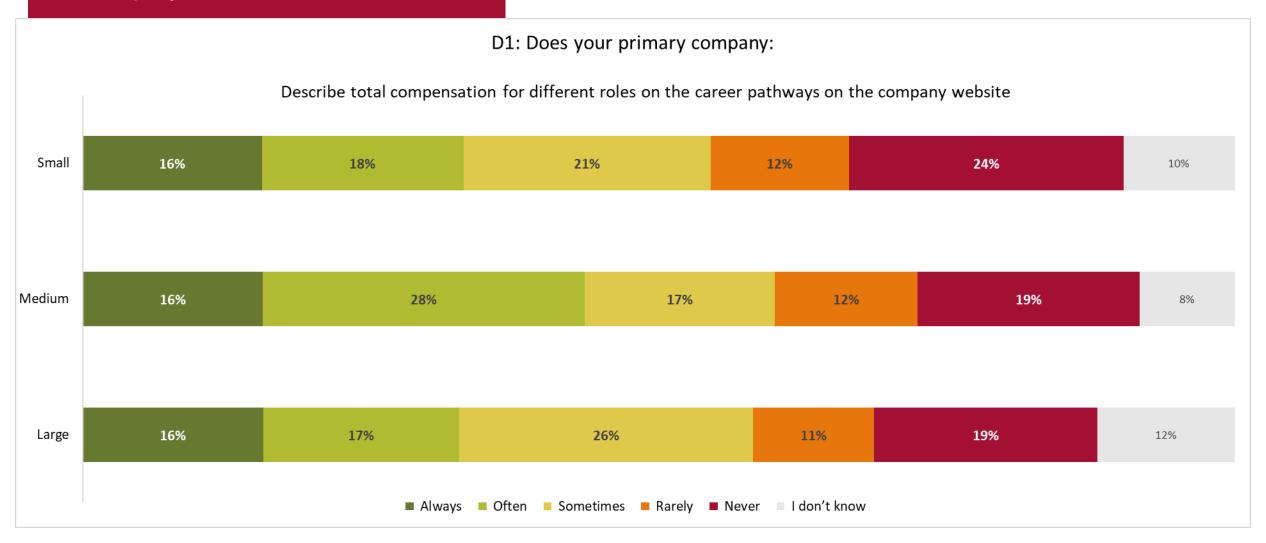


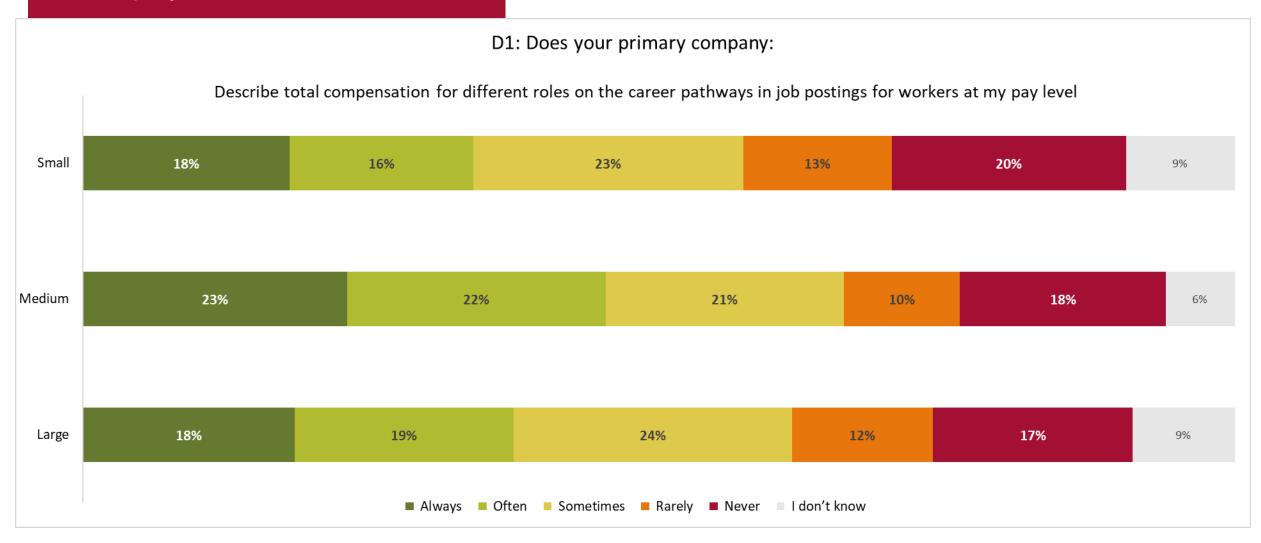


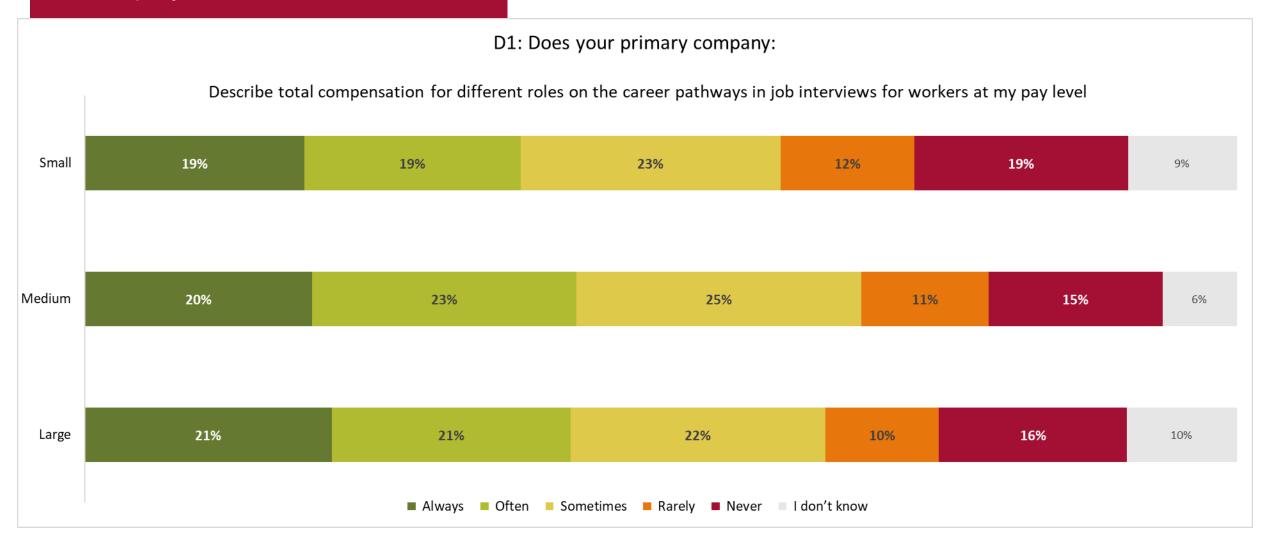


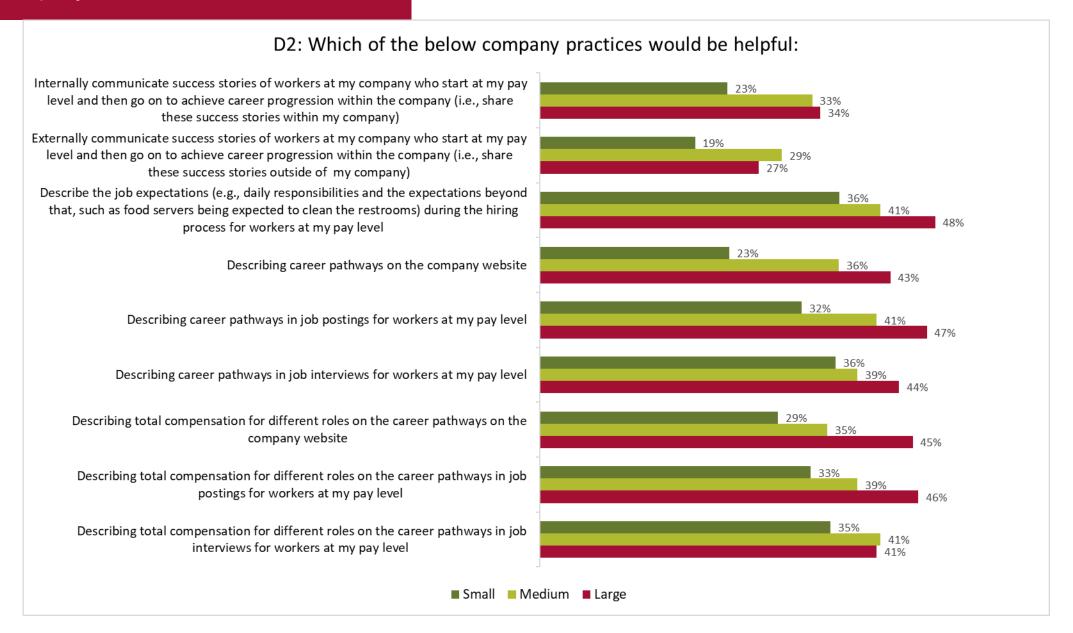


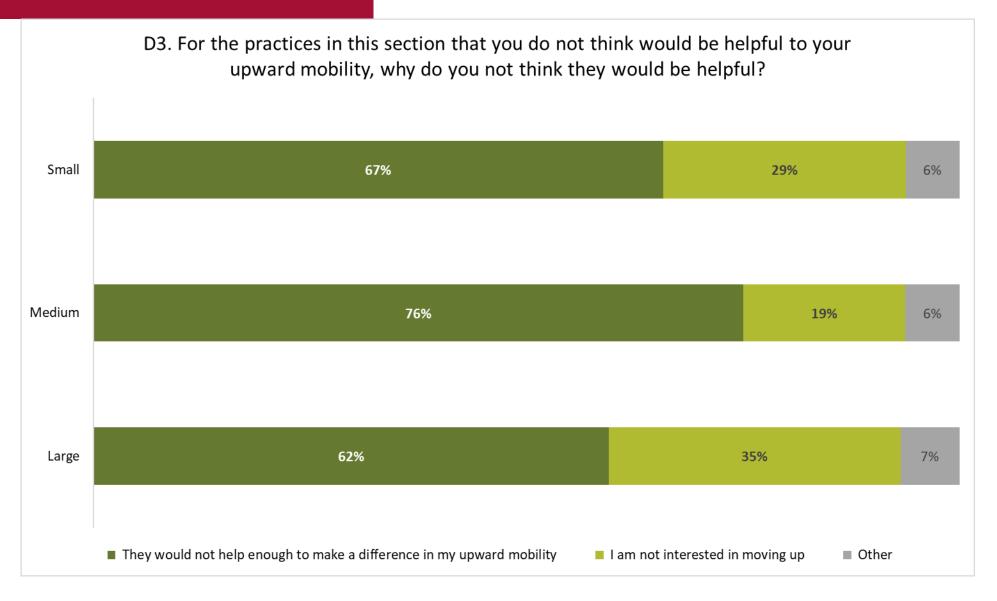


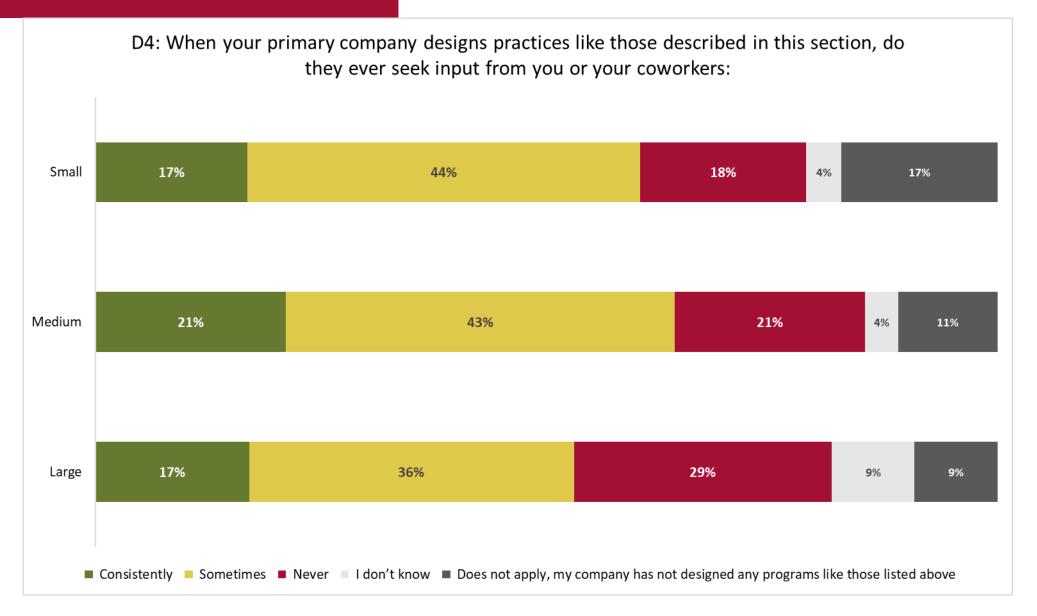


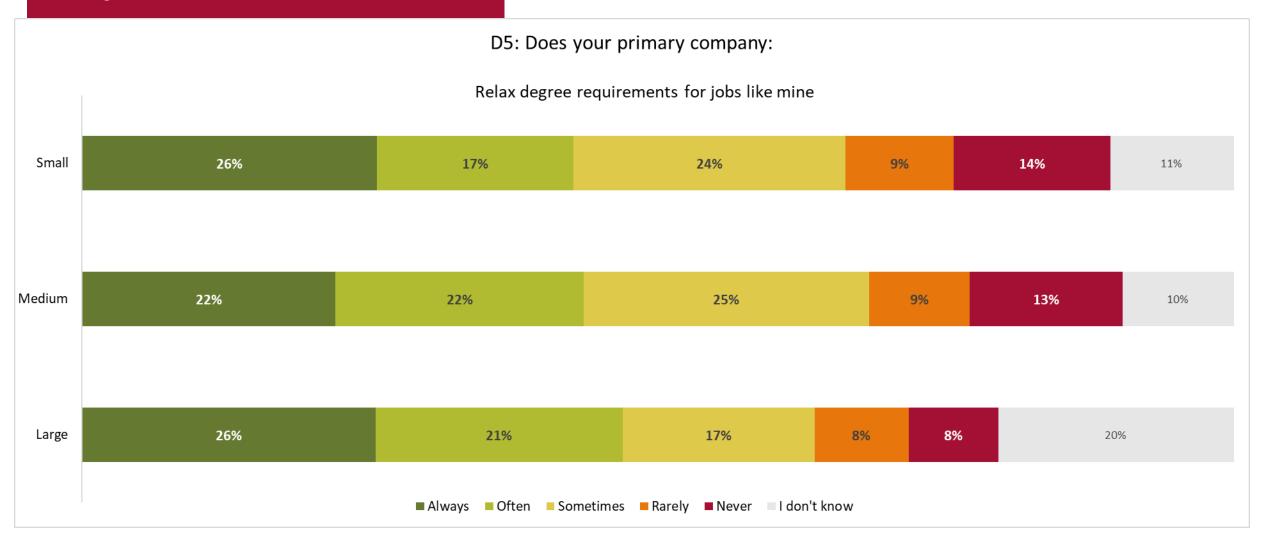


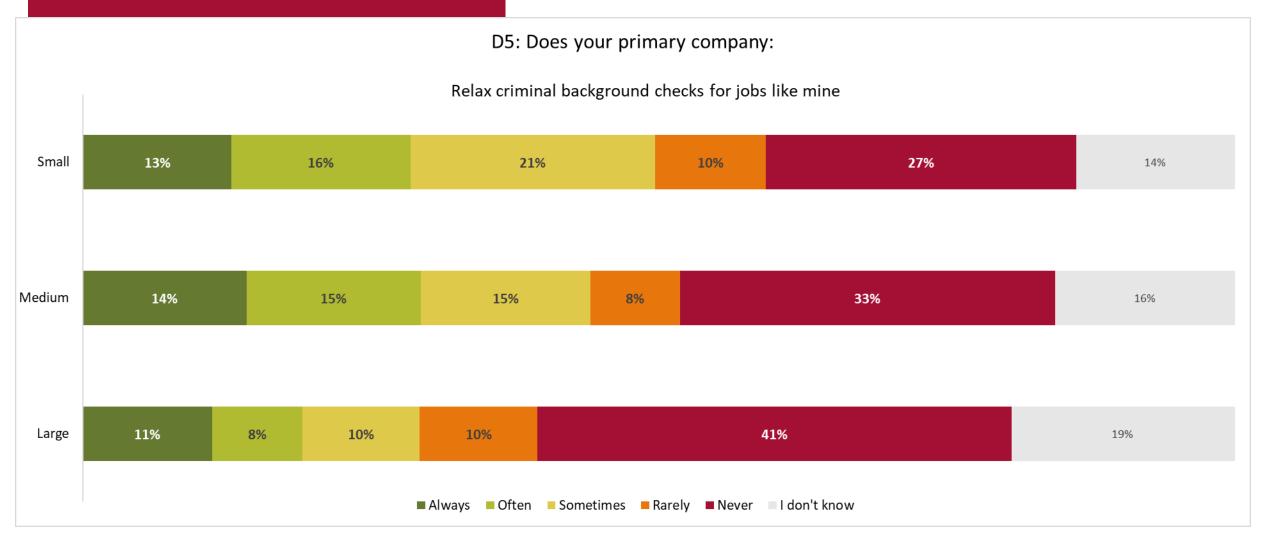


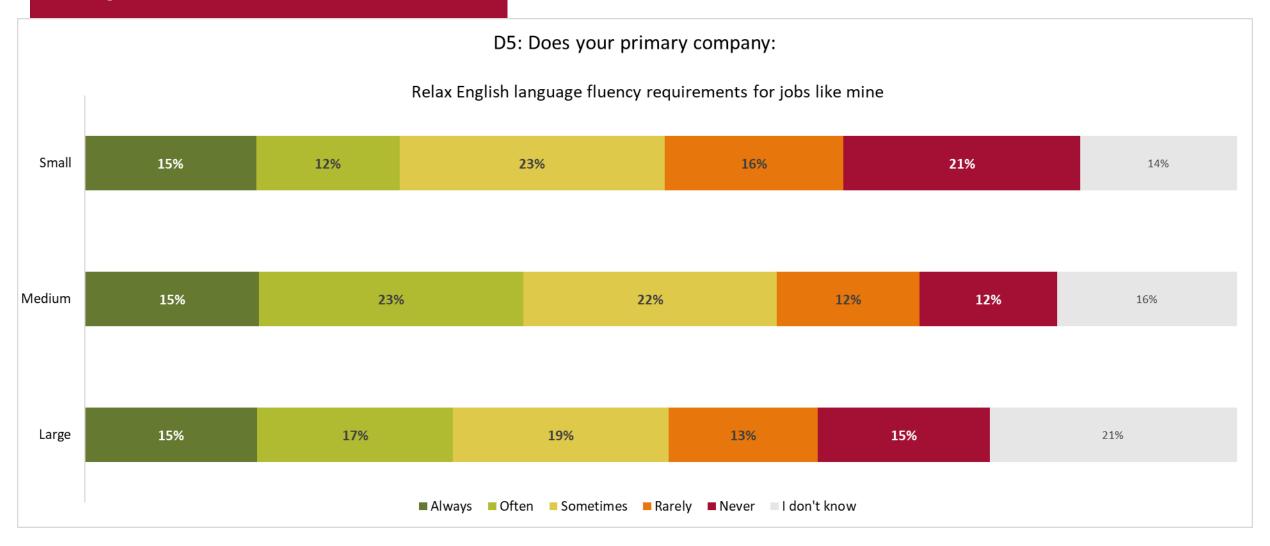






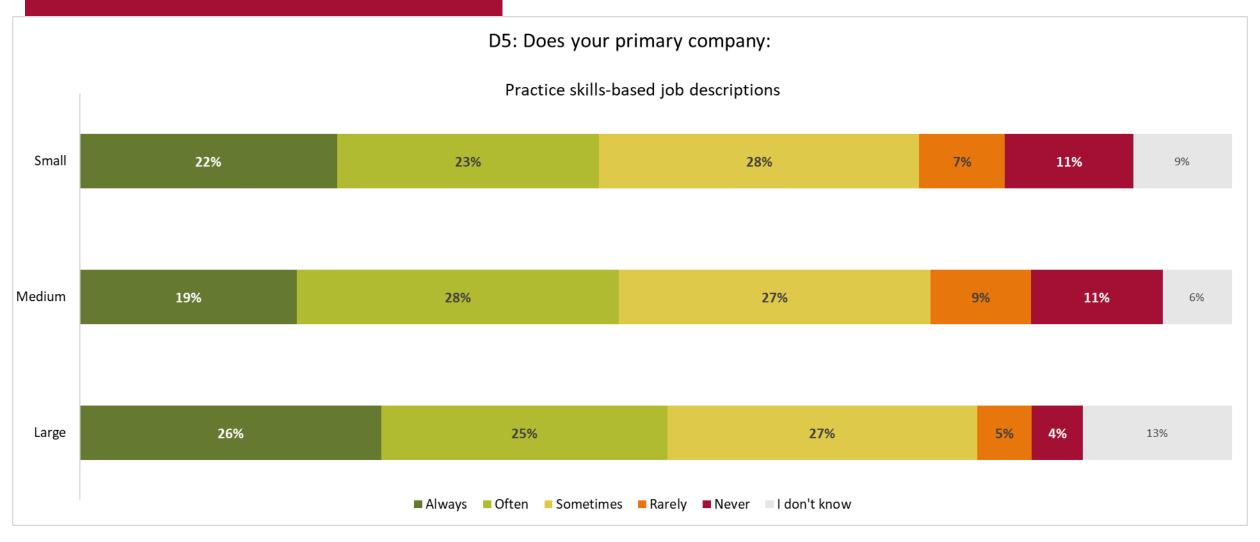


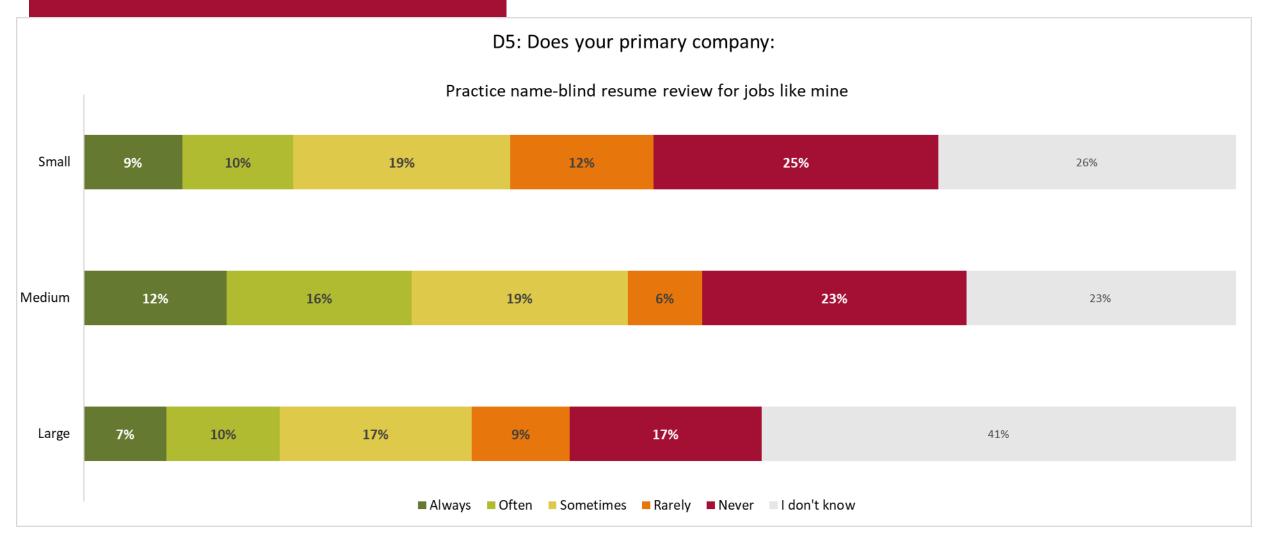


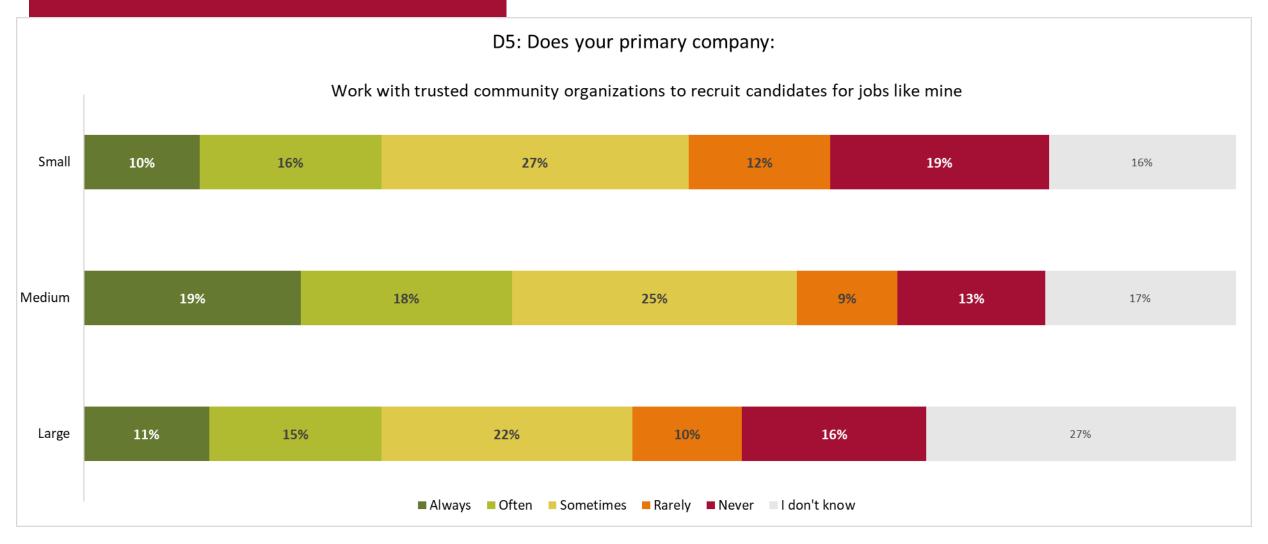


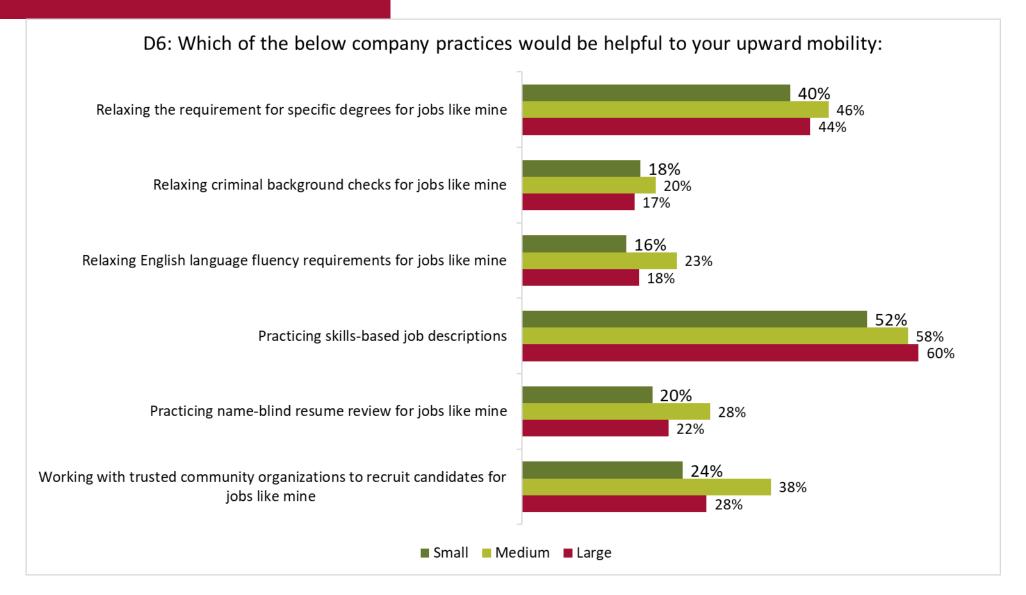
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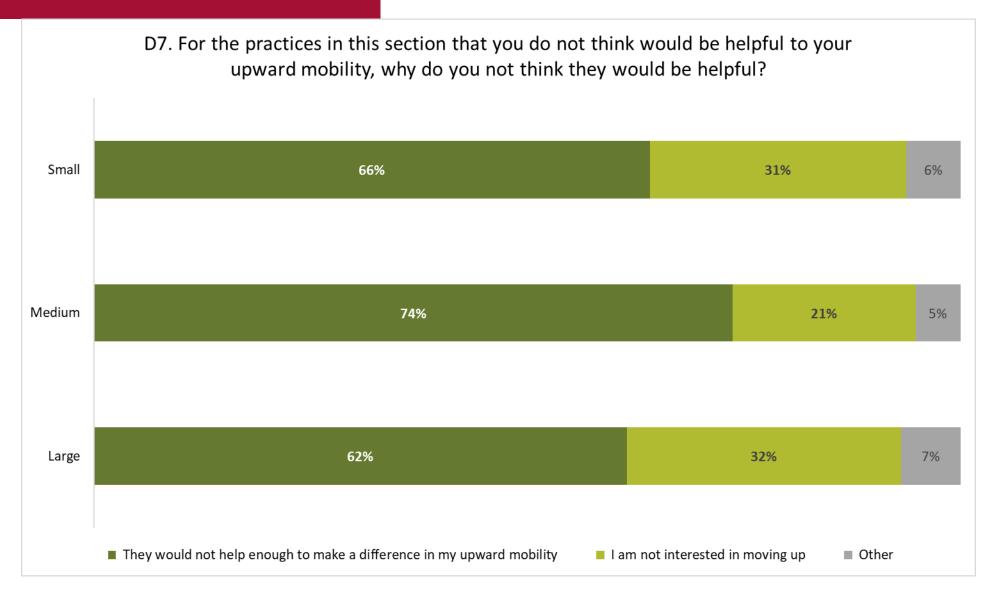
Section D *Hiring*

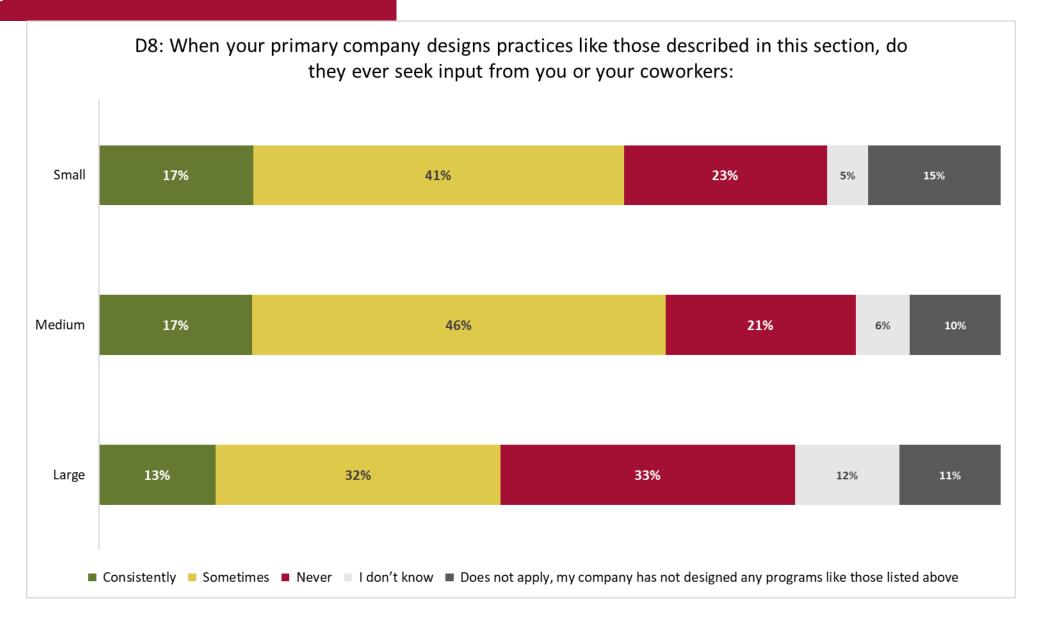


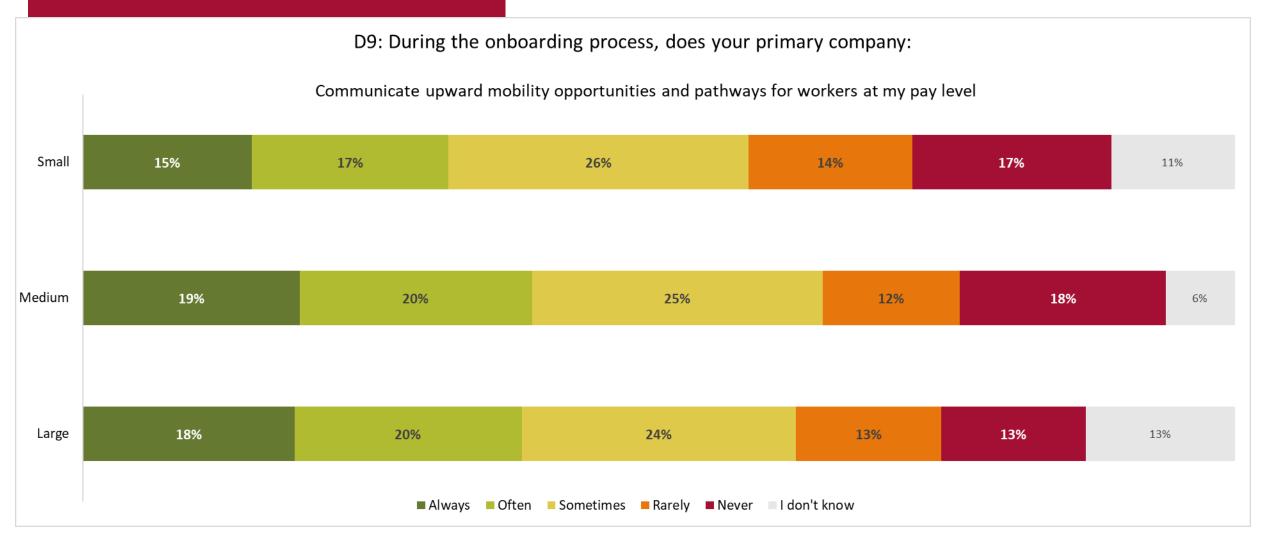


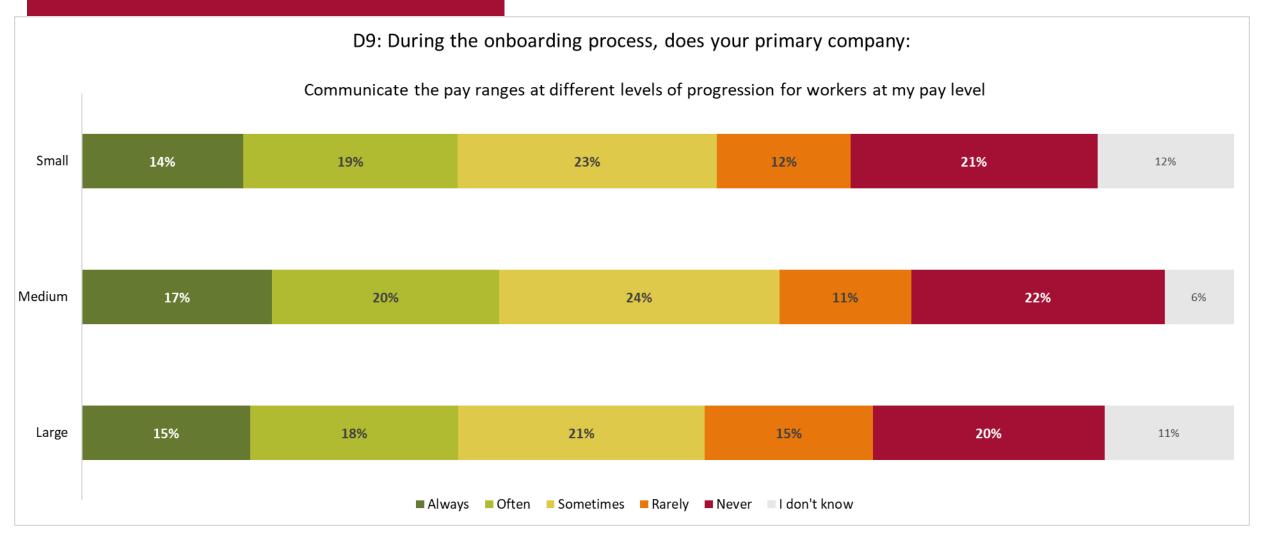


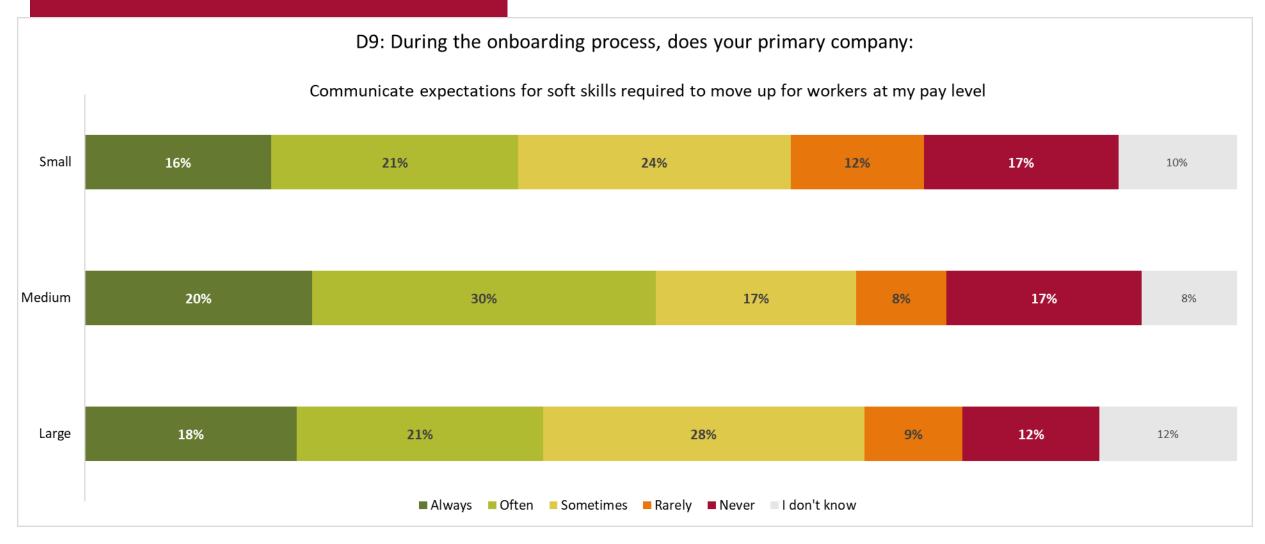


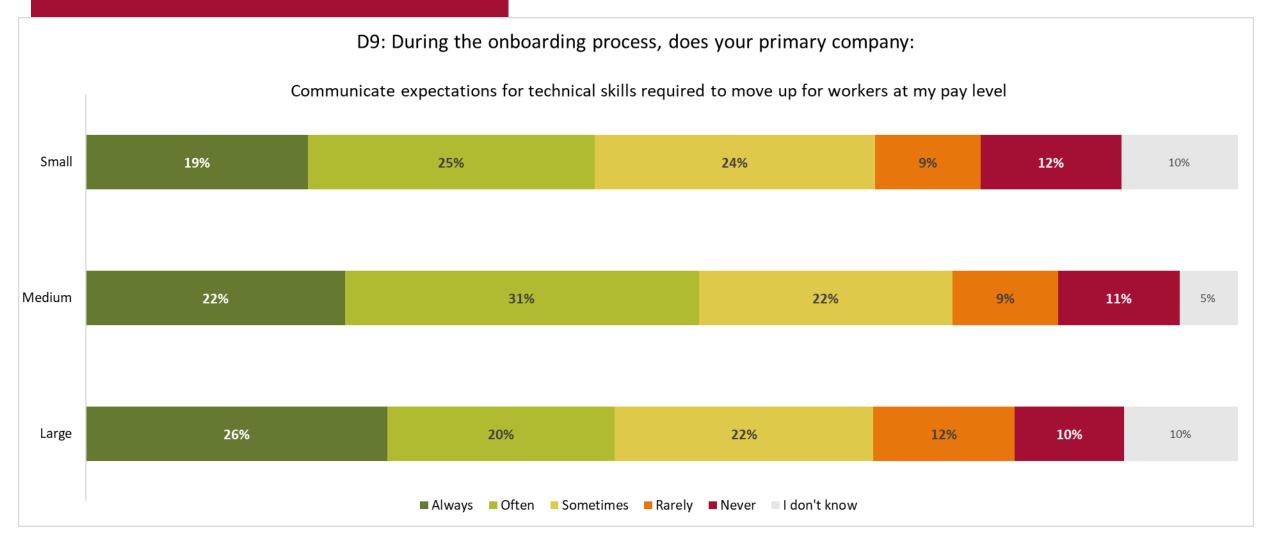


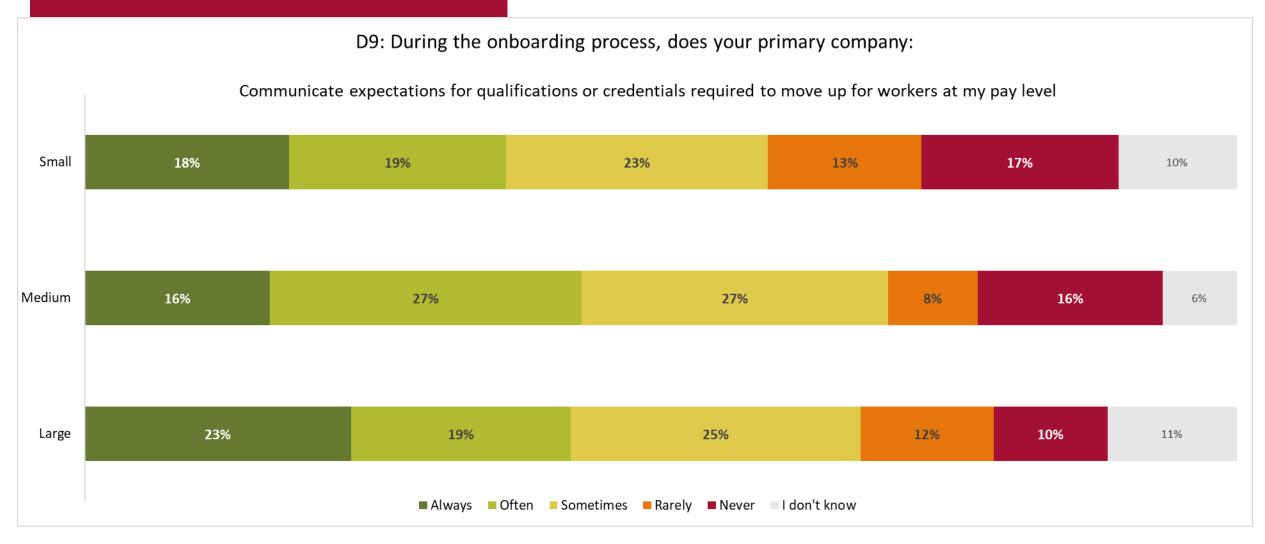


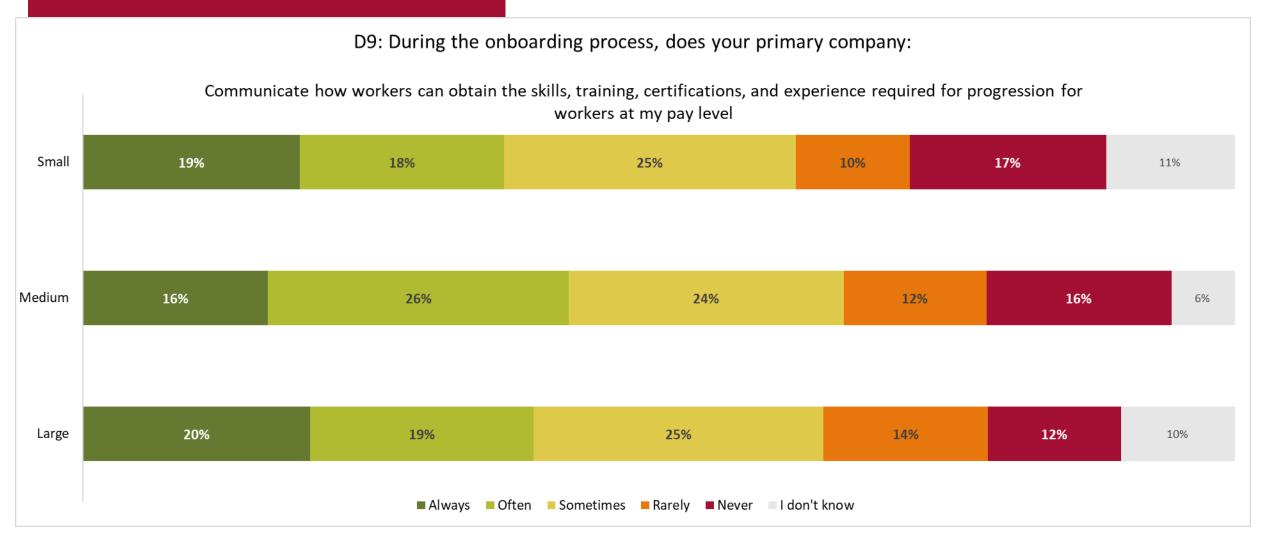


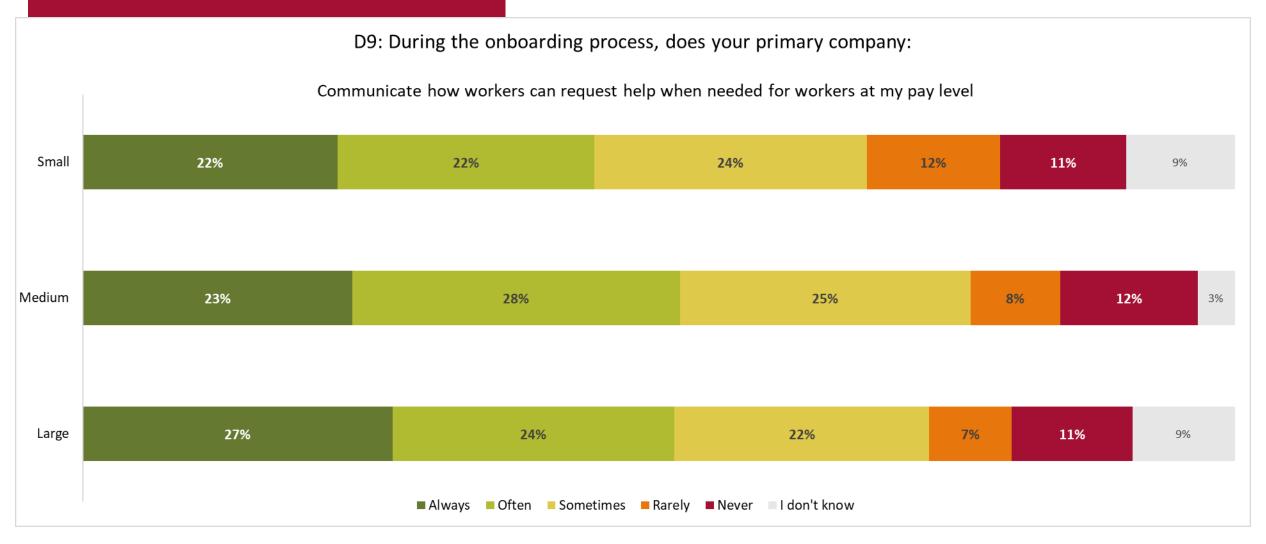


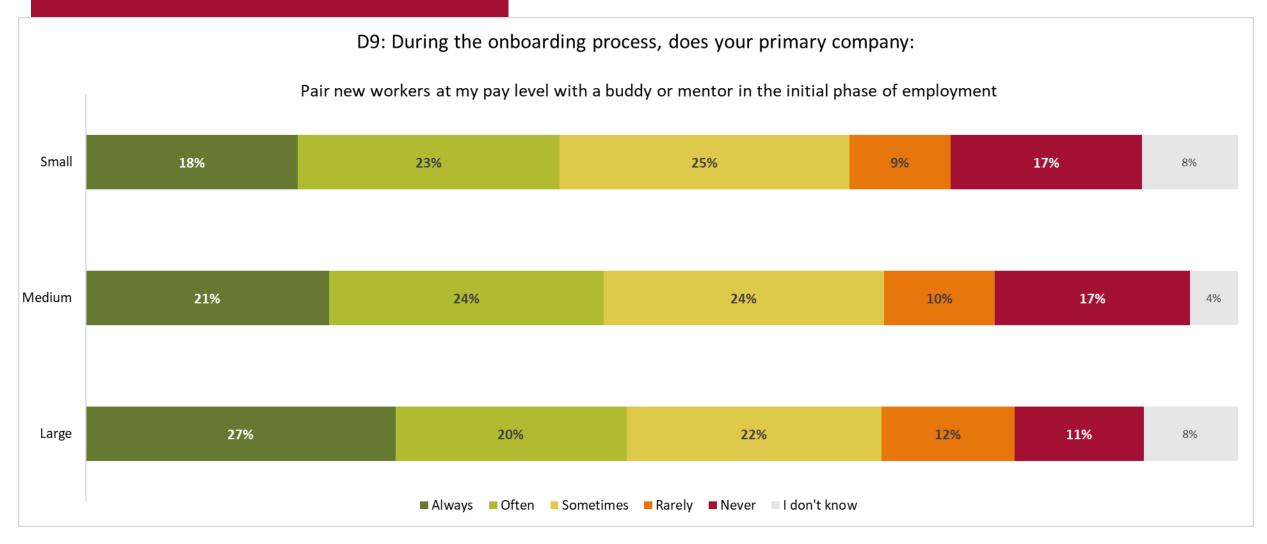


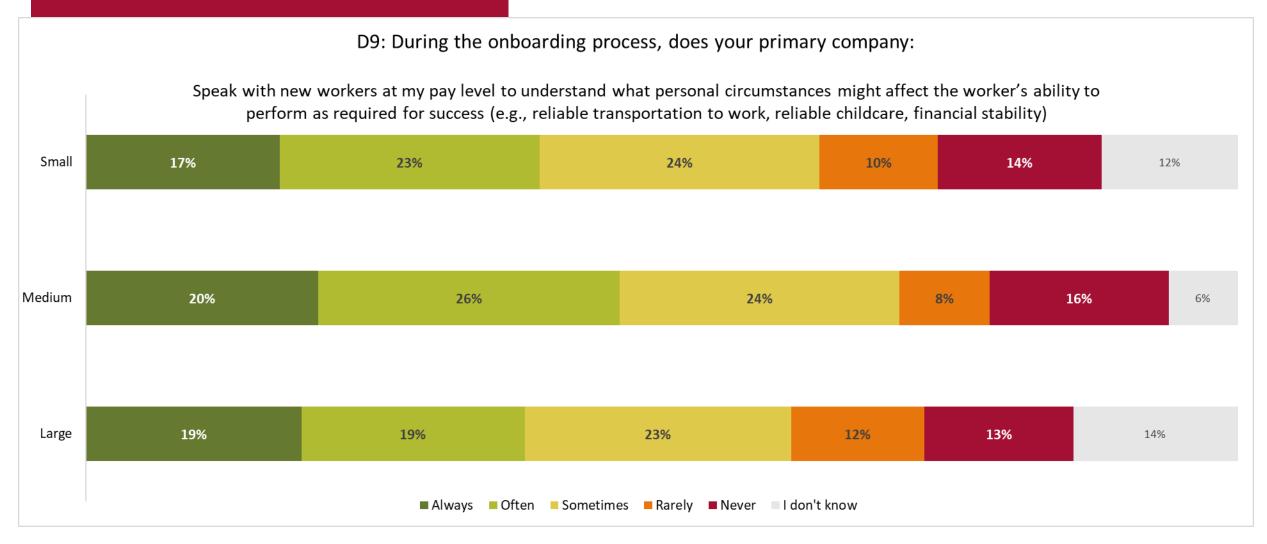


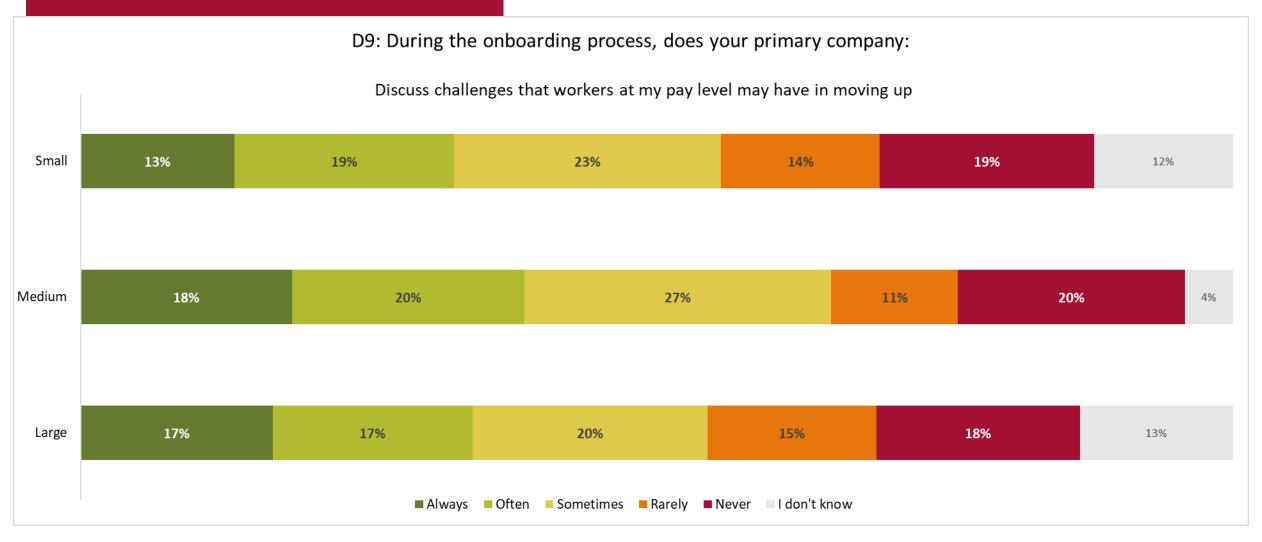






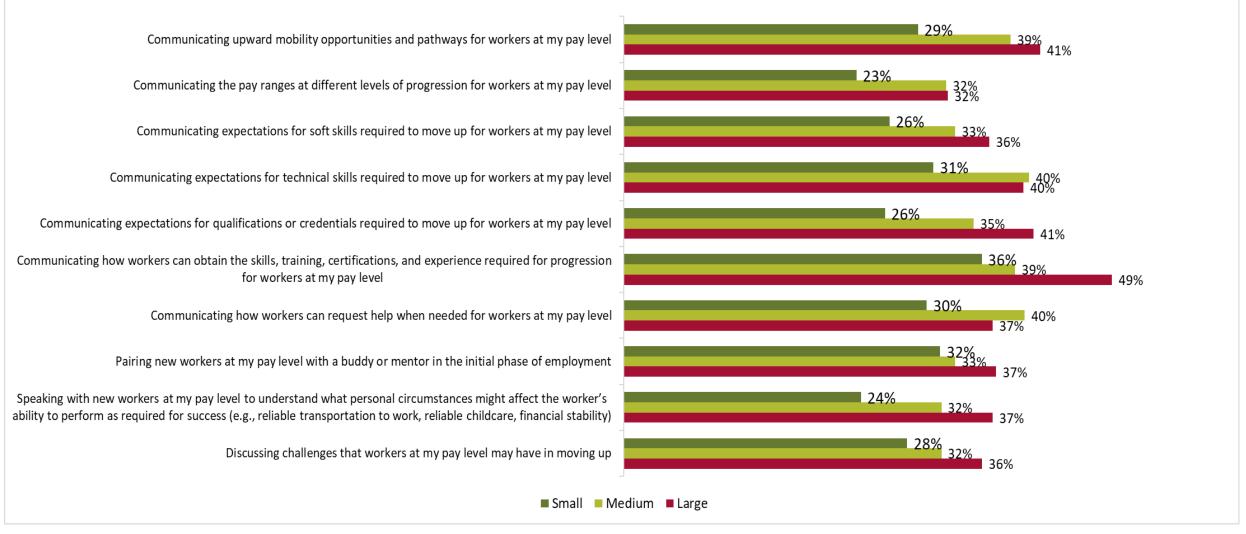


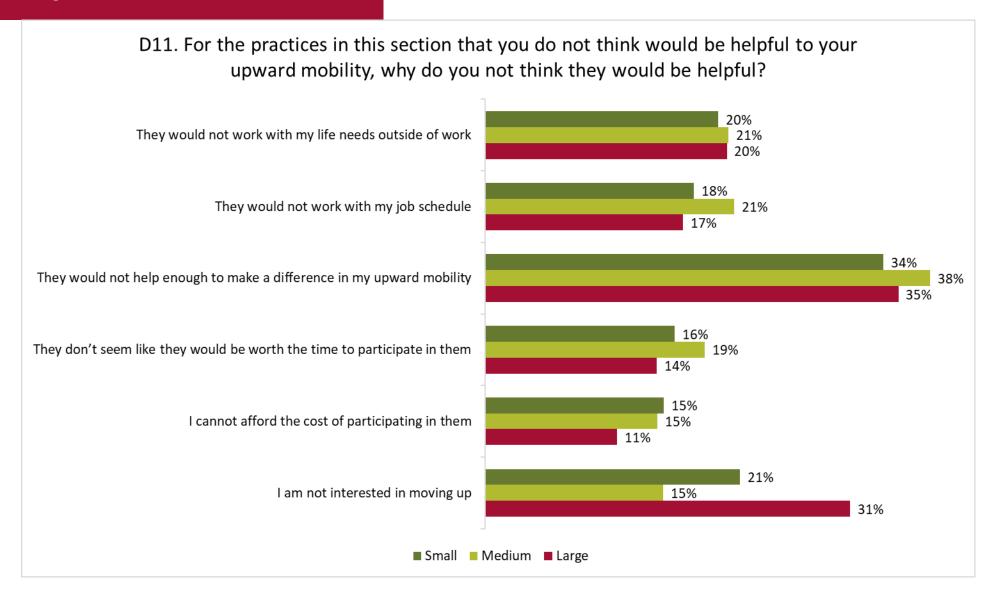


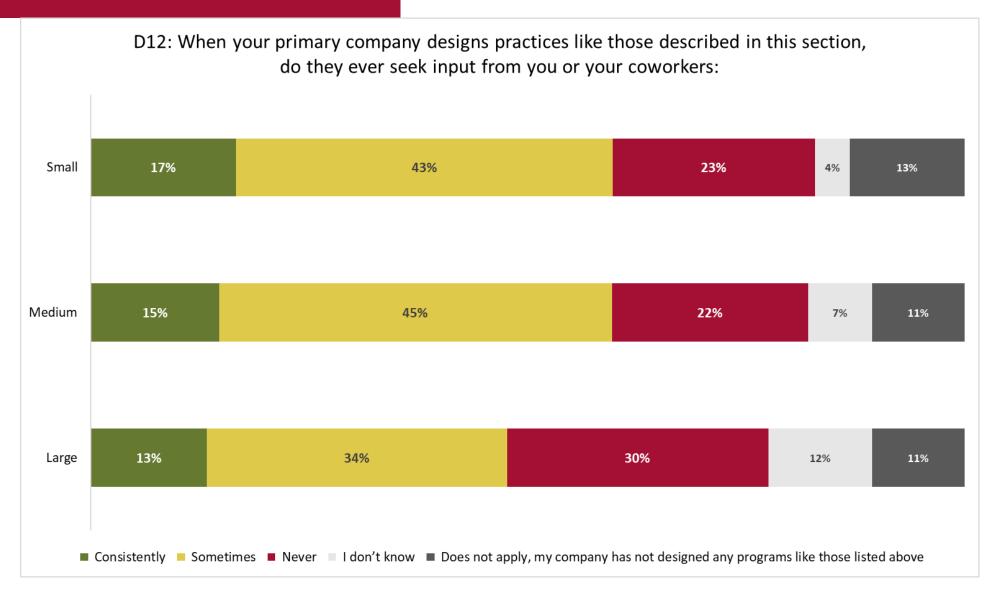


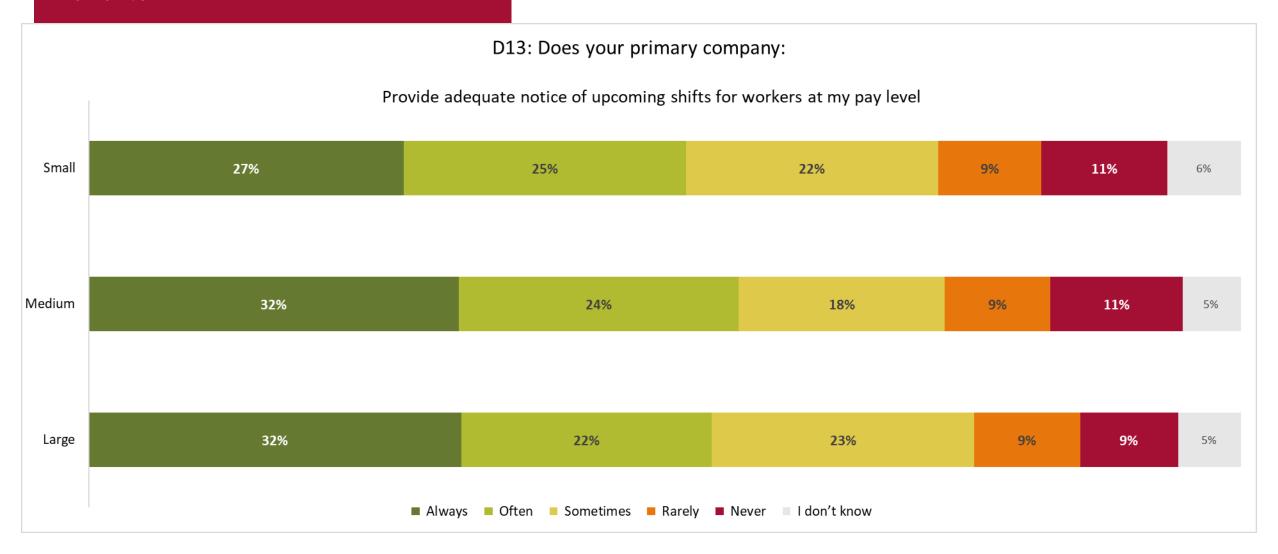
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

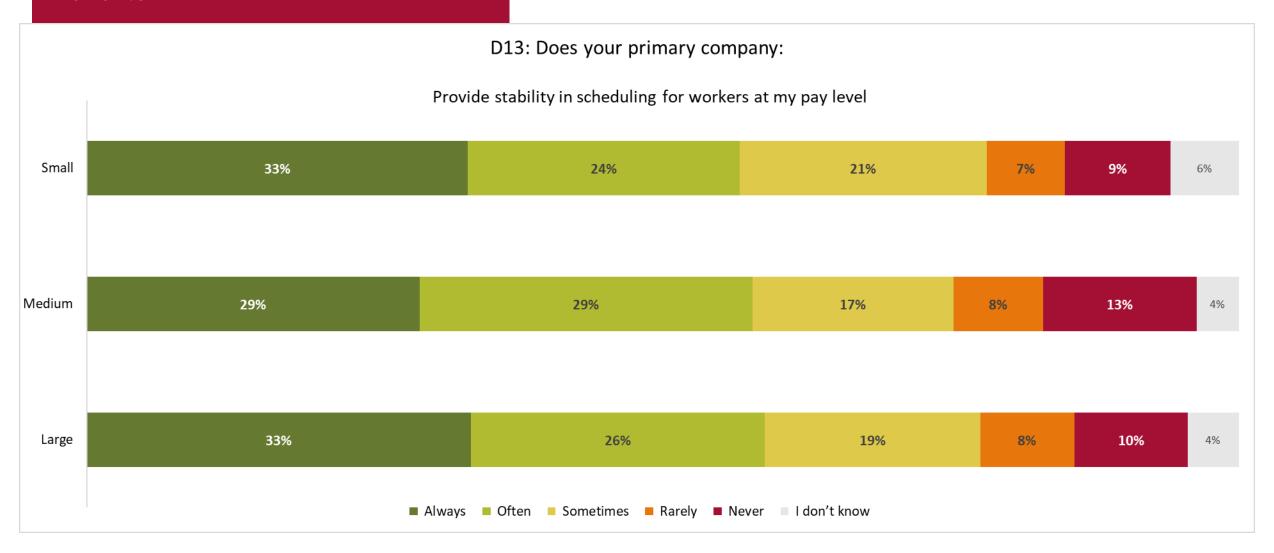
D10: Which of the below company practices would be helpful to your upward mobility (during the onboarding process)? :

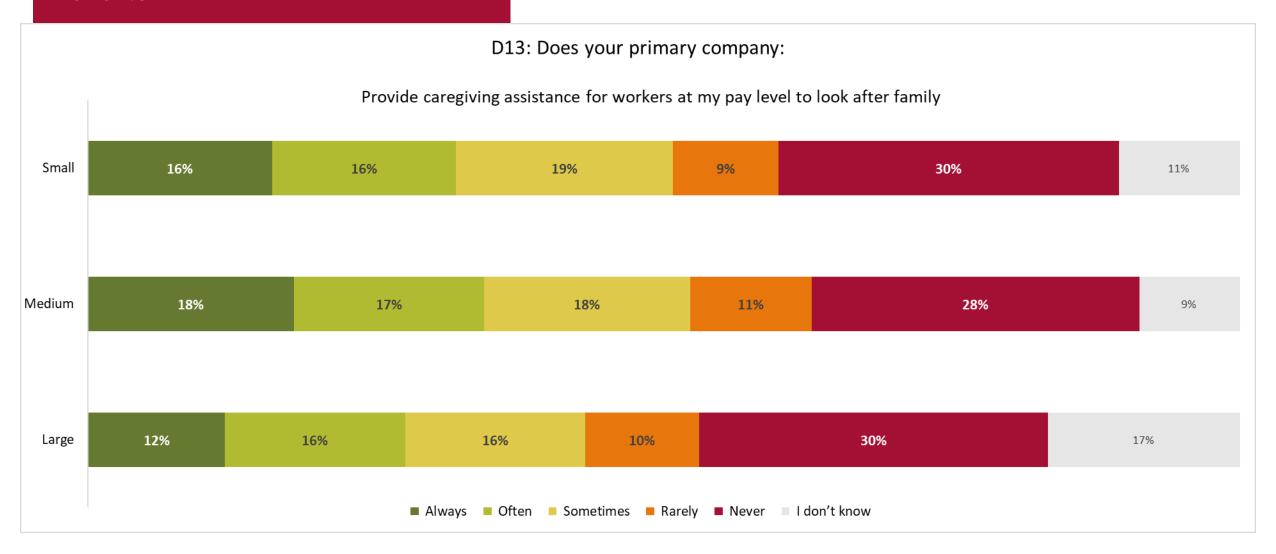


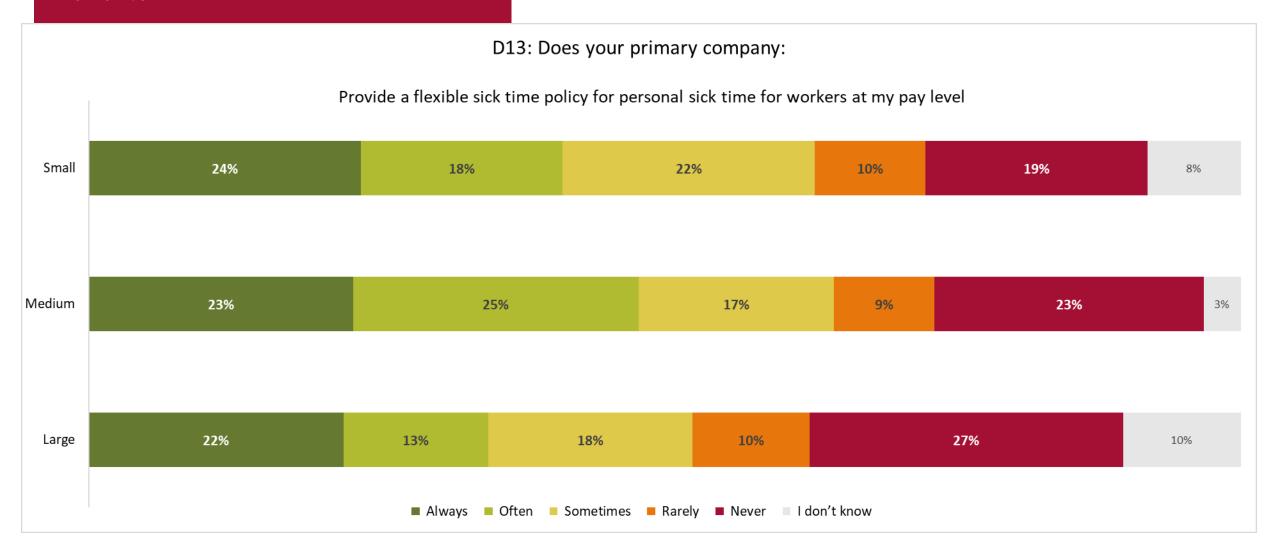


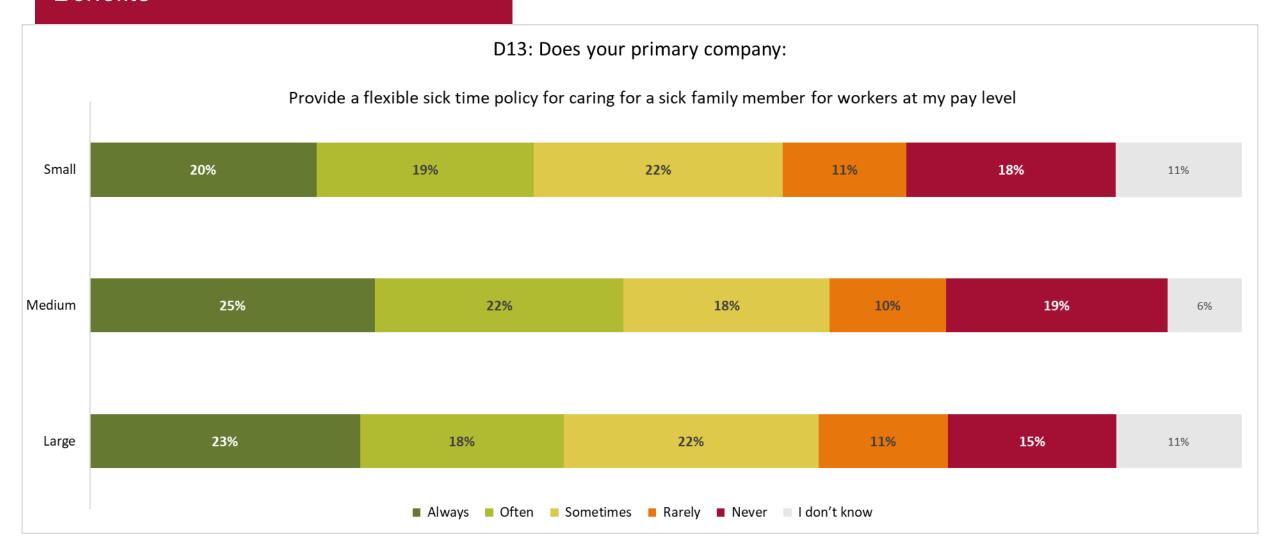


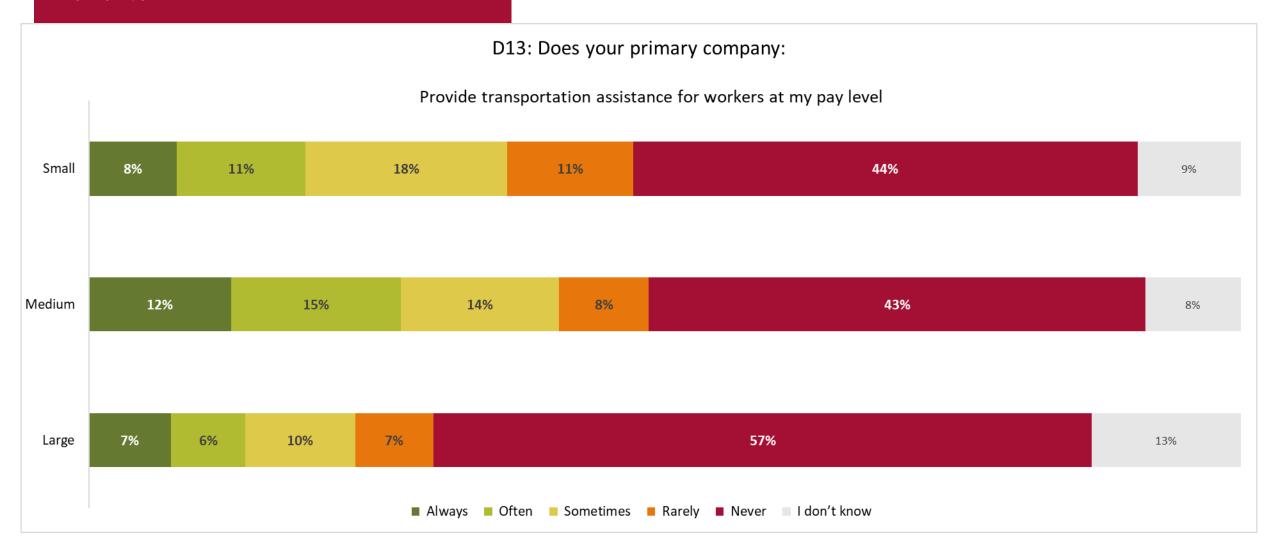


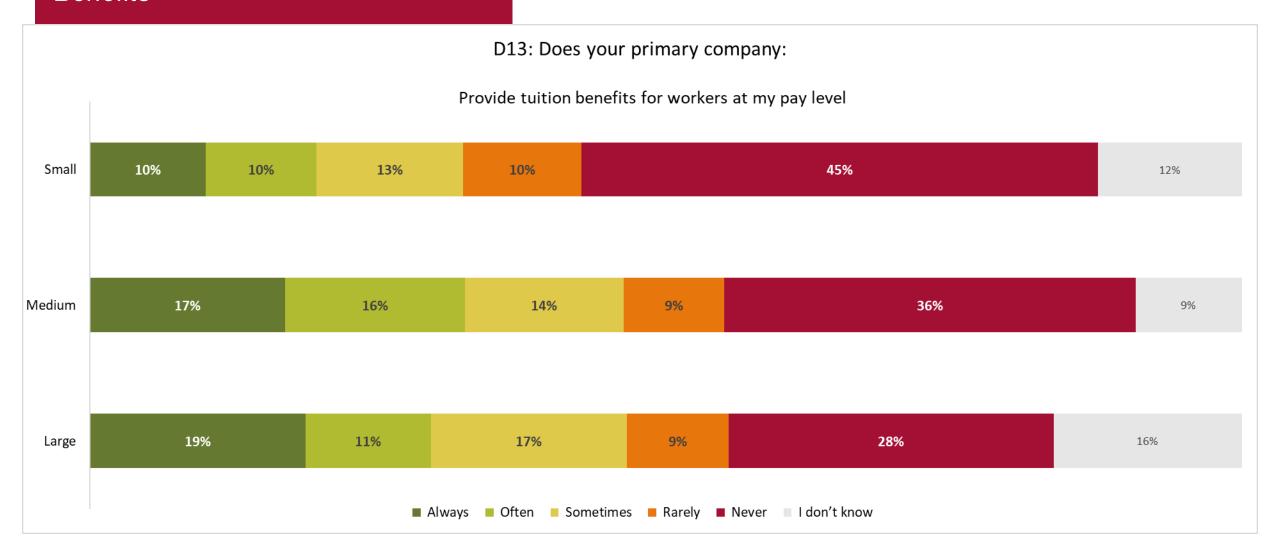




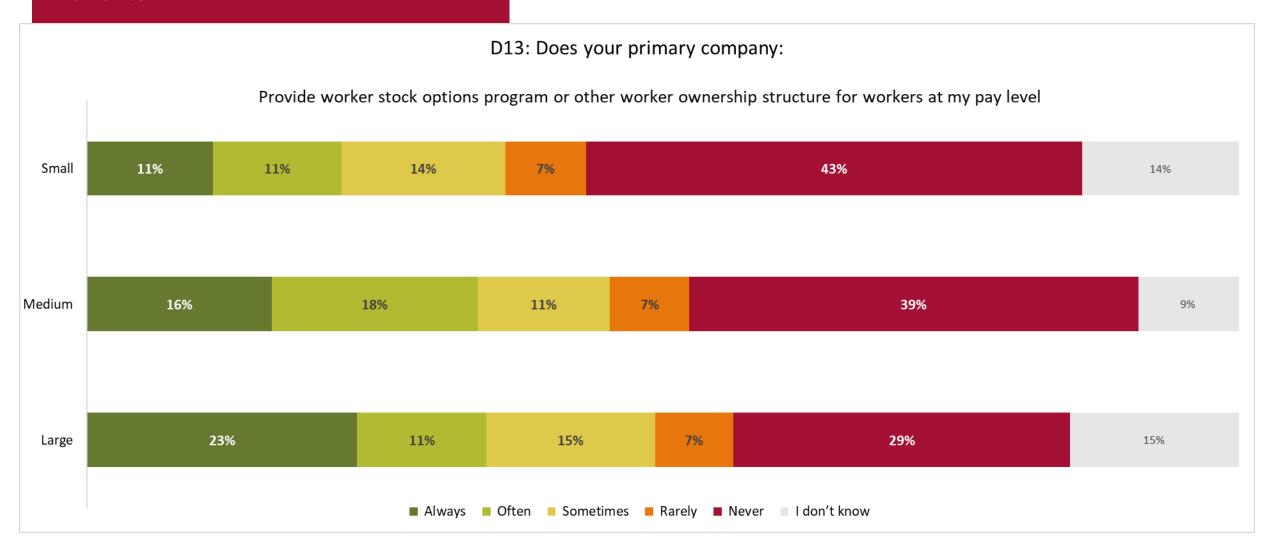




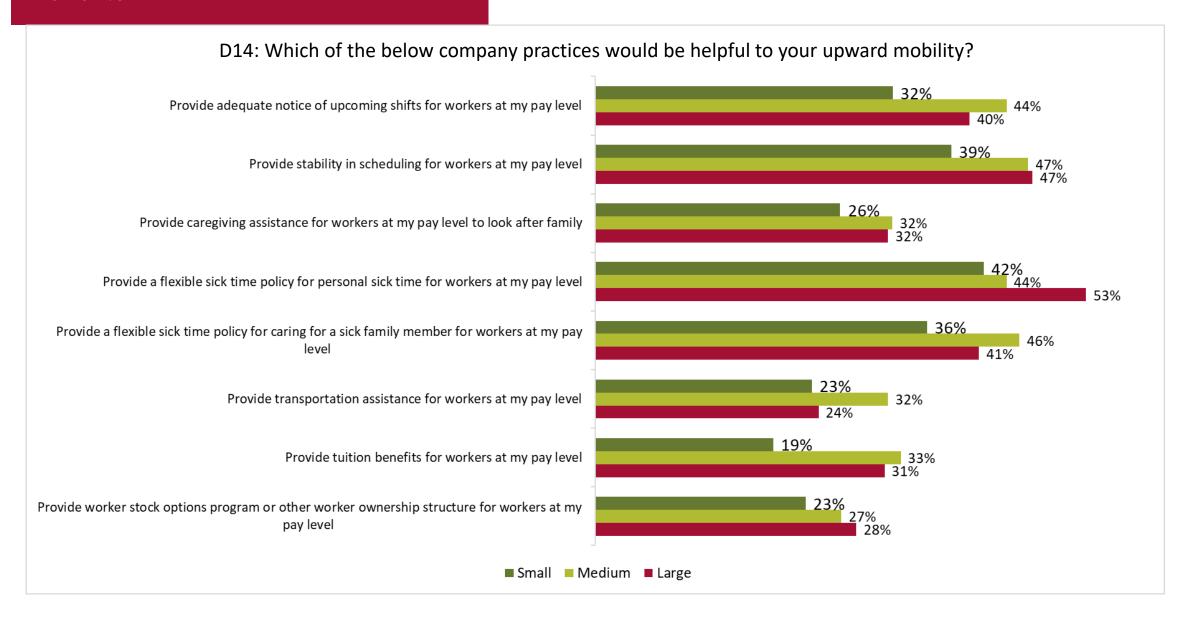


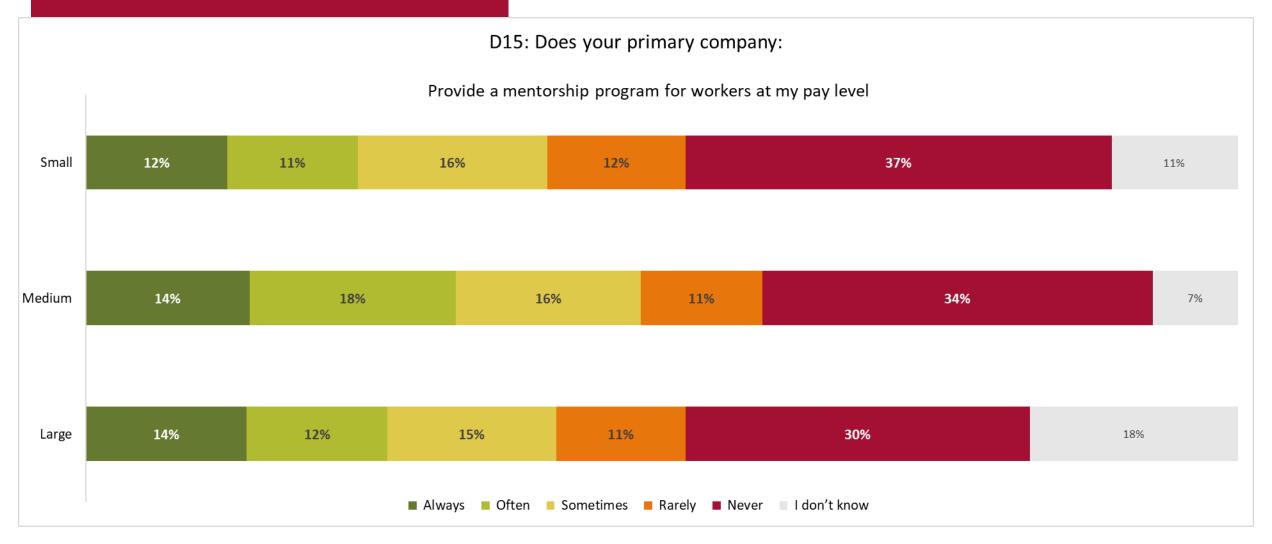


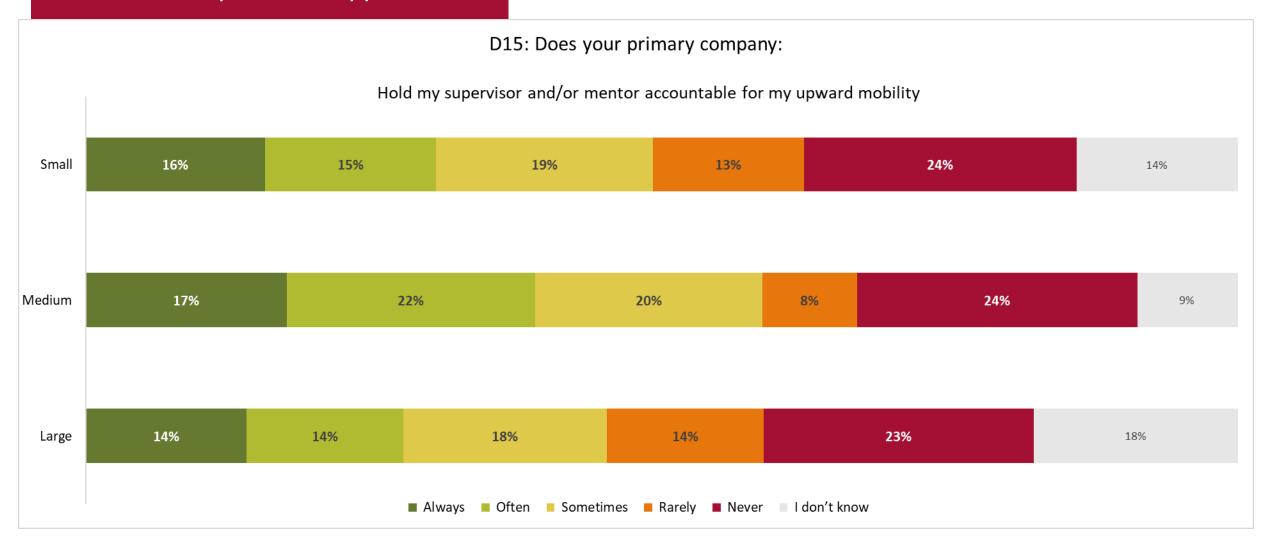
Section D Benefits

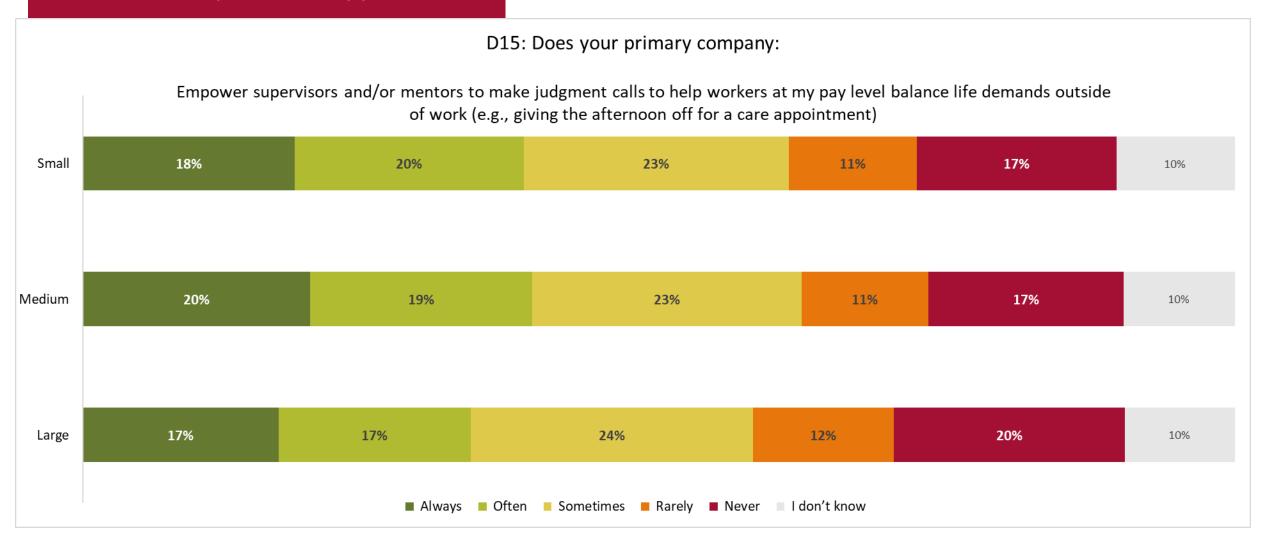


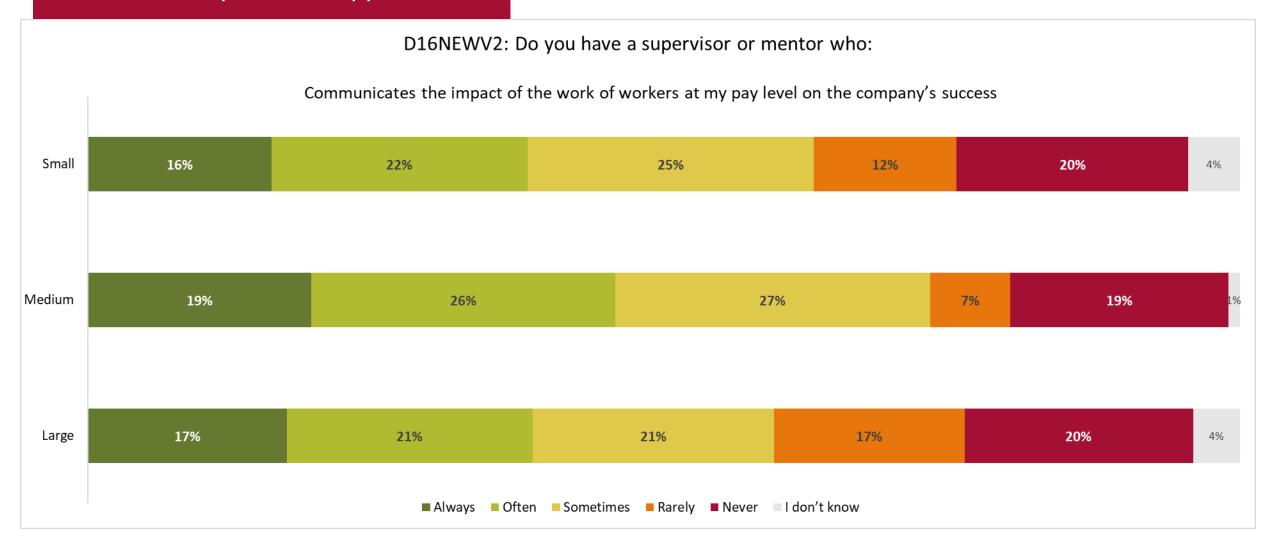
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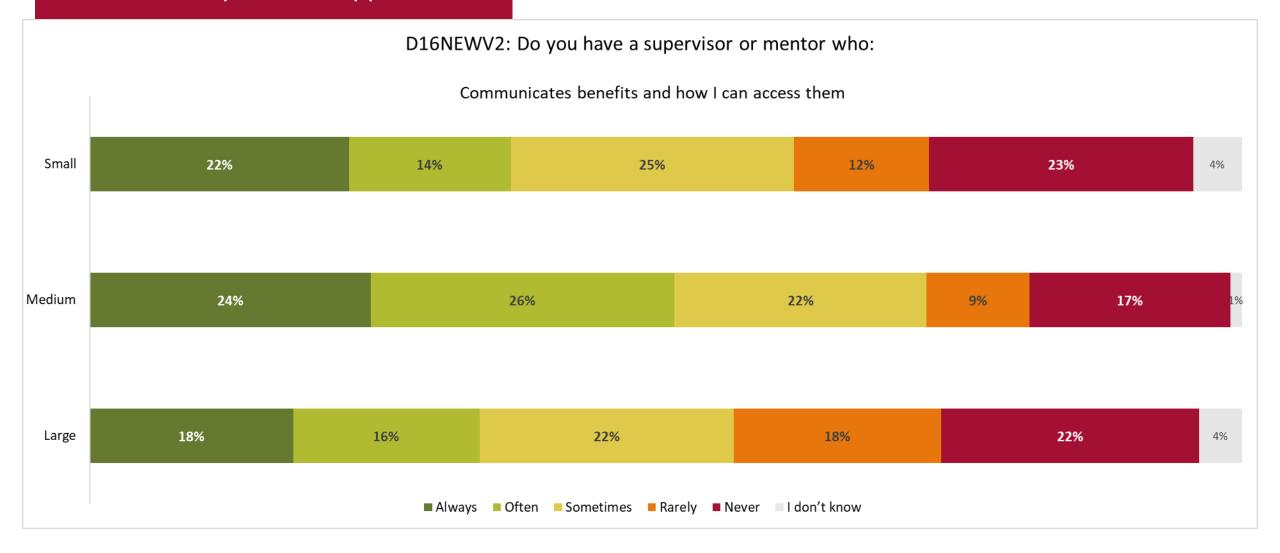






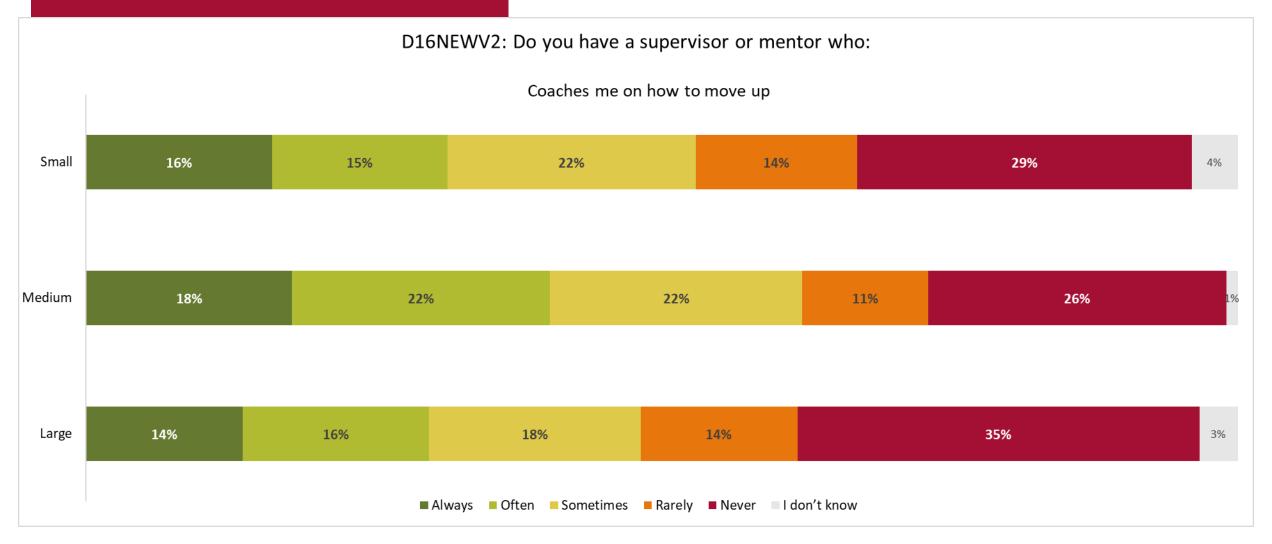


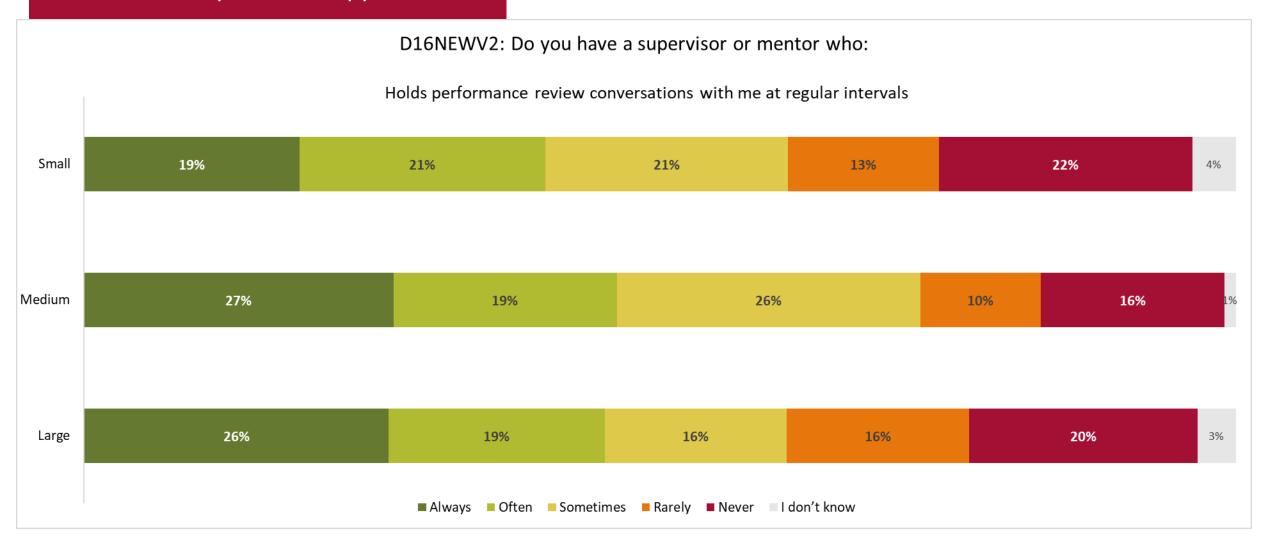




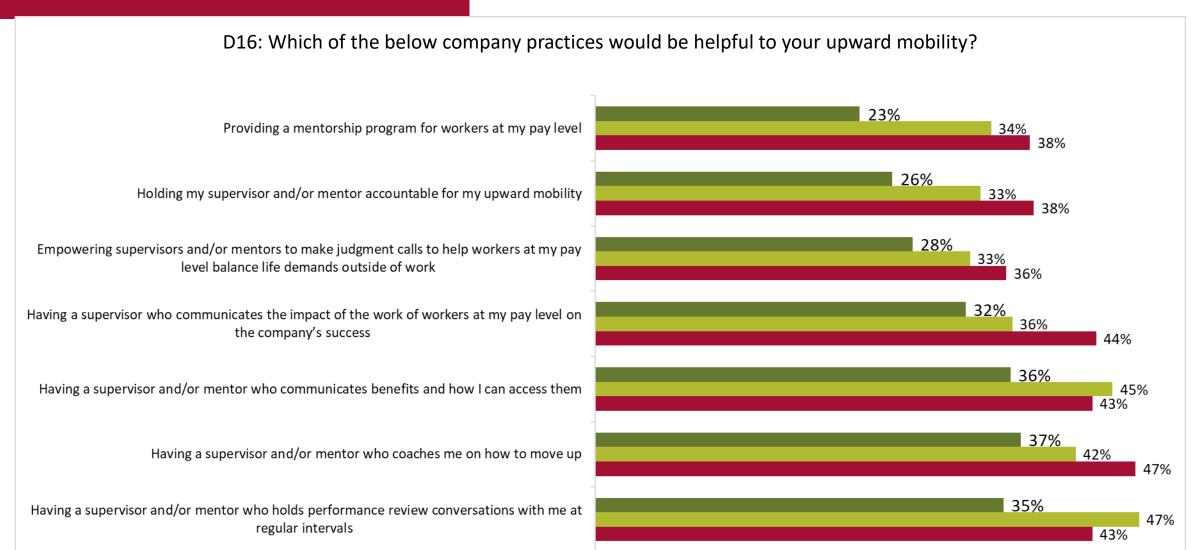
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Section D *Mentor and supervisor support*

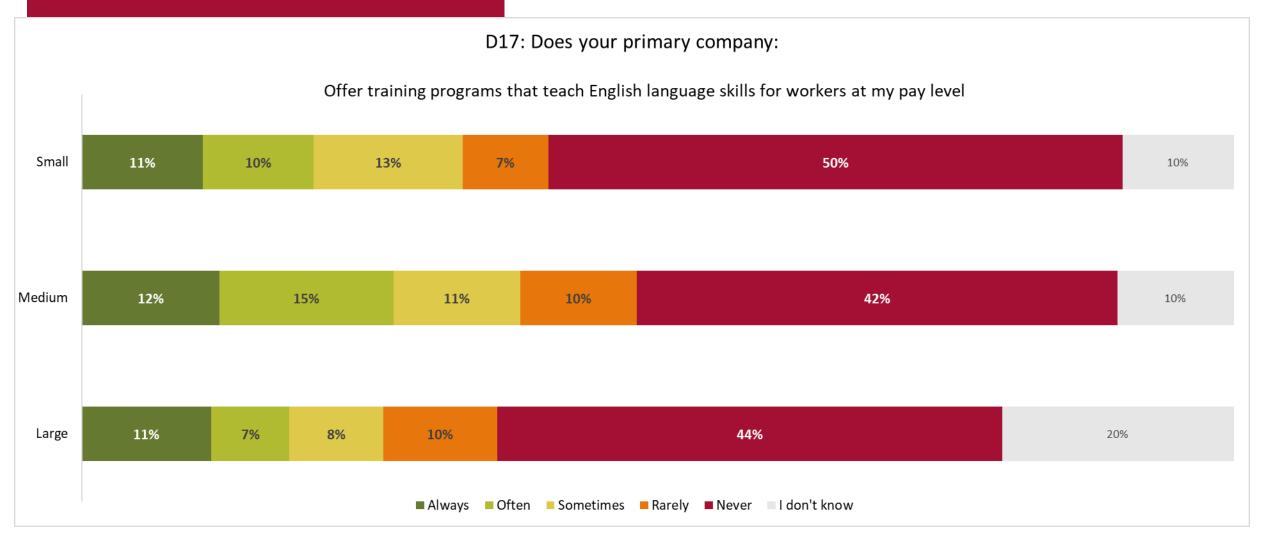


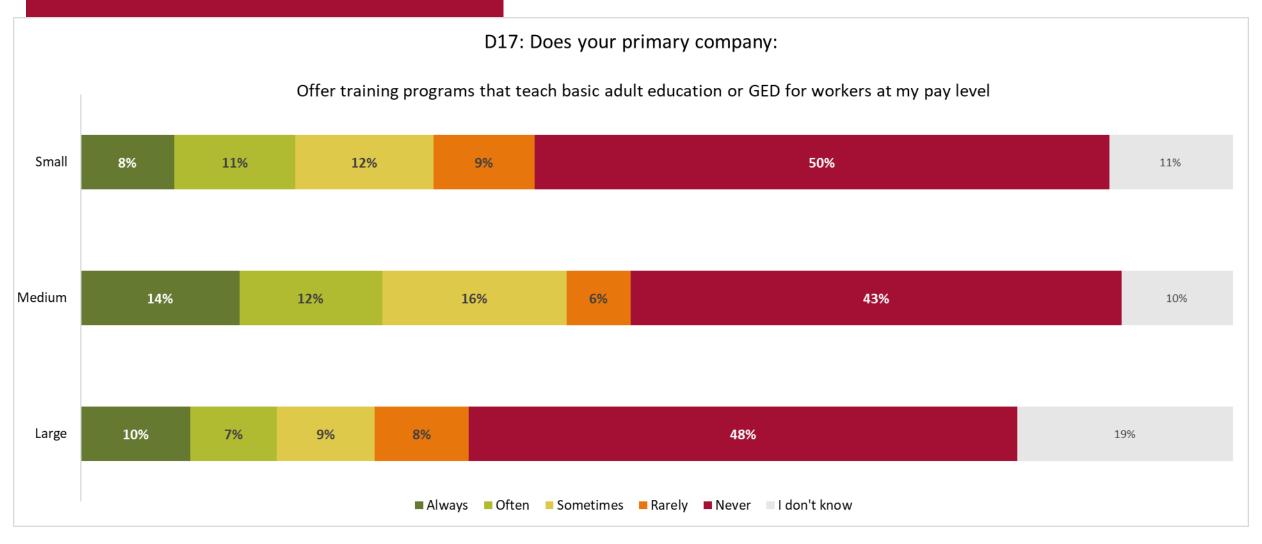


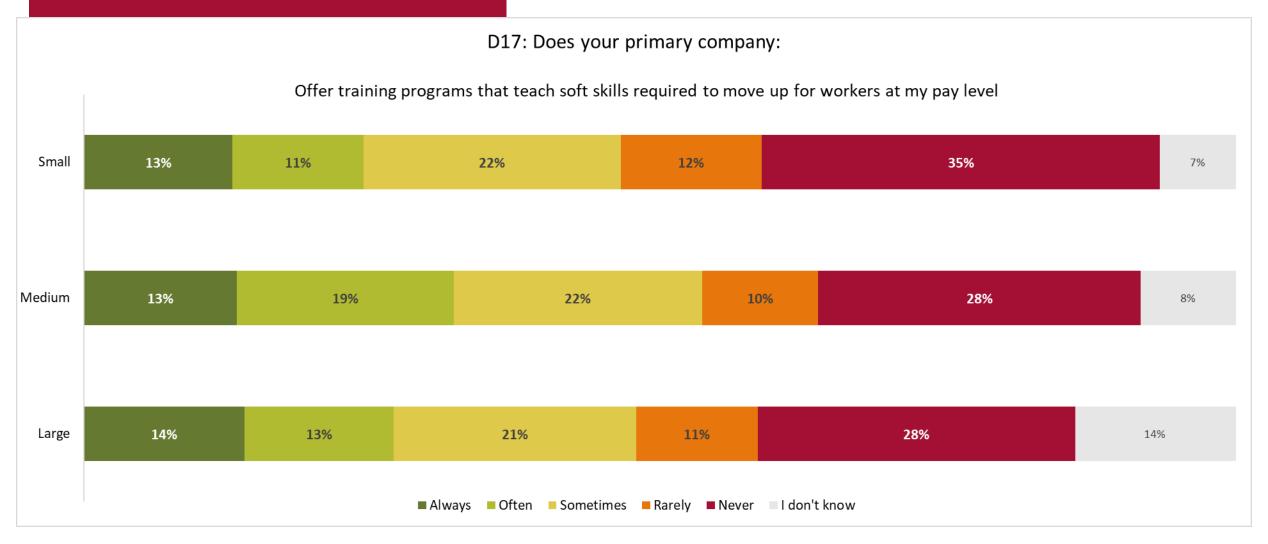
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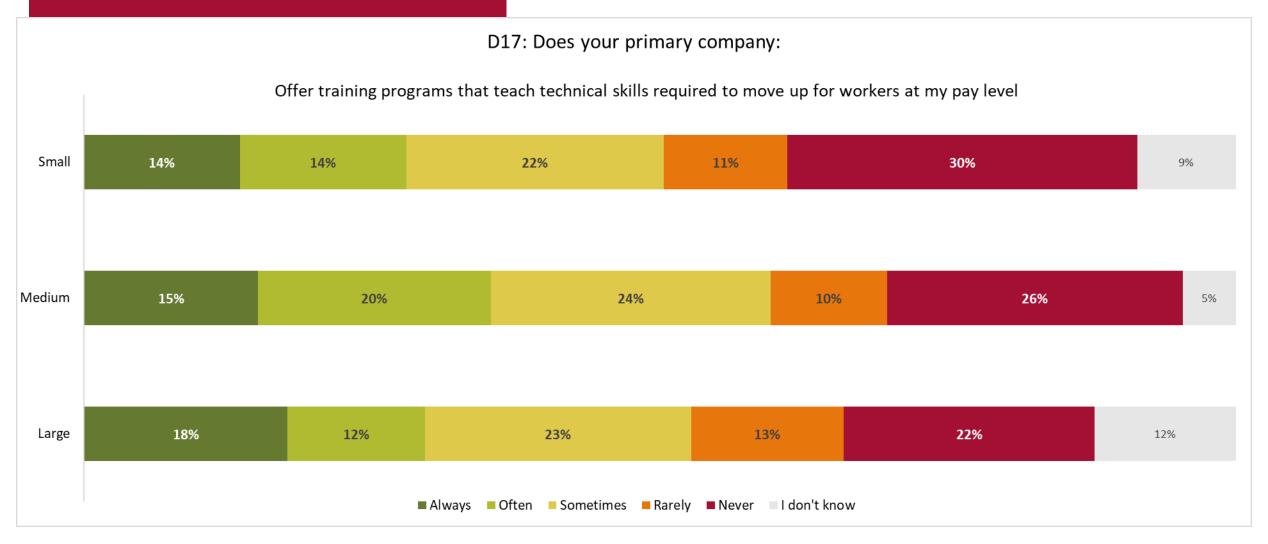


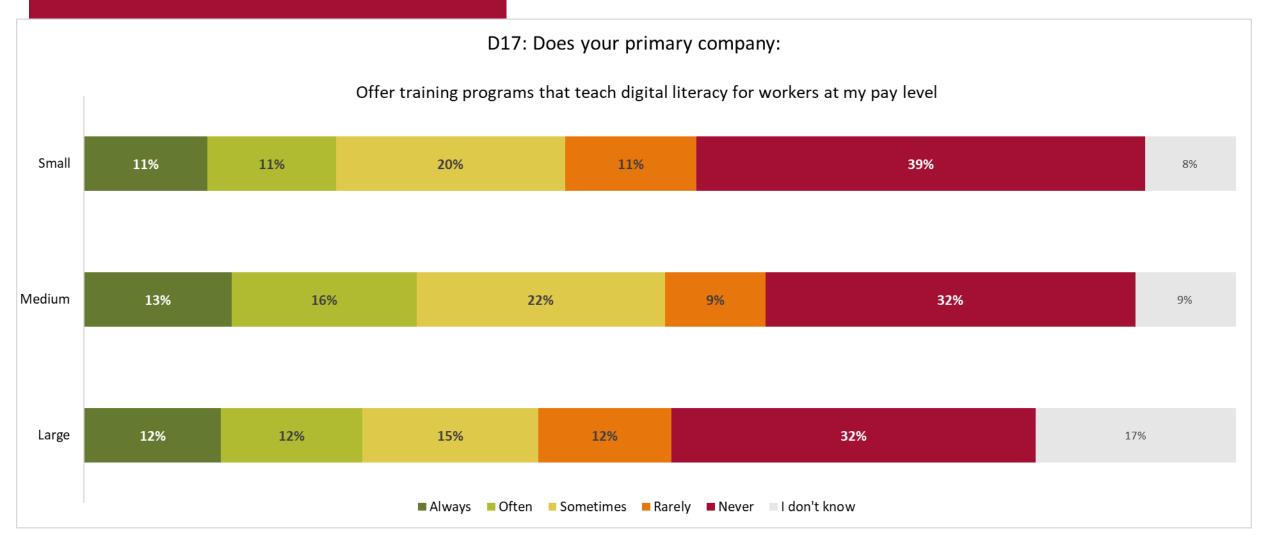
■ Small ■ Medium ■ Large

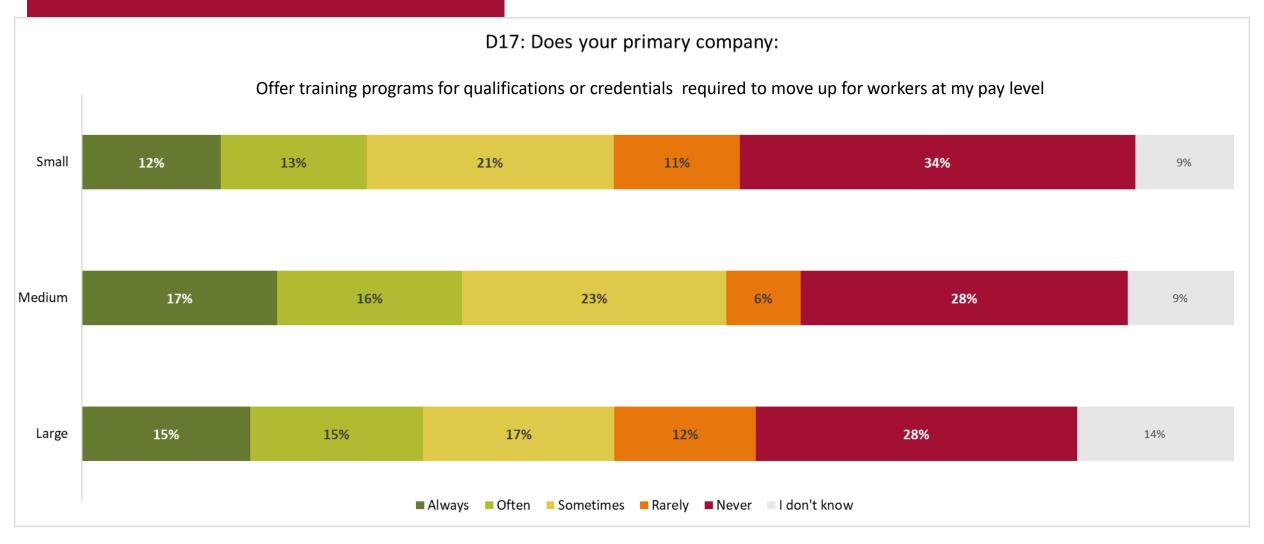


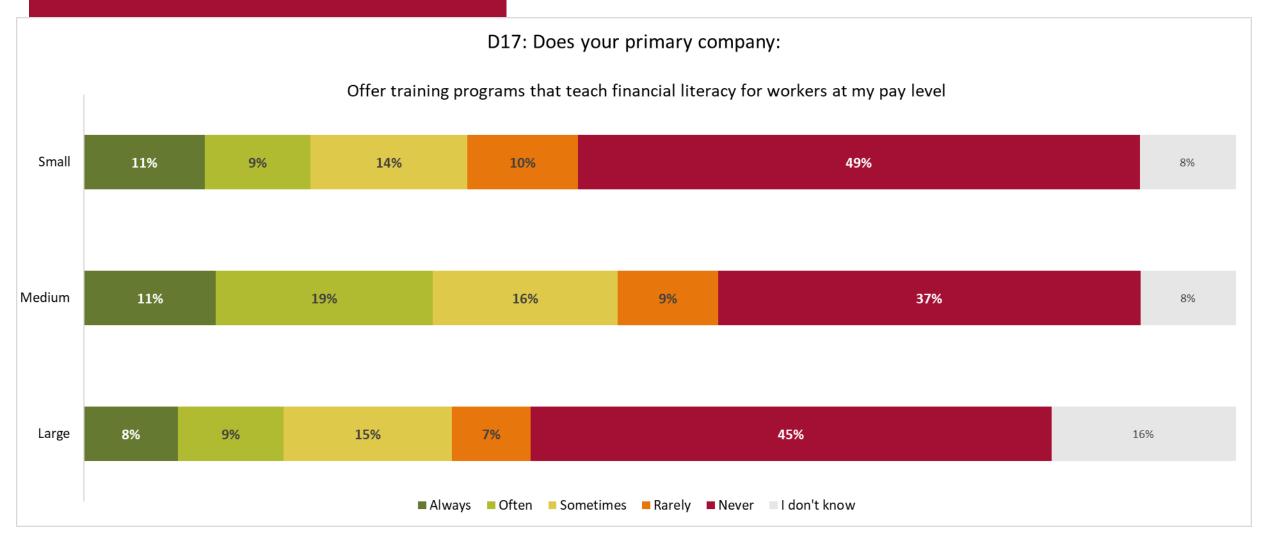


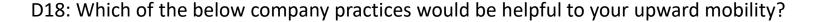


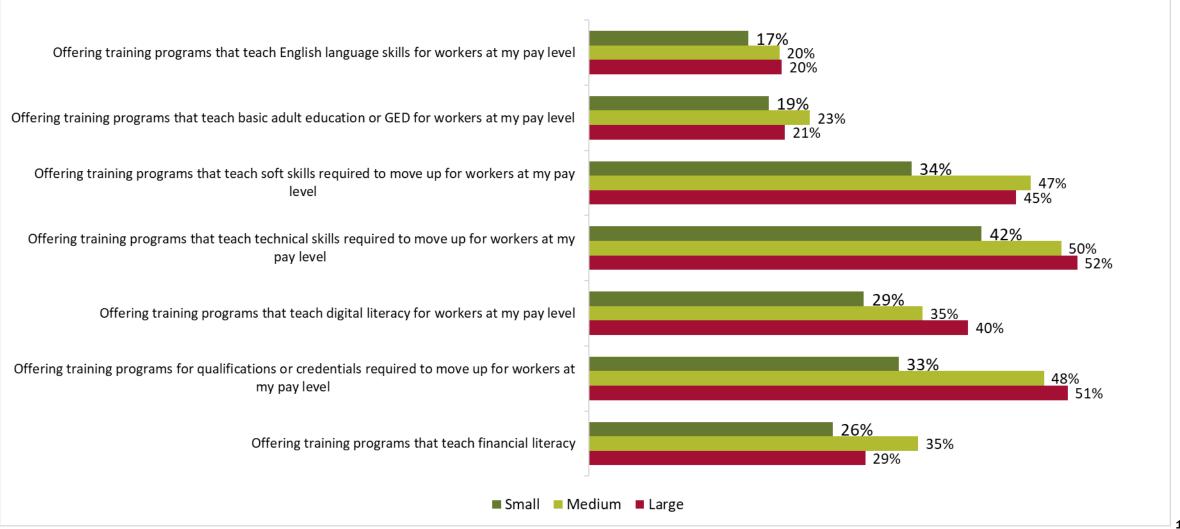


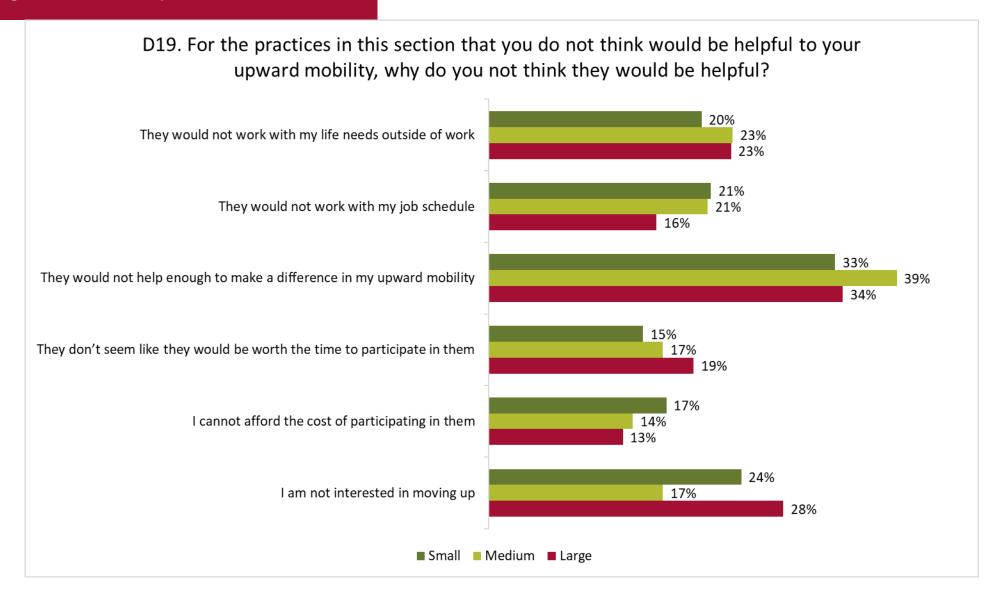


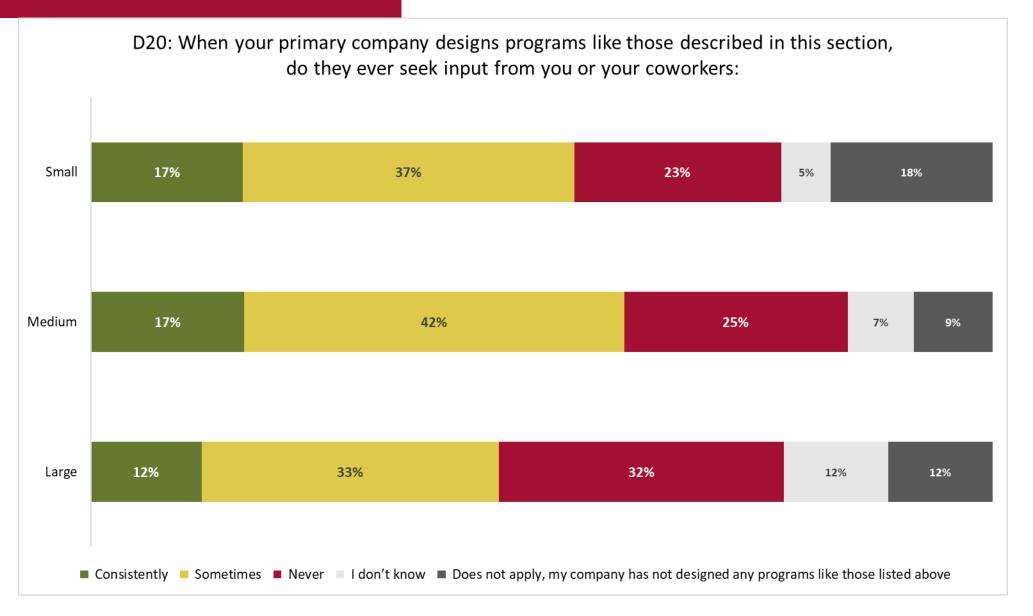


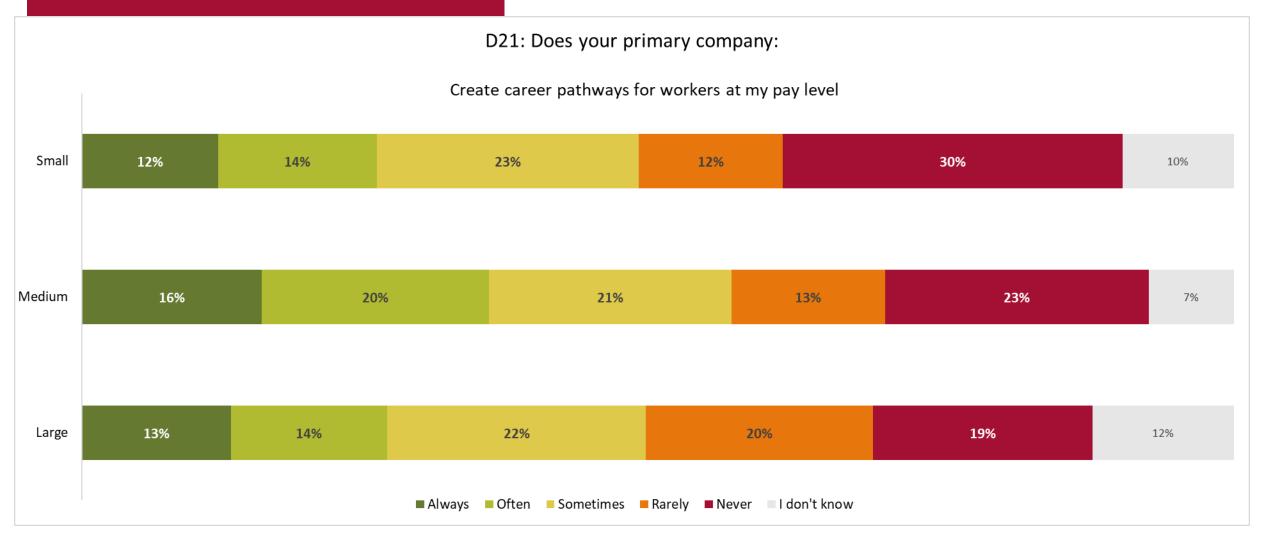


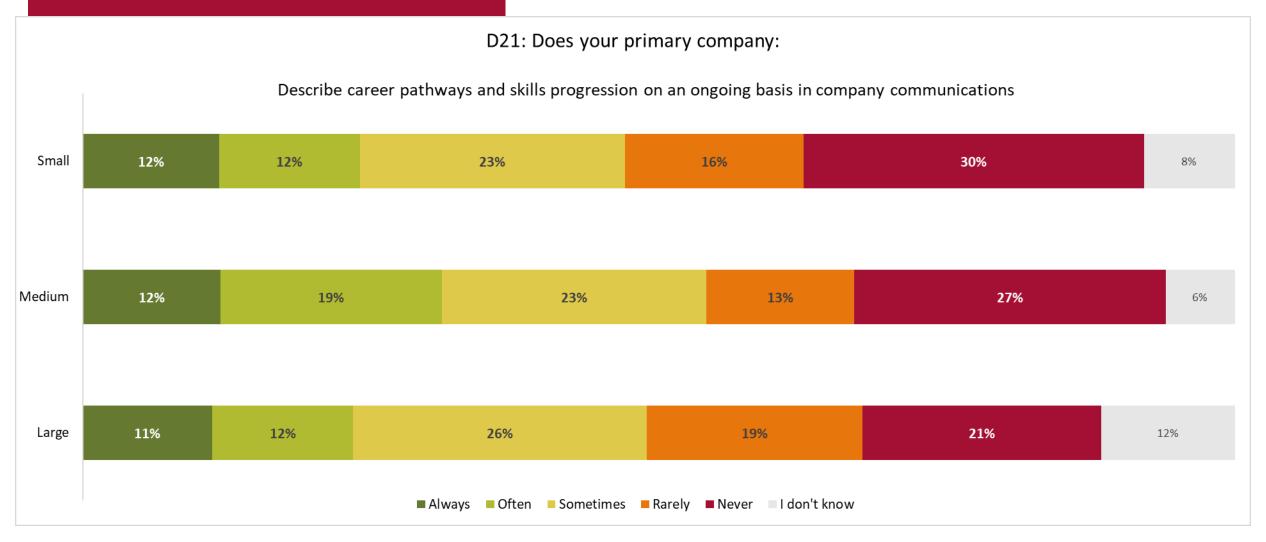


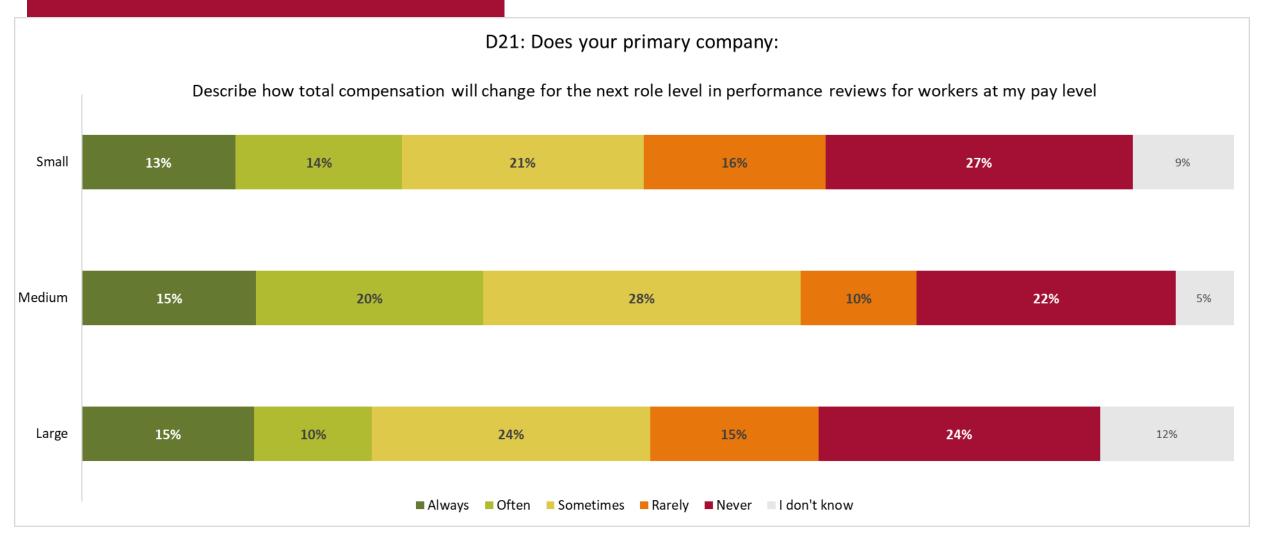


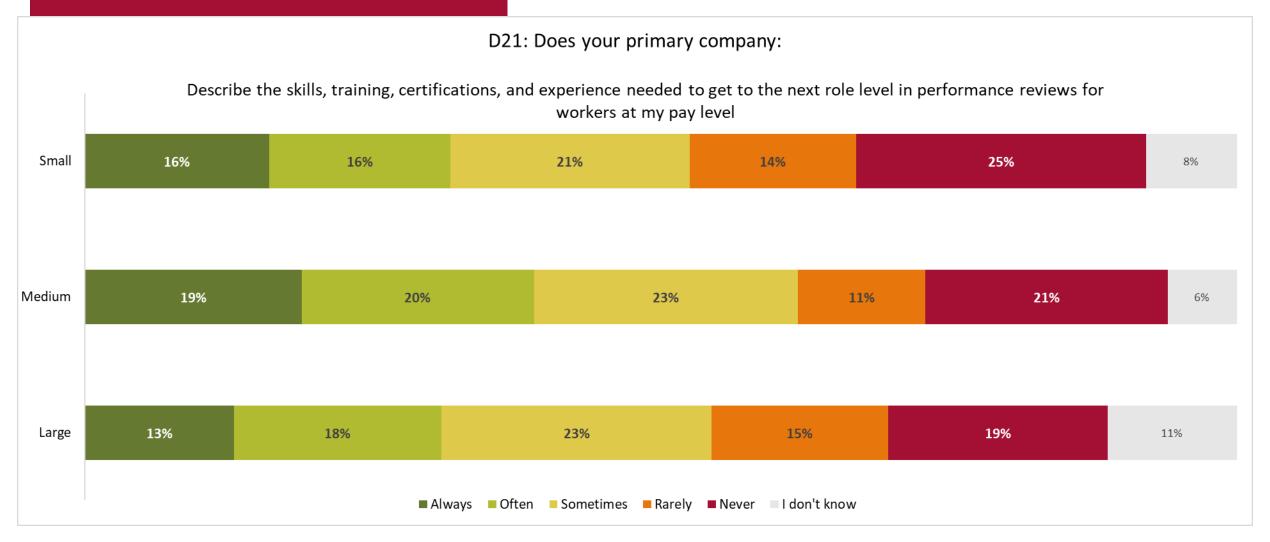


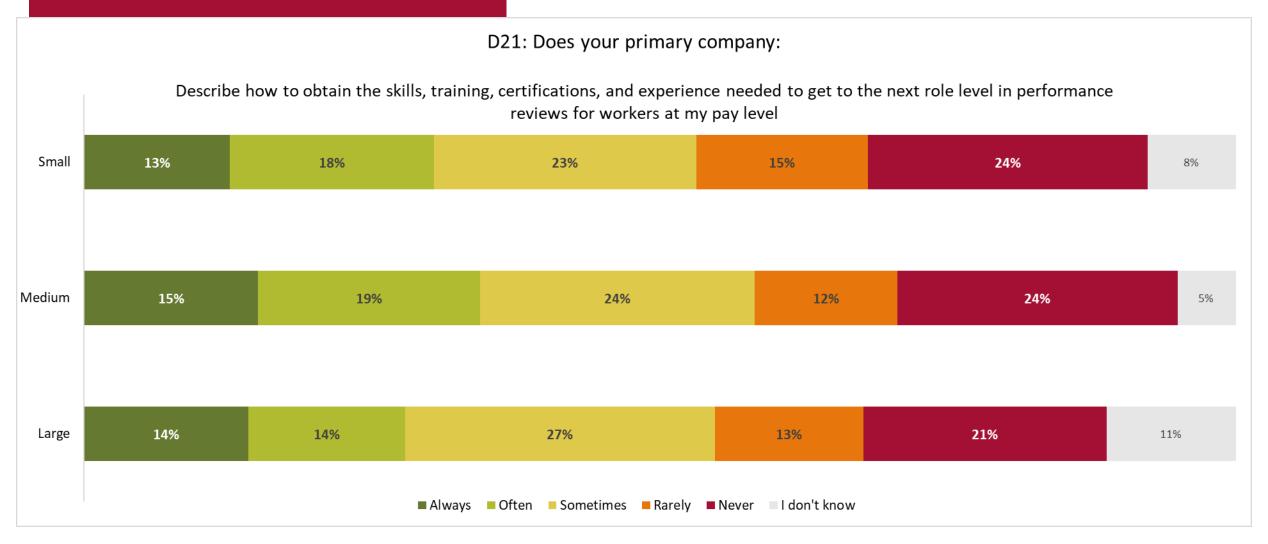


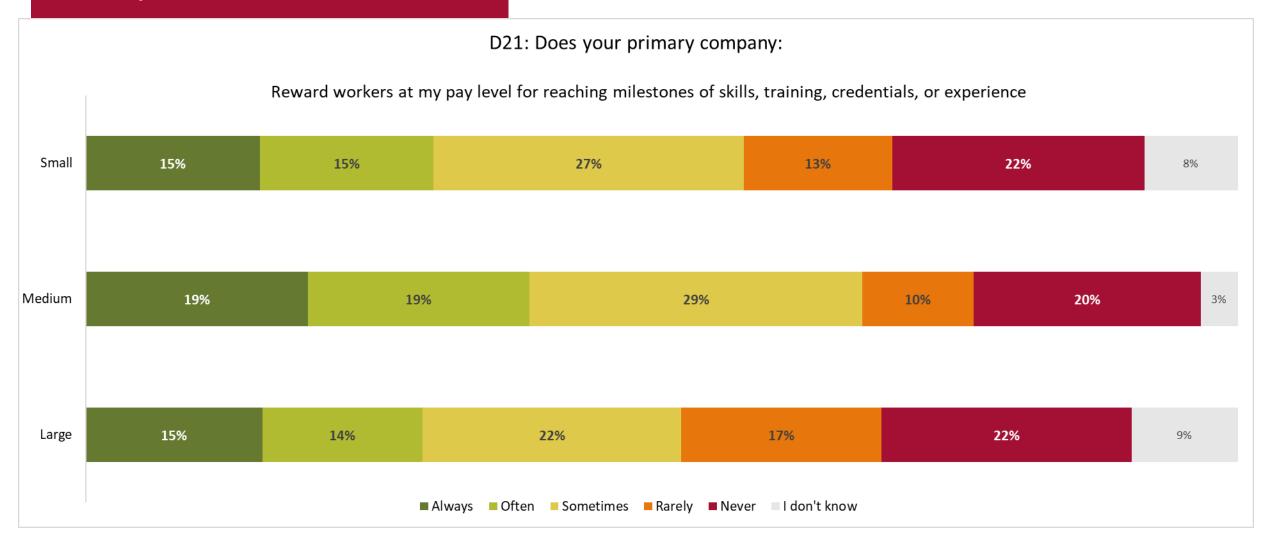


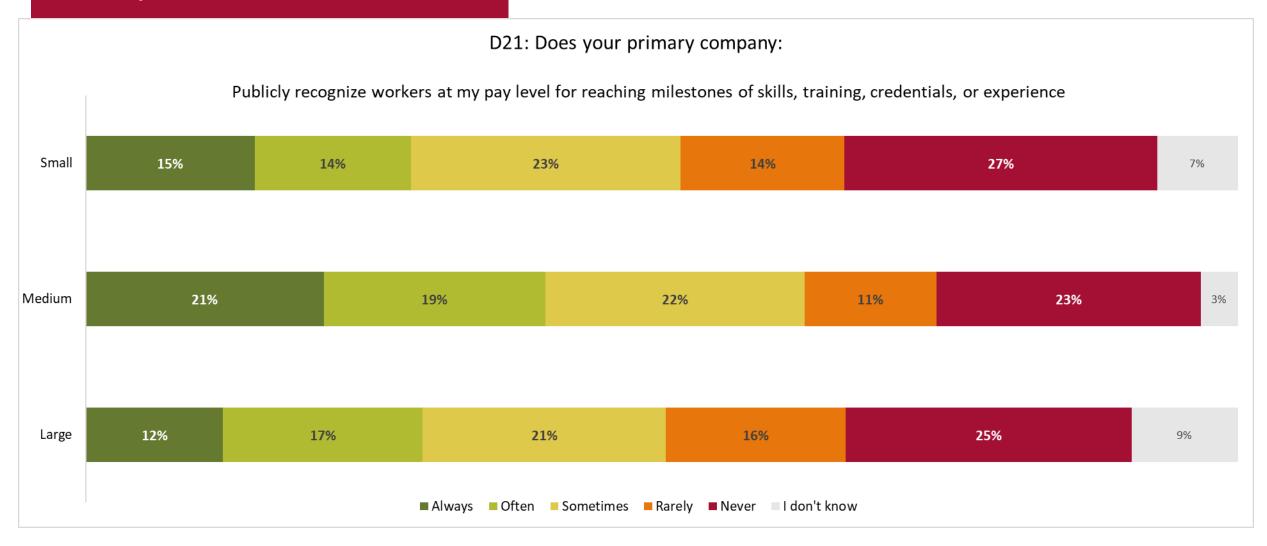


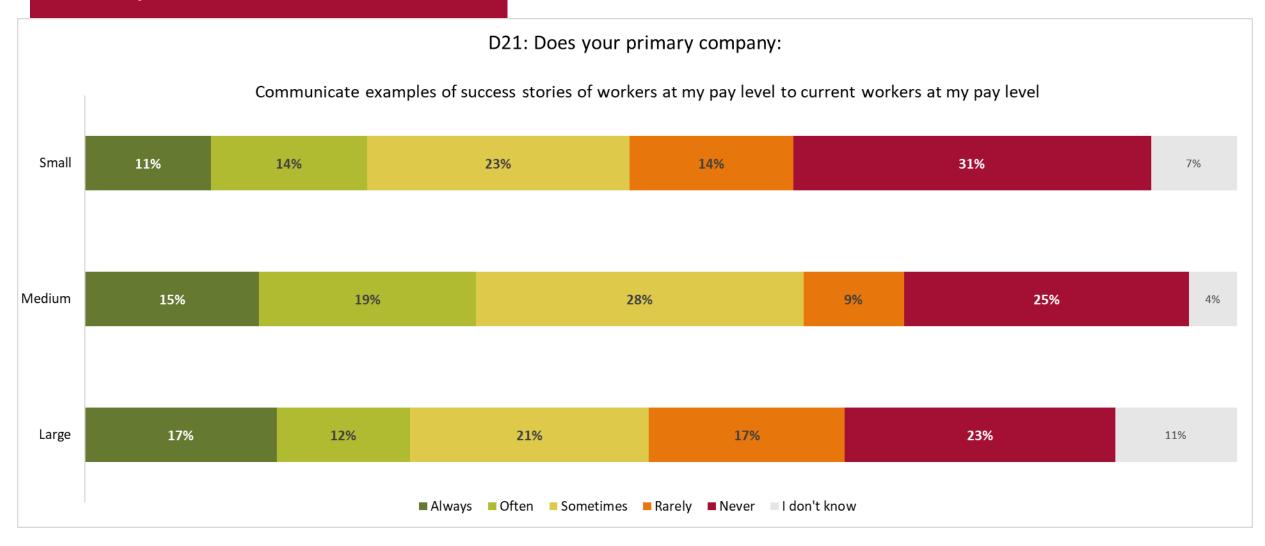


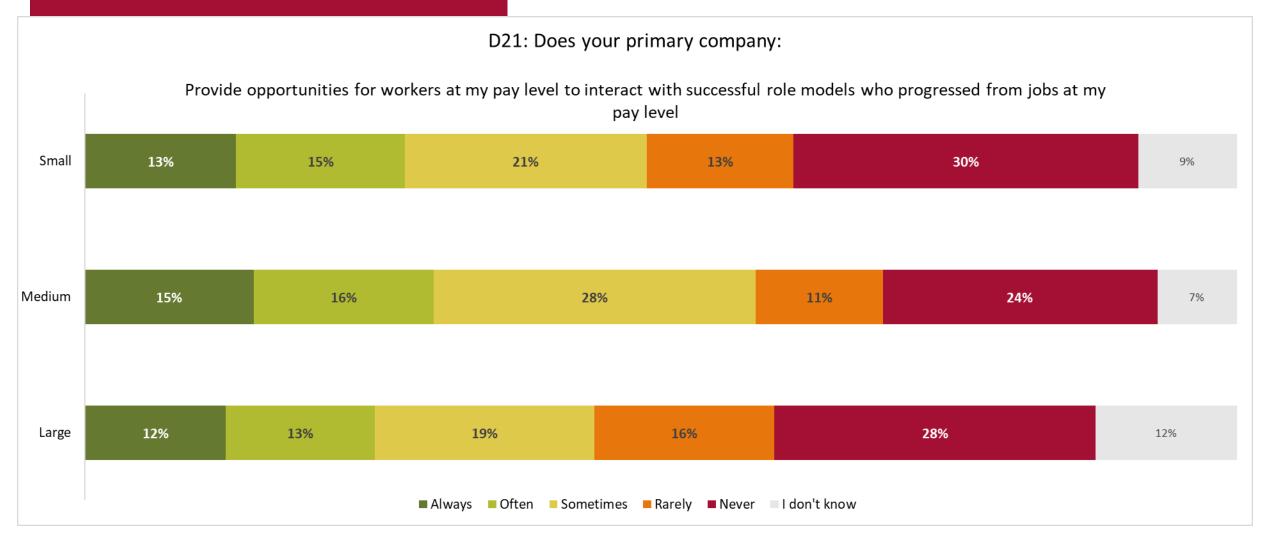


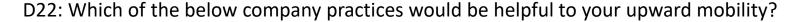


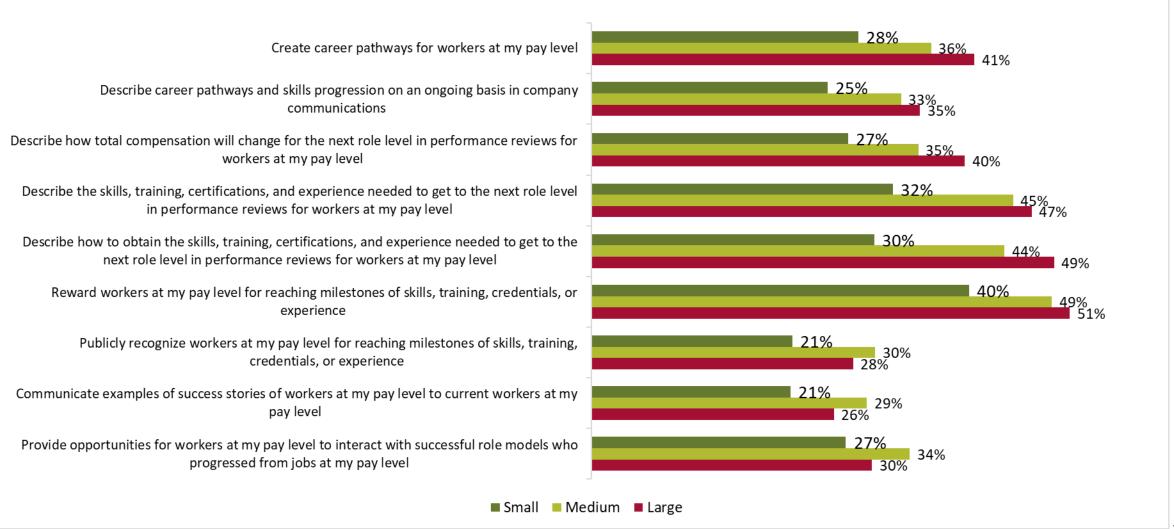


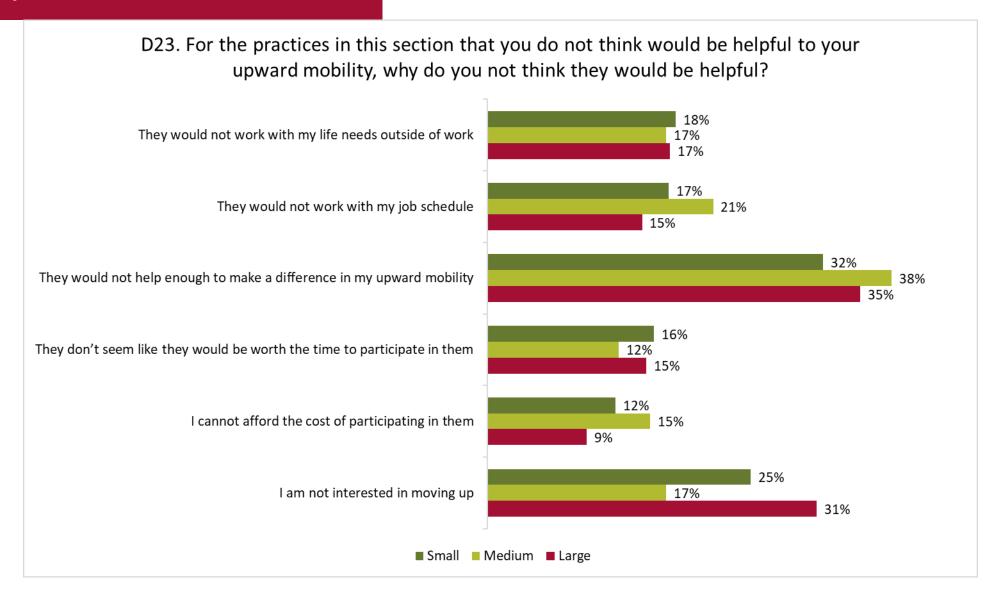


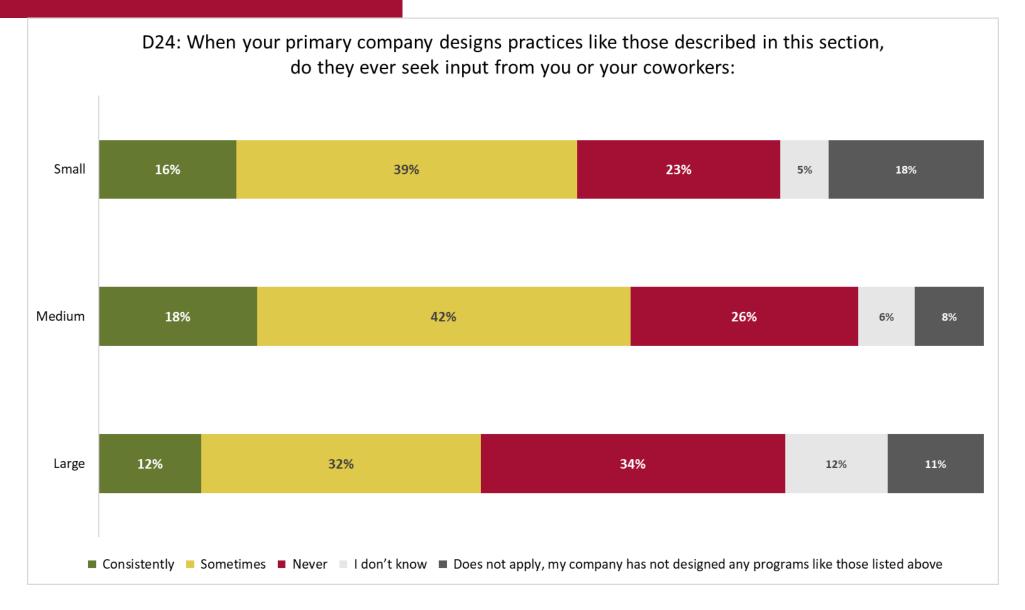


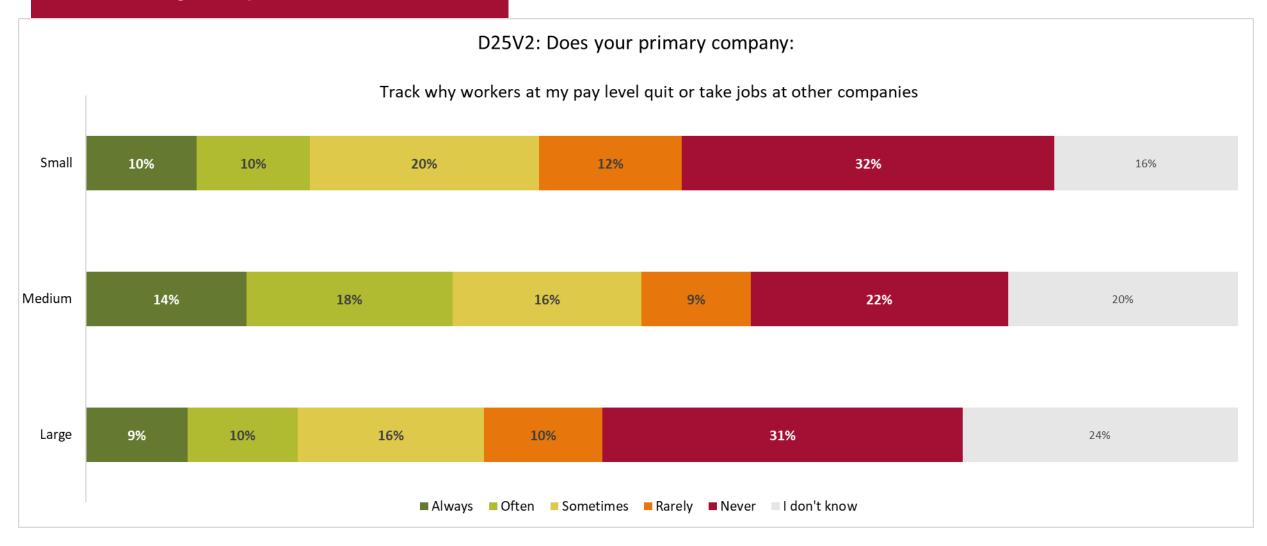


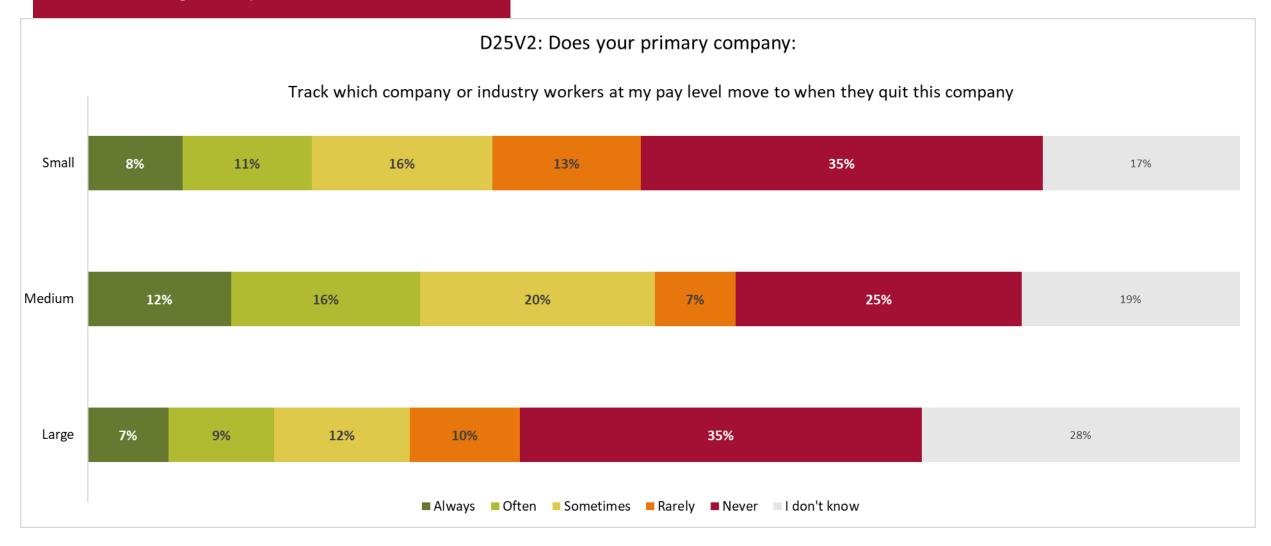


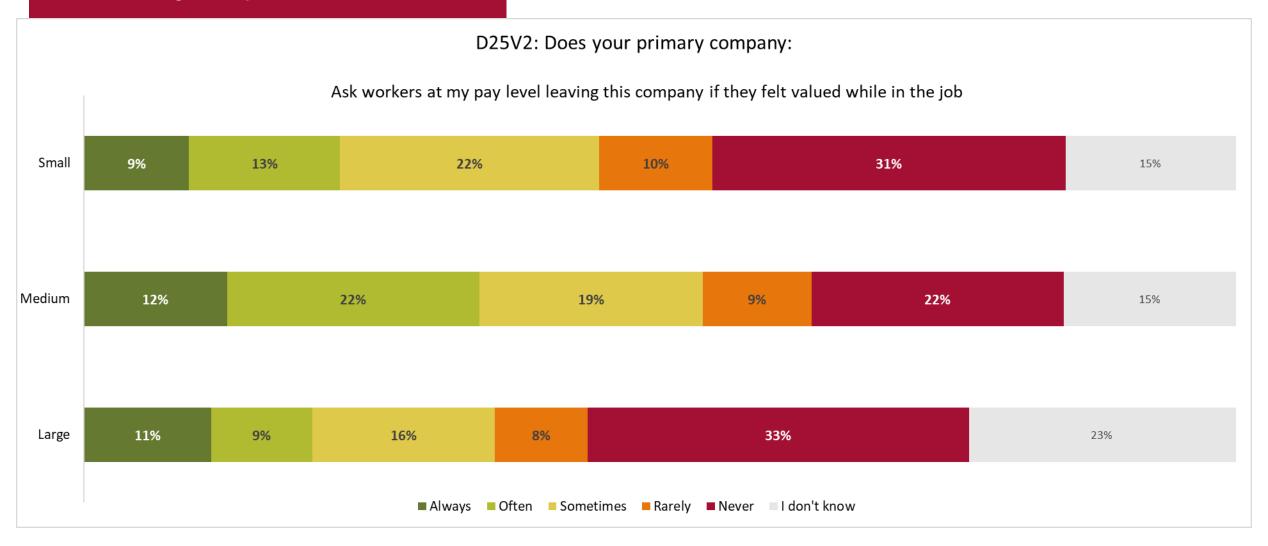


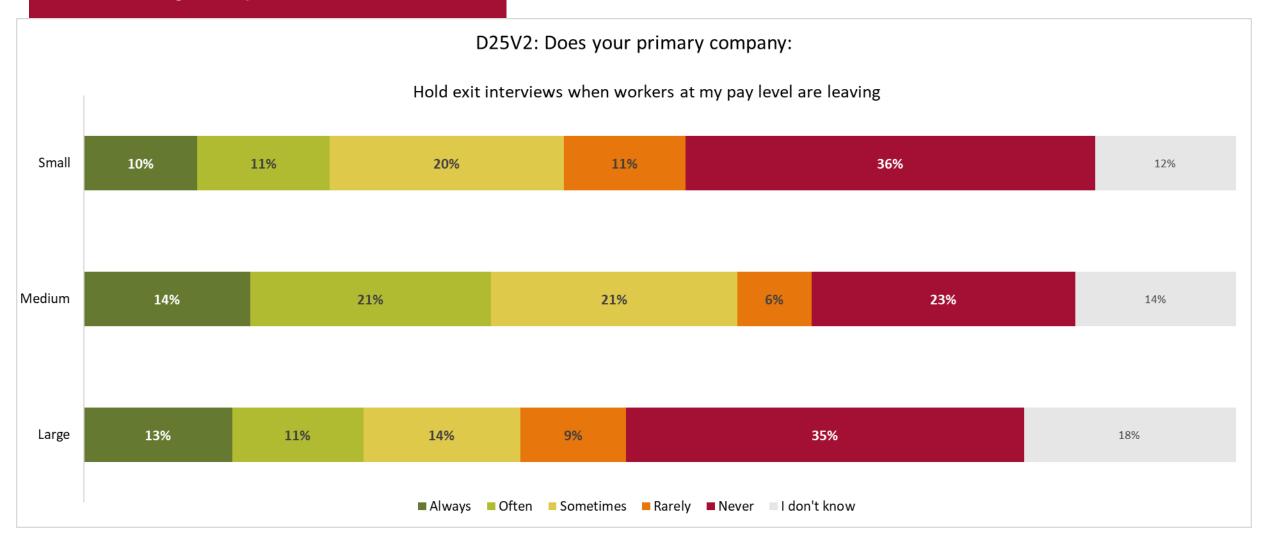








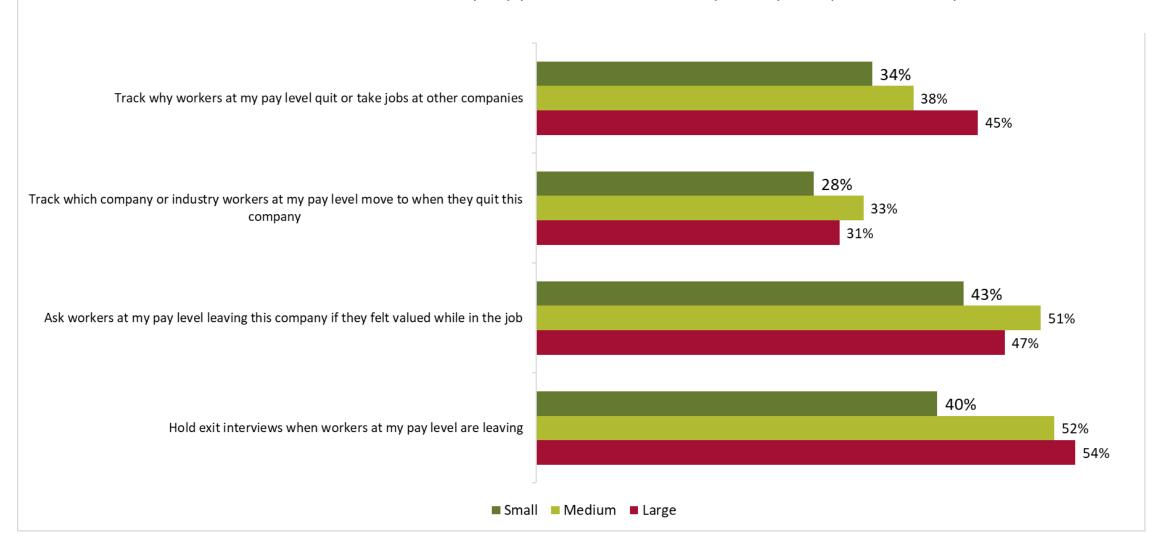




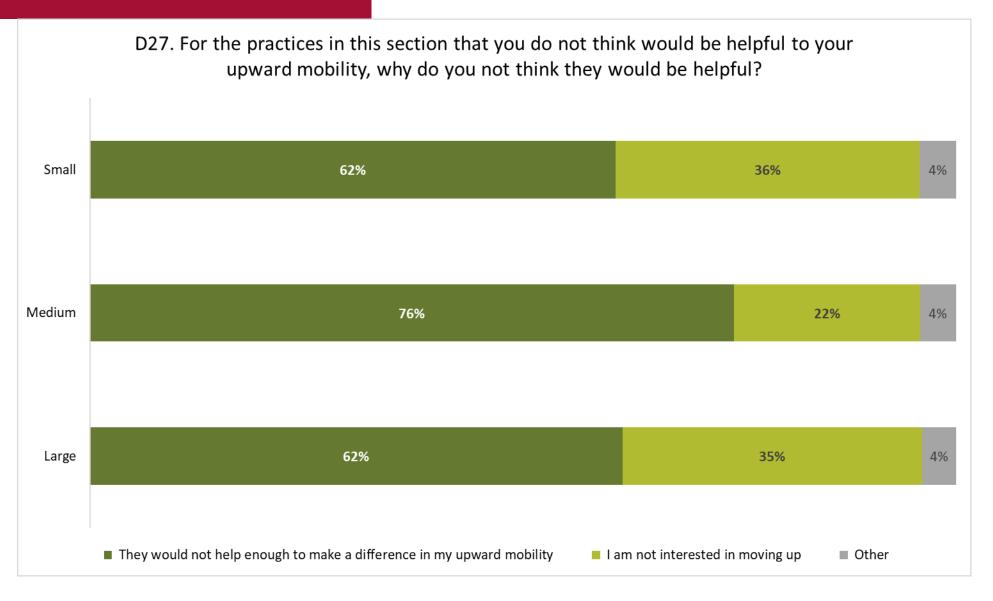
Section D Offboarding and post-exit

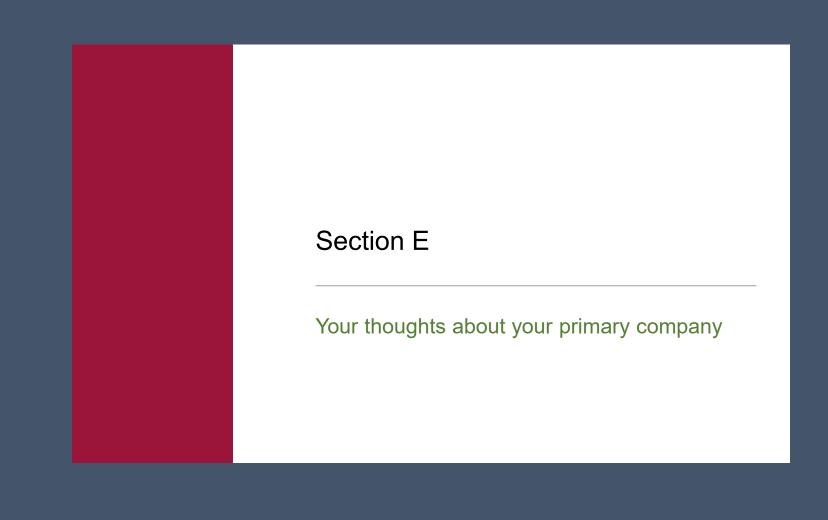
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

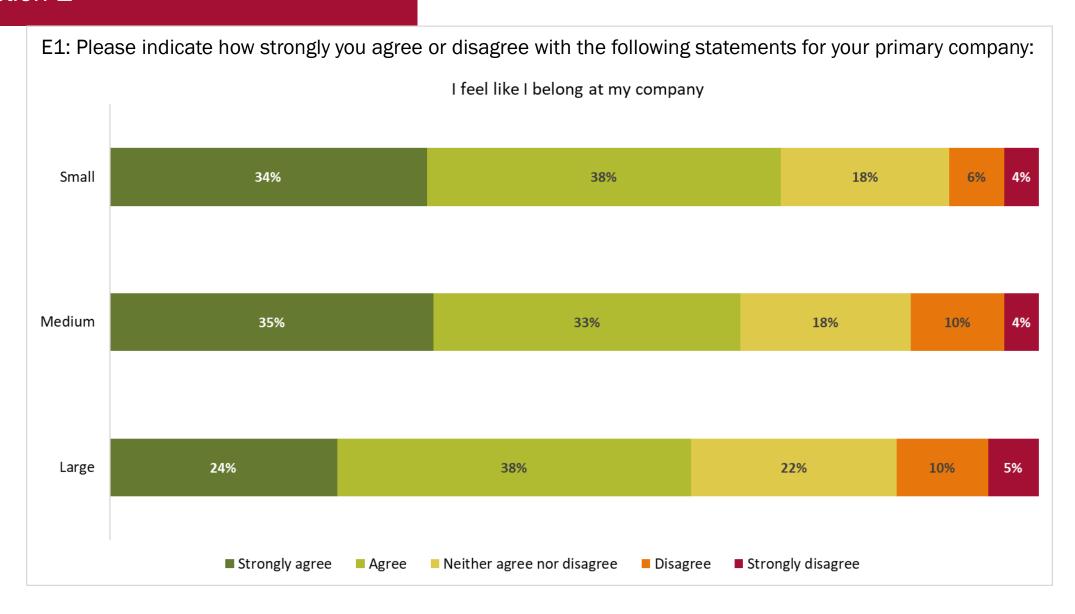
D26: Which of the below company practices would be helpful to your upward mobility?

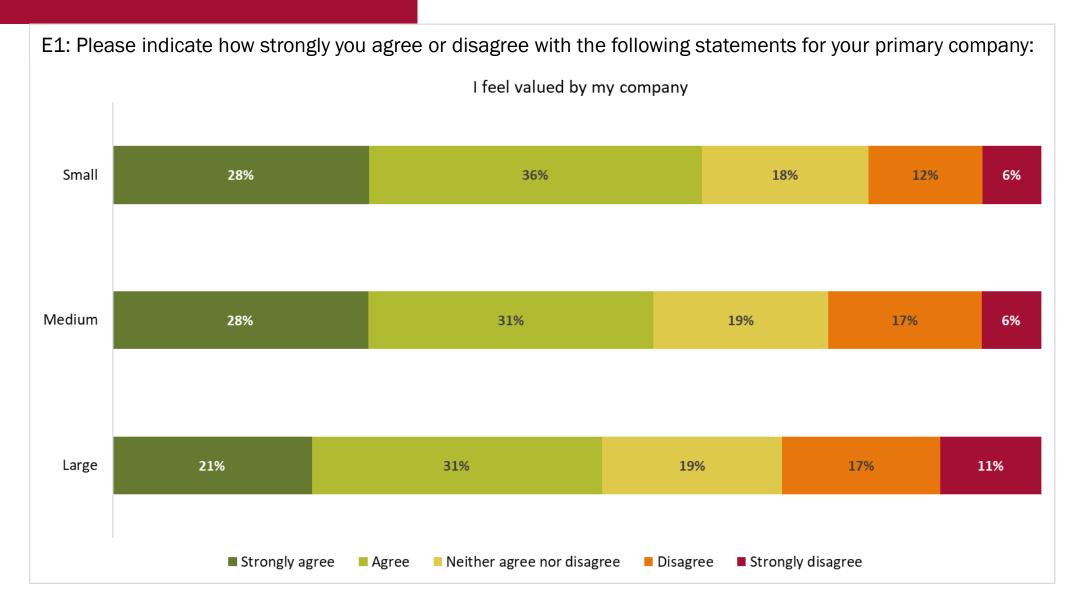


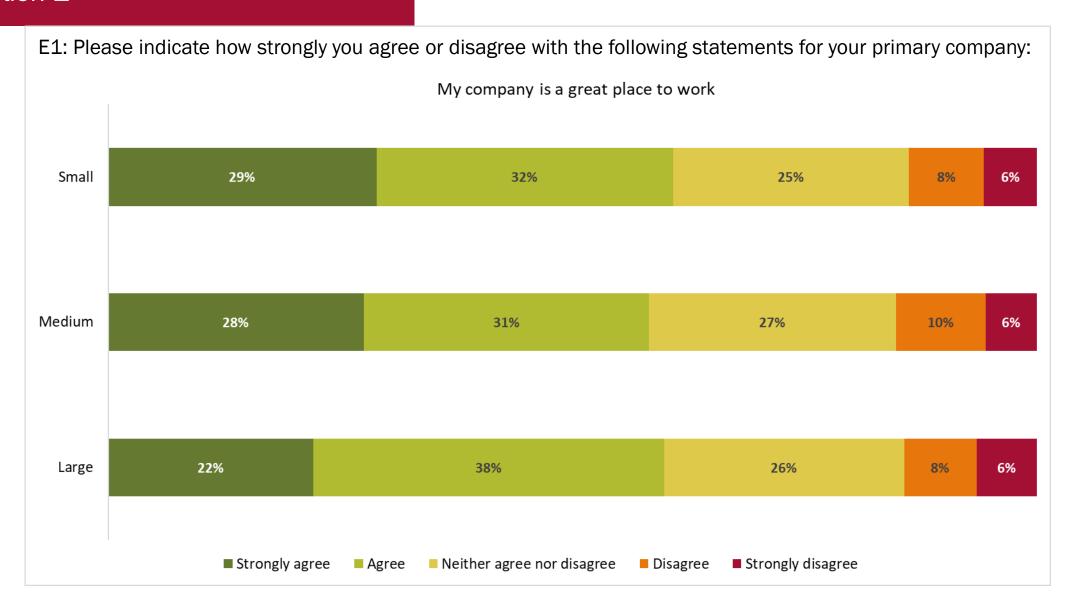
Section D Offboarding and post-exit

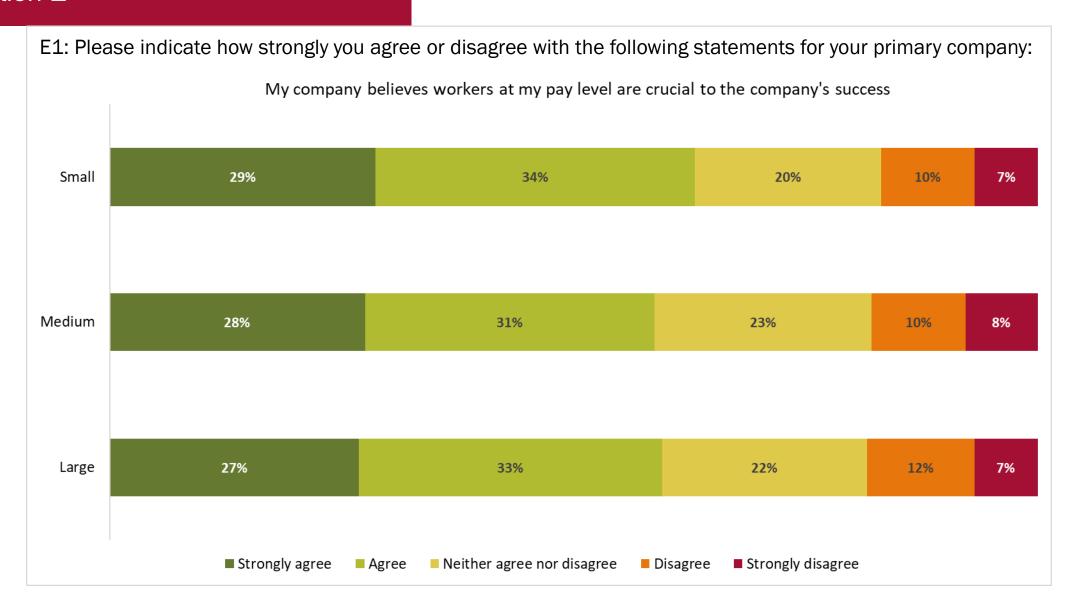


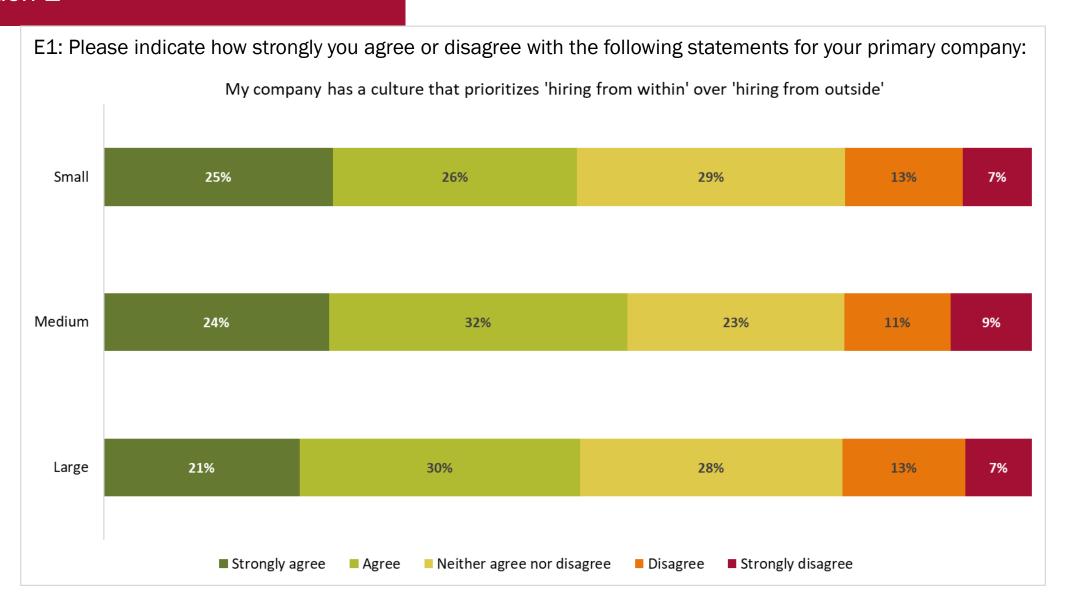


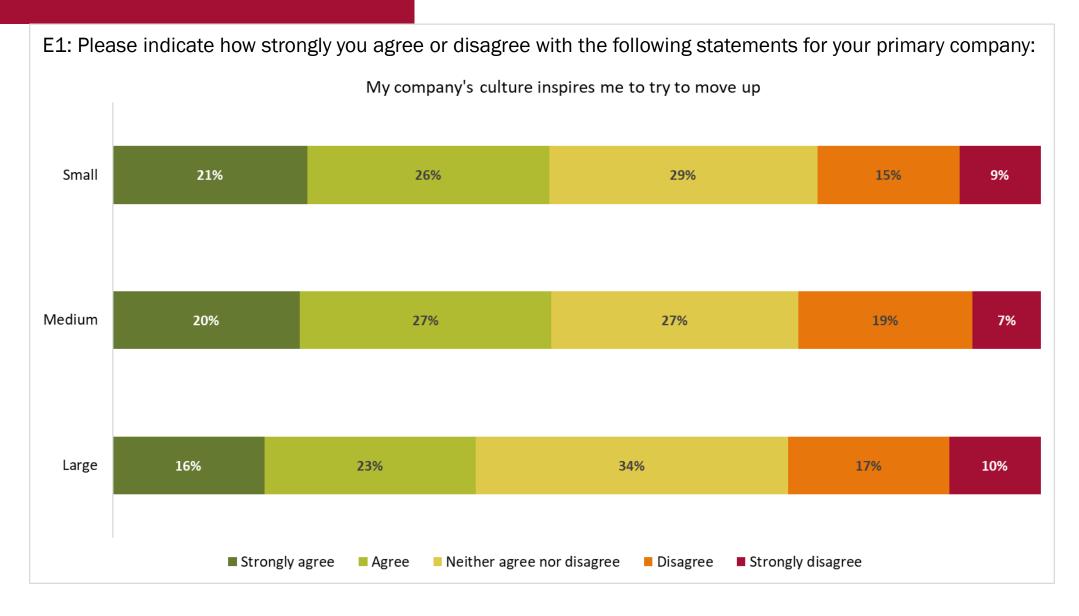


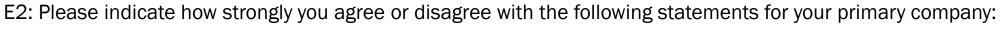


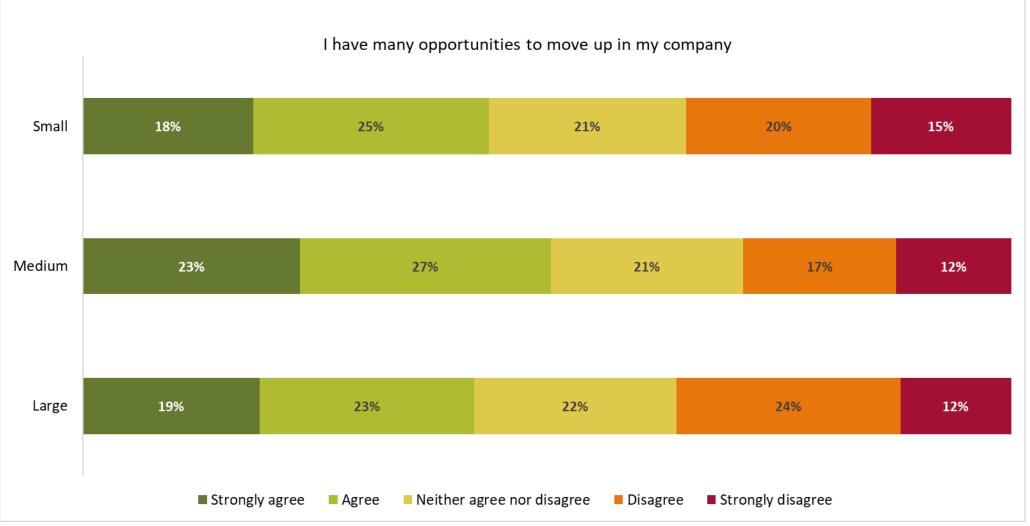




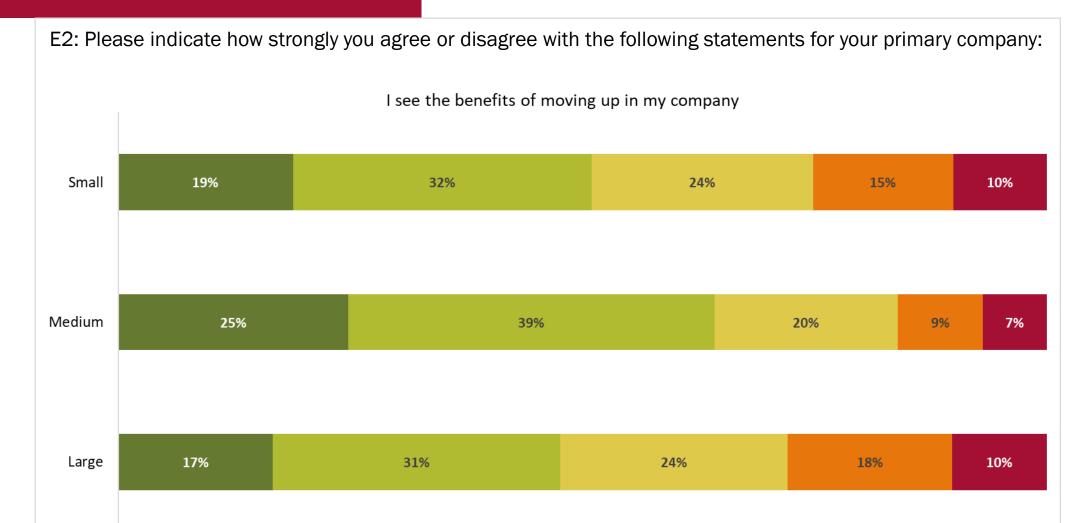








Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

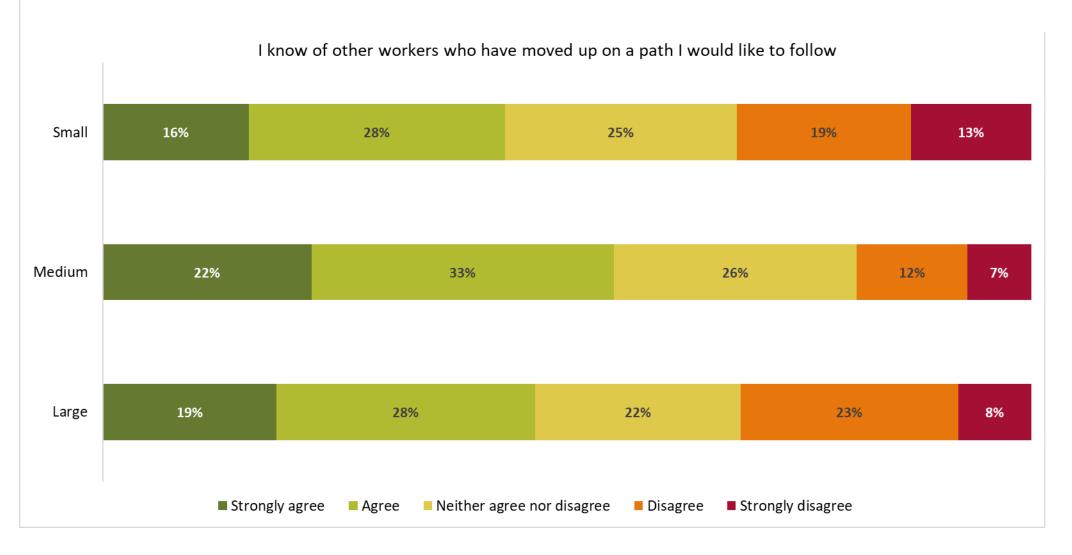
■ Strongly disagree

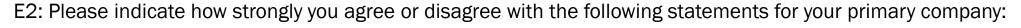
■ Strongly agree

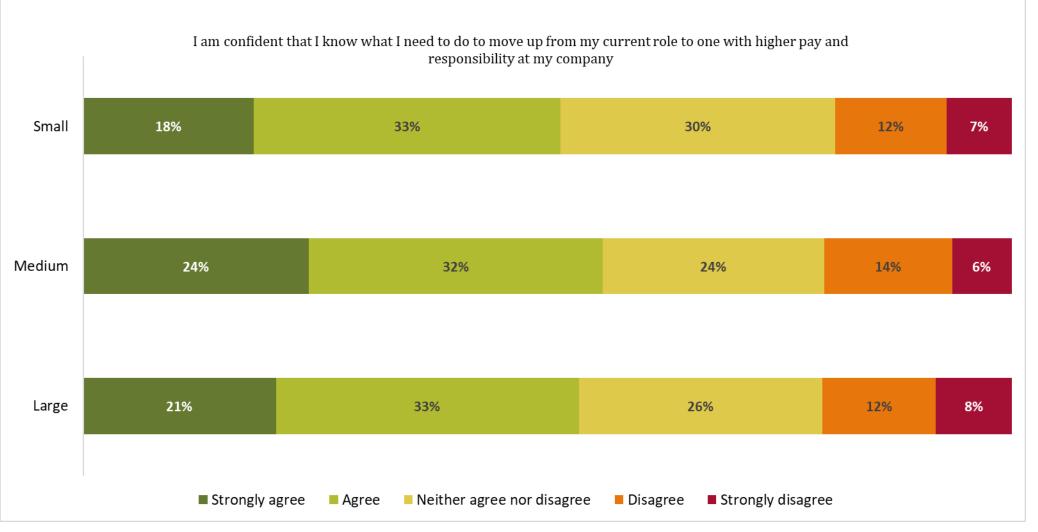
Agree

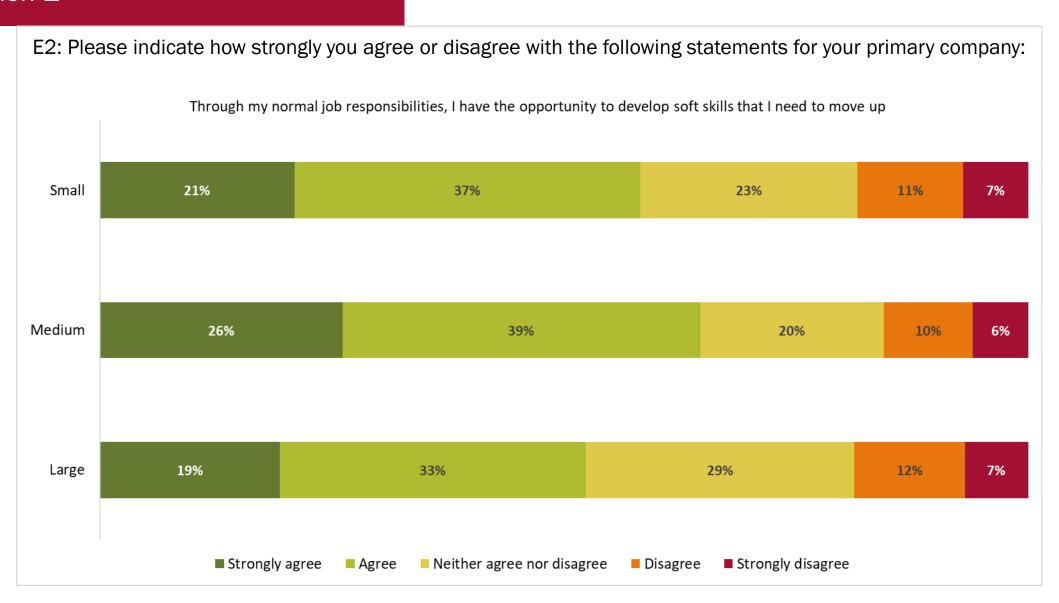
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

E2: Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements for your primary company:



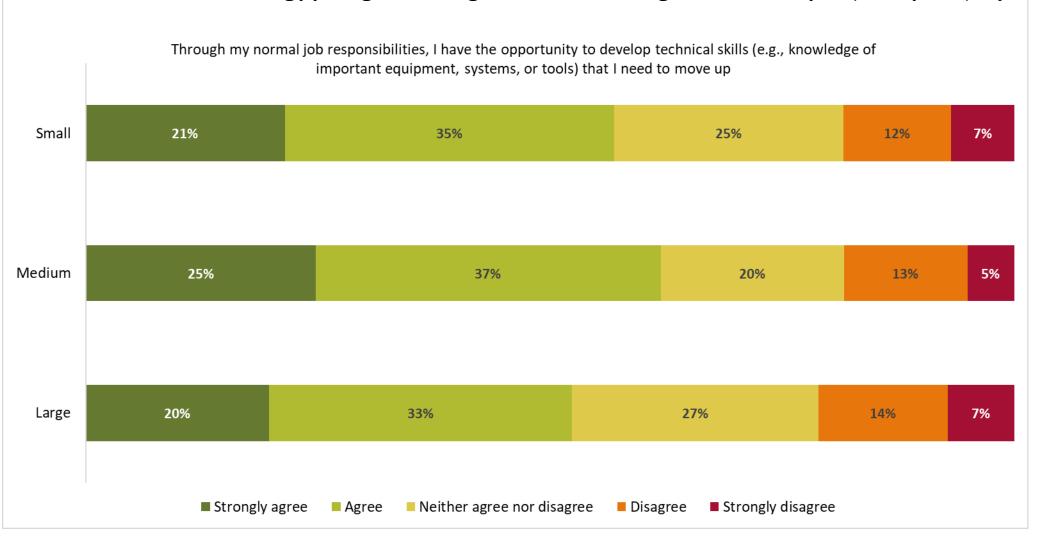






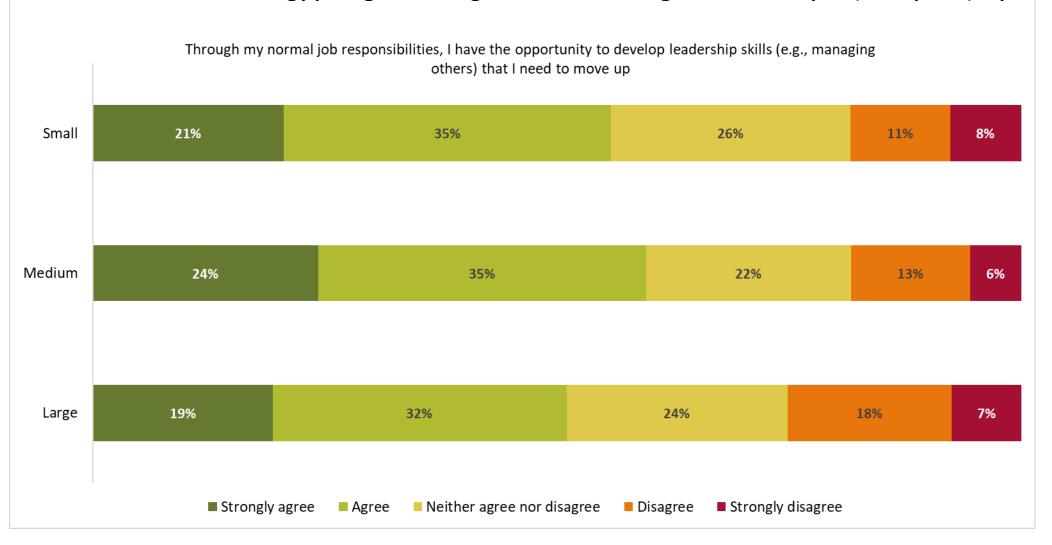
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

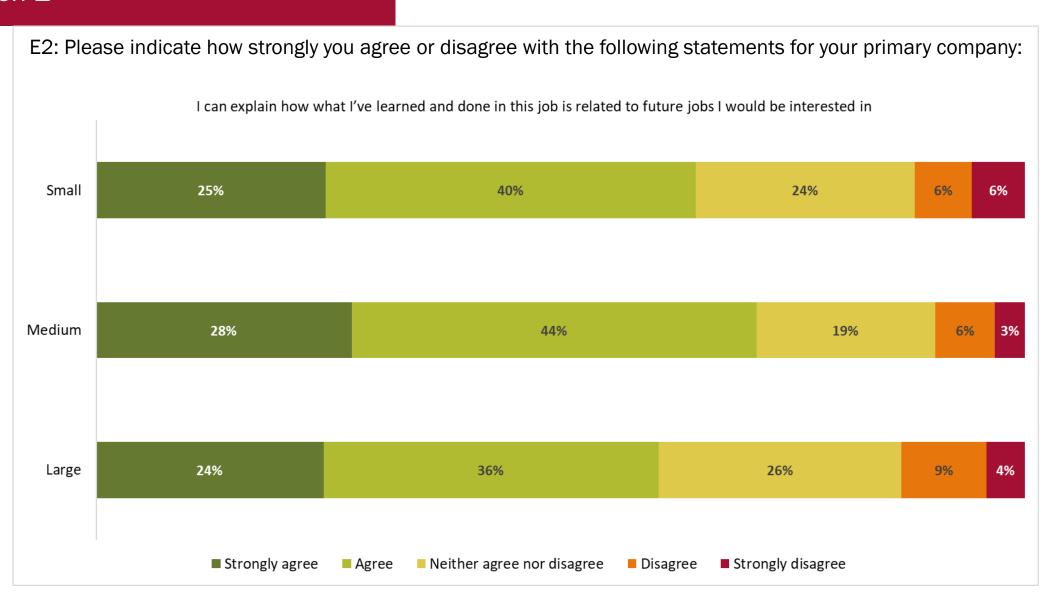
E2: Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements for your primary company:



Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

E2: Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements for your primary company:

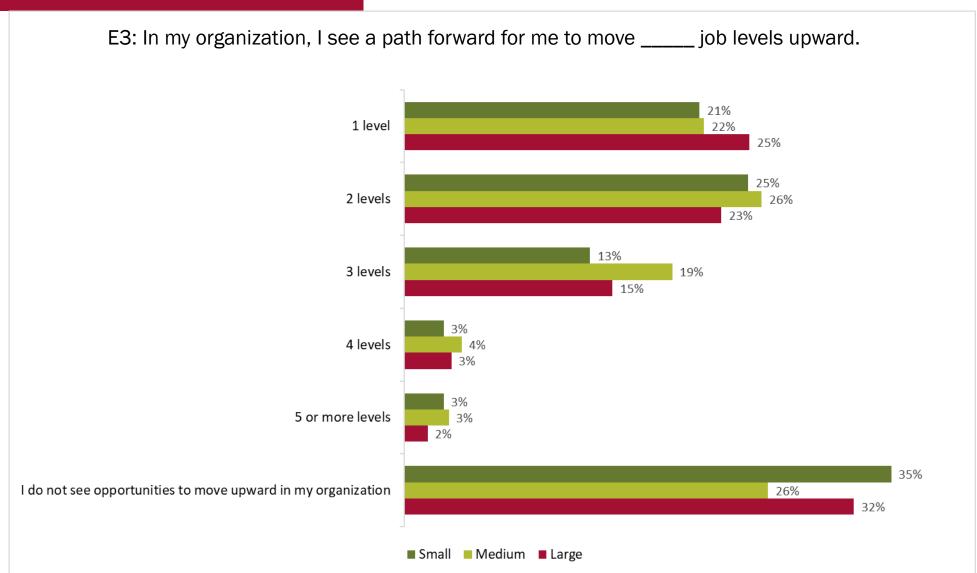




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Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on

Section E

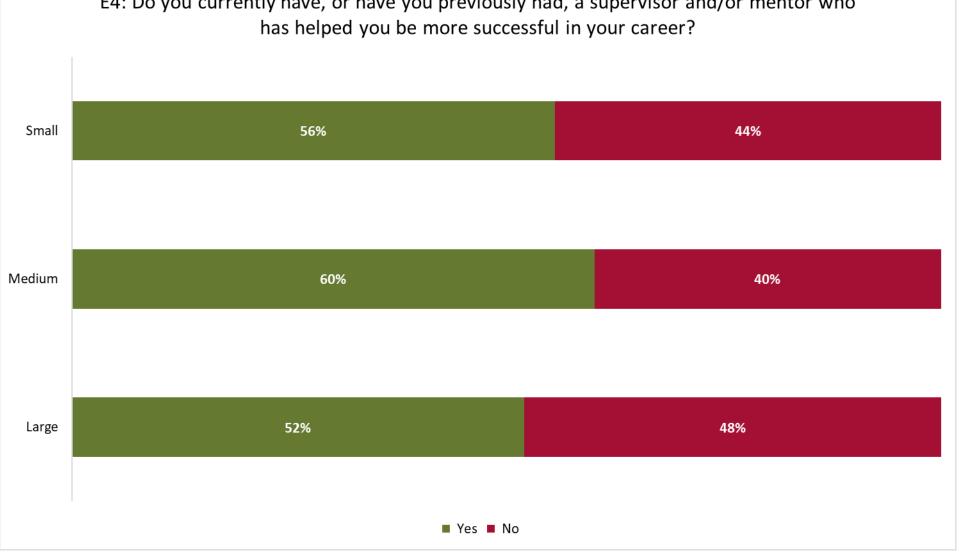


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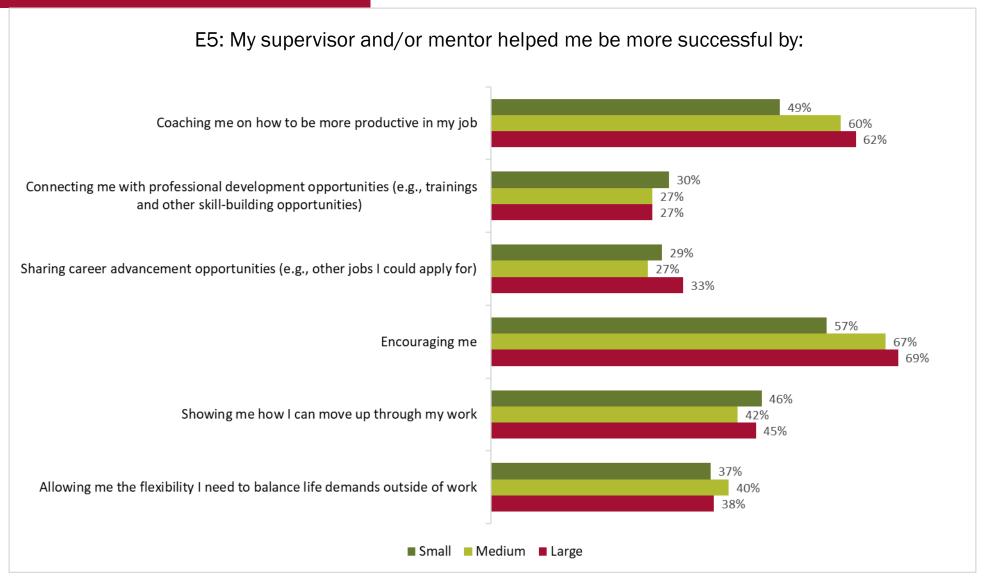
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on

Section E

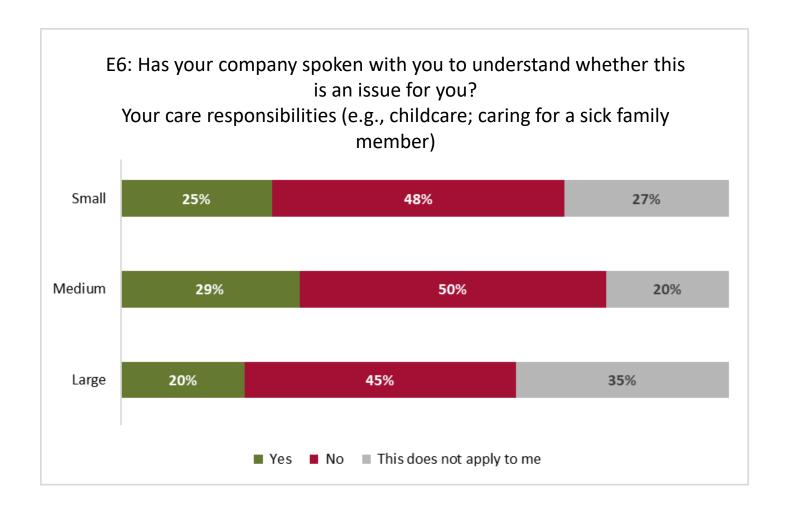
E4: Do you currently have, or have you previously had, a supervisor and/or mentor who



Section E

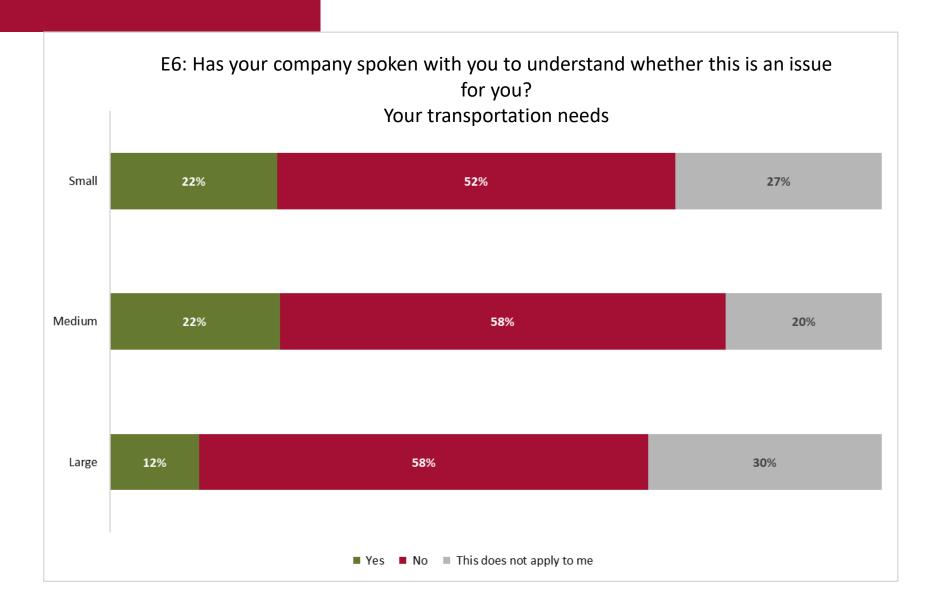


Note: Only respondents who indicated they have/had a mentor in question E4 answered this question.



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Section E



Section E

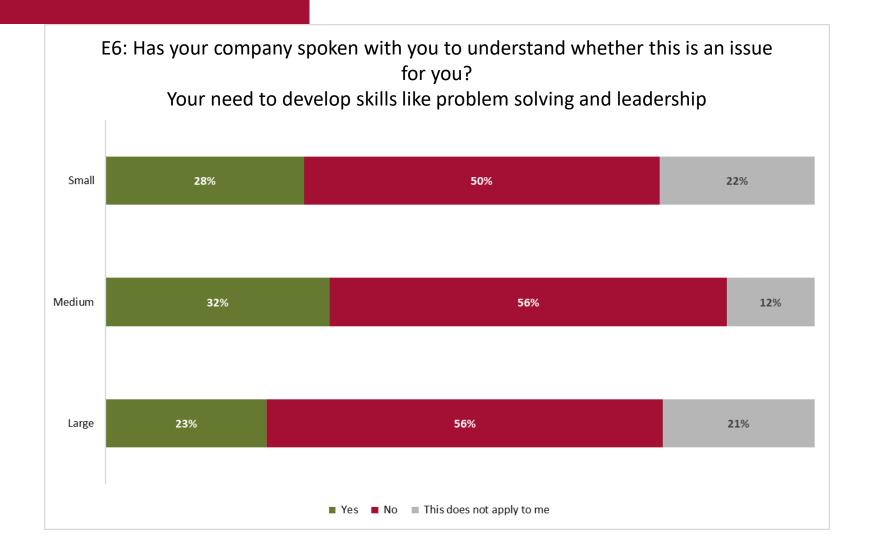


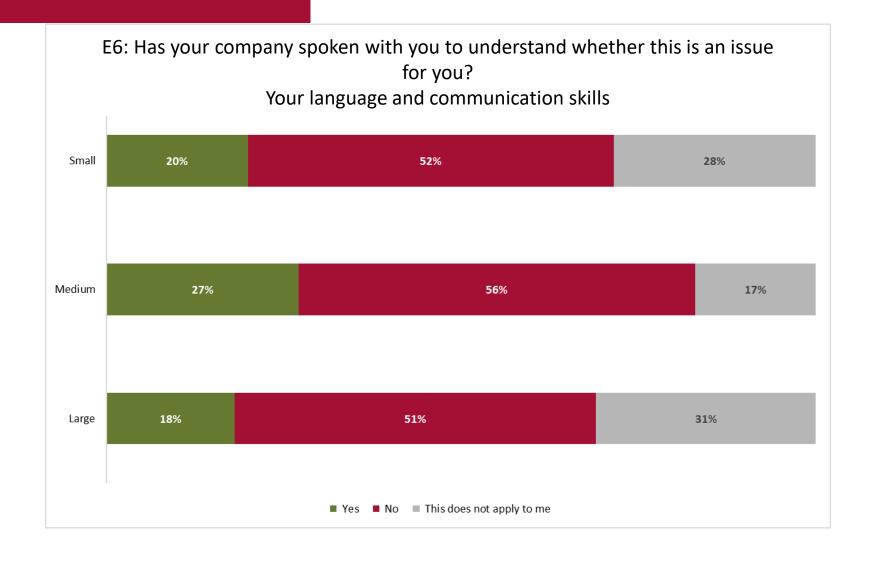
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Section E

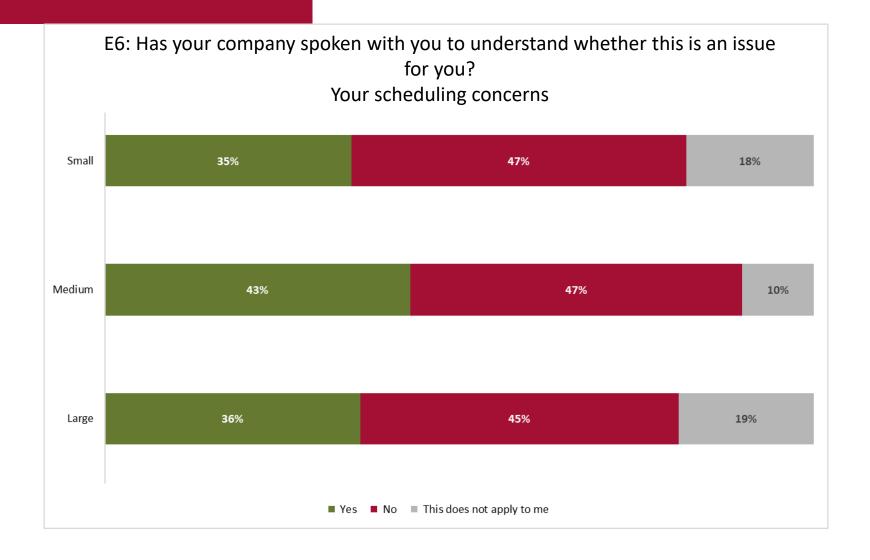


Section E



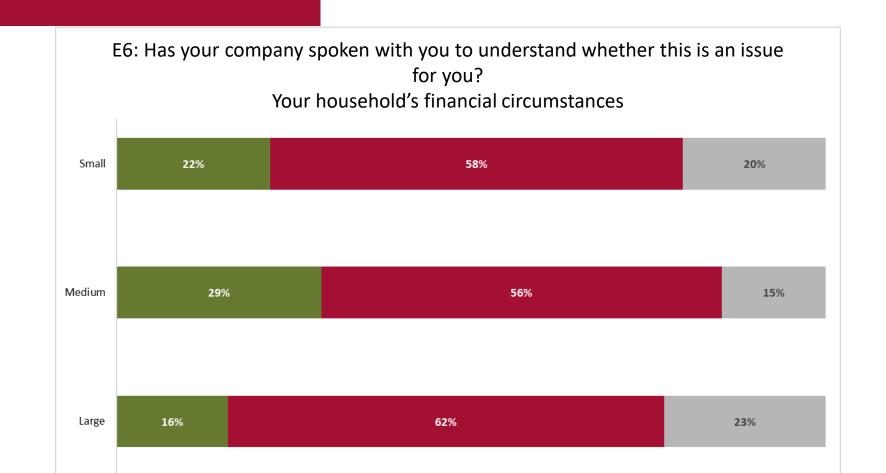


Section E



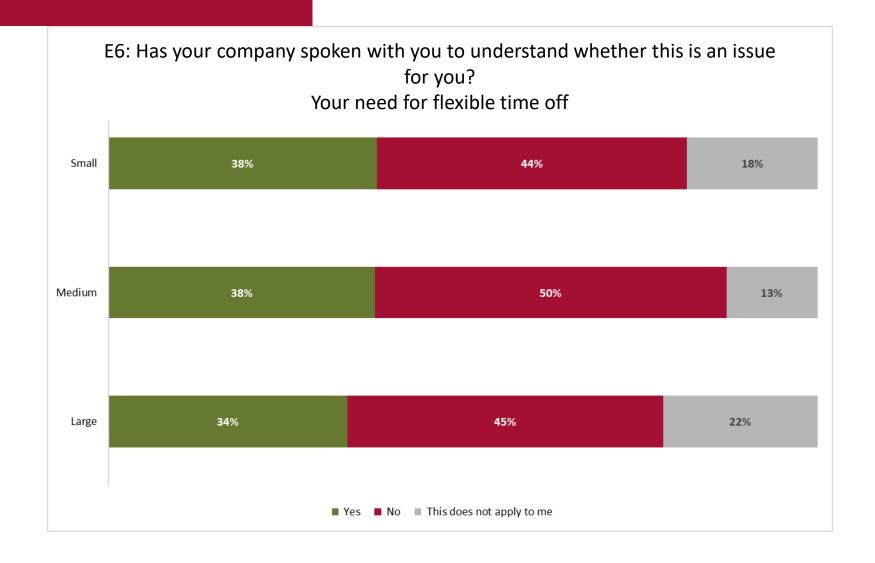
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Section E

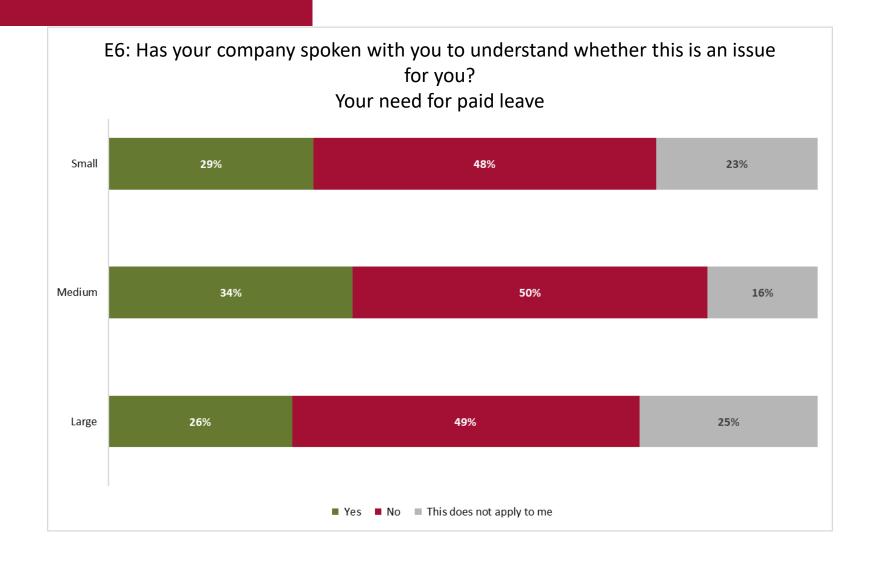


■ Yes ■ No ■ This does not apply to me

Section E

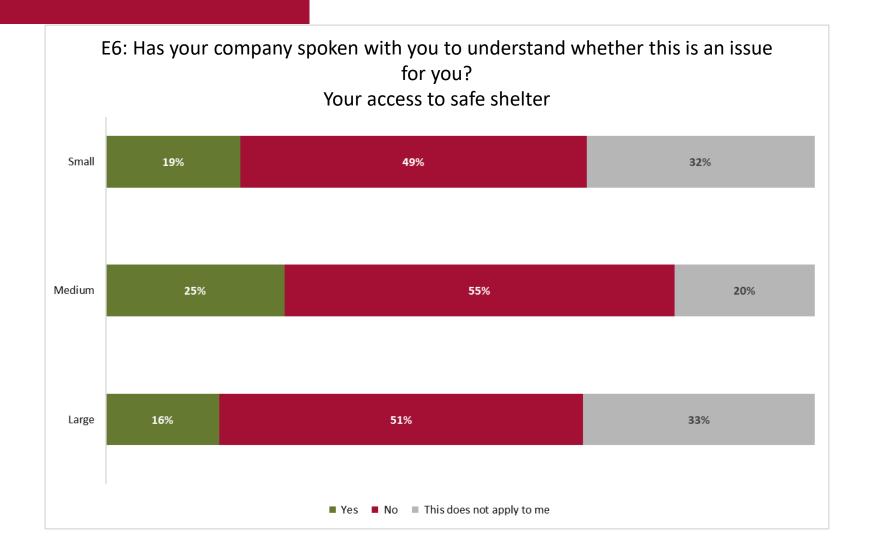


Section E



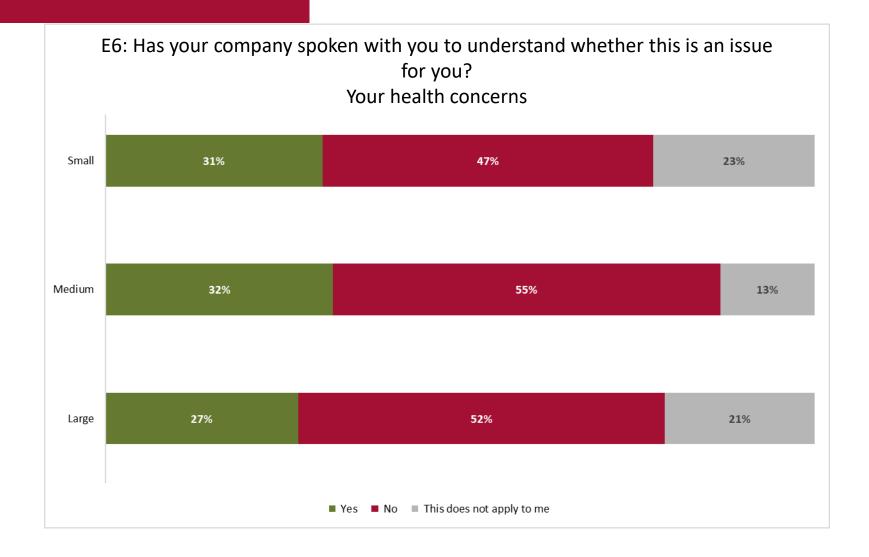
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Section E



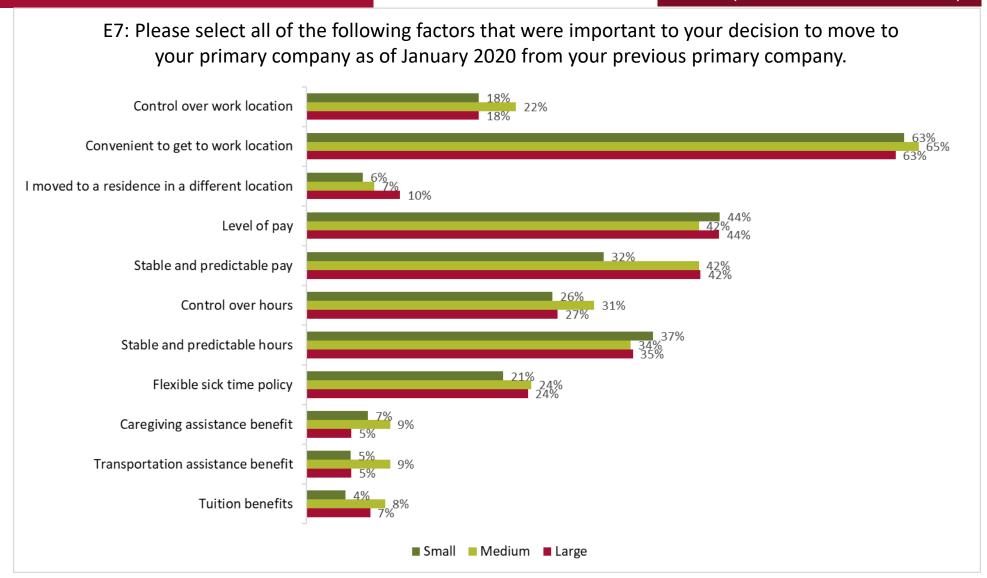
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Section E



Section E

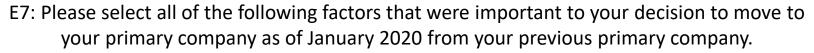
Part 1 (continued on next slide)

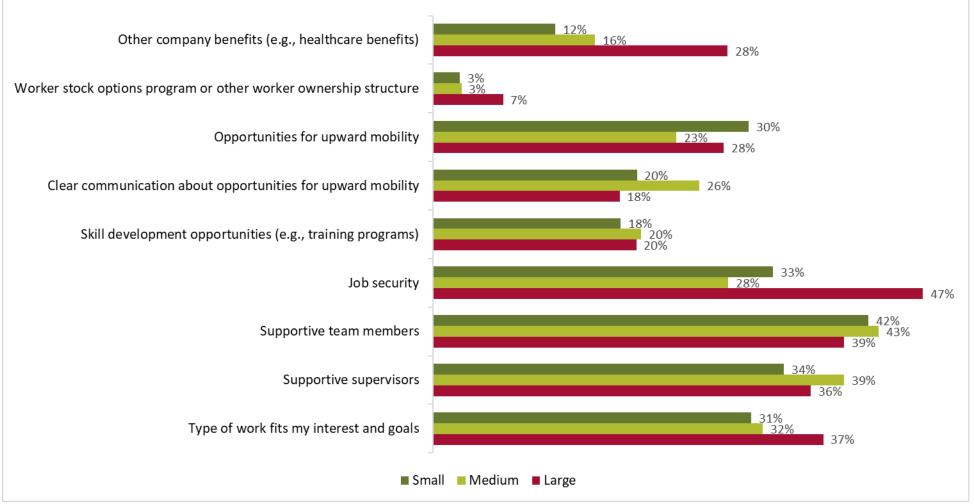


Note: Only respondents who have worked at two or more companies in their career answered this question.

Section E

Part 2 (continued from previous slide)

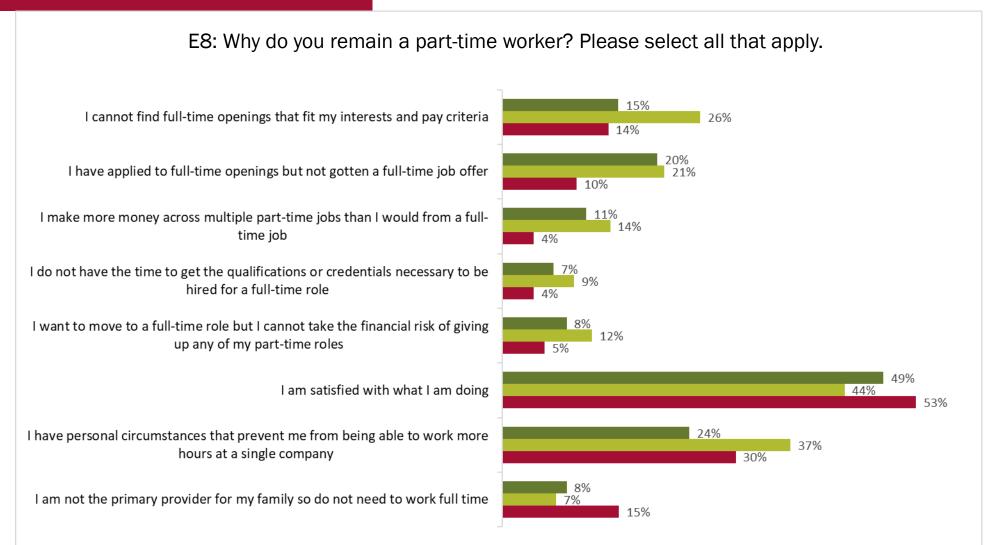




Note: Only respondents who have worked at two or more companies in their career answered this question.

Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on

Section E

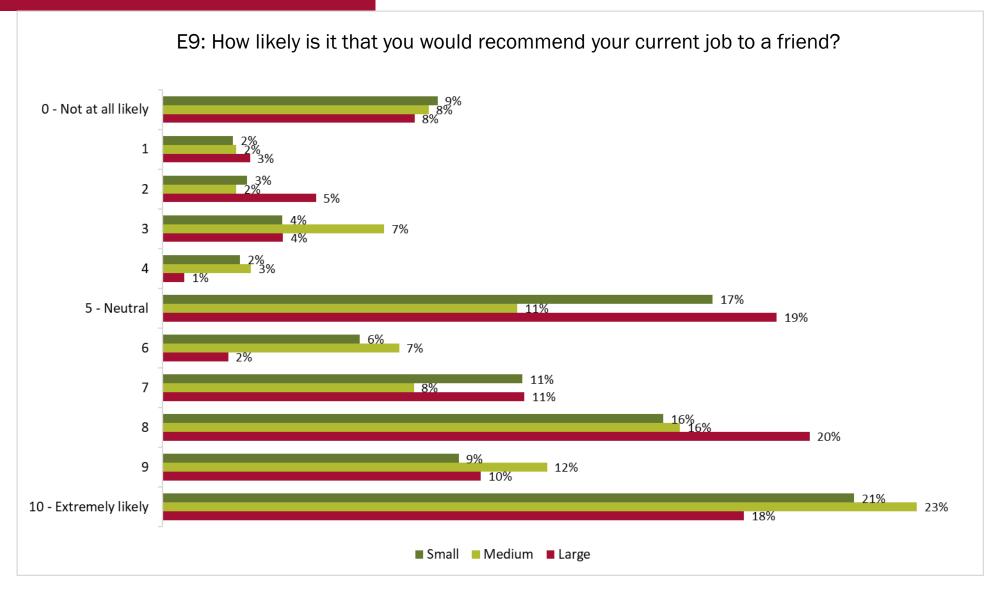


■ Small ■ Medium ■ Large

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Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

Section E

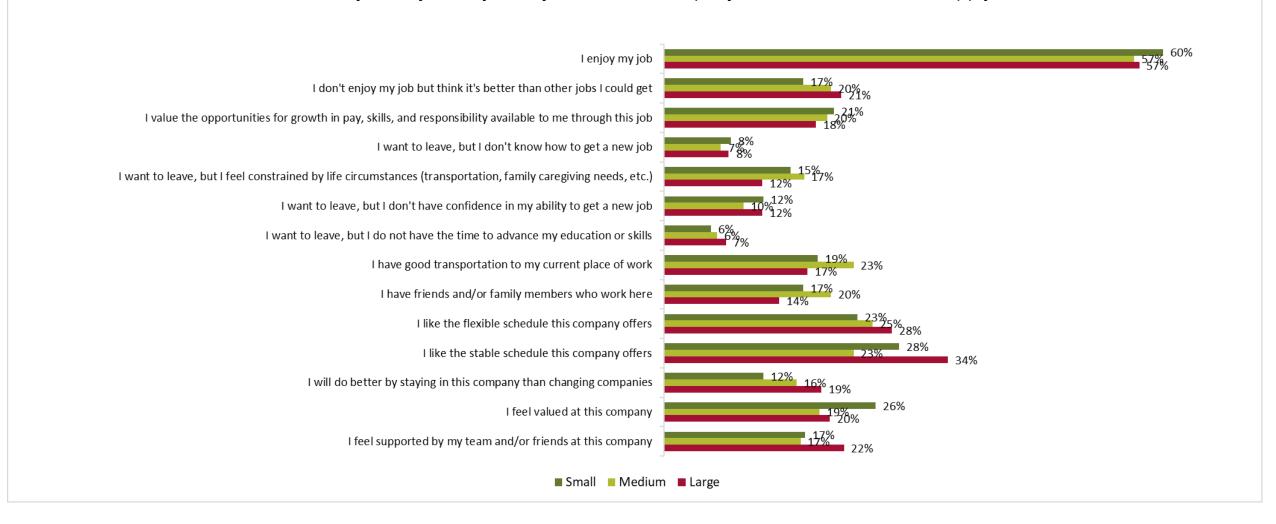


Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September – November 2020, Project on

Section E

E10: Why have you stayed at your current company? Please select all that apply.

Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



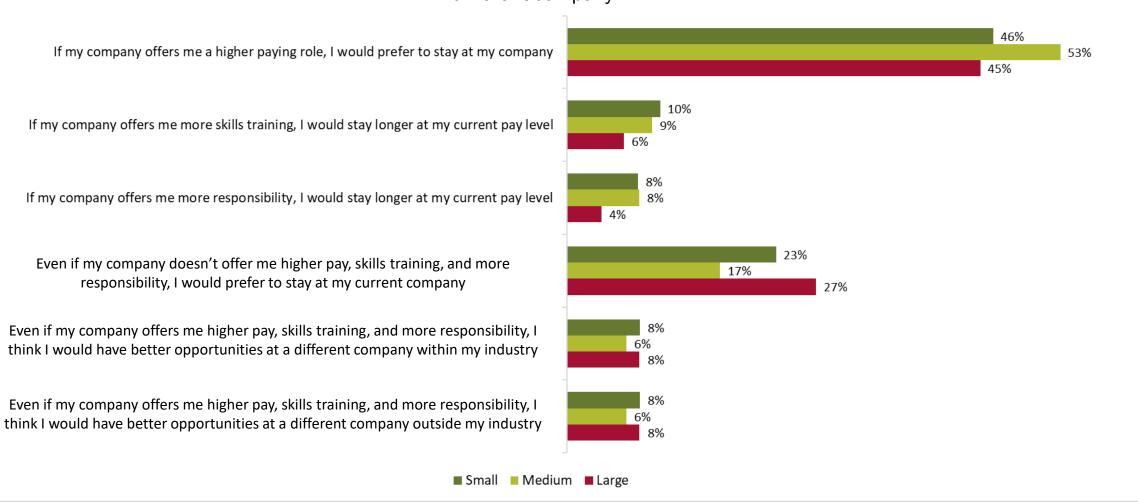
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Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on

Section E

E11: In the future, would you prefer to stay at your current company or seek other opportunities at a different company?

Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

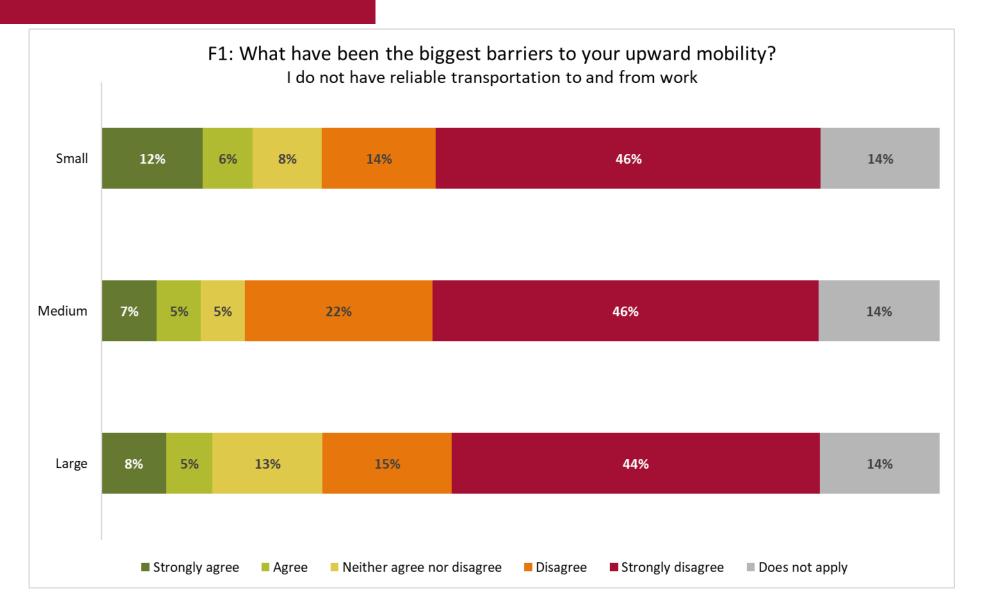


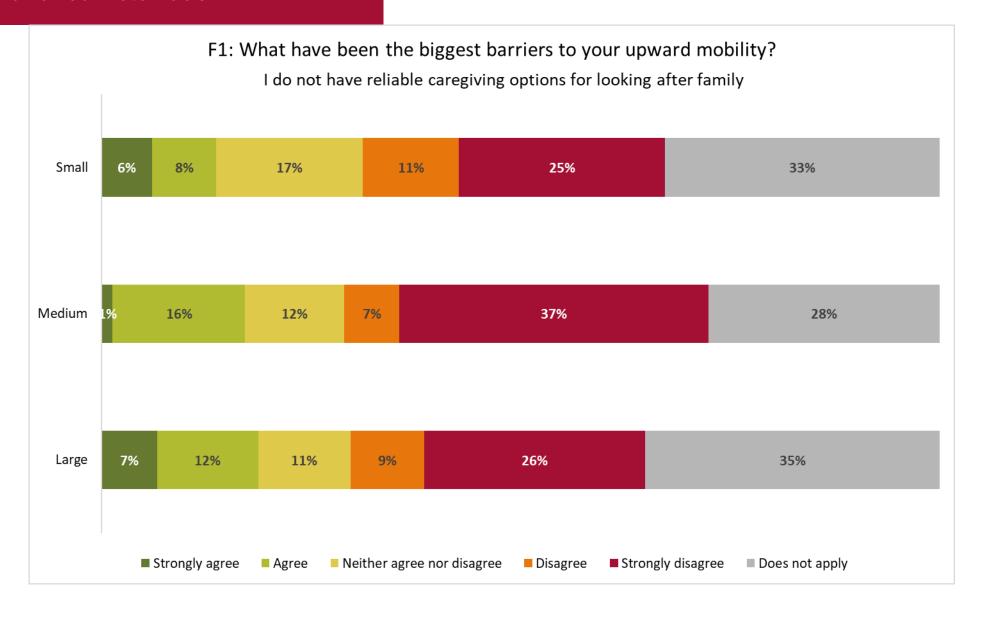
Section F

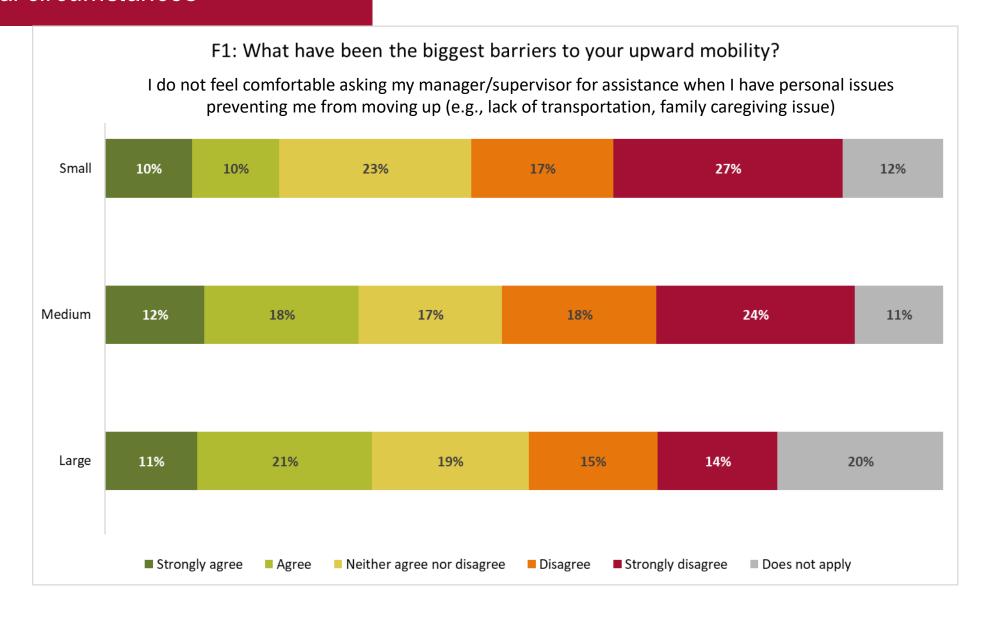
Barriers

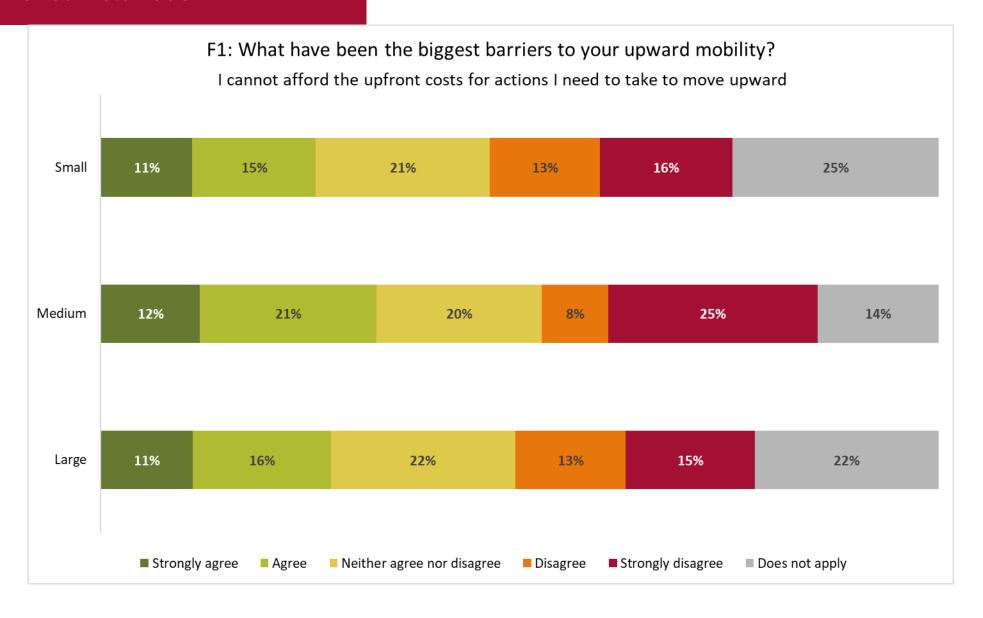
Only shown to those who did NOT achieve upward mobility in the last three years.

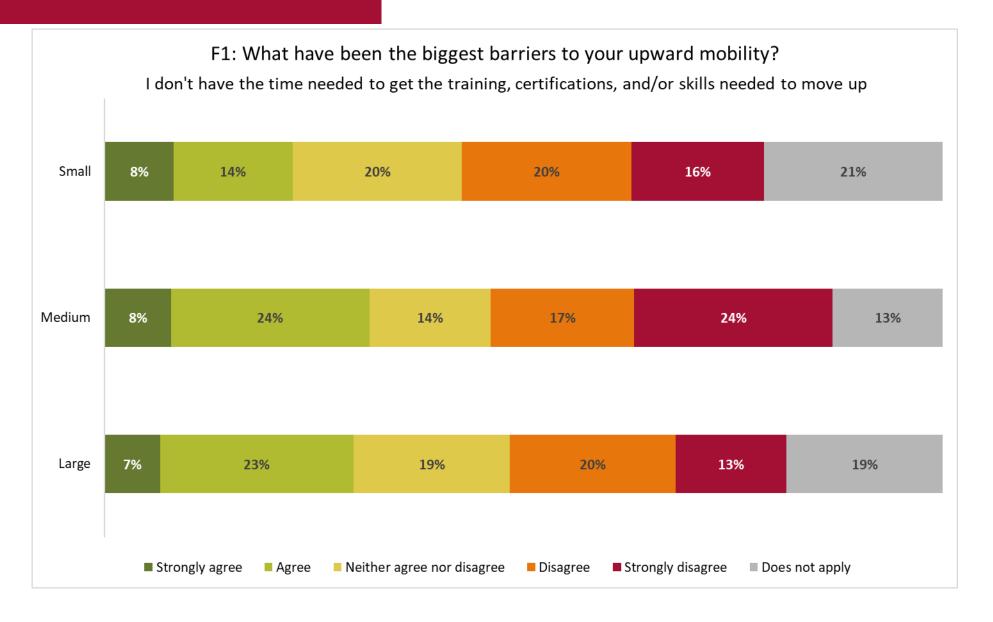
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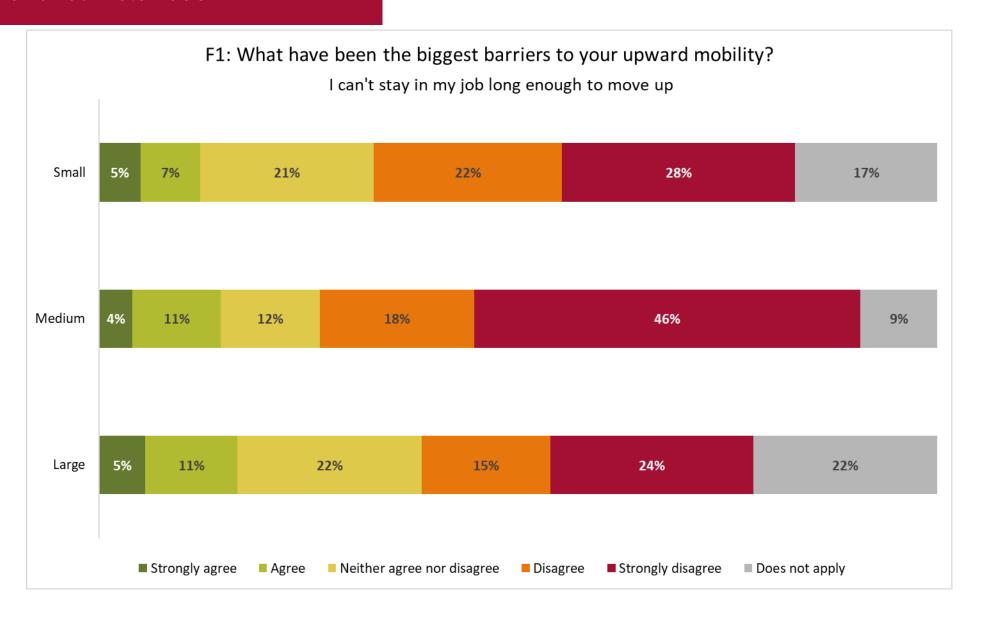


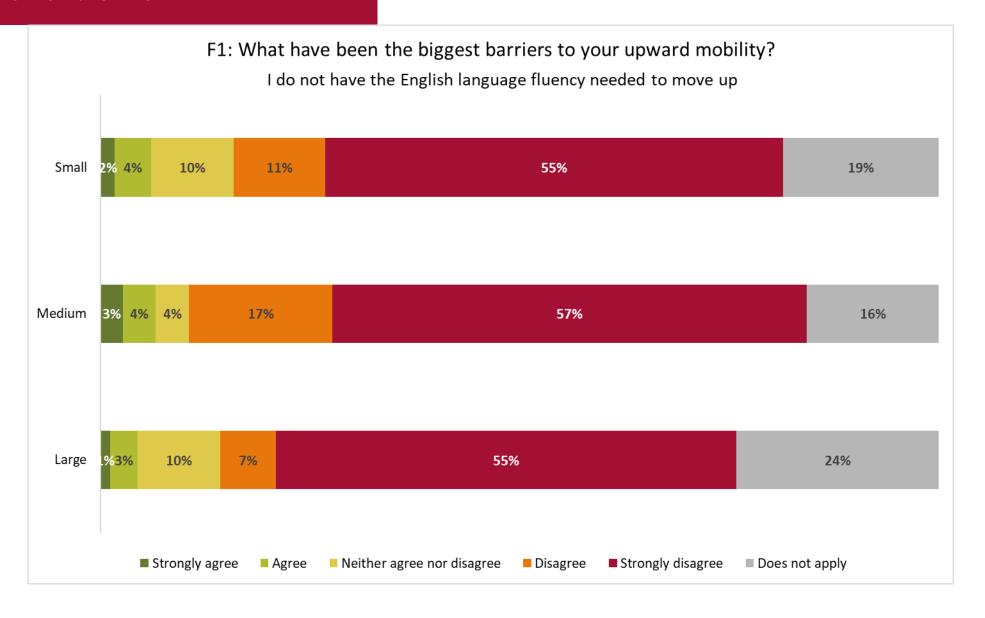




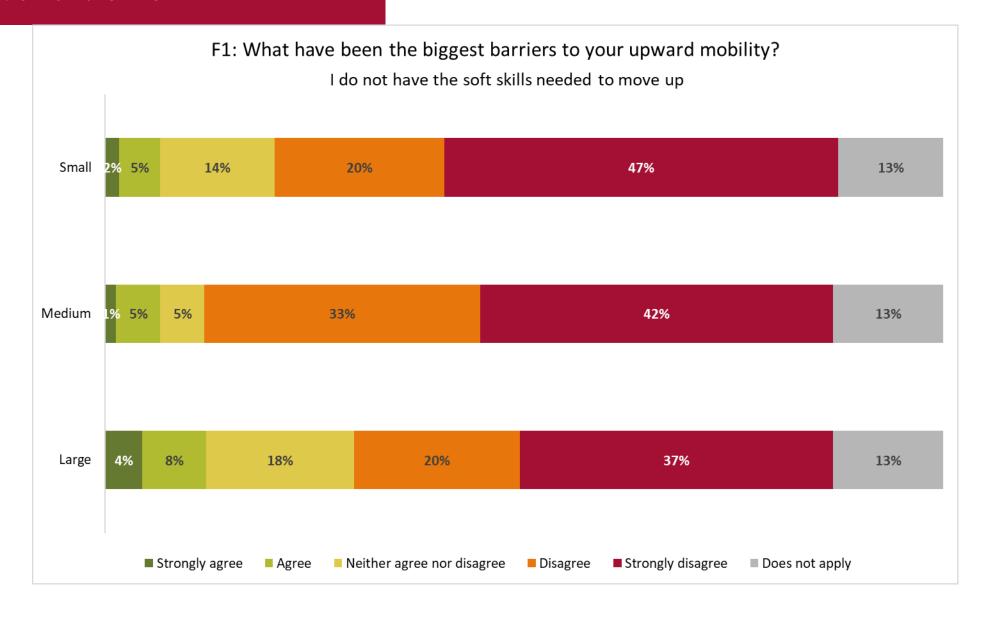


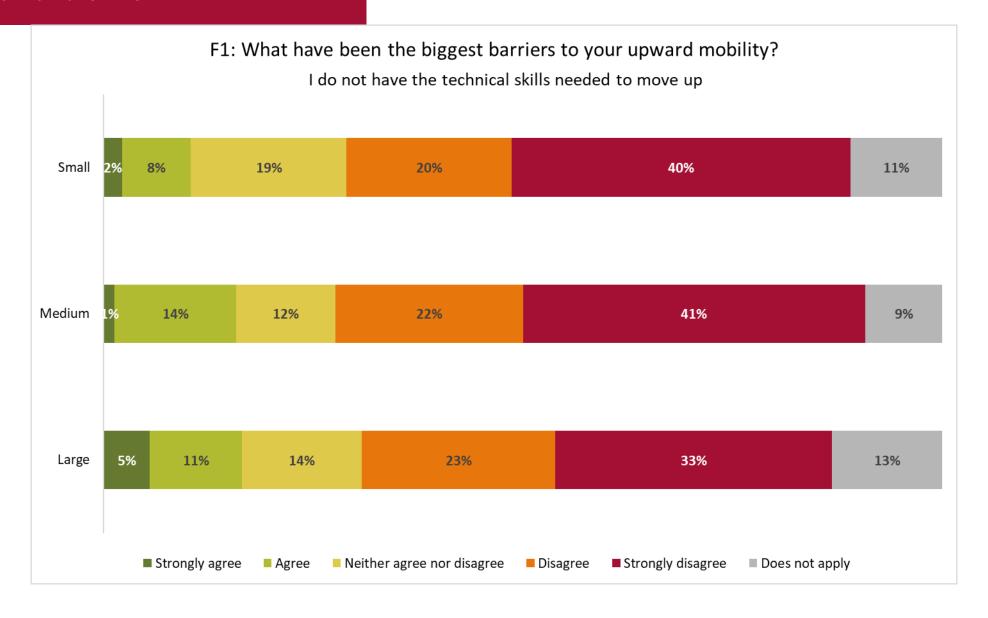




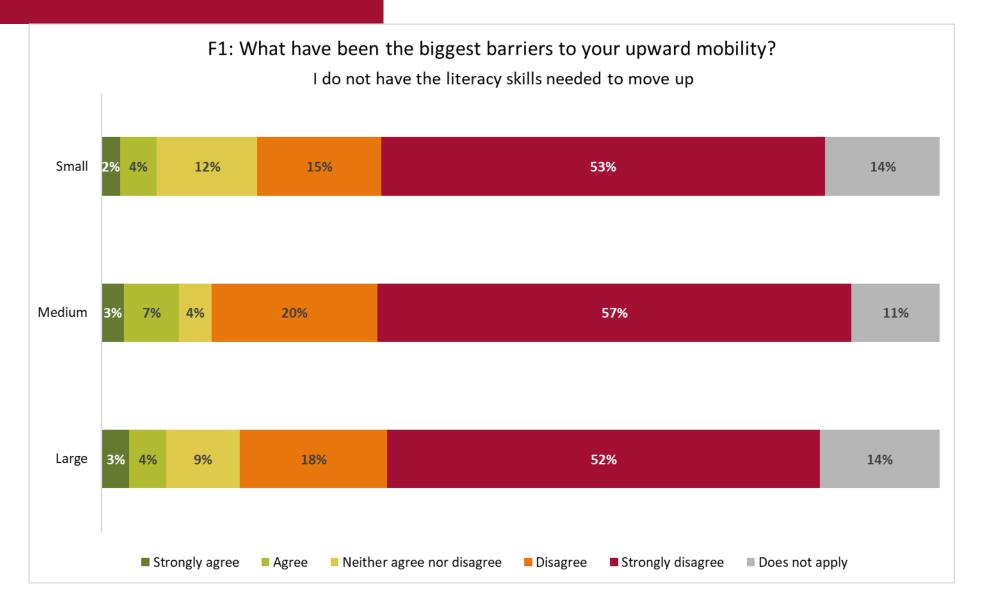


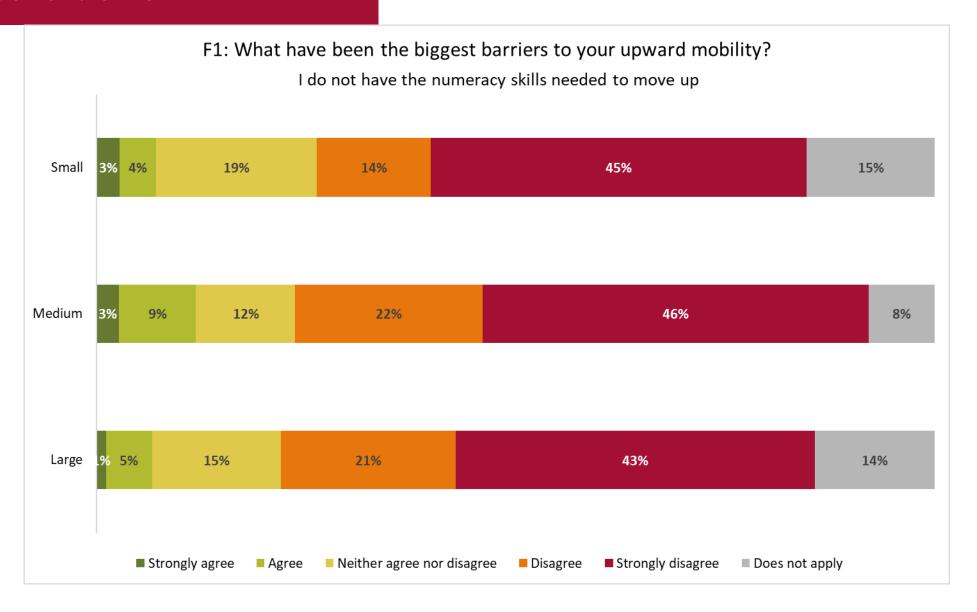
Section F Education and skills



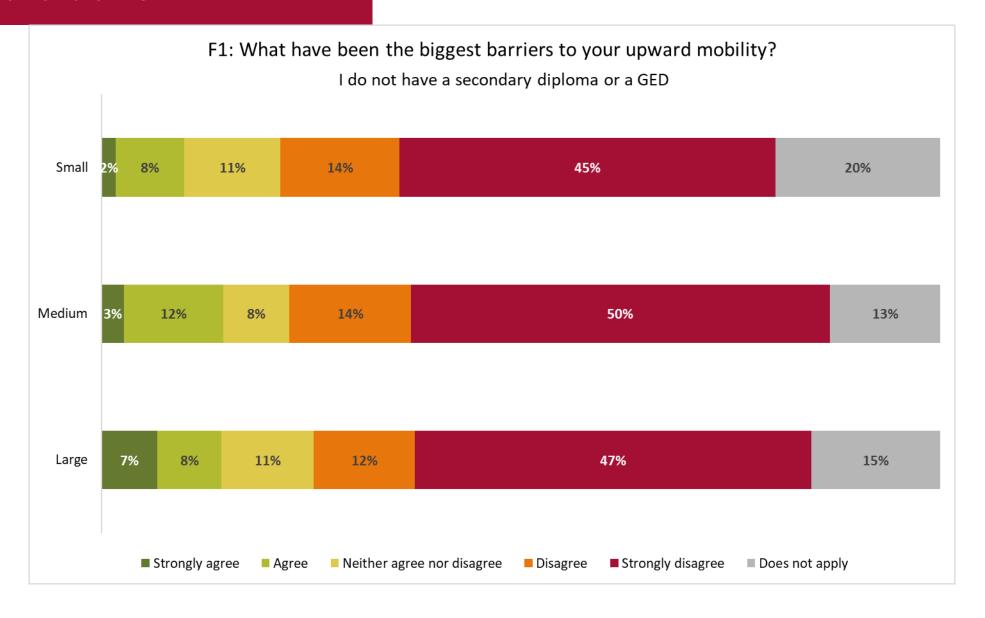


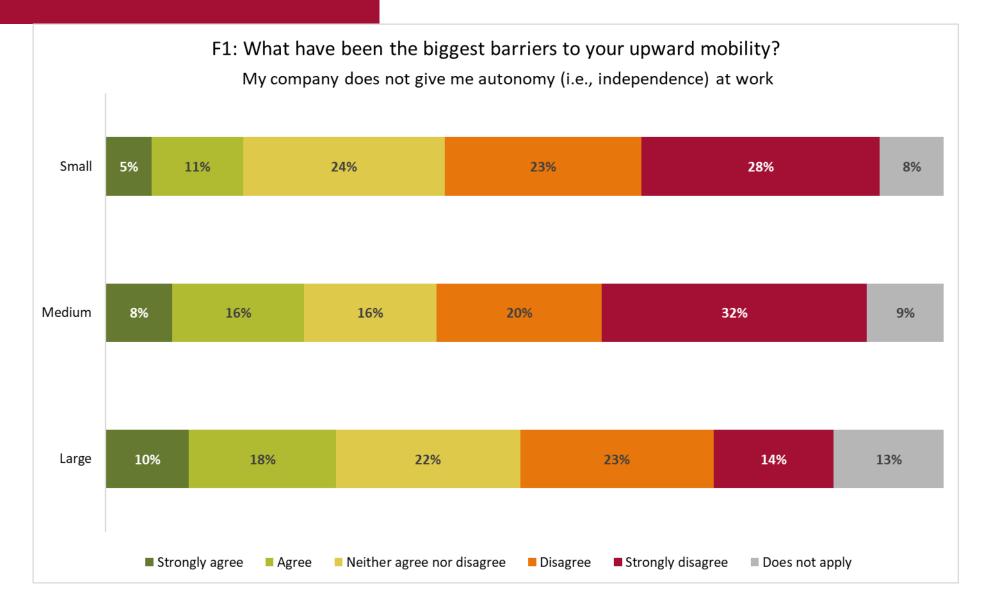
Section F Education and skills



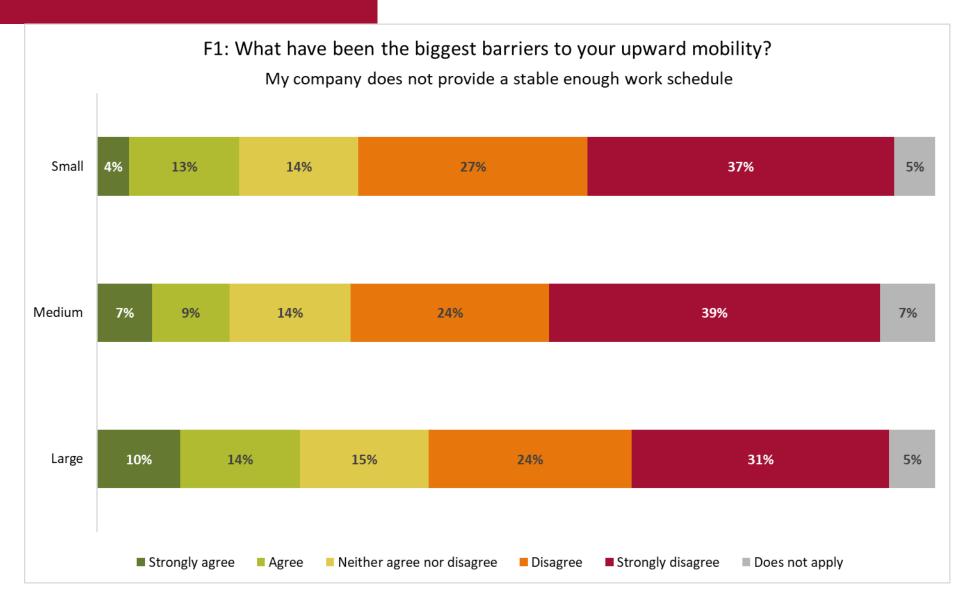


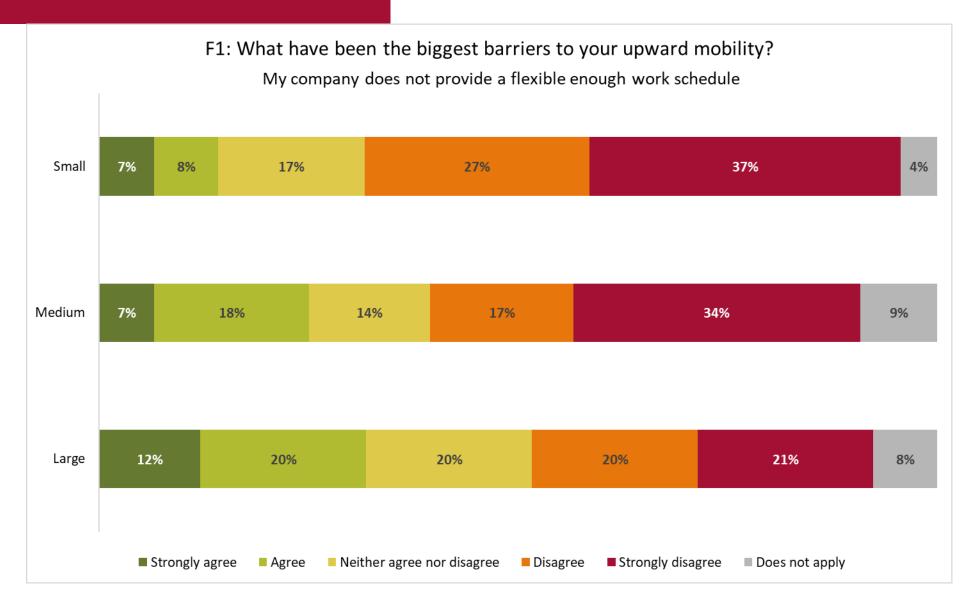
Section F Education and skills



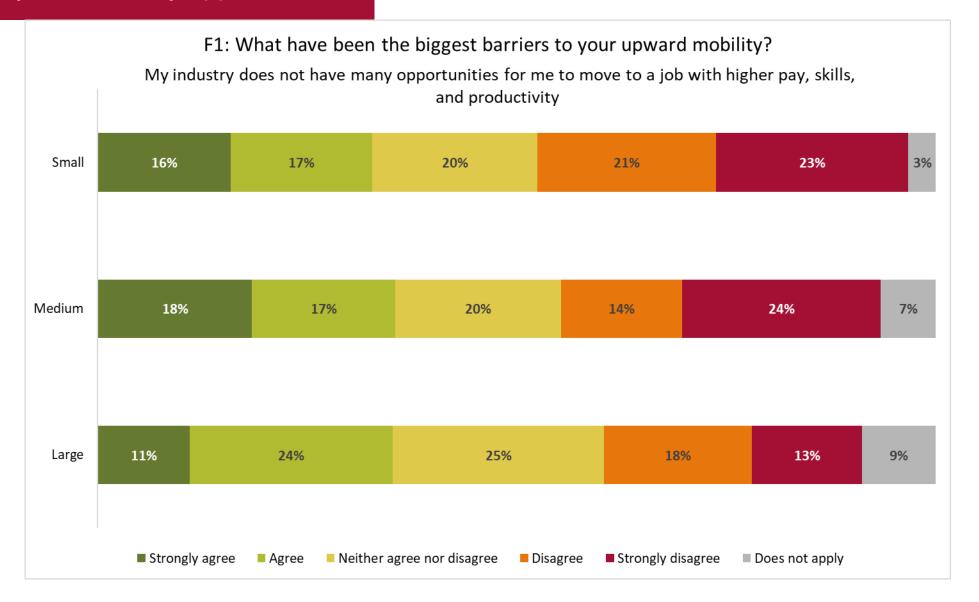


Section F Job structure

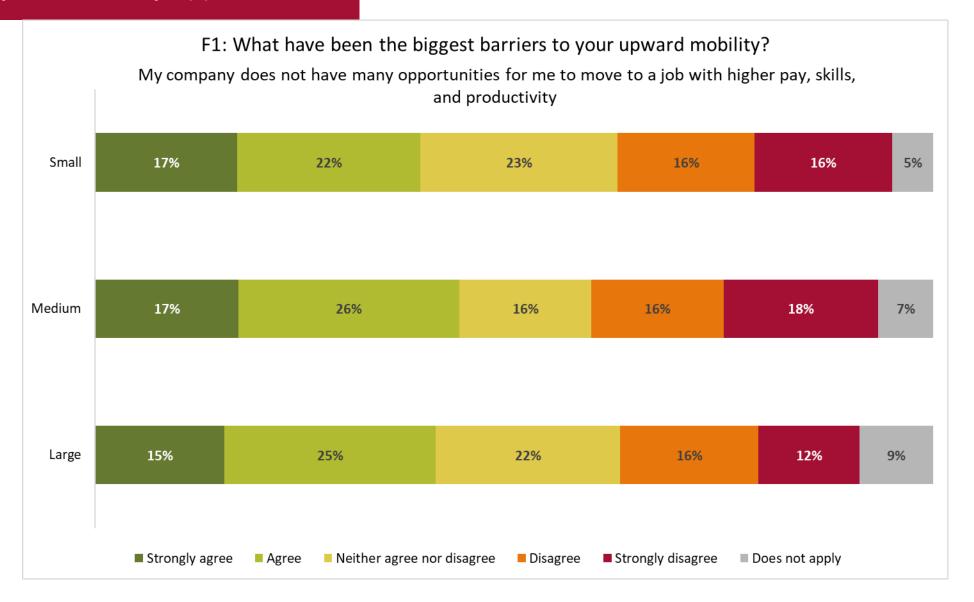




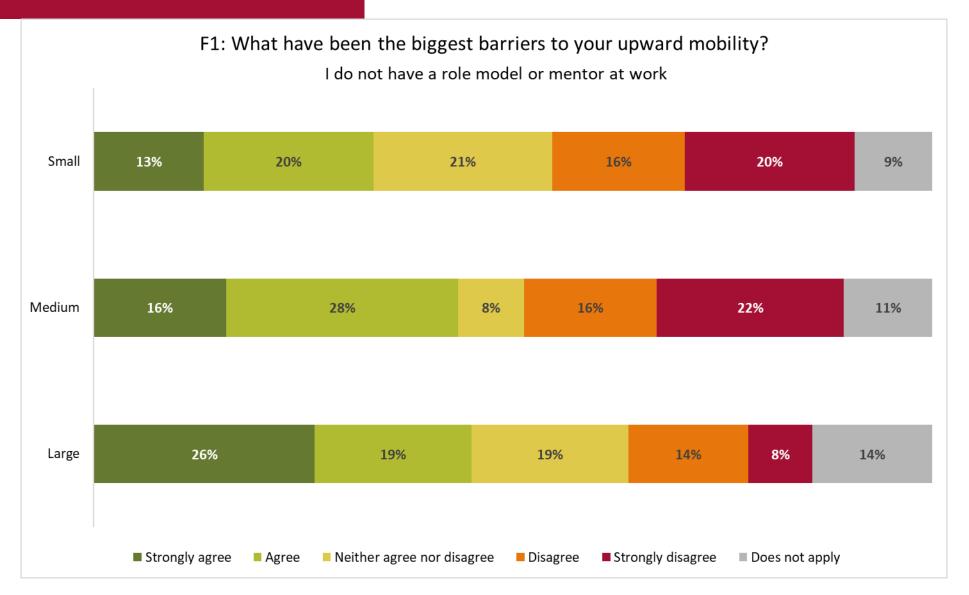
Section F Company and industry opportunities

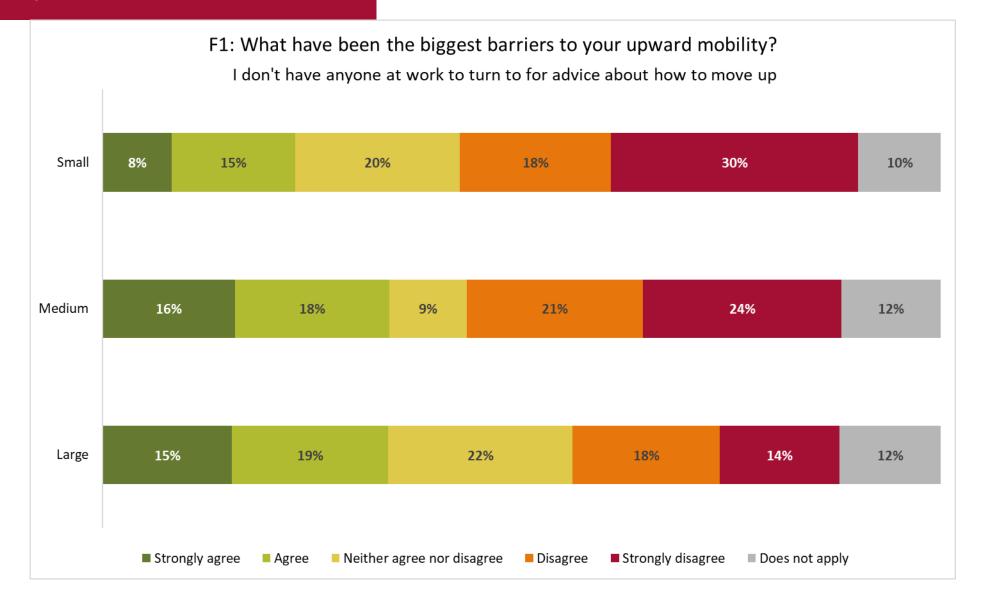


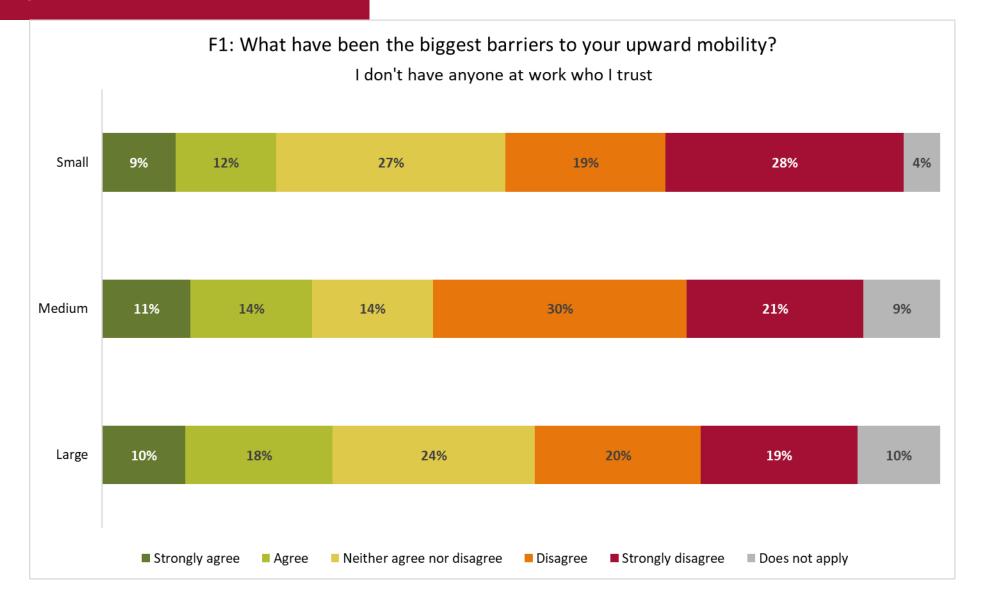
Section F Company and industry opportunities



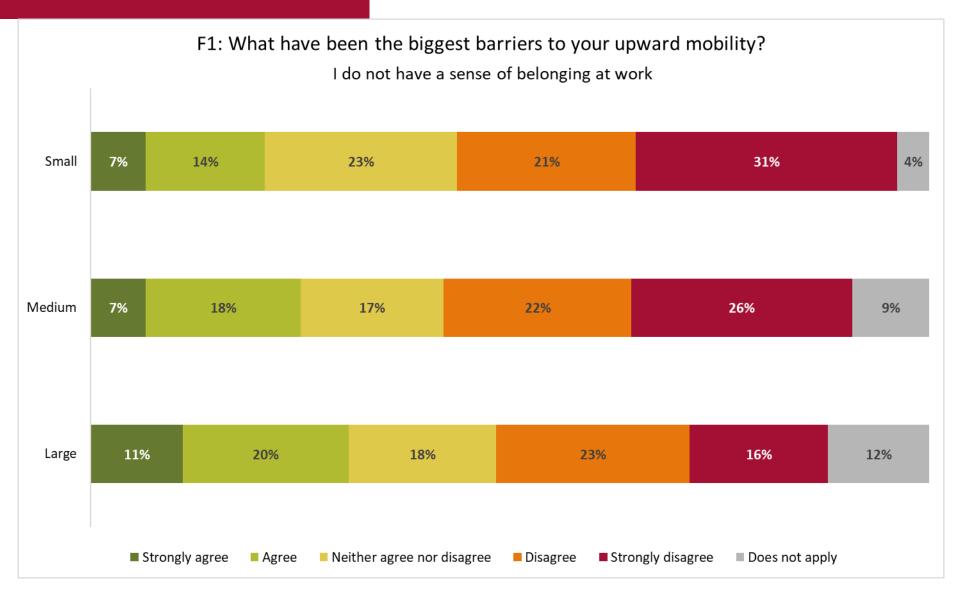
Section F *Mentorship*

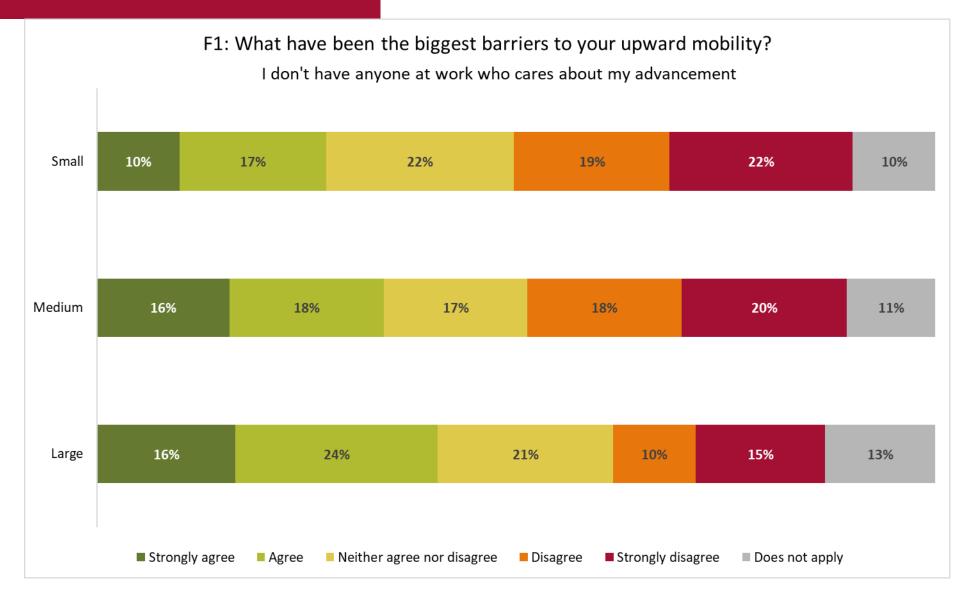


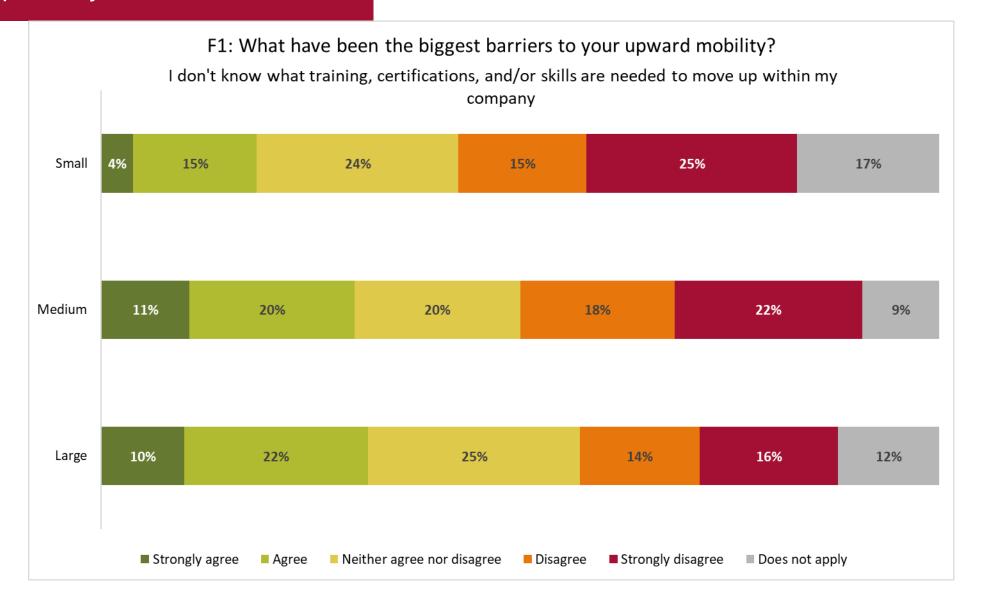


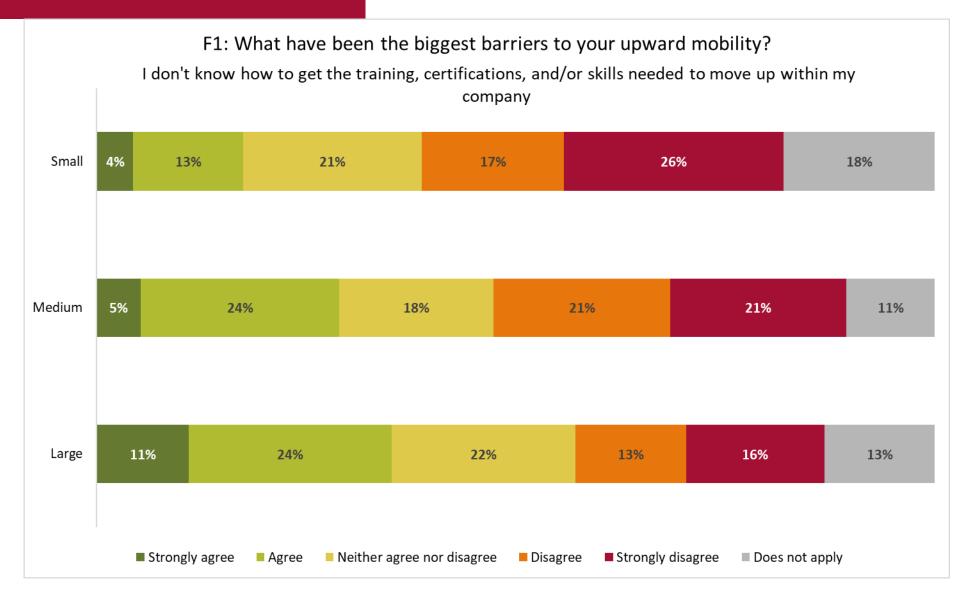


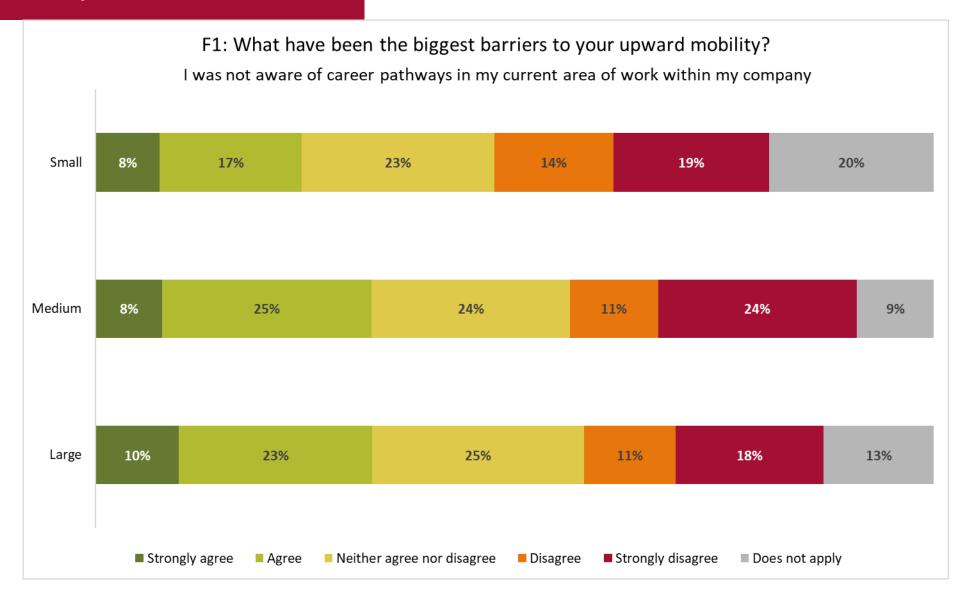
Section F *Mentorship*

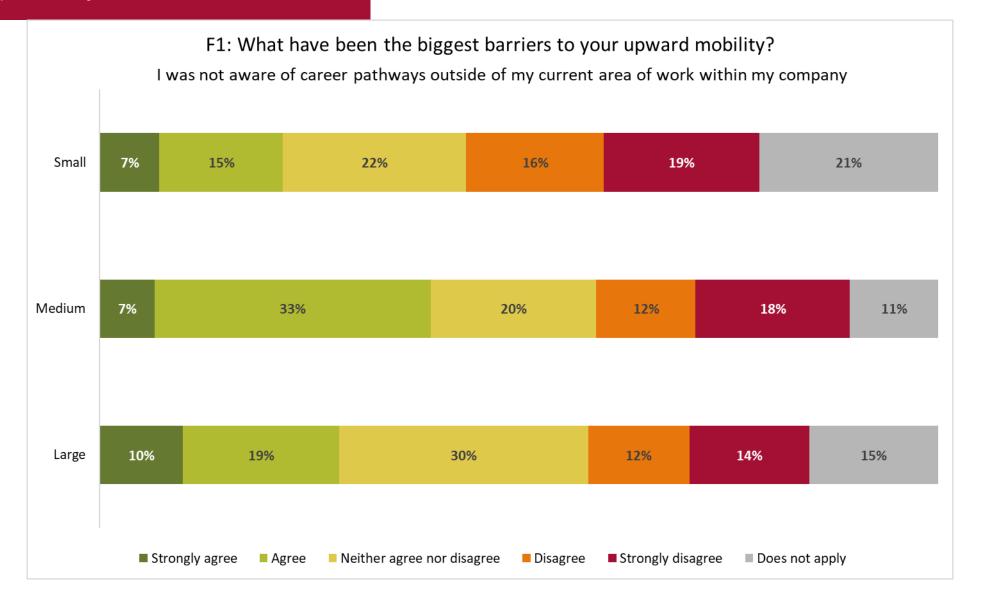


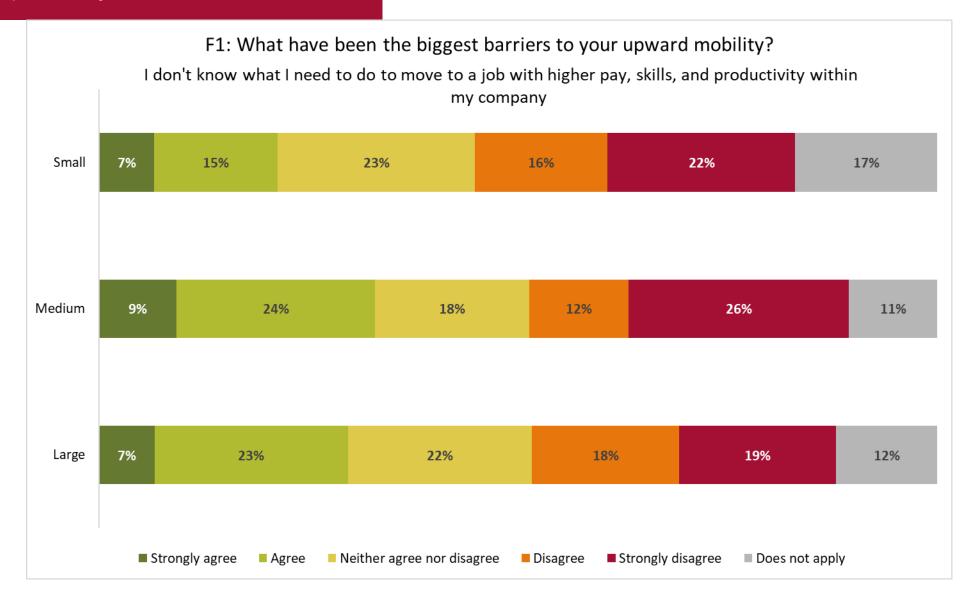


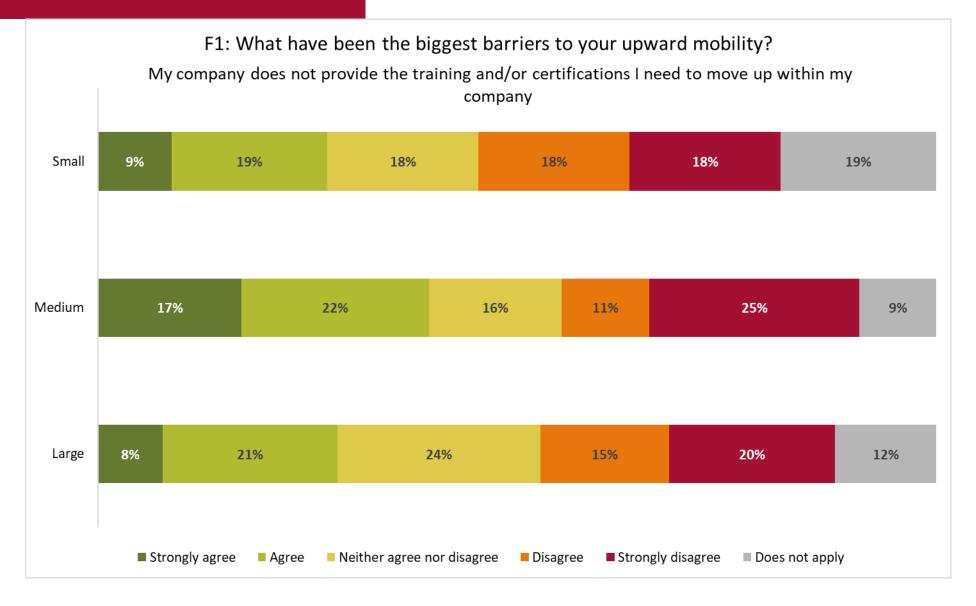


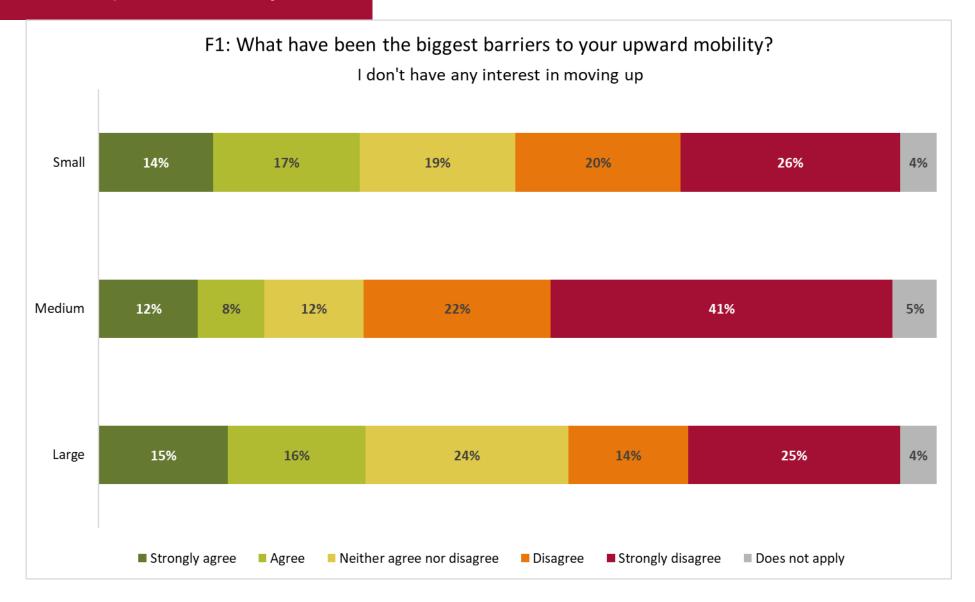


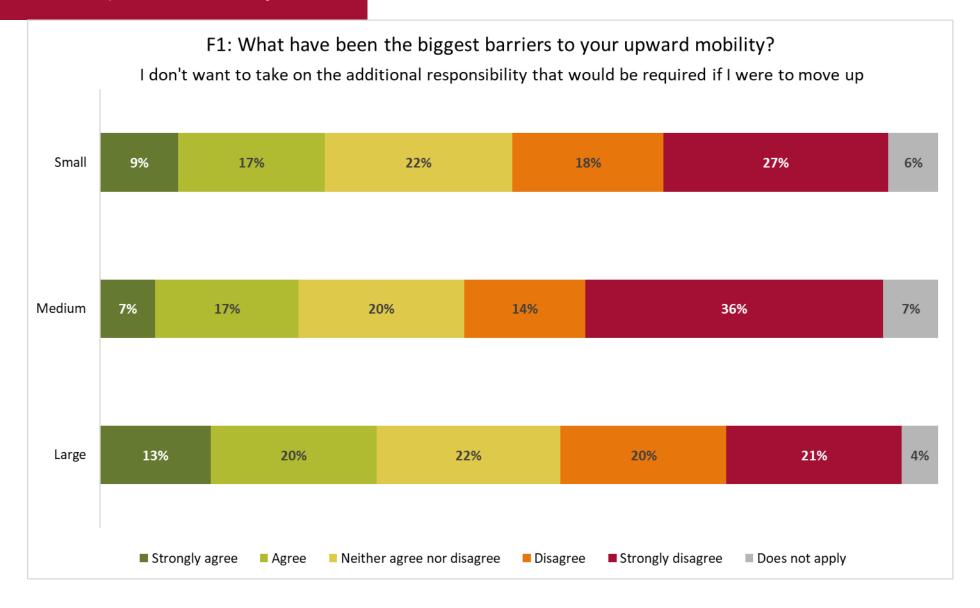


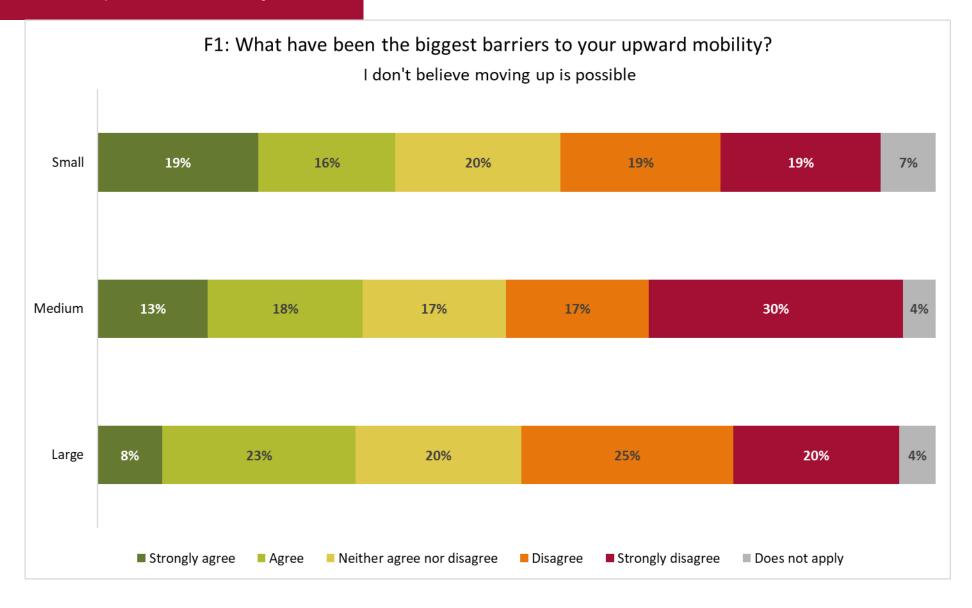


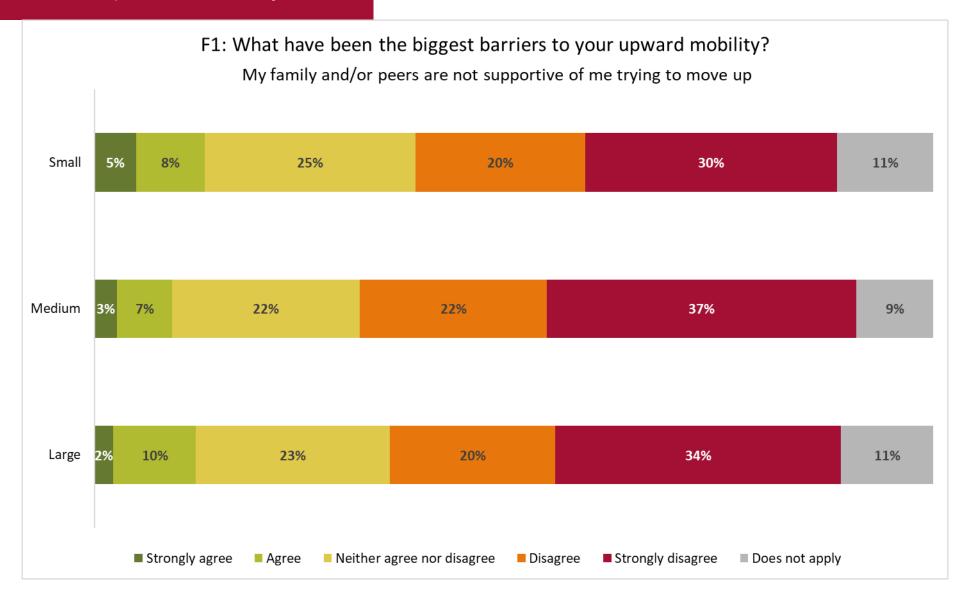


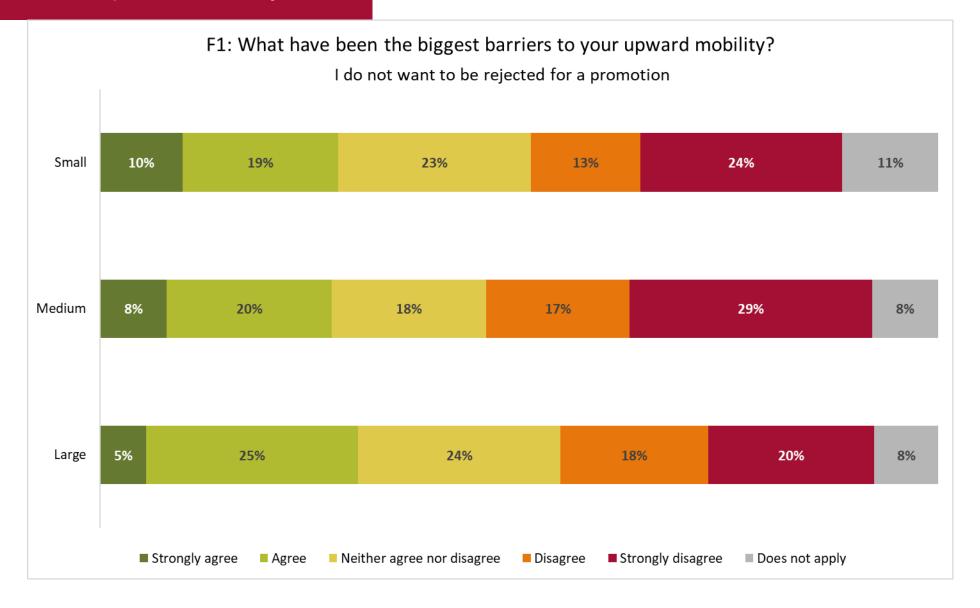




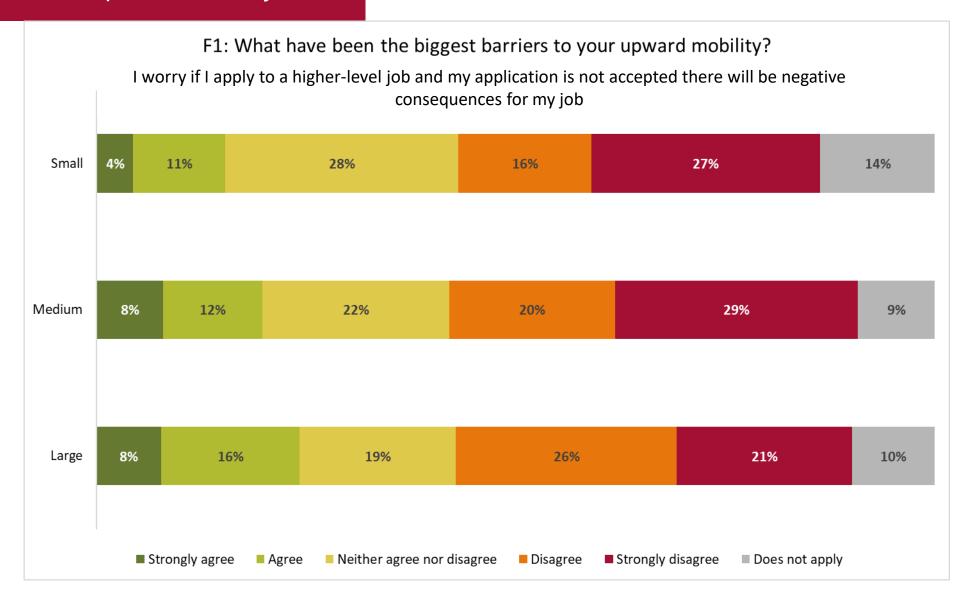


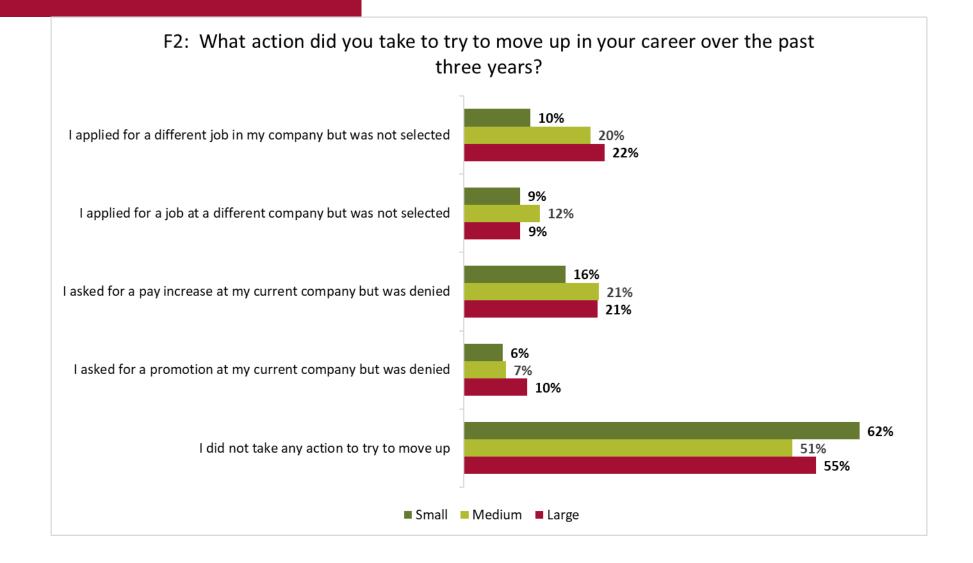




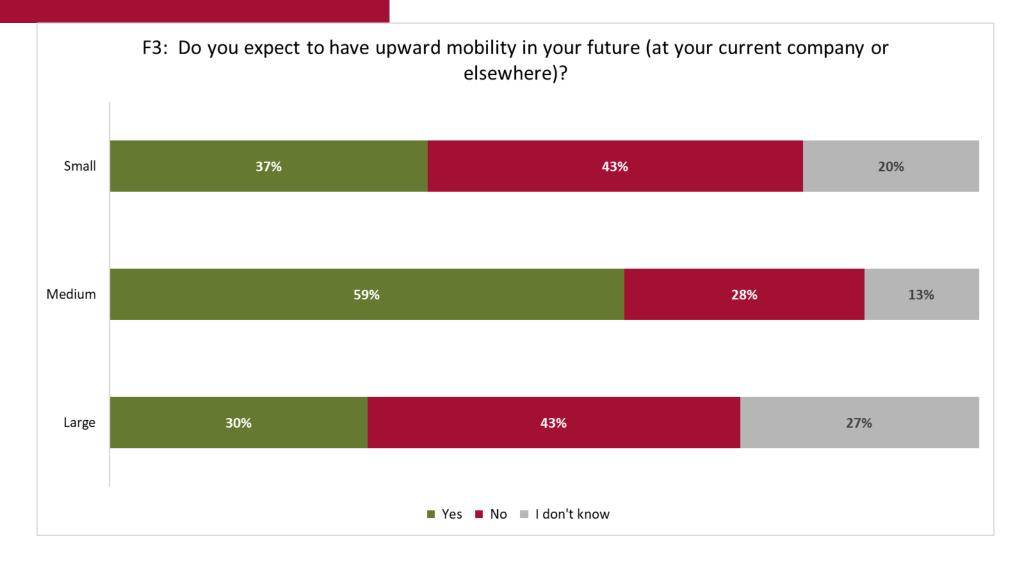


Section F Attitudes about upward mobility



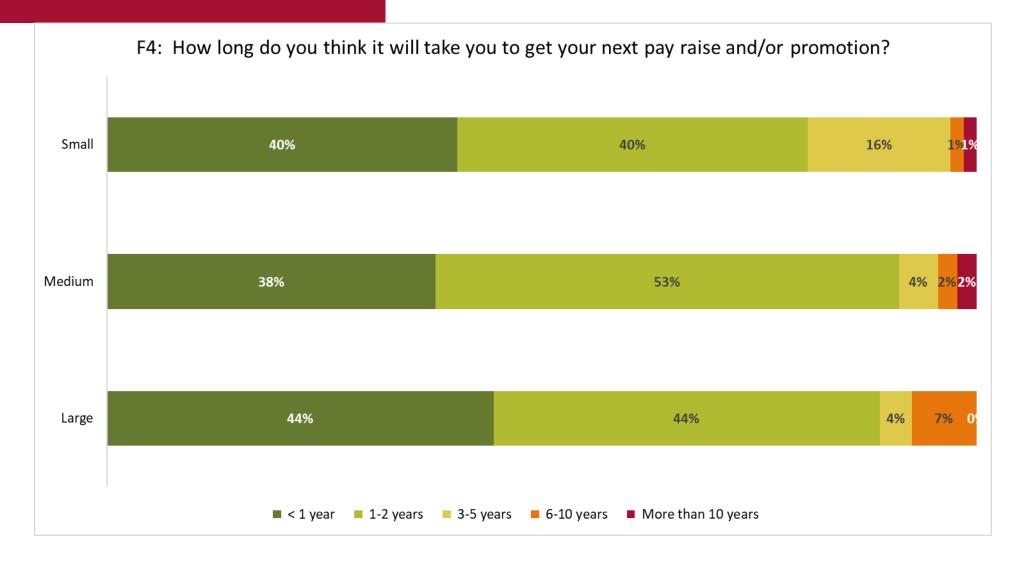


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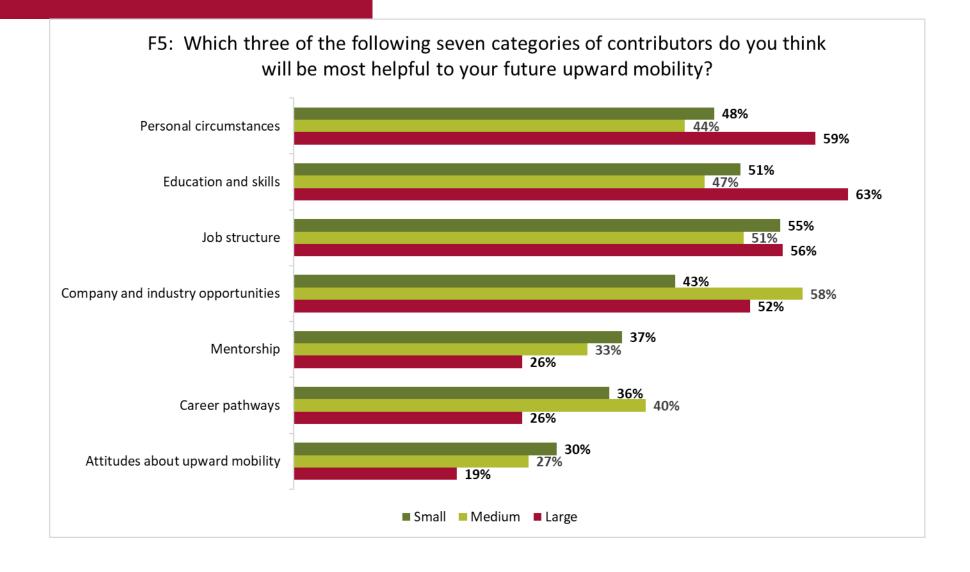
Section F

Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



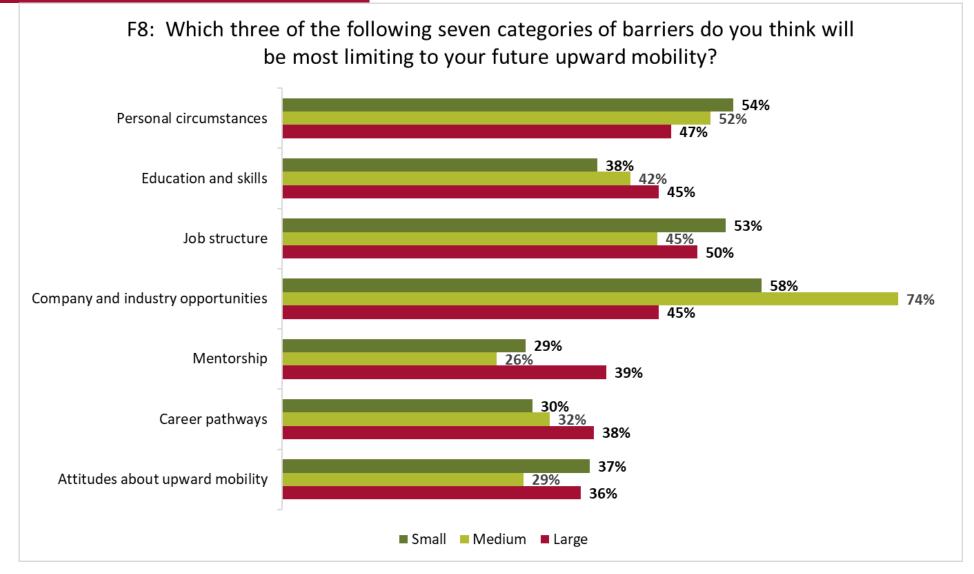
Note: Only respondents who expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



Note: Only respondents who expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



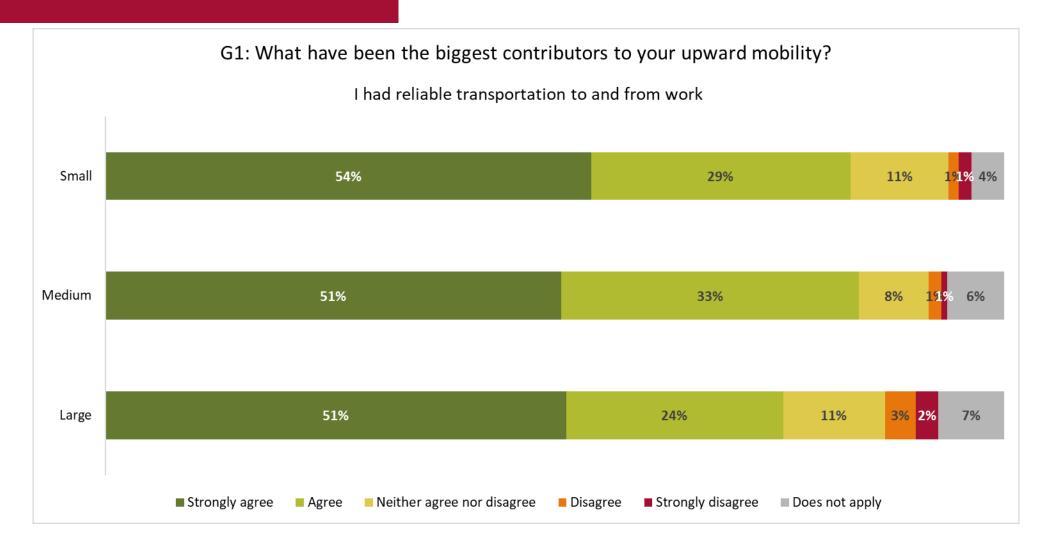
Note: Only respondents who don't know or do not expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

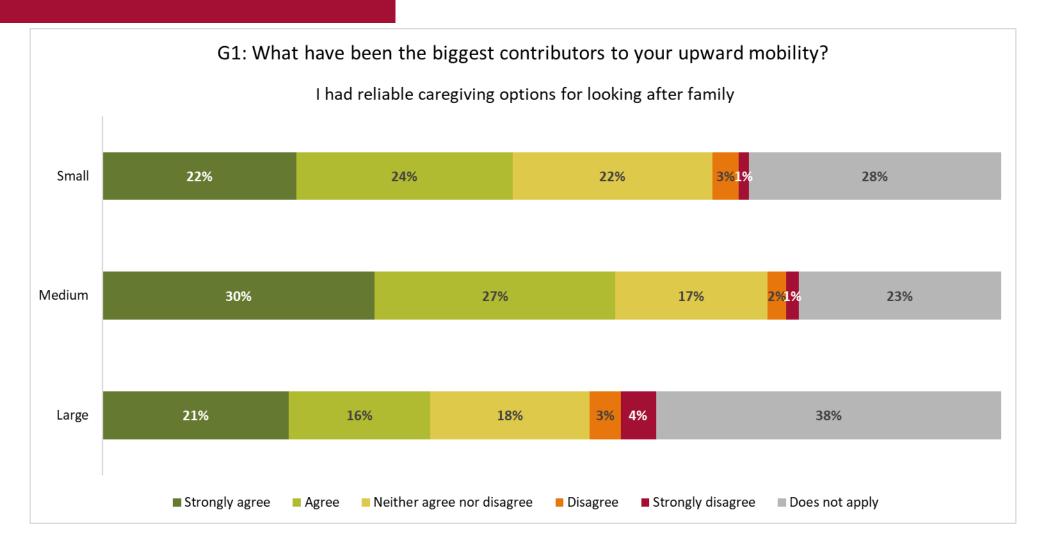
Section G

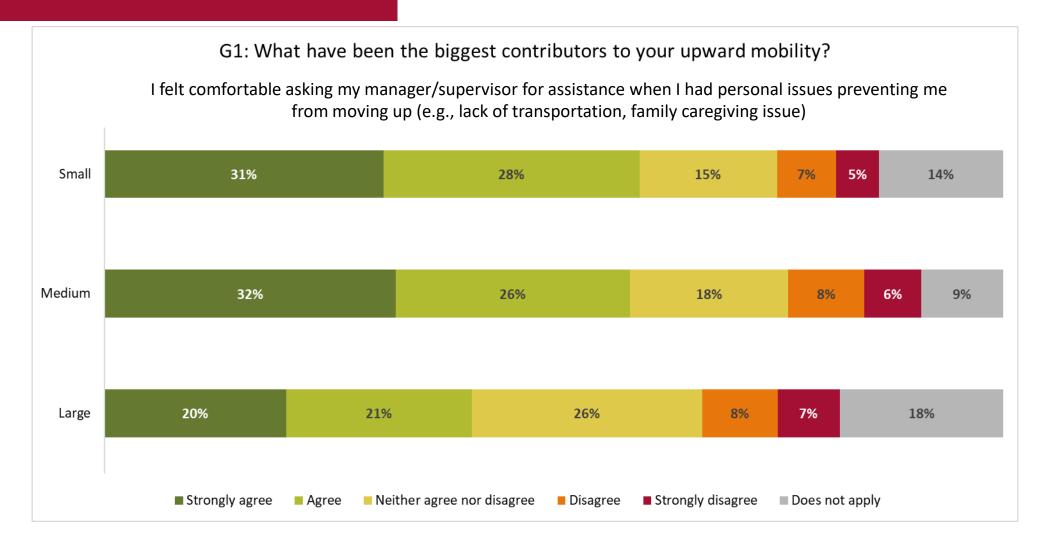
Contributors

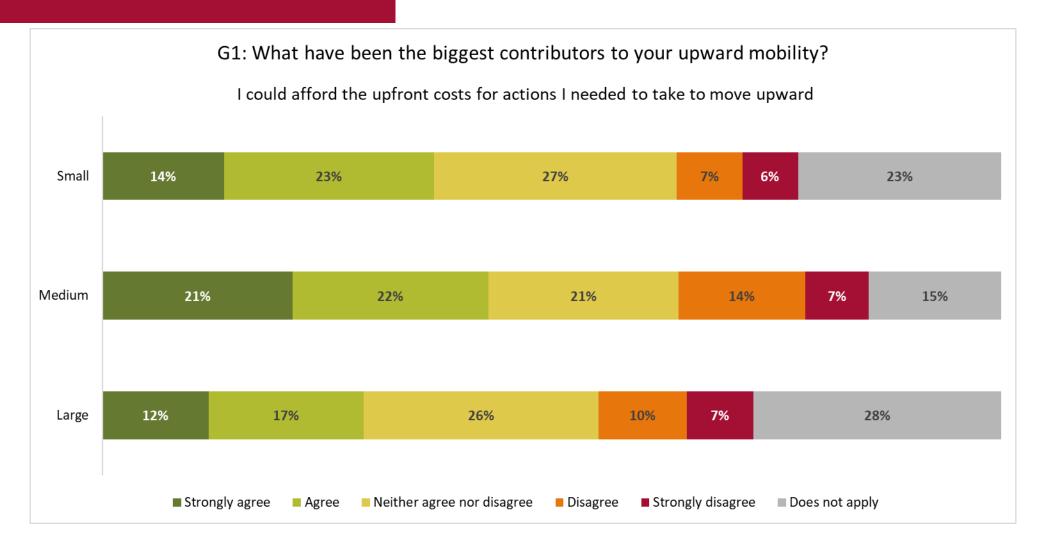
Only shown to those who DID achieve upward mobility in the last three years.

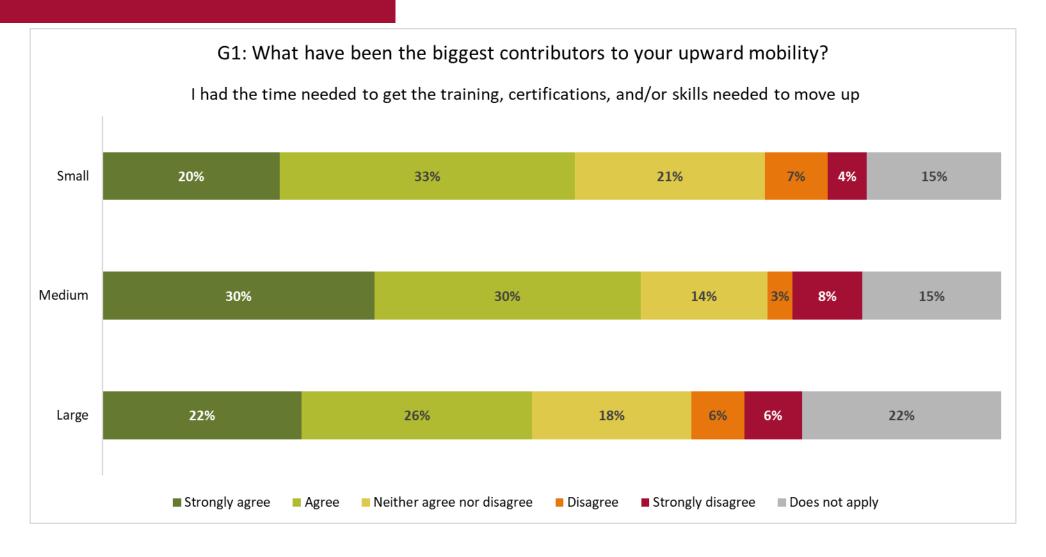
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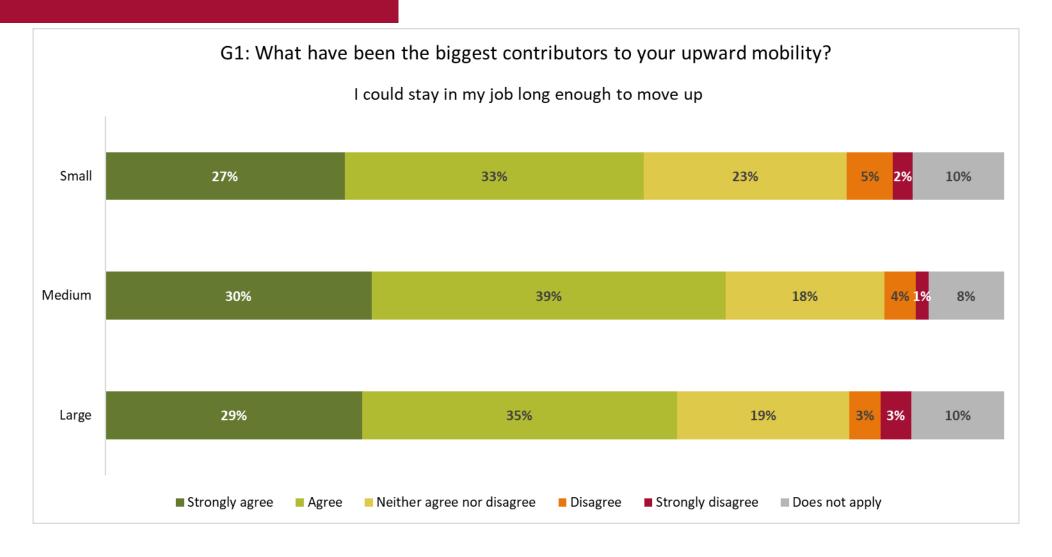


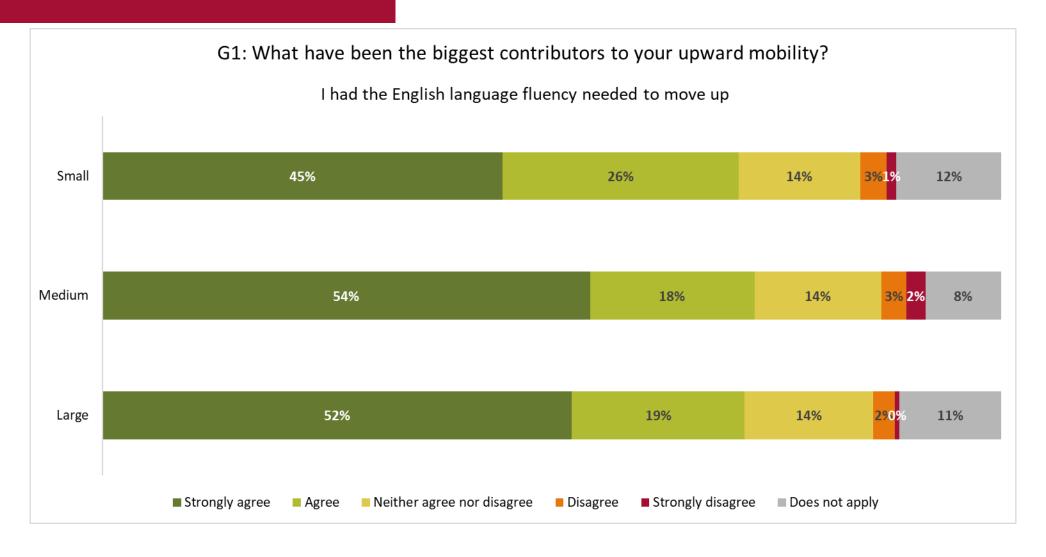


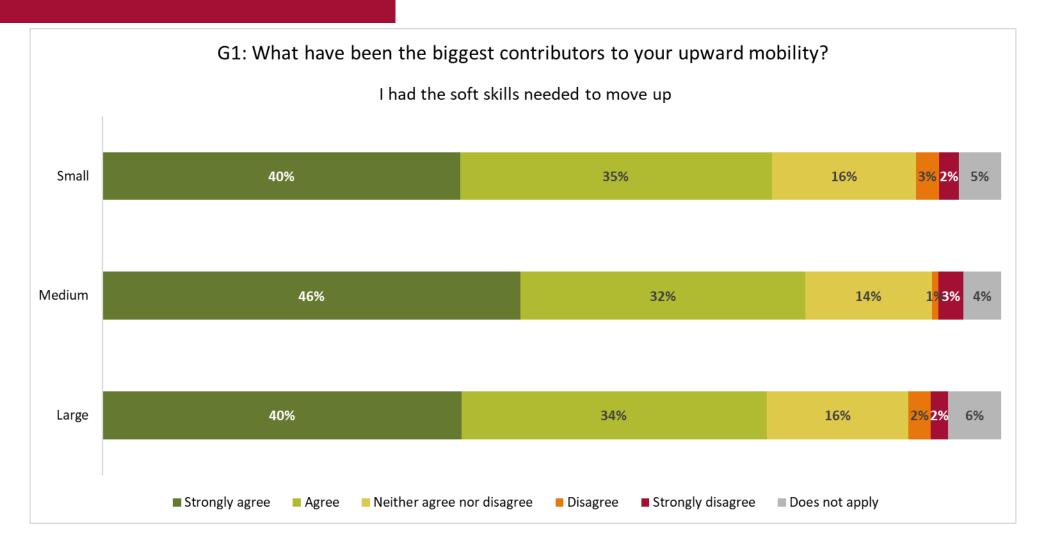


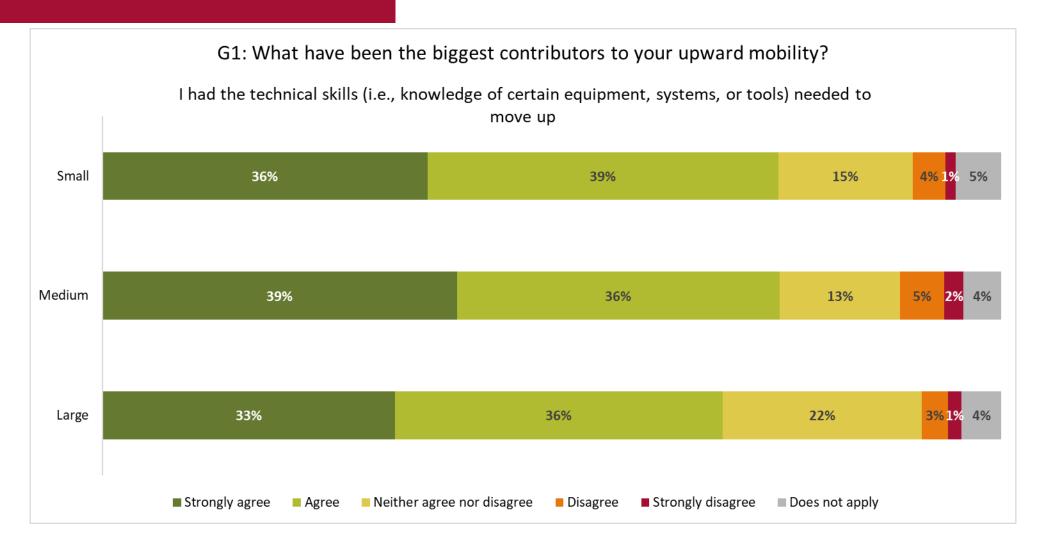


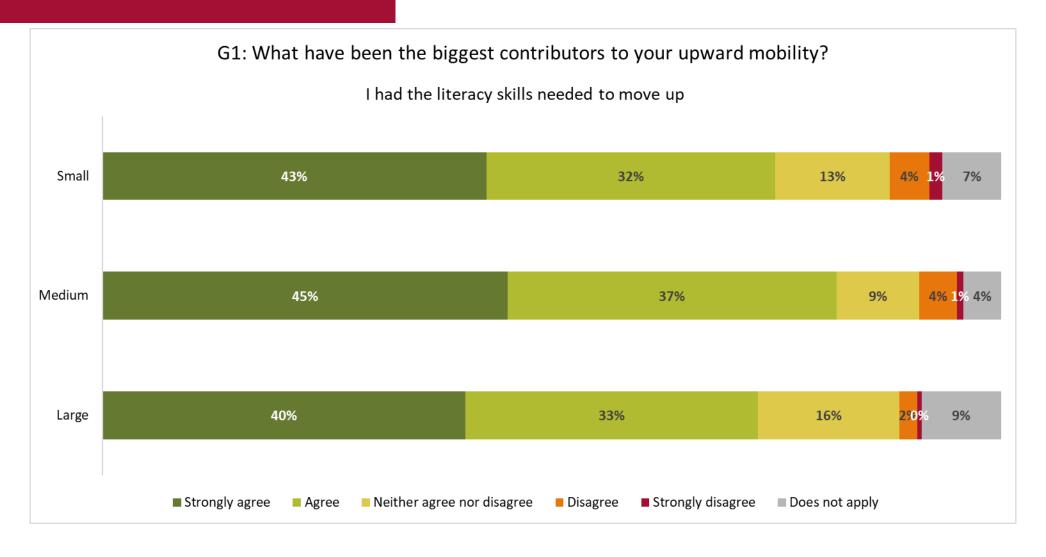


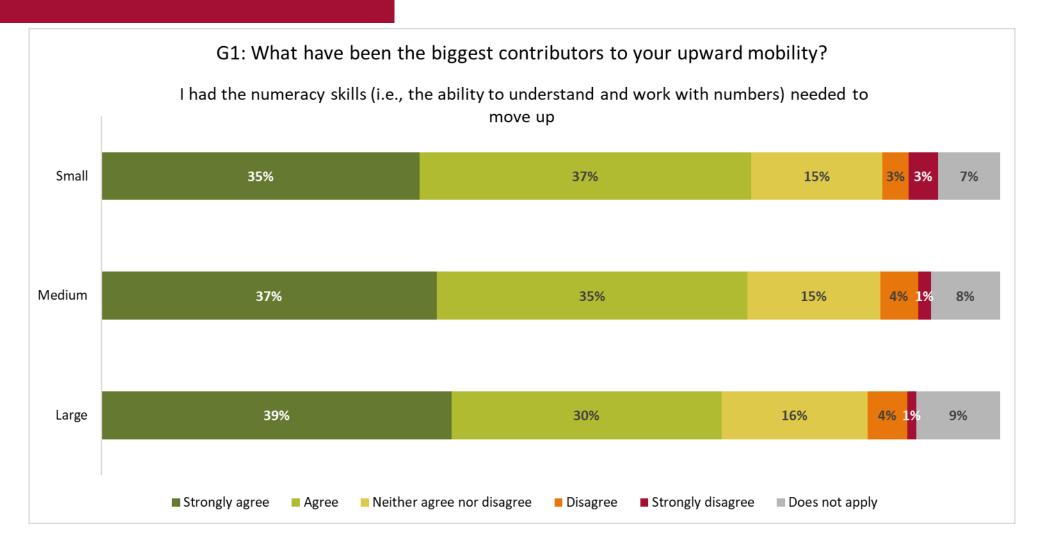


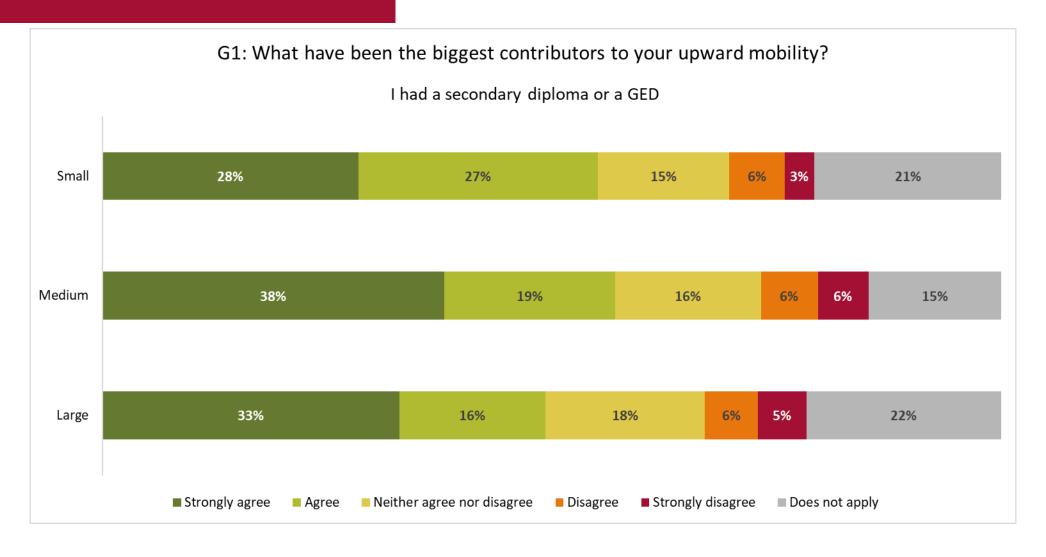




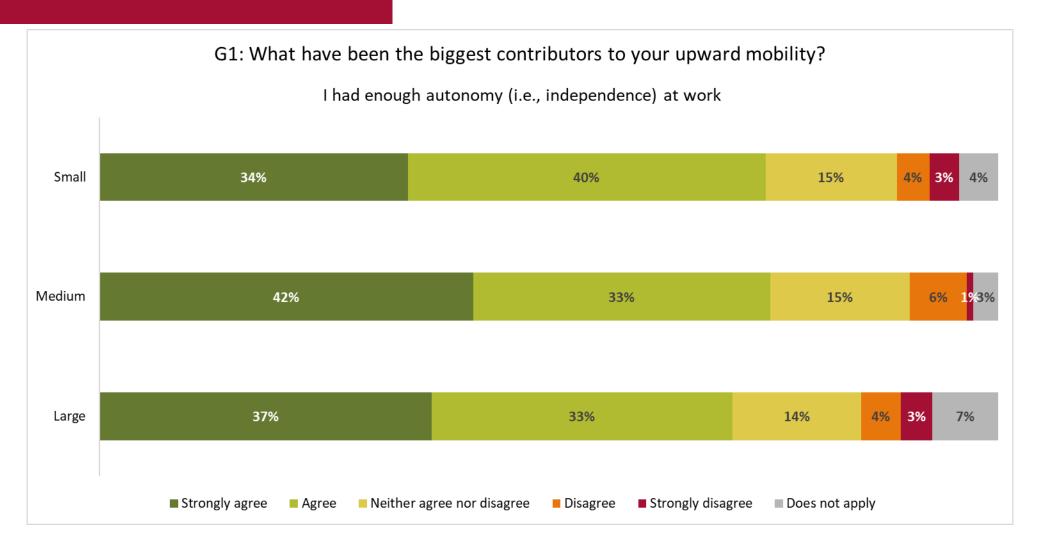




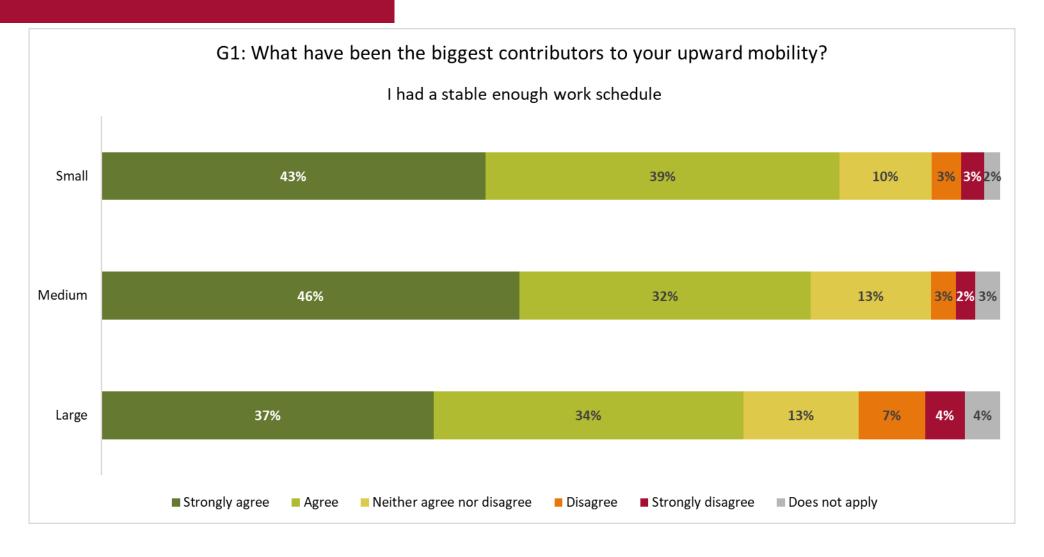


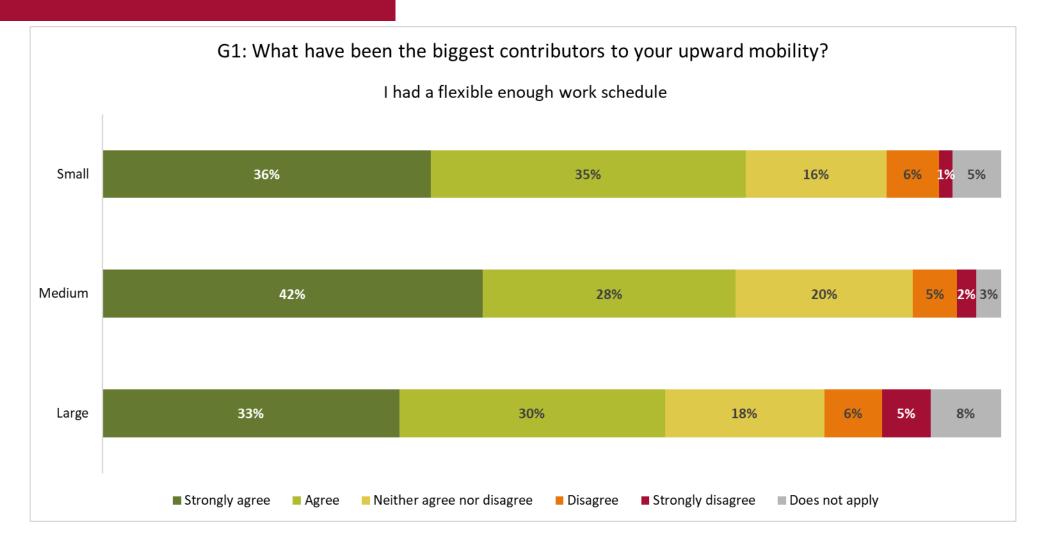


Section G Job structure

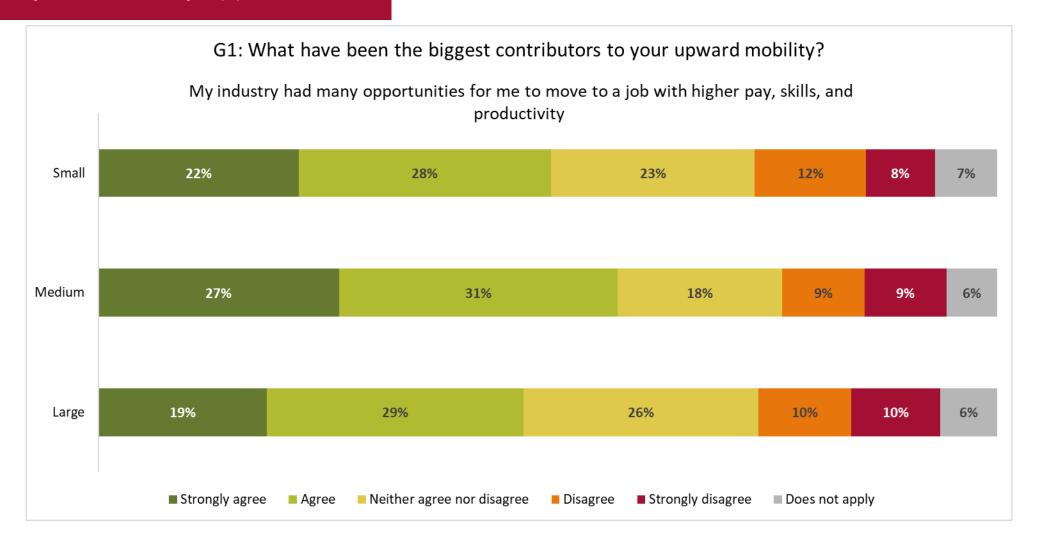


Section G Job structure

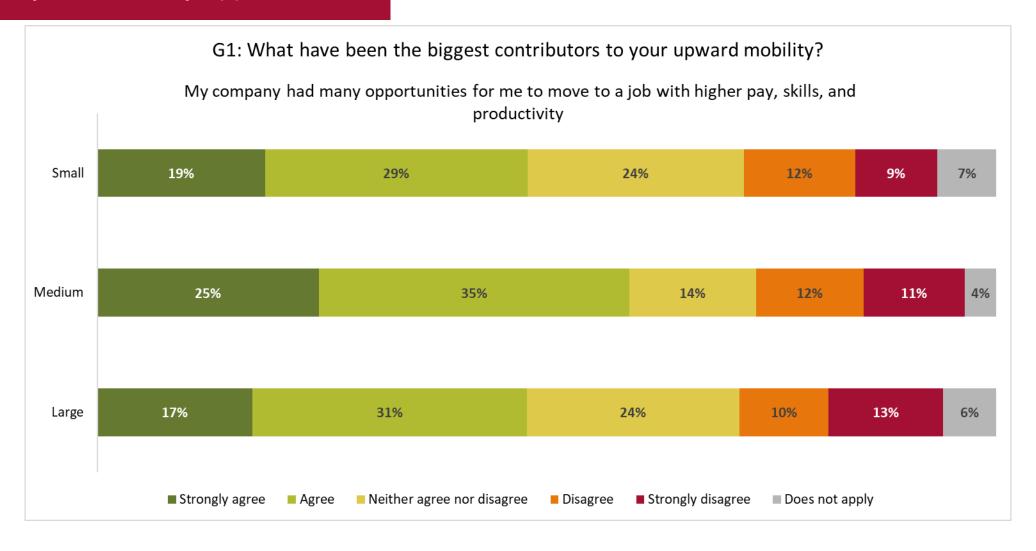


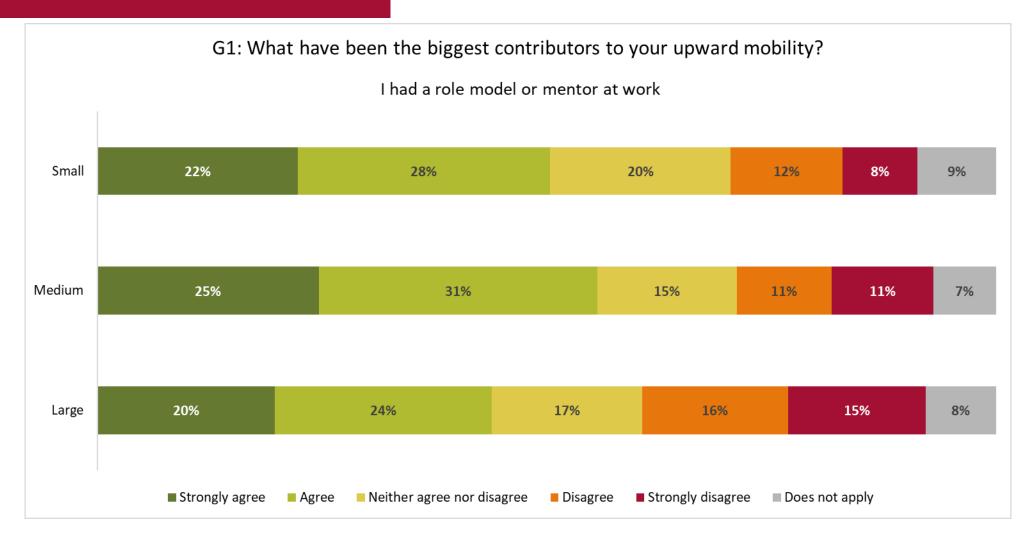


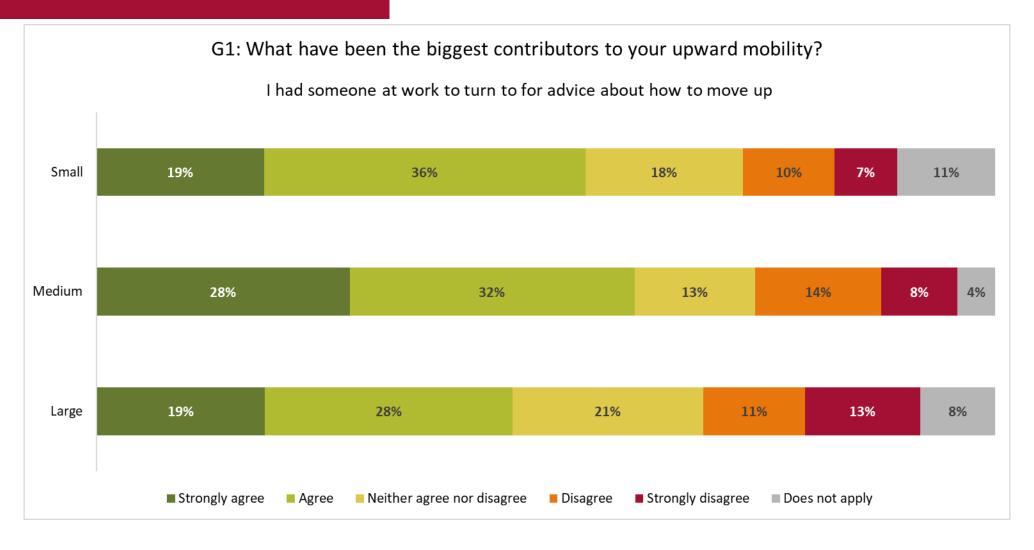
Section G Company and industry opportunities

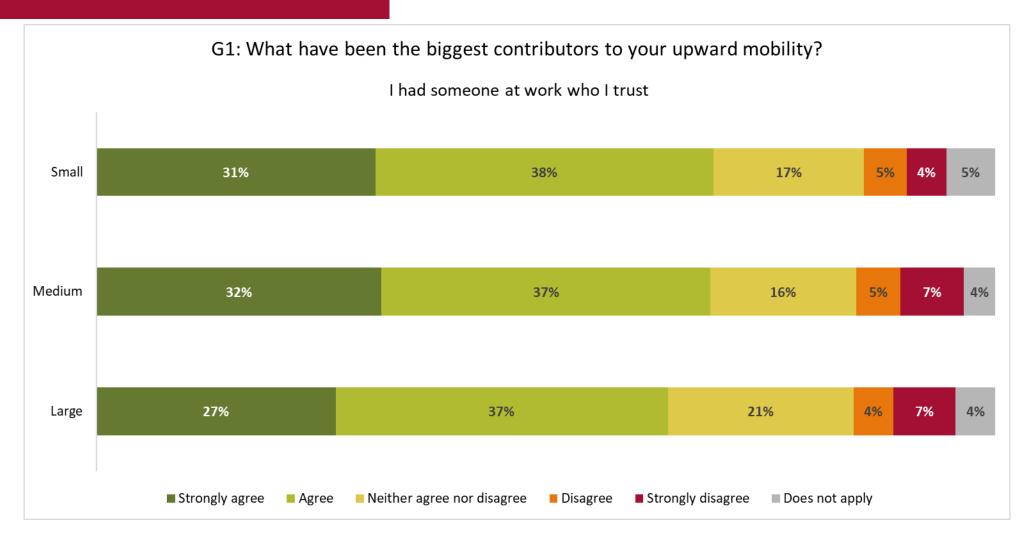


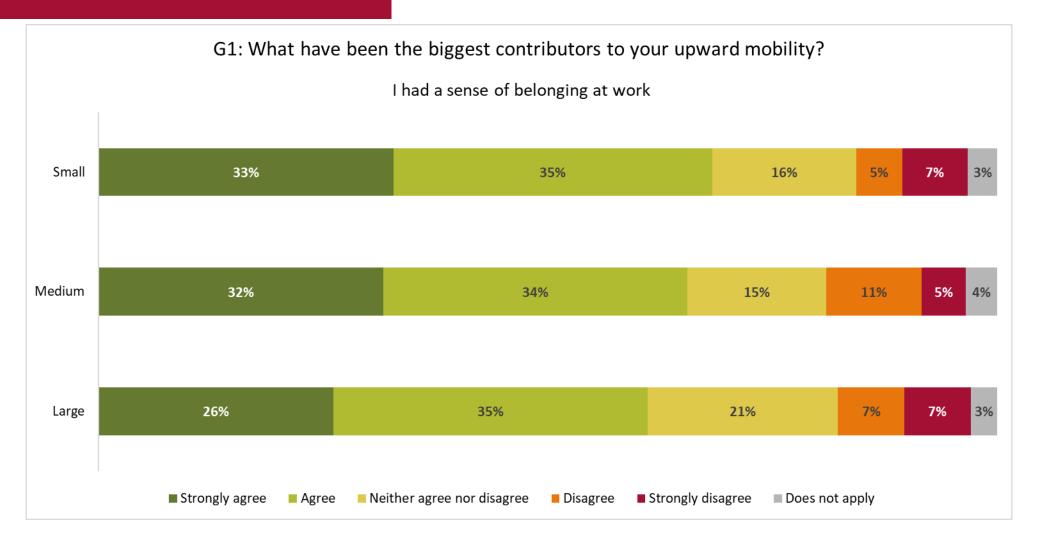
Section G Company and industry opportunities

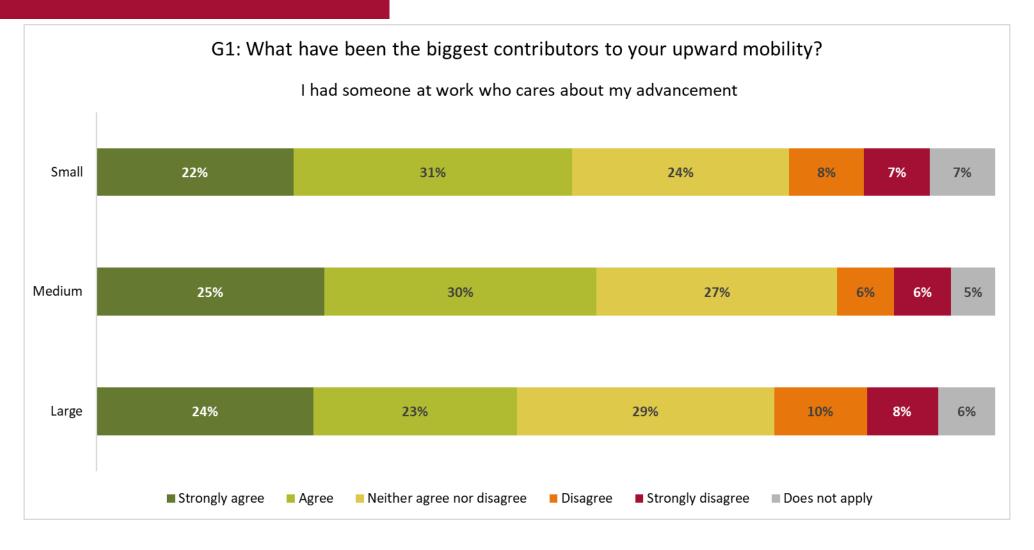


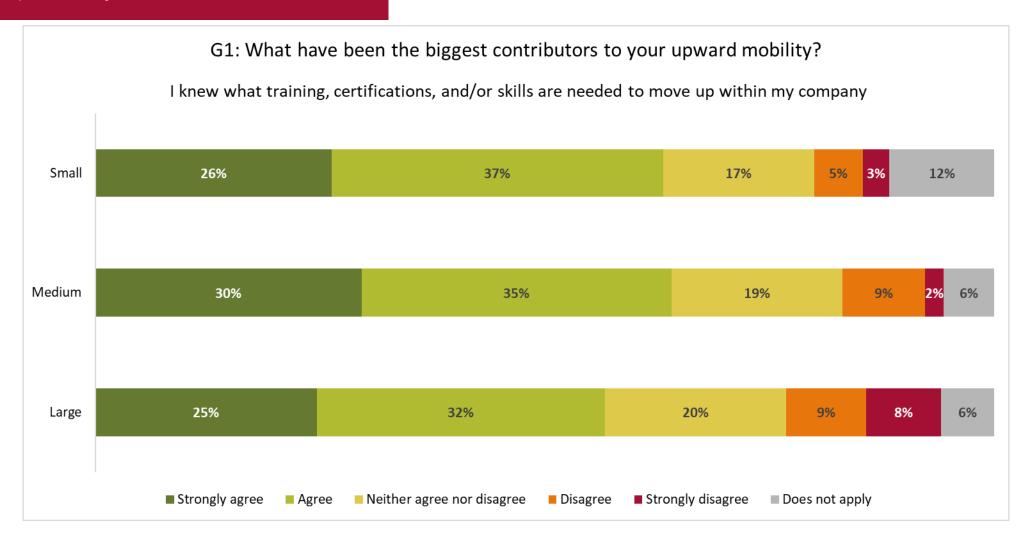


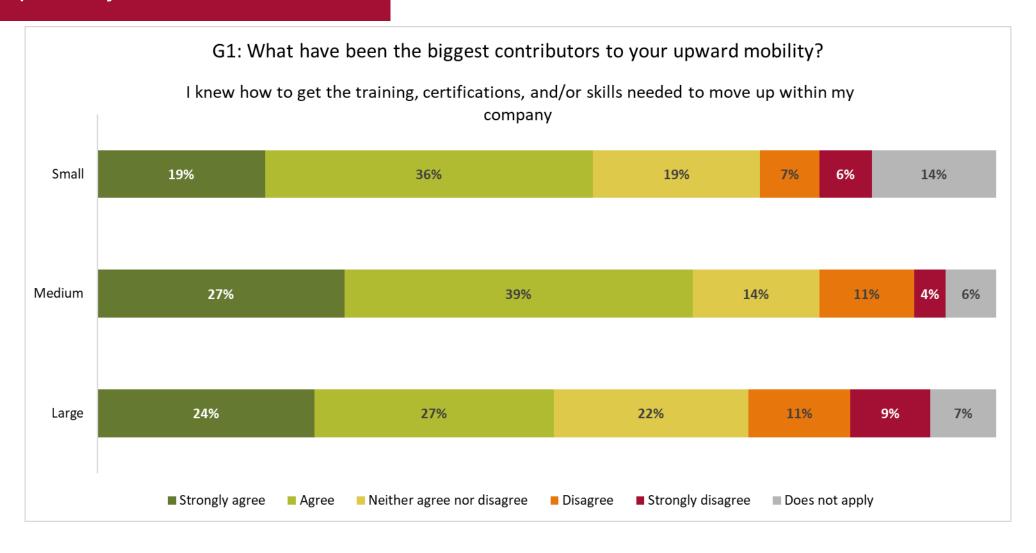


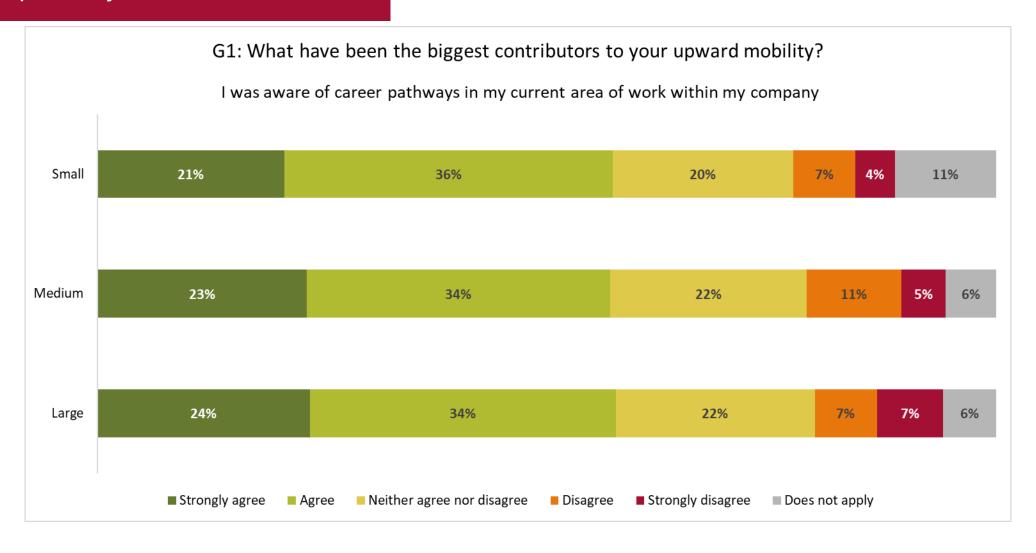


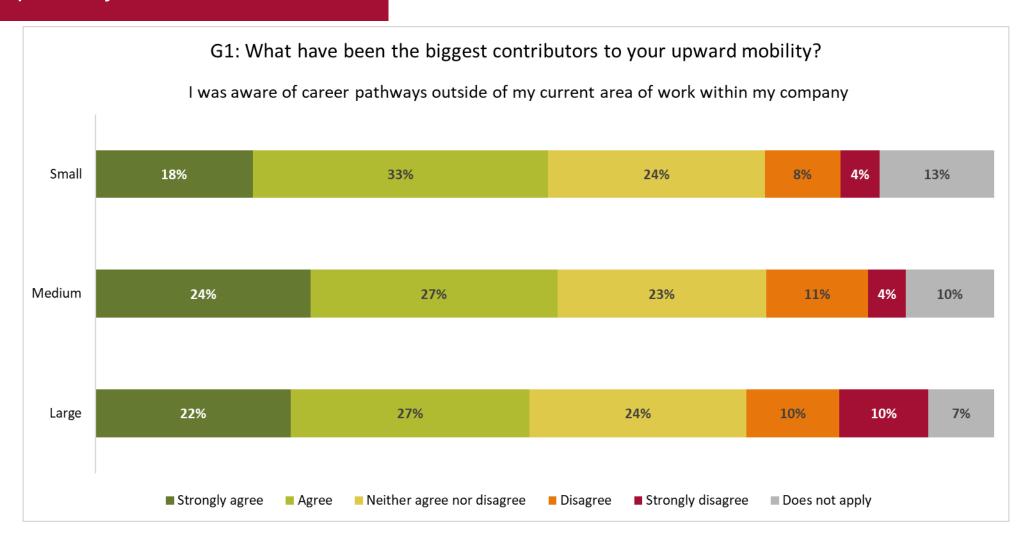


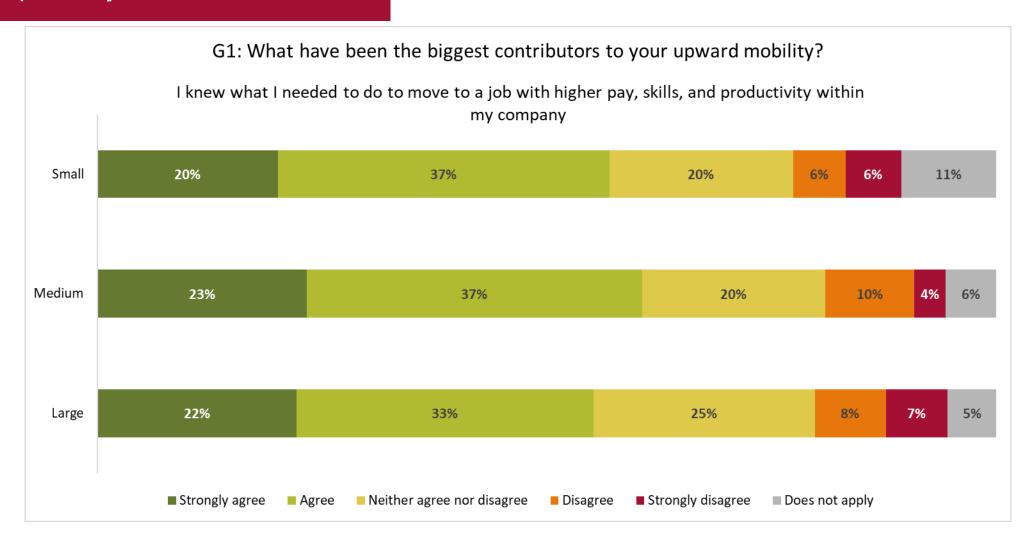


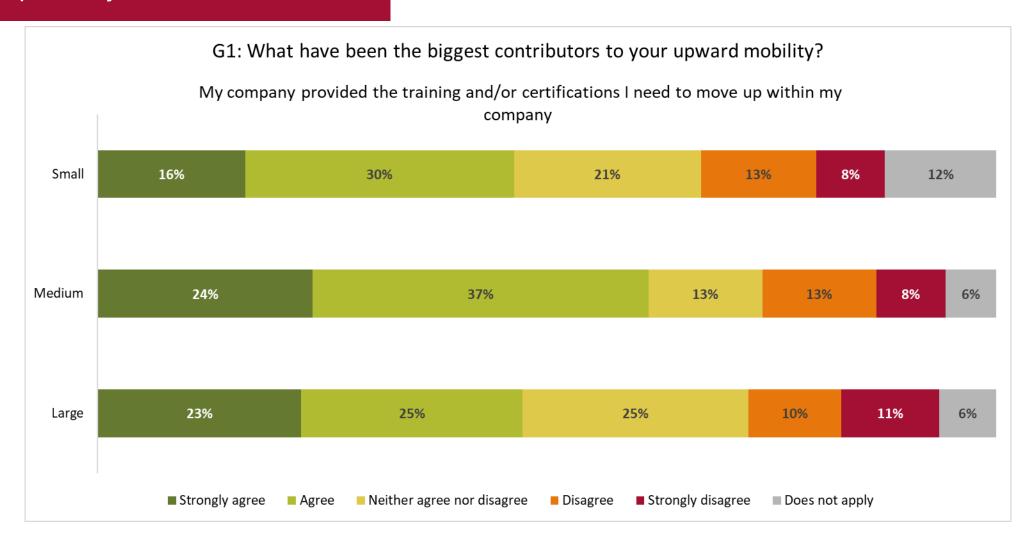




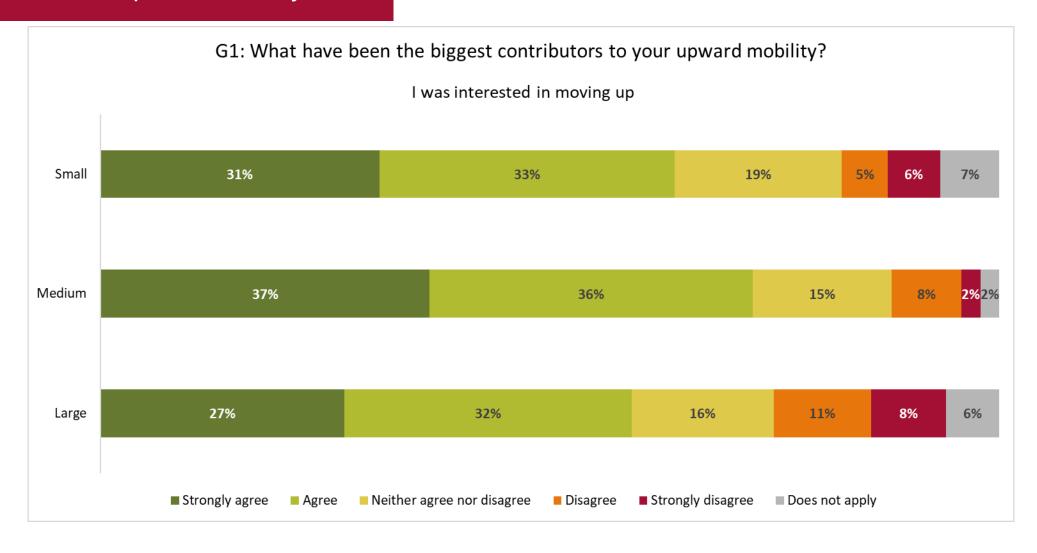


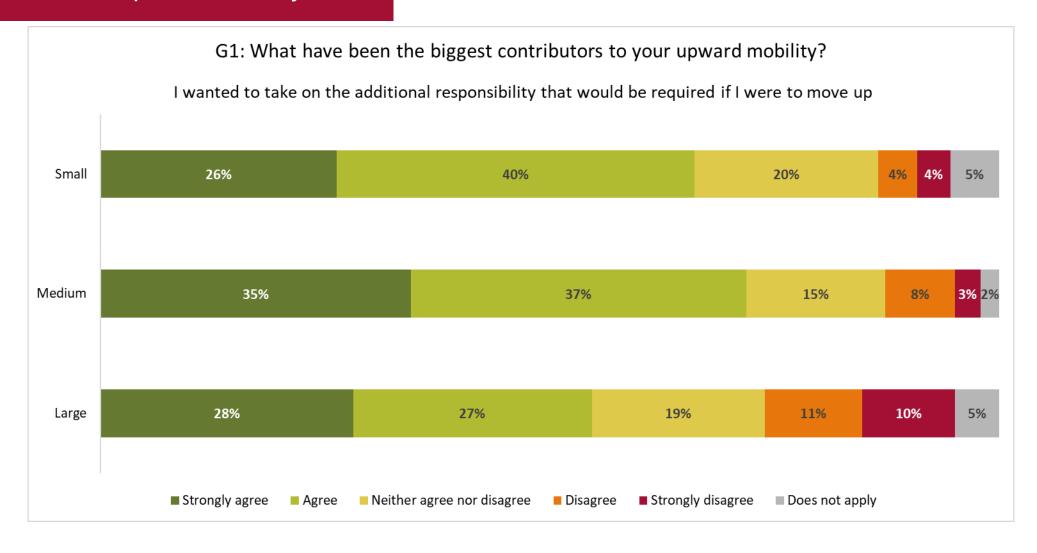


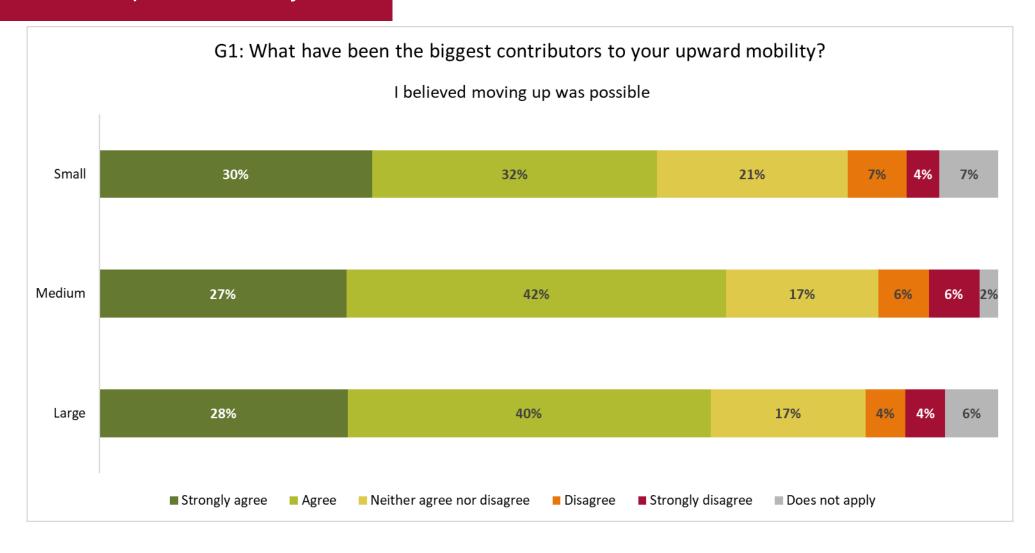


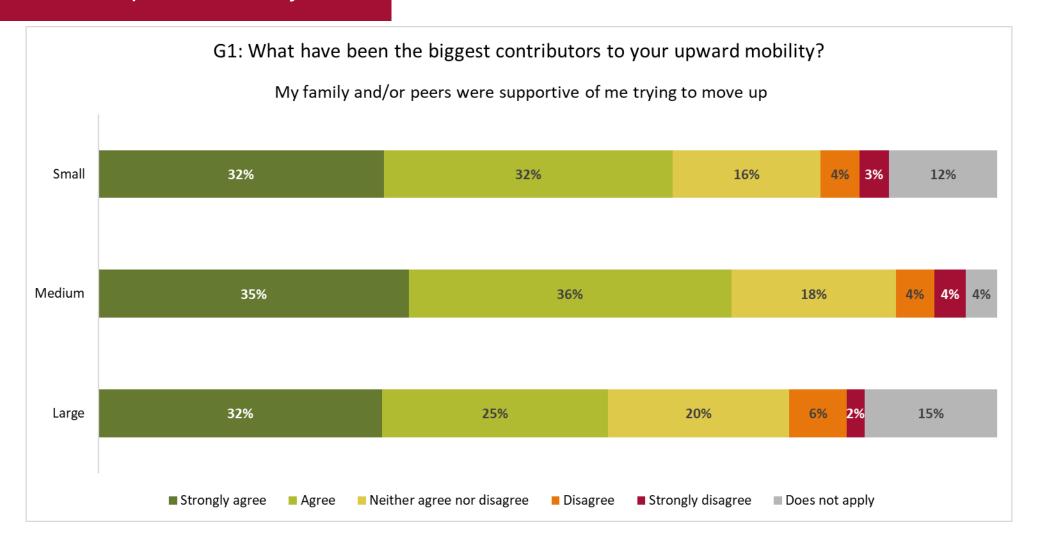


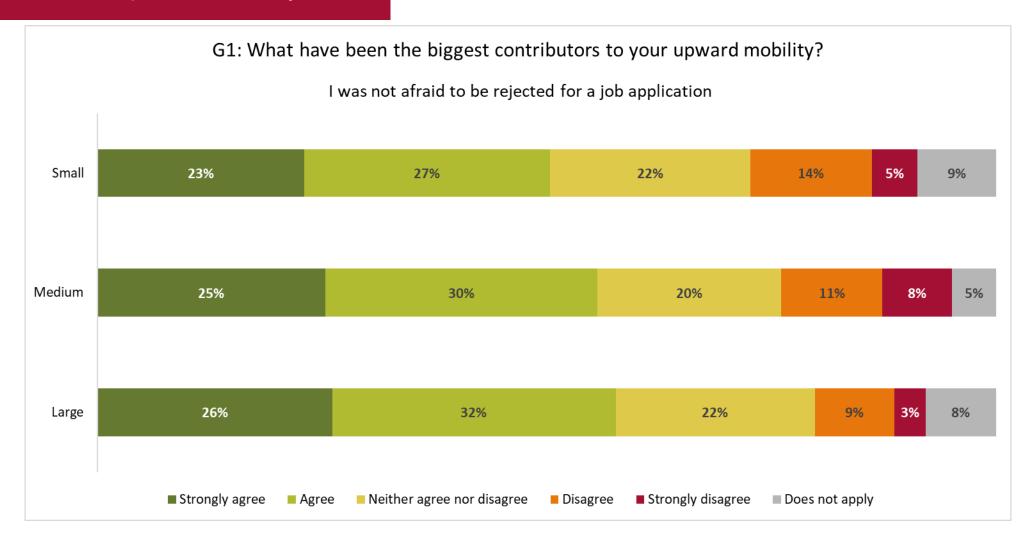
Section G Attitudes about upward mobility

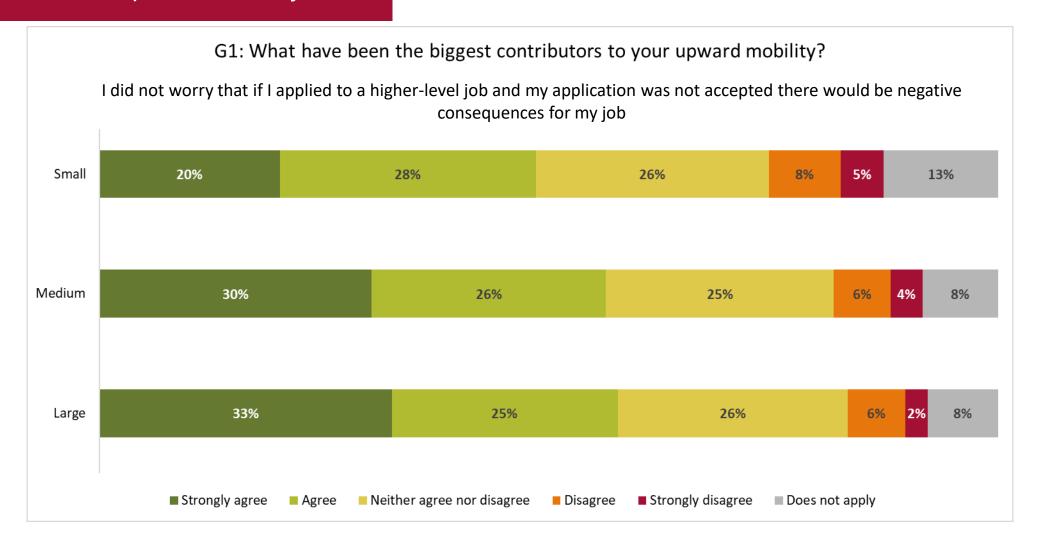


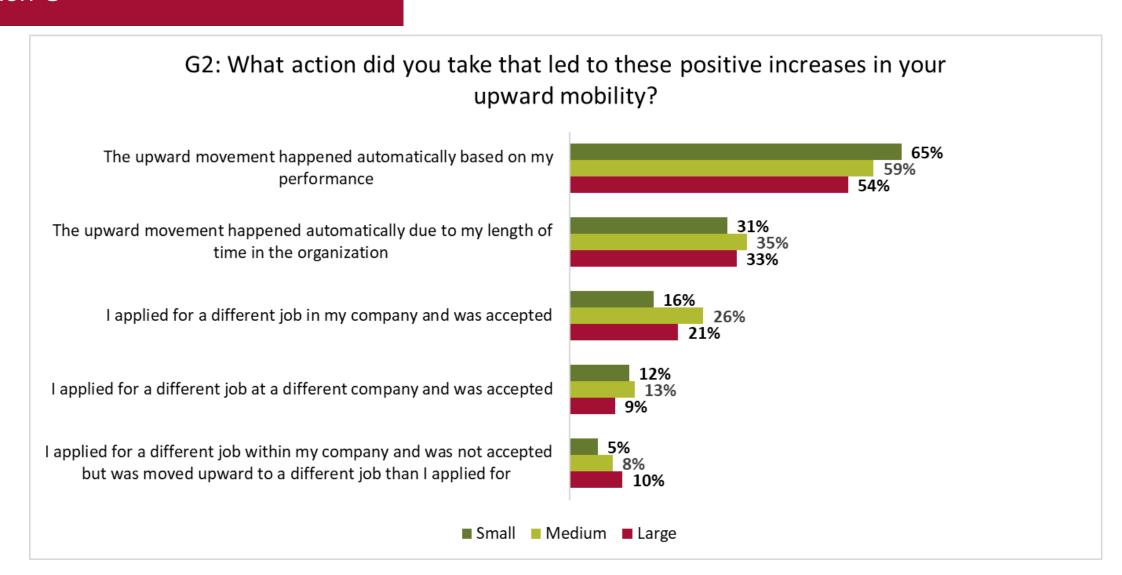




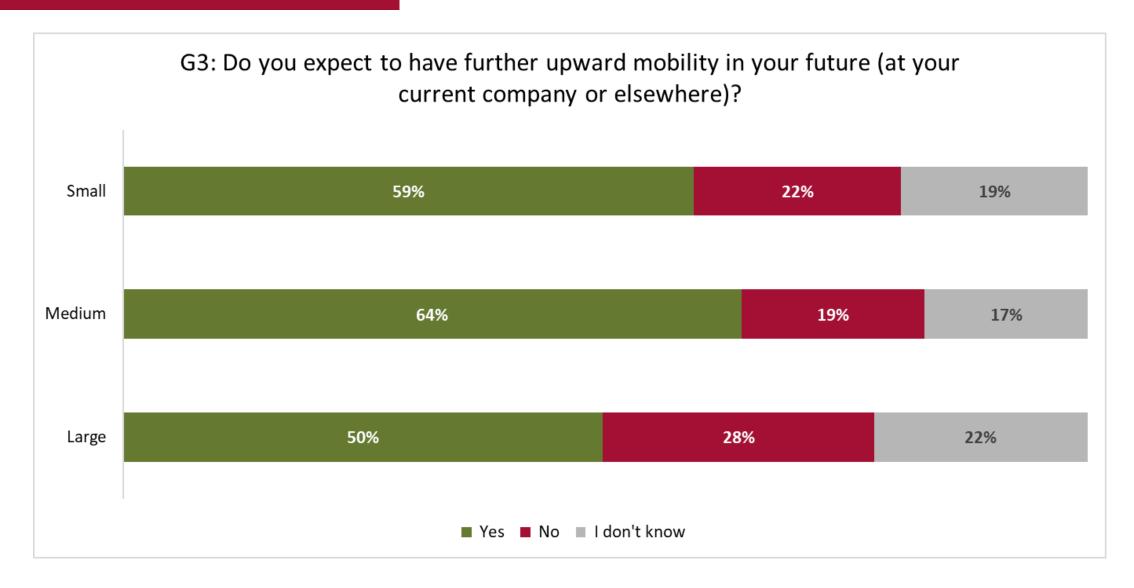


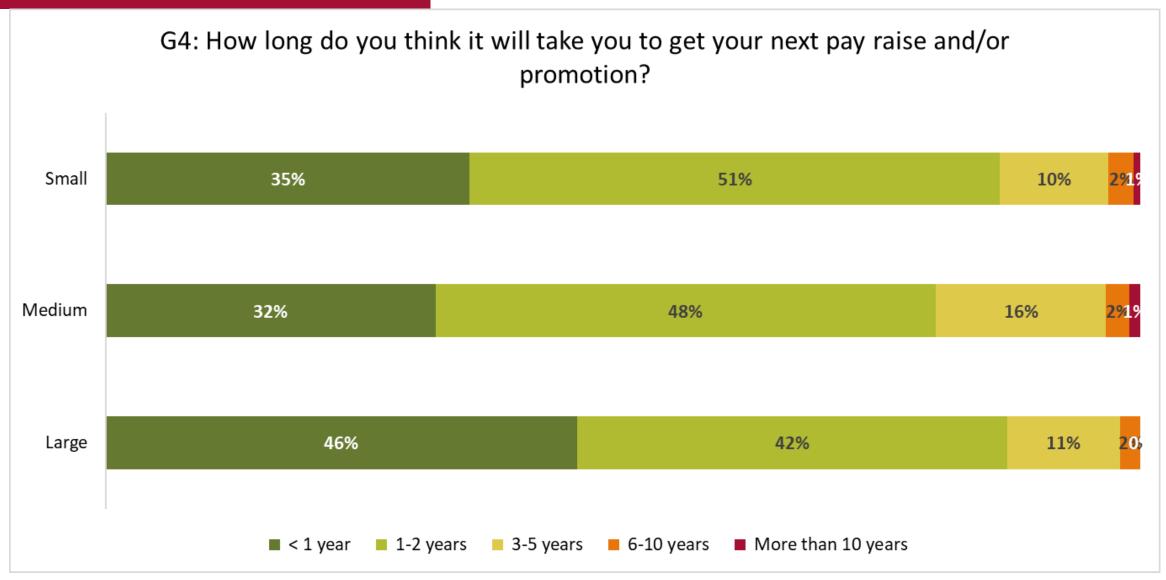




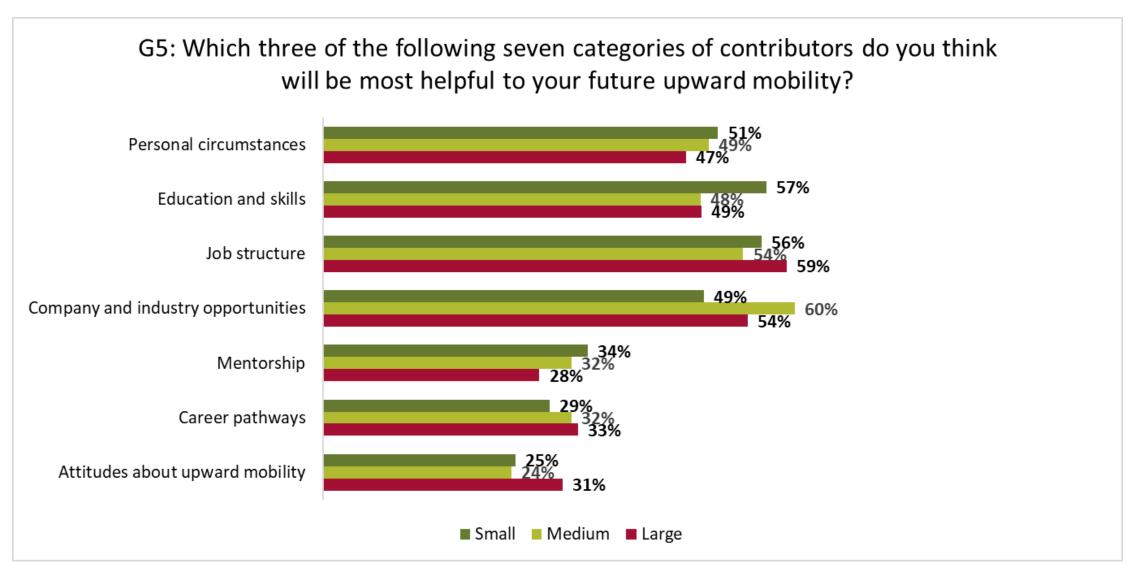


Section G

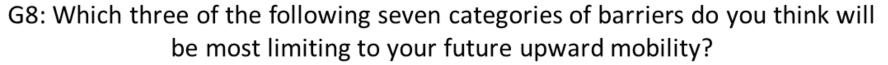


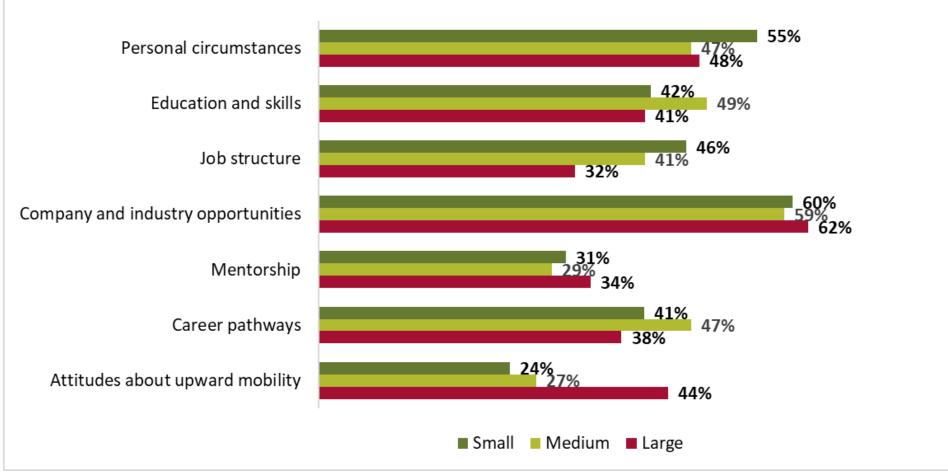


Note: Only respondents who expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

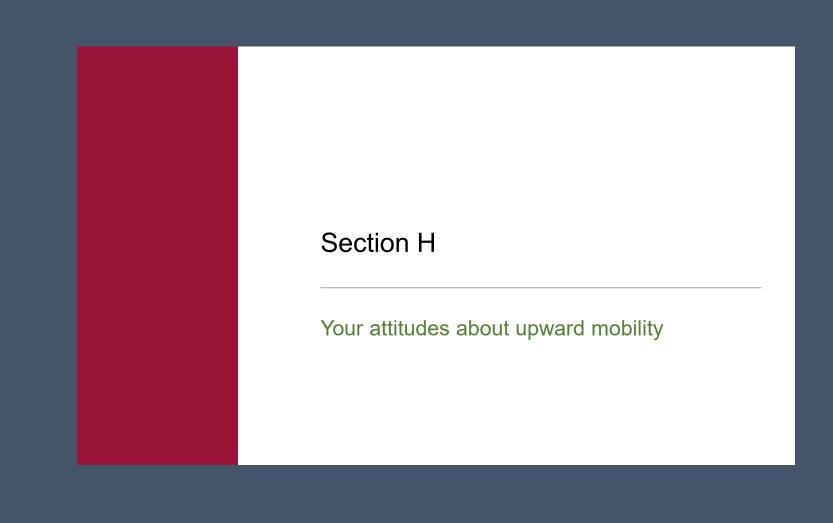


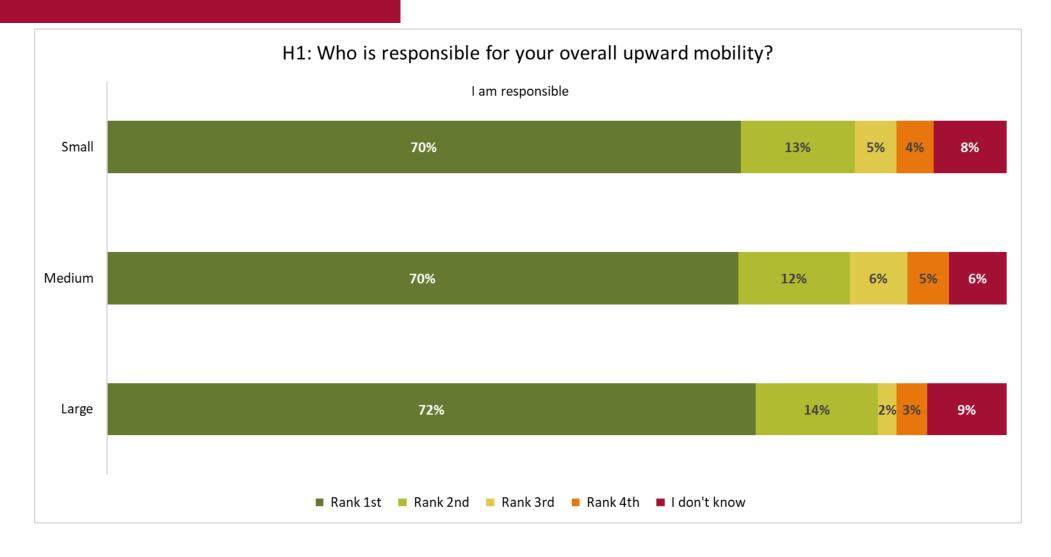
Note: Only respondents who expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

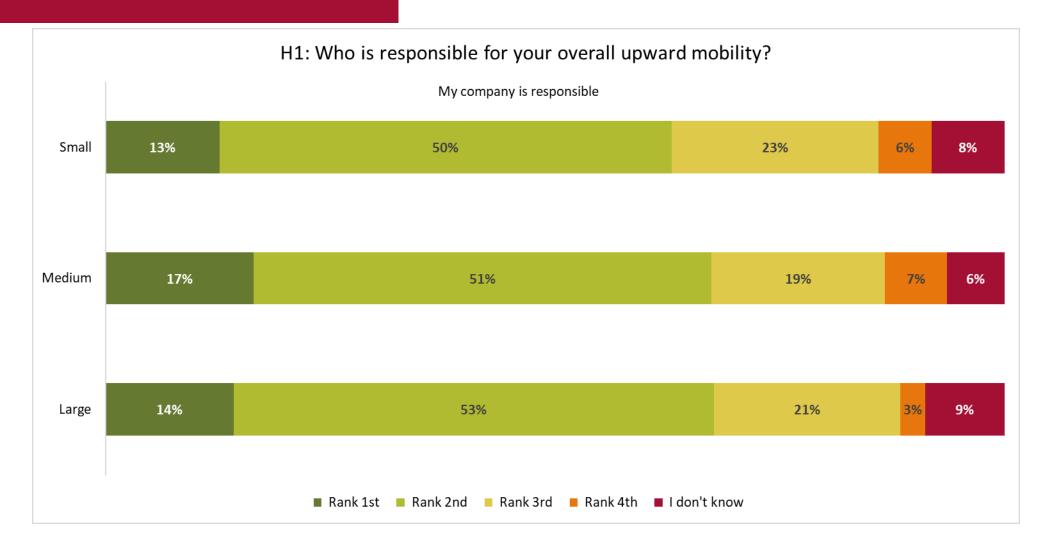


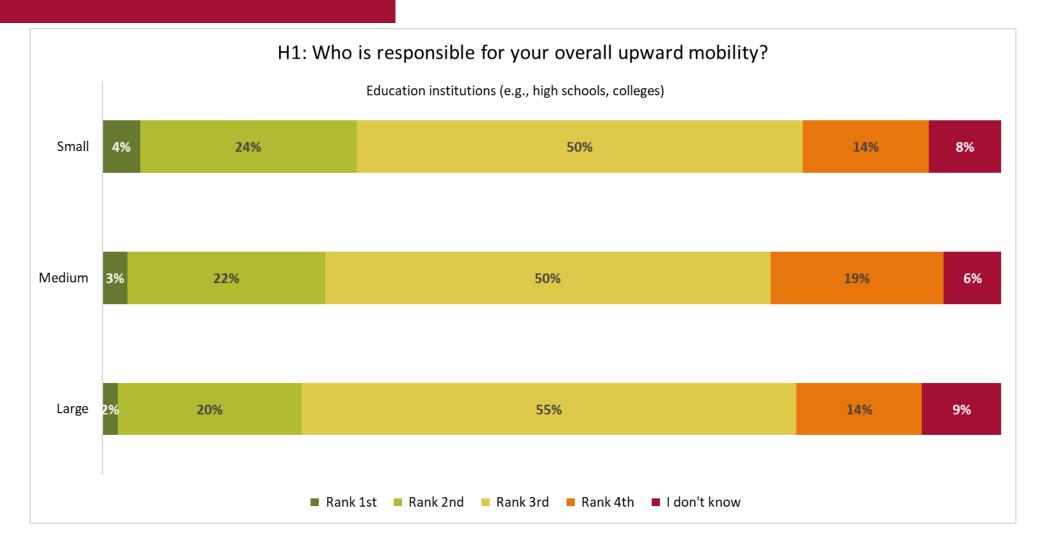


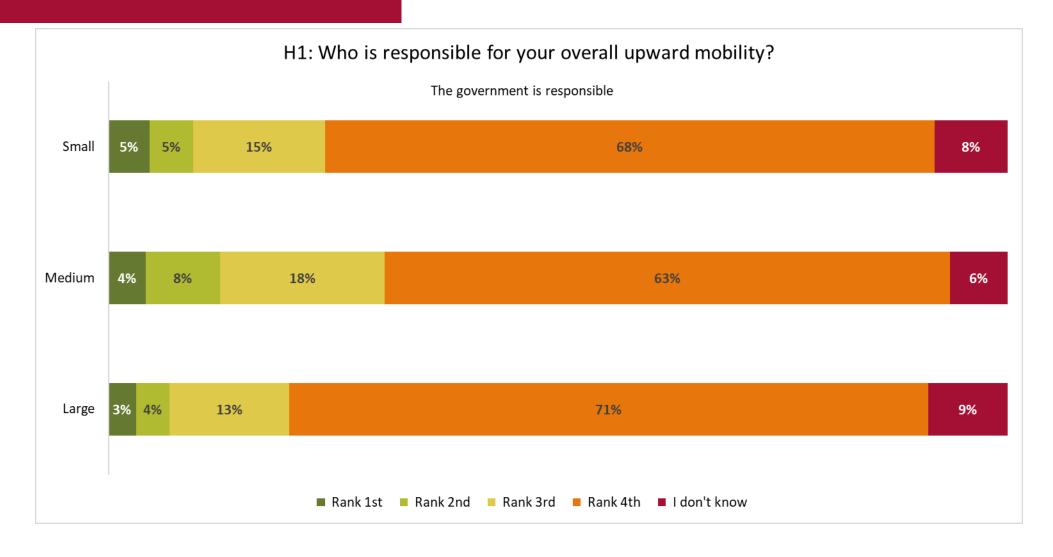
Note: Only respondents who don't know or do not expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

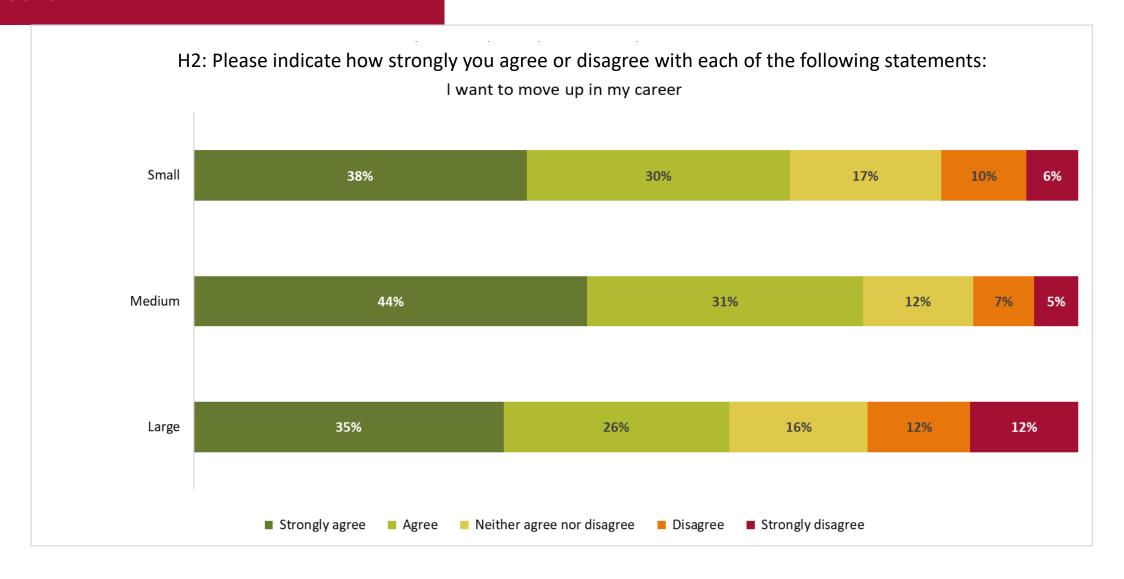


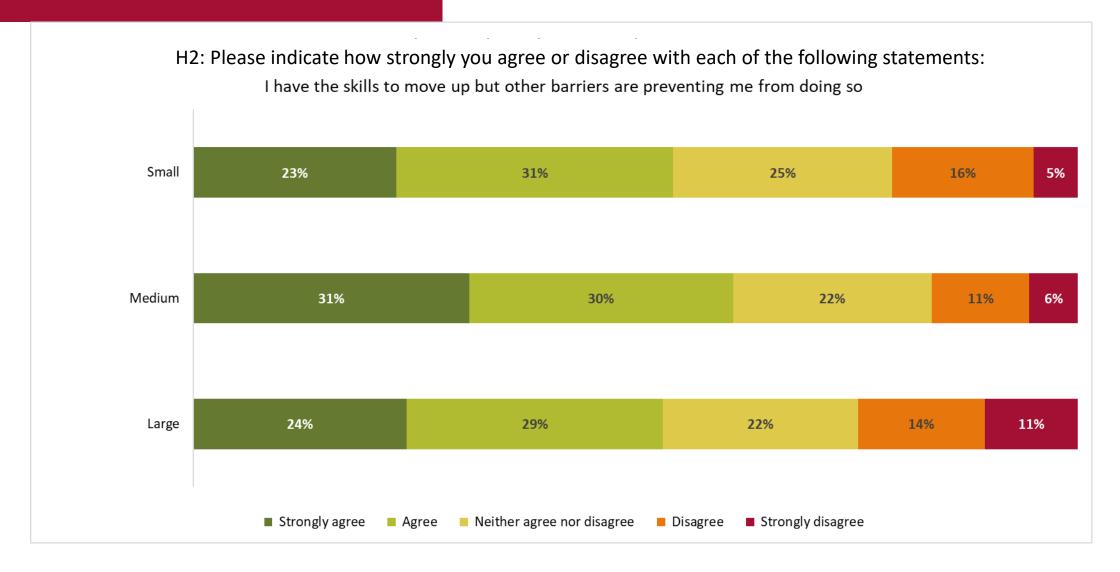


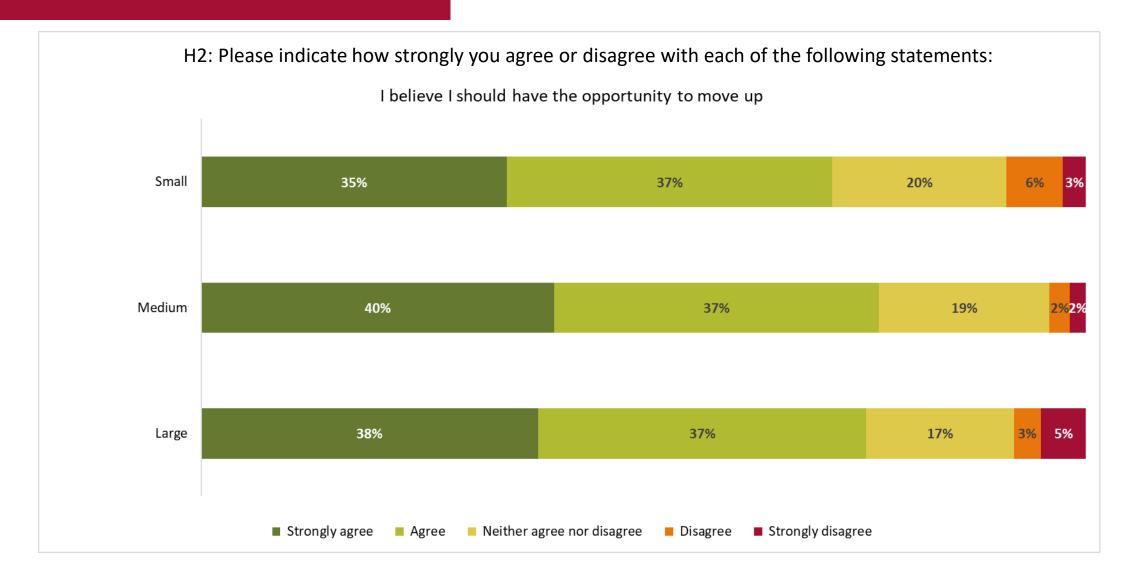


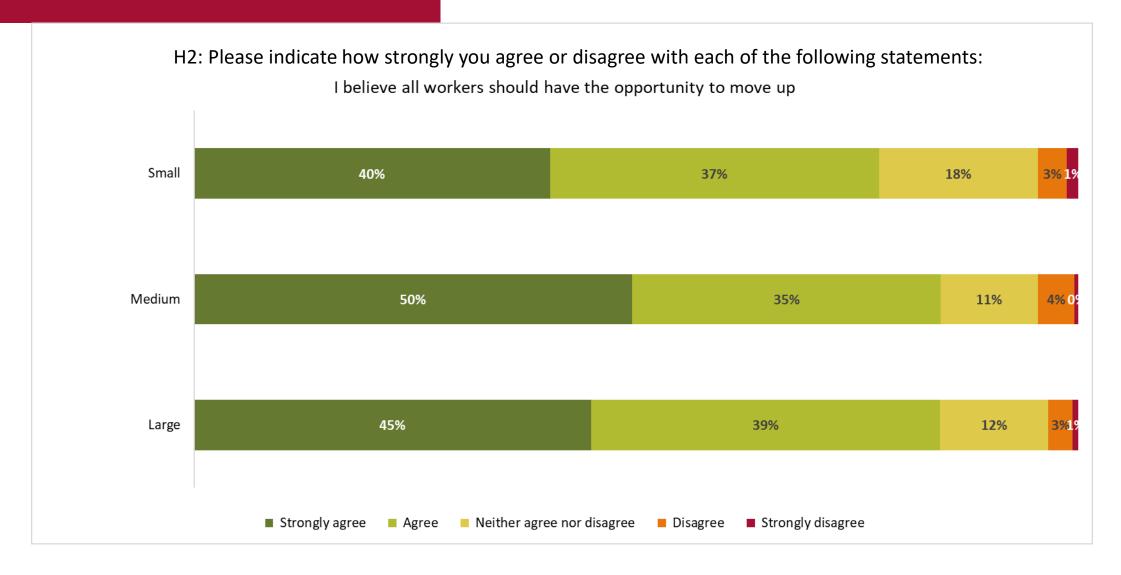


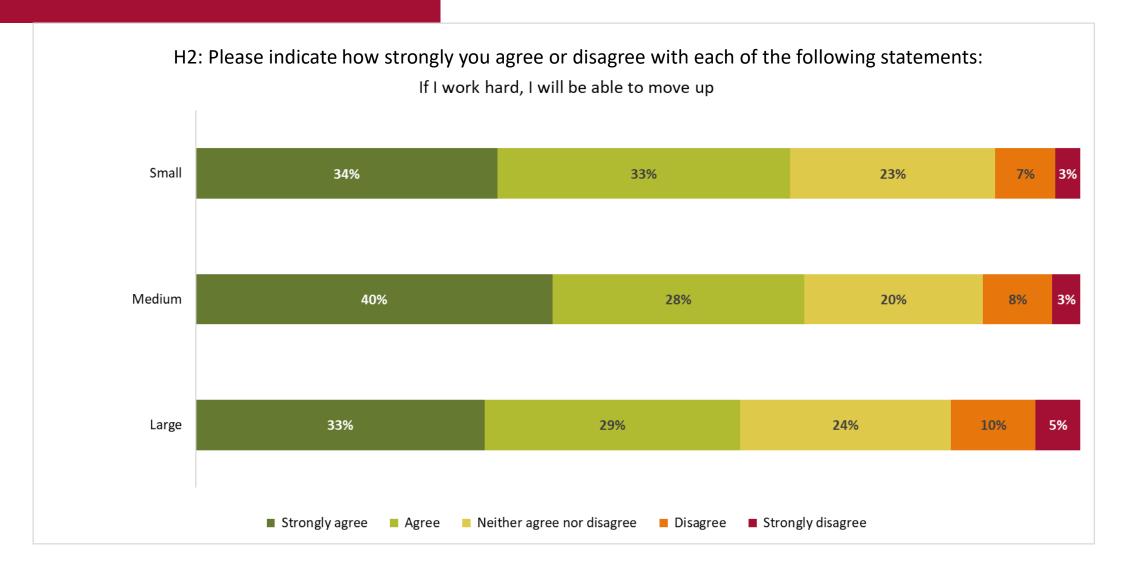


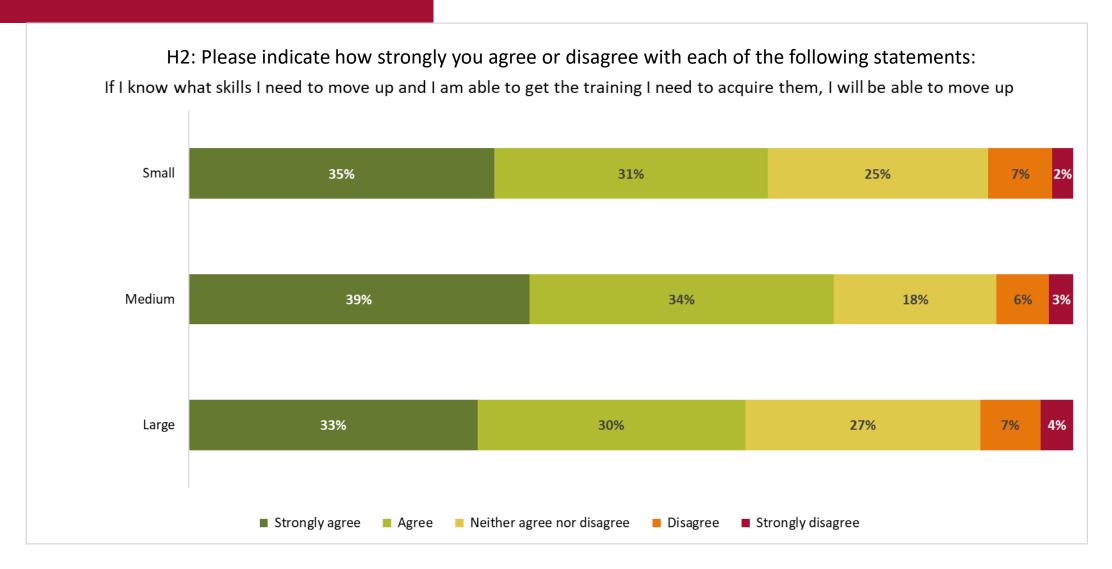




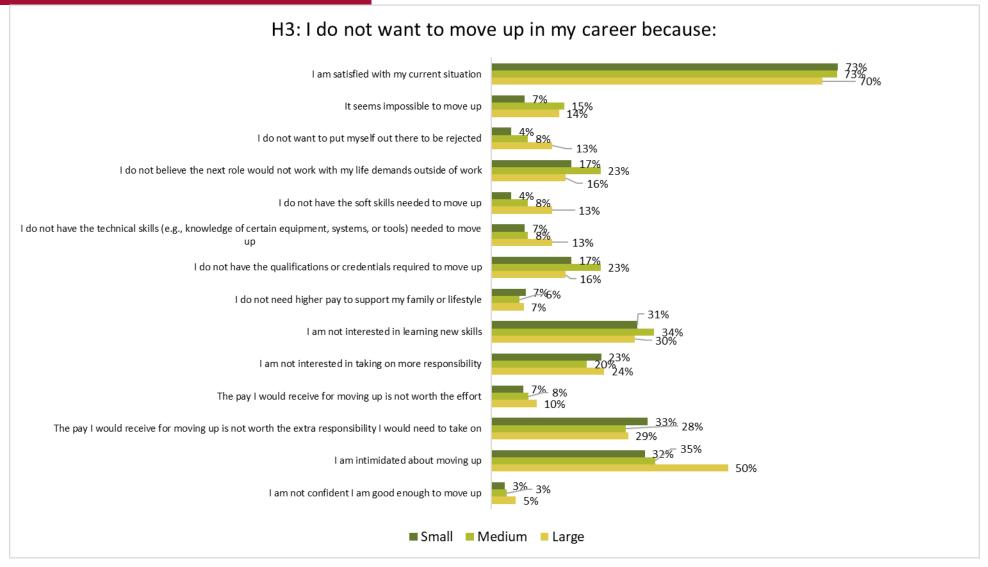




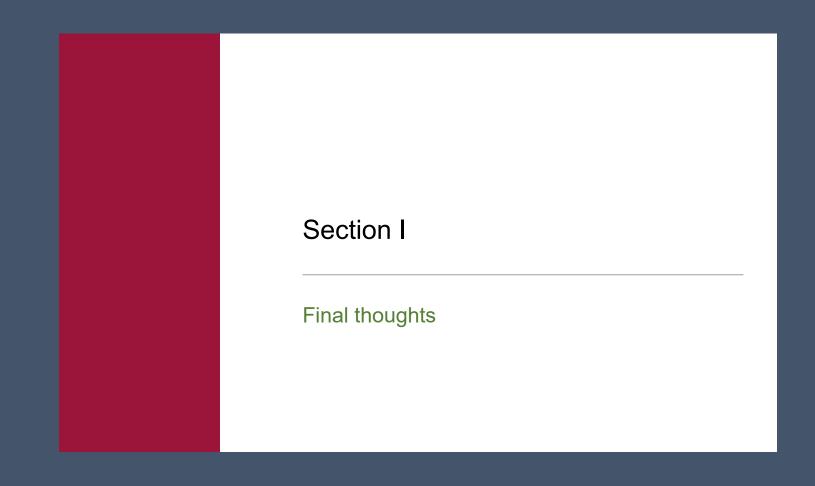




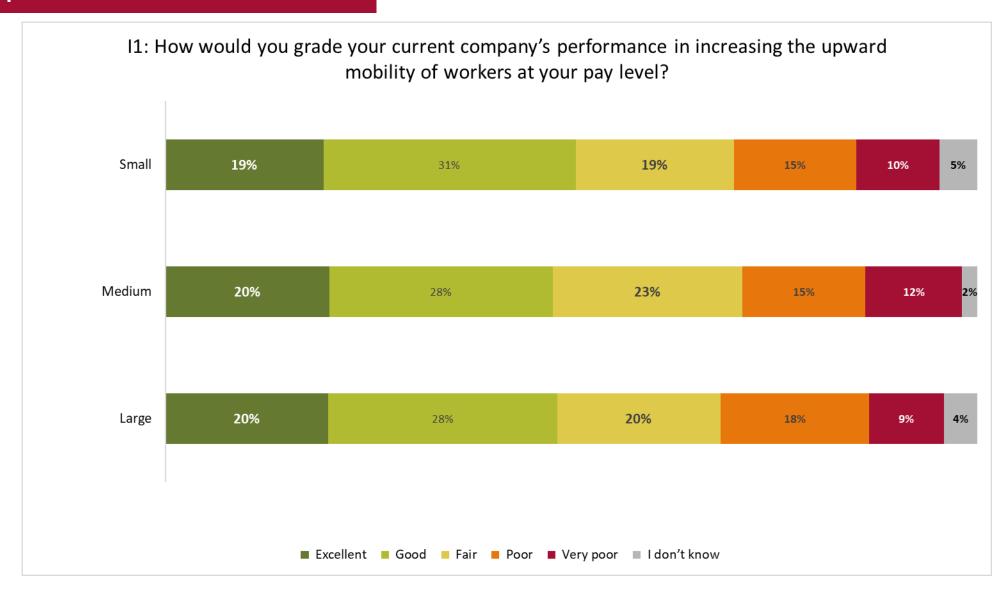
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



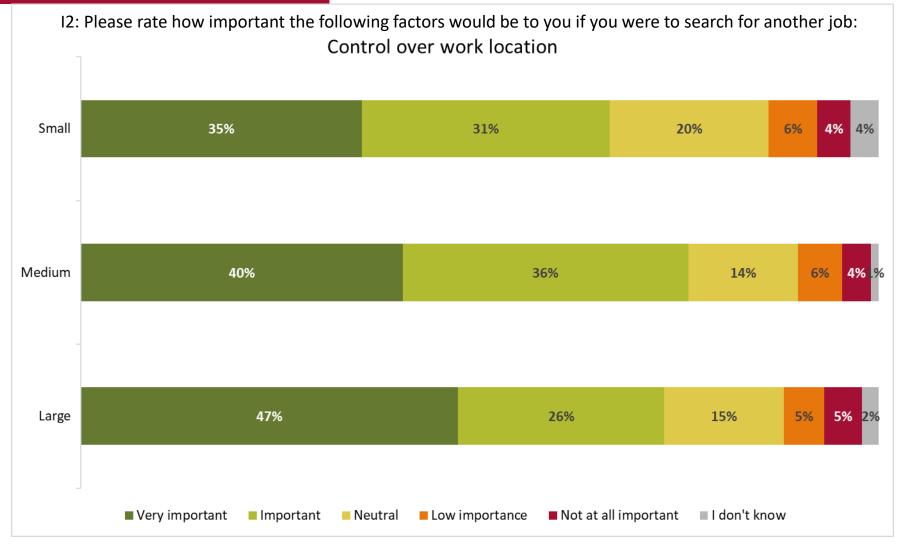
Note: Only those who do not want to move up in their career – those who answered "strongly disagree" or "disagree" in previous question "I want to move up in my career" – answered this question



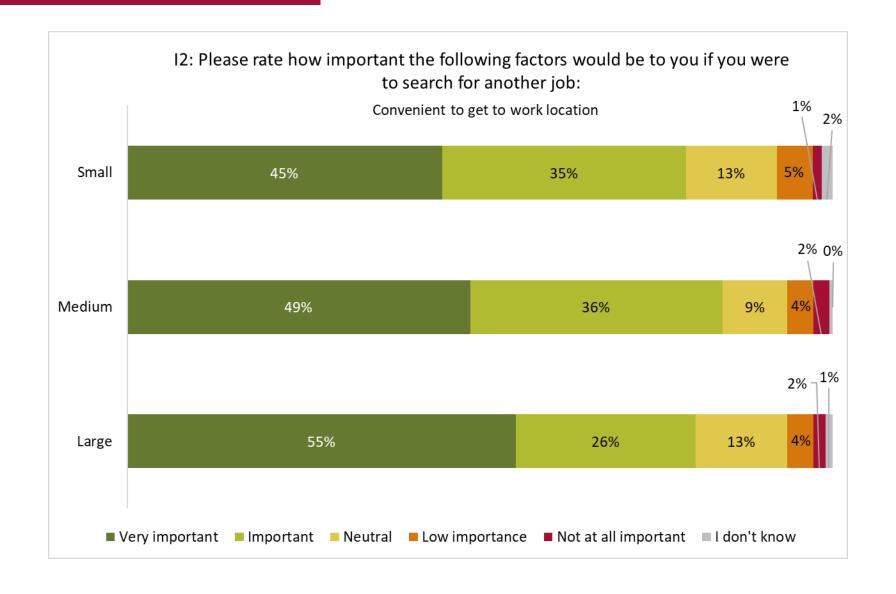
Section I



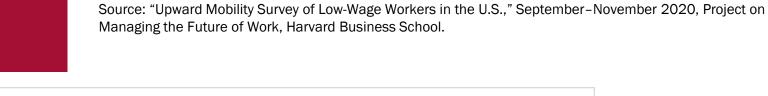
Section I

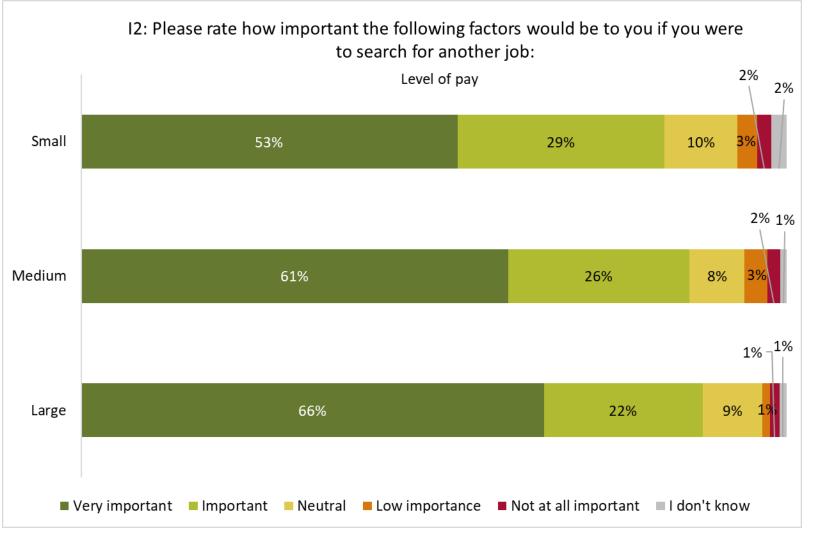


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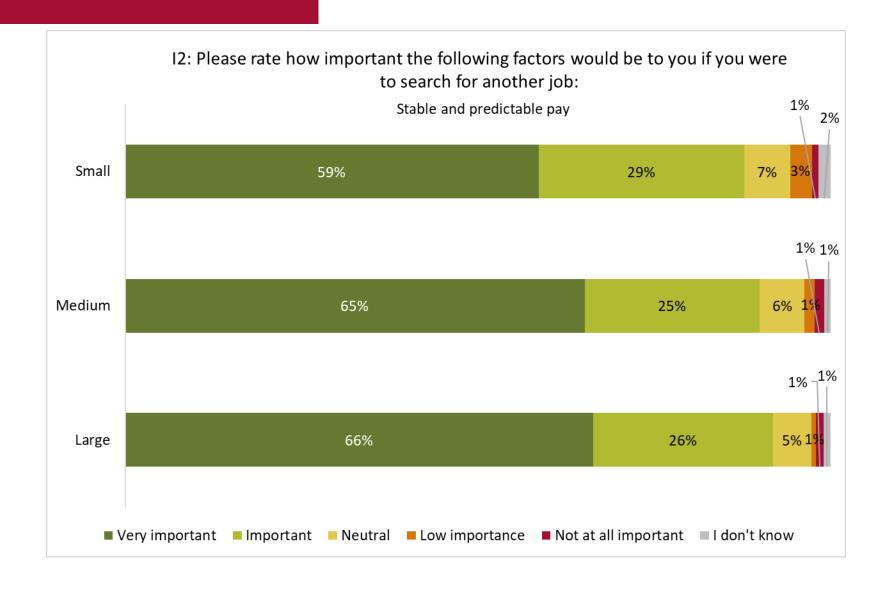


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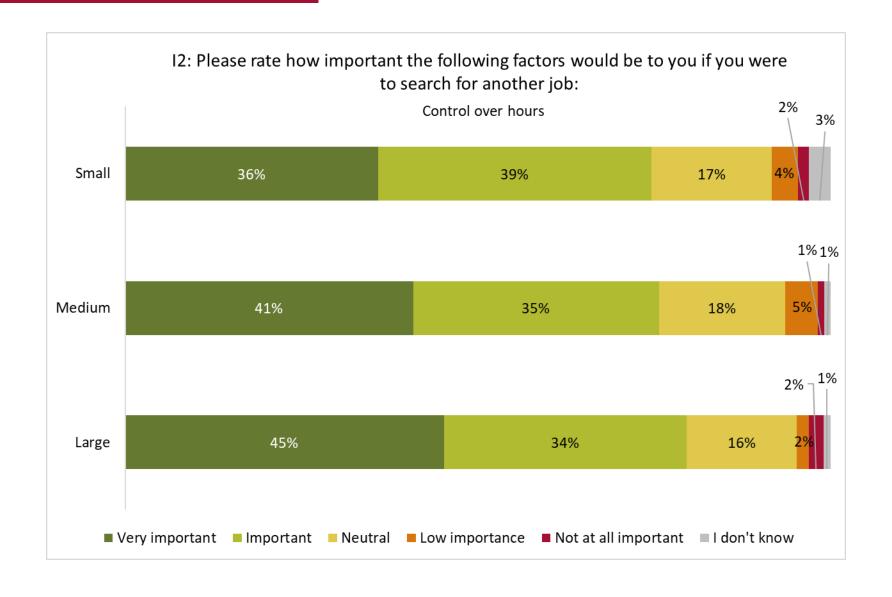




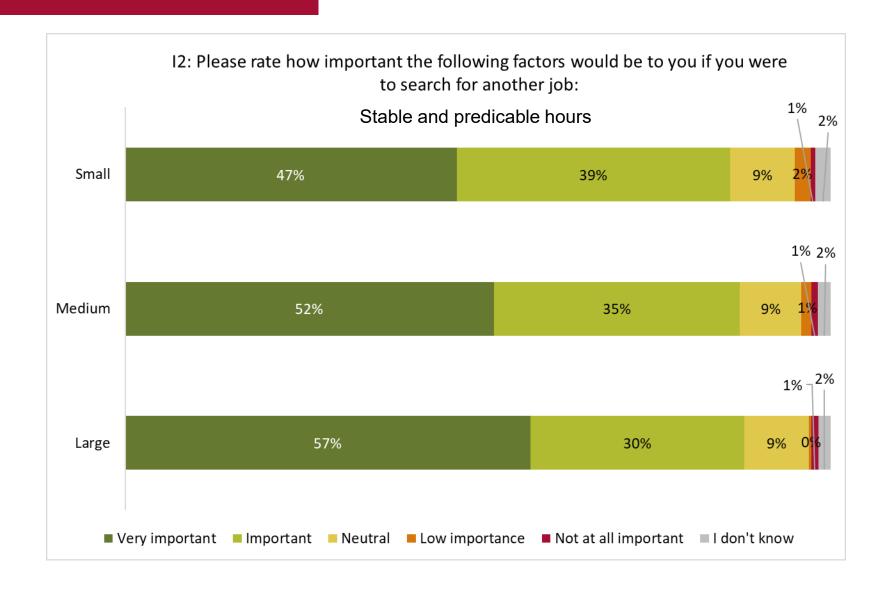
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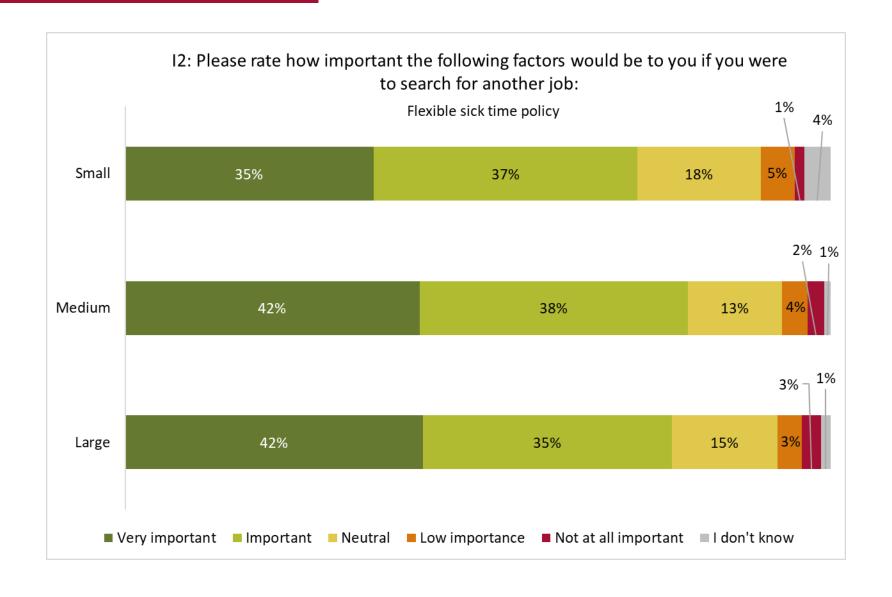
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Section I

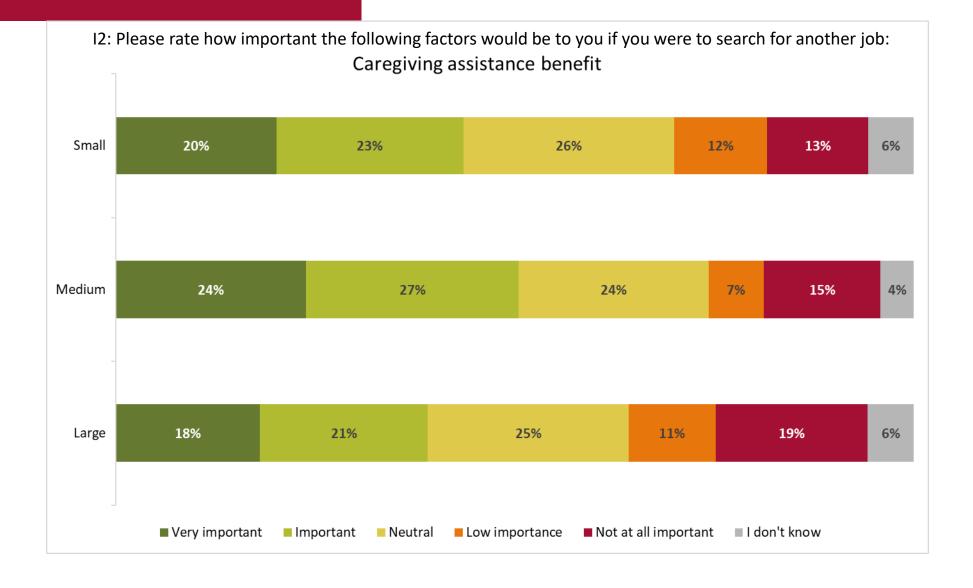


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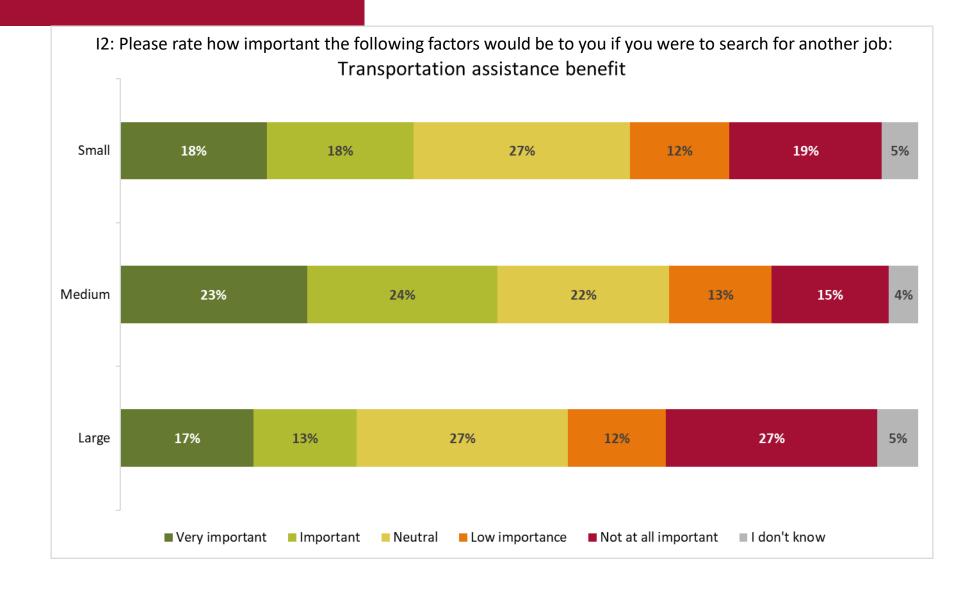
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on

Section I



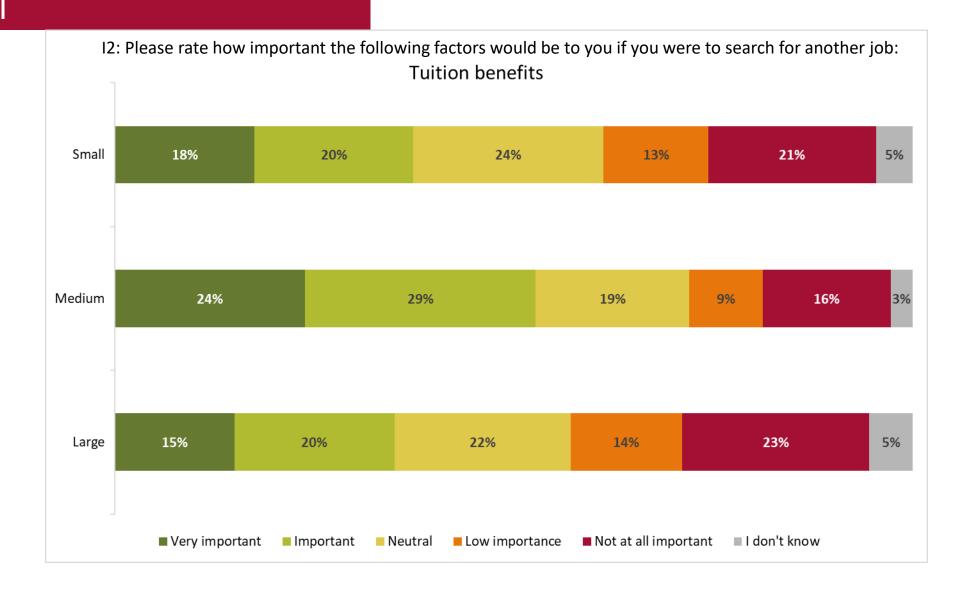
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Section I



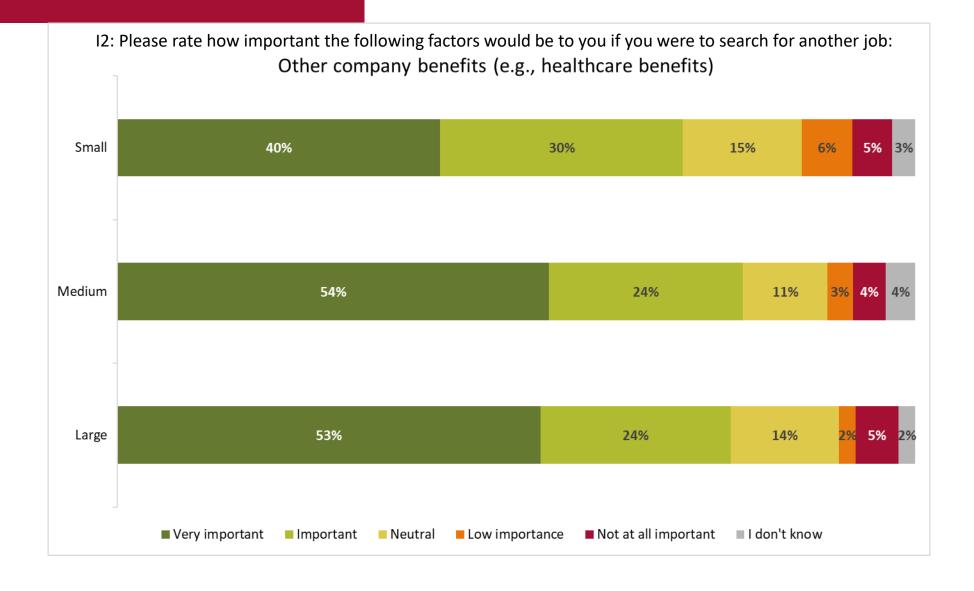
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Section I

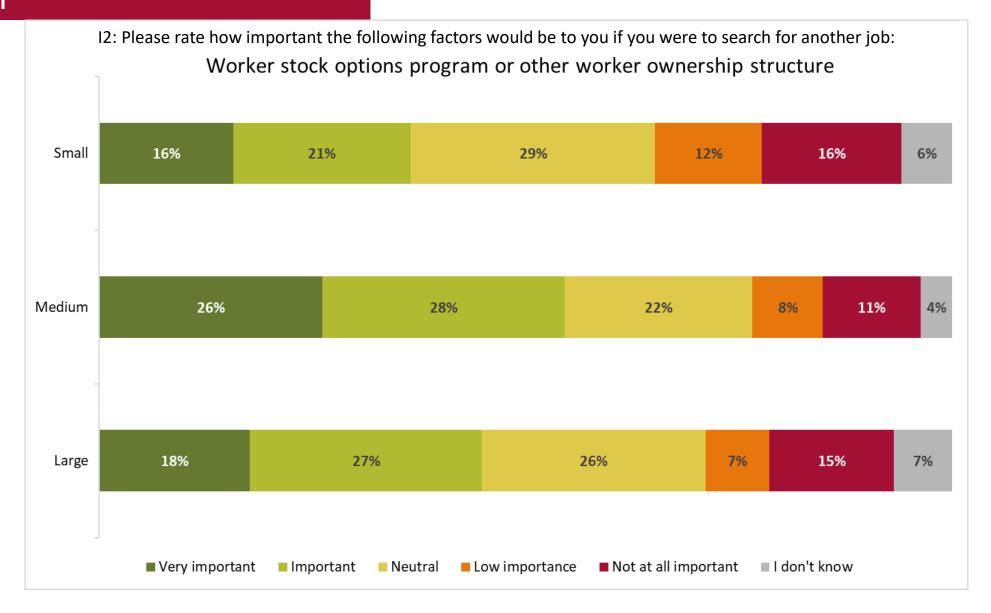


Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on

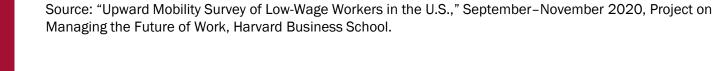
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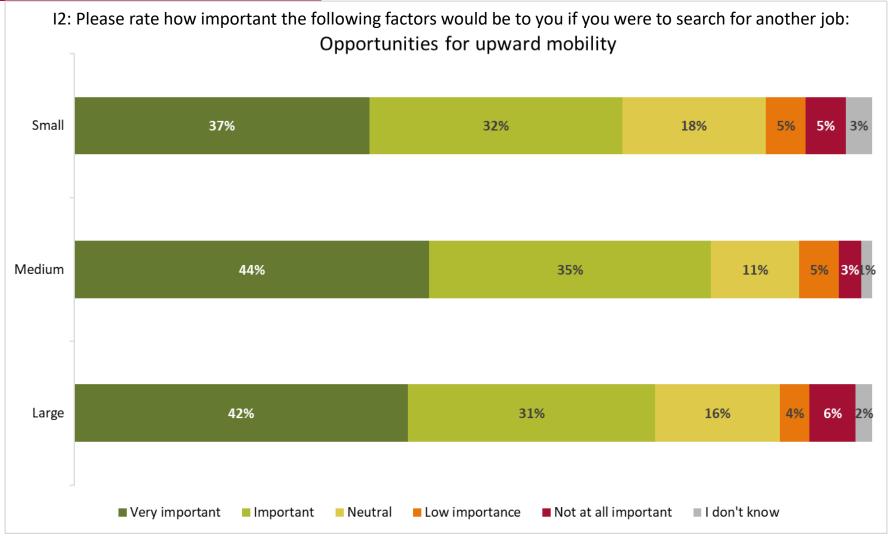


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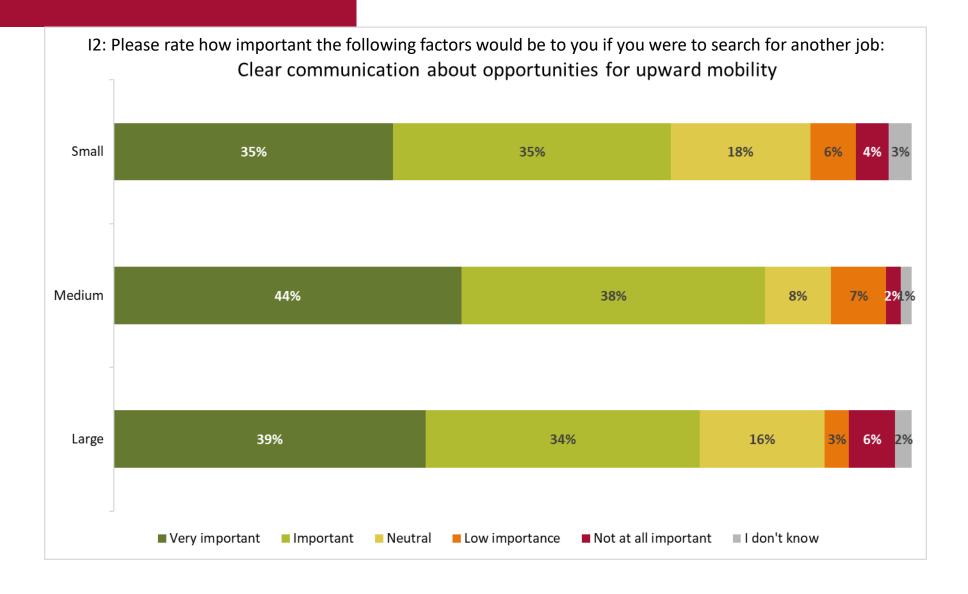


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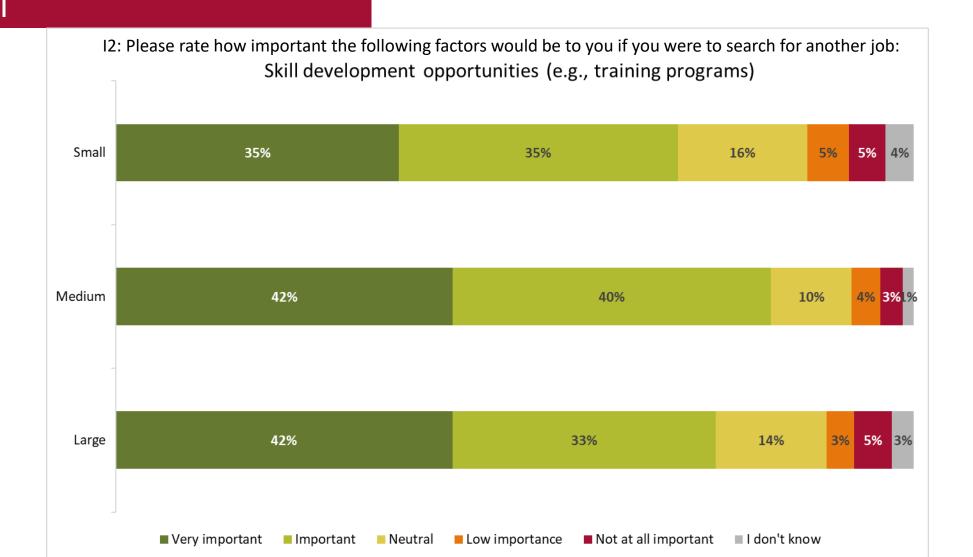


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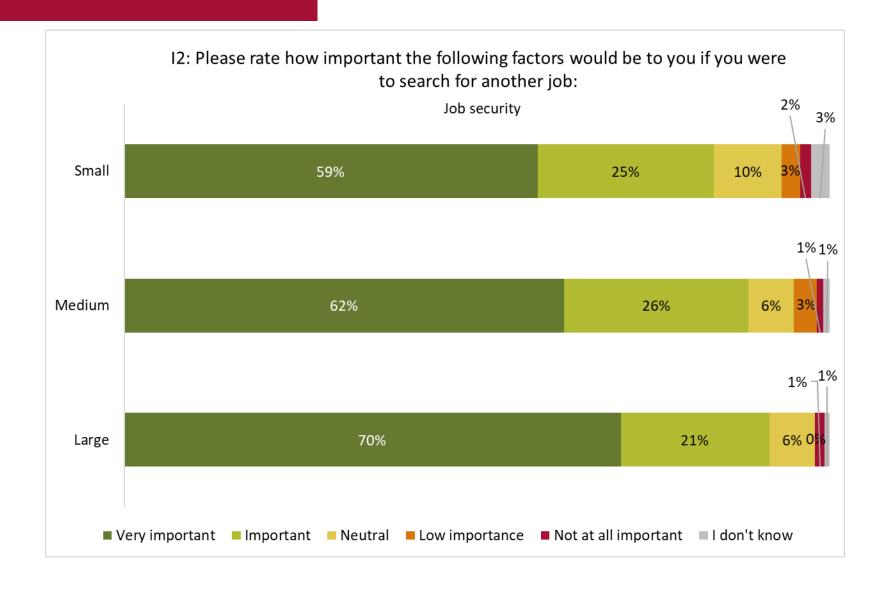
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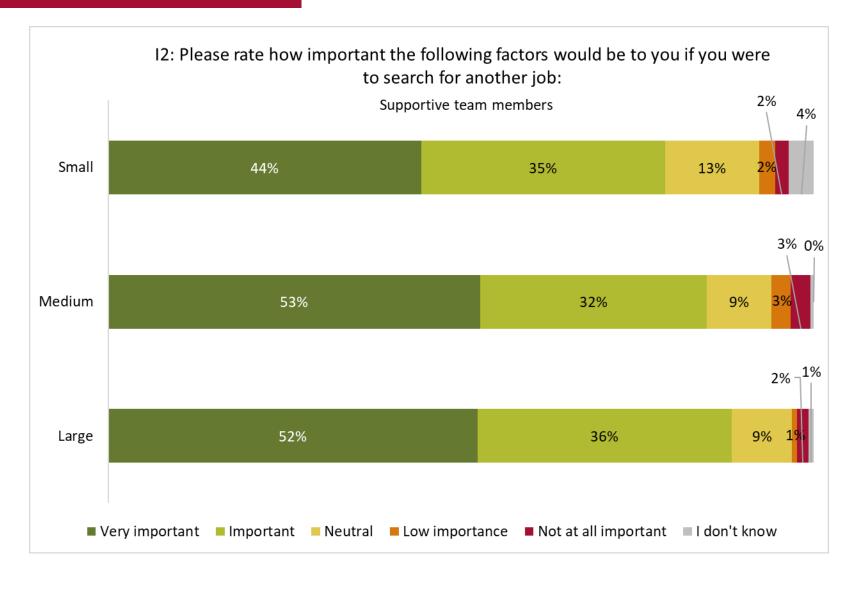


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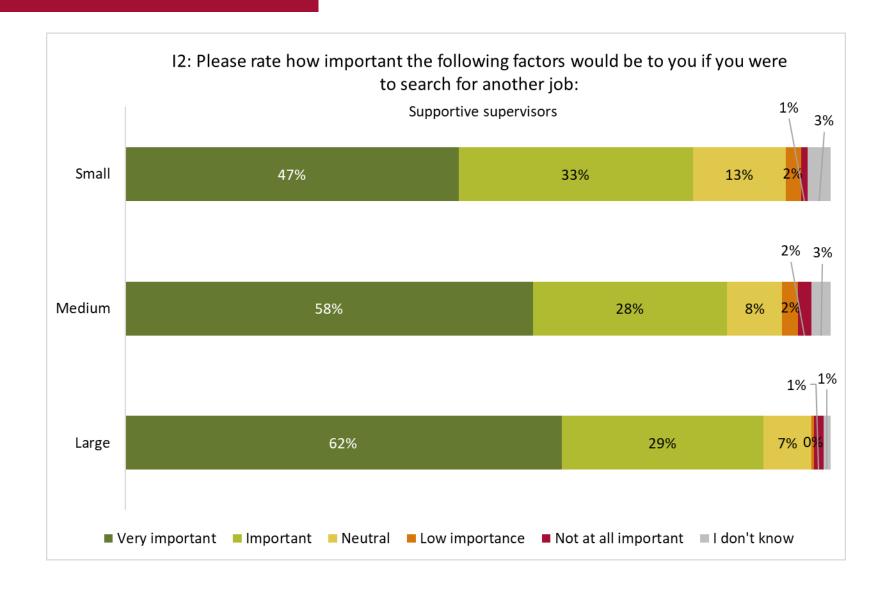
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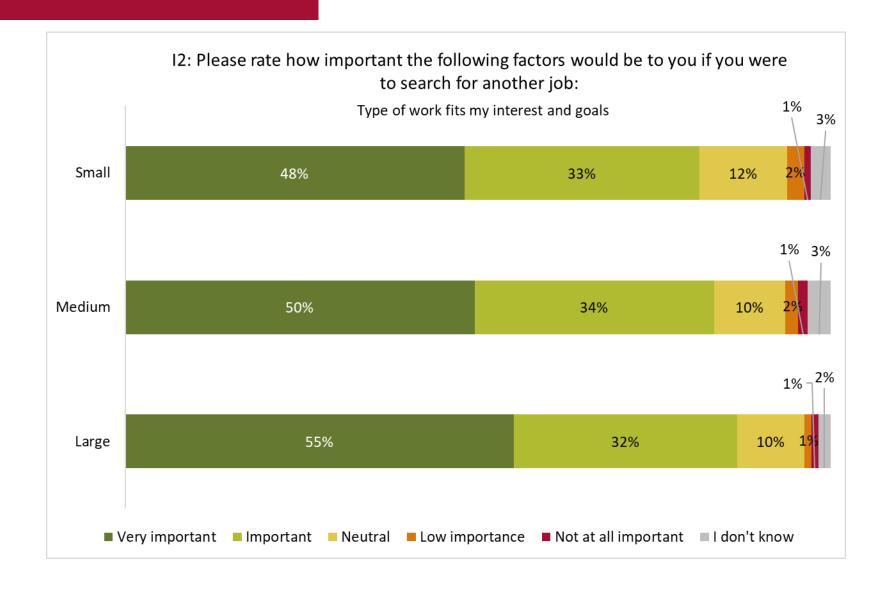
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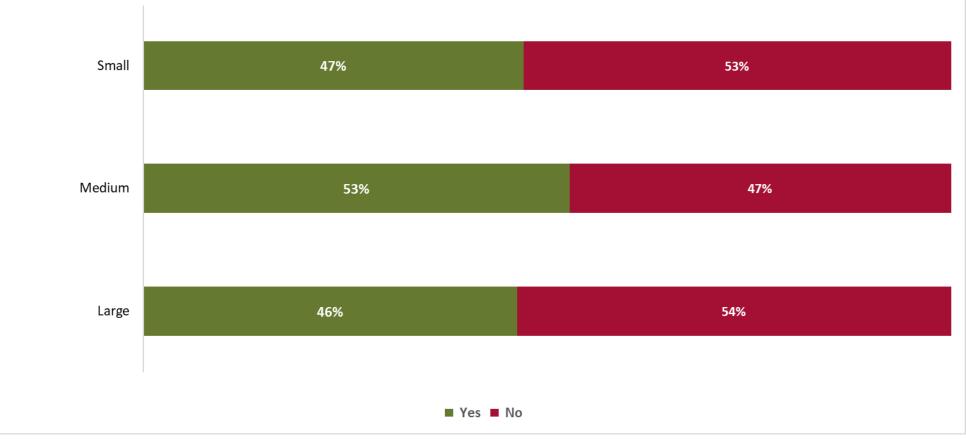


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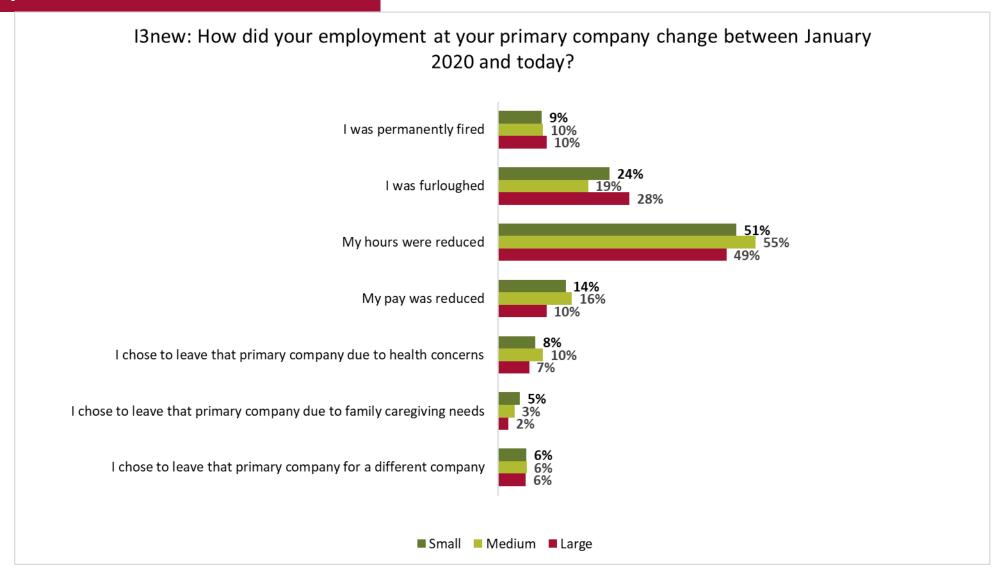
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I2new. Throughout this survey, we have asked about your employment in January 2020, prior to the emergence of COVID-19 in the United States. However, these next questions ask about your employment after January 2020. Did your employment at your primary company change between January 2020 and today?



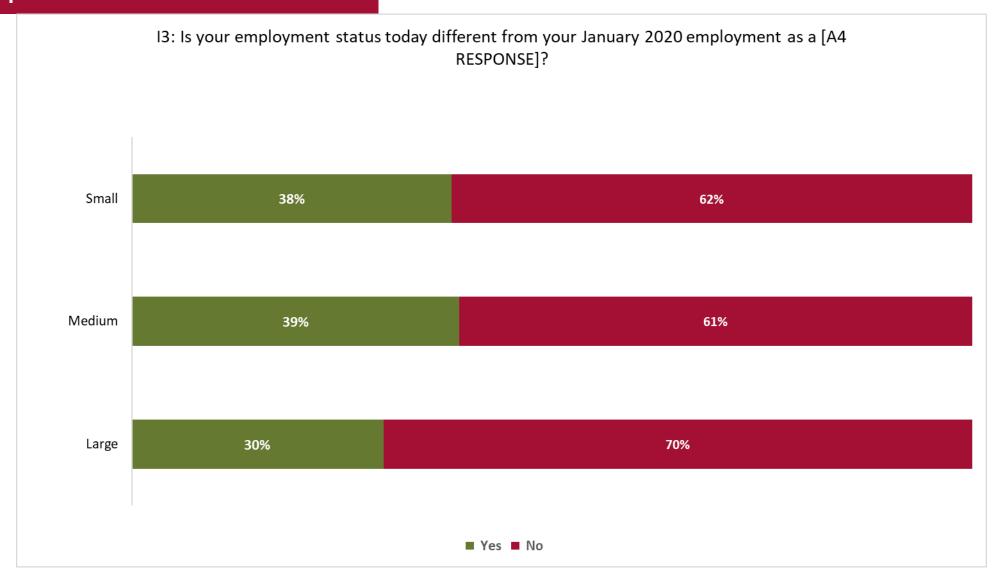
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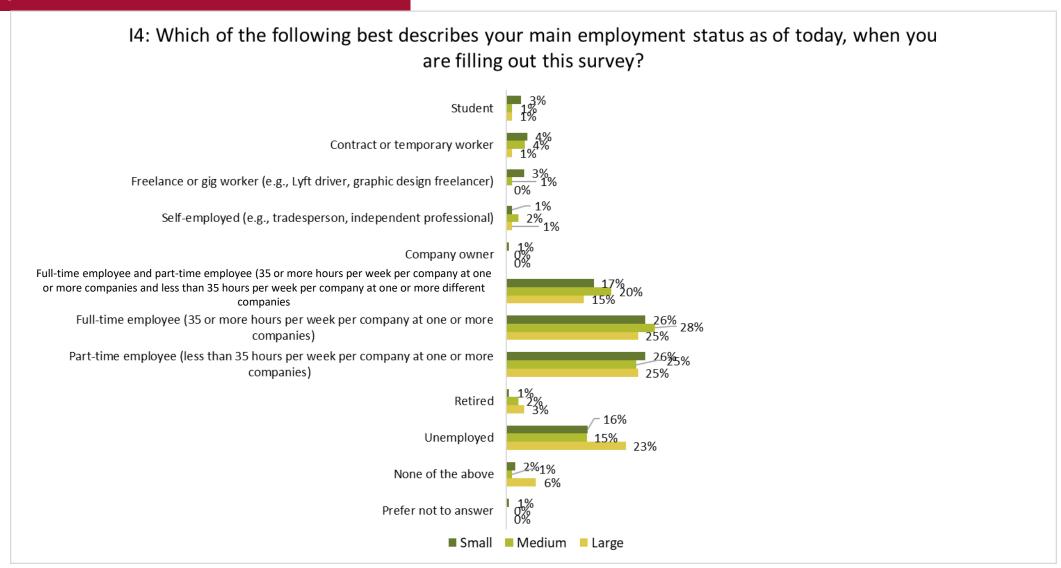


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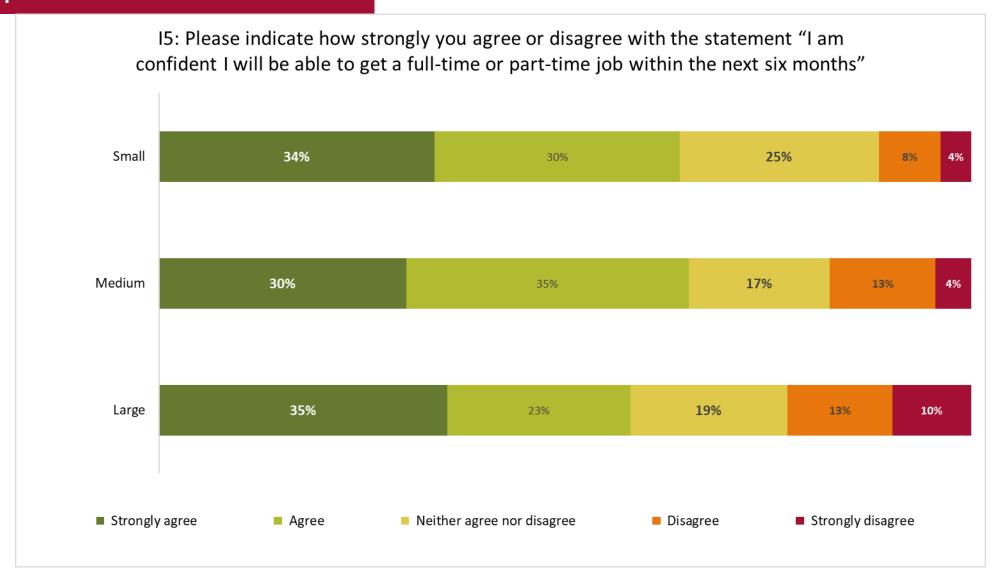
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Note: Only respondents whose employment status changed since January 2020 answered this question.

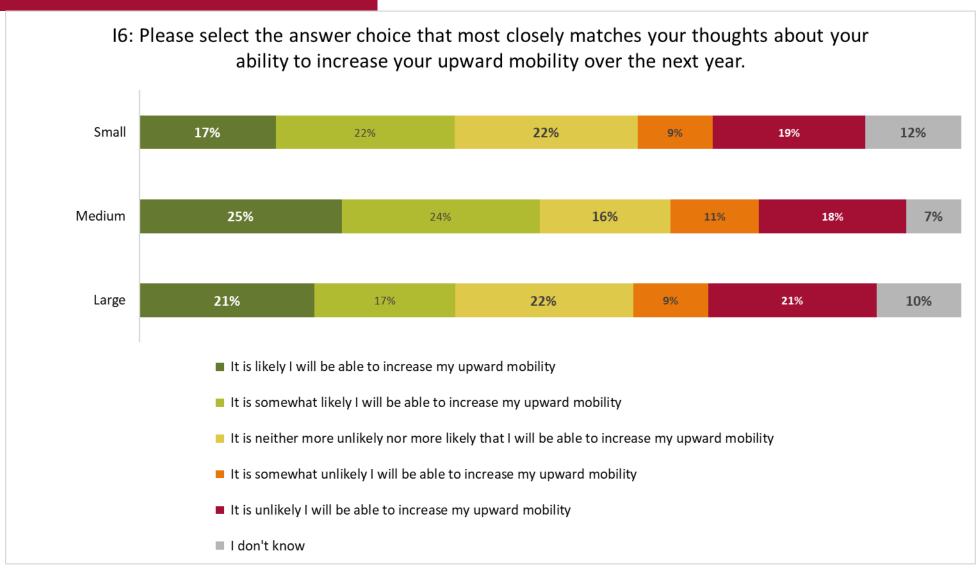
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Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



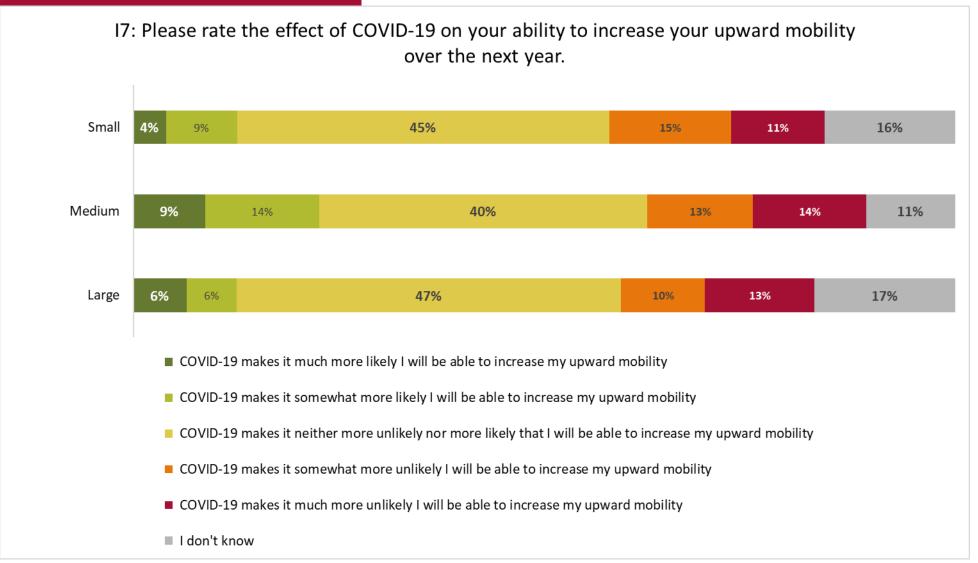
Note: Only respondents who are not currently a full-time and/or part-time employee answered this question.

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Note: Only those who did not change employment status or those who changed employment status and are now a full-time or part-time employee answered this question.

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Note: Only those who did not change employment status or those who changed employment status and are now a full-time or part-time employee answered this question.