# Building From the Bottom Up

**Upward mobility survey of low-wage workers** (Results by Gender)





Managing the Future of Work

# Notes Worker Survey – Gender

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 gender of the respondent.

#### Please direct inquiries to:

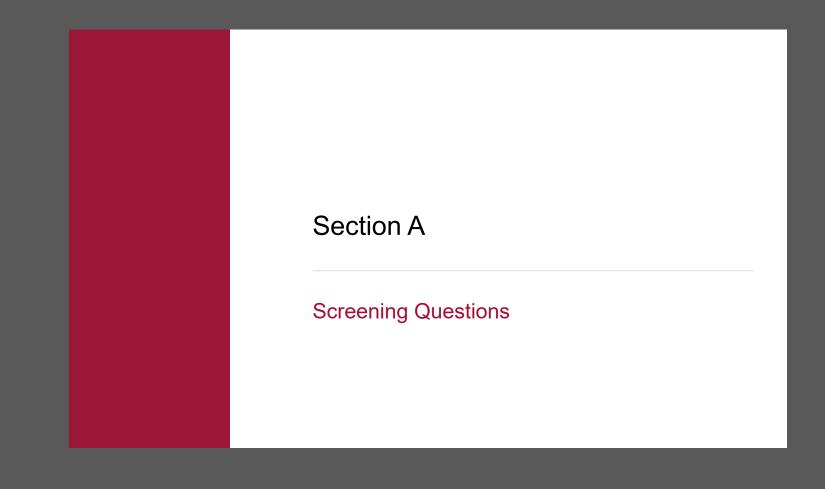
Manjari Raman, mraman@hbs.edu

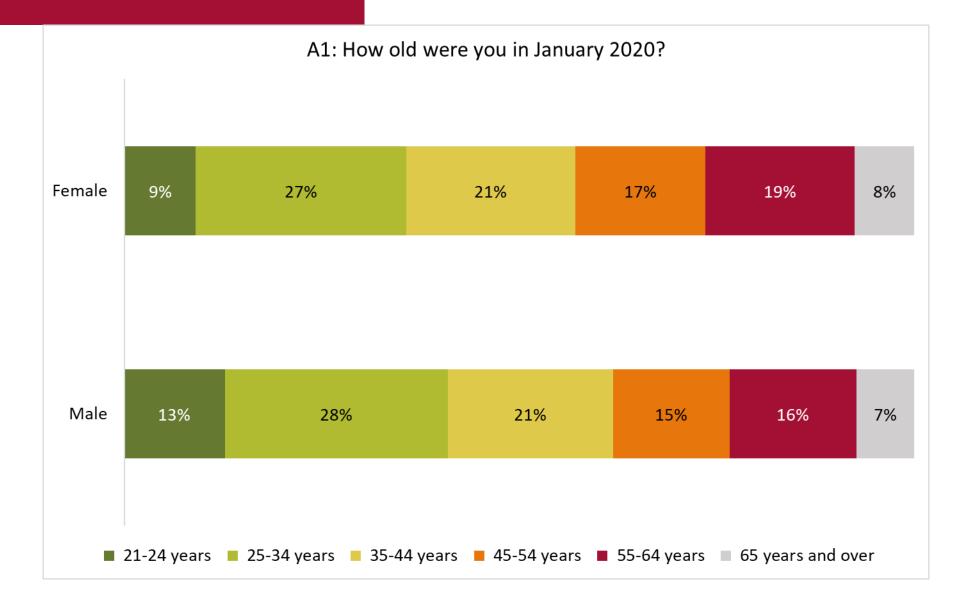
#### Preferred citation:

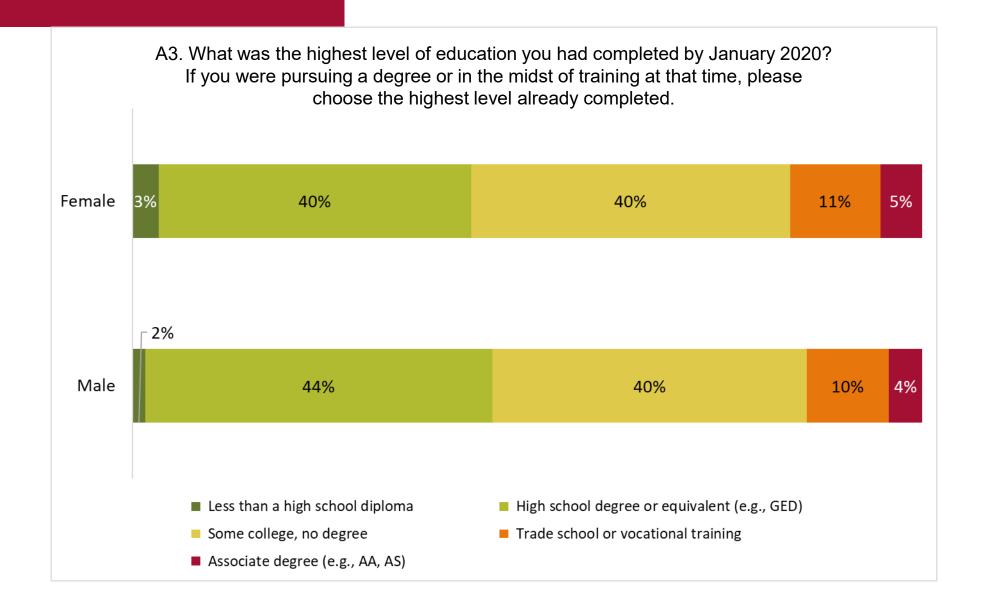
"Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

#### General notes:

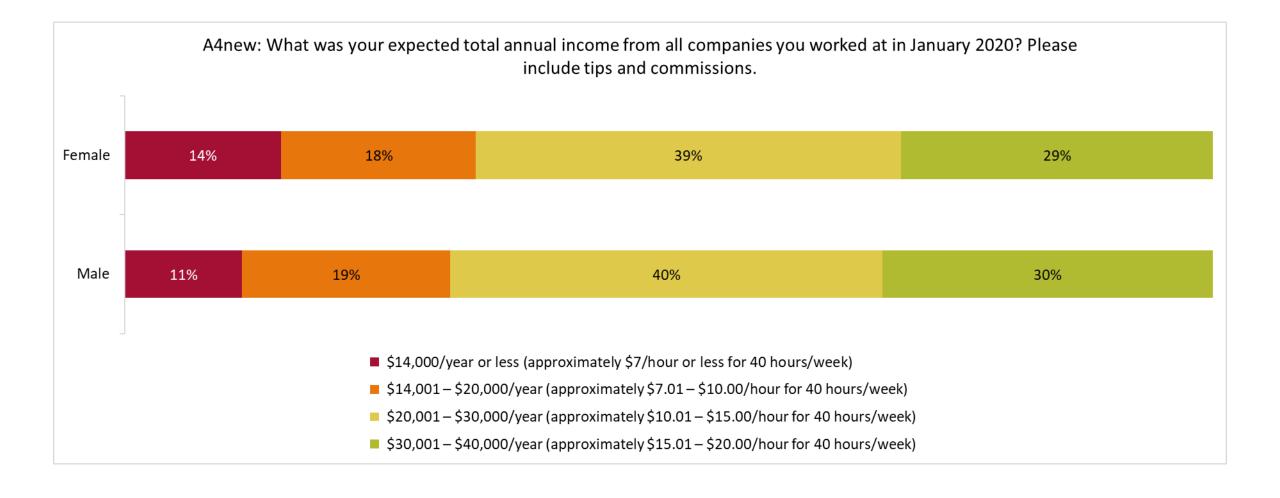
- Numbers may not sum to 100% due to rounding. All numbers are rounded to the nearest integer. However, the data is recorded to two
  decimal places thus some data points labeled "0%" may be nonzero but rounded down.
- For the purposes of this survey, we define low-wage employees as full-time or part-time 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).
- Gender groups: Female (N=599), Male (N=425). Respondents were also given the options of: Prefer to self-describe (N=0); or Prefer not to answer (N=1). Results in this deck are shown only for Females and Males, and N=599 and N=425, respectively, unless otherwise noted.

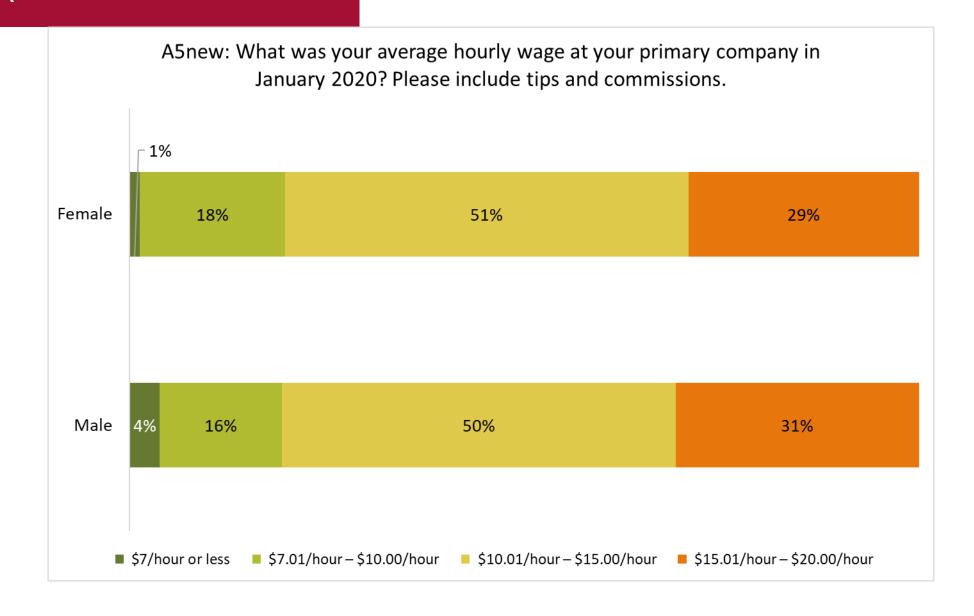


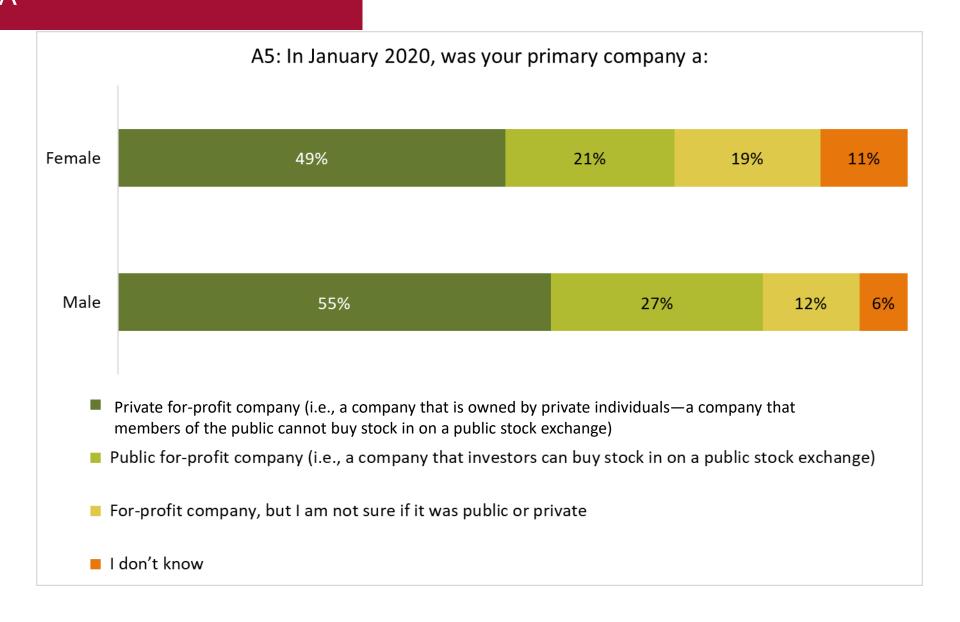


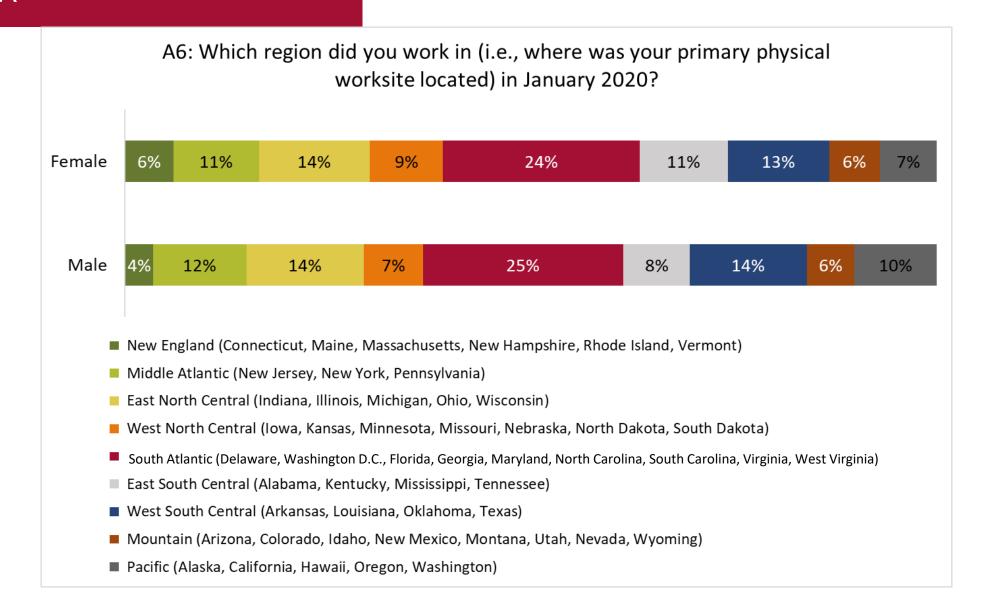


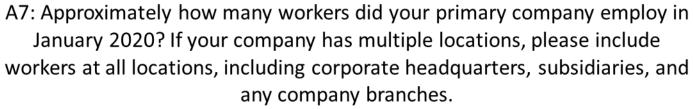


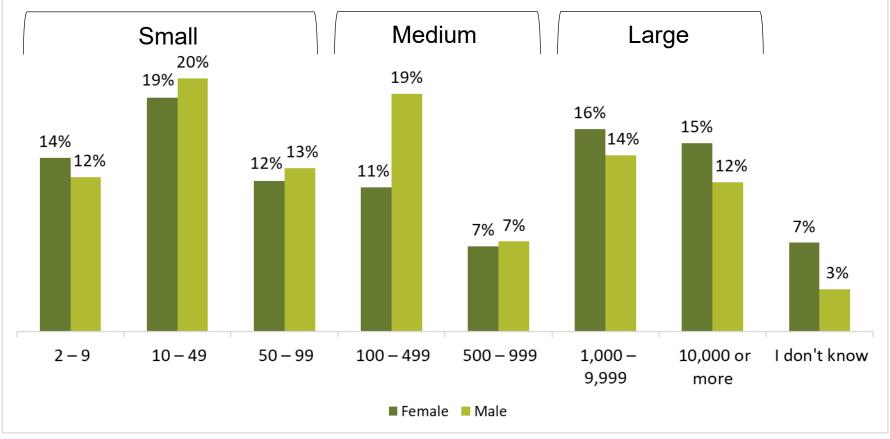


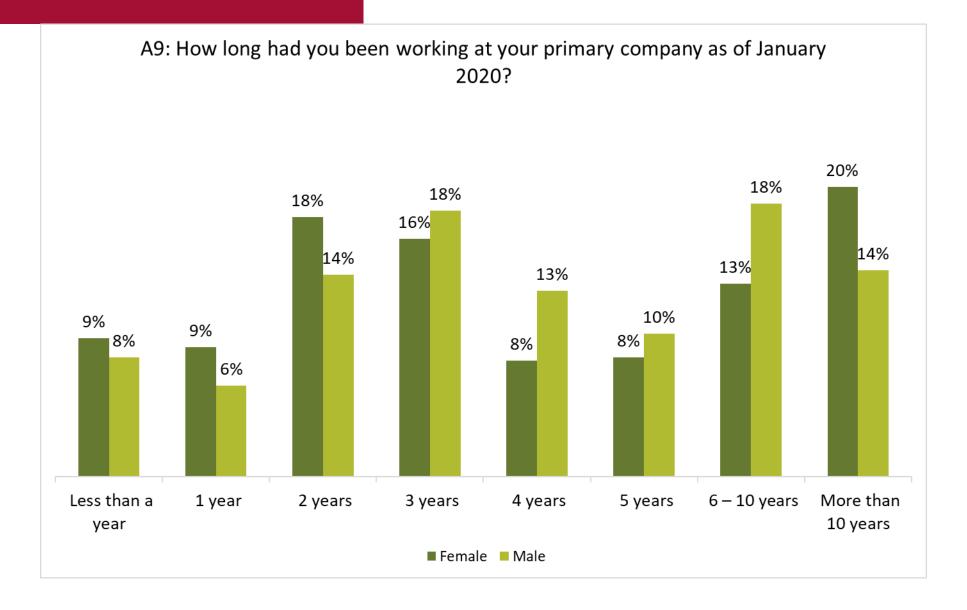


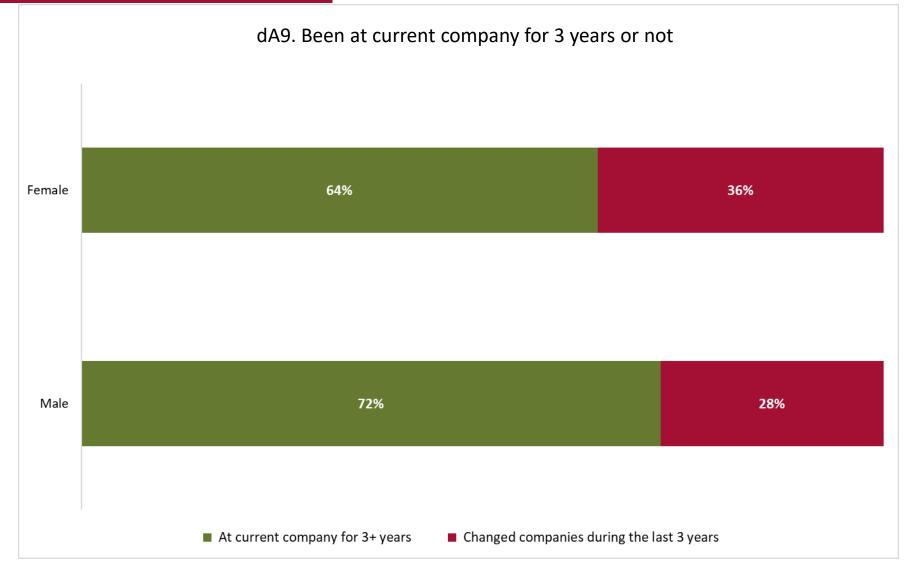


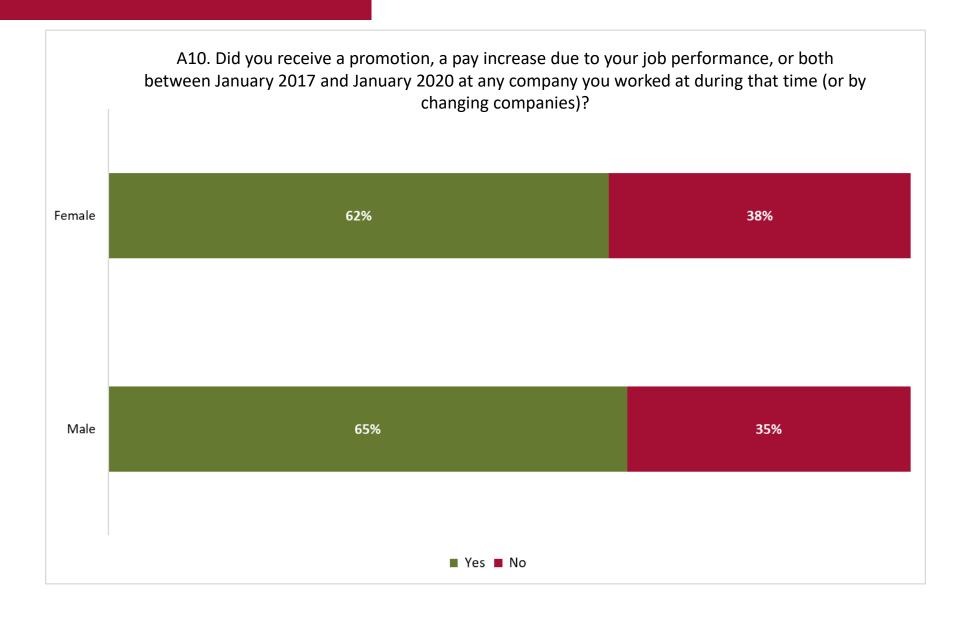


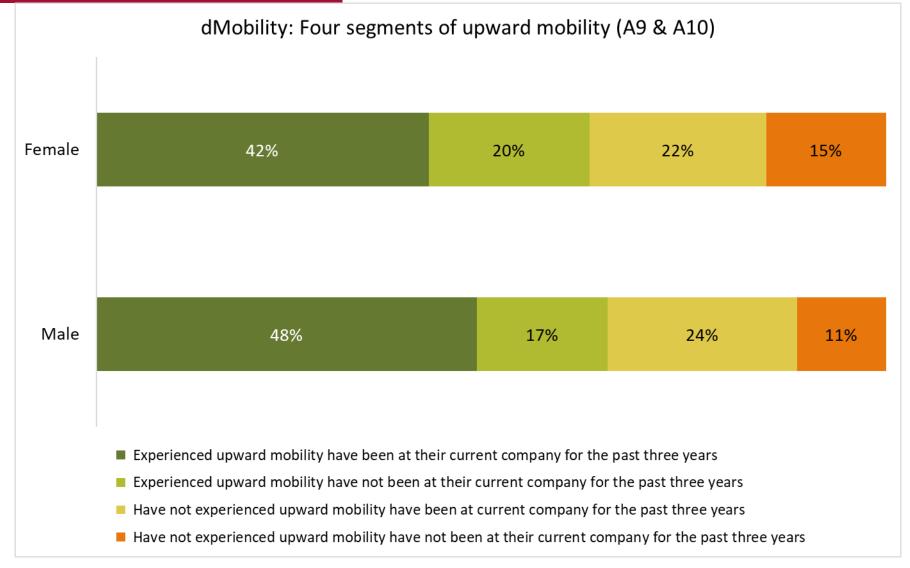


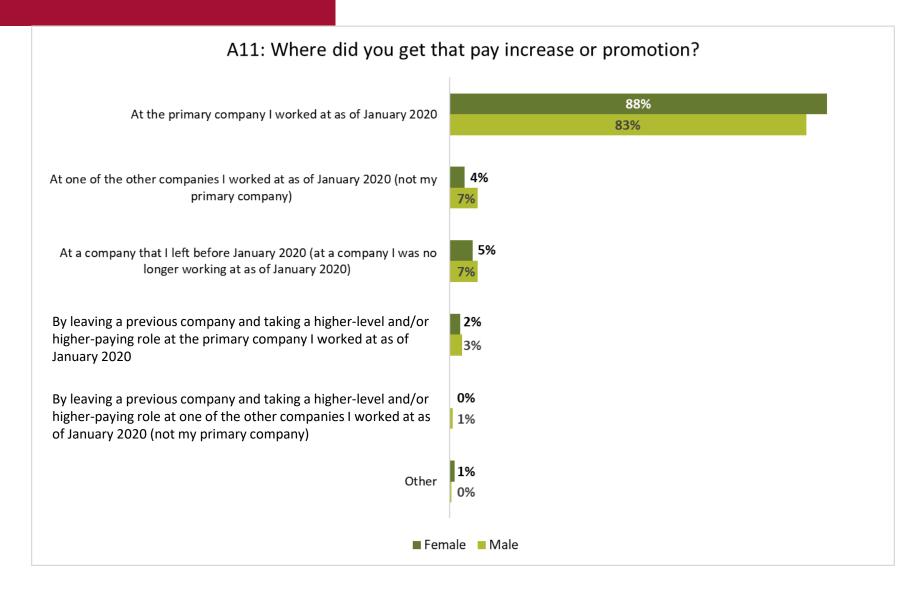


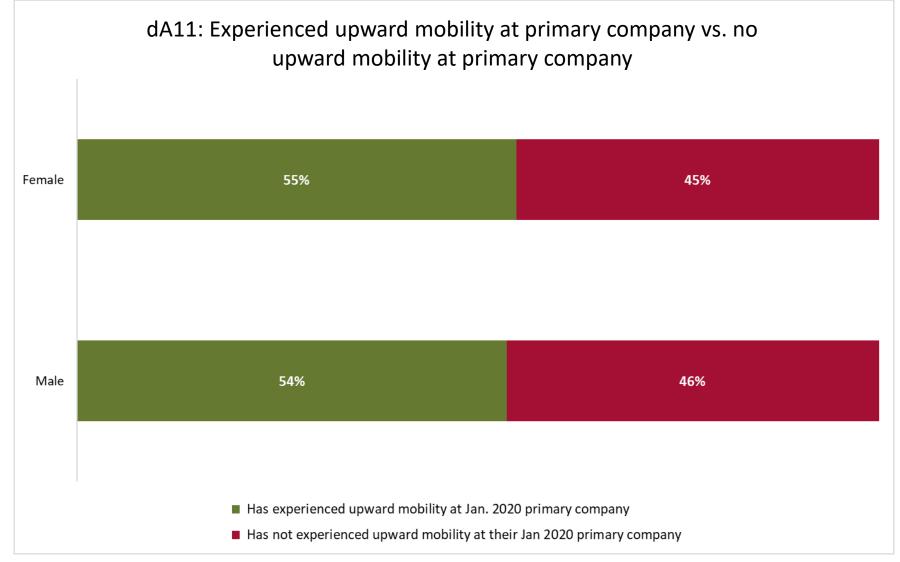




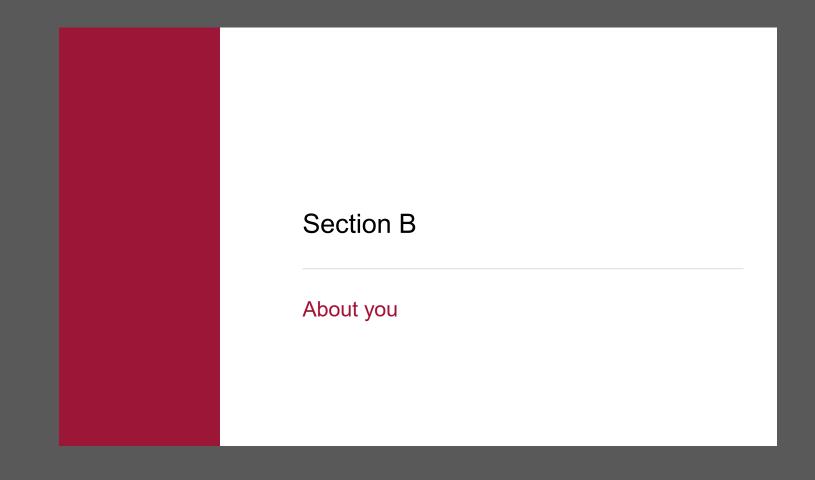


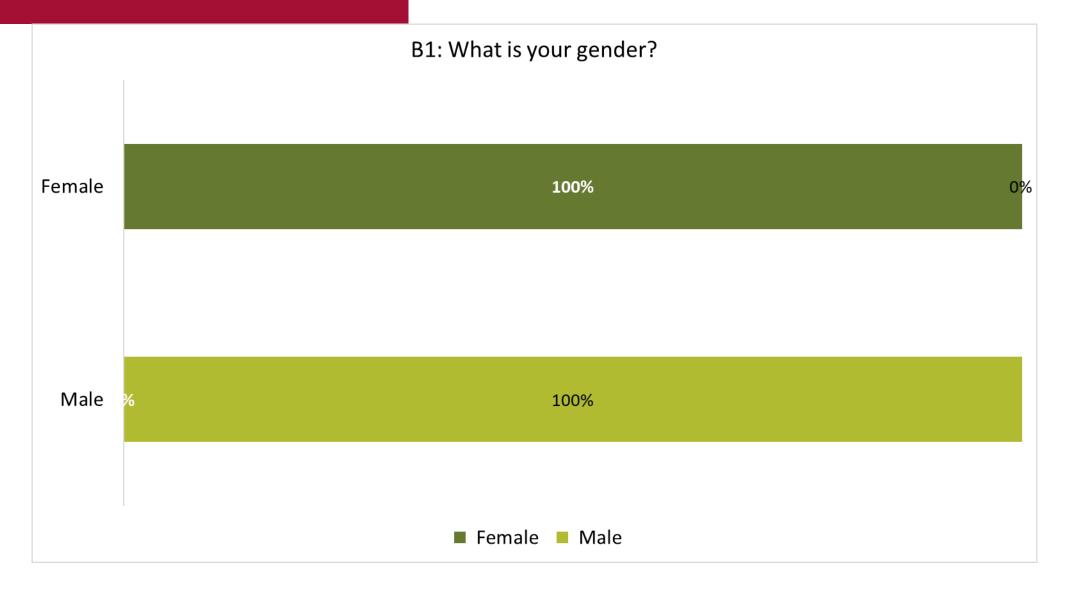


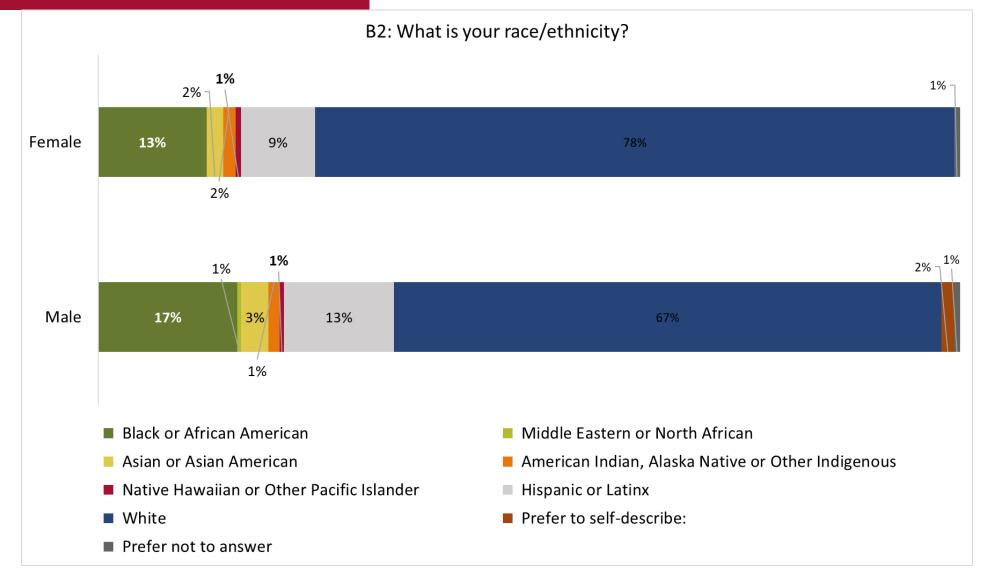


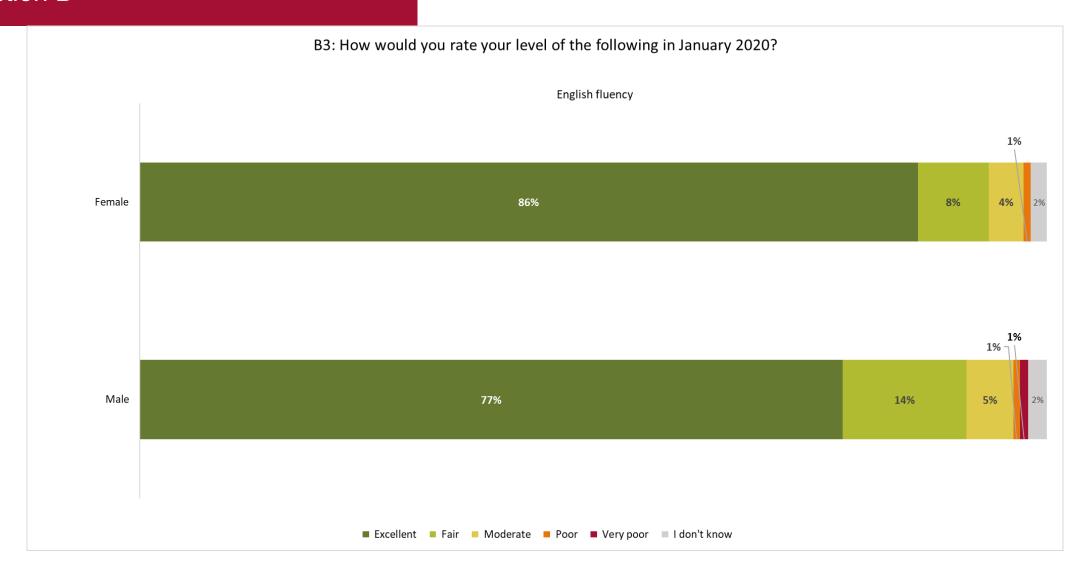


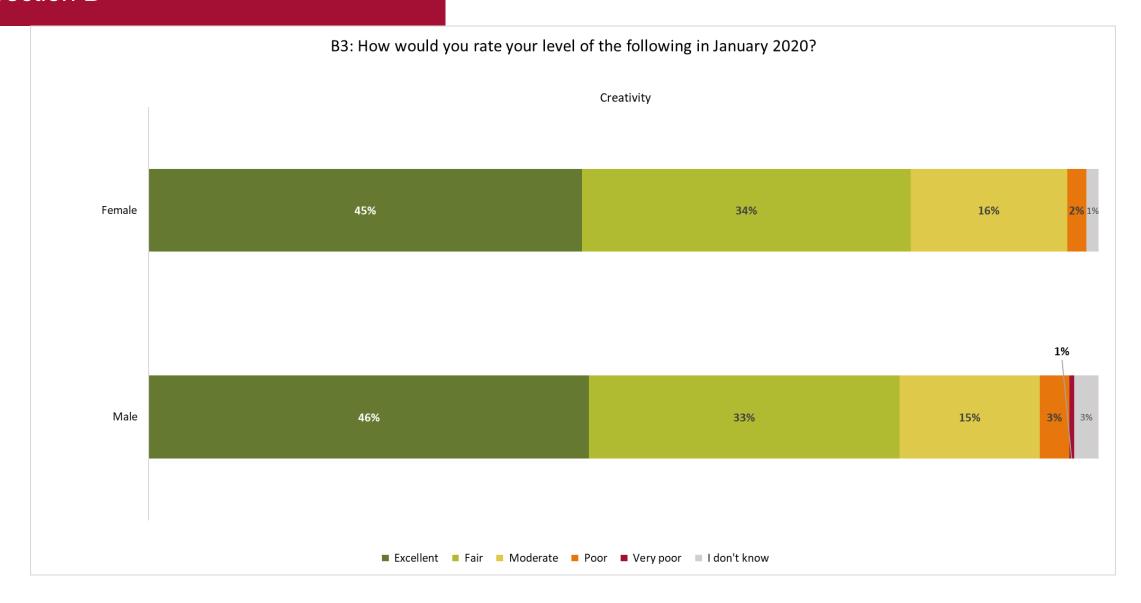
Note: this is measuring upward mobility only at a respondent's primary company, based on questions A10 and A11. The red category could include people who have achieved upward mobility in the past three years, but not at their current company as of January 2020.

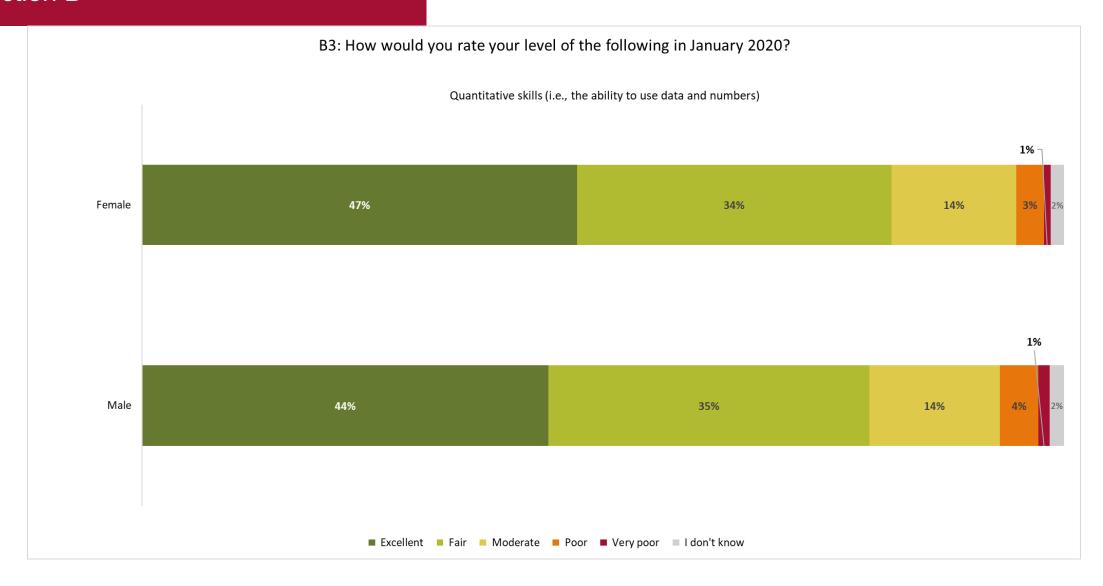


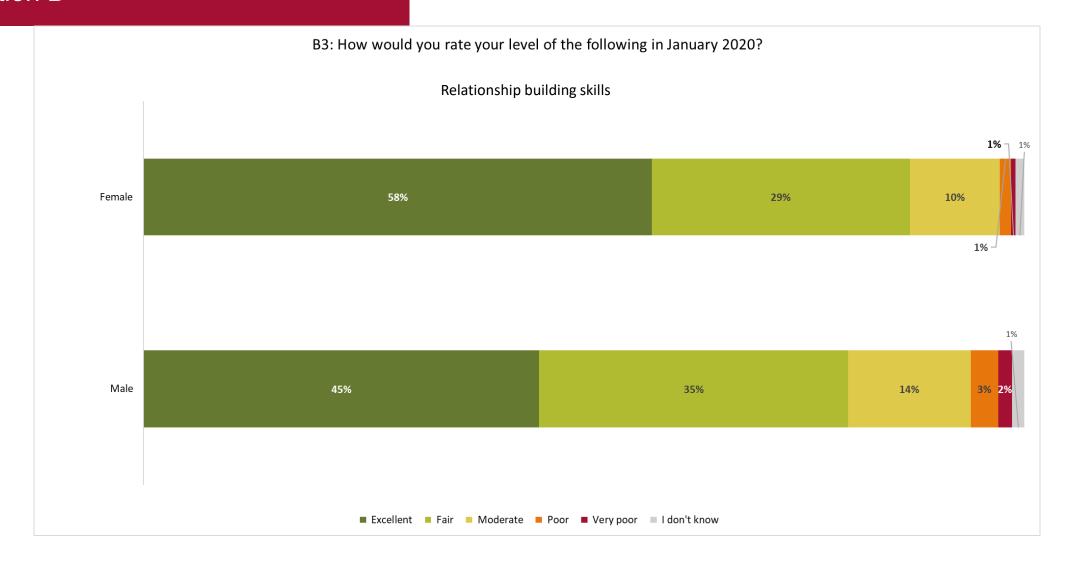


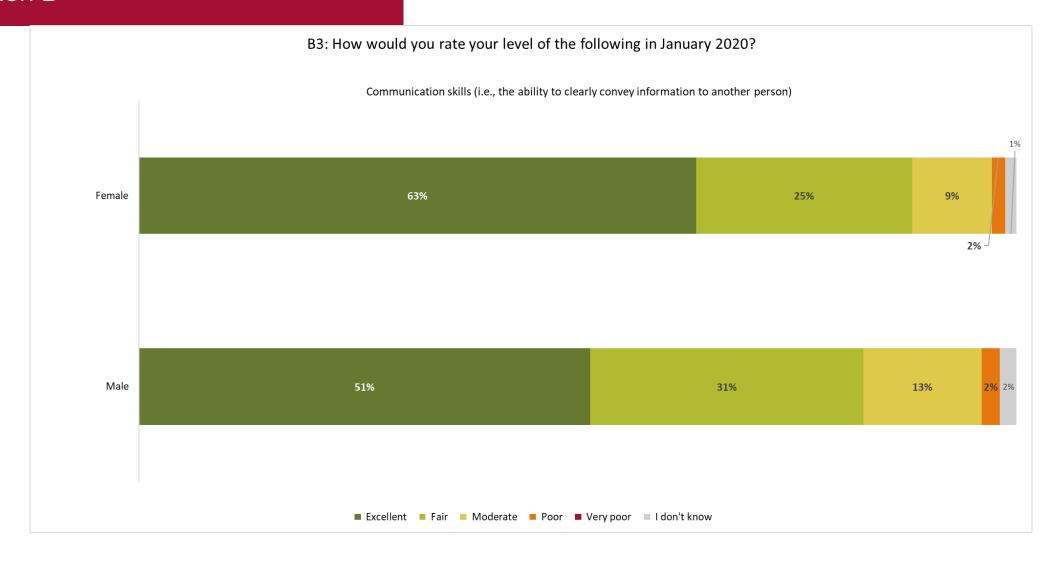


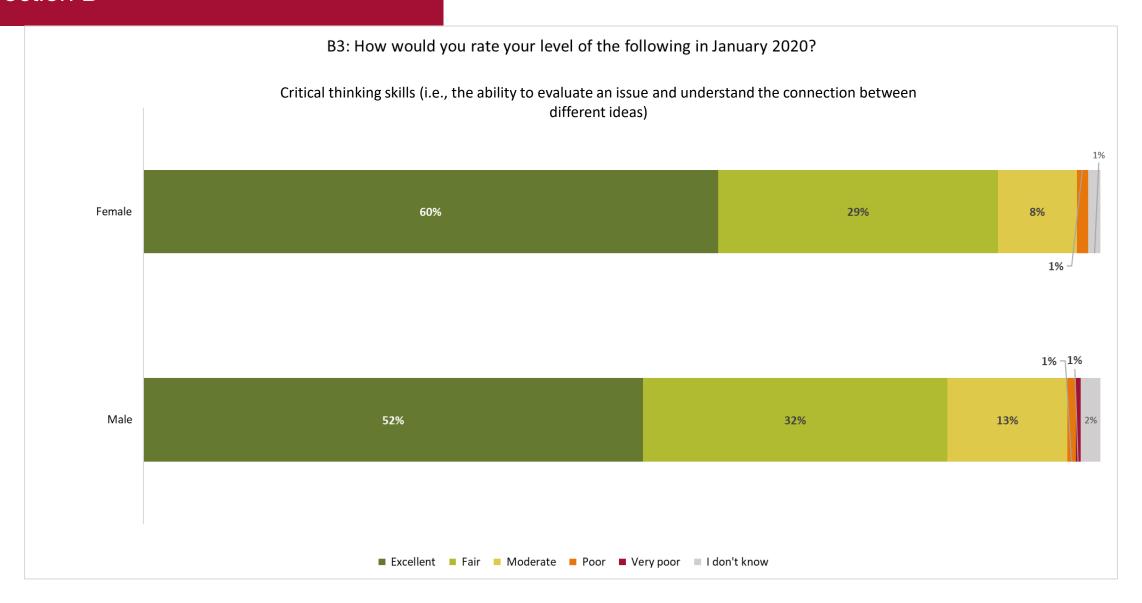


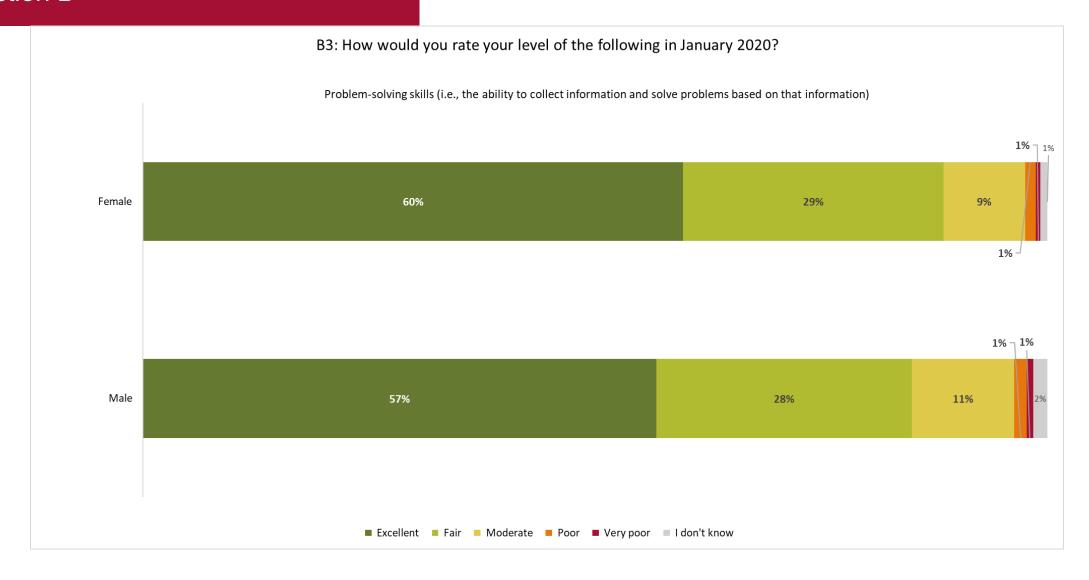


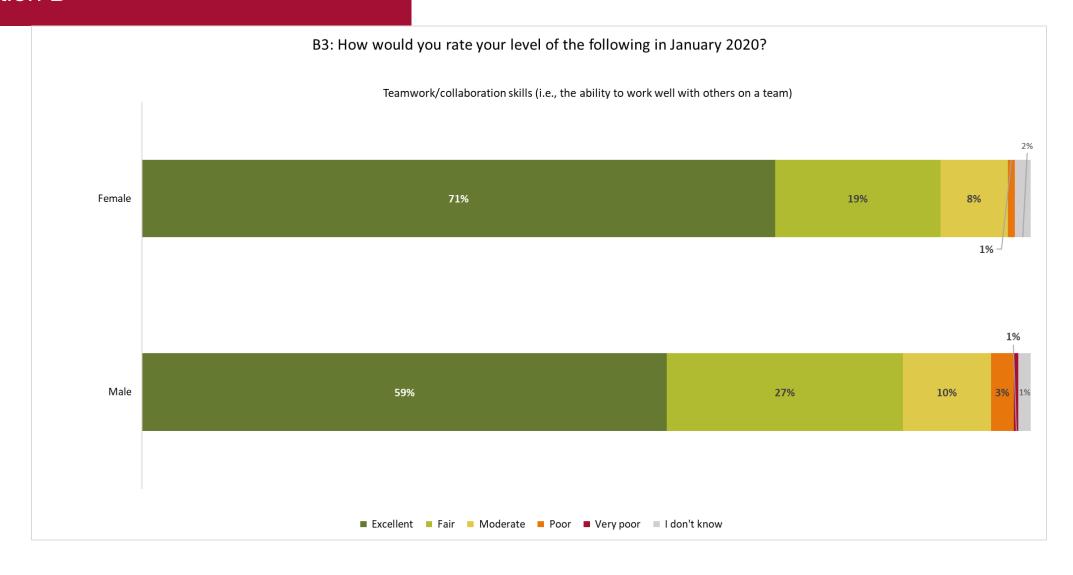


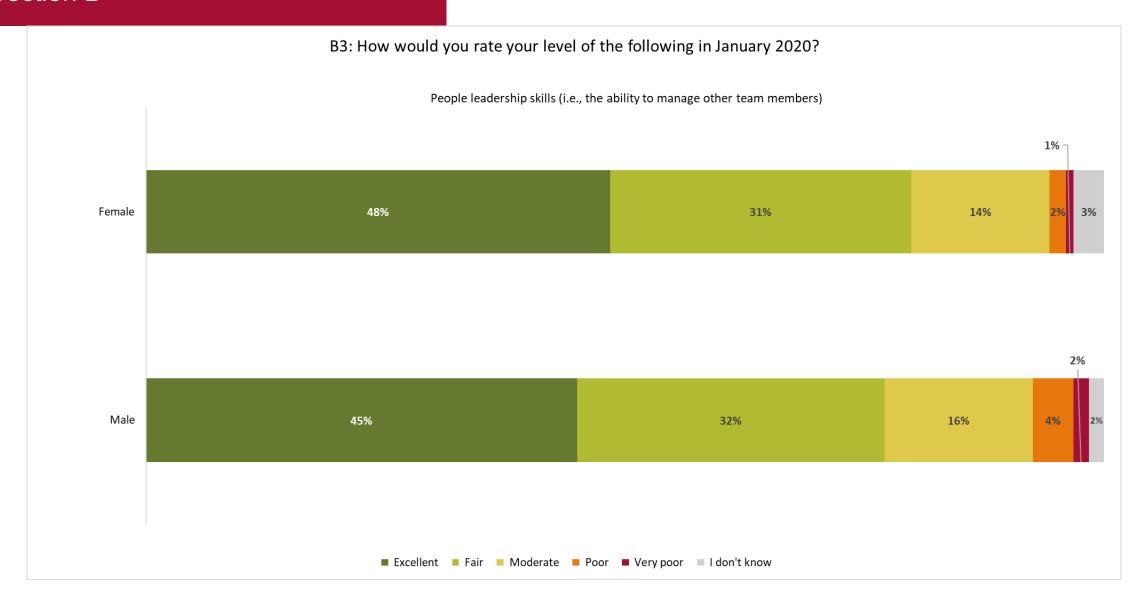


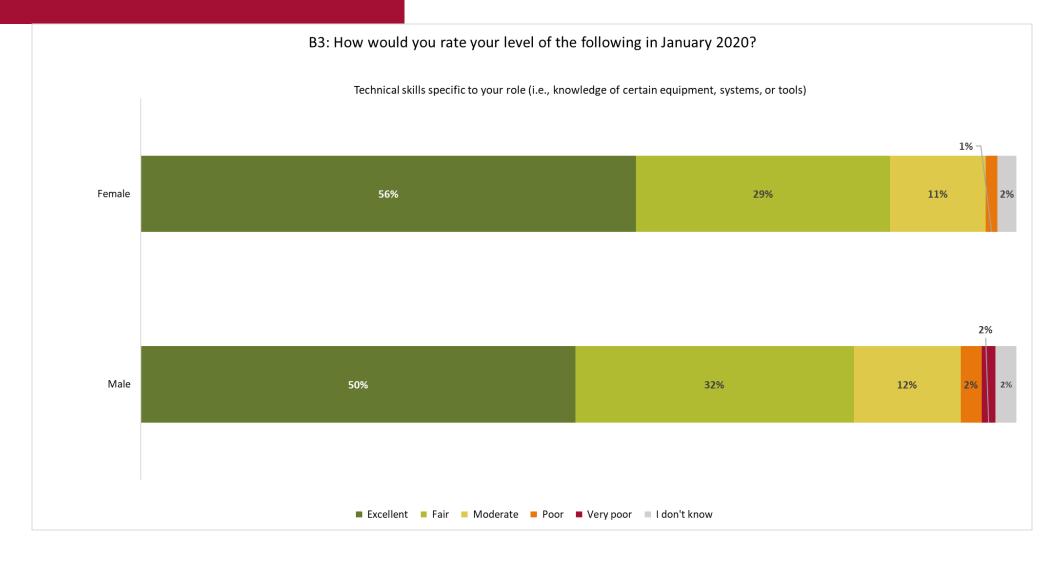


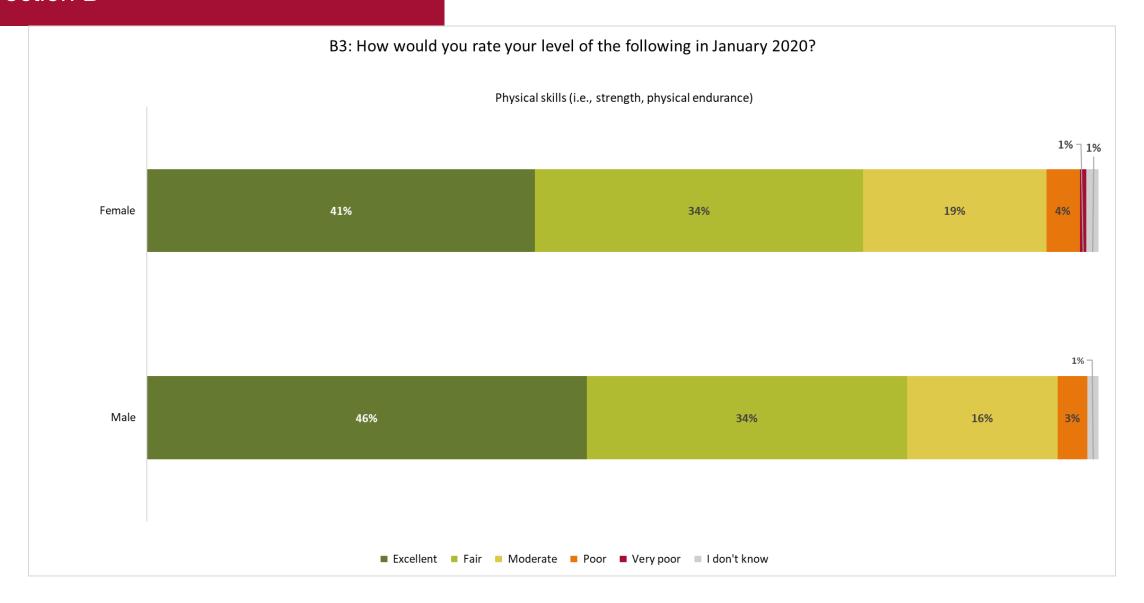




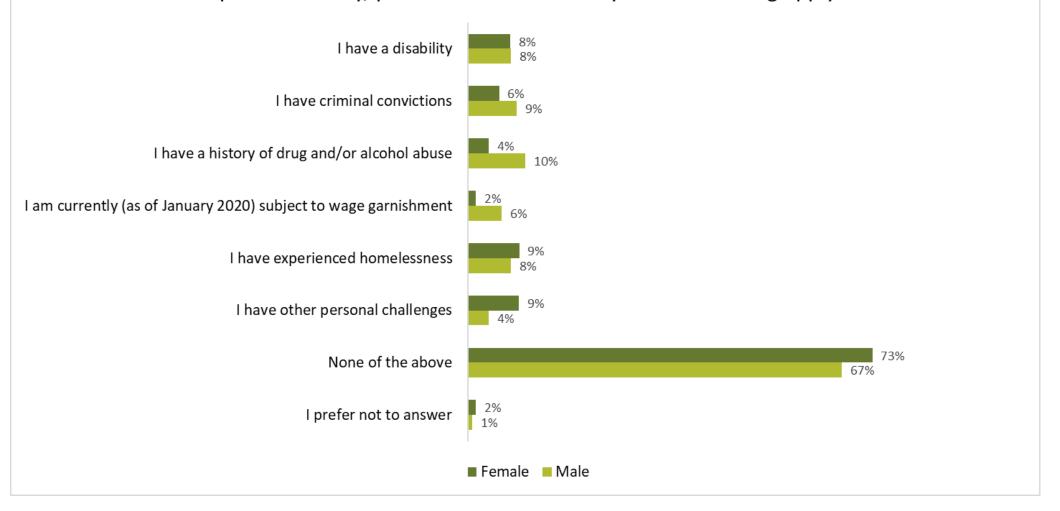


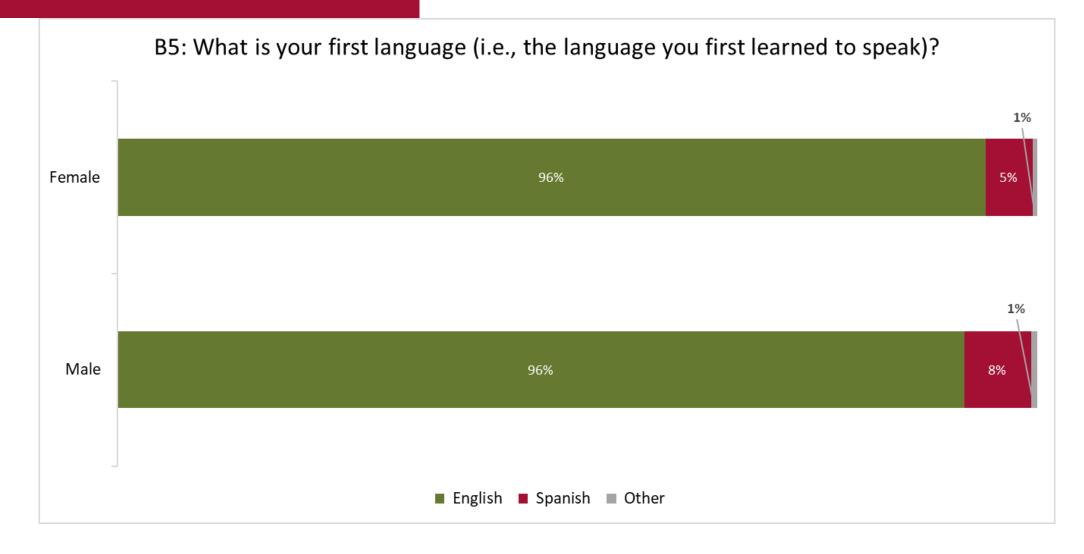


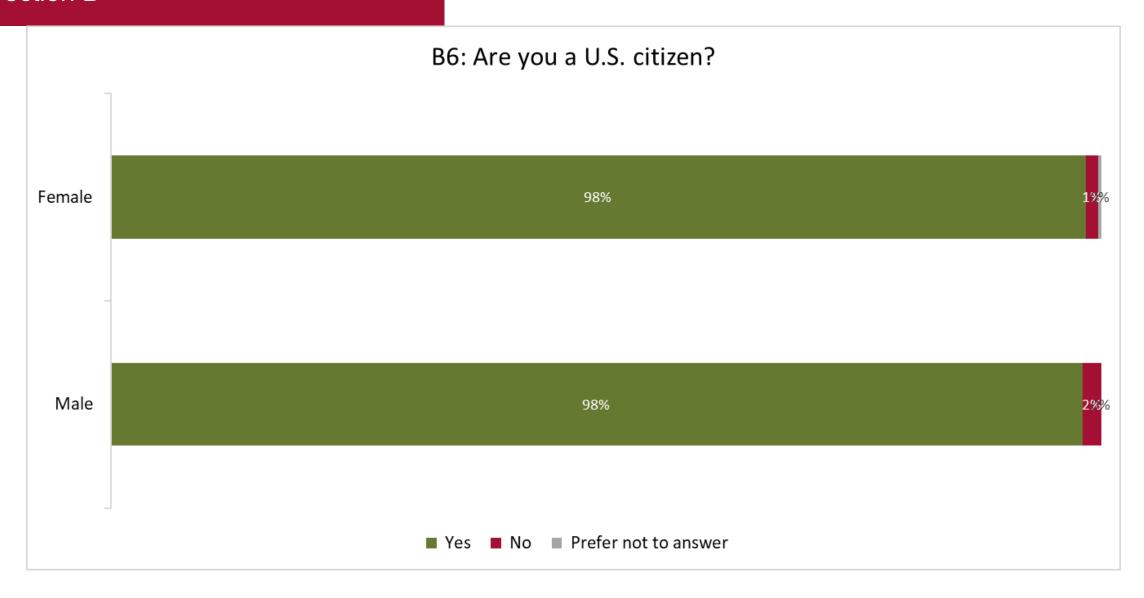


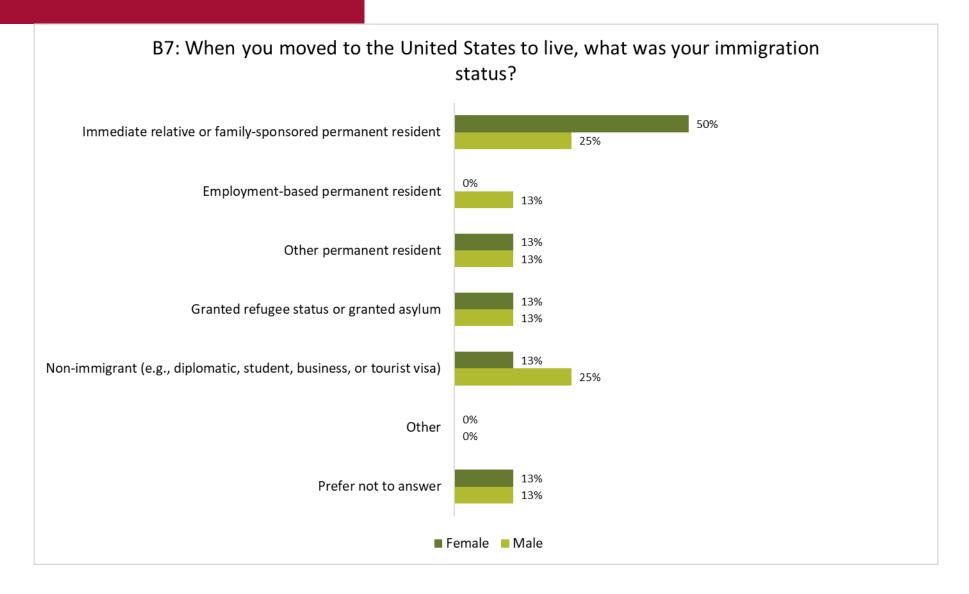


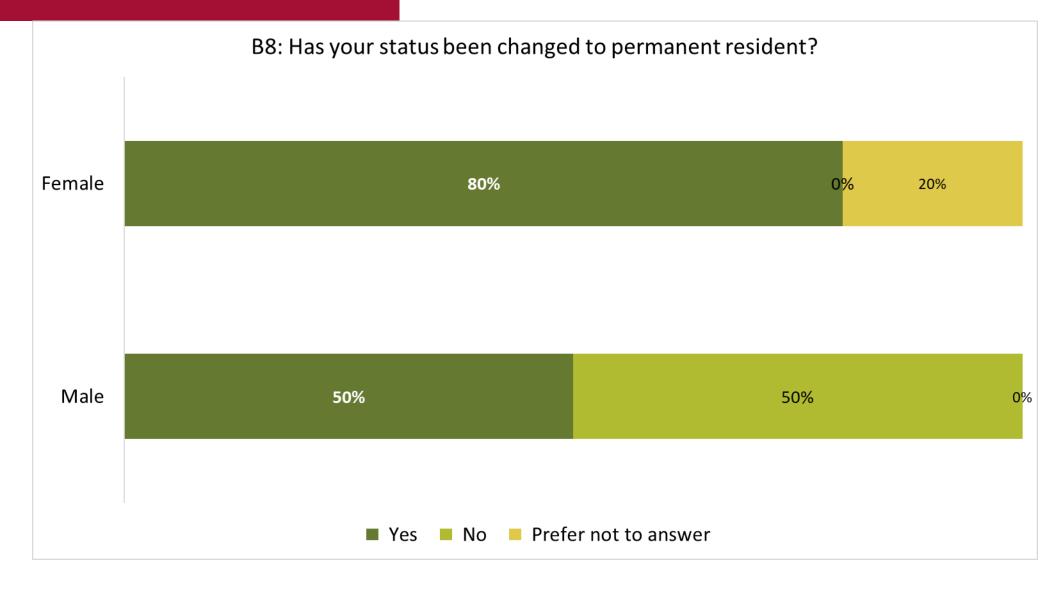
B4: To provide a more complete picture of the personal challenges that can limit upward mobility, please mark whether any of the following apply:

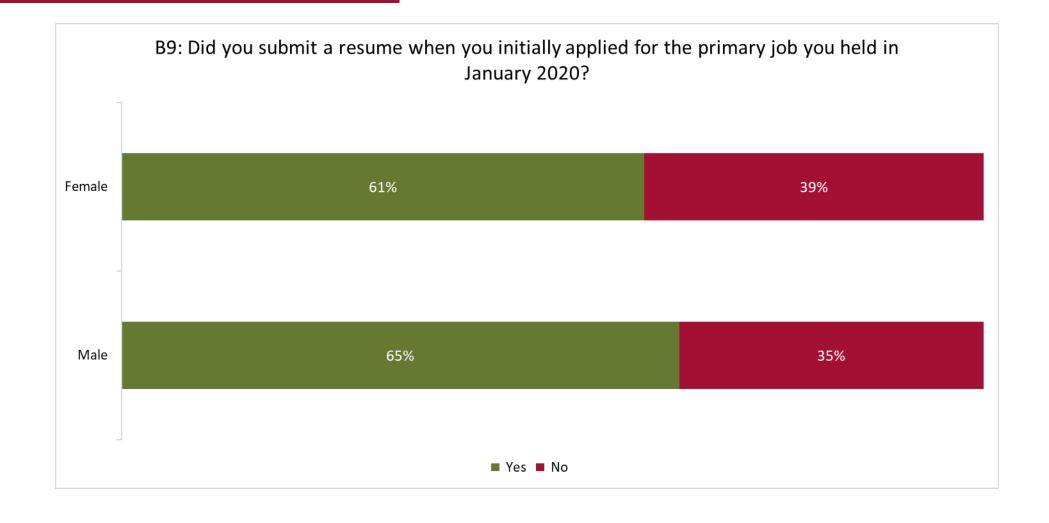


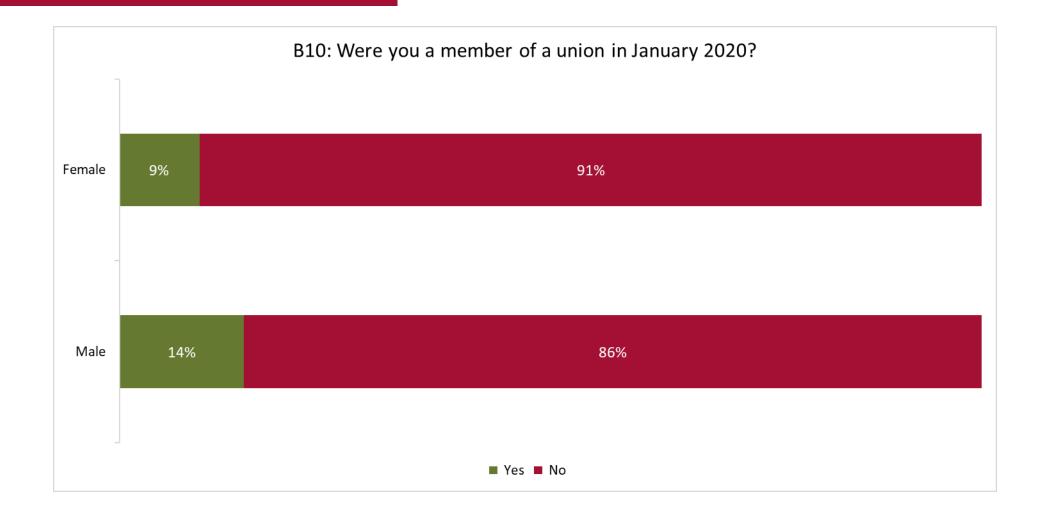


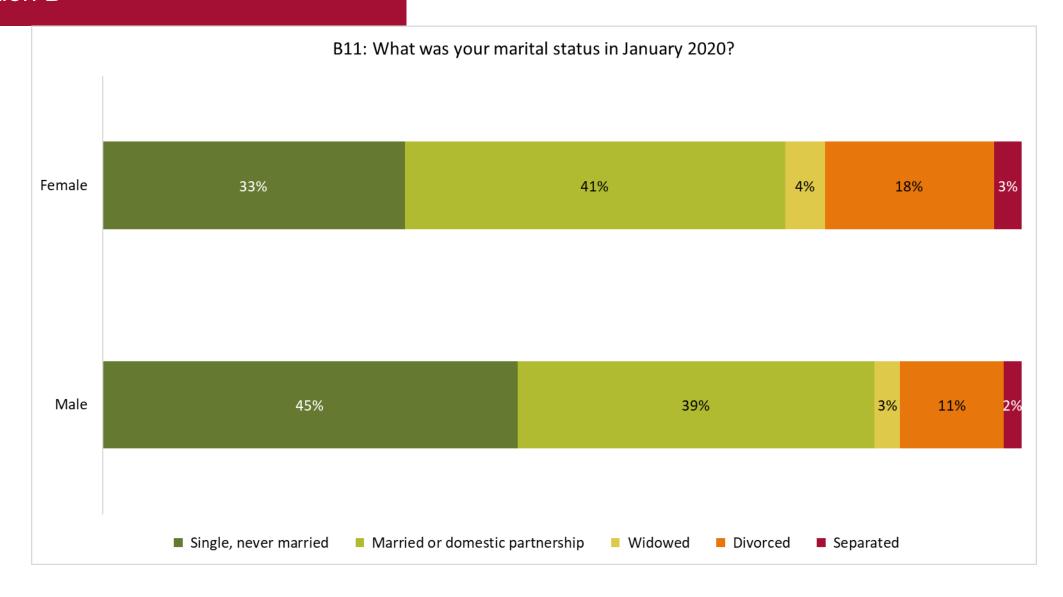


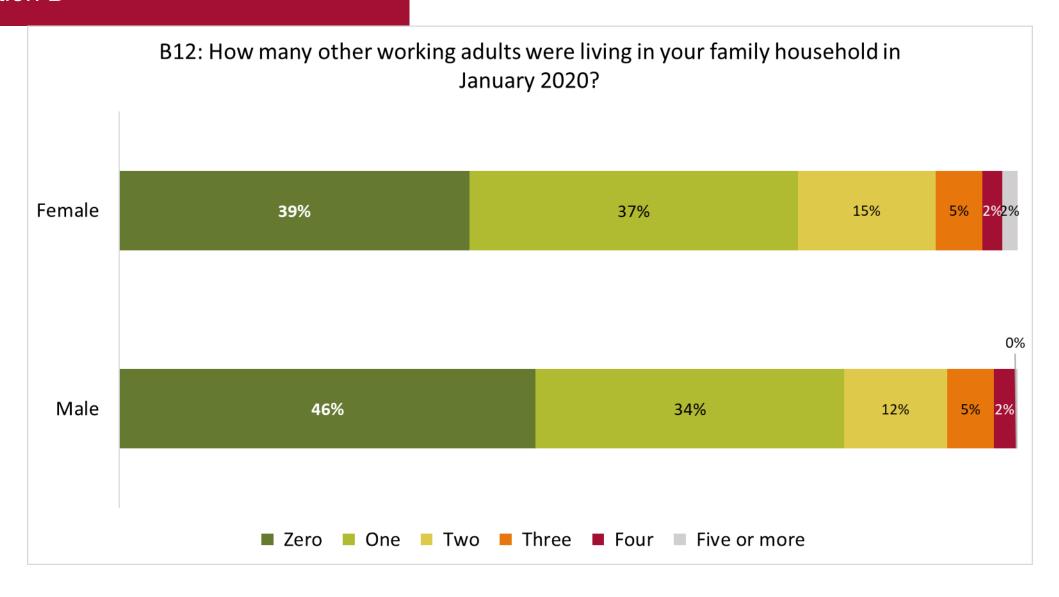


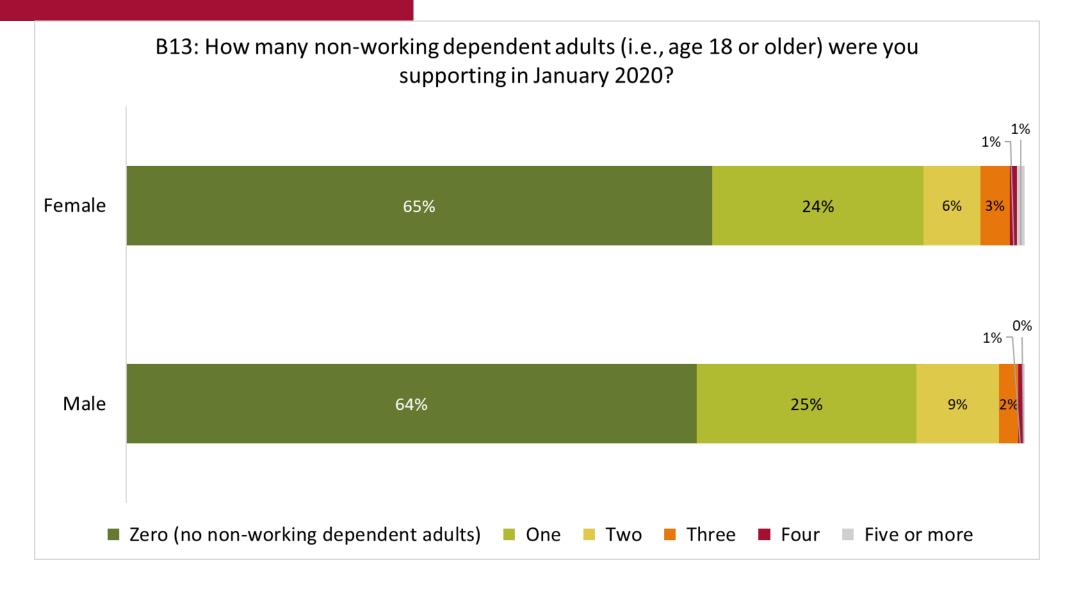


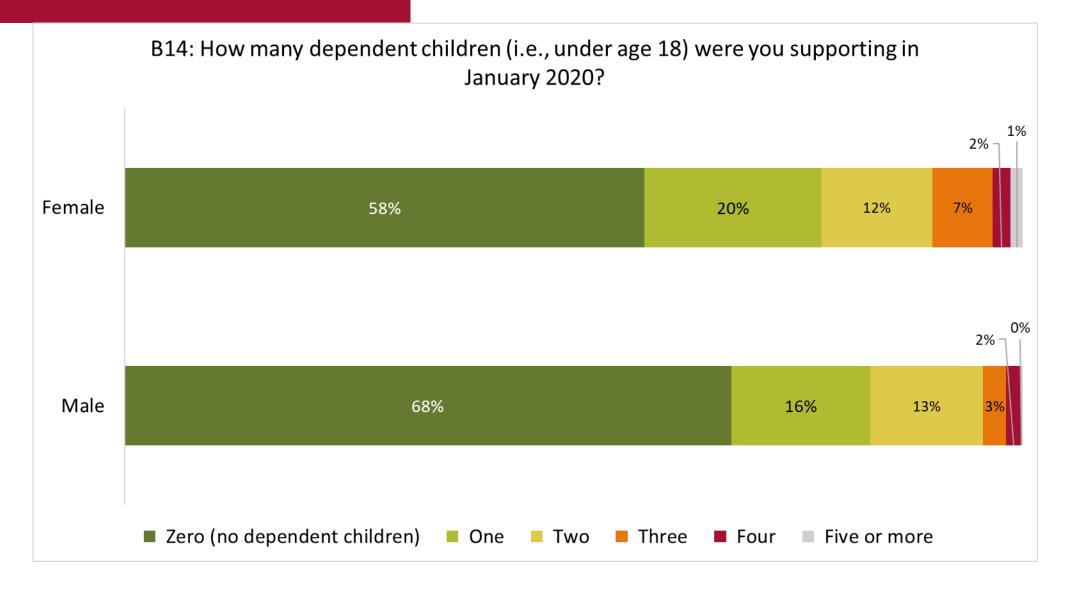


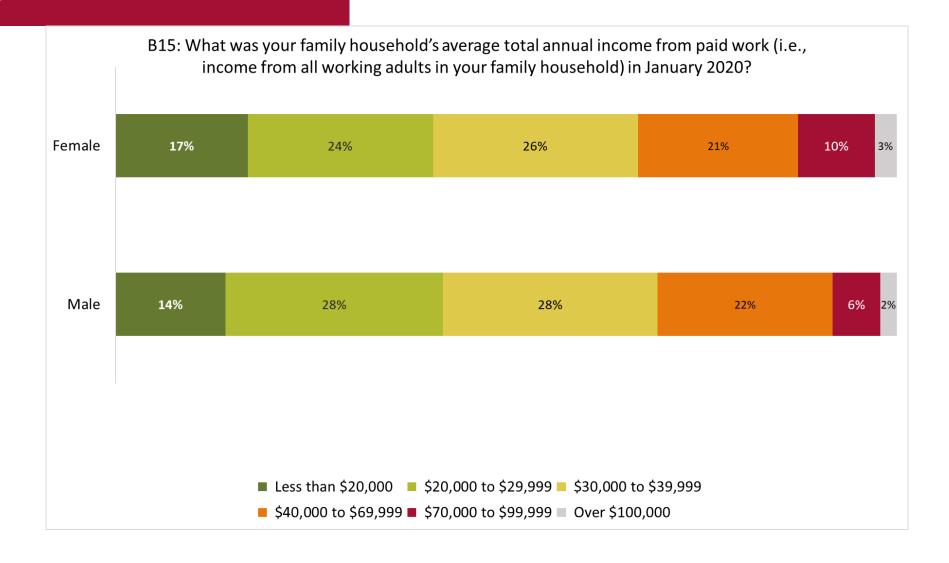




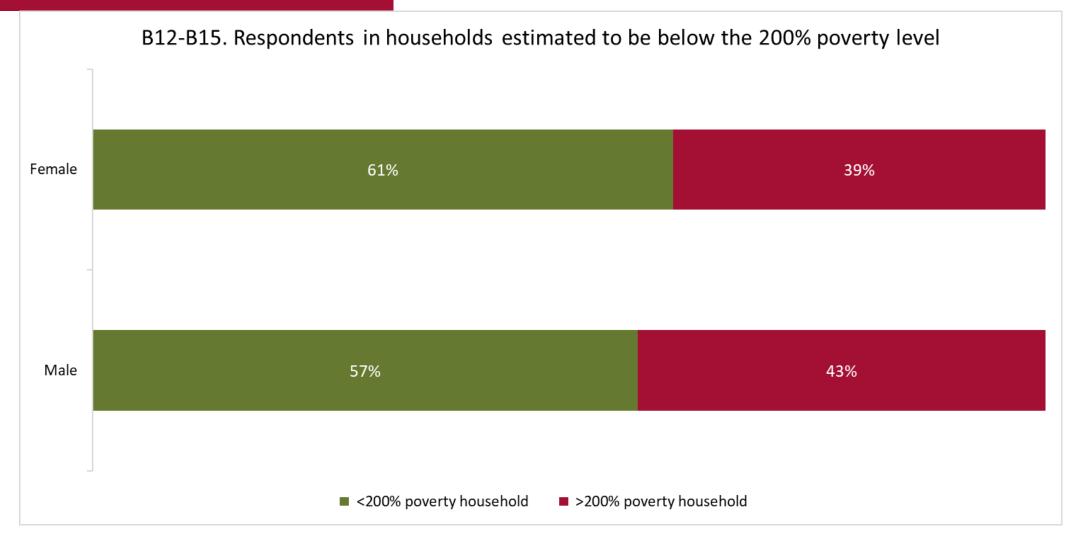




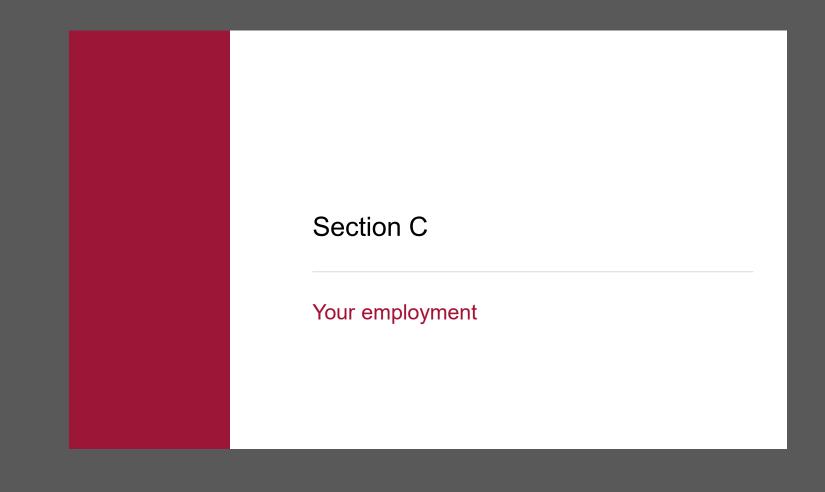


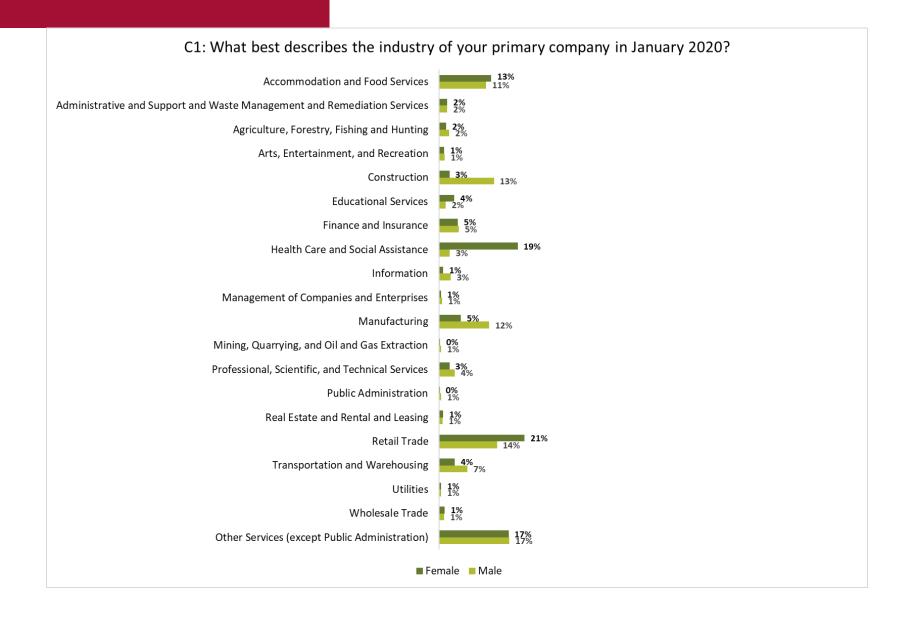


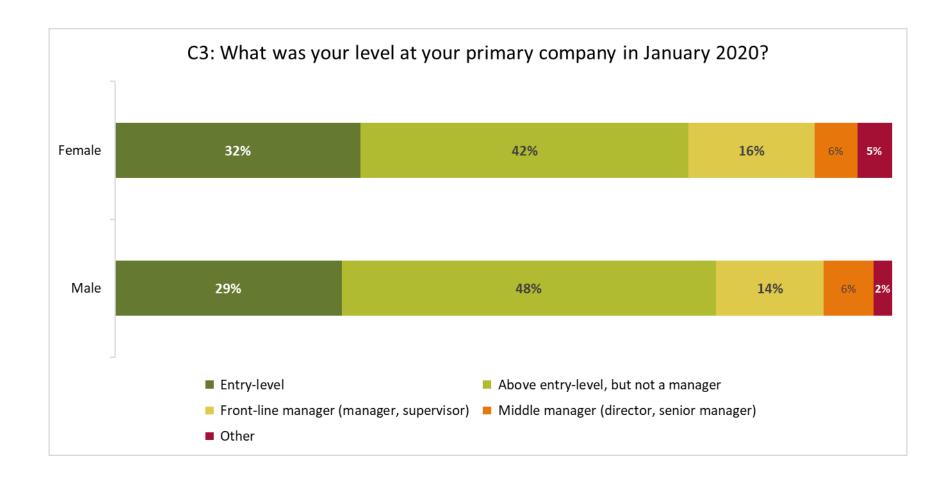
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

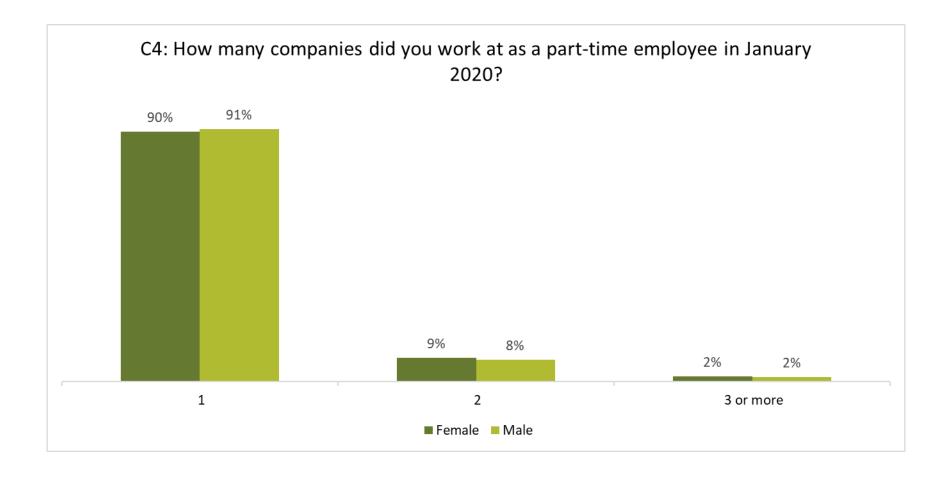


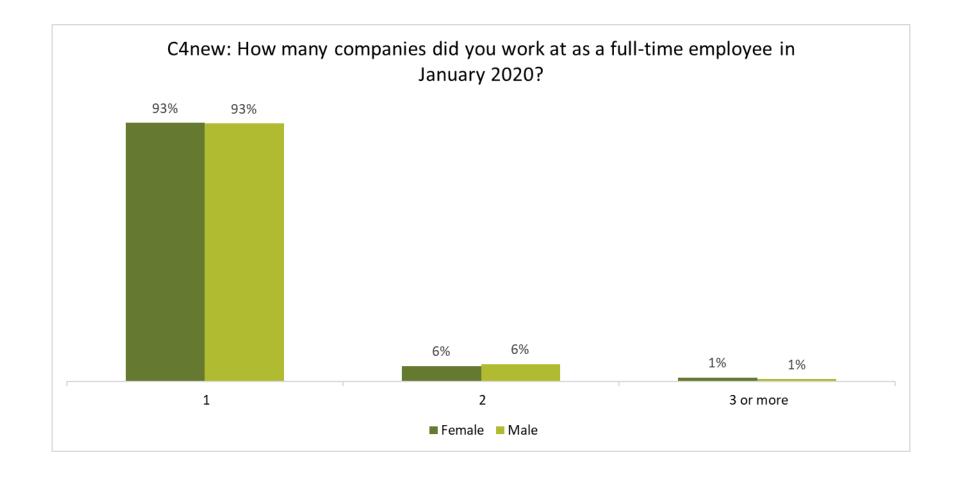
Note: This was calculated using questions B12-B15. For questions B12-B14, we totaled up the number of people in the respondent's household. We then used a table listing the 200% poverty cutoff for each household number (ex. 3 person household cutoff was \$39,970). If the salary in question B15 was below 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.





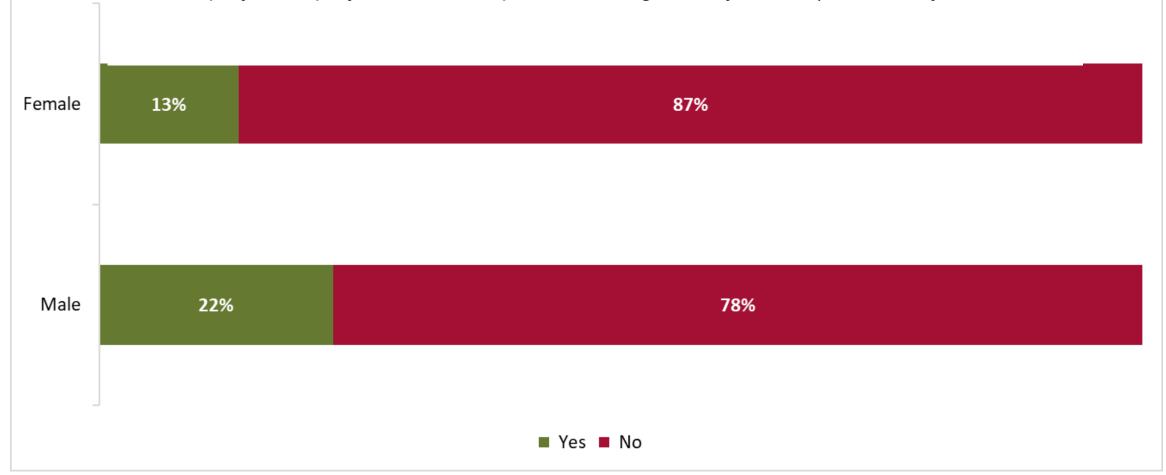


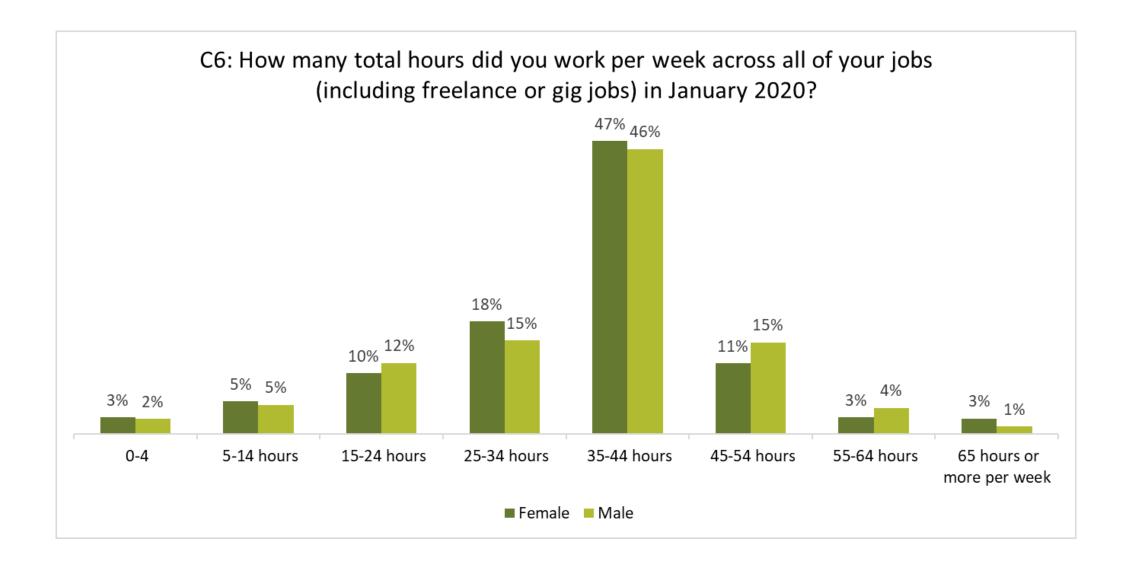


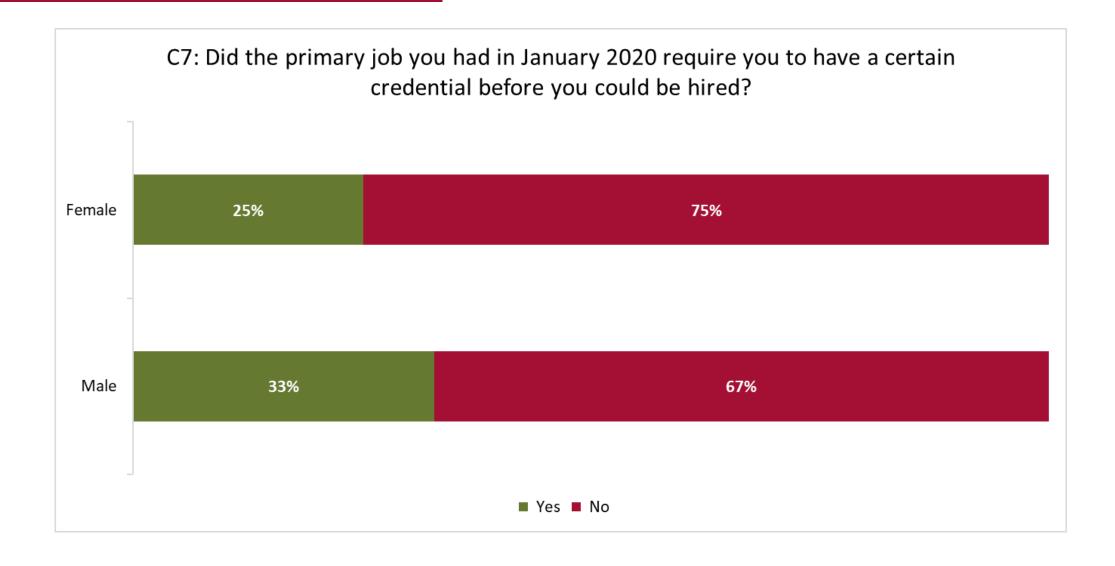


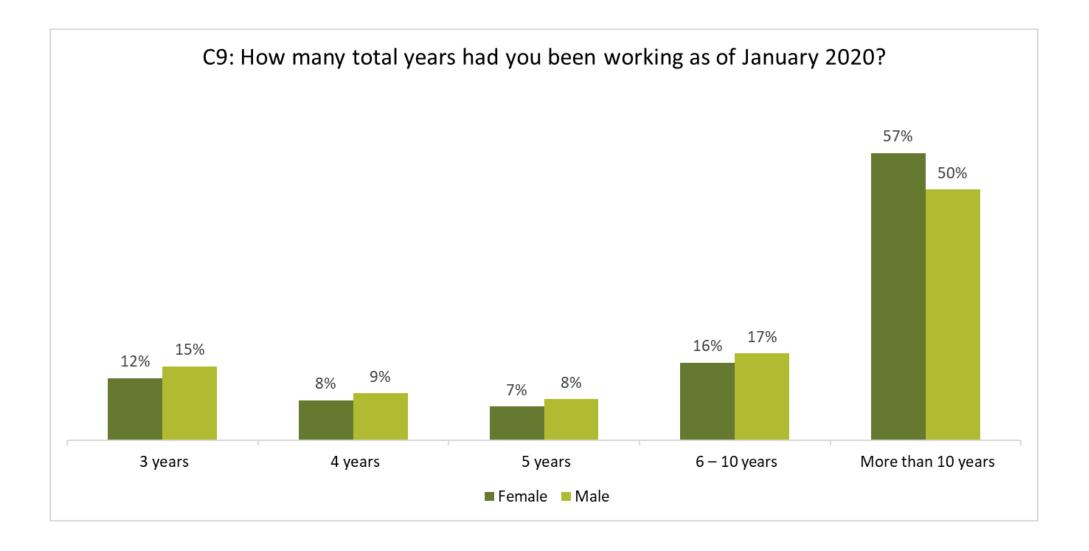
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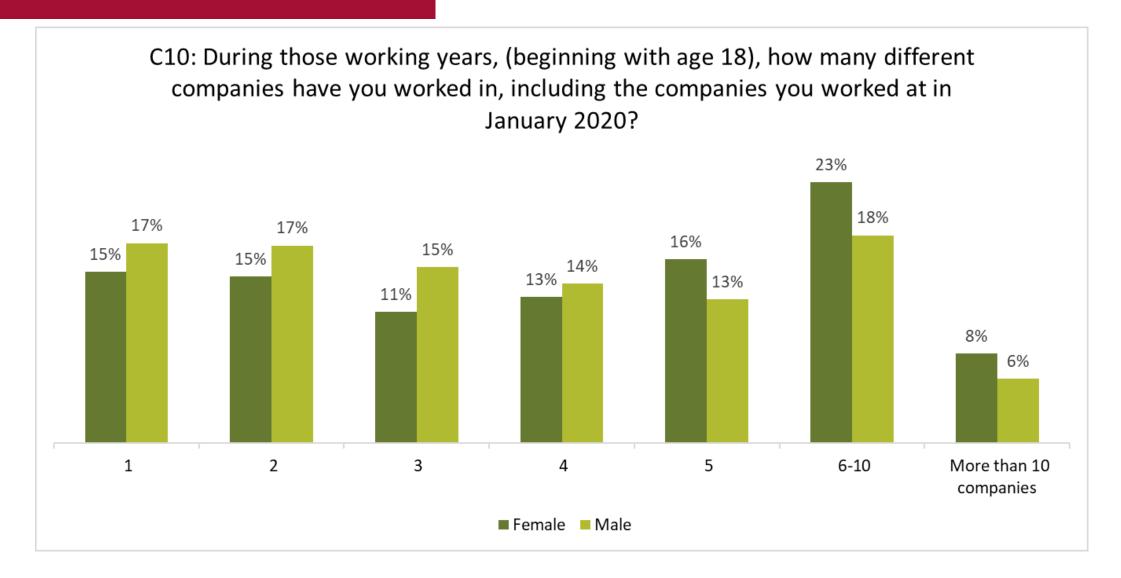
C5: In addition to your part-time and/or full-time work arrangements, did you also regularly work one or more freelance or gig jobs (i.e., work arrangements outside of a long-term employer-employee relationship, like working as a Lyft driver) in January 2020?

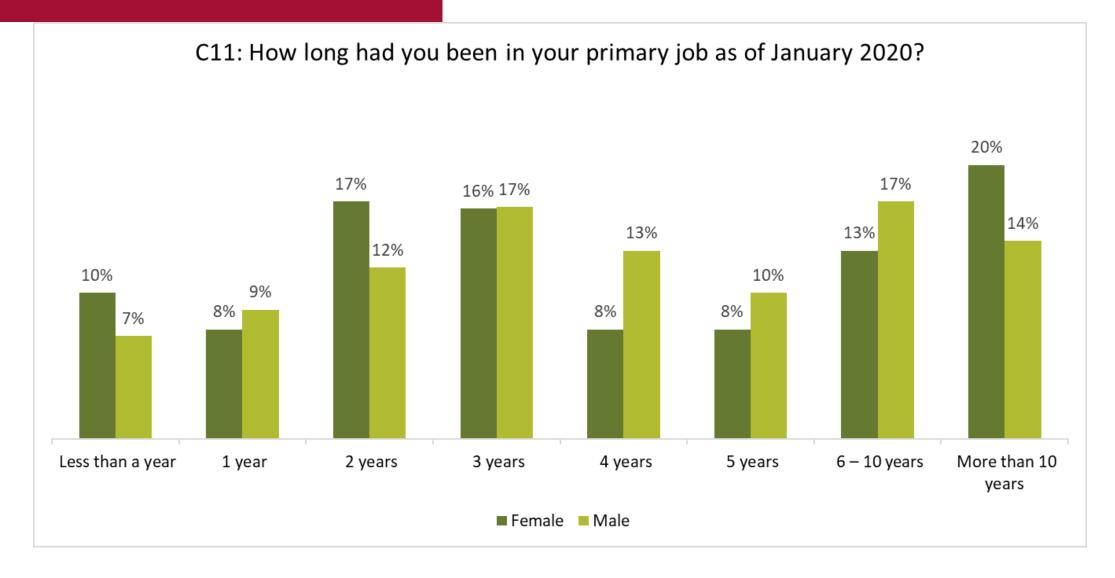




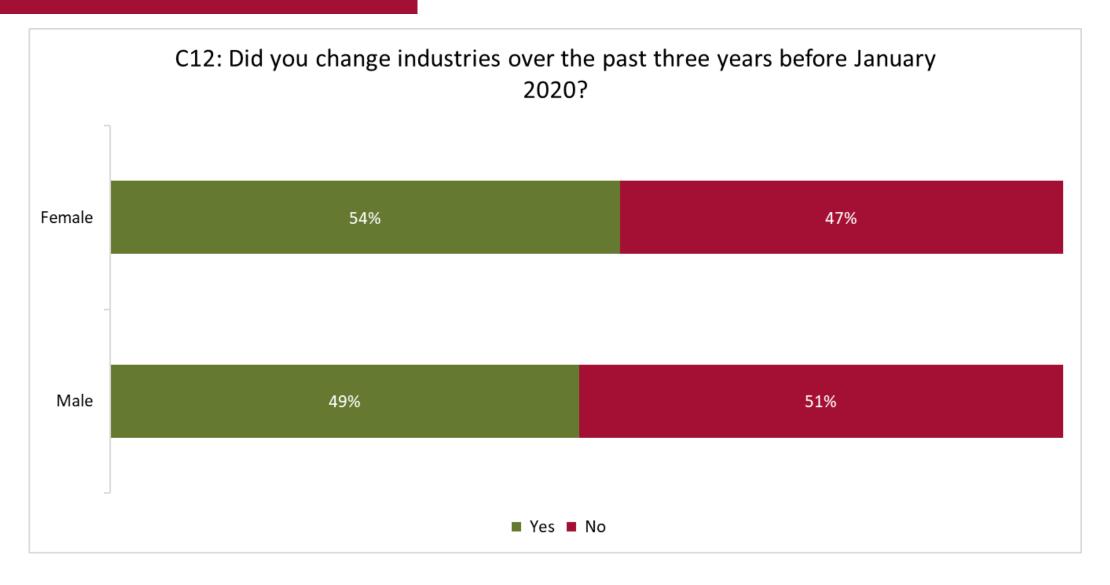




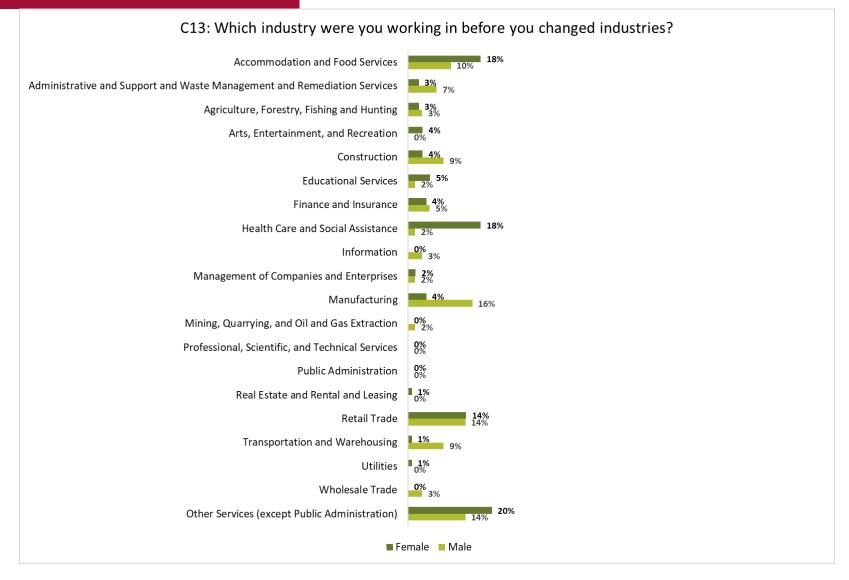




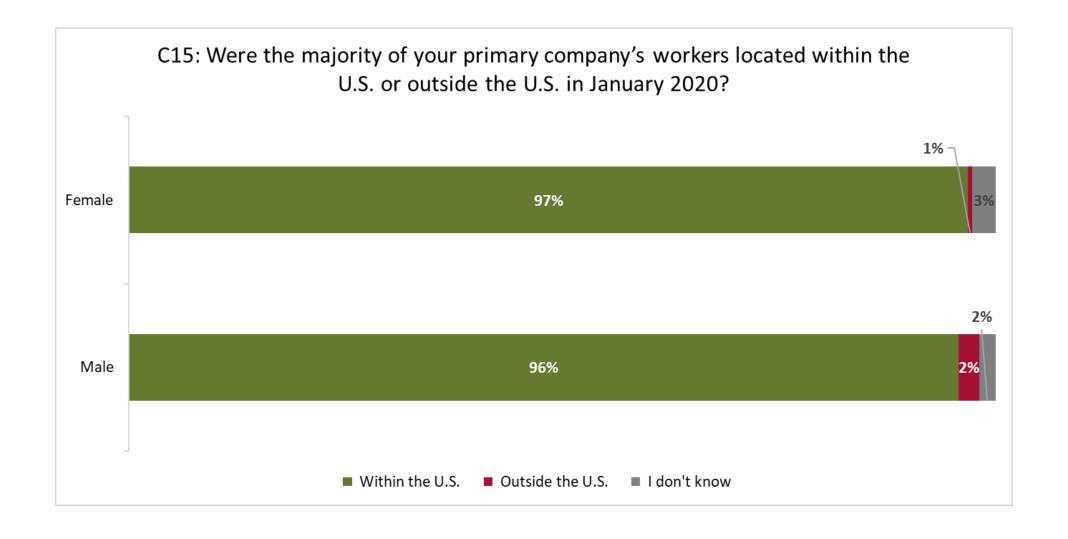
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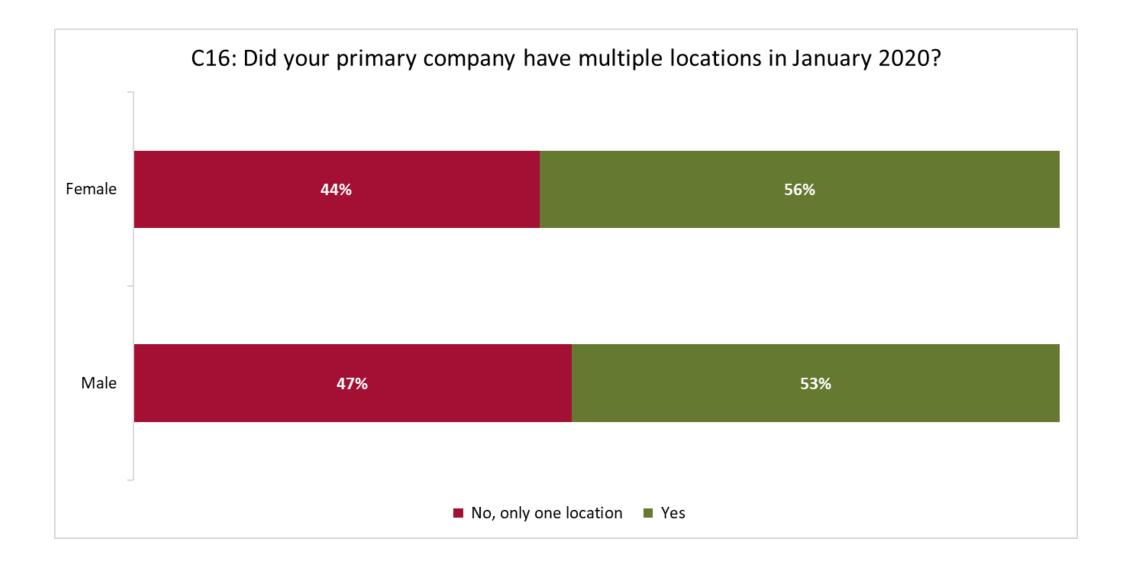


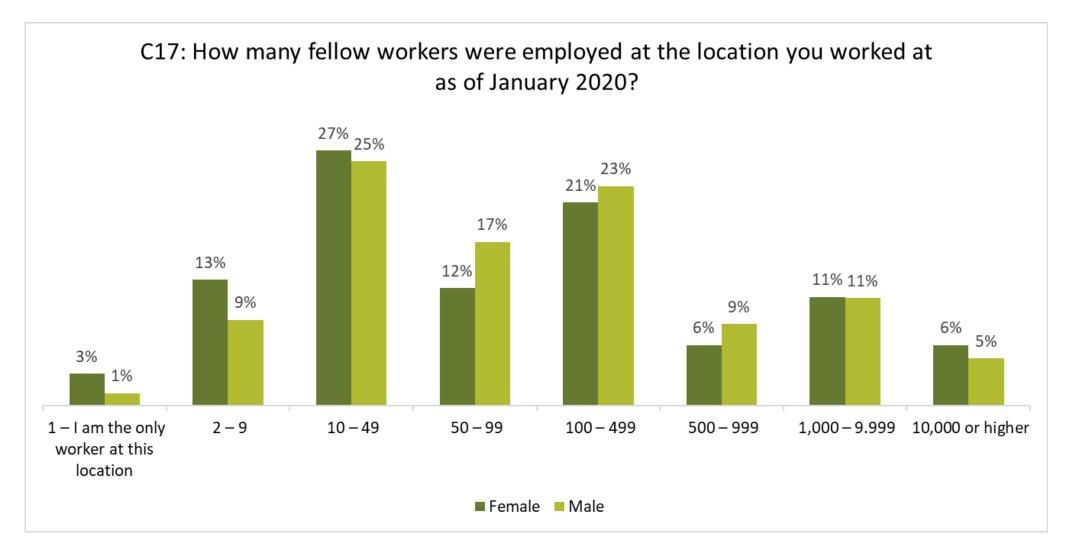
Note: Only respondents who had changed companies in the last 3 years answered this question



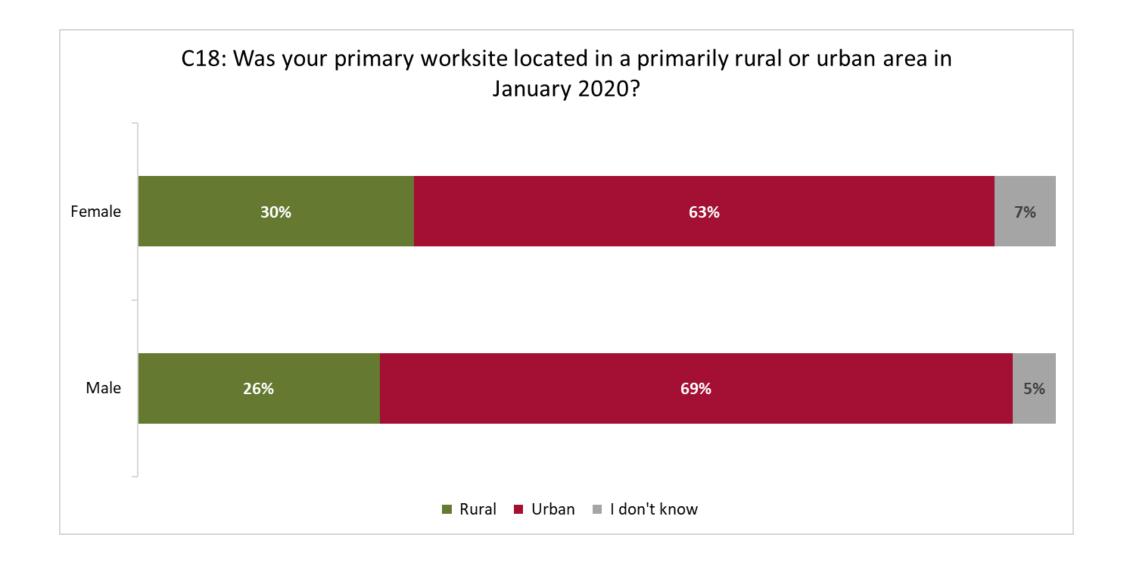


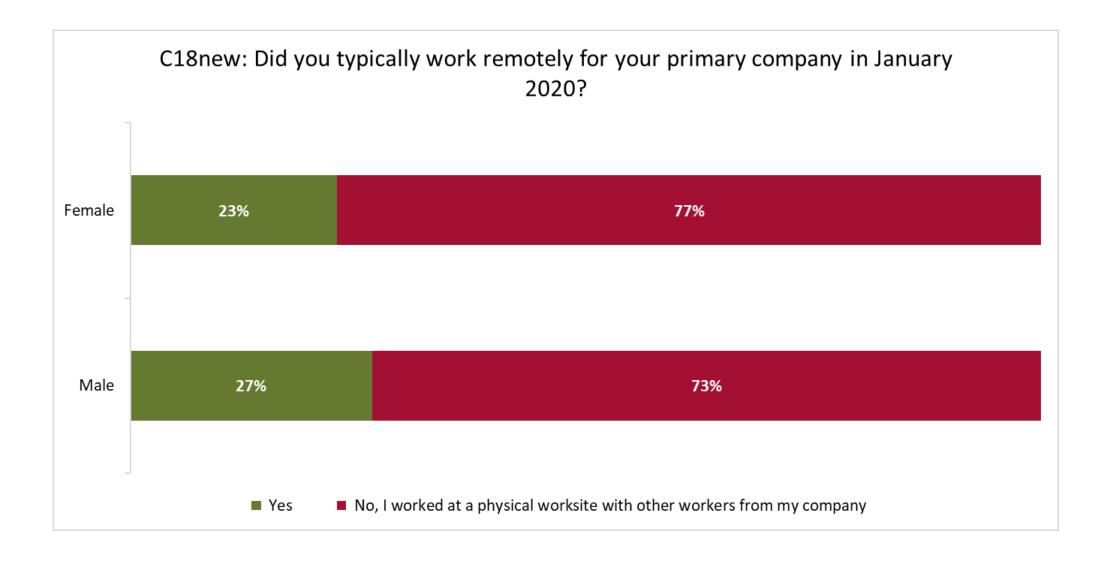


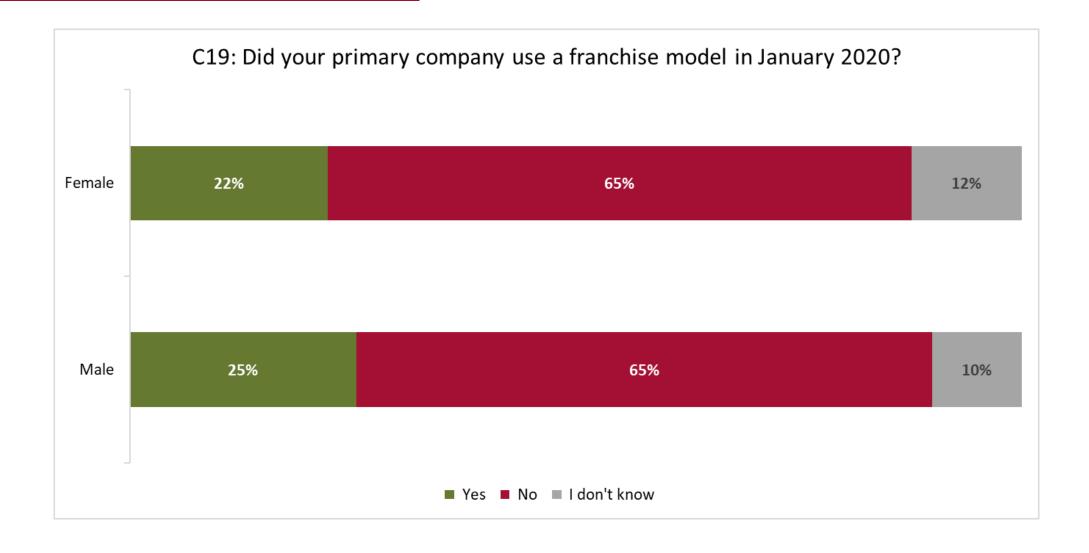


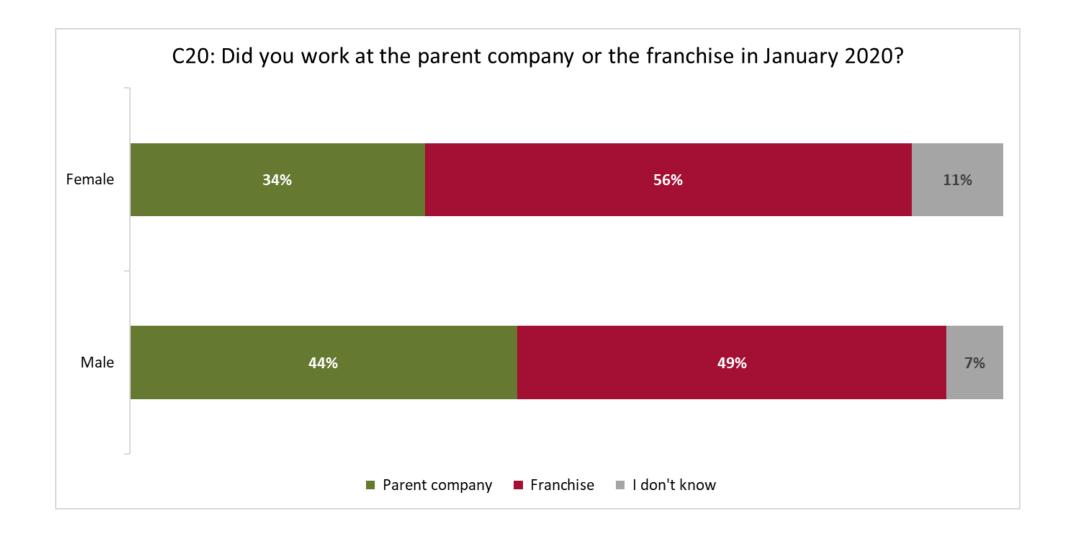


Note: Only respondents whose primary company has multiple locations answered this question

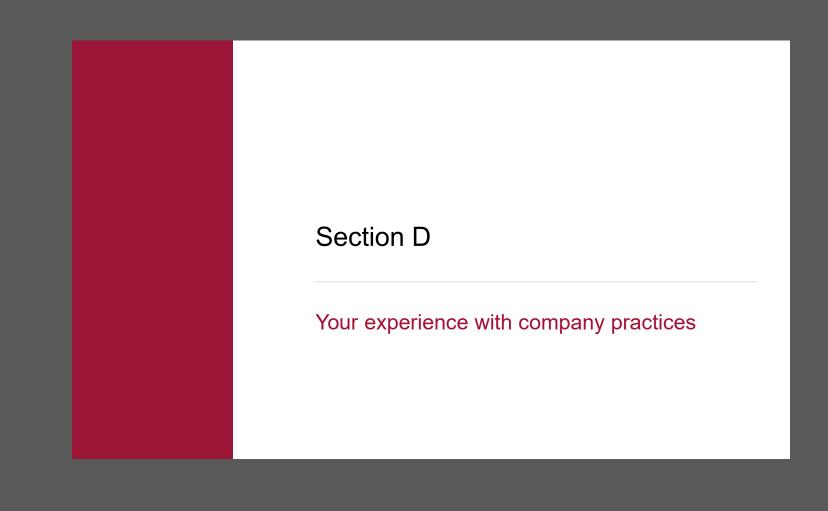


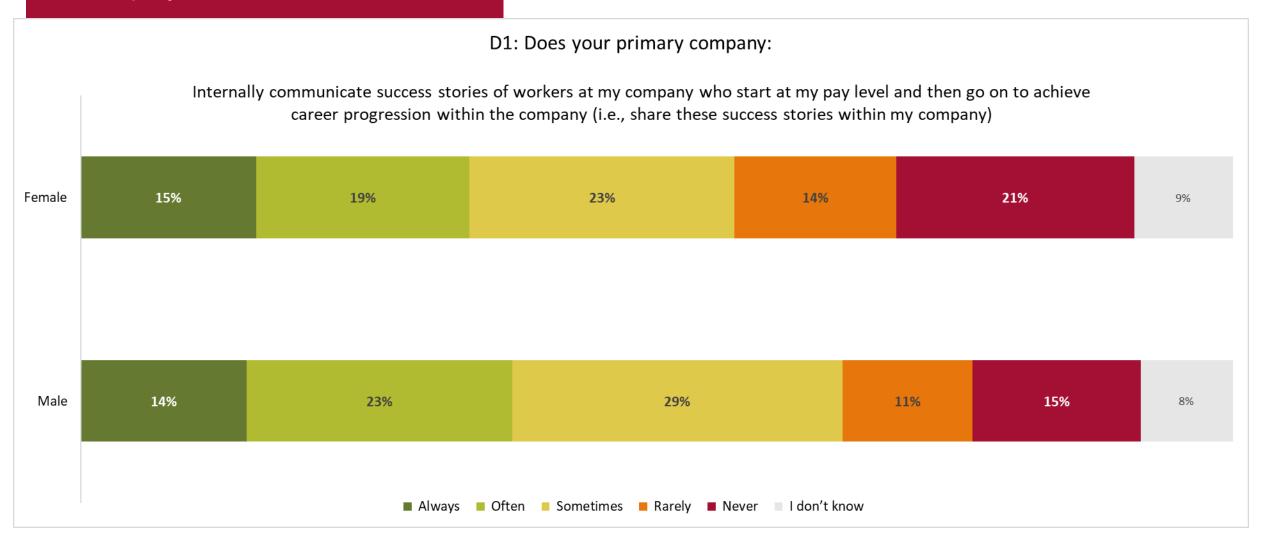


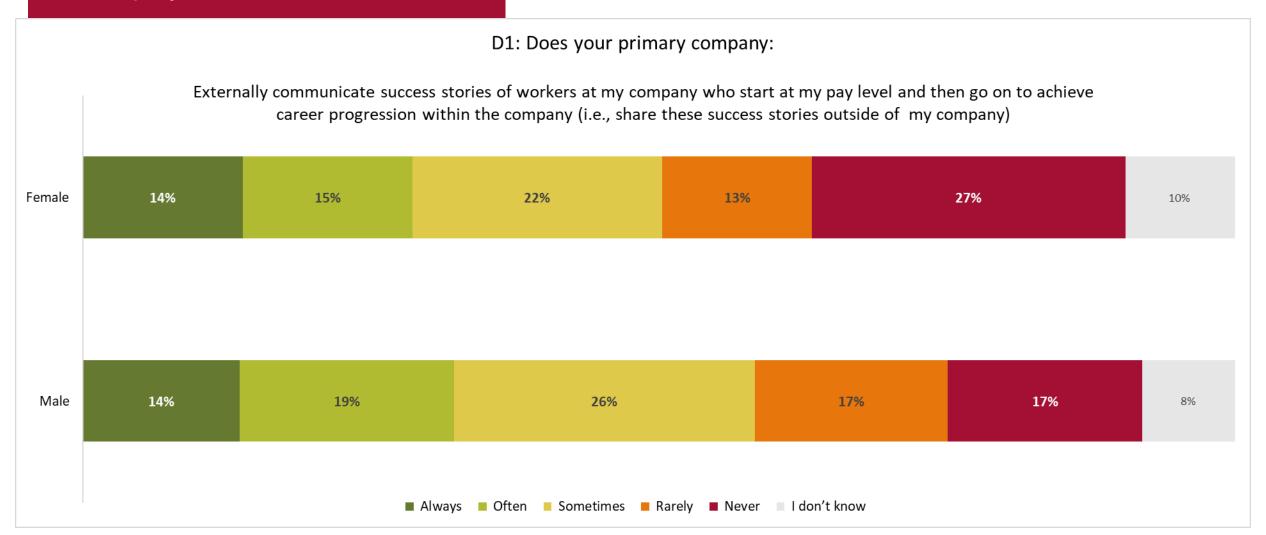


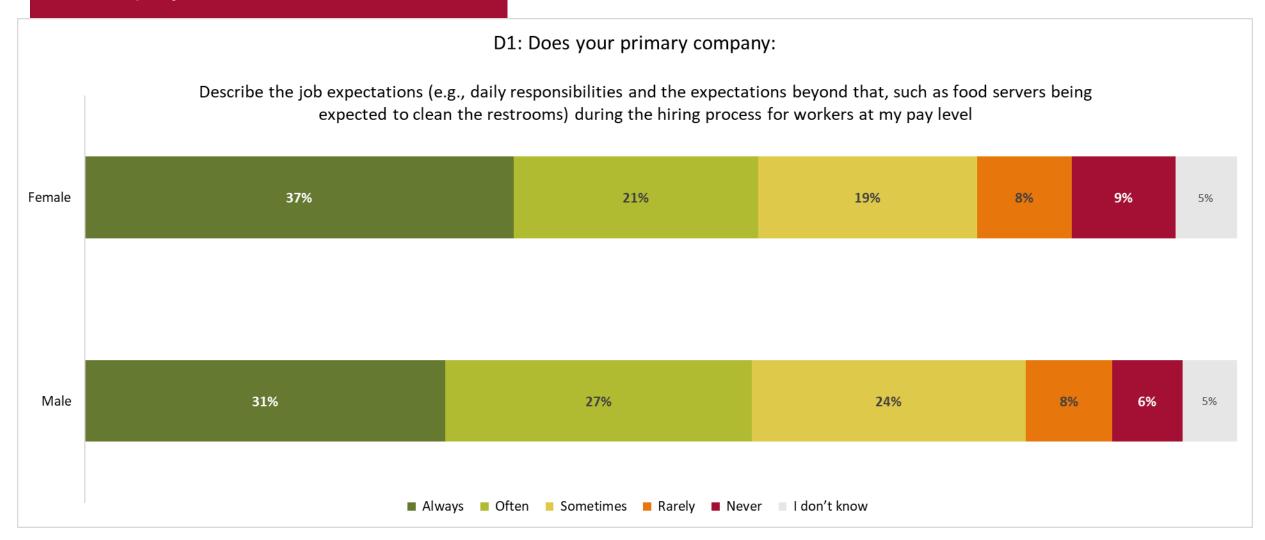


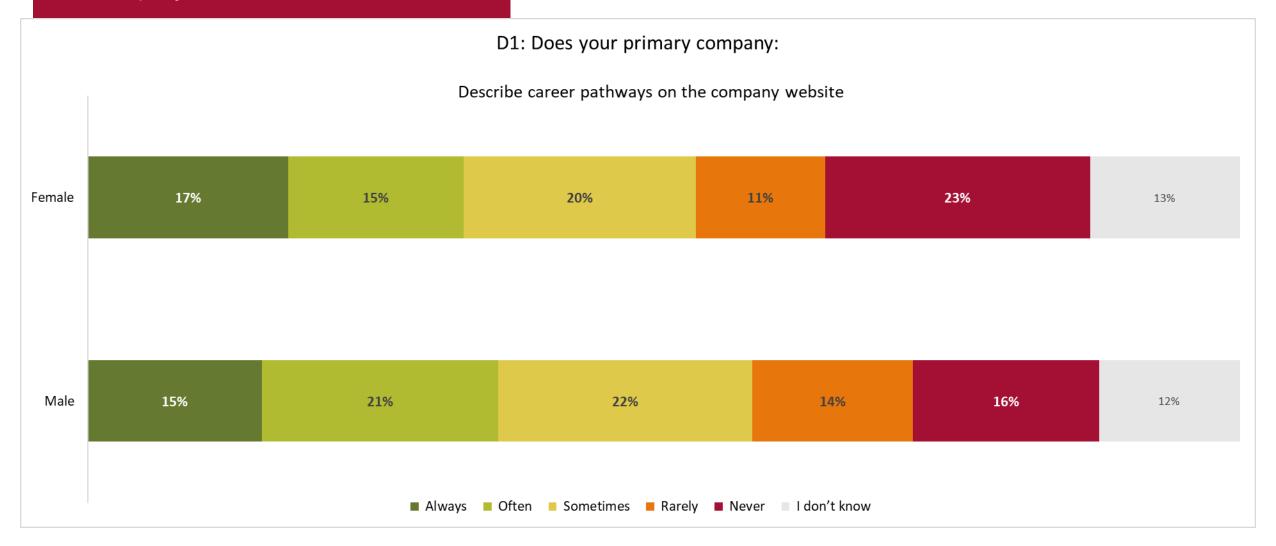


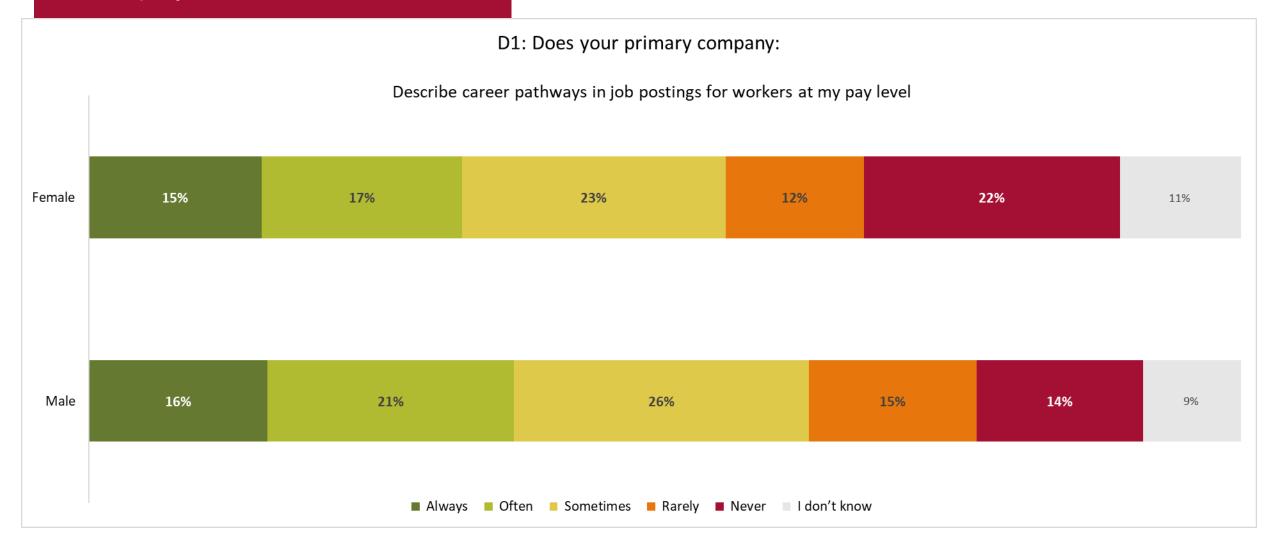


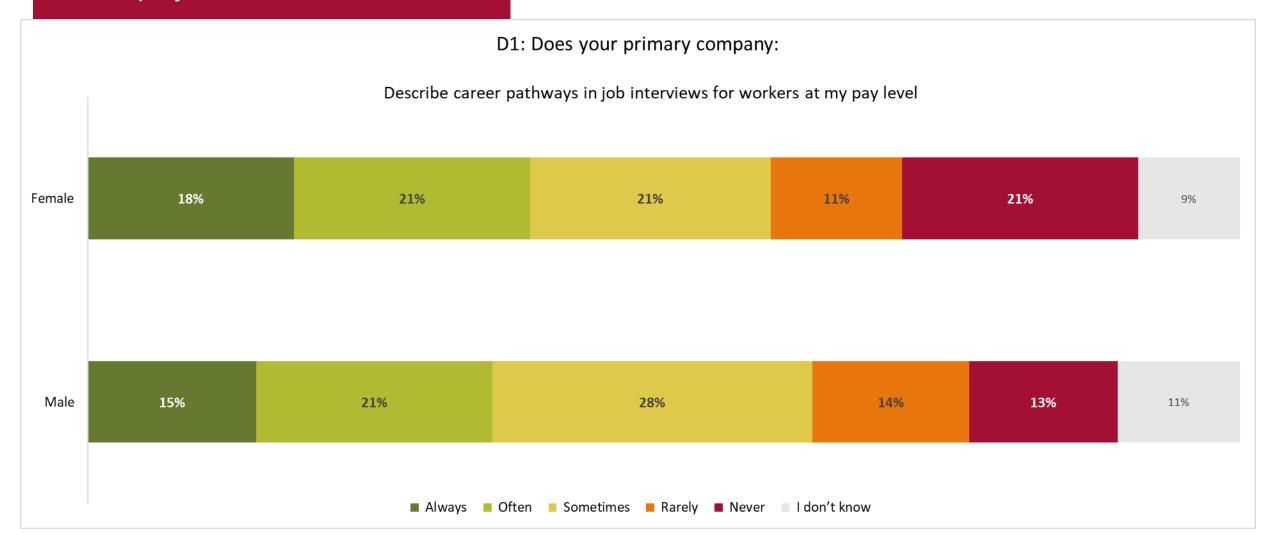


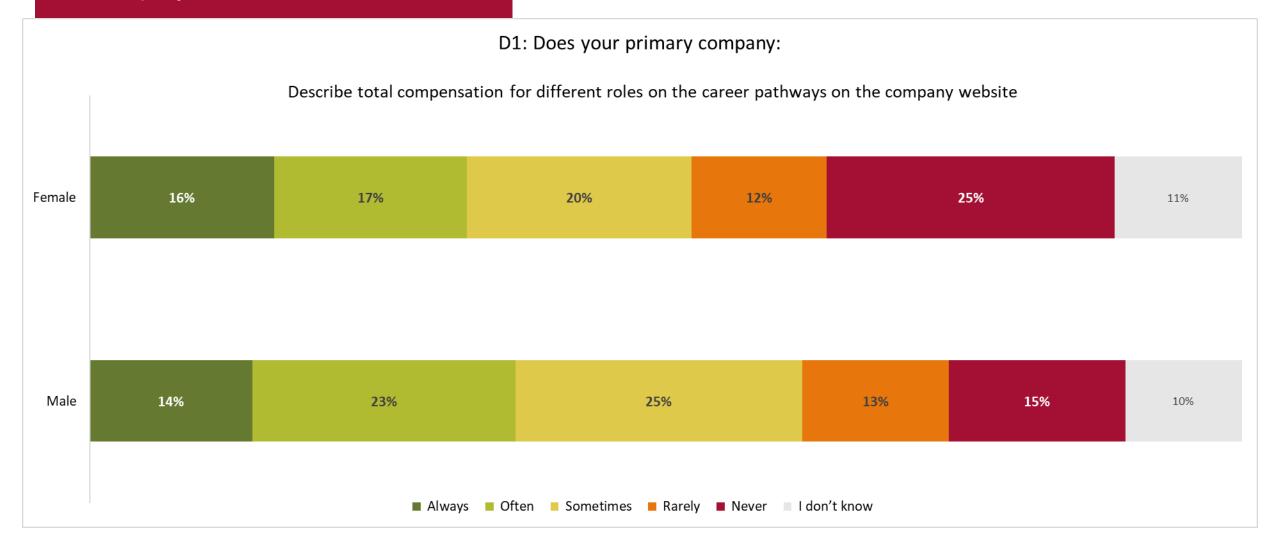


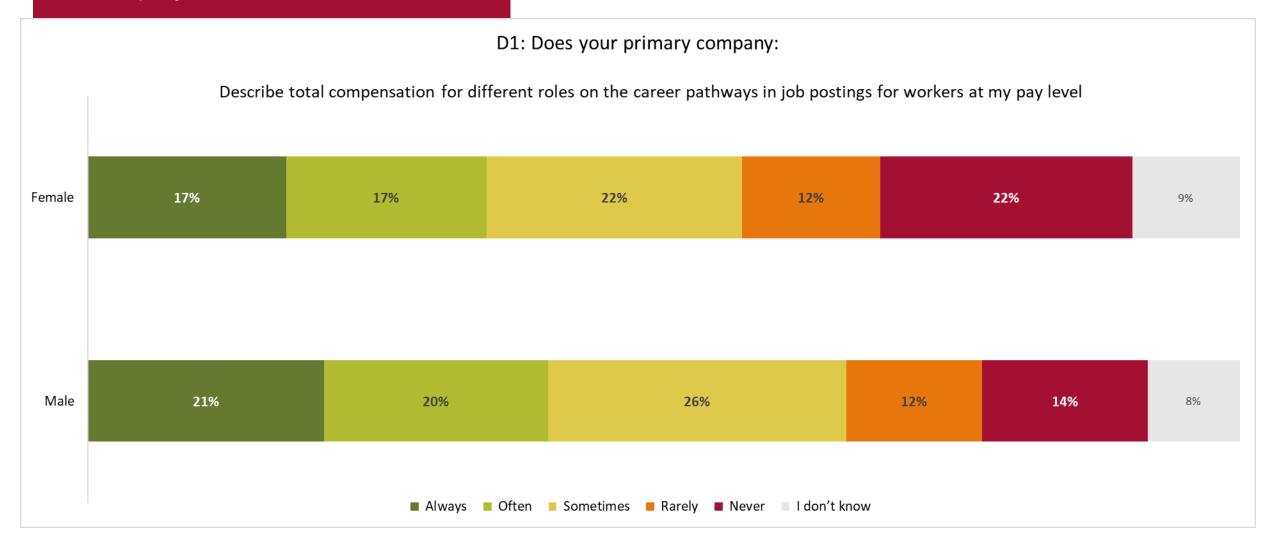


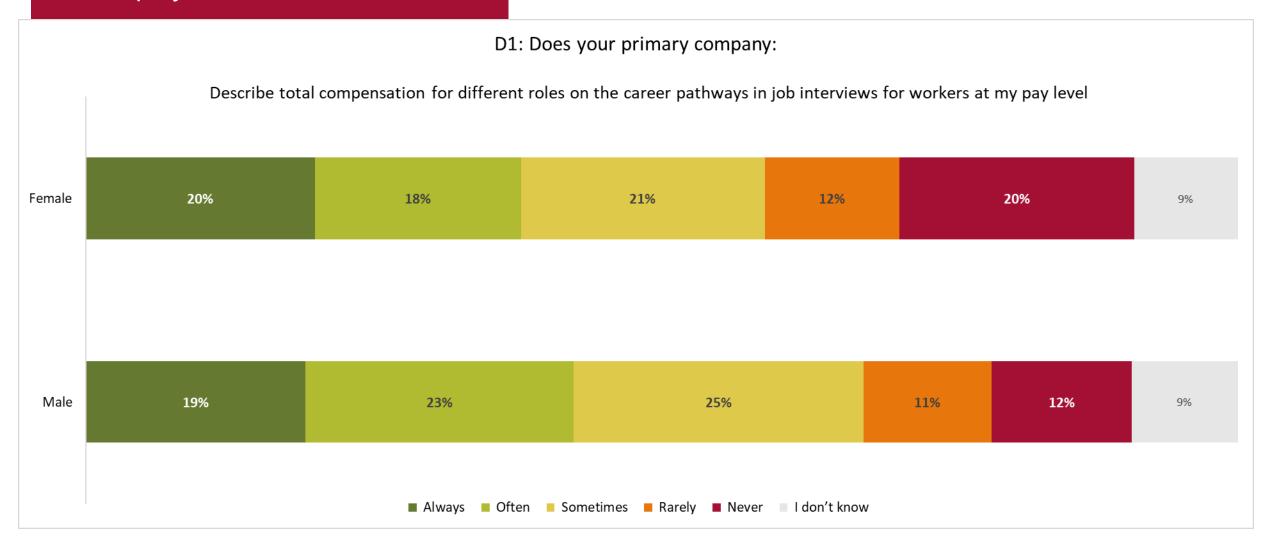






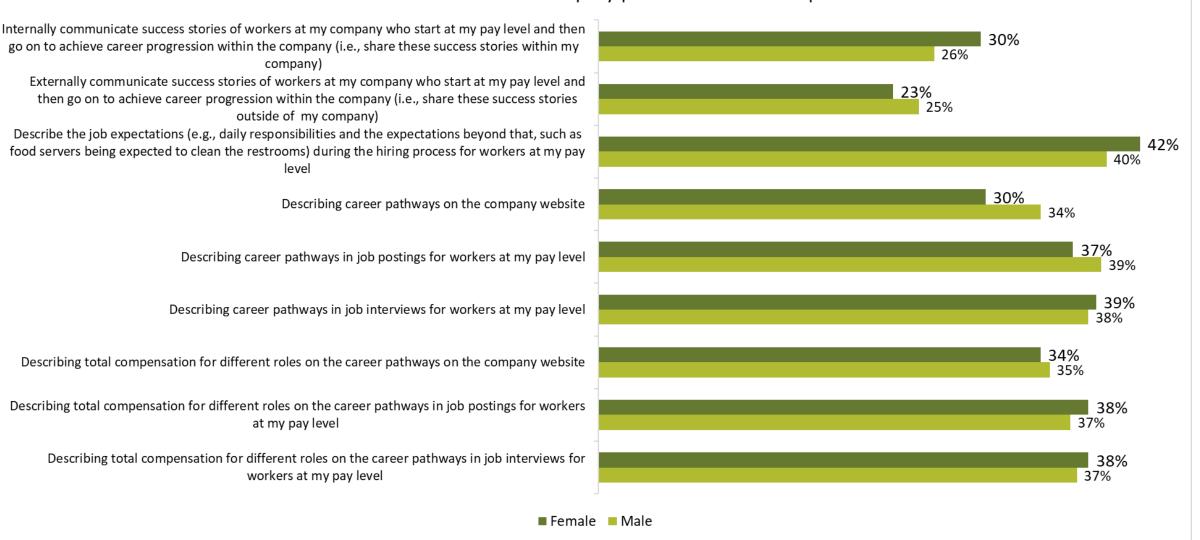


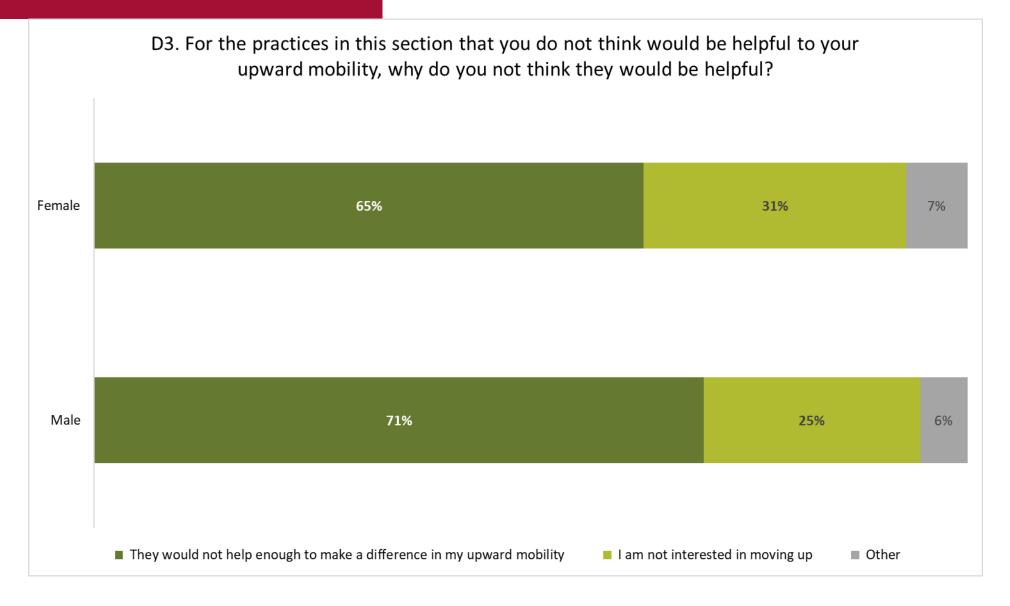


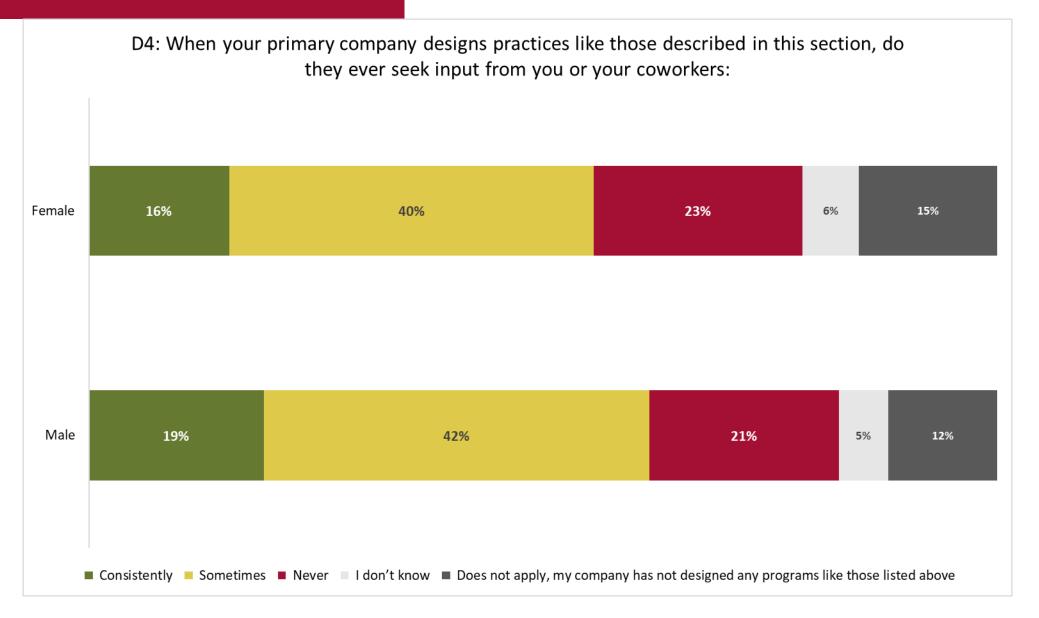


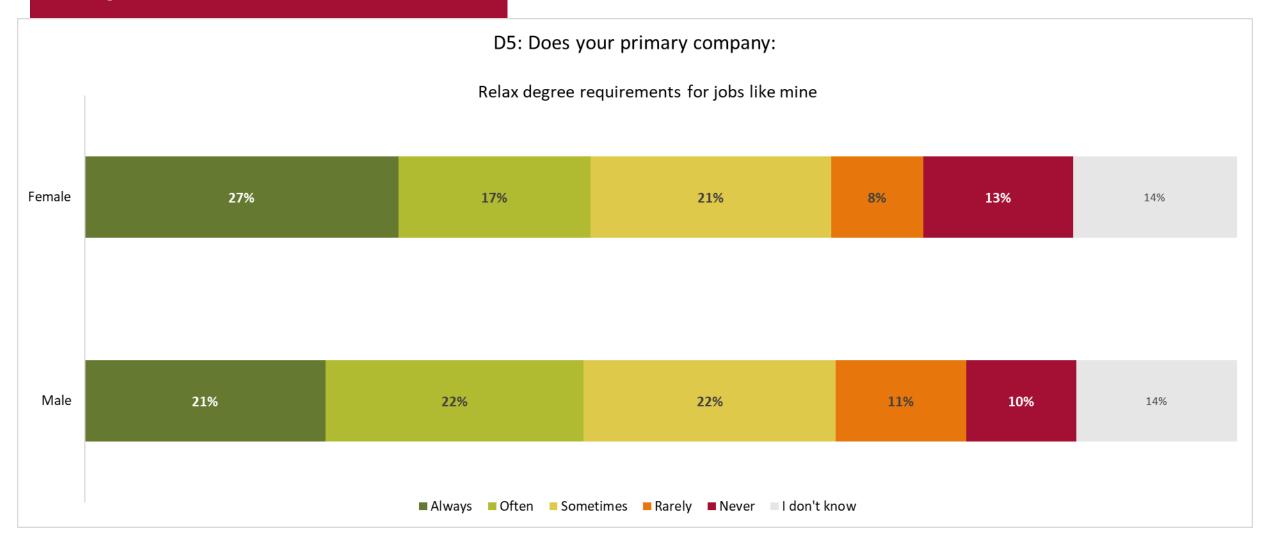
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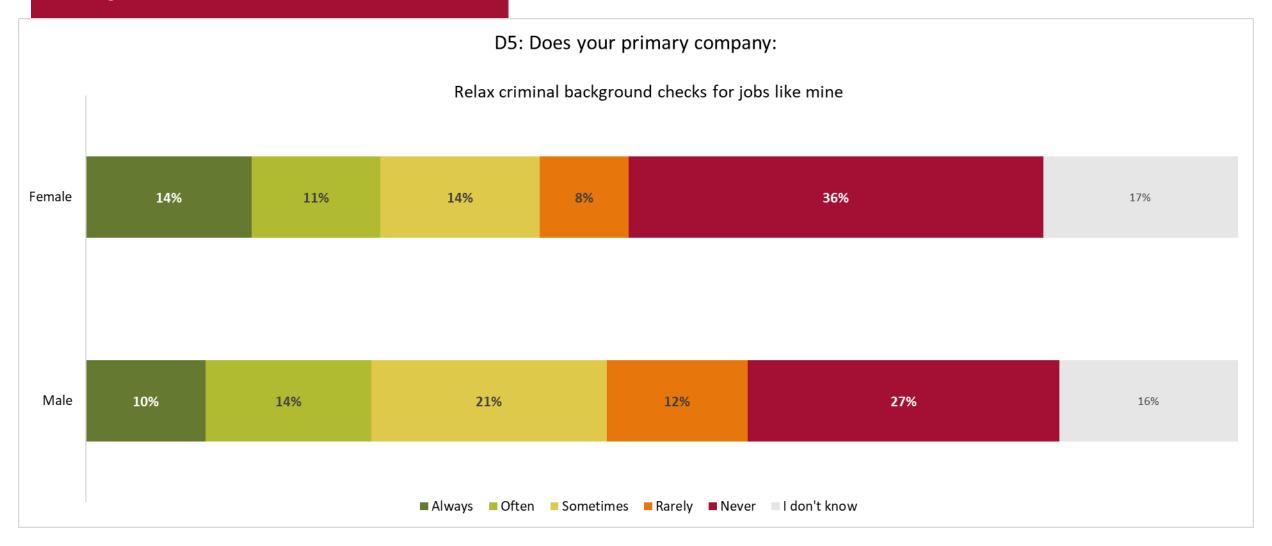
#### D2: Which of the below company practices would be helpful:

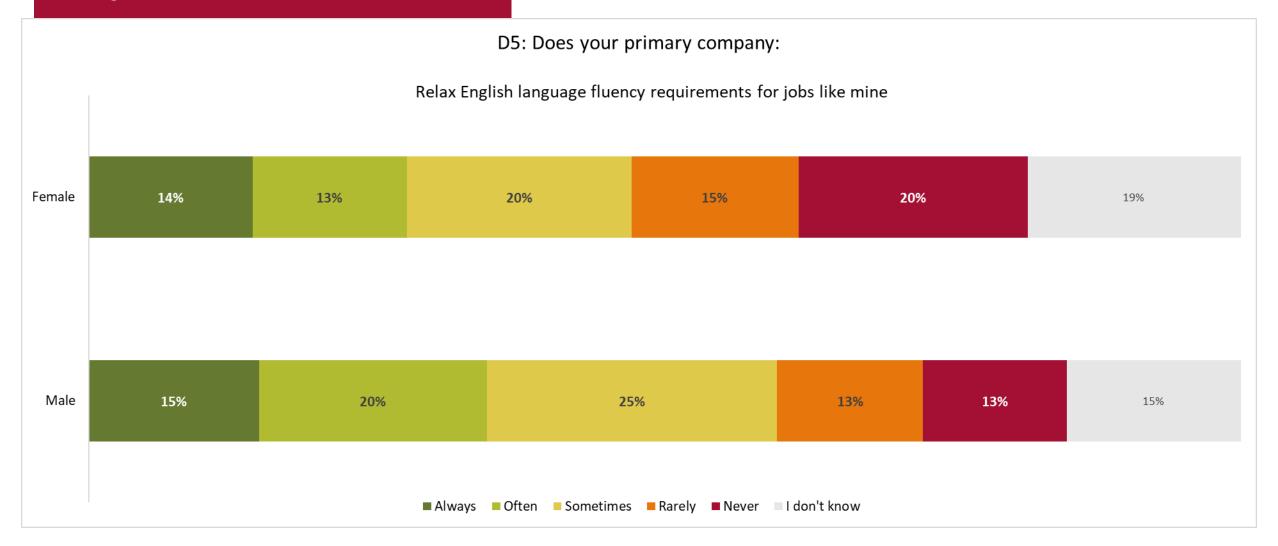


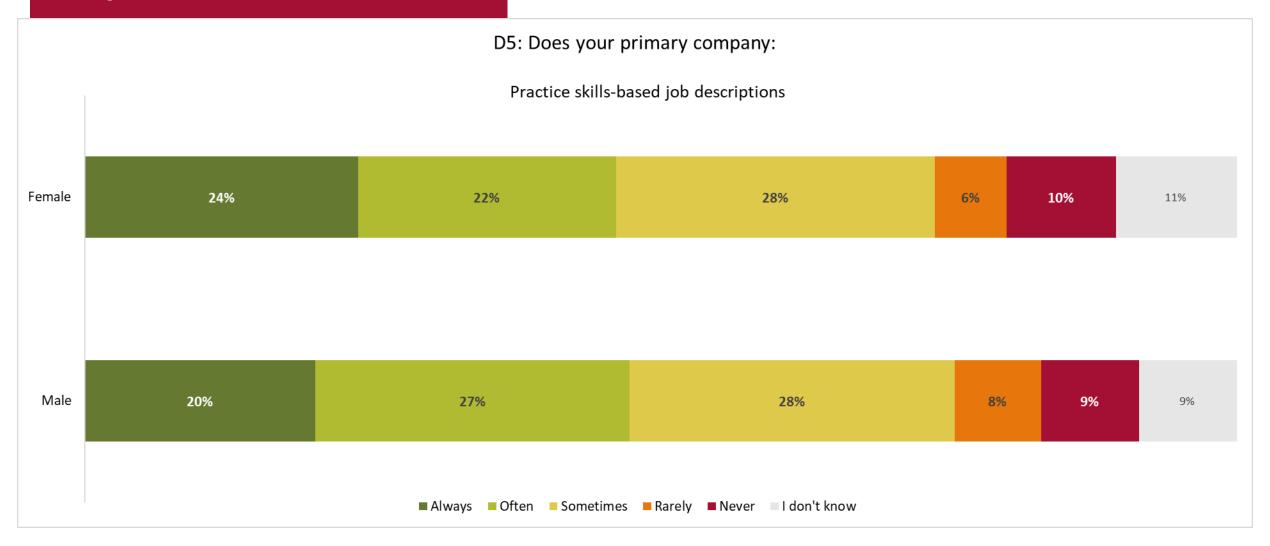


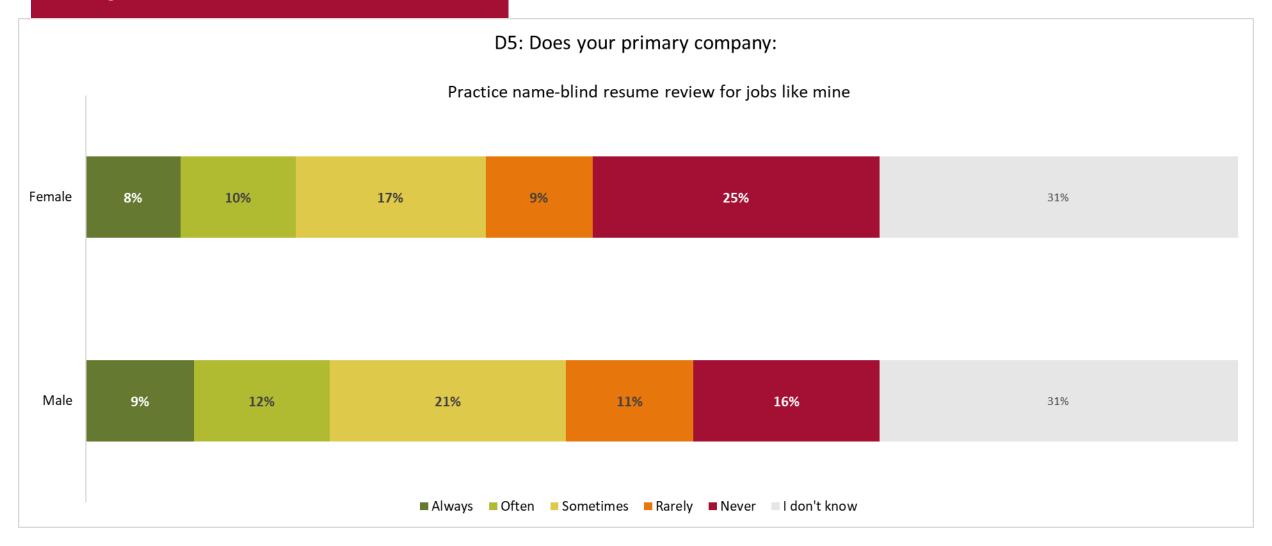


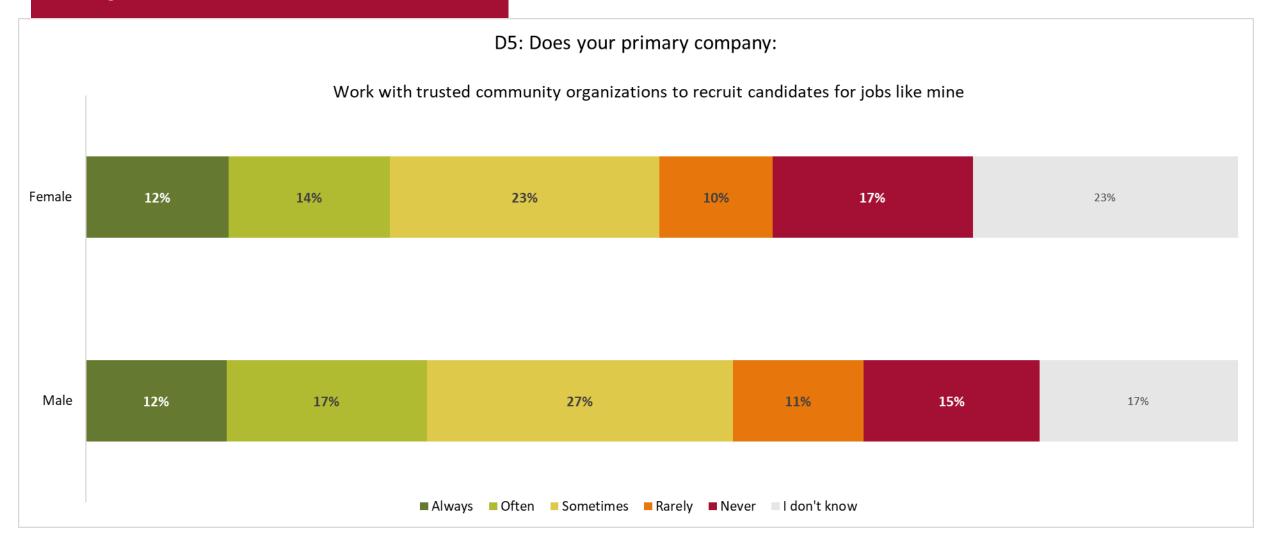


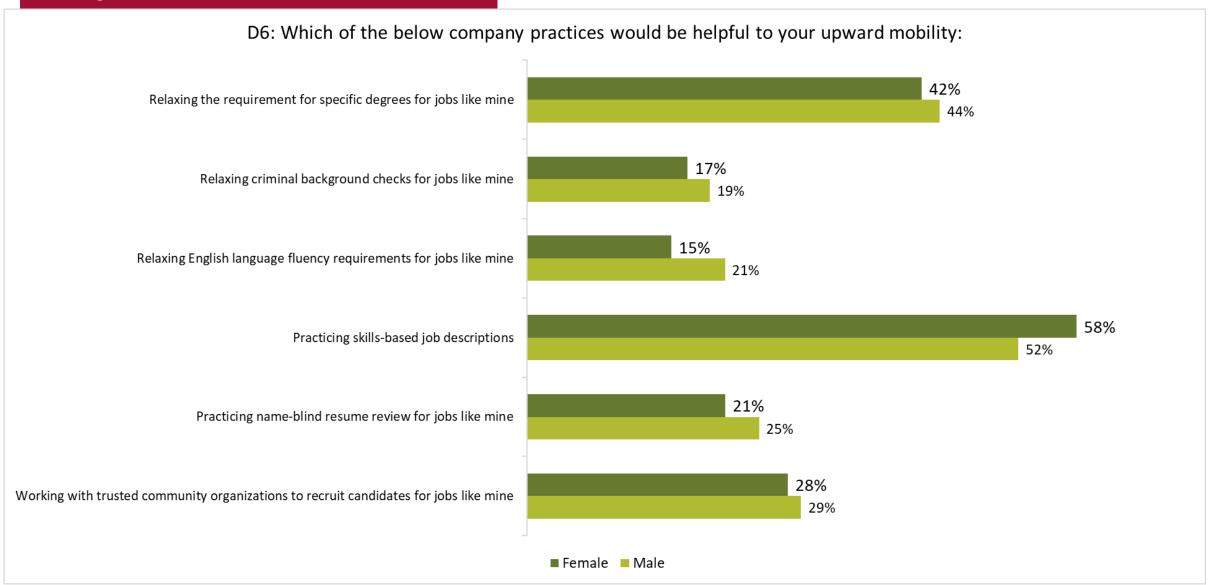


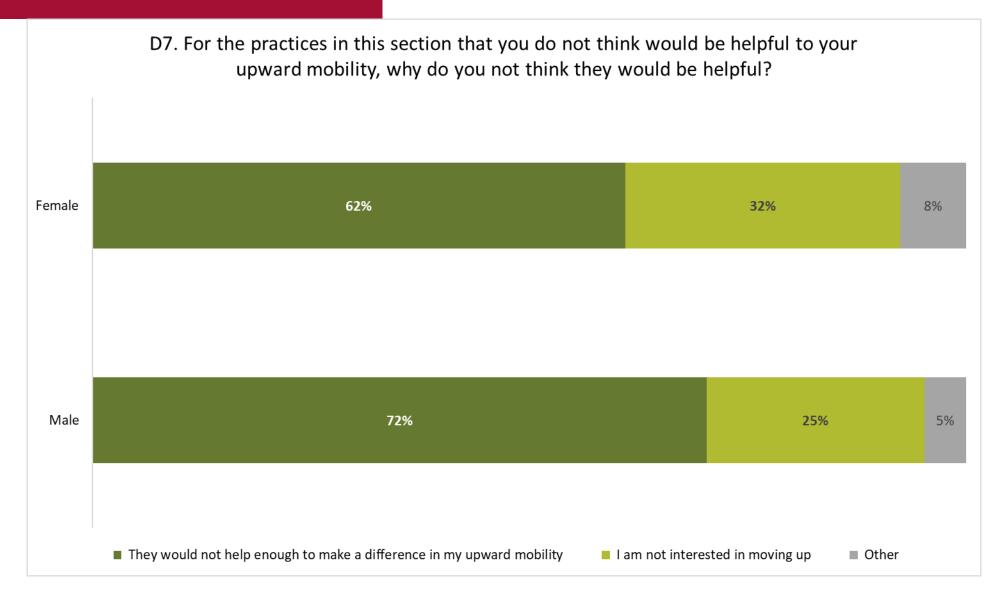


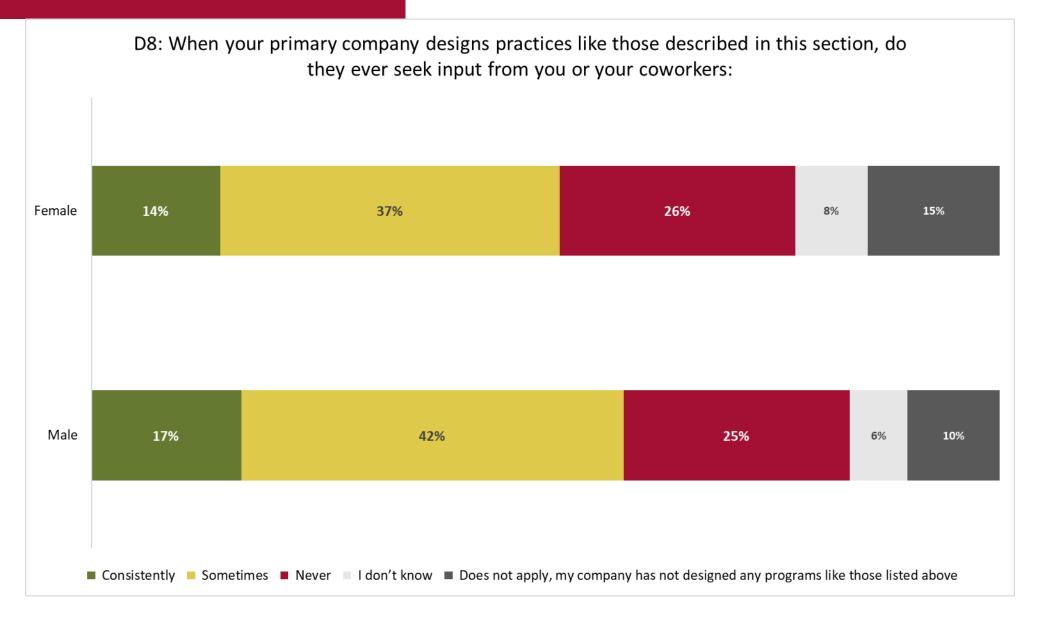


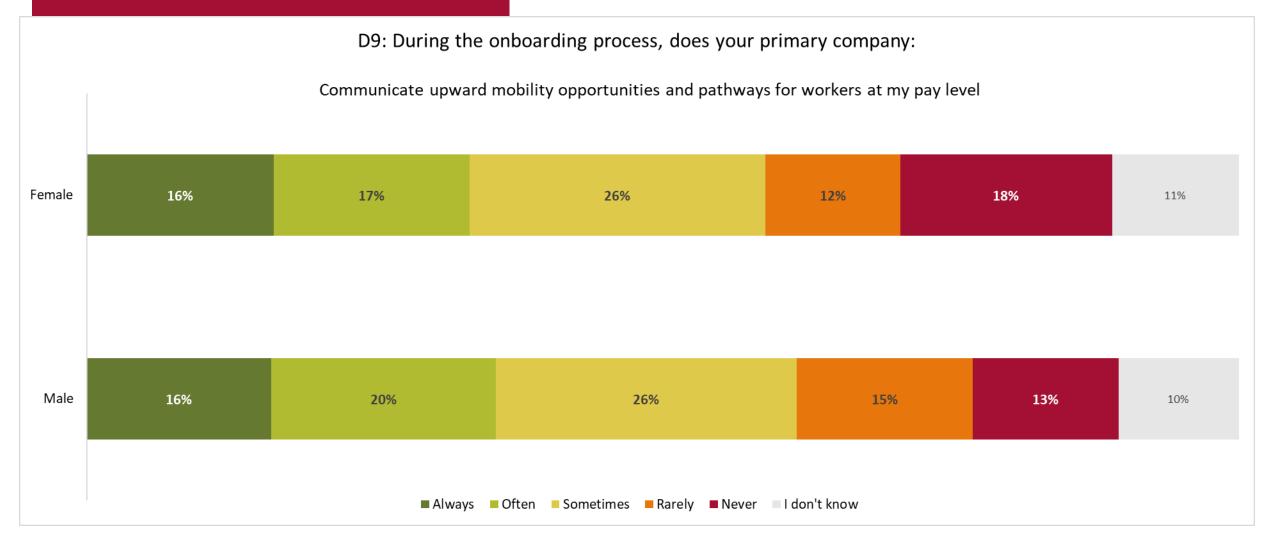


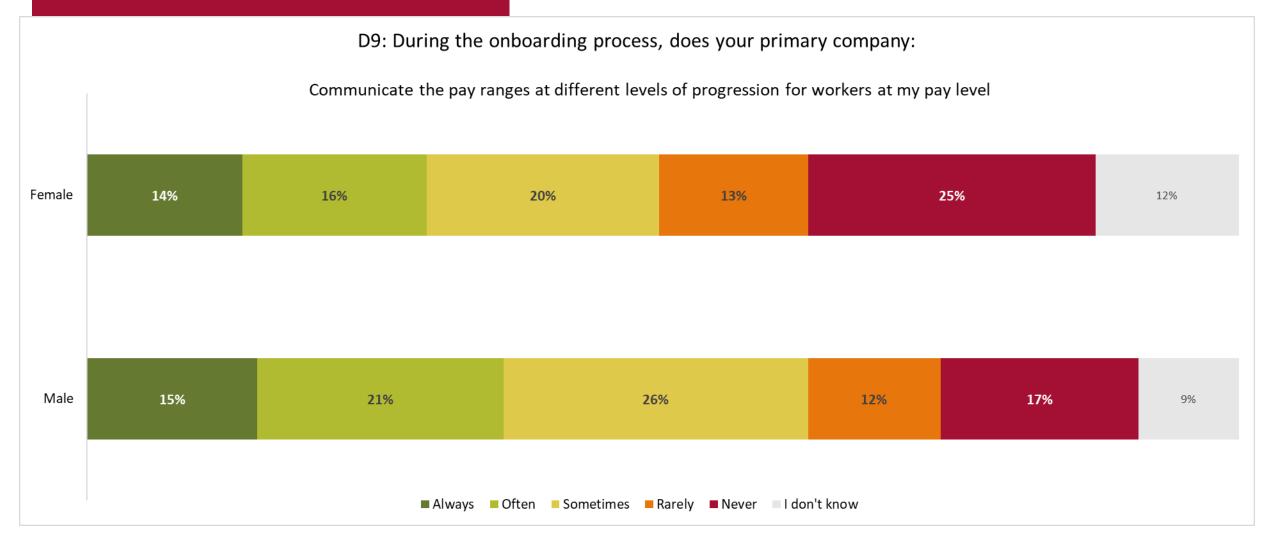


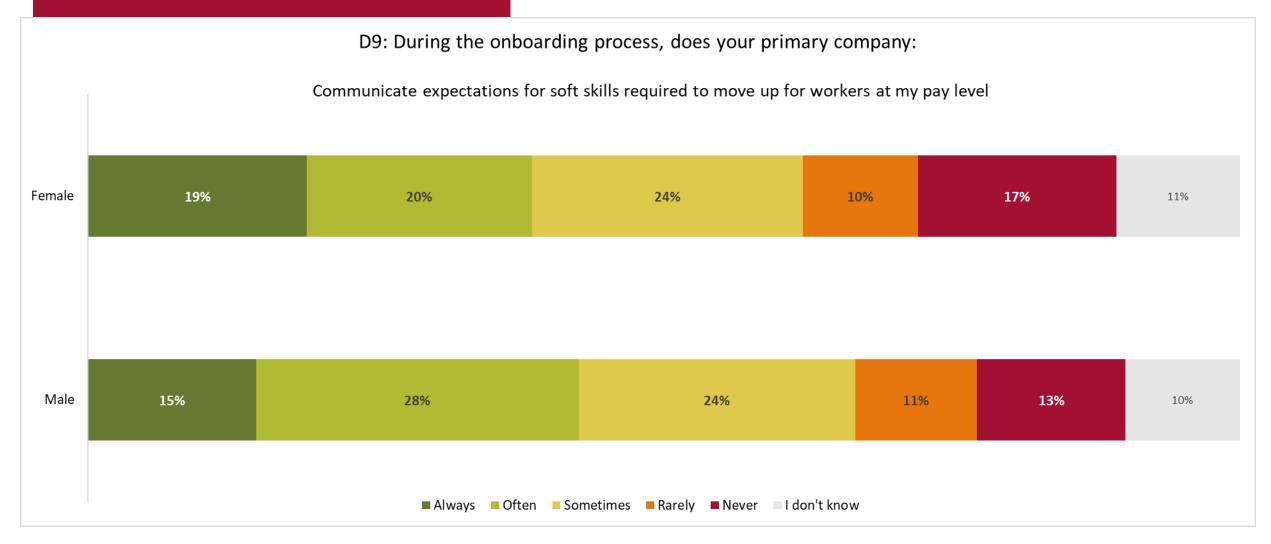


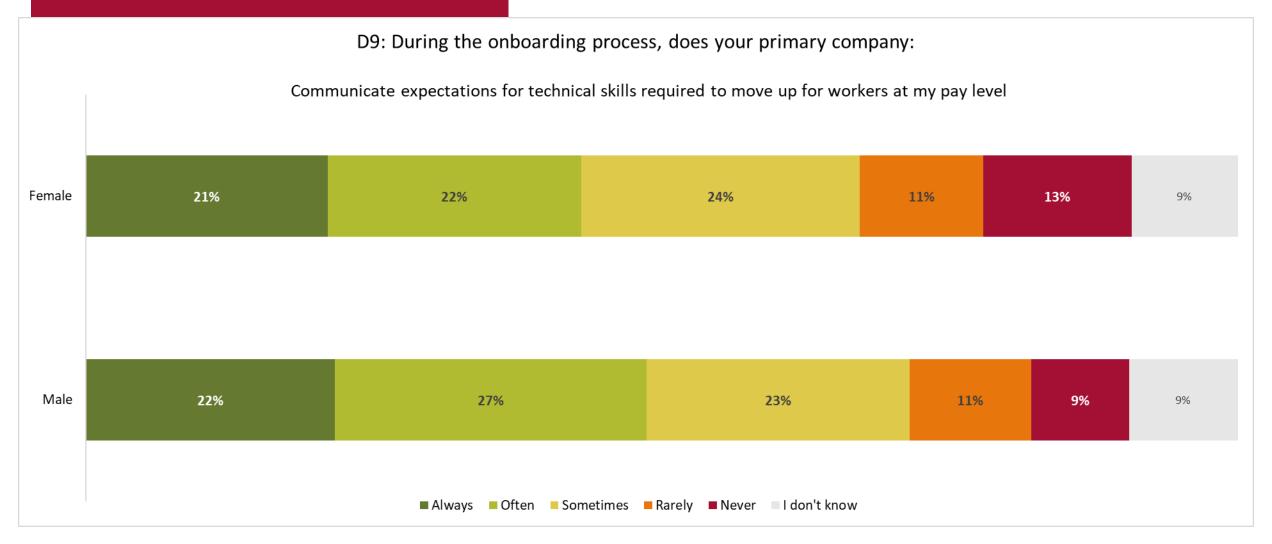


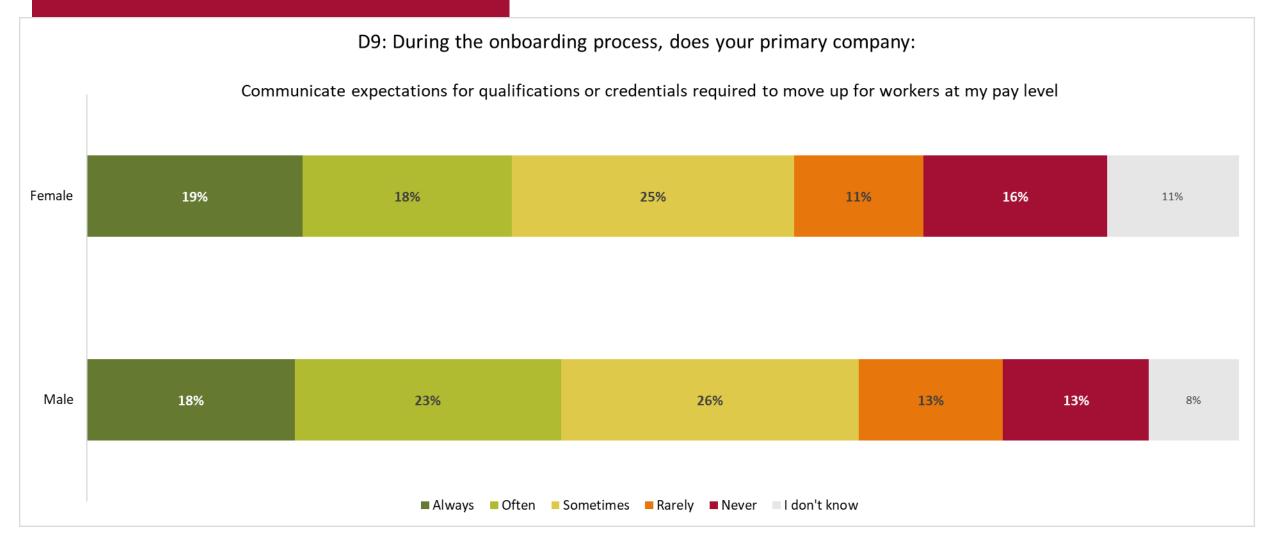


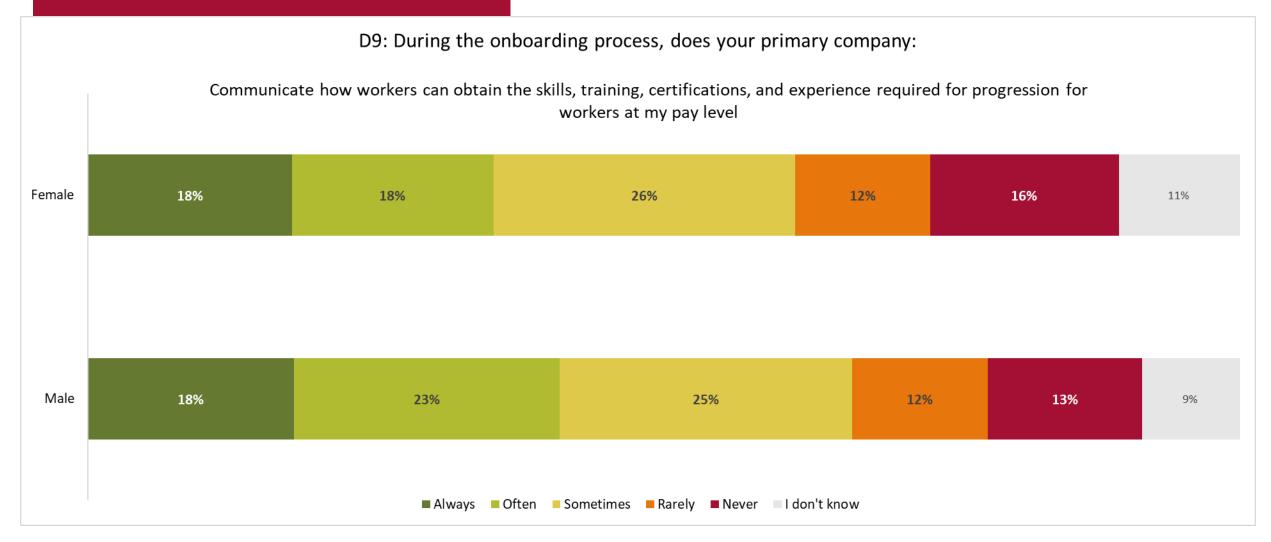


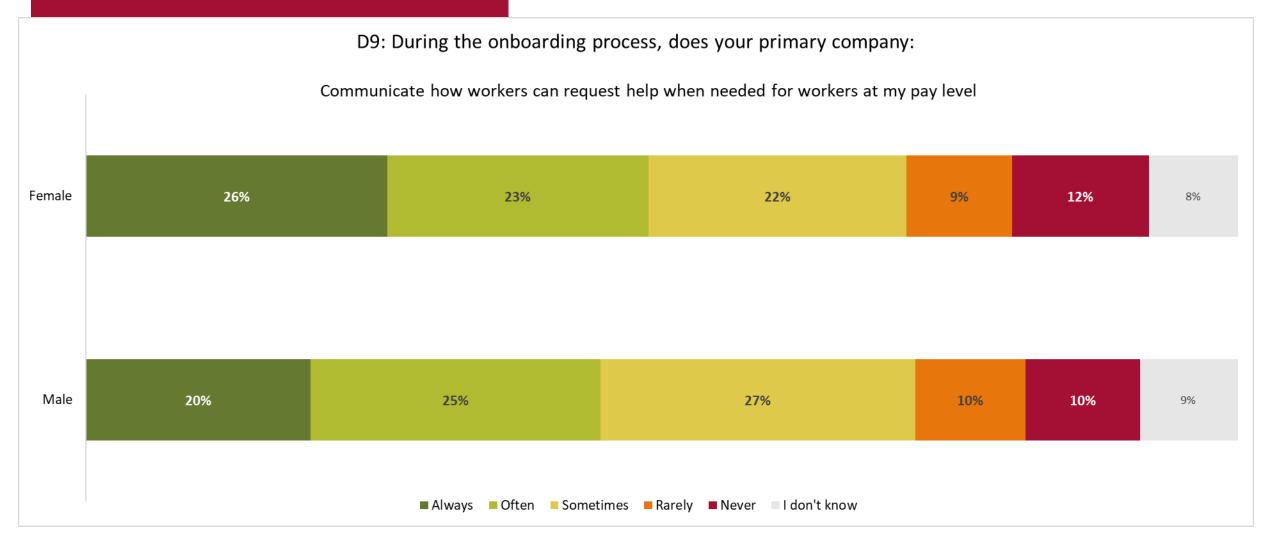


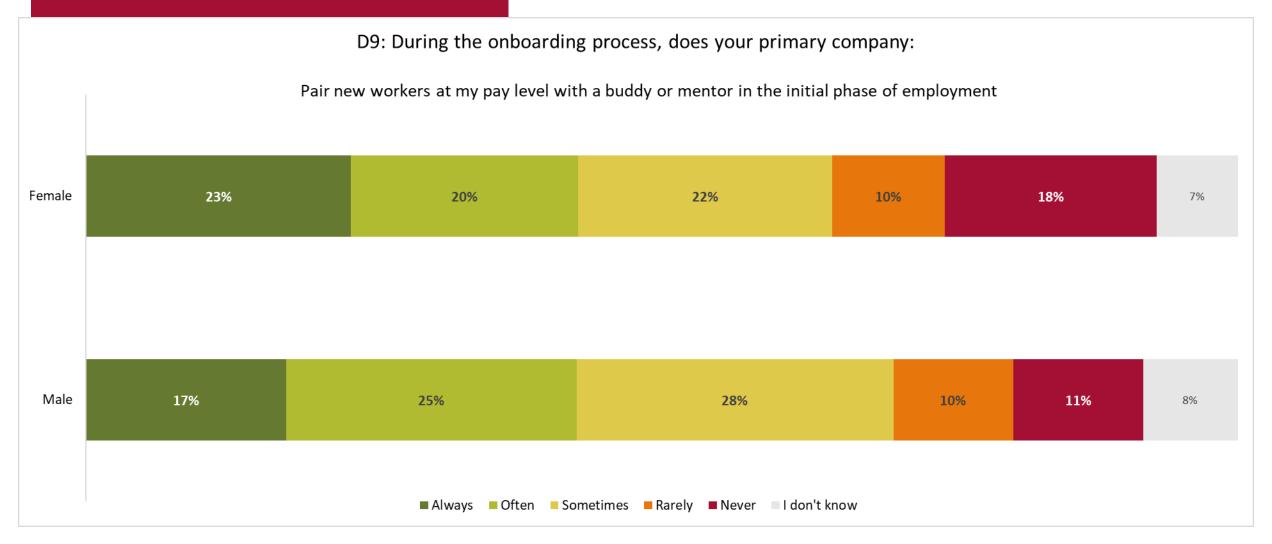


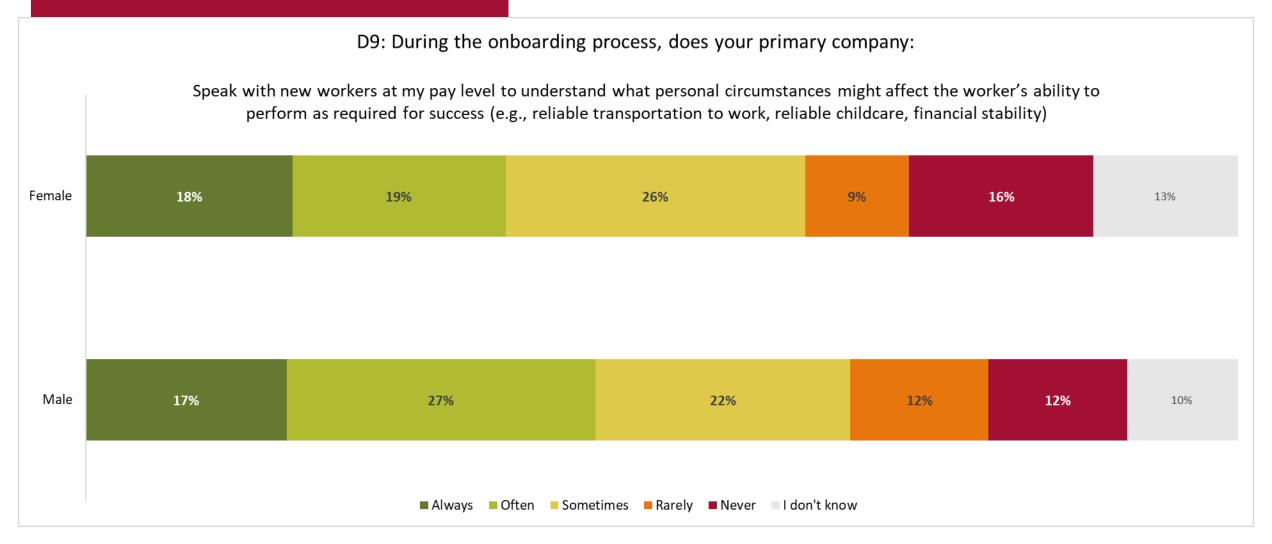


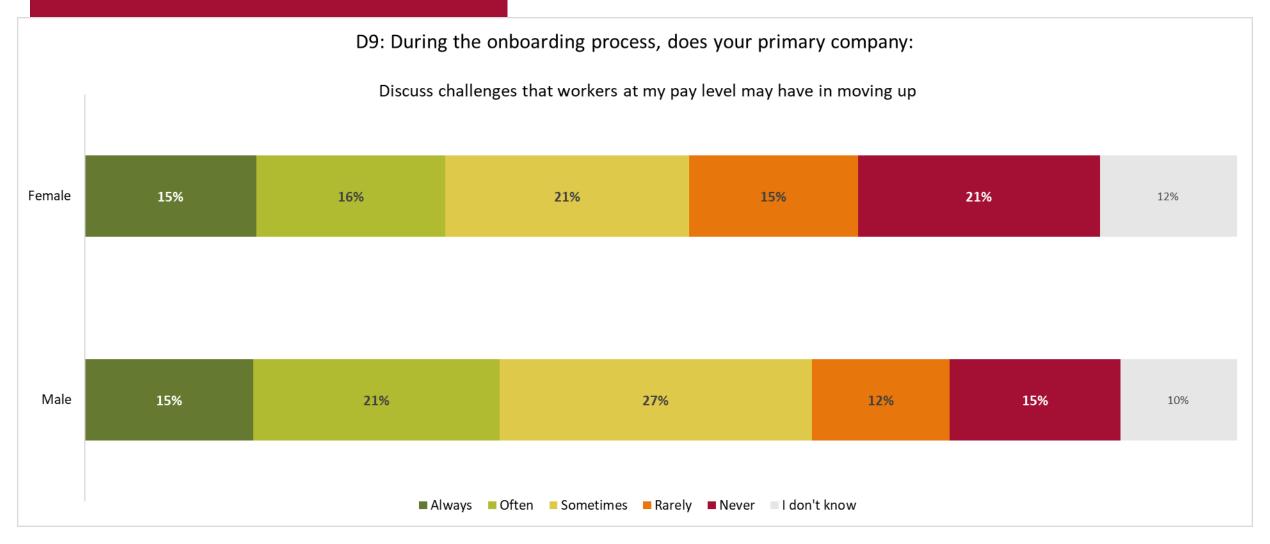




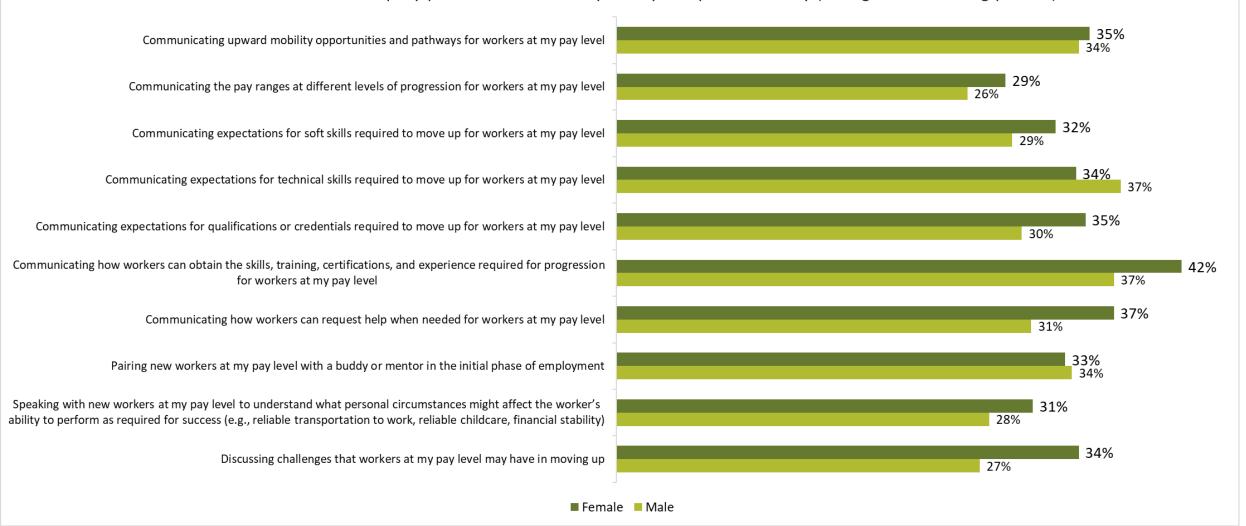


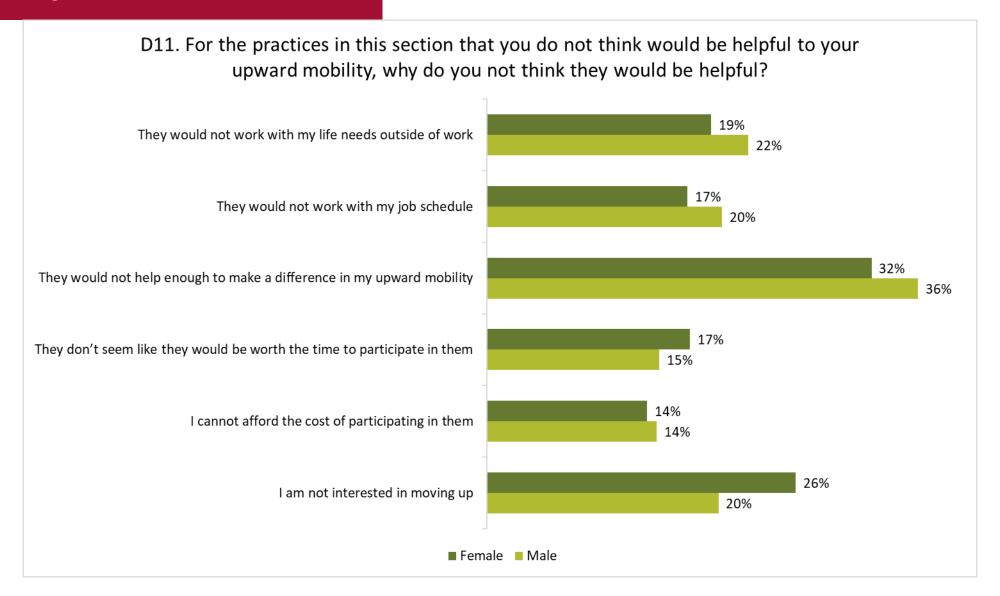


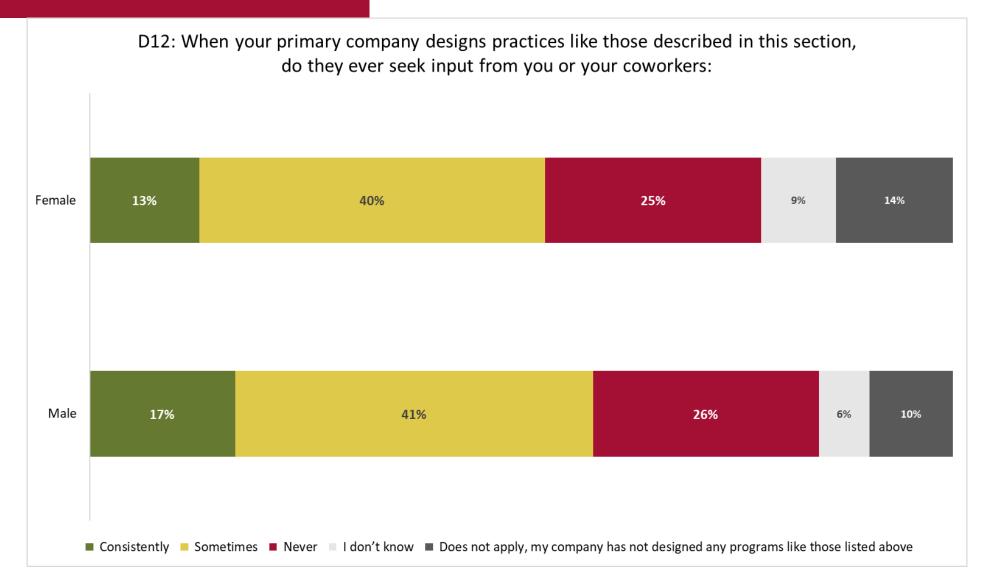


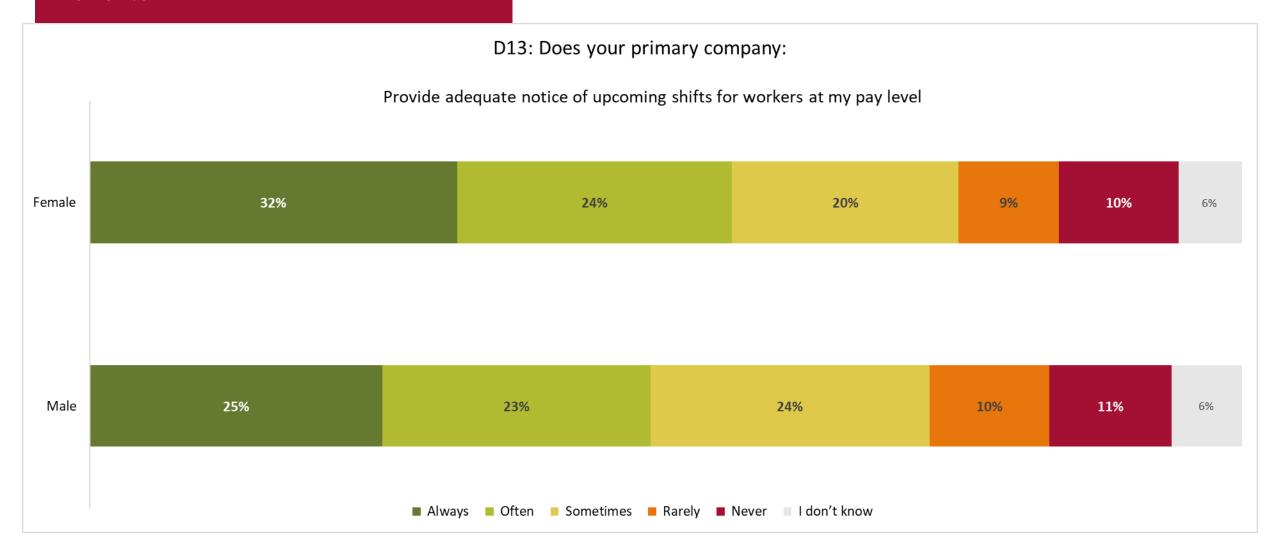


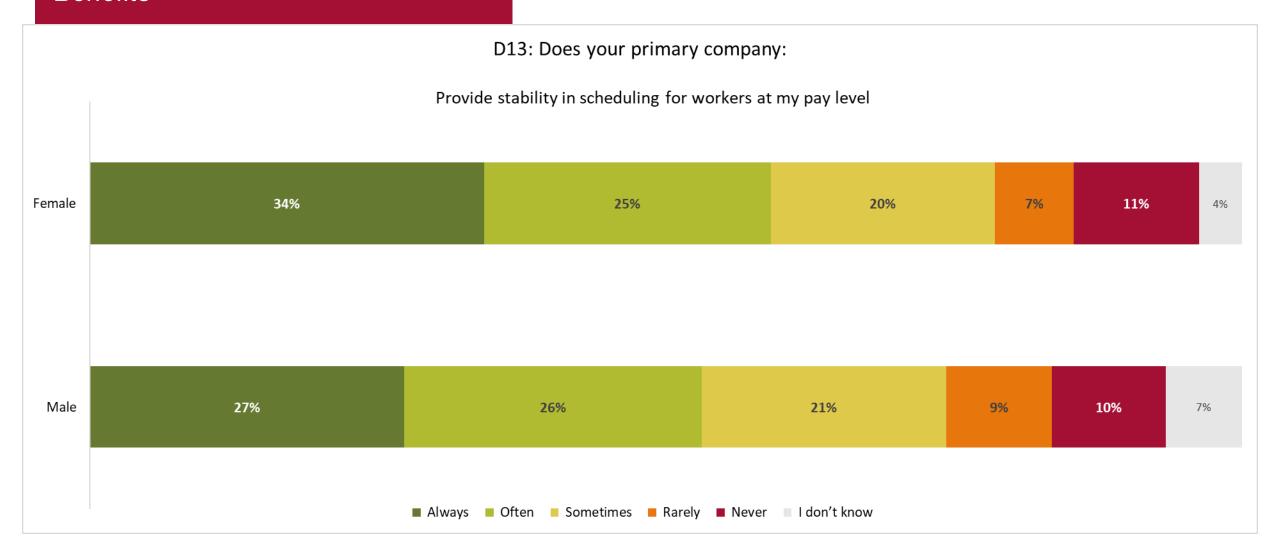


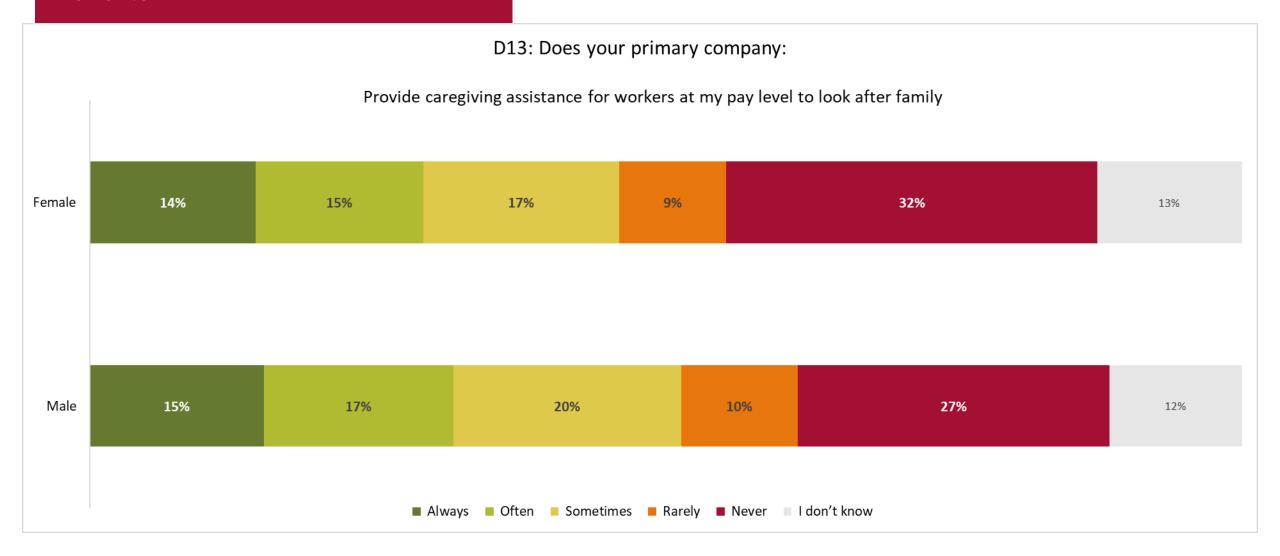


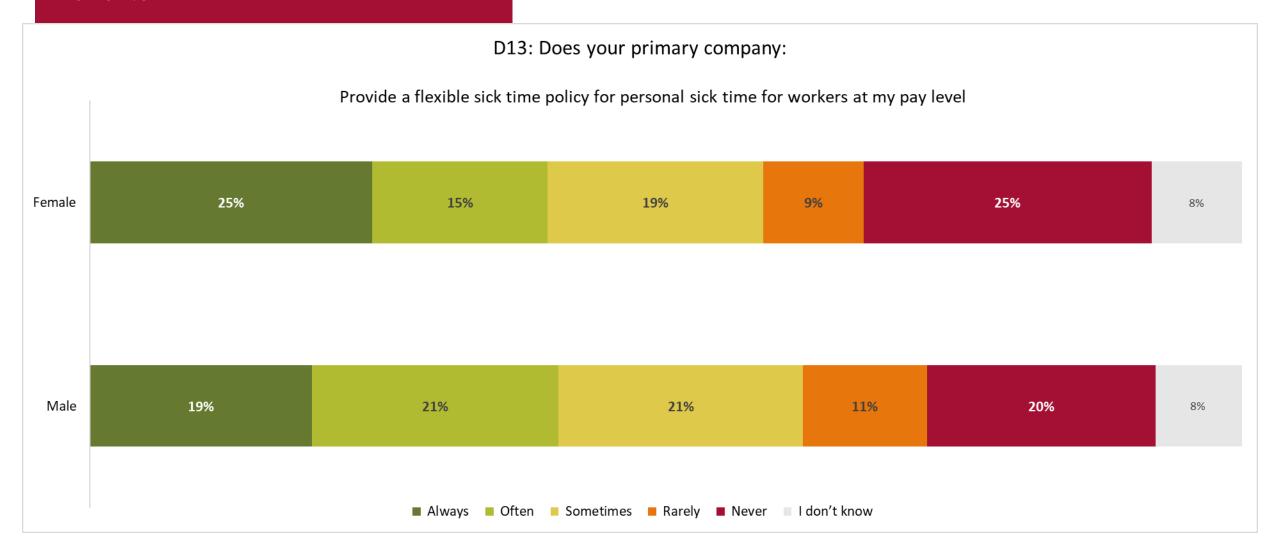


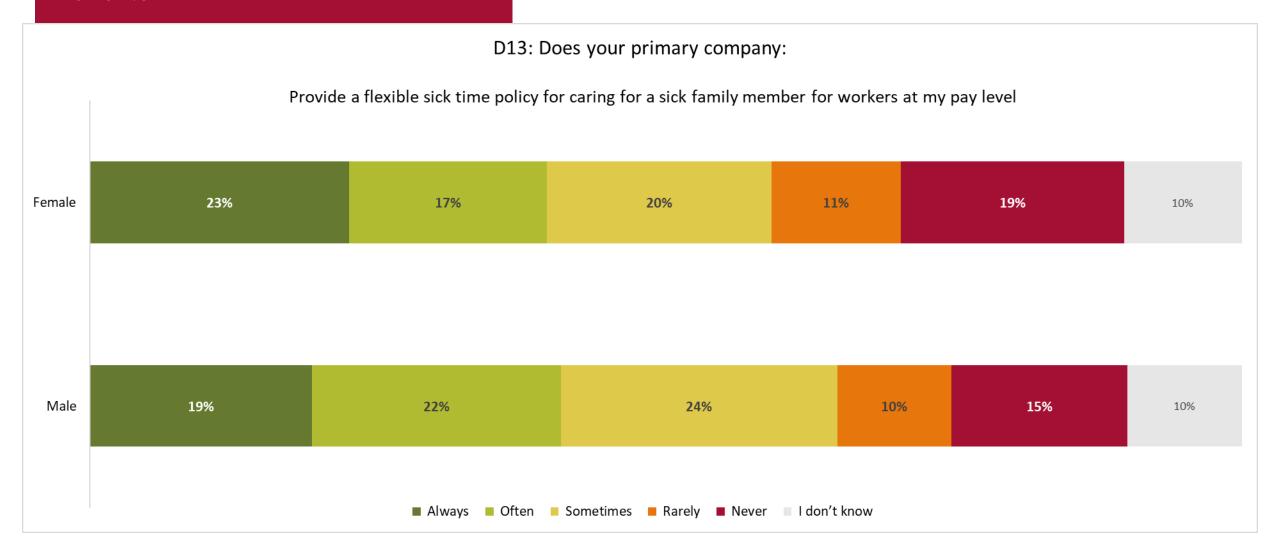


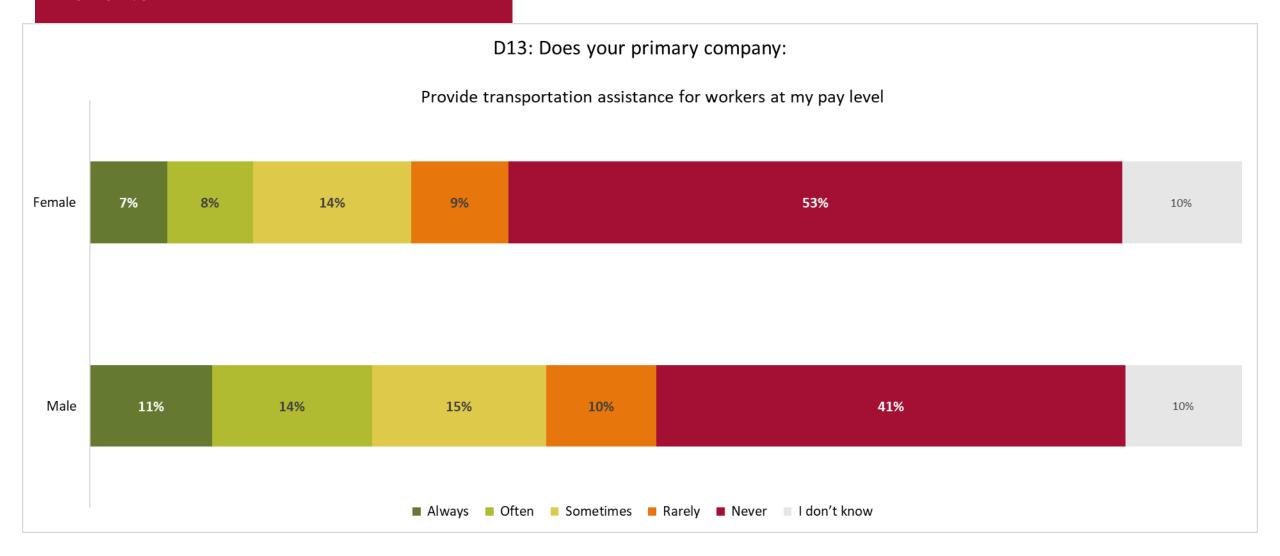


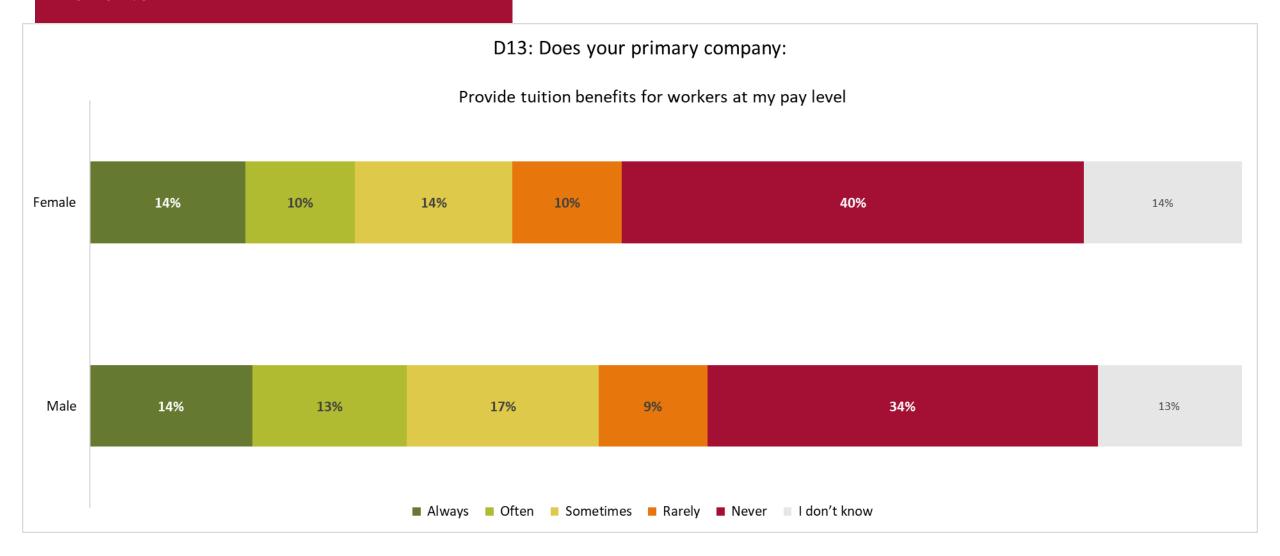




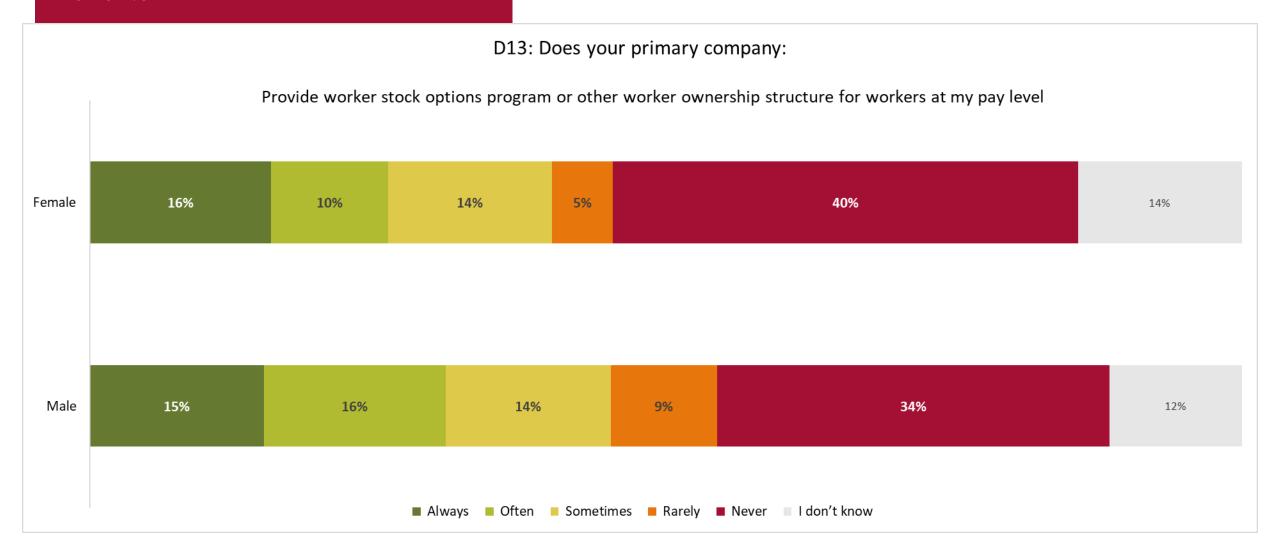




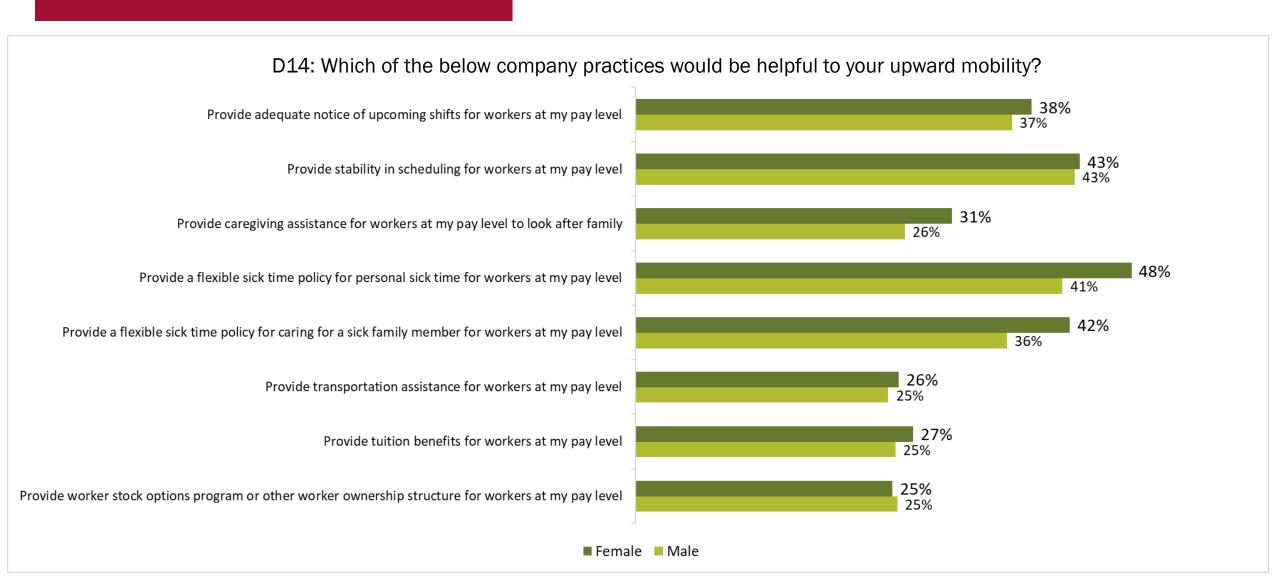


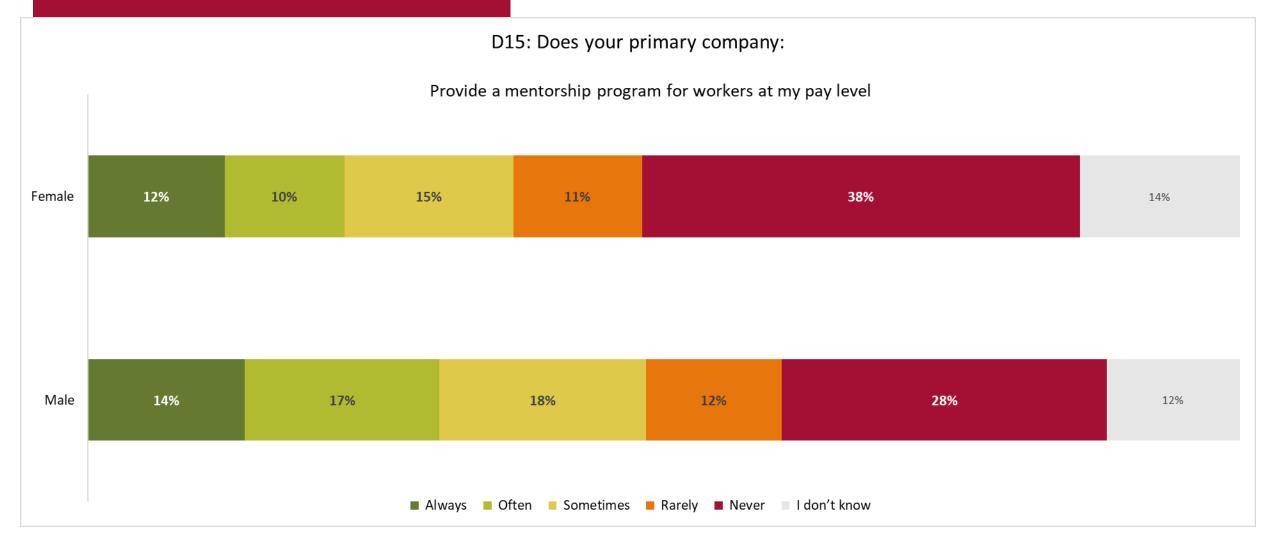


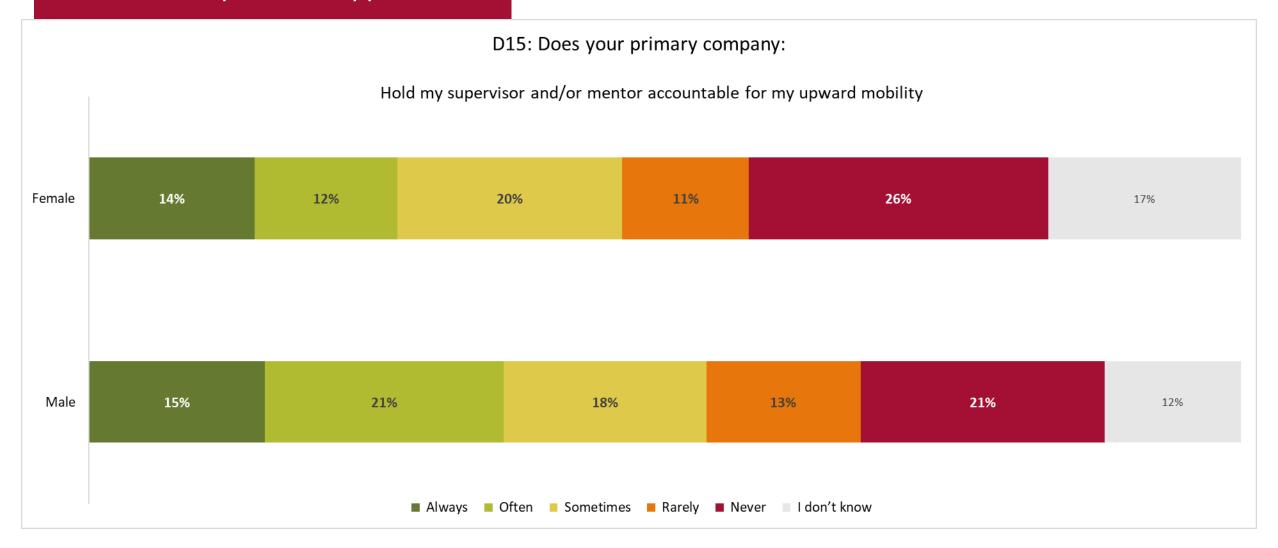
Section D Benefits

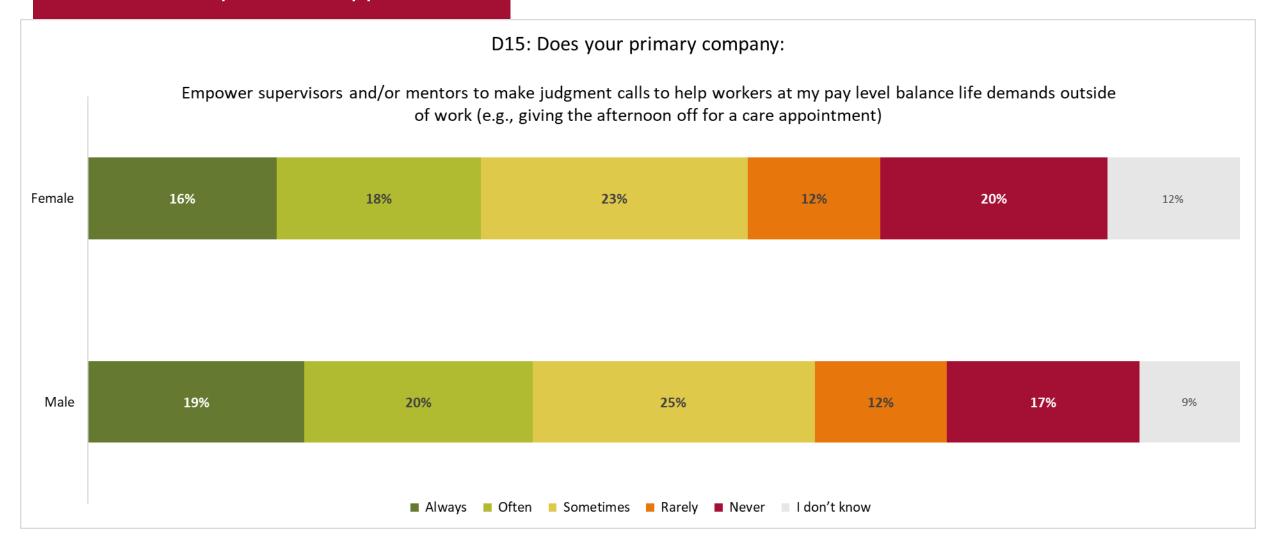


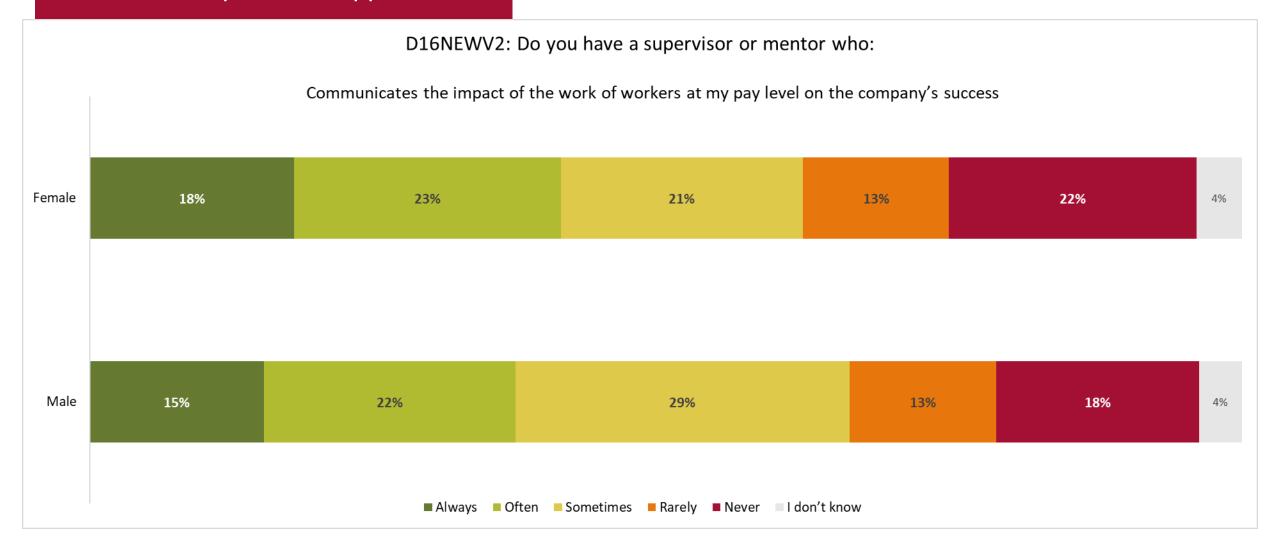
#### Section D Benefits

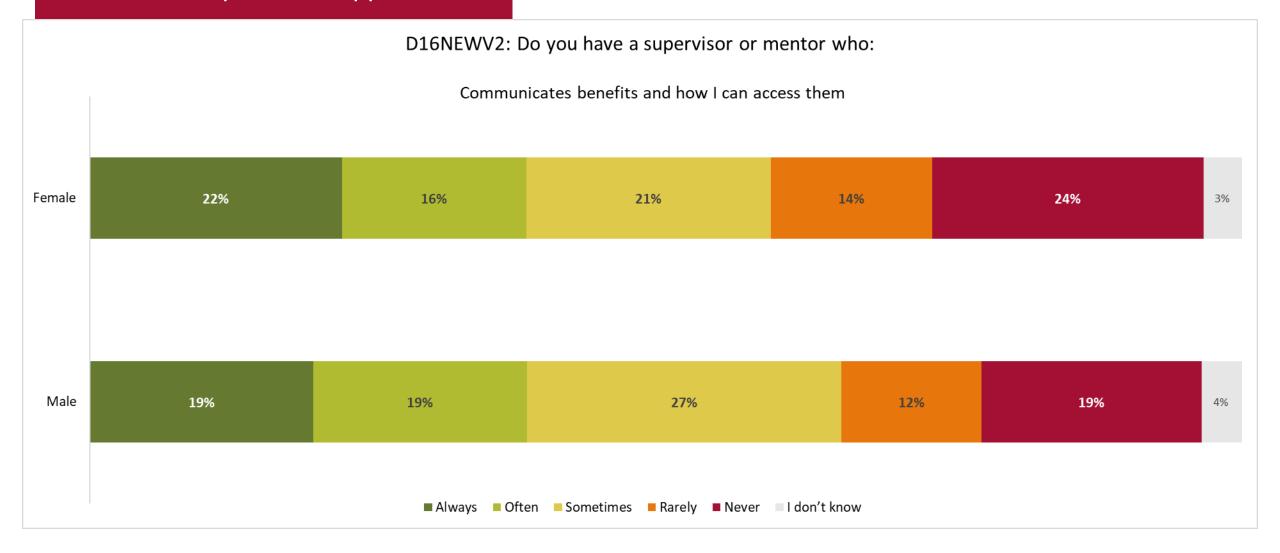


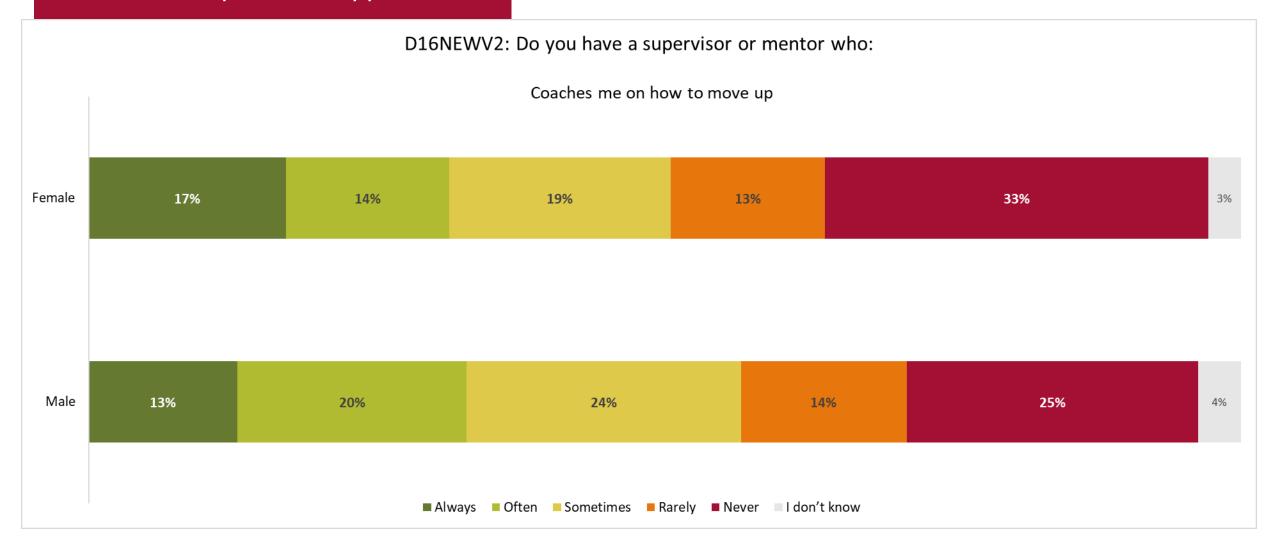


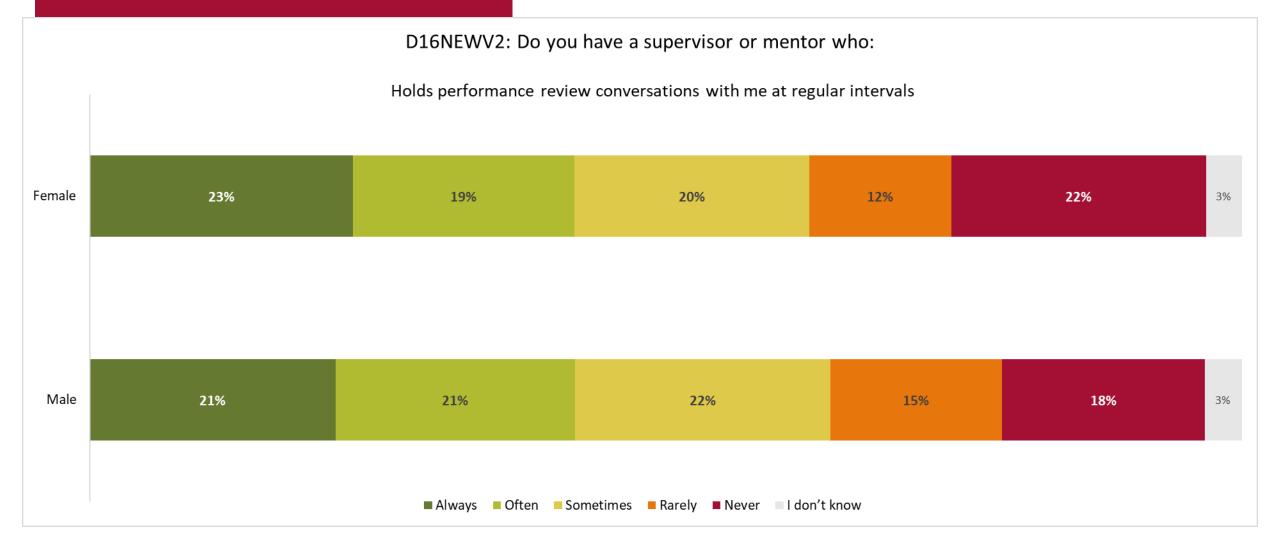




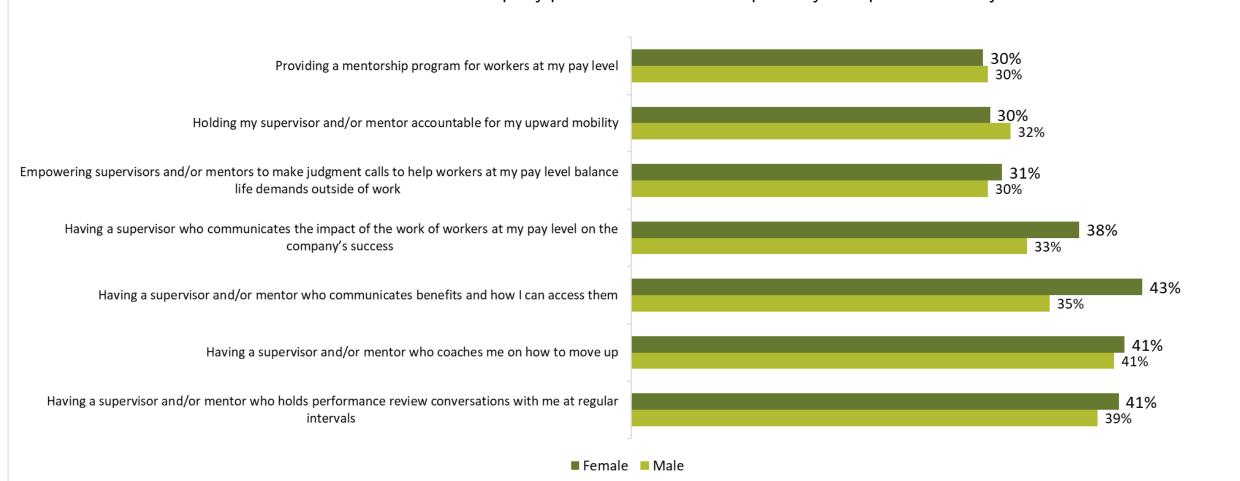


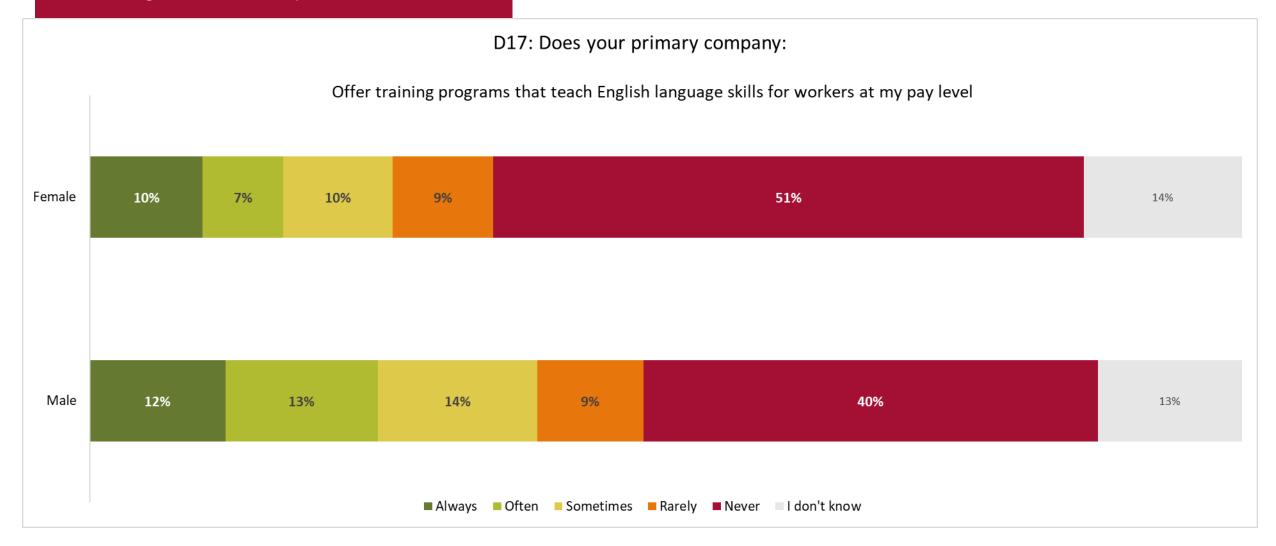


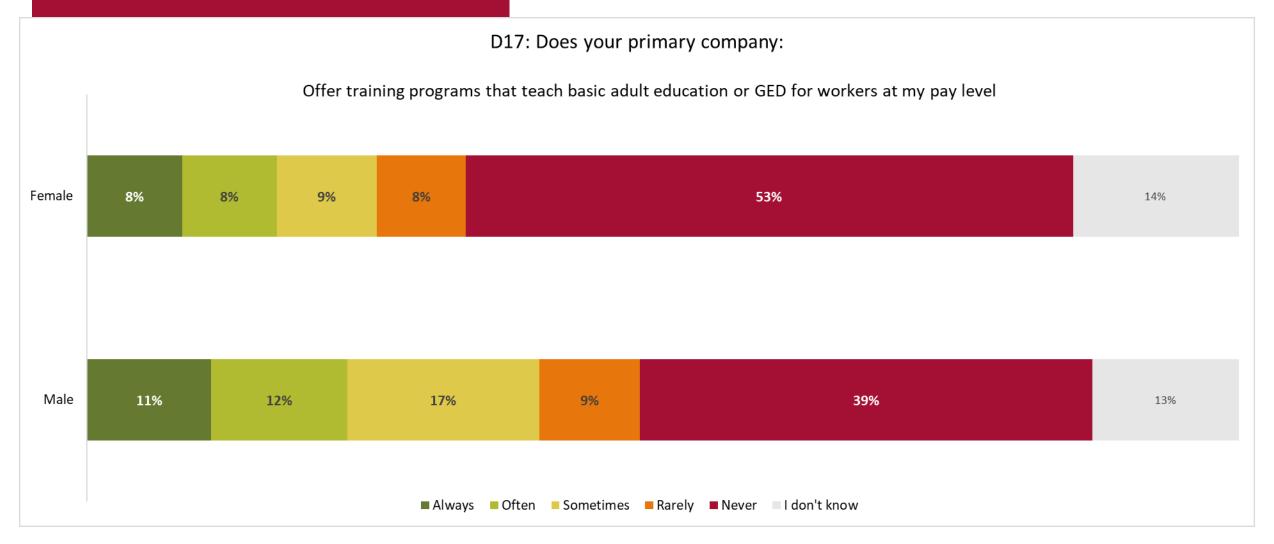


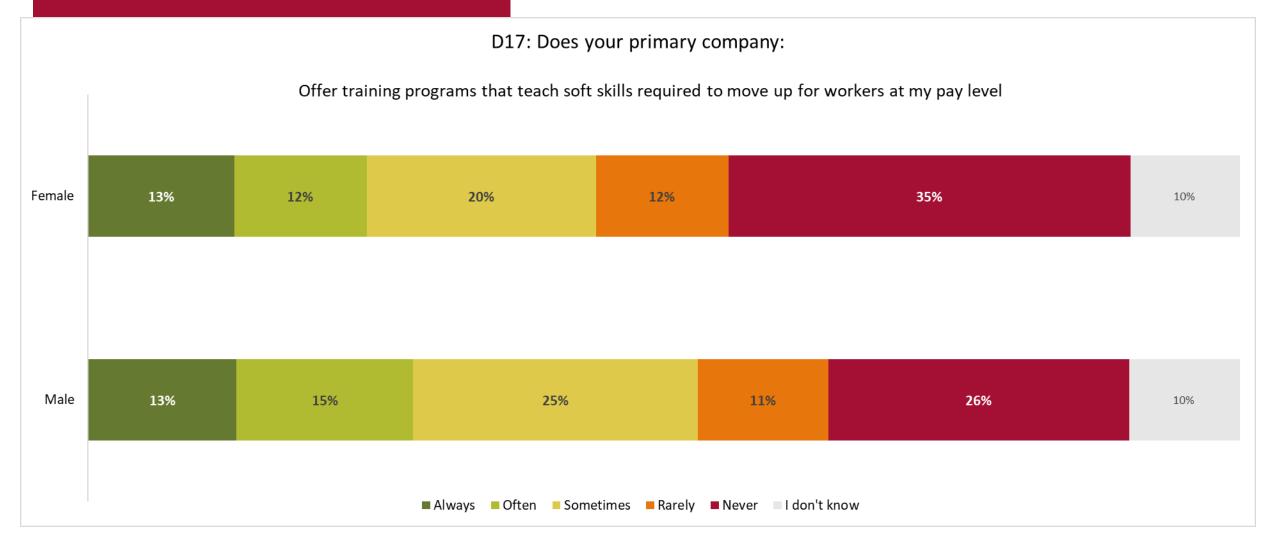


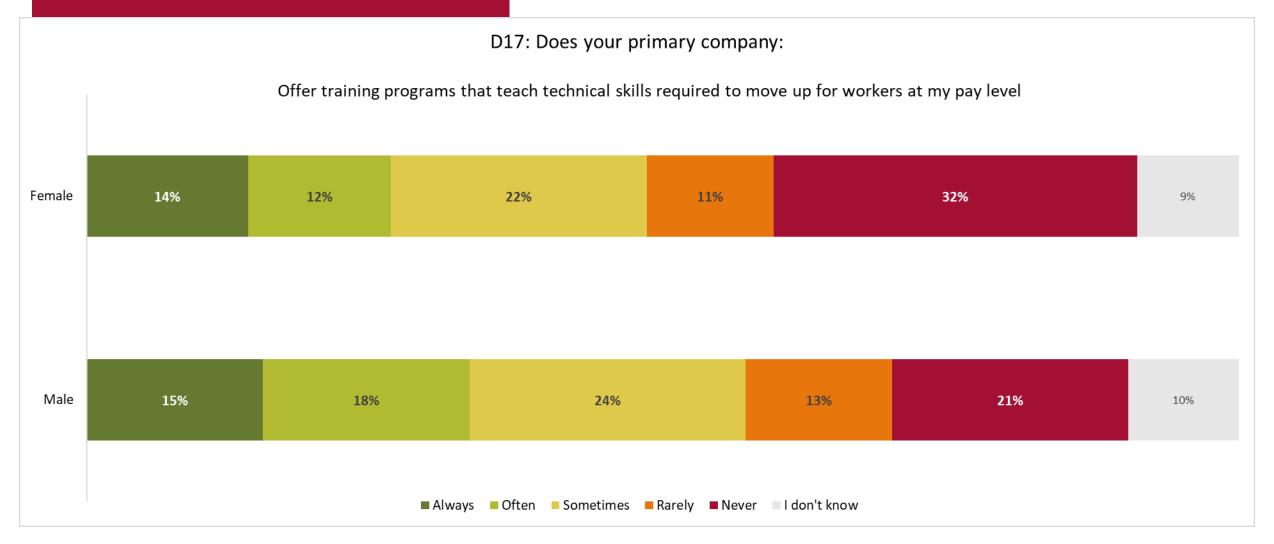


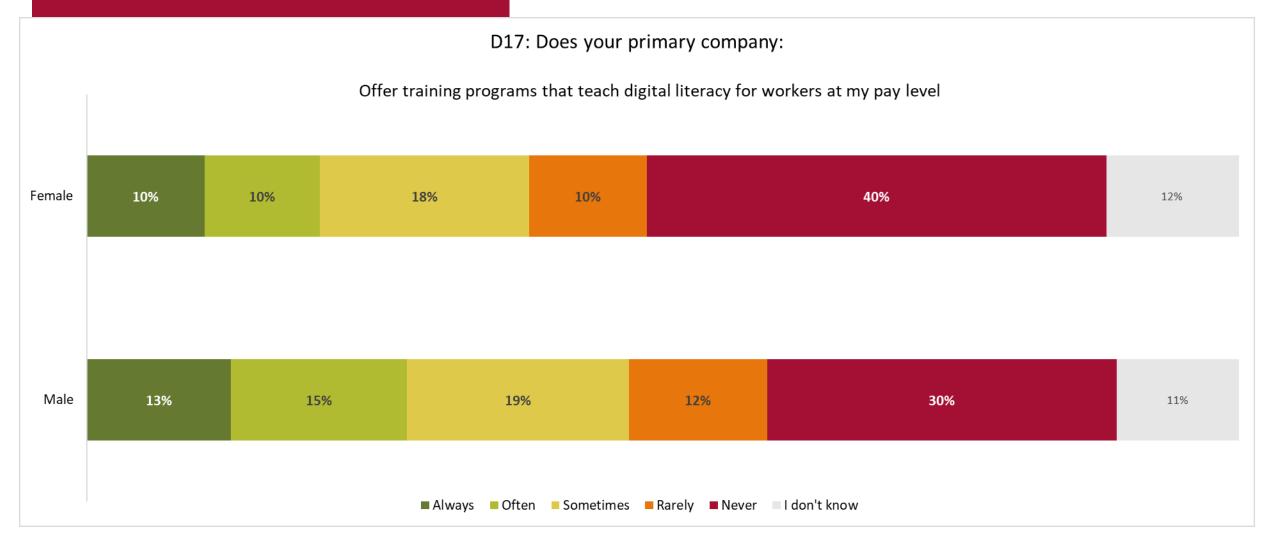


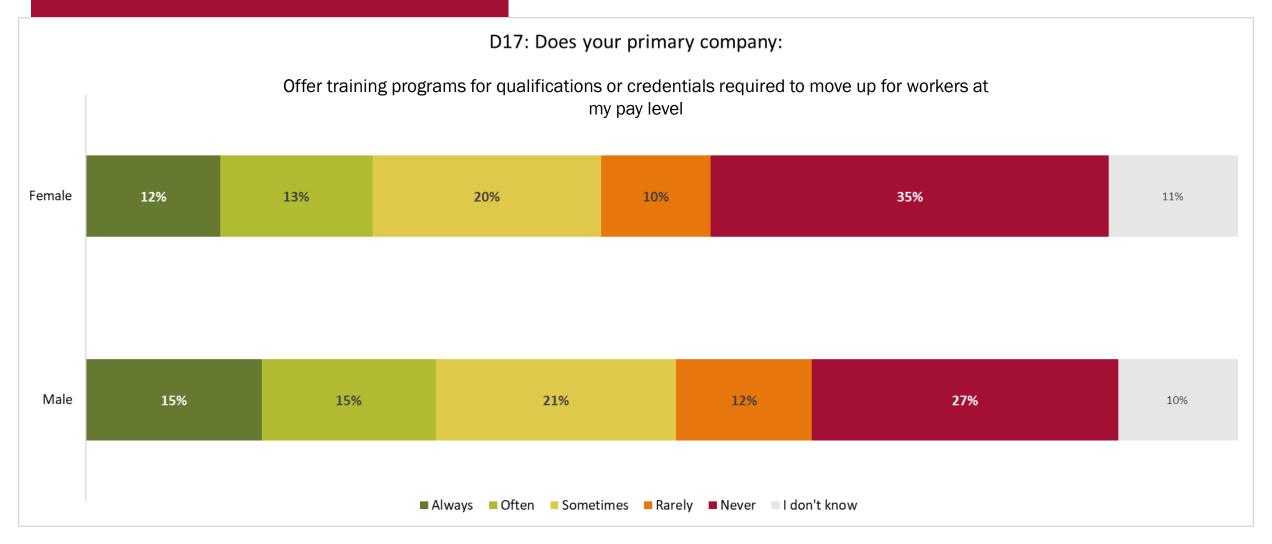


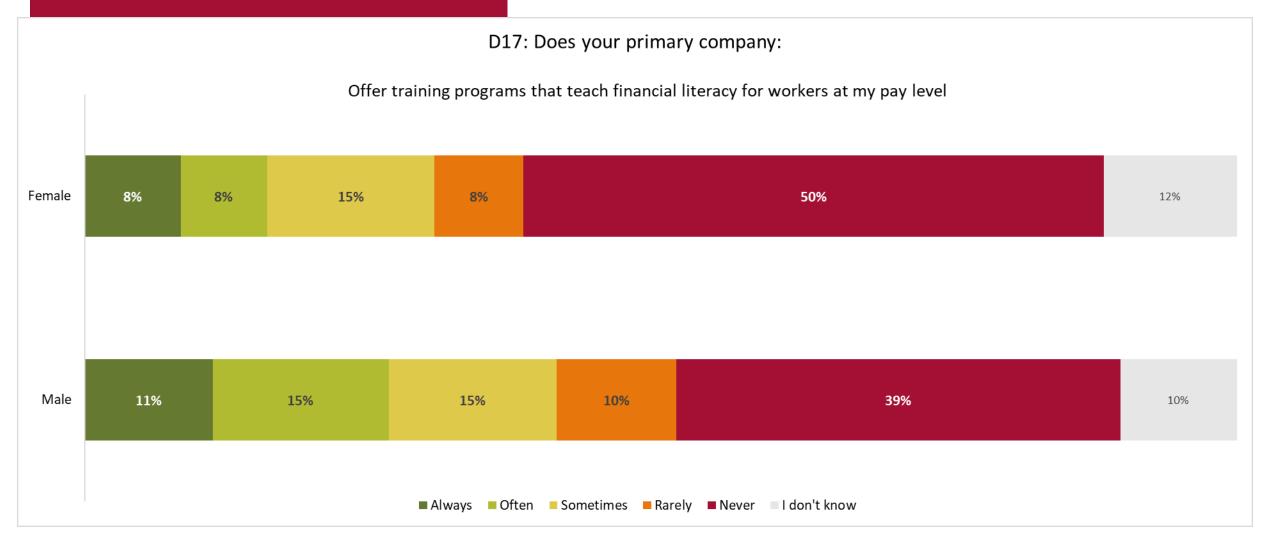


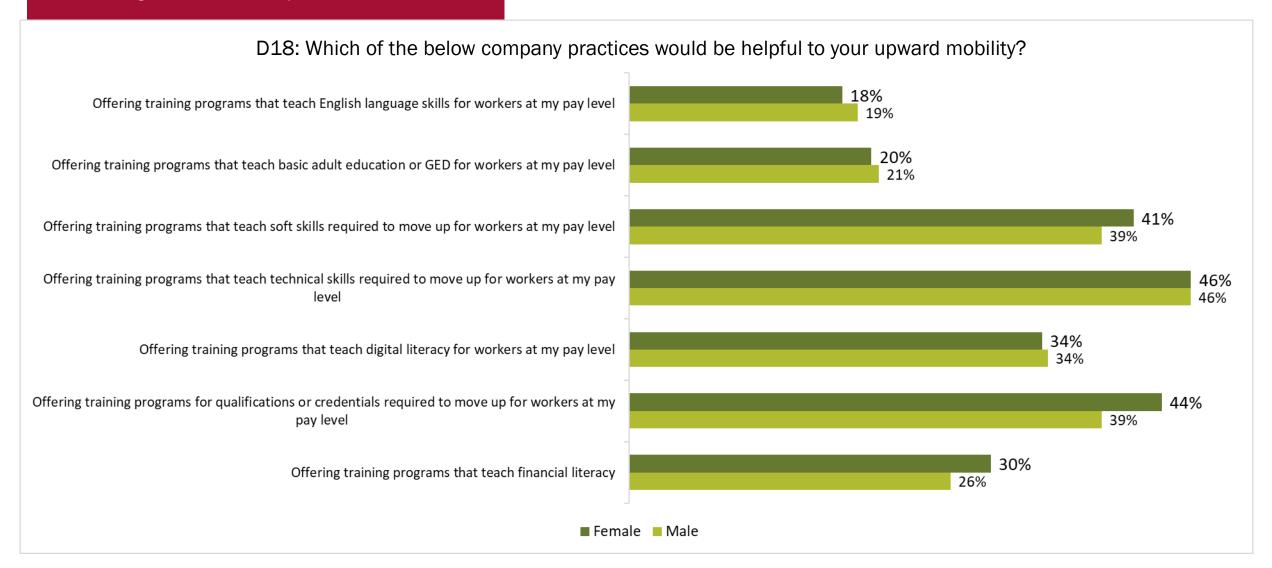


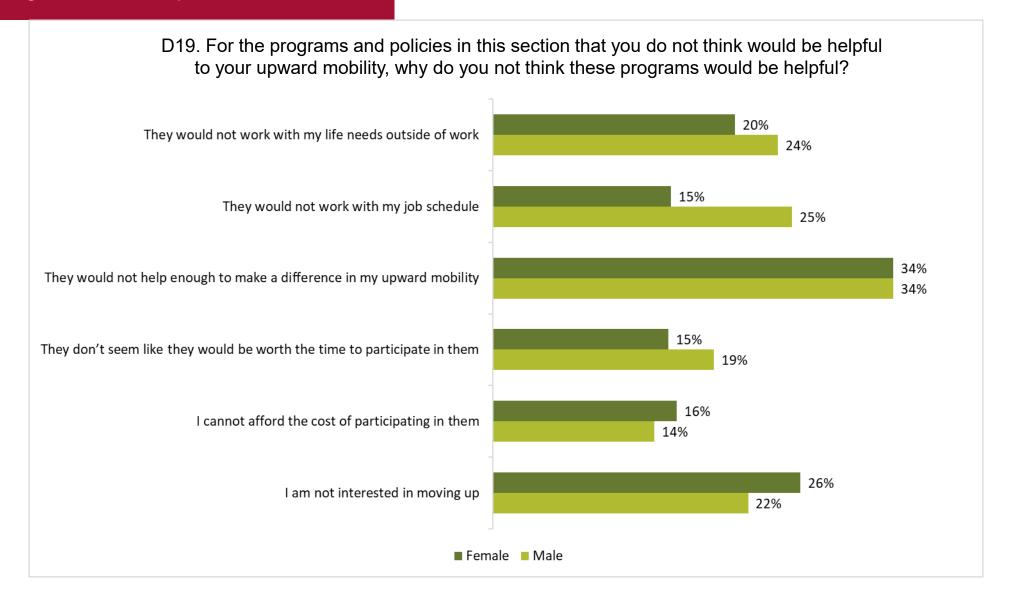


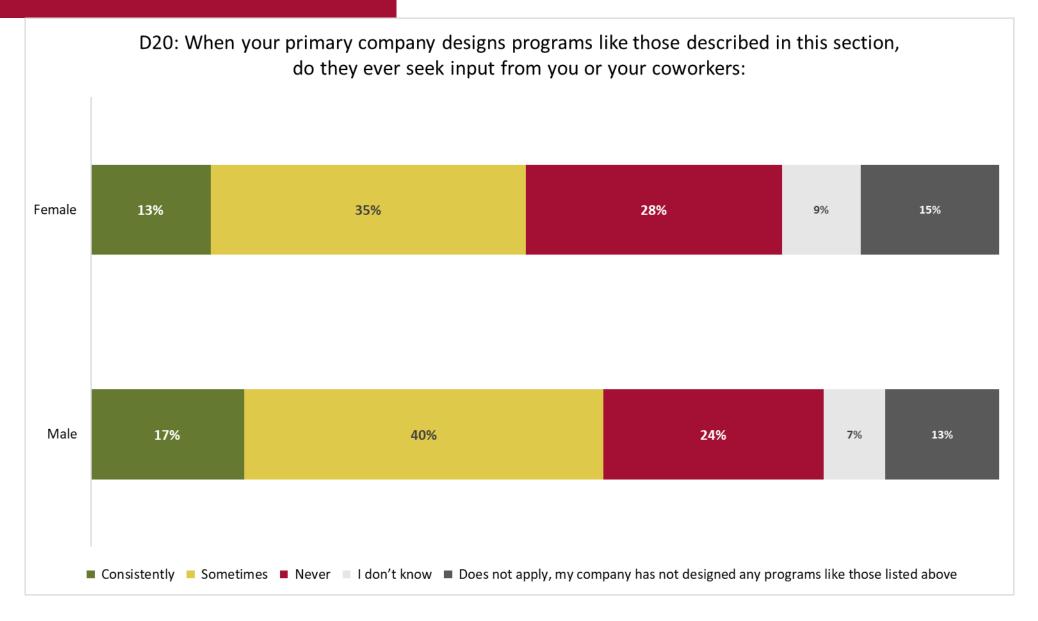


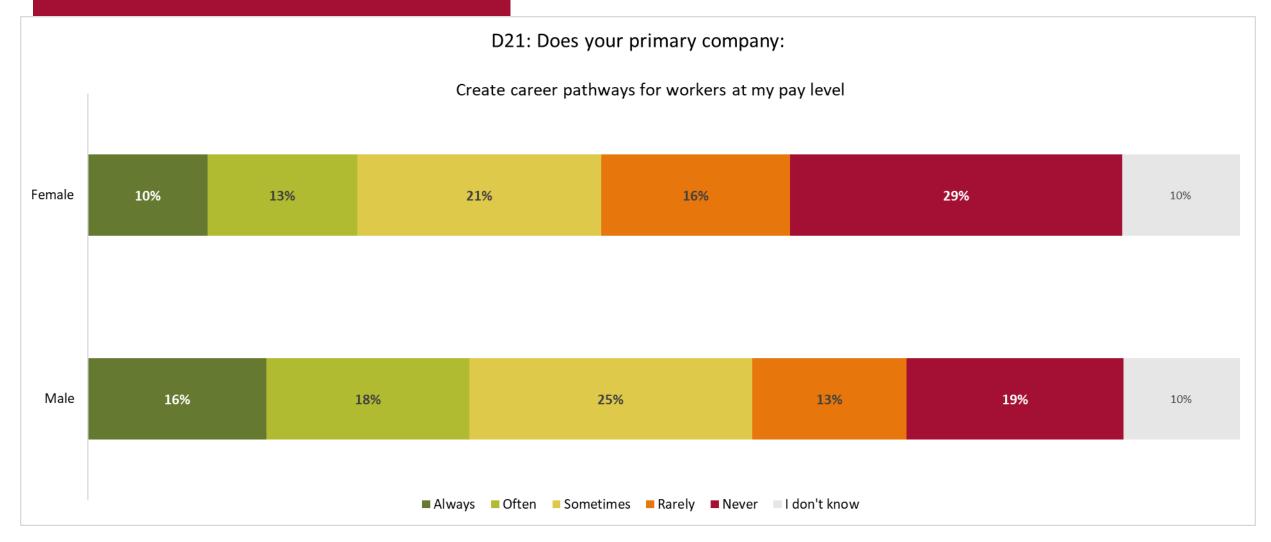


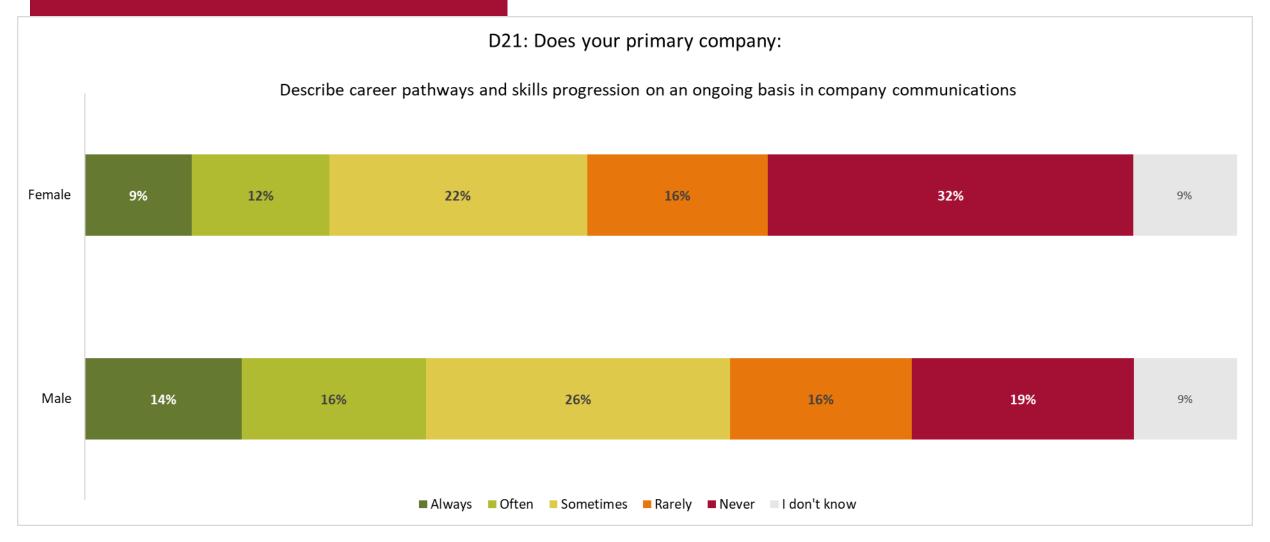


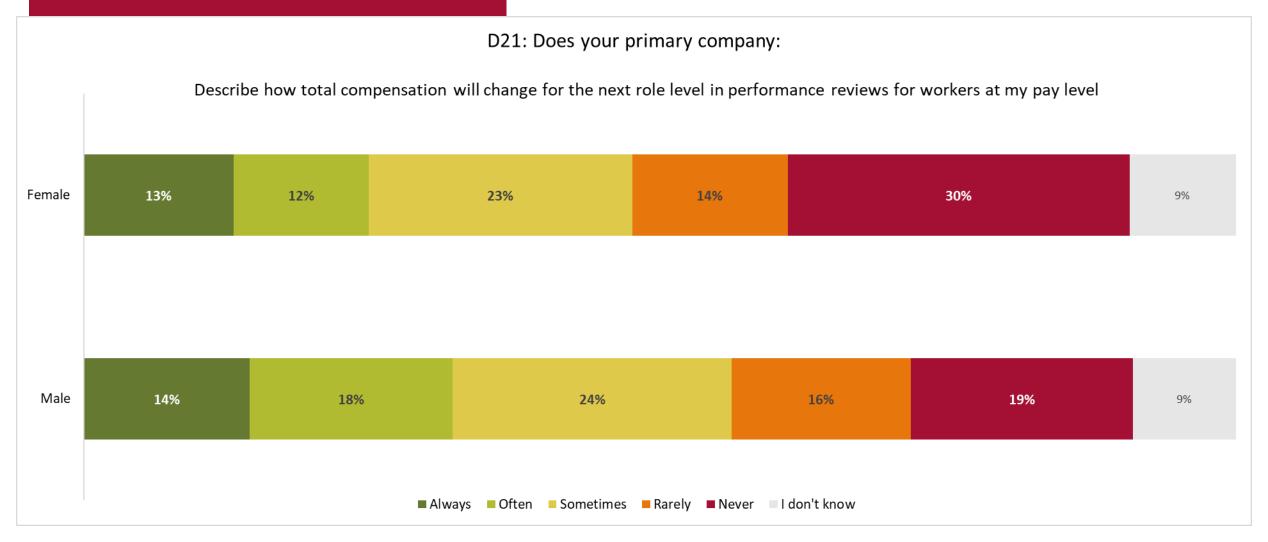


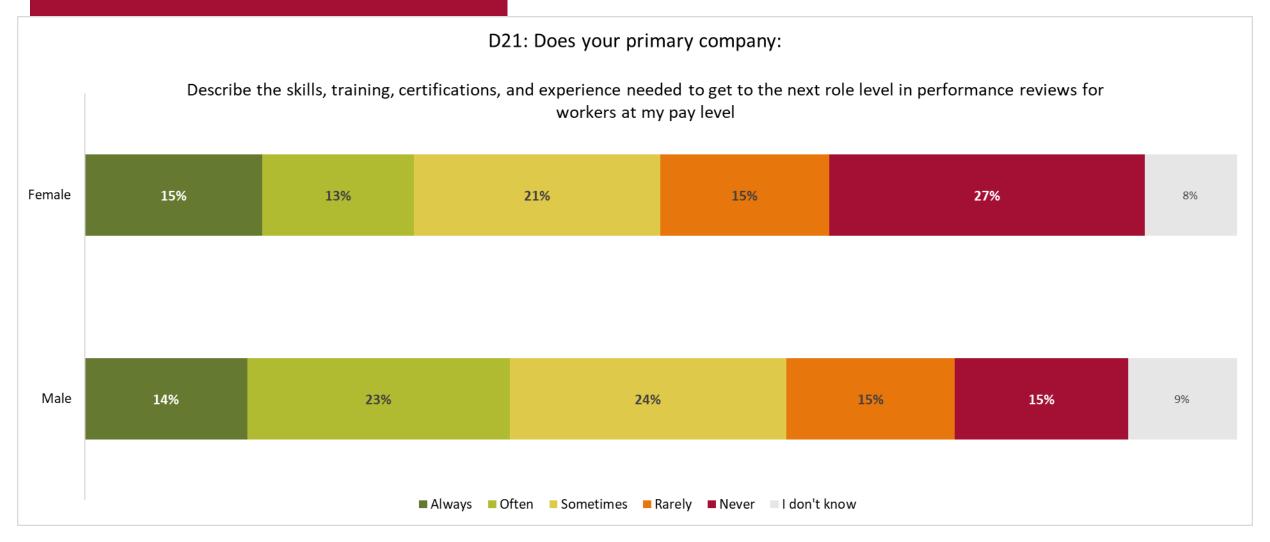


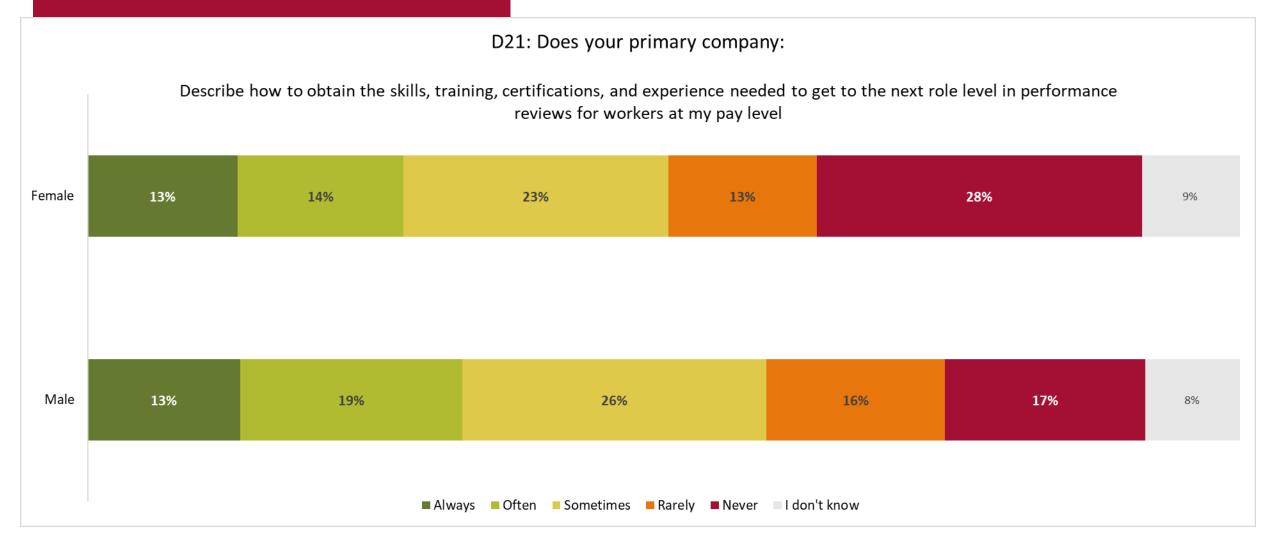


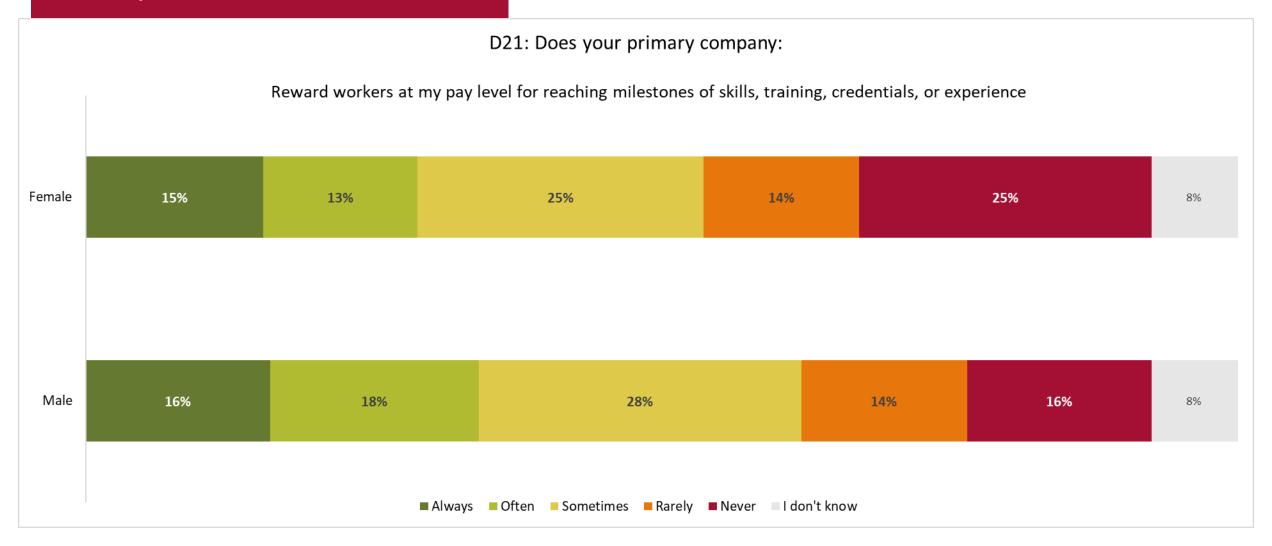


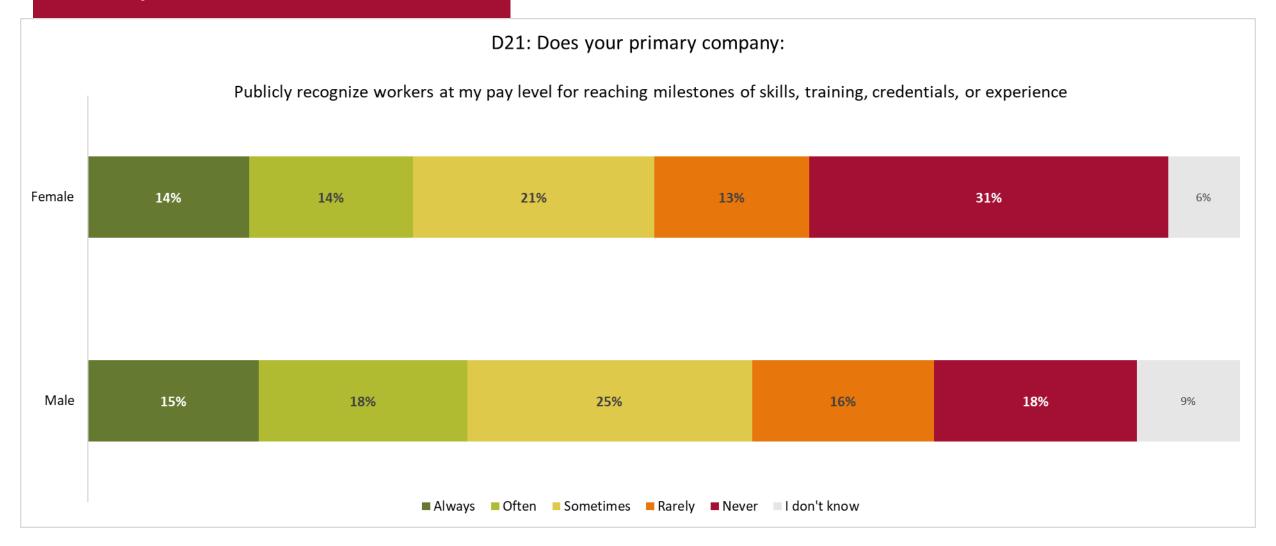


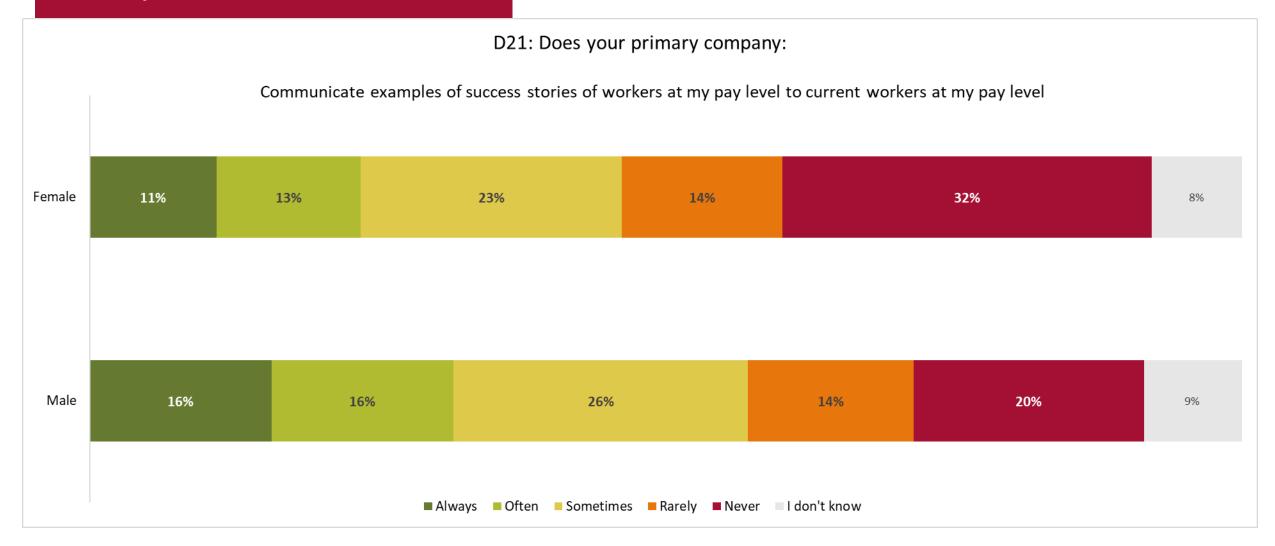


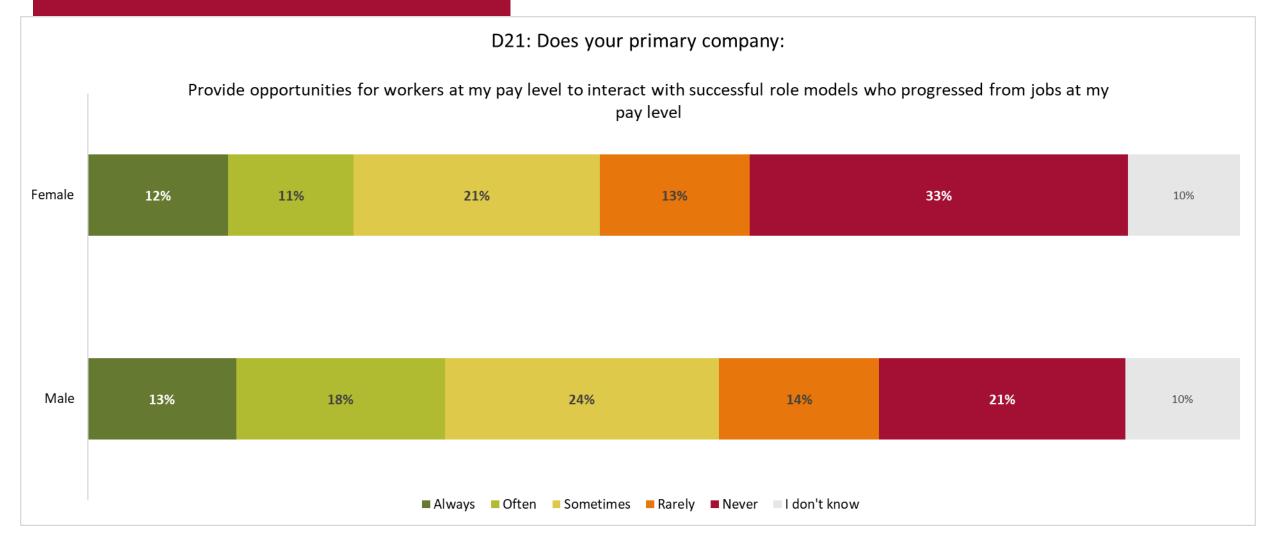






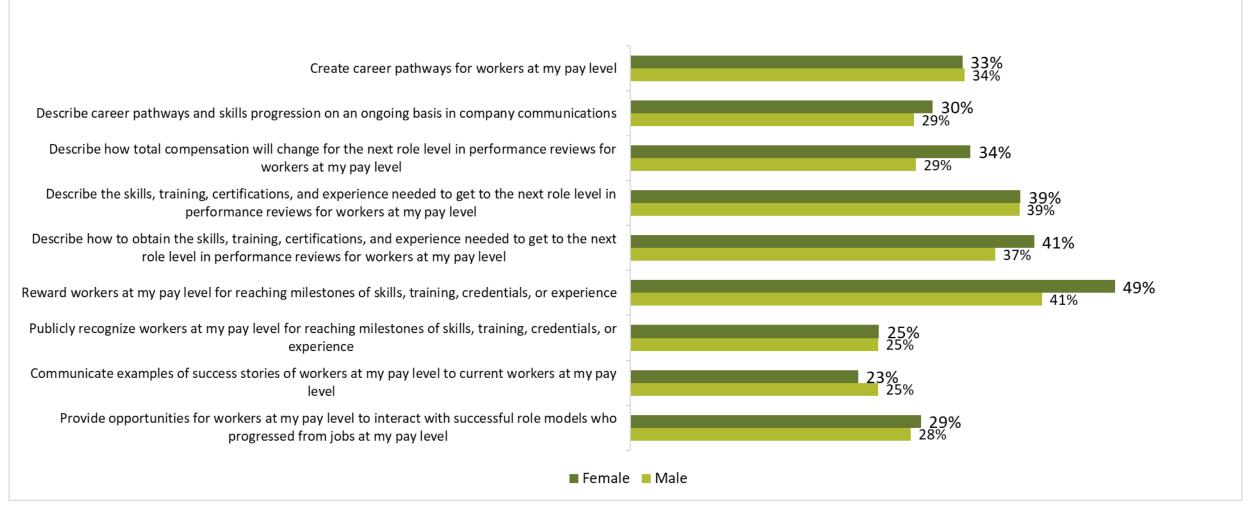


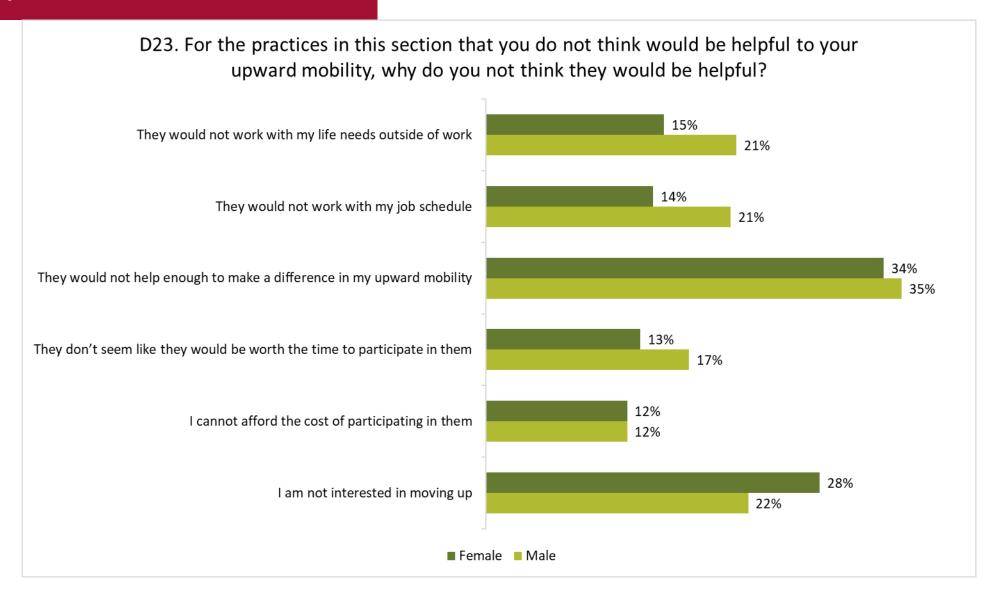


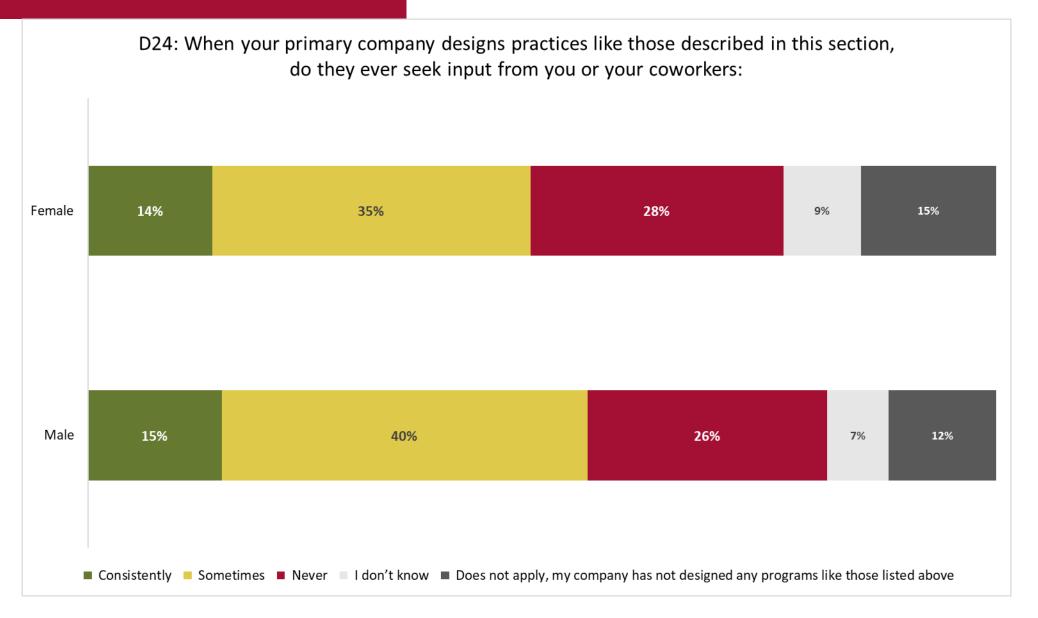


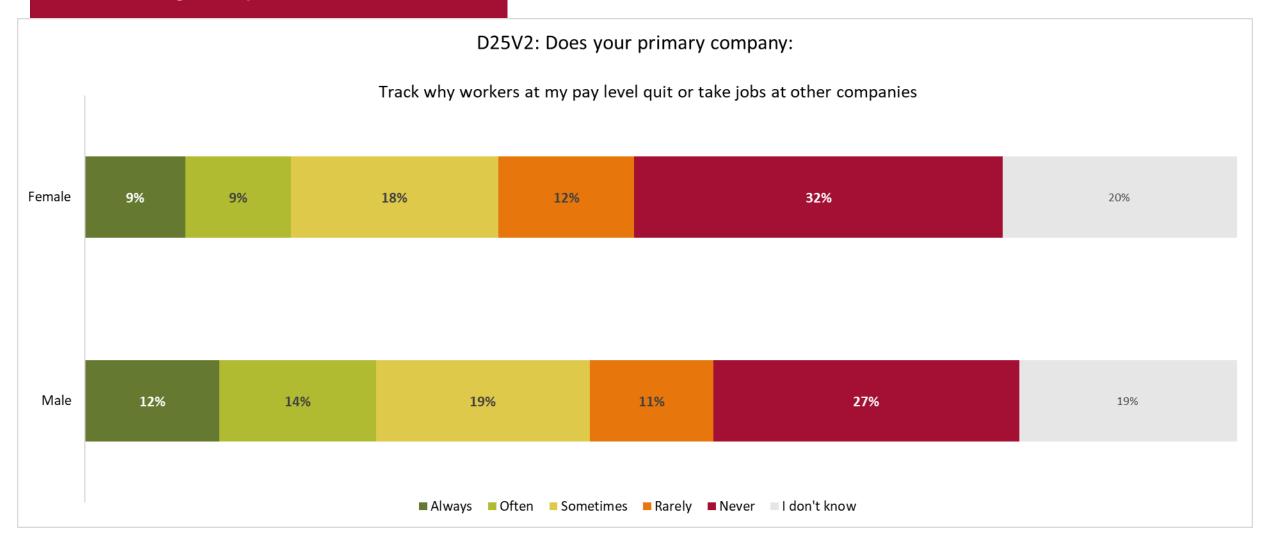
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

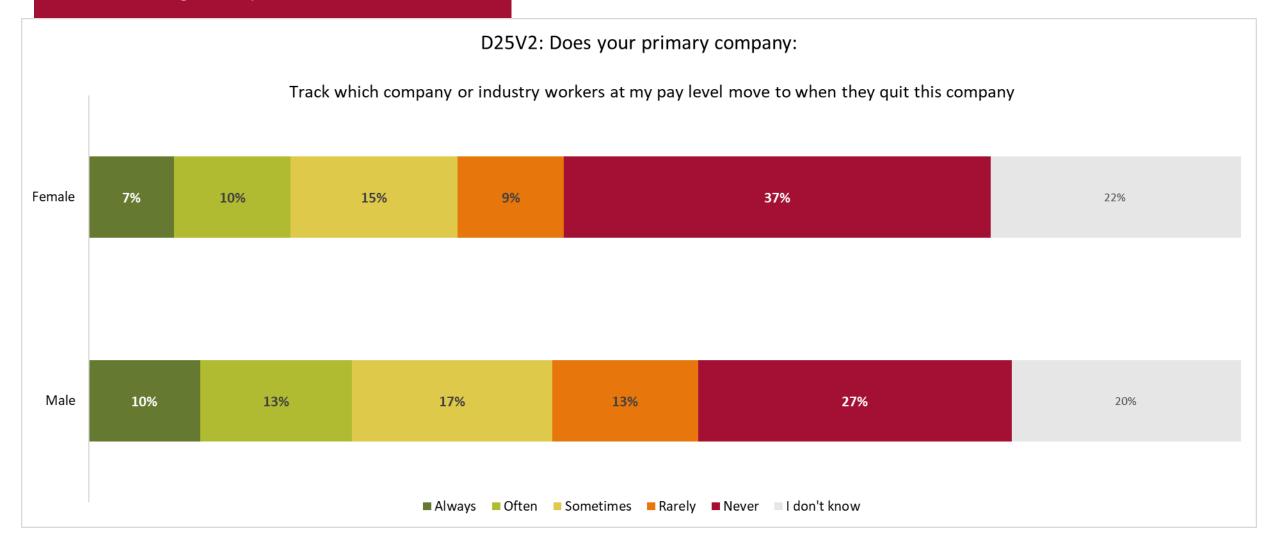
#### D22: Which of the below company practices would be helpful to your upward mobility?

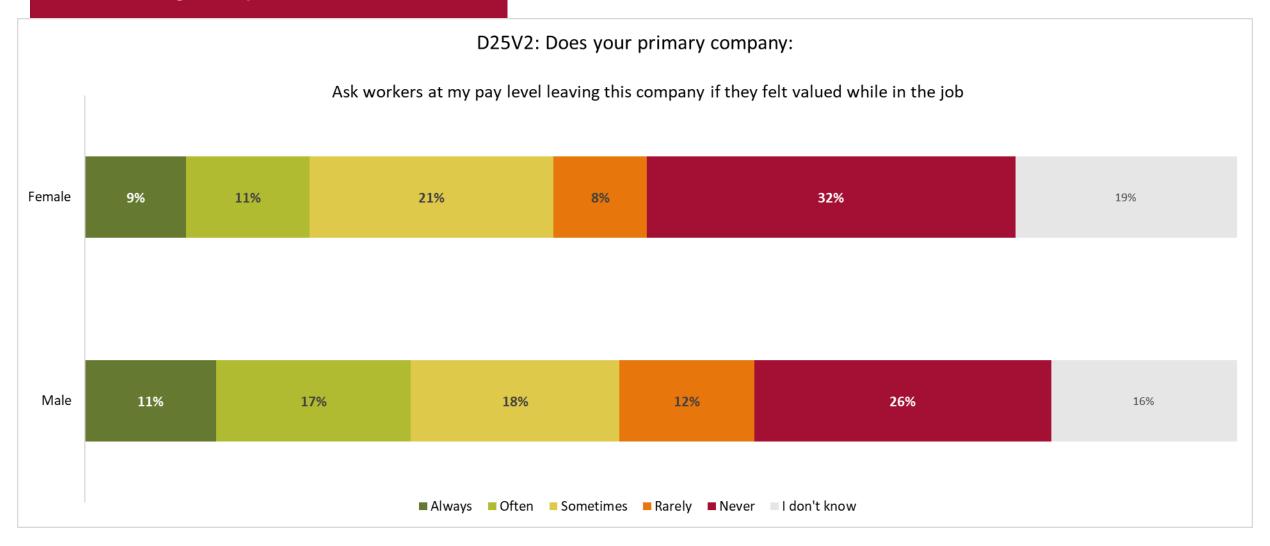


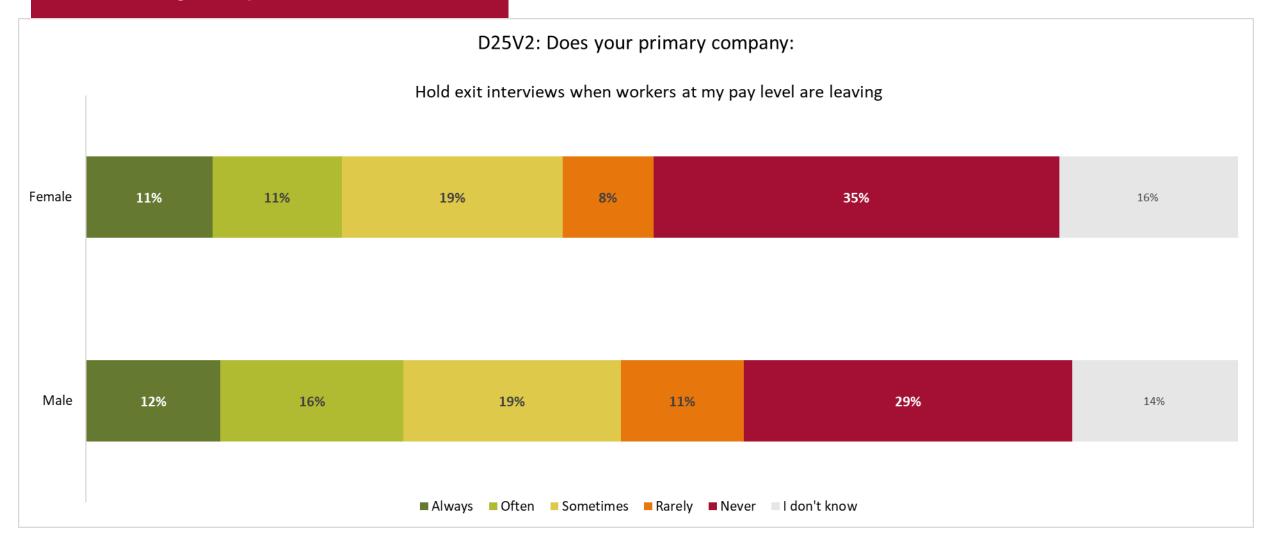




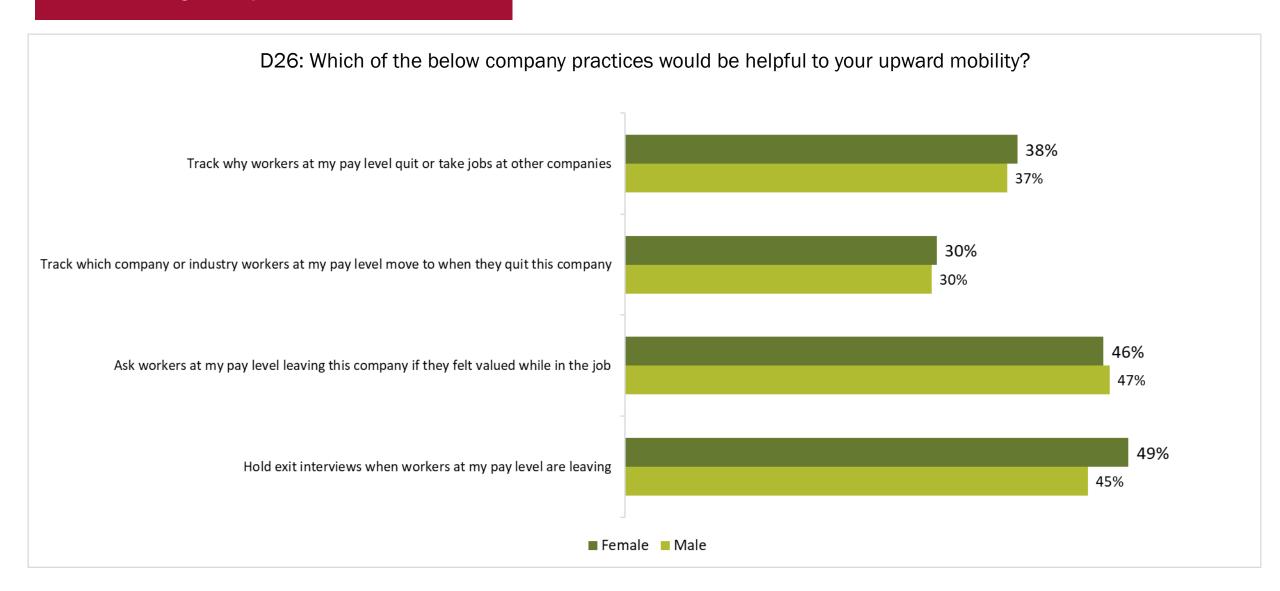




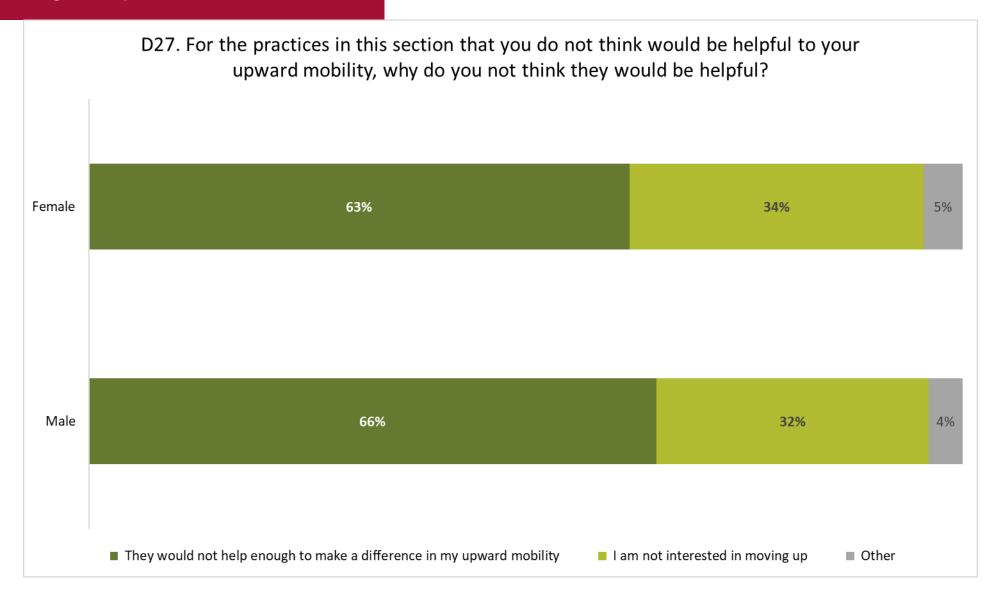


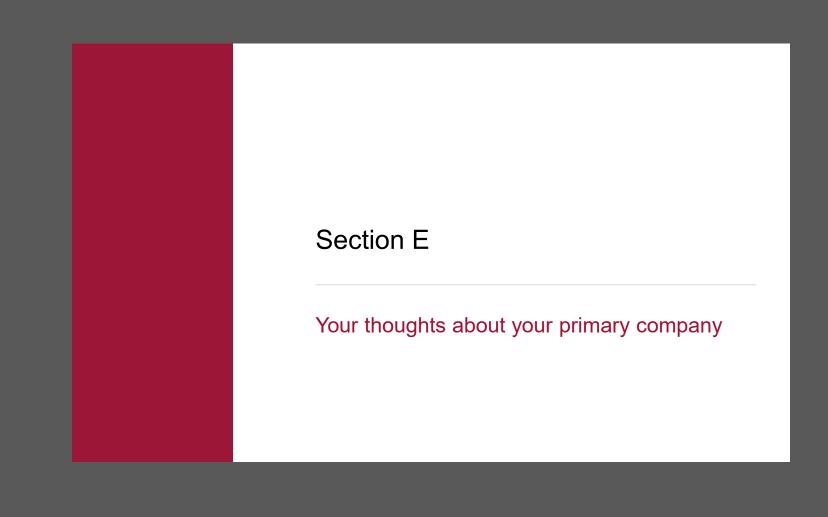


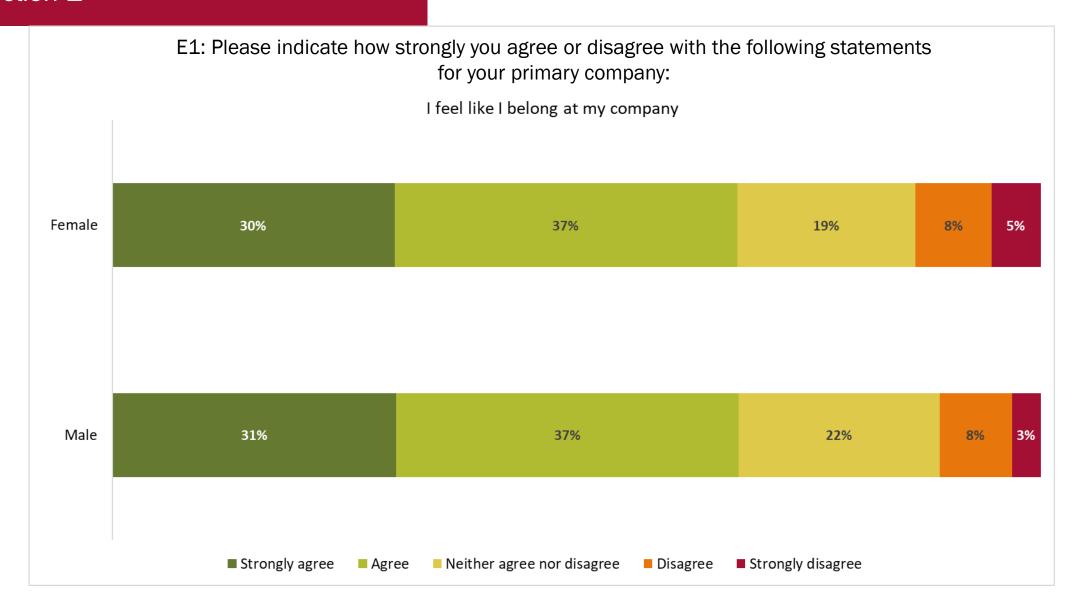
## Section D Offboarding and post-exit

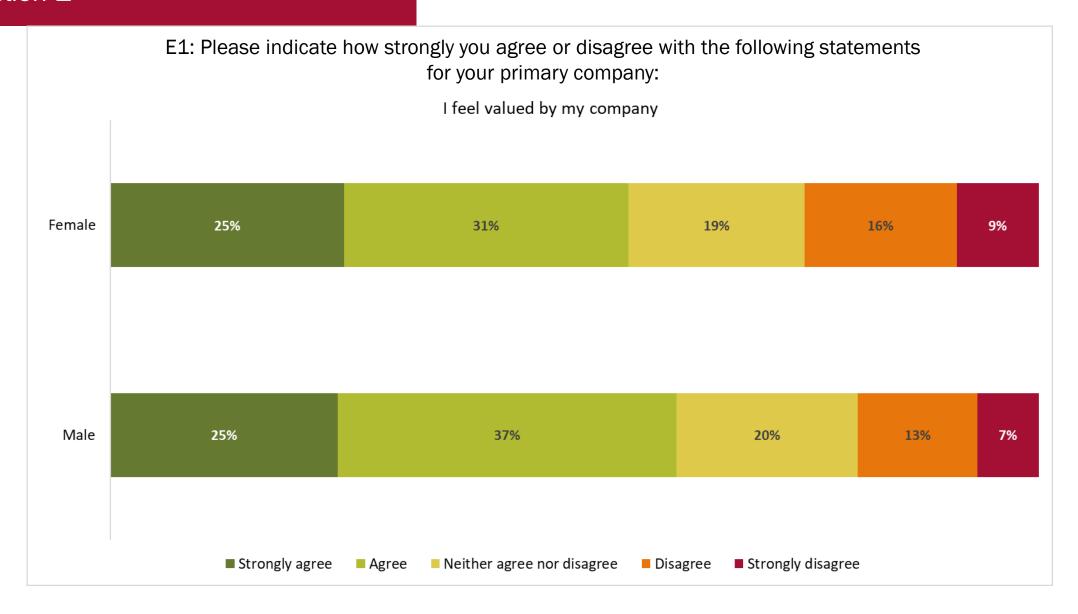


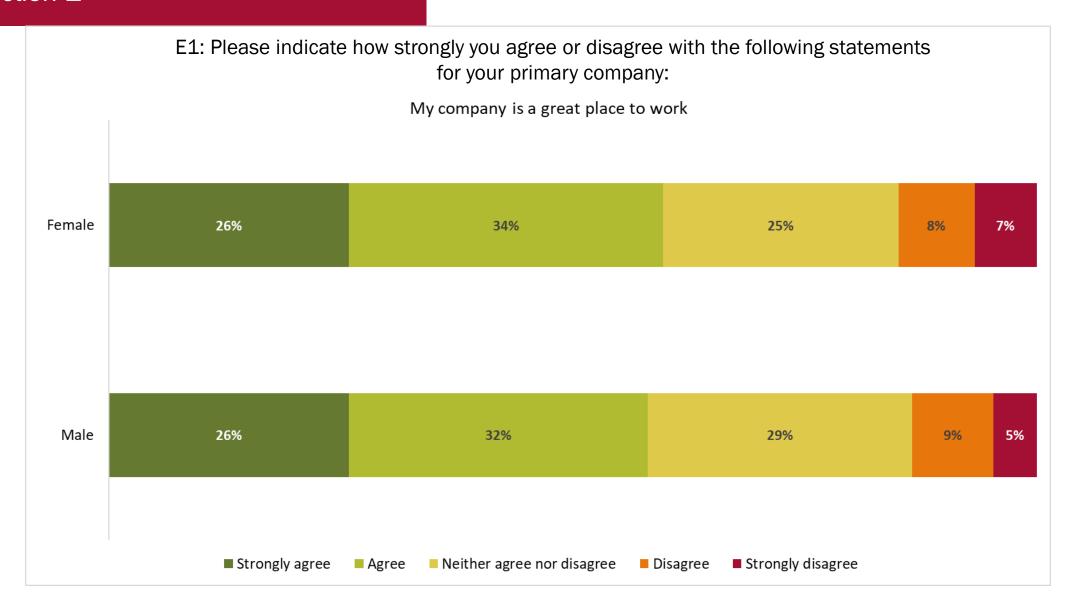
# Section D Offboarding and post-exit

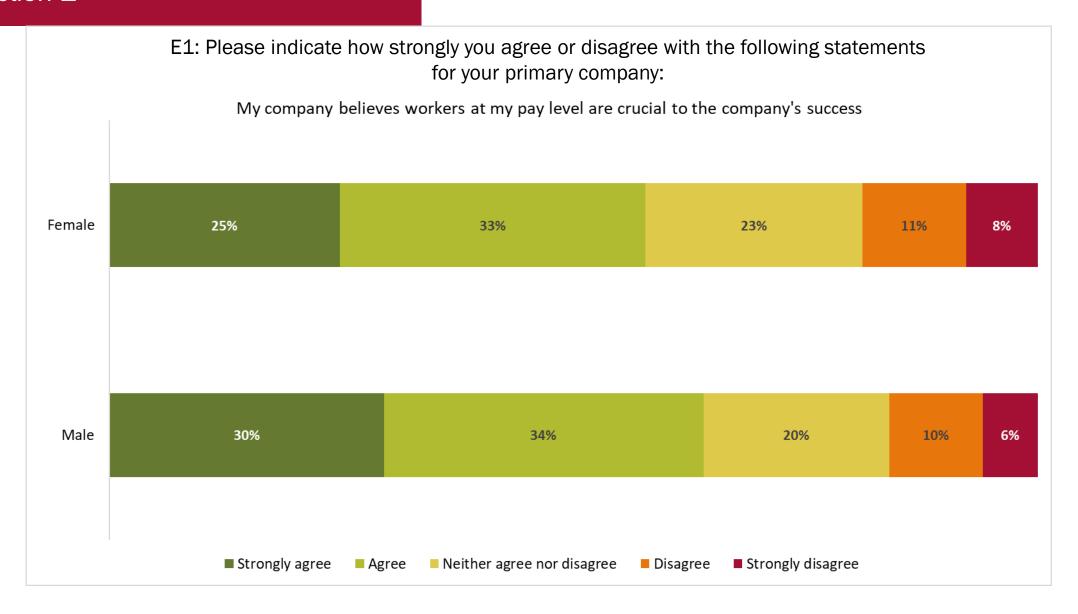


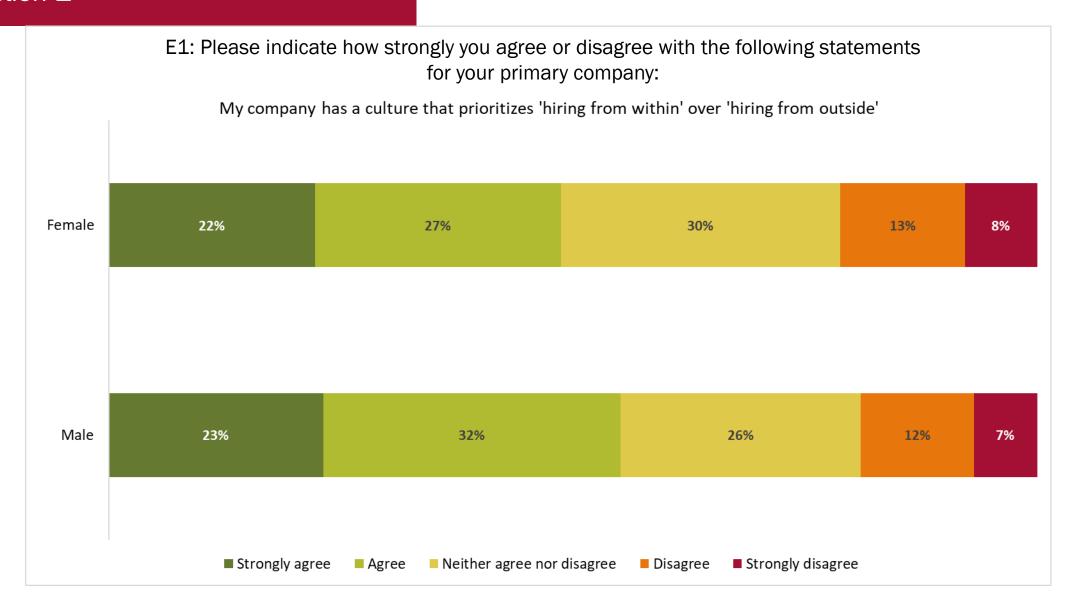


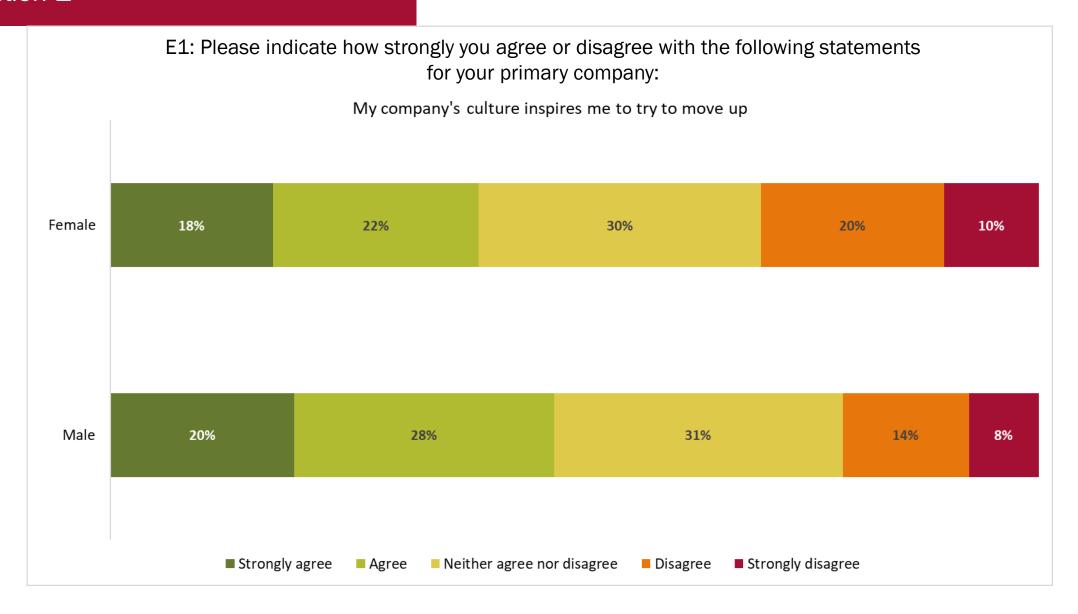


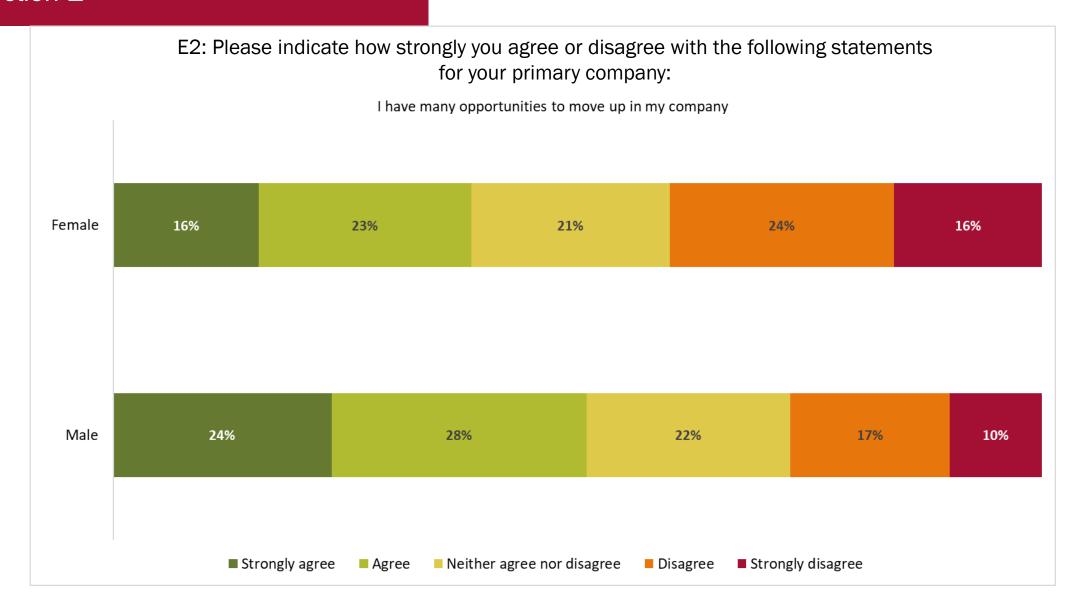


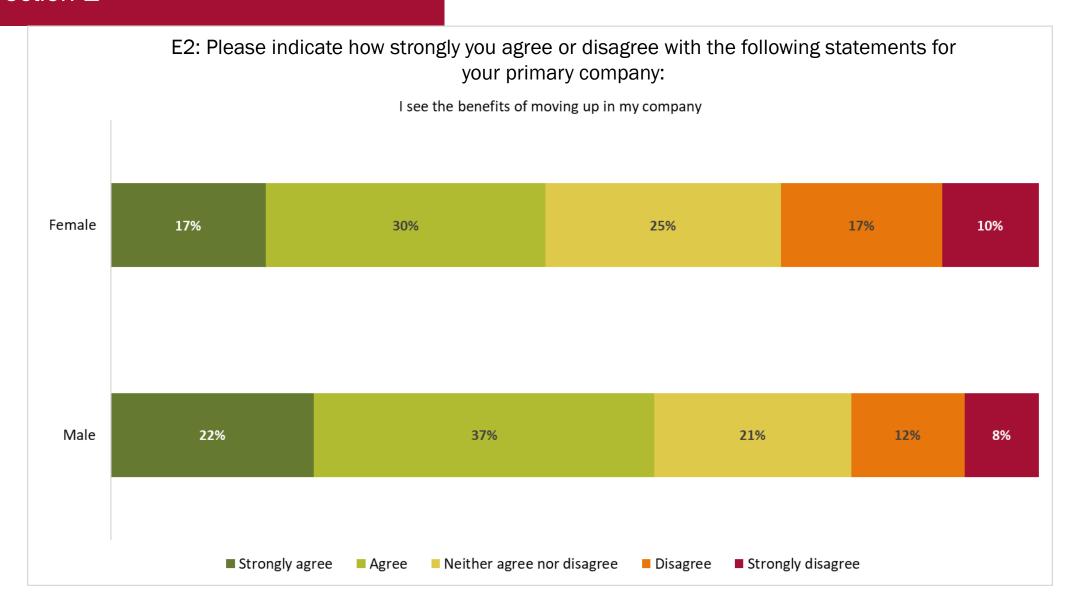


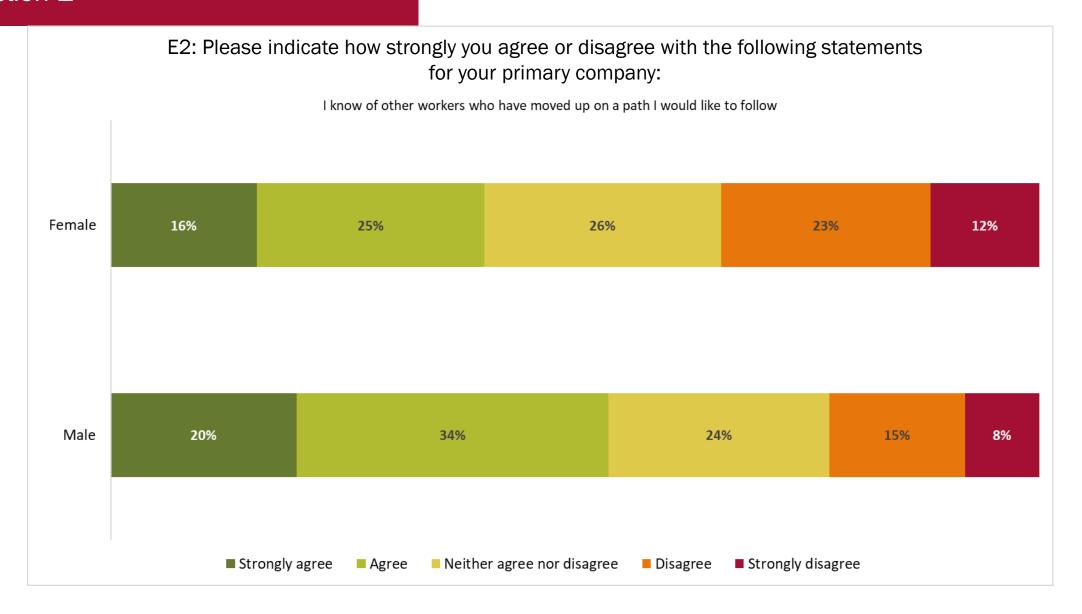


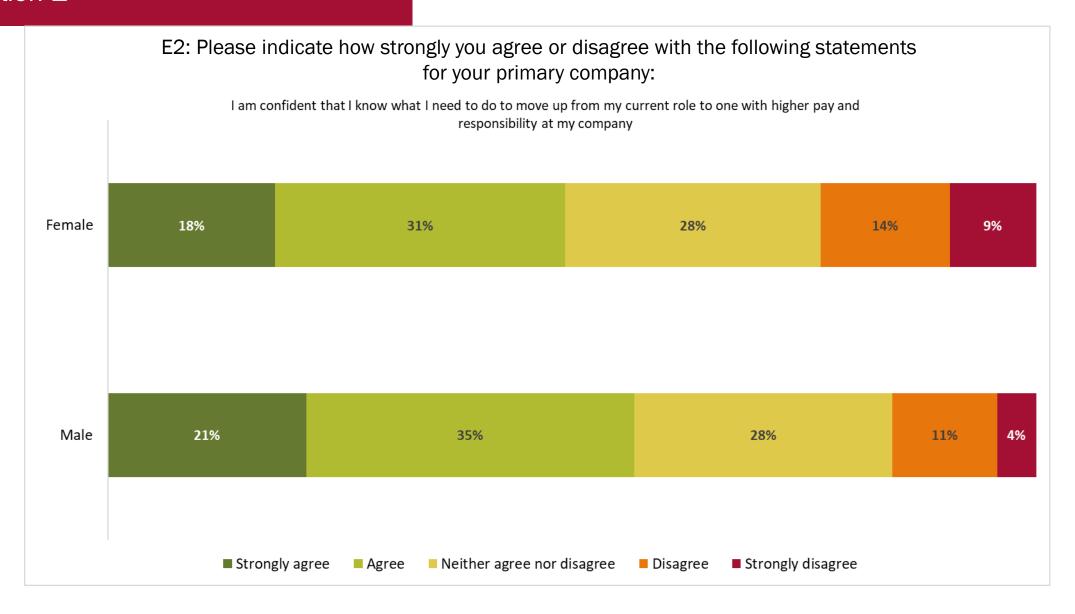


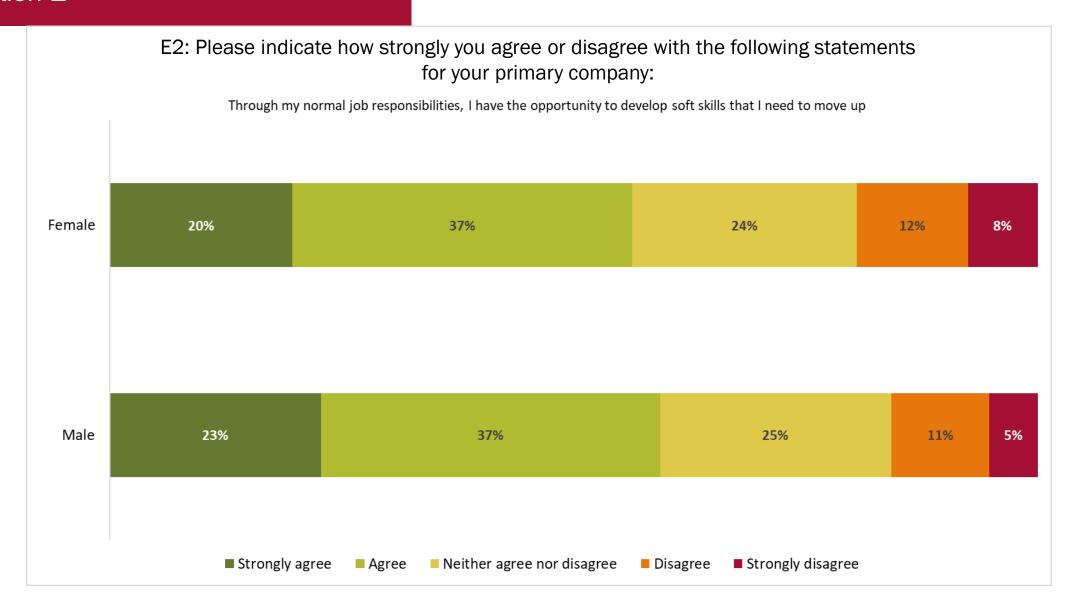


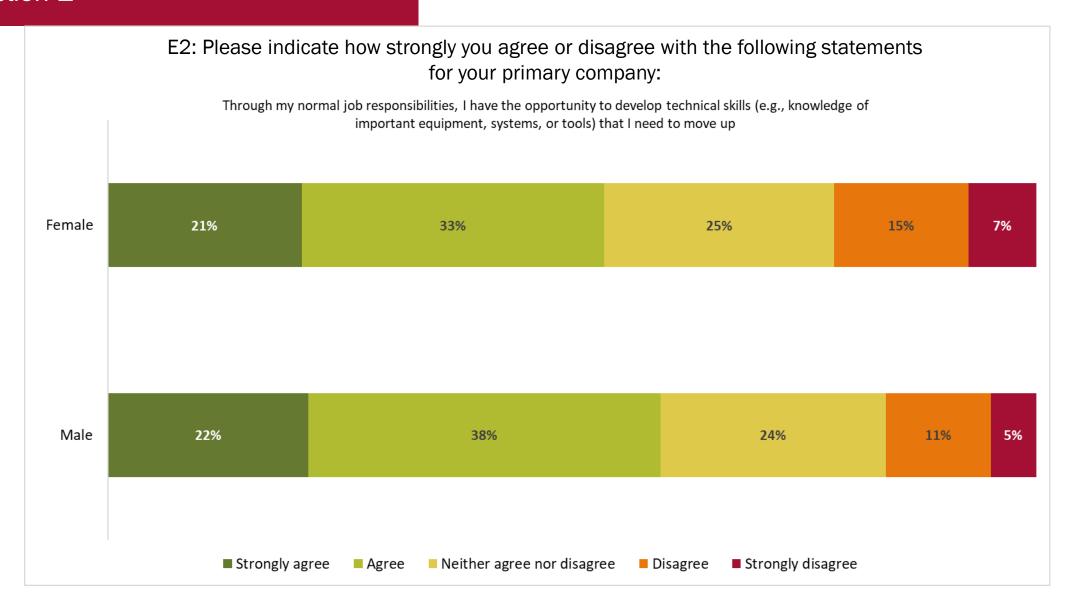


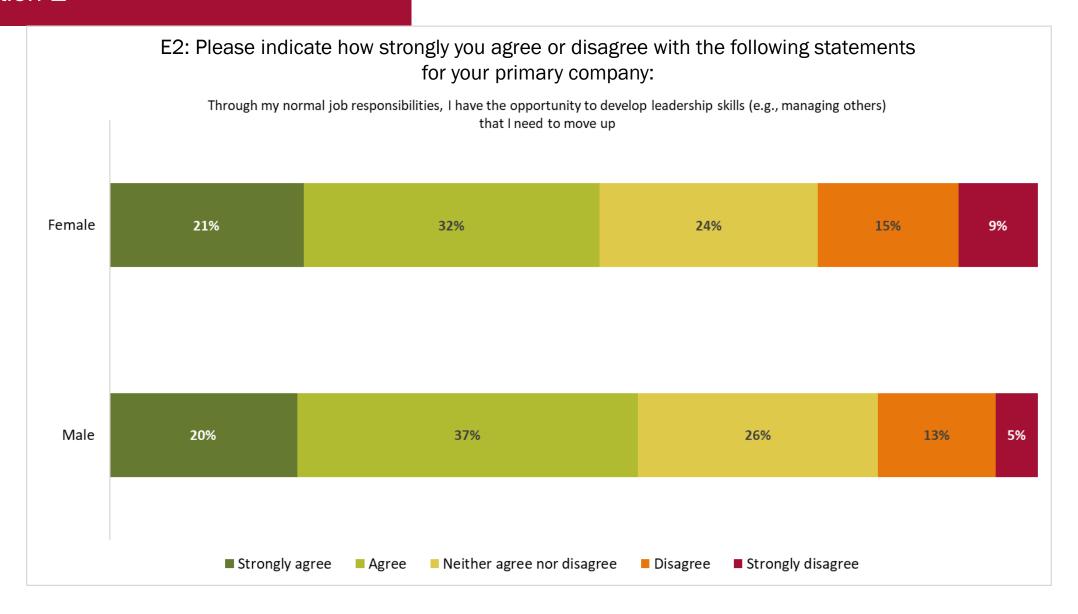


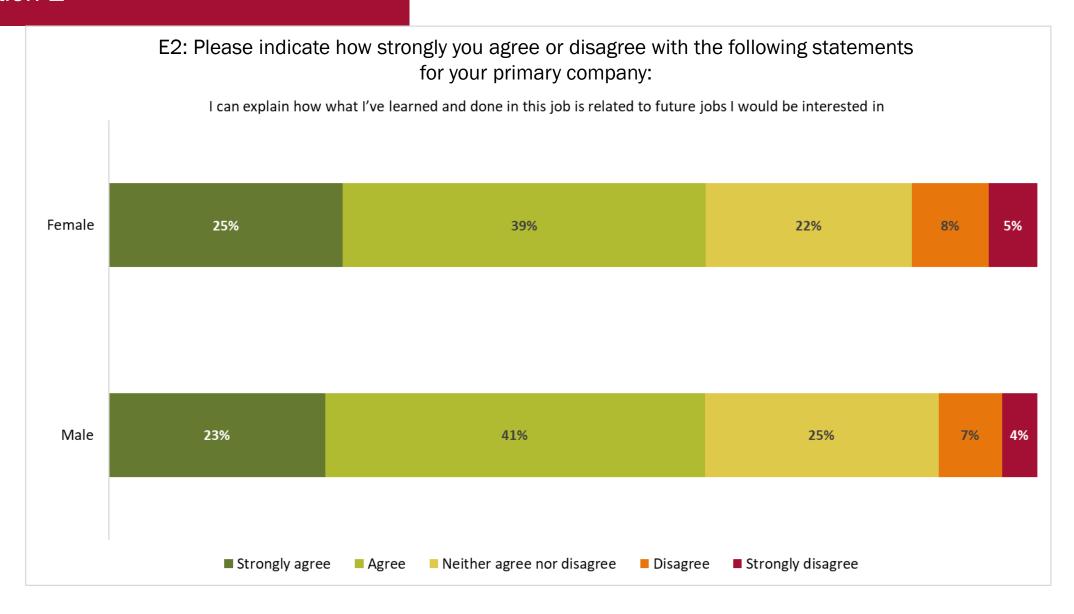




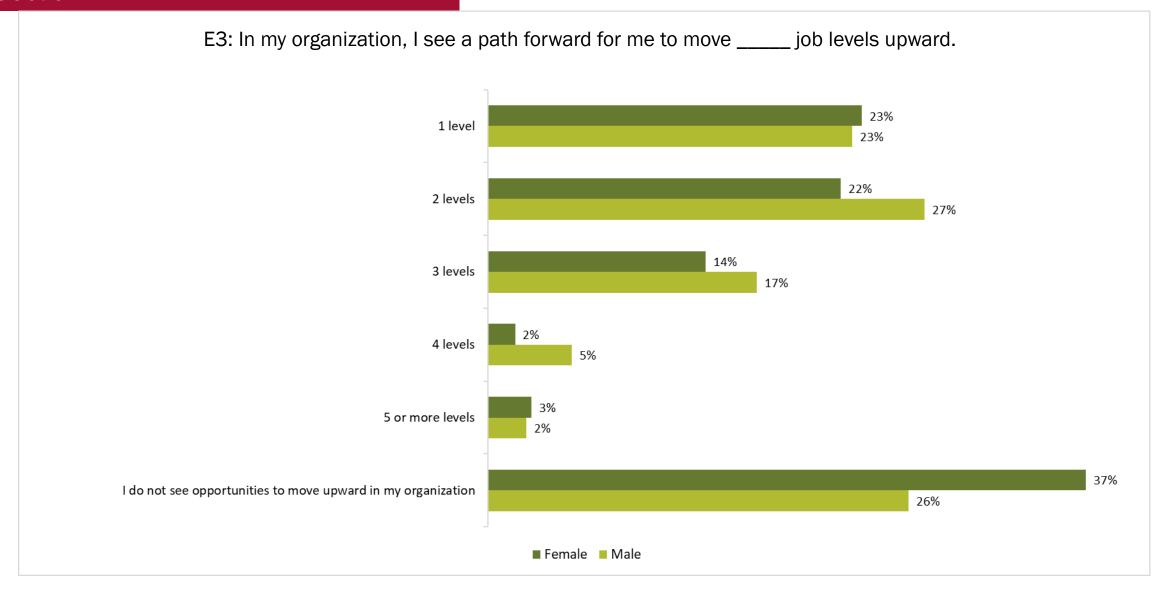








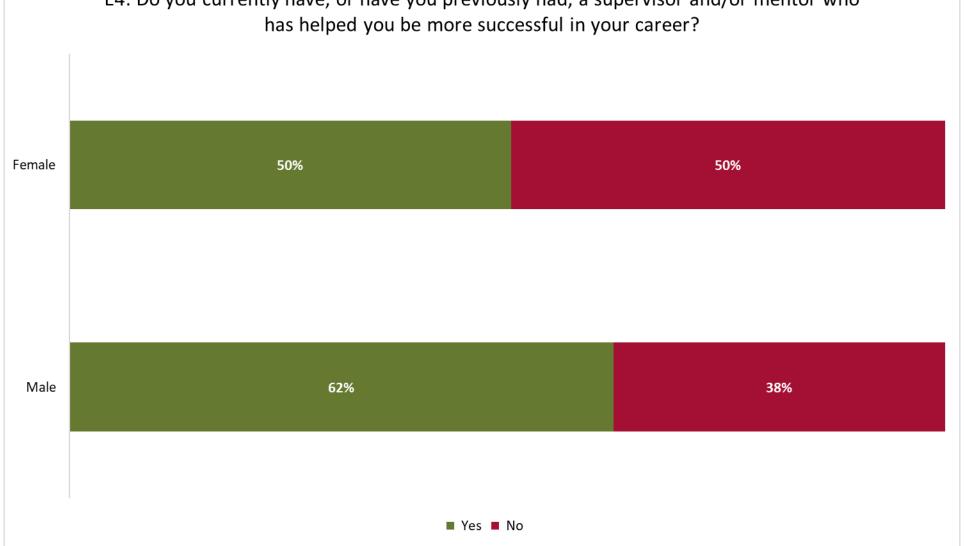
## Section E



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

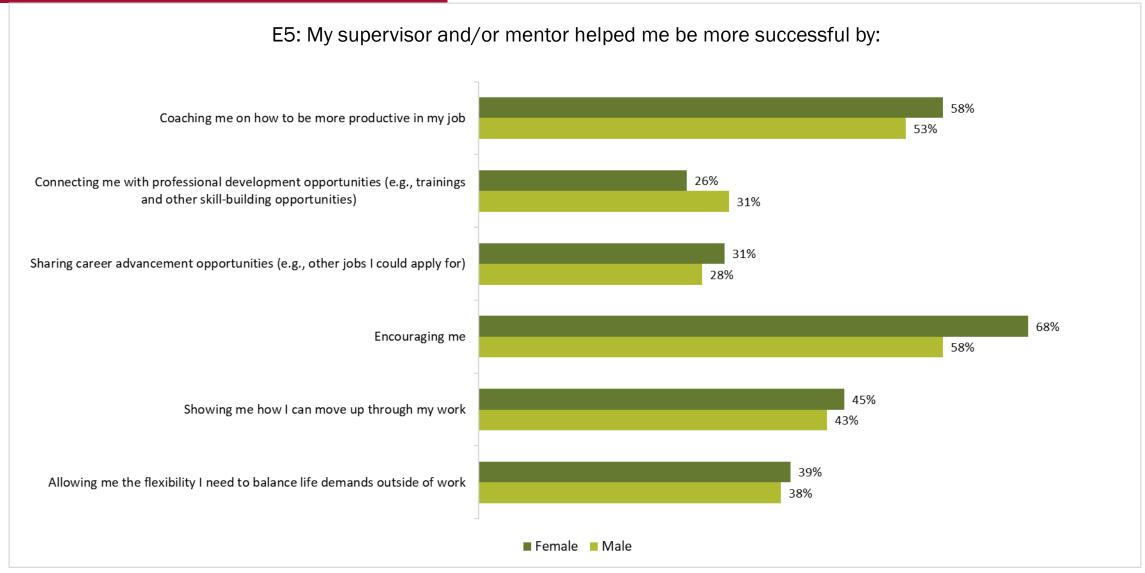
Section E

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



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

#### Section E

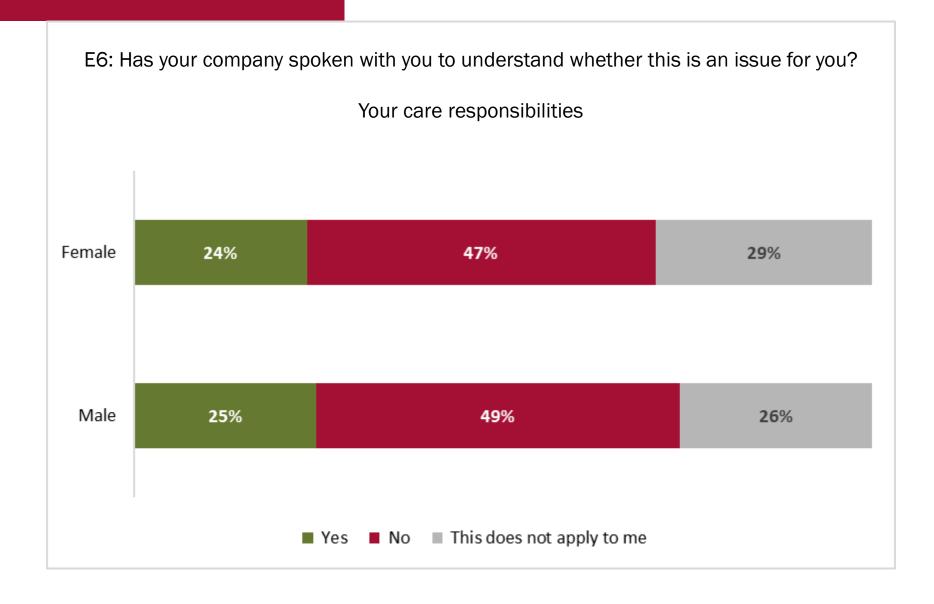


Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

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

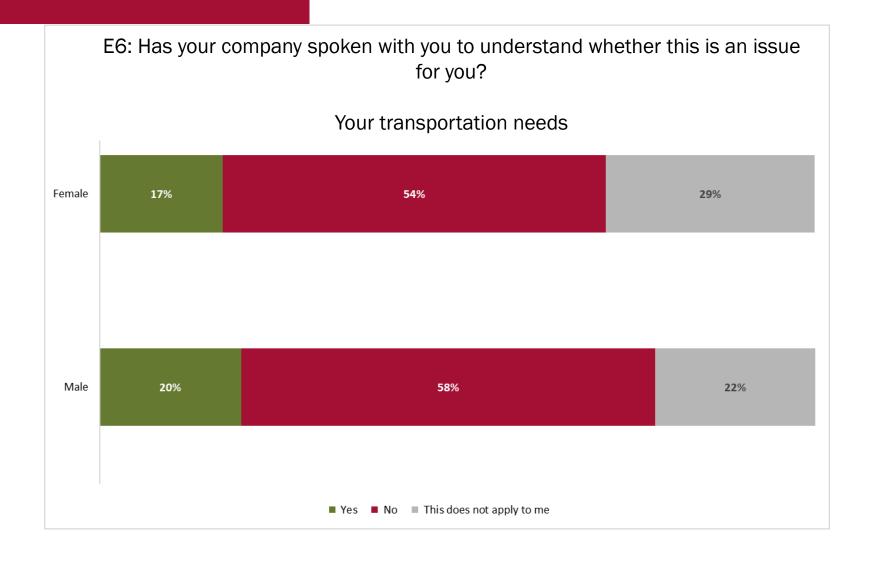
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on

## Section E



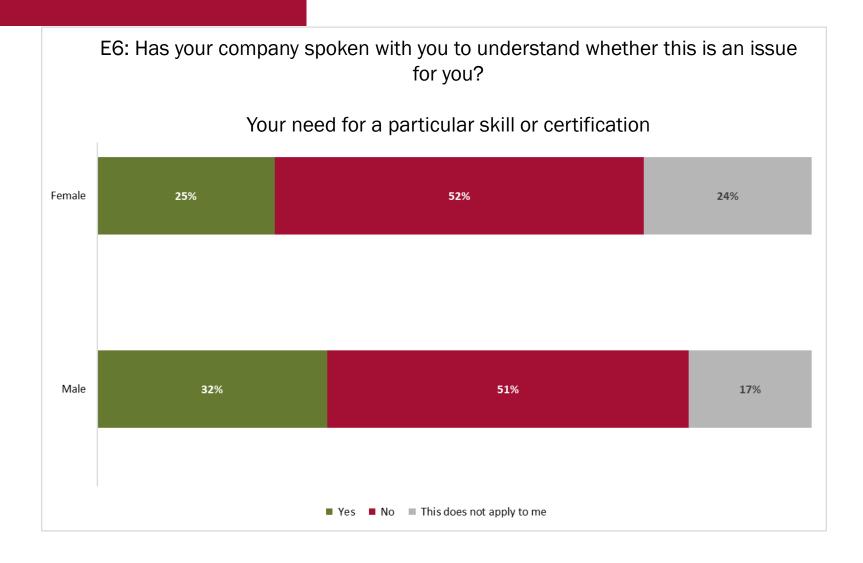
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on

## Section E



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

## Section E



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

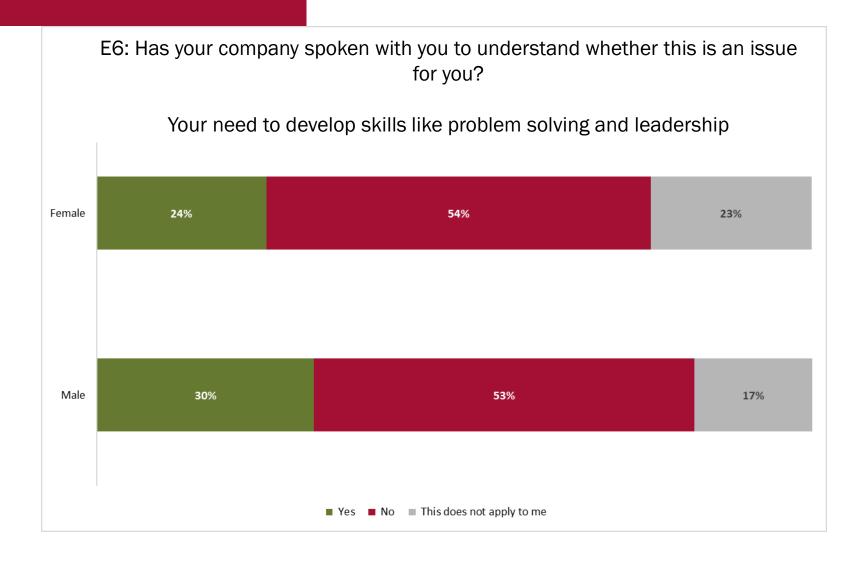
Section E

E6: Has your company spoken with you to understand whether this is an issue for you?



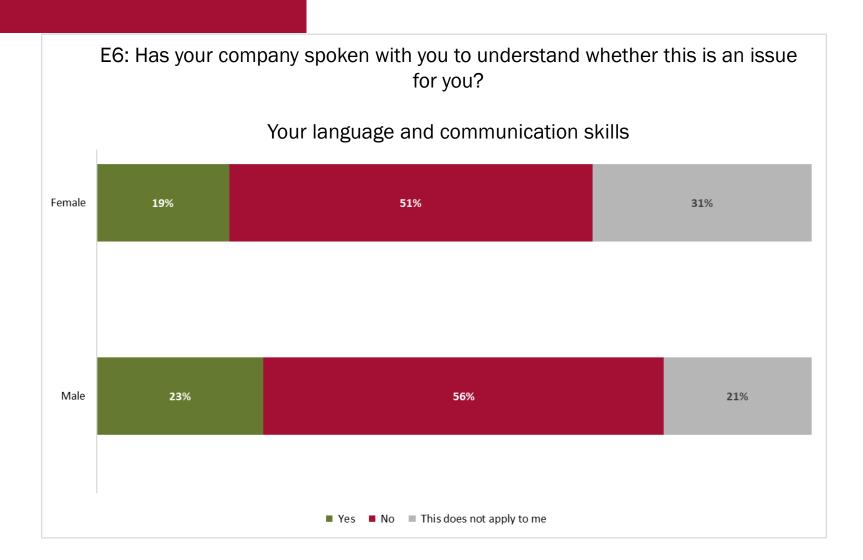
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## Section E



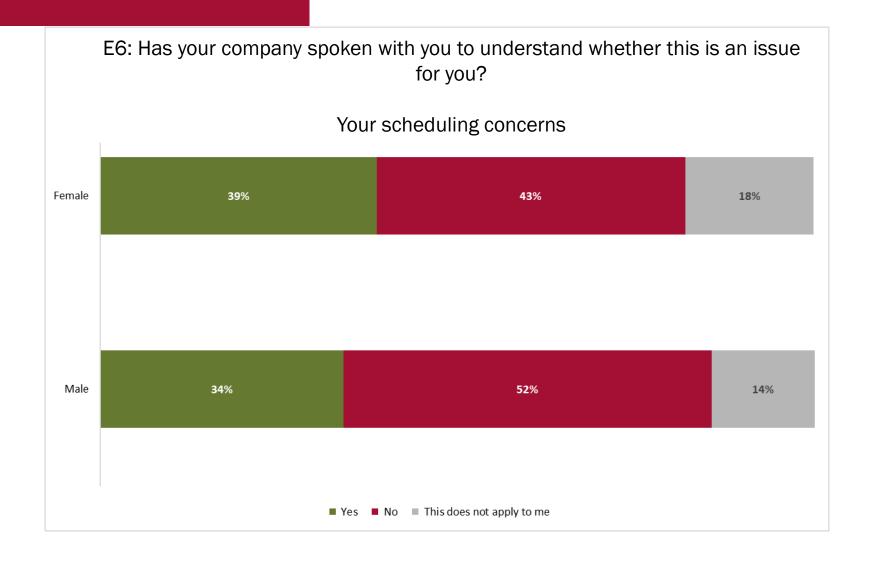
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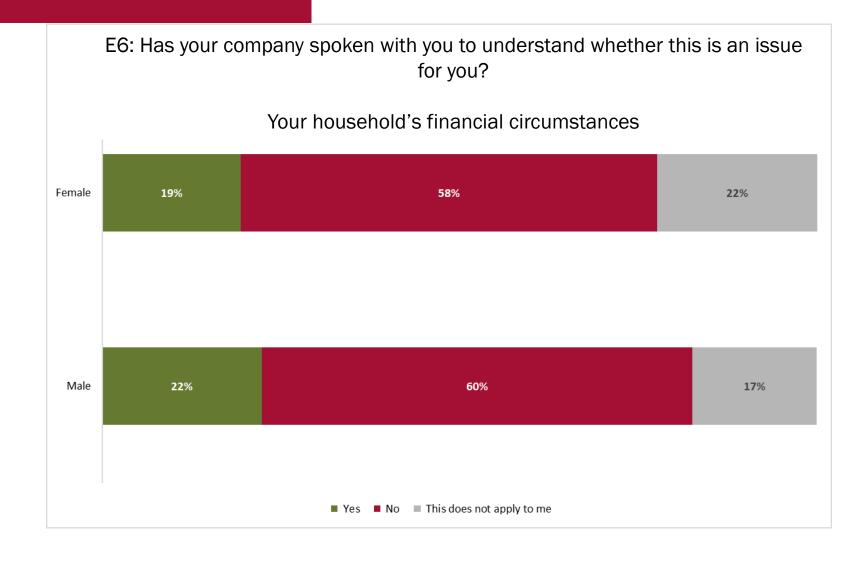
## Section E



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

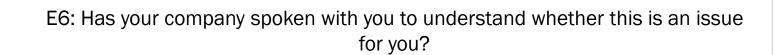
## Section E

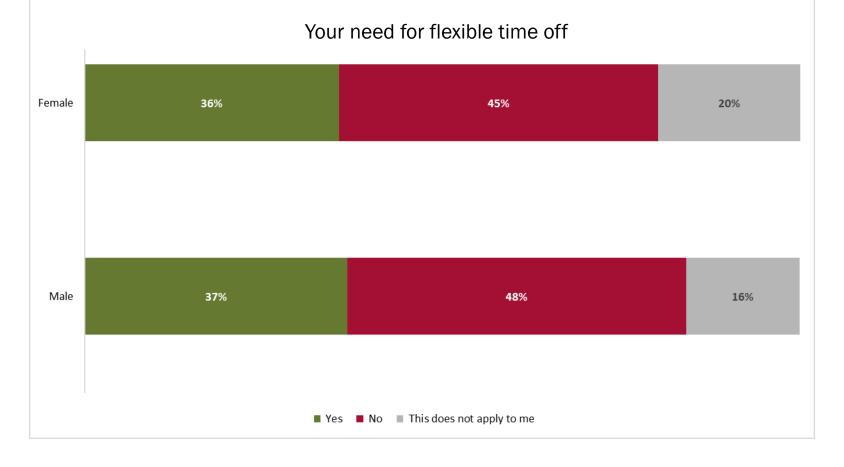


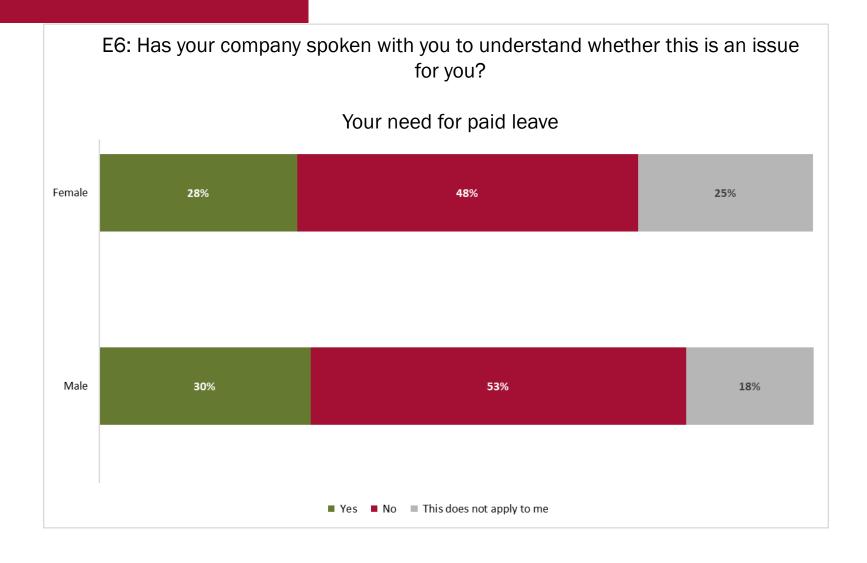


Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on

Section E

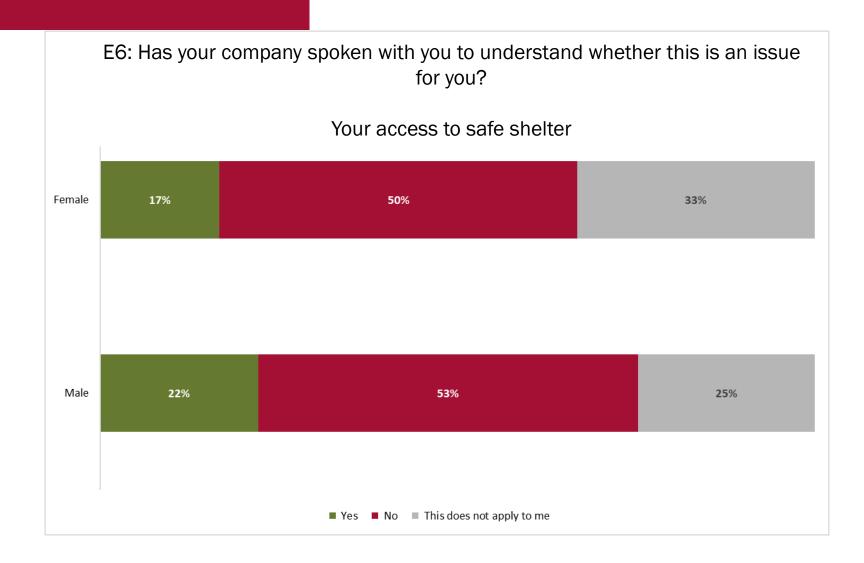






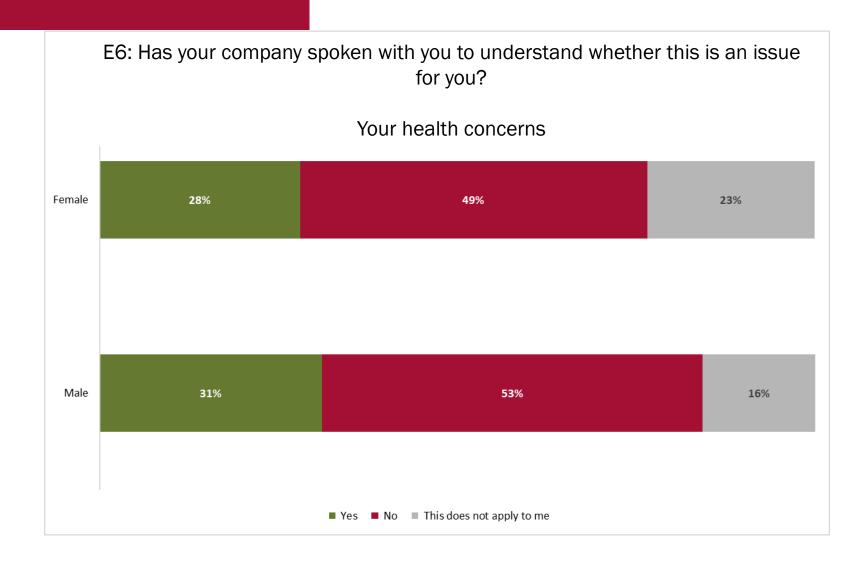
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on

## Section E



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

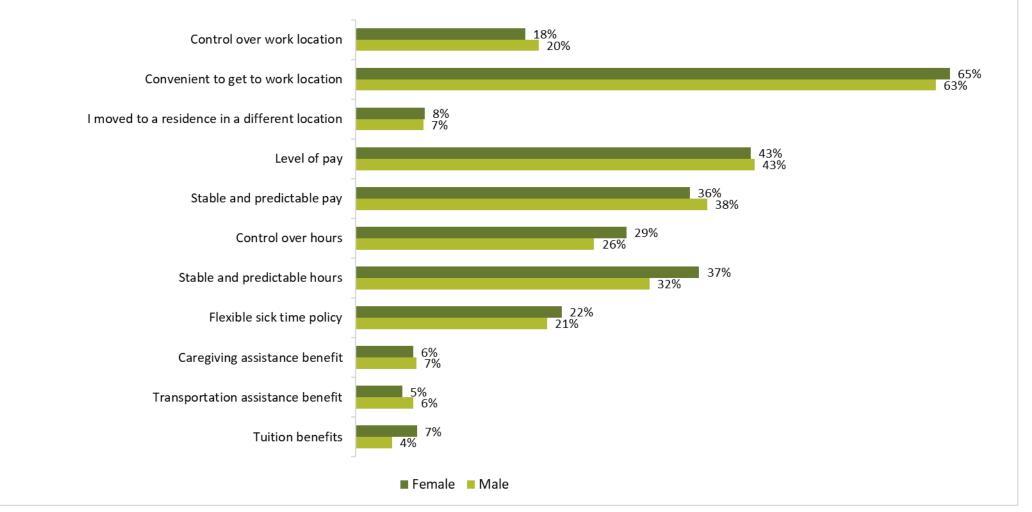
## Section E



#### Section E

Part 1 (continued on next slide)

E7: Please select all of the following factors that were important to your decision to move to your primary company as of January 2020 from your previous primary company.

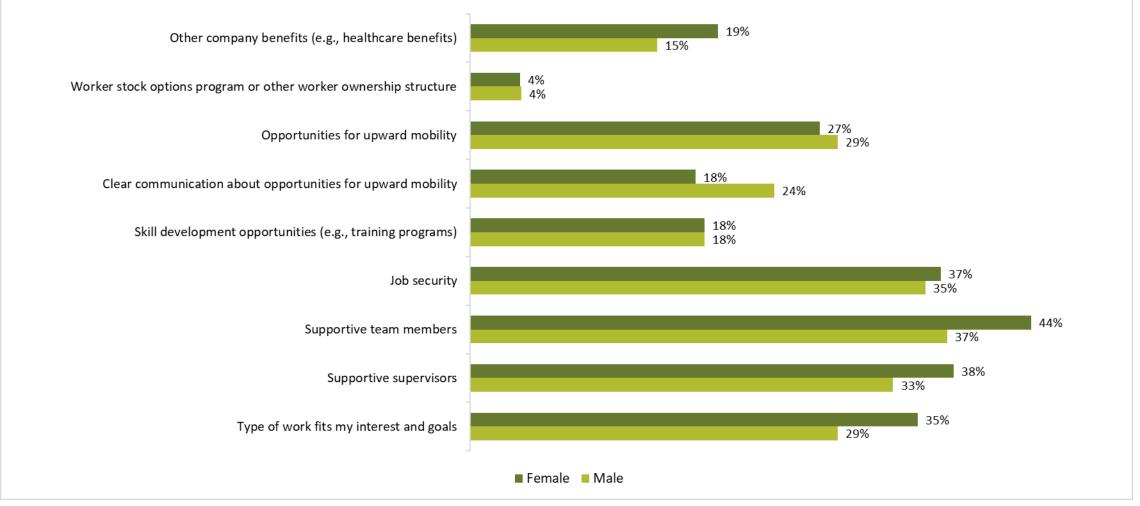


Note: Only respondents who have worked at two or more companies in their career answered this question.

#### Section E

#### Part 2 (continued from previous slide)

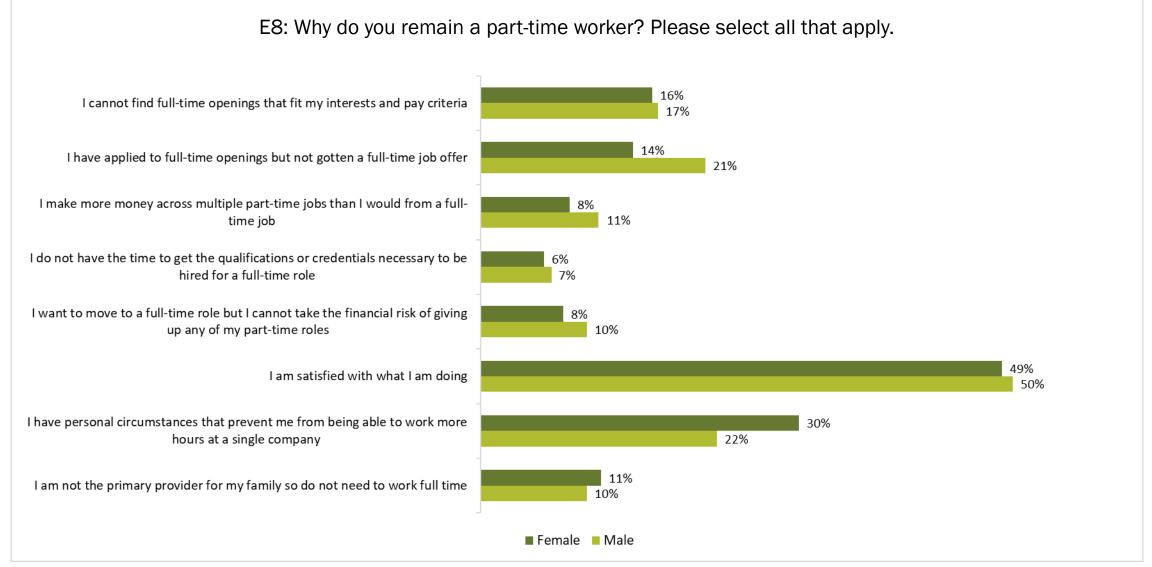
E7: Please select all of the following factors that were important to your decision to move to your primary company as of January 2020 from your previous primary company.



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 Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

#### Section E

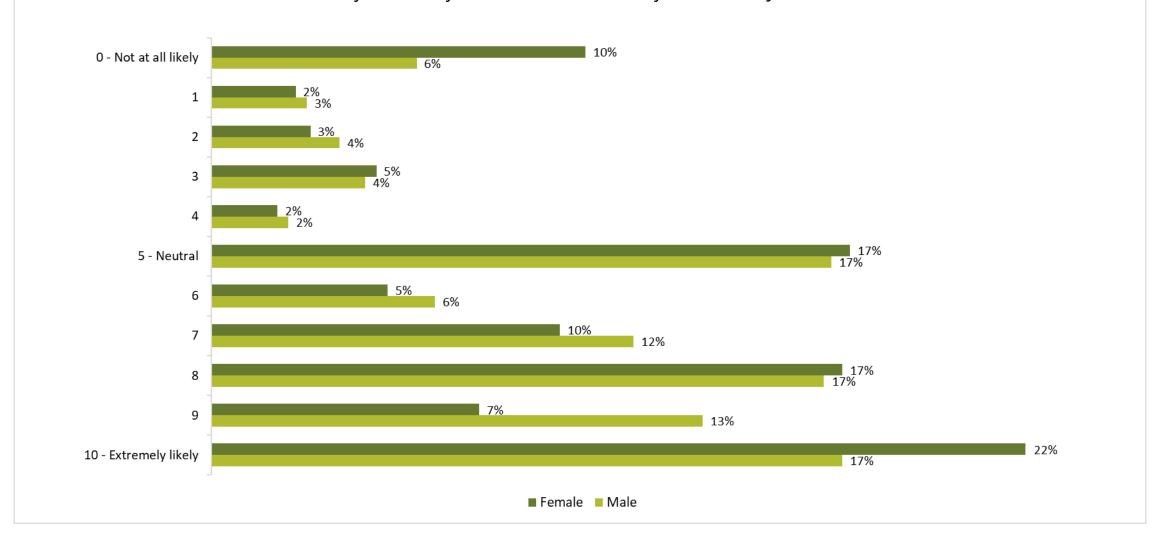


Note: Only respondents who are part-time workers answered this question.

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

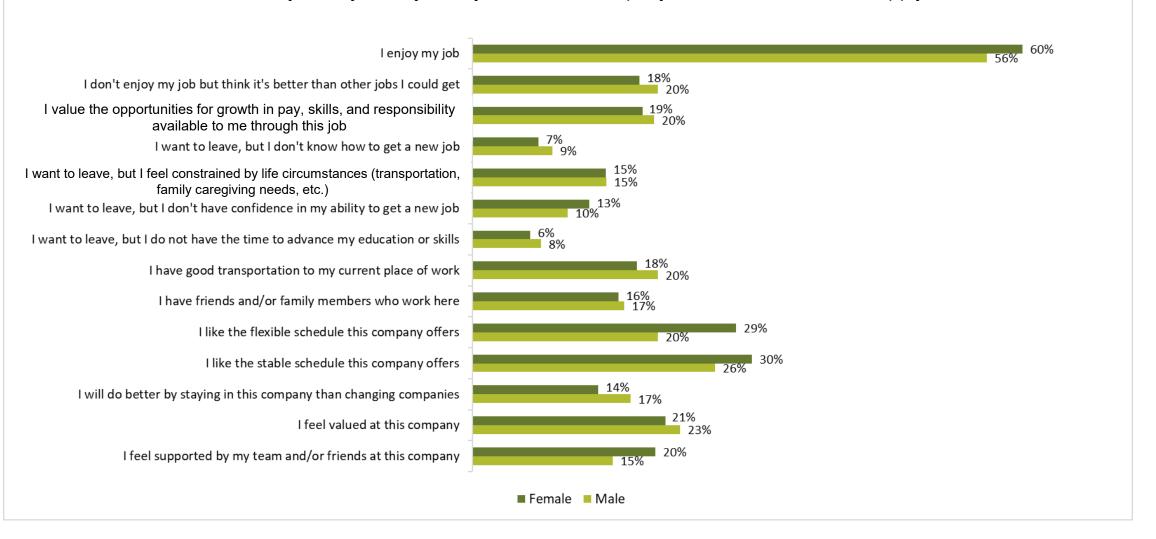
## Section E

#### E9: How likely is it that you would recommend your current job to a friend?

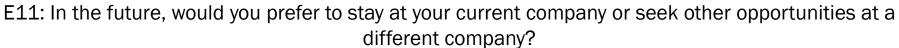


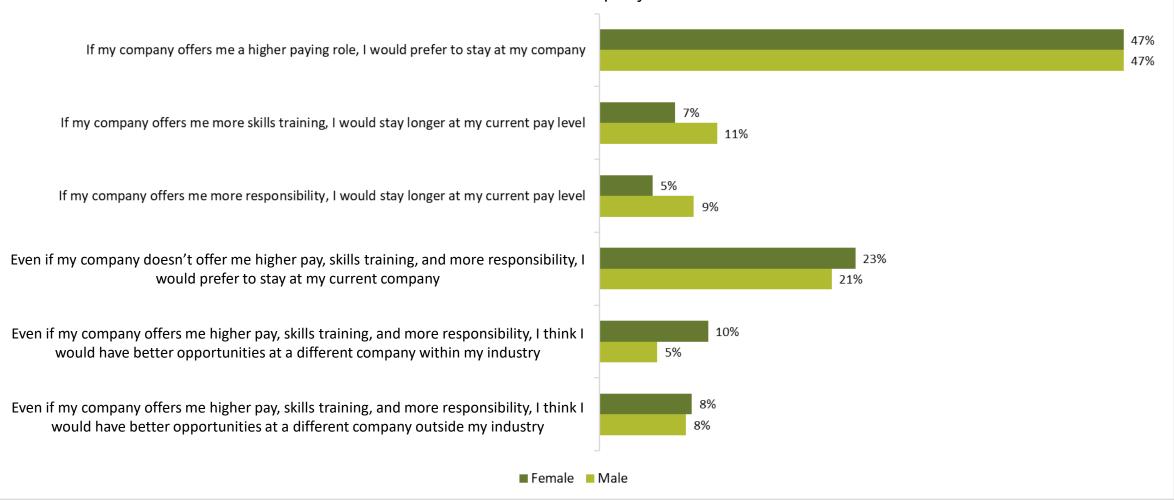
#### Section E

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



#### Section E



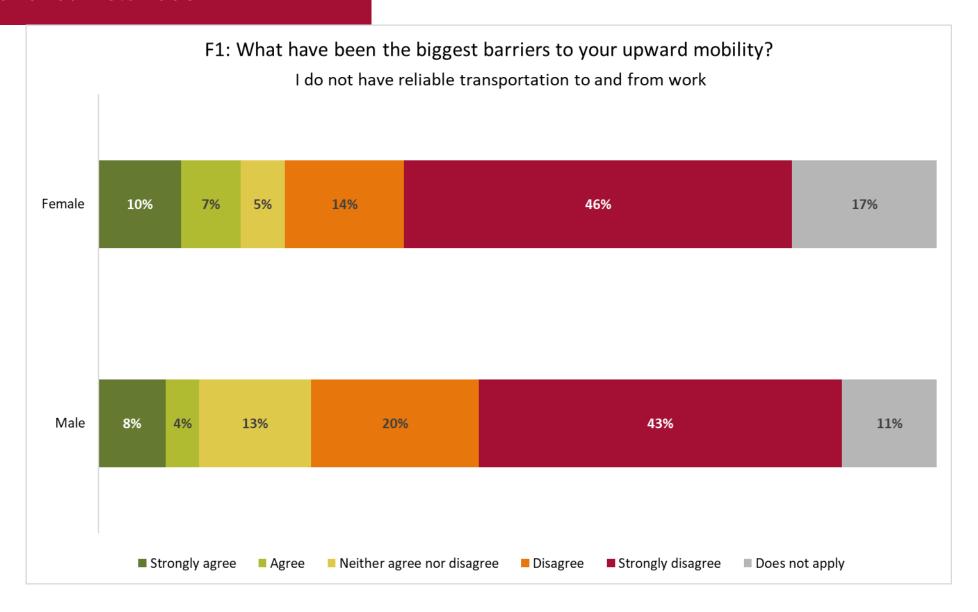


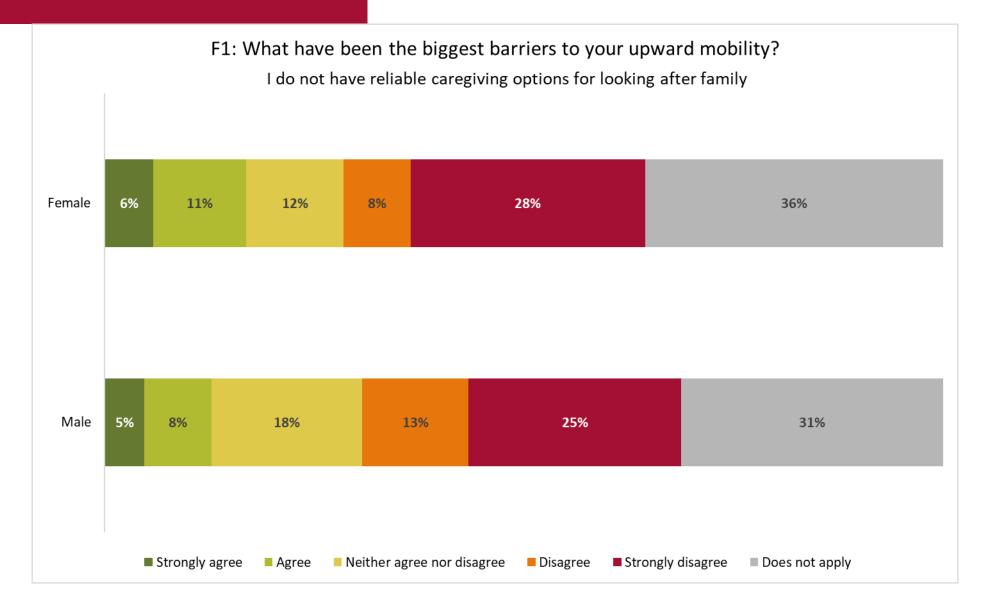
#### Section F

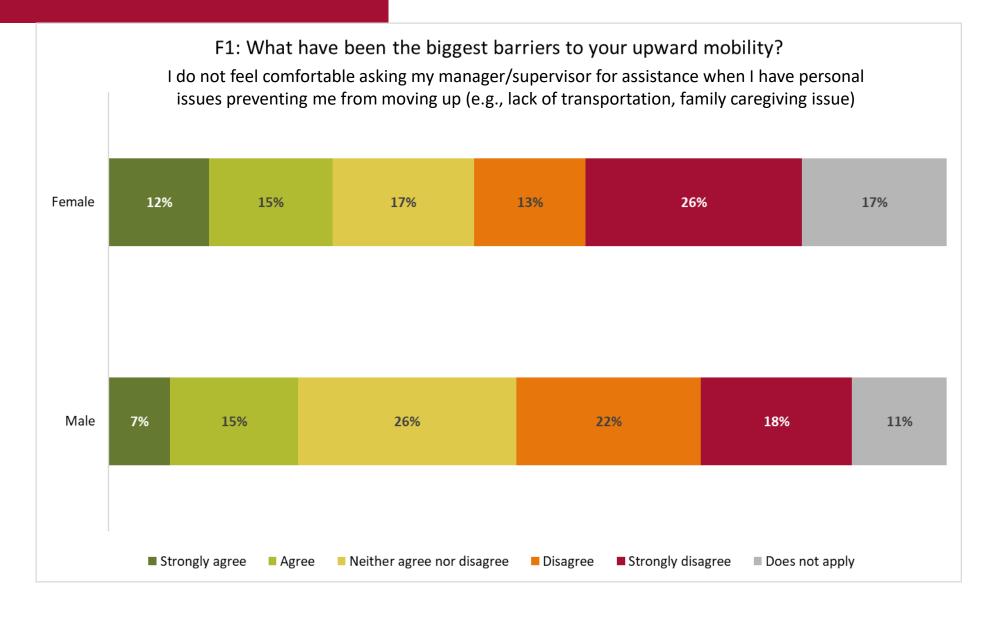
Barriers

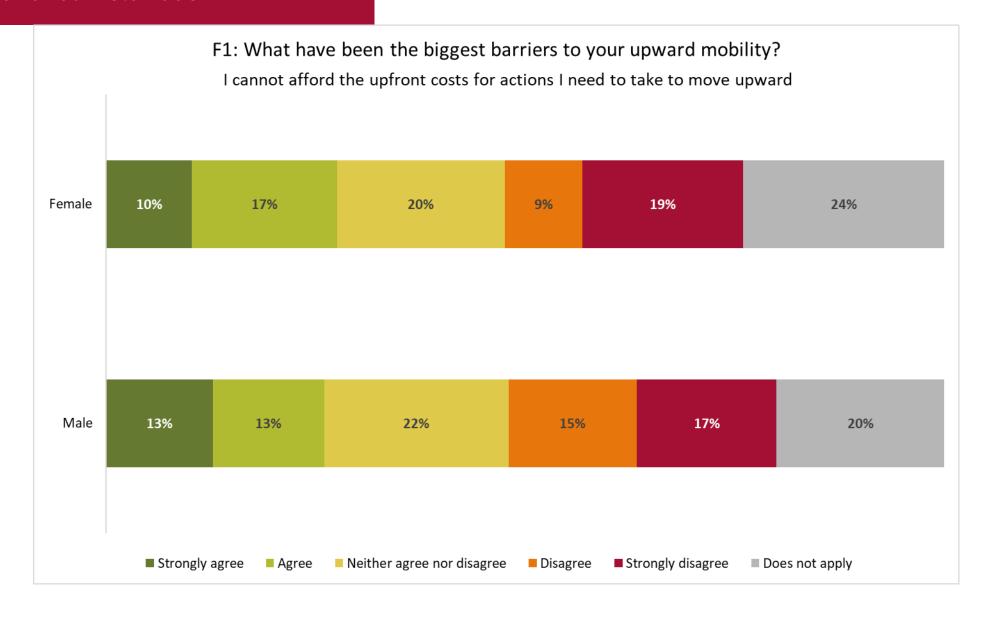
Only shown to those who did NOT achieve upward mobility in the last three years.

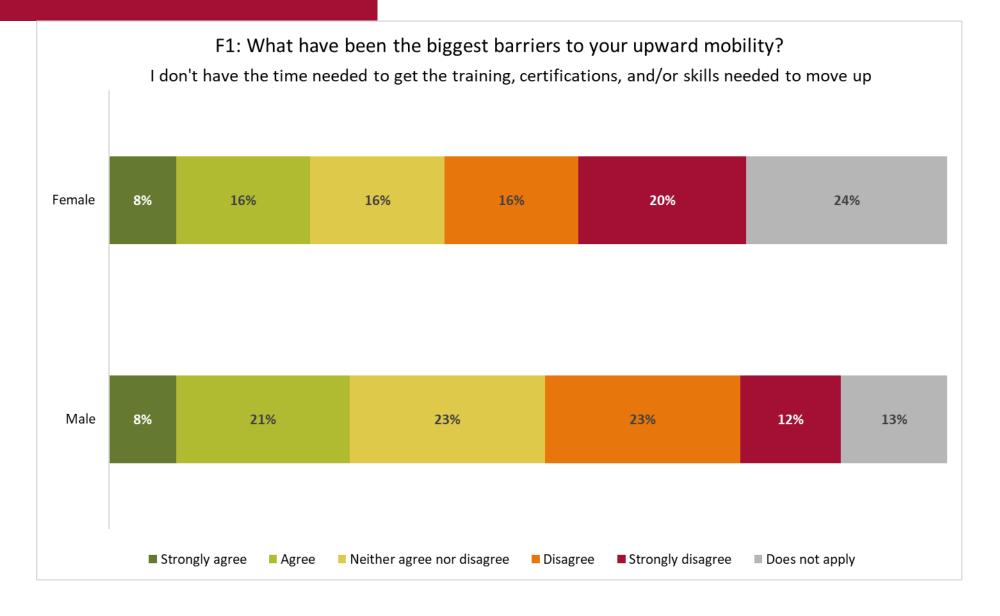
Female: N = 225; Male: N = 150

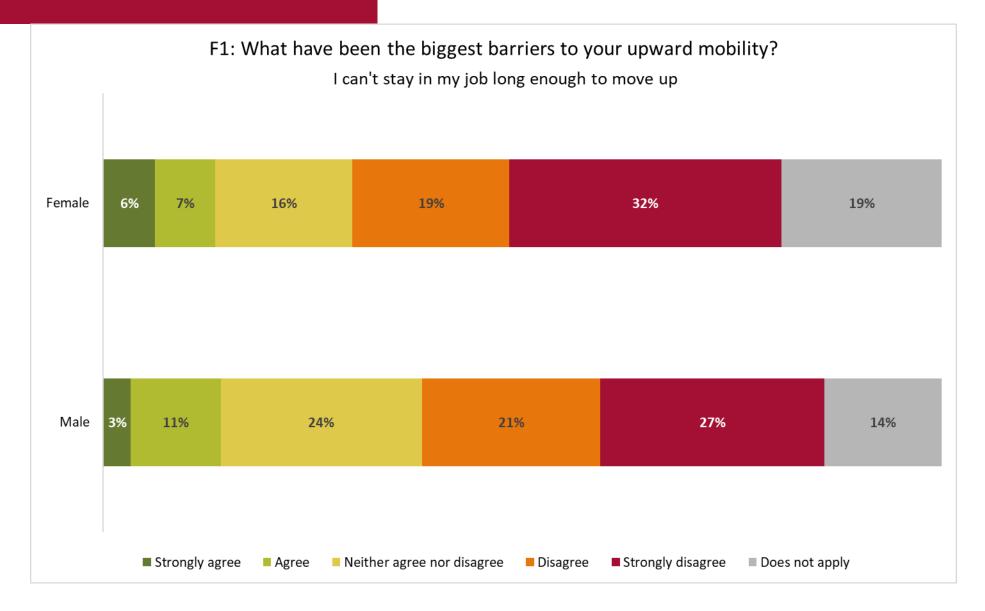




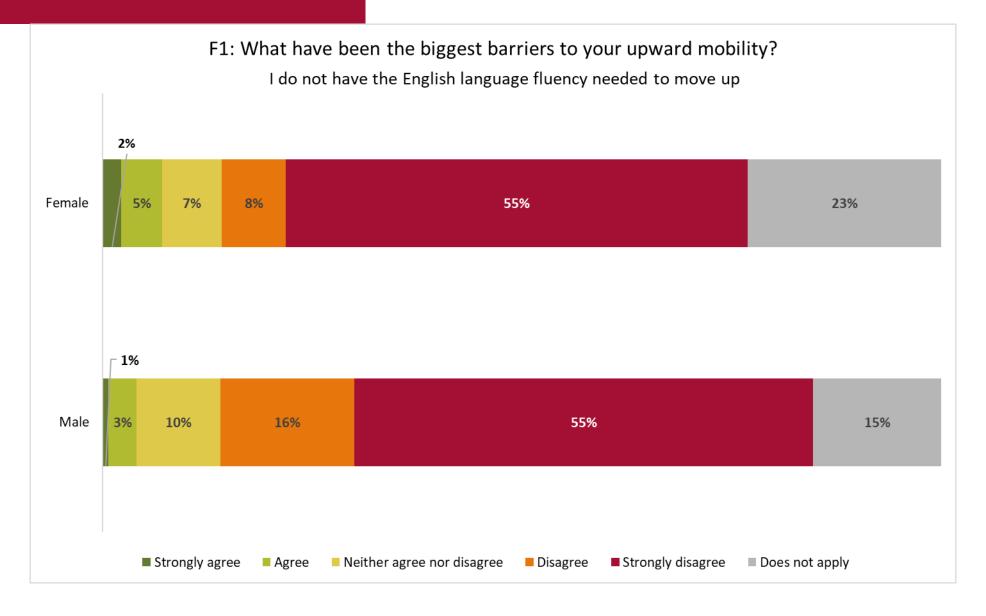




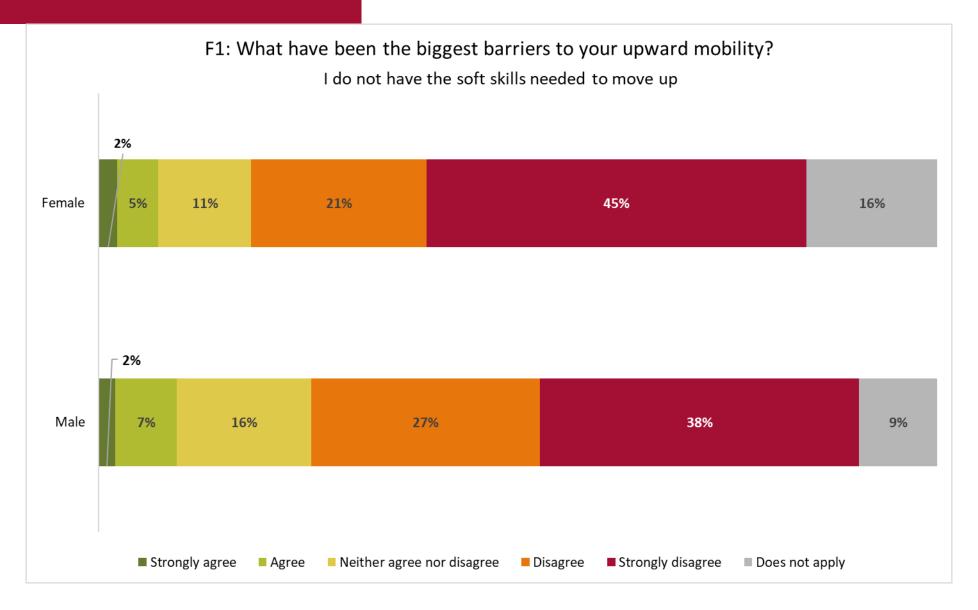


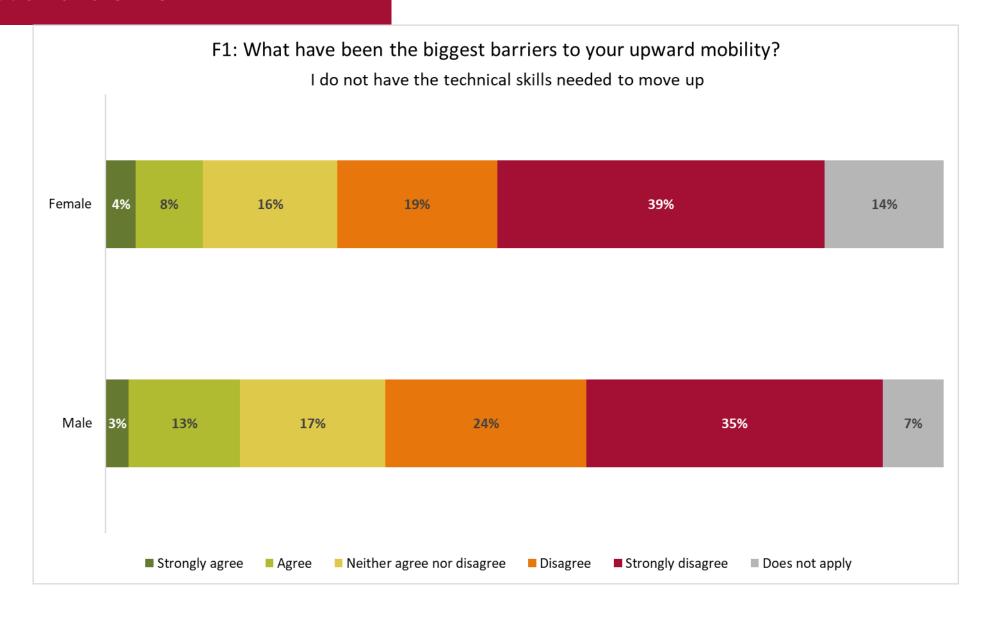


#### Section F Education and skills

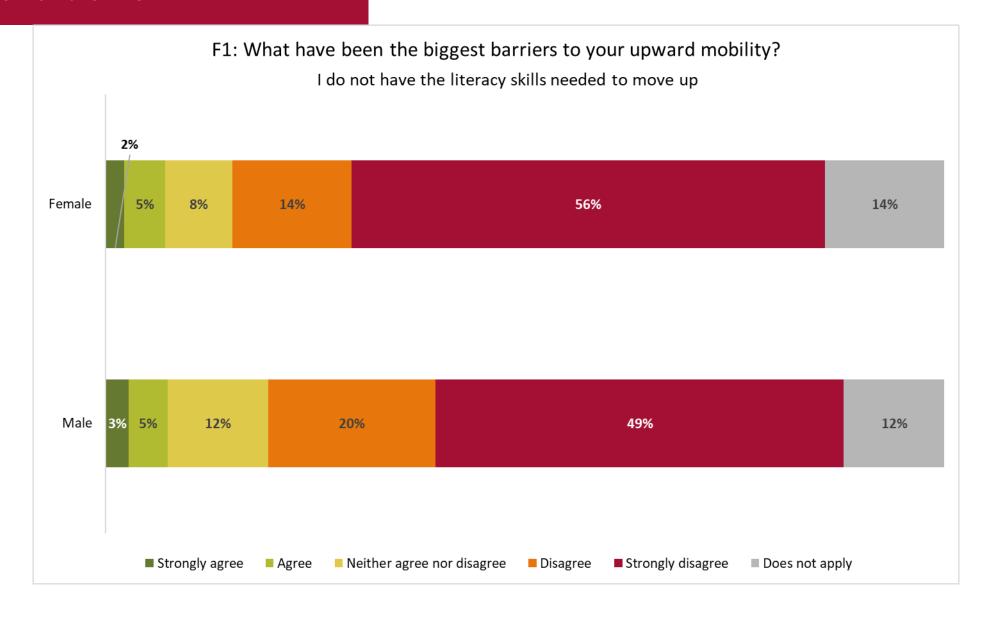


#### Section F Education and skills

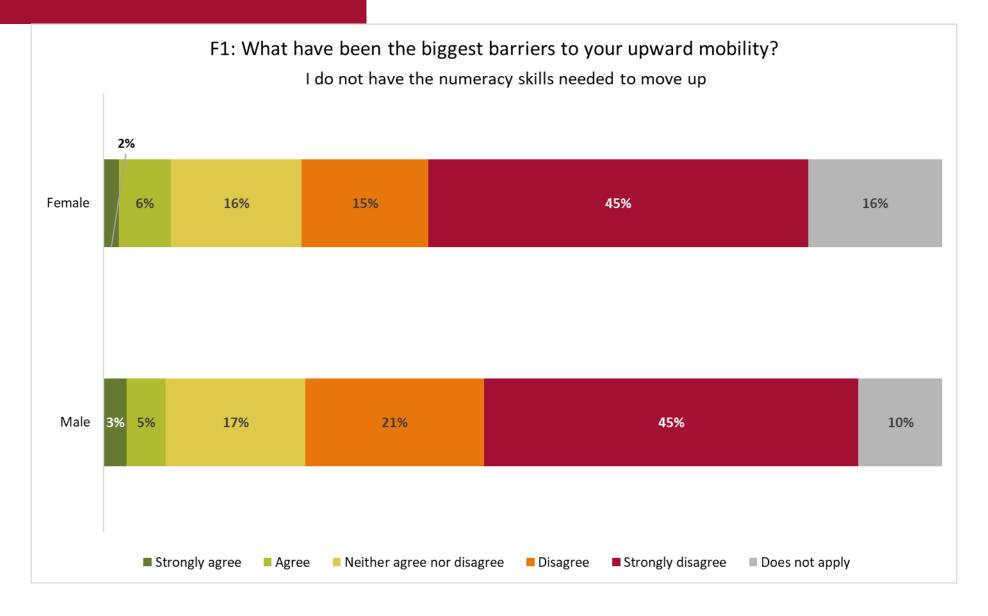


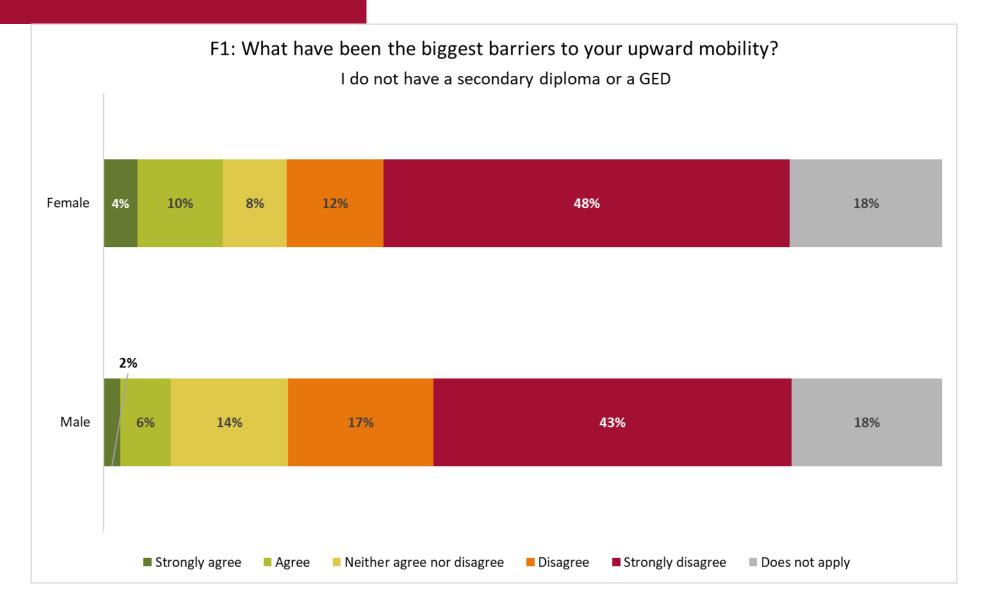


#### Section F Education and skills

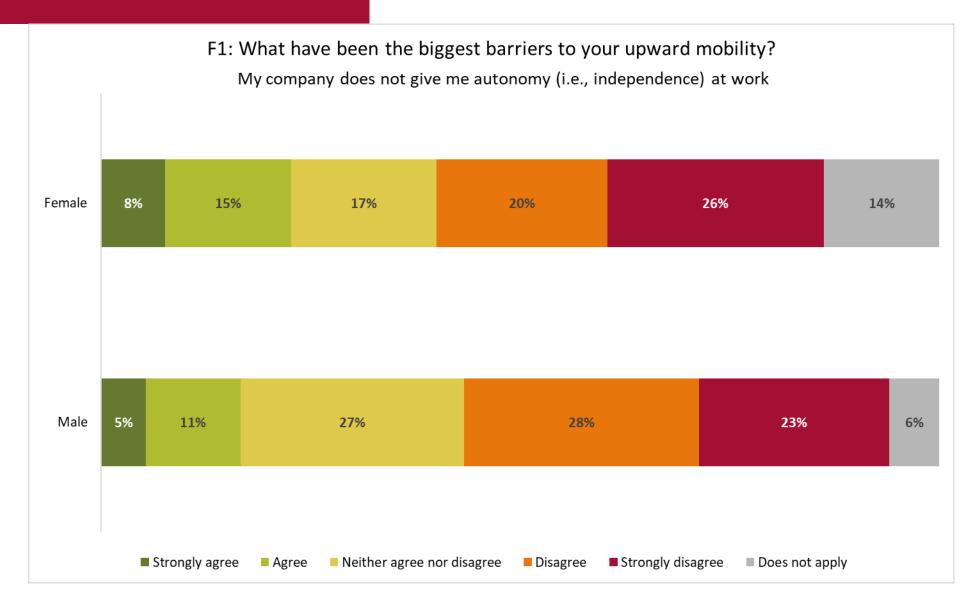


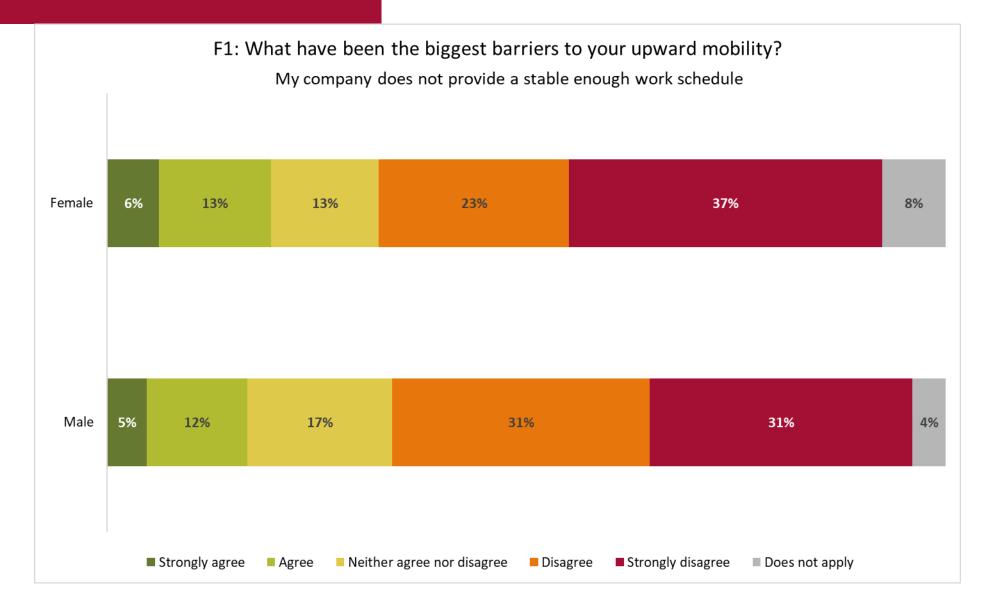
#### Section F Education and skills



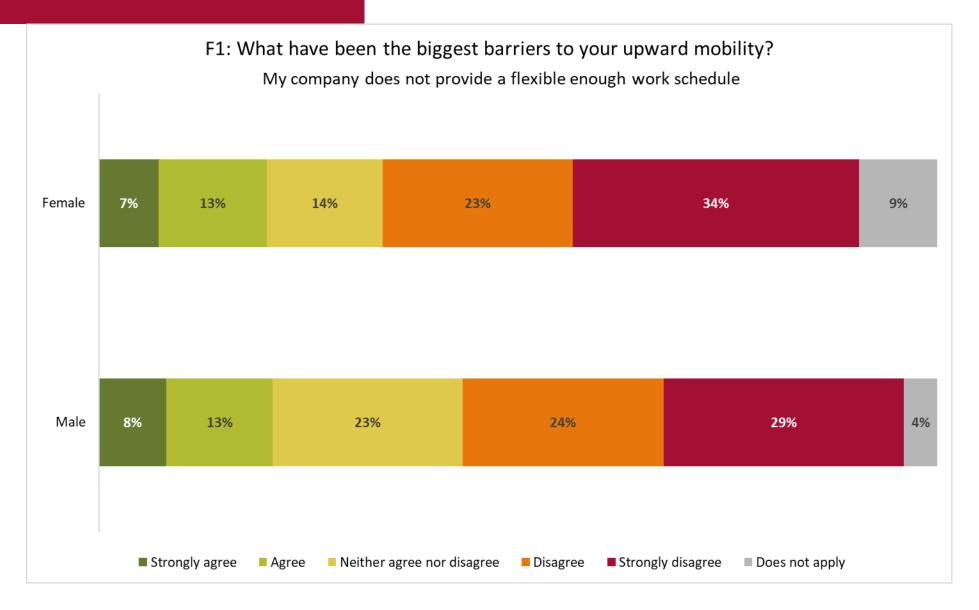


### Section F Job structure

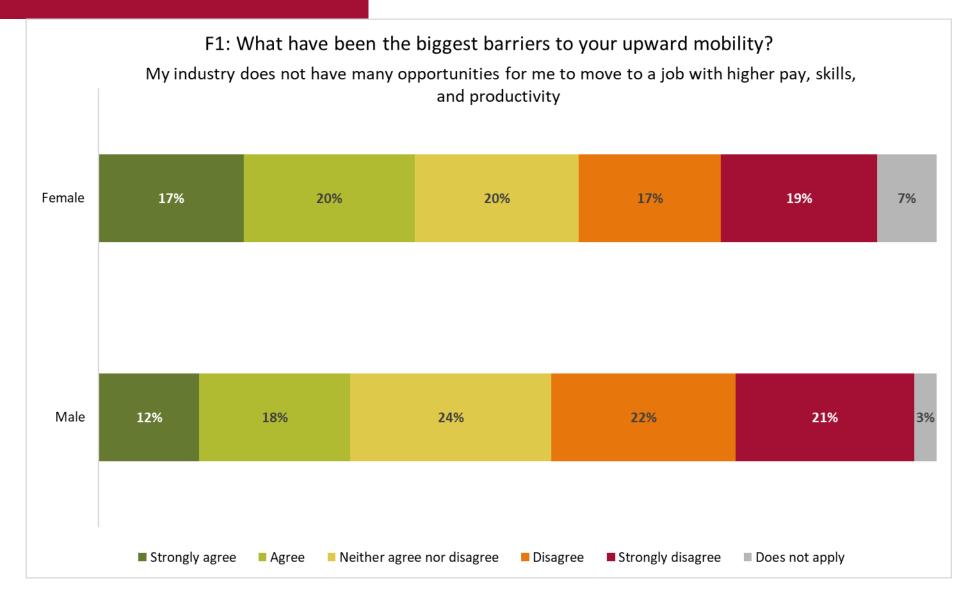




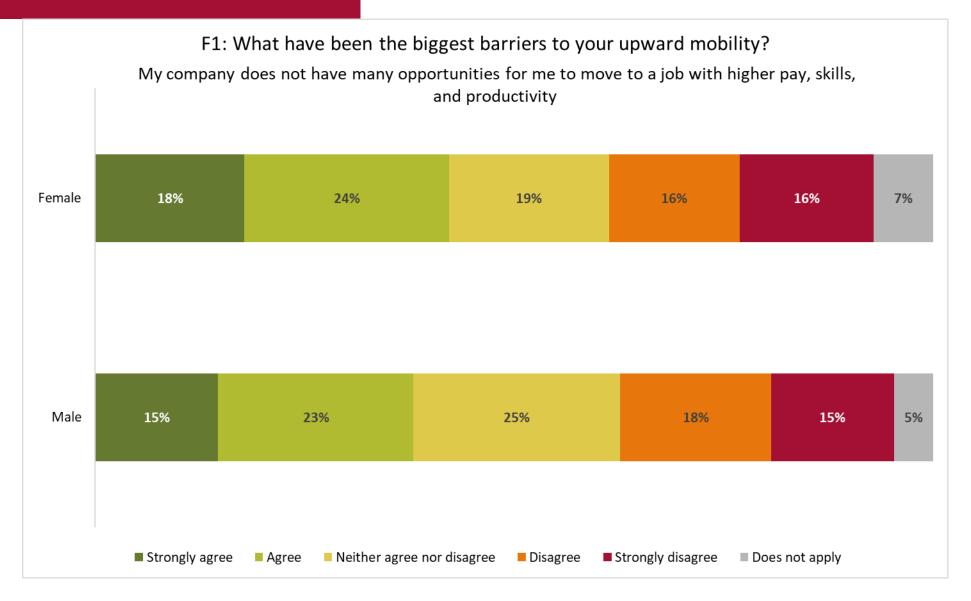
### Section F Job structure

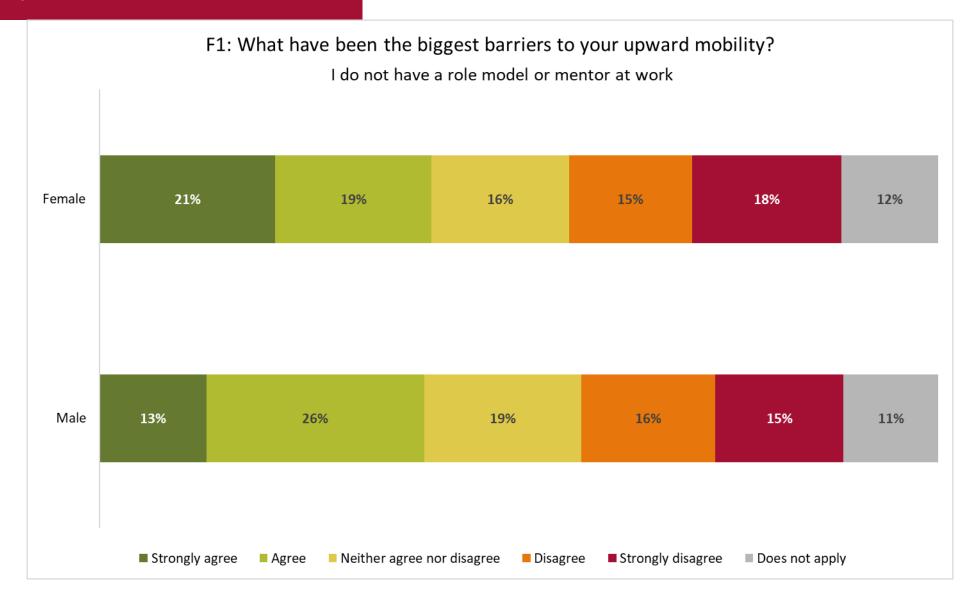


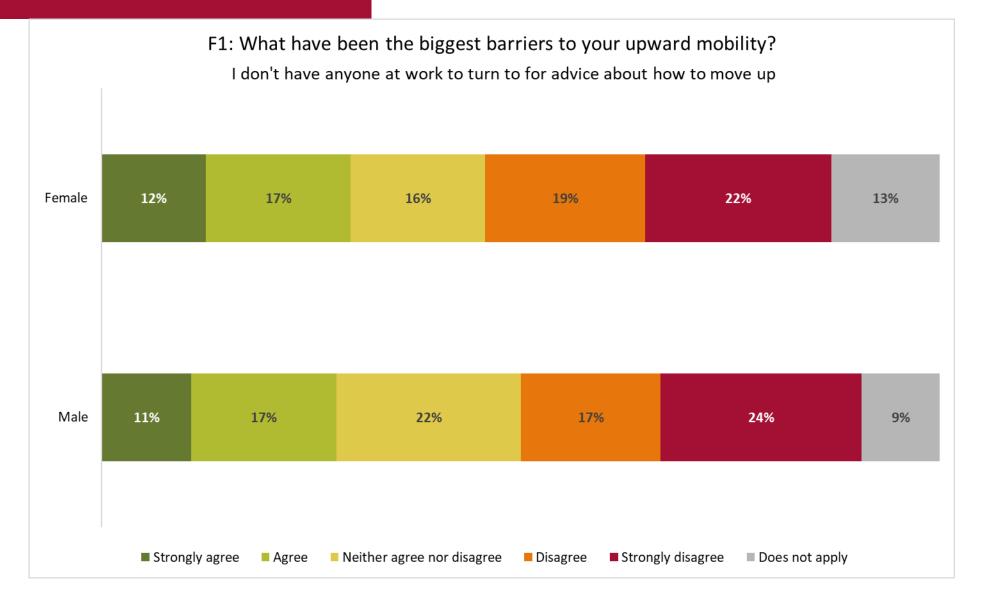
## Section F Company and industry opportunities

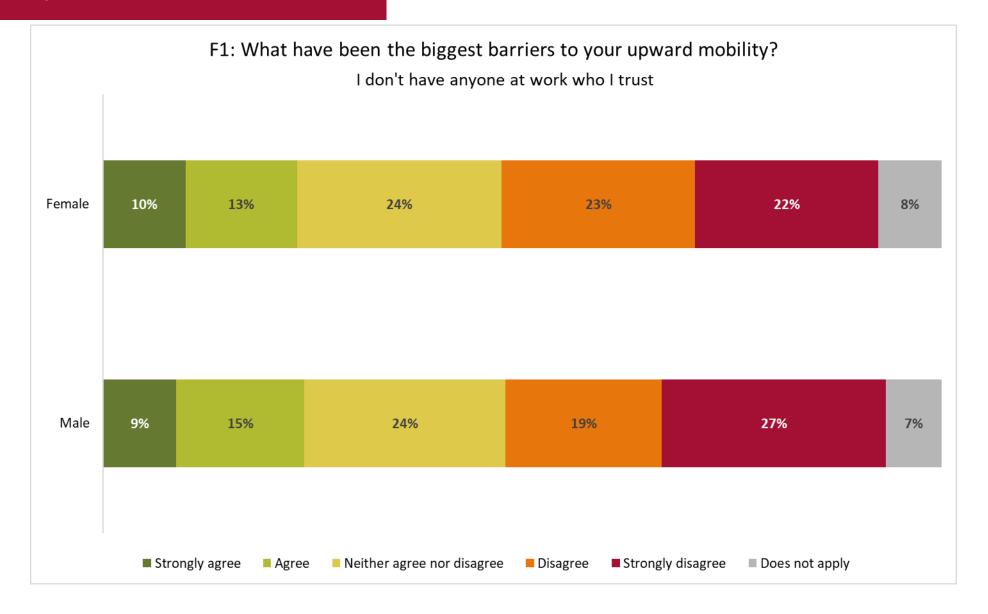


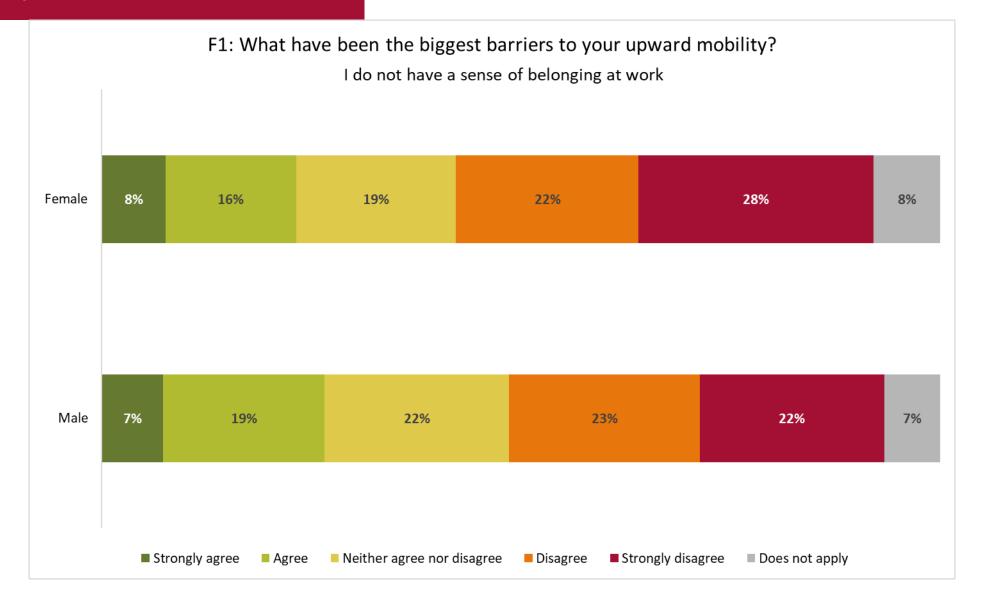
## Section F Company and industry opportunities

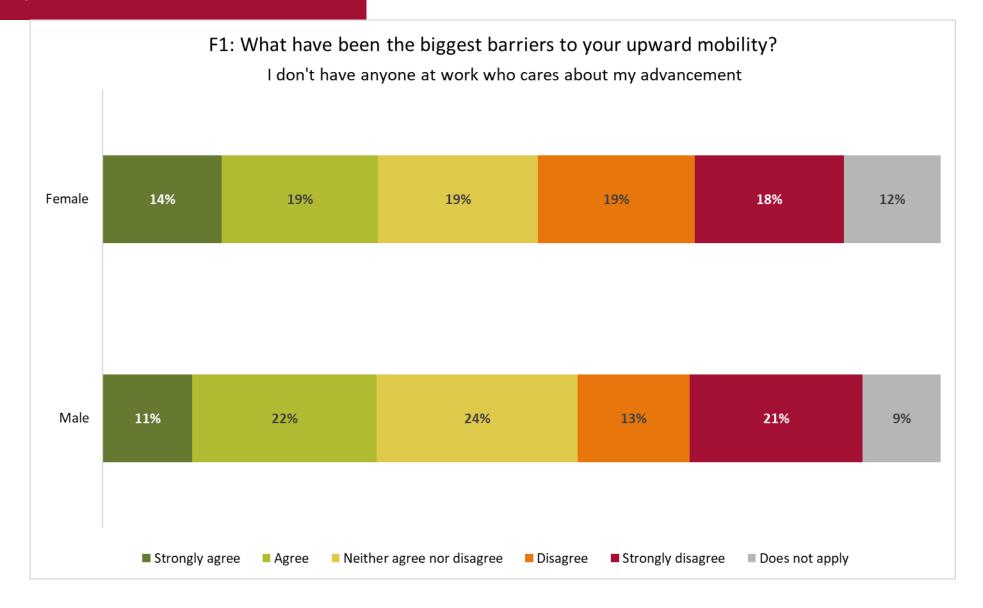


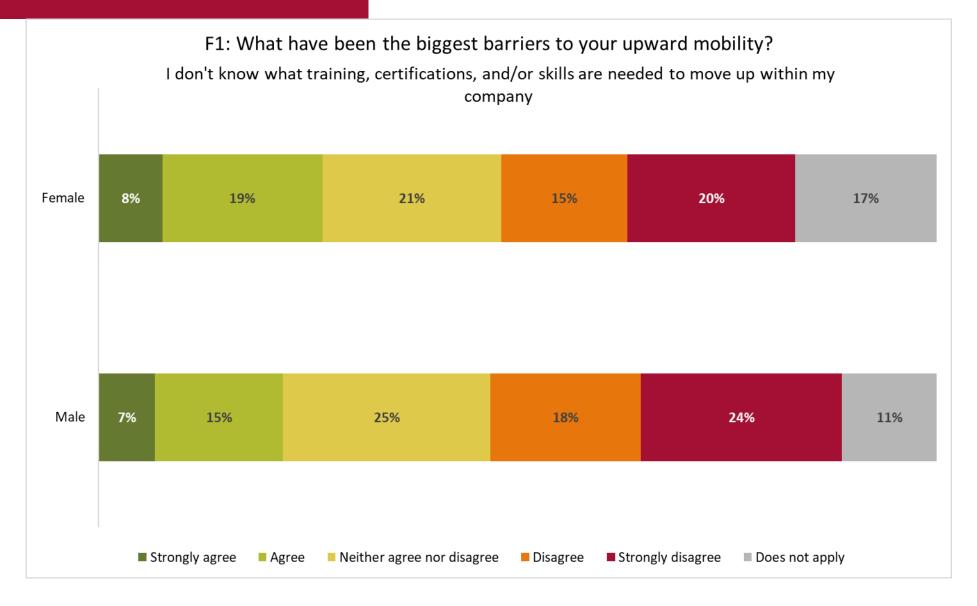


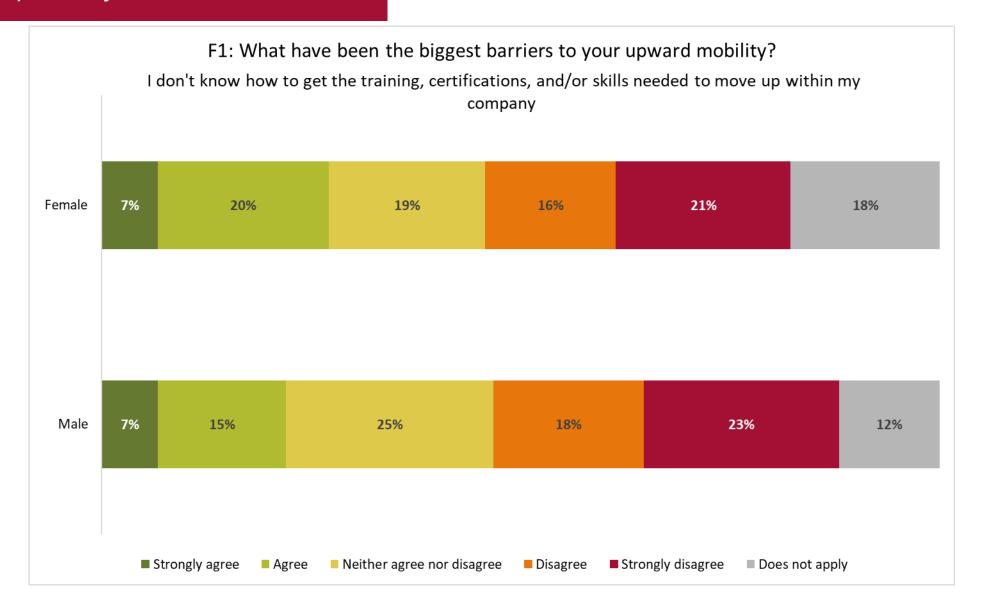


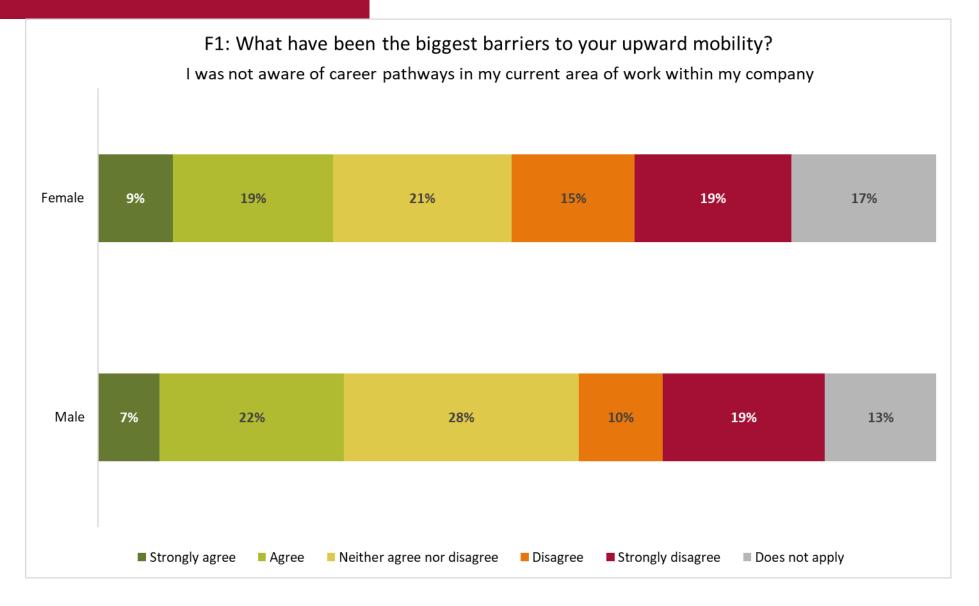


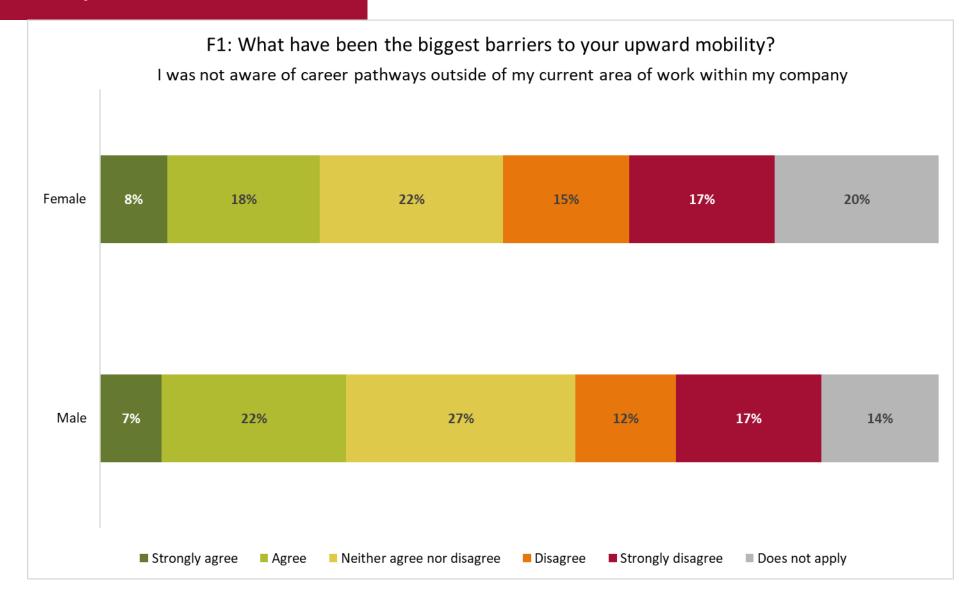


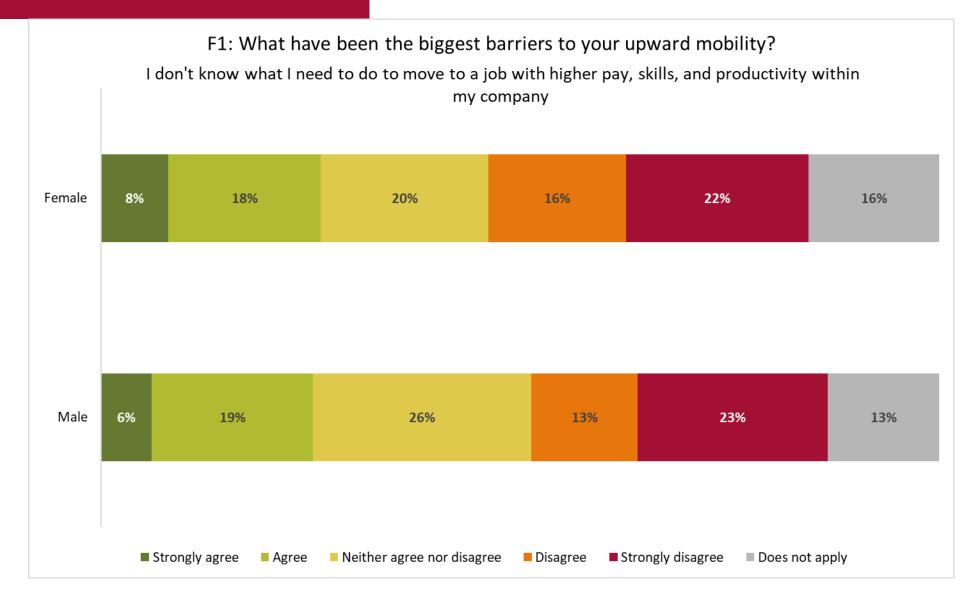


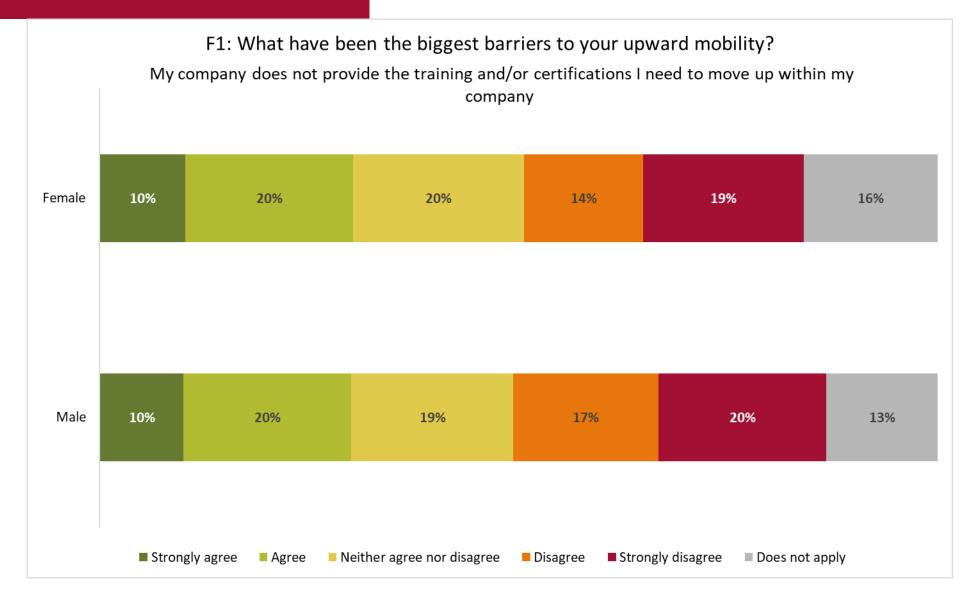


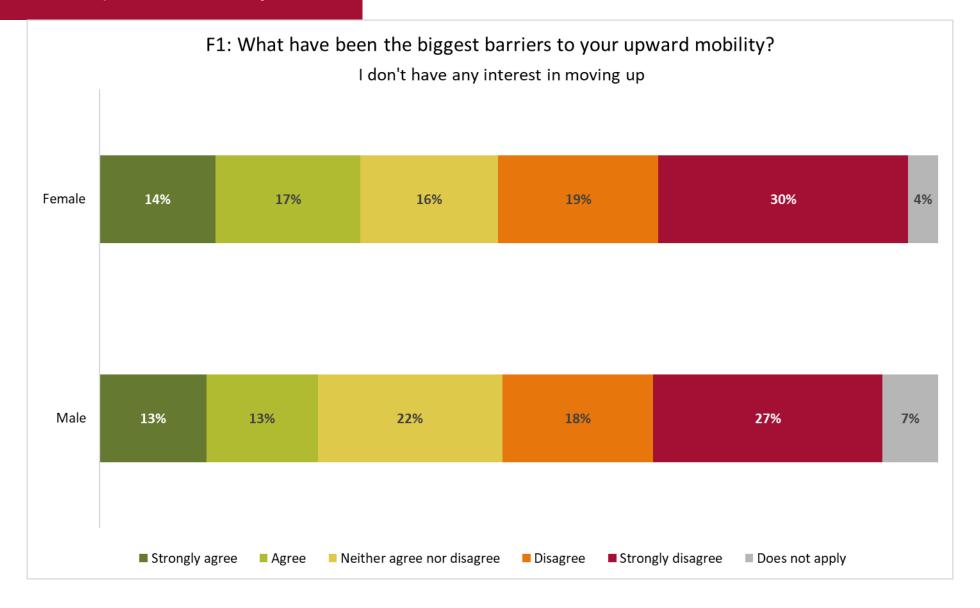


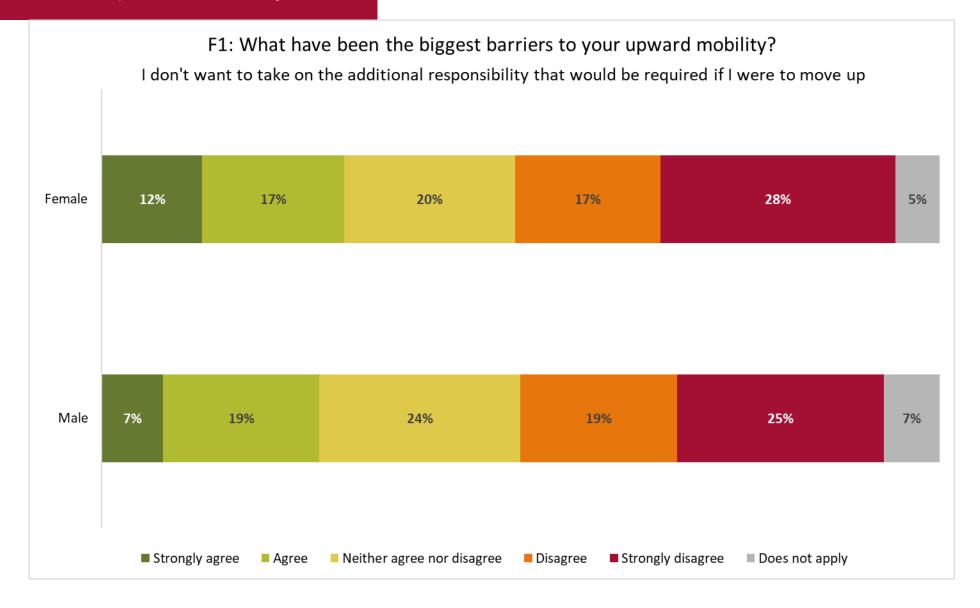


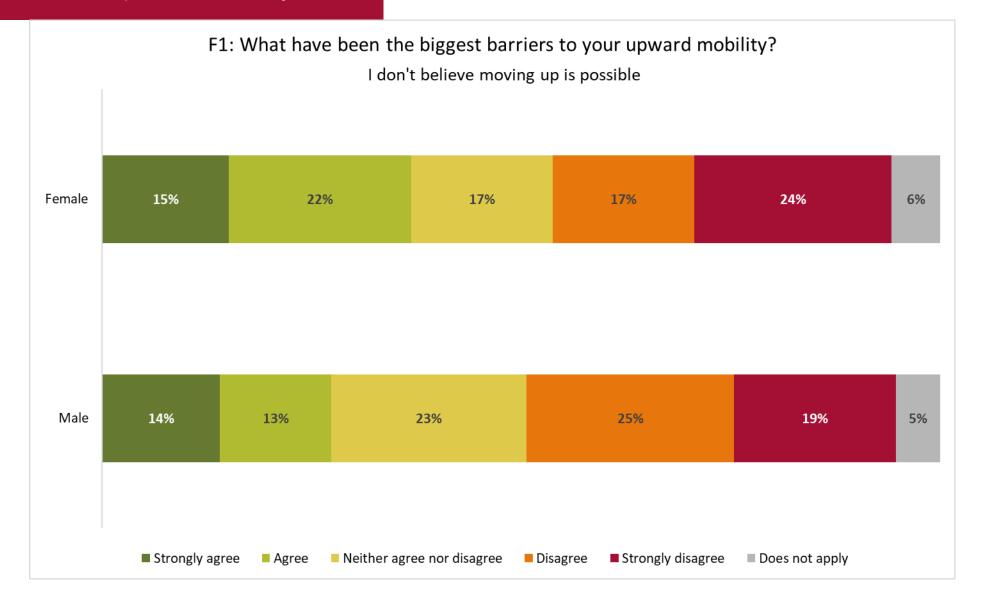


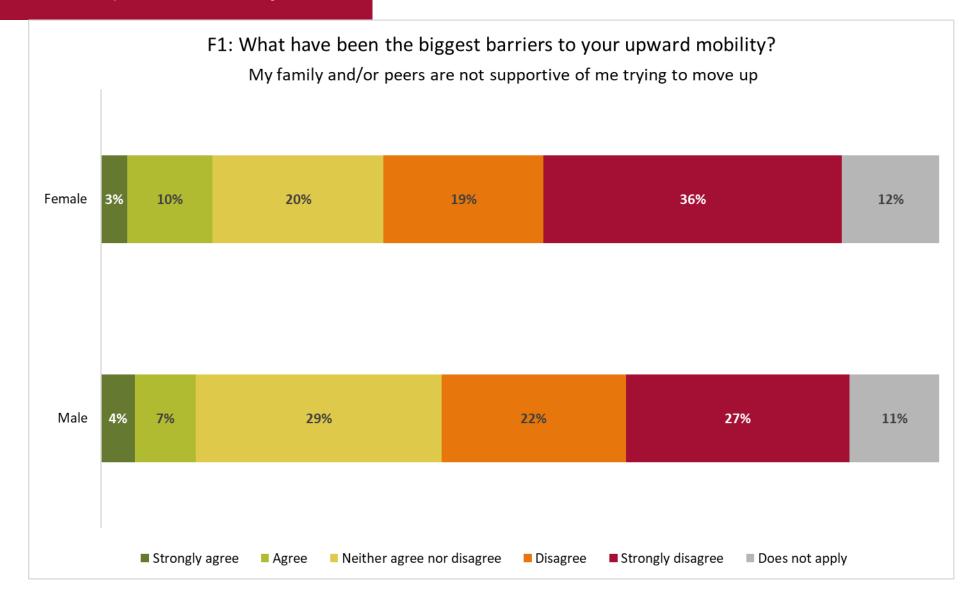


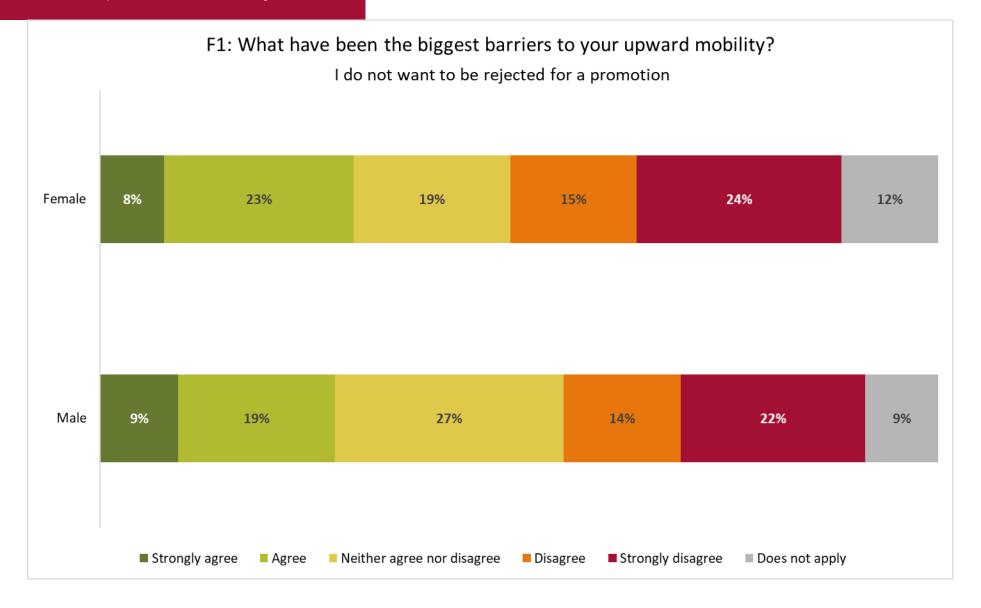




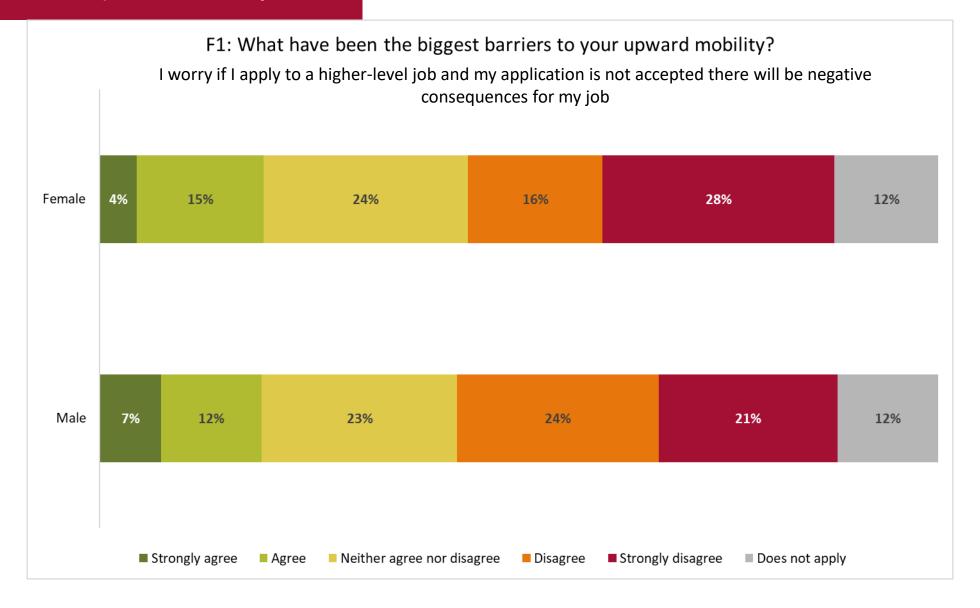


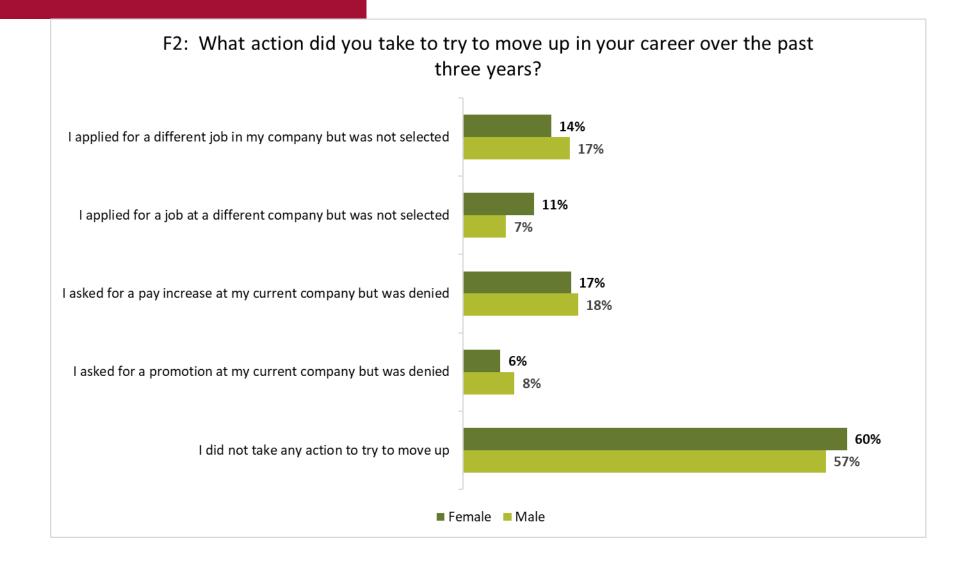


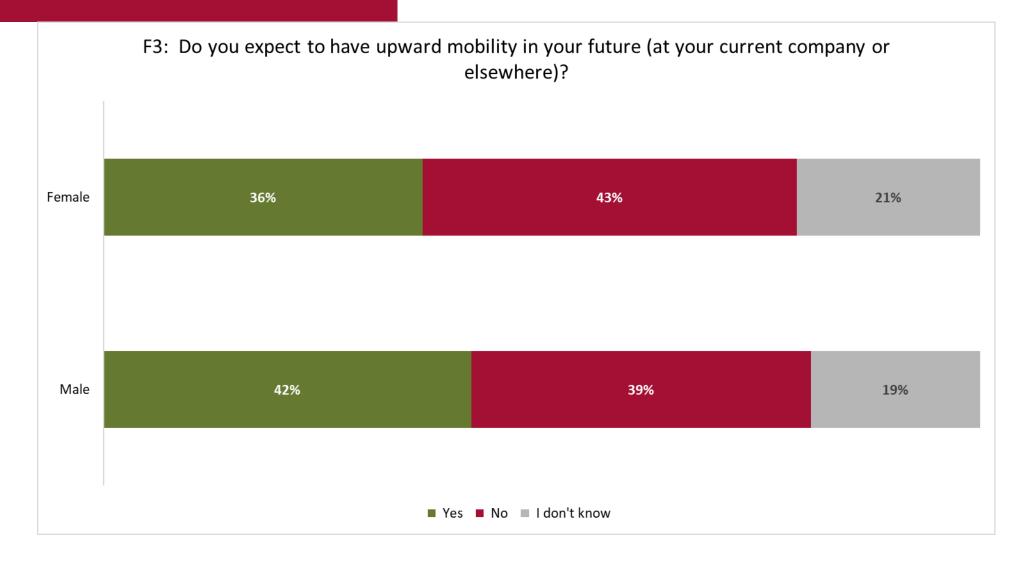




## Section F *Attitudes about upward mobility*

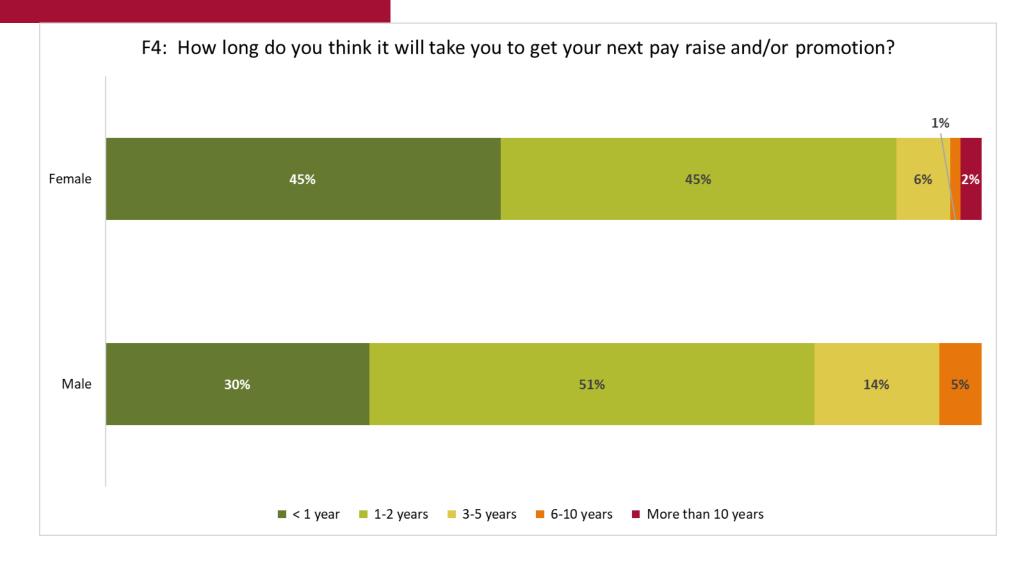




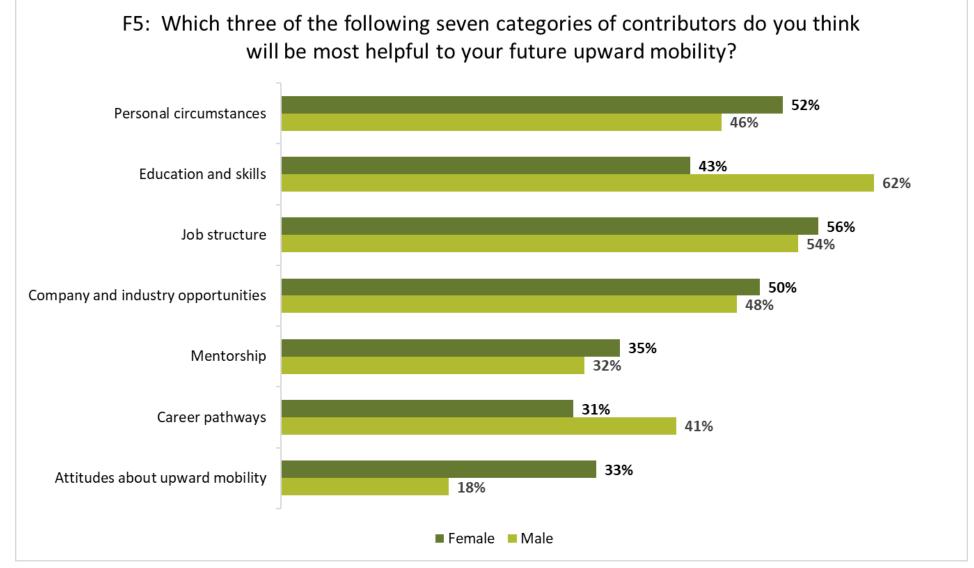


#### Section F

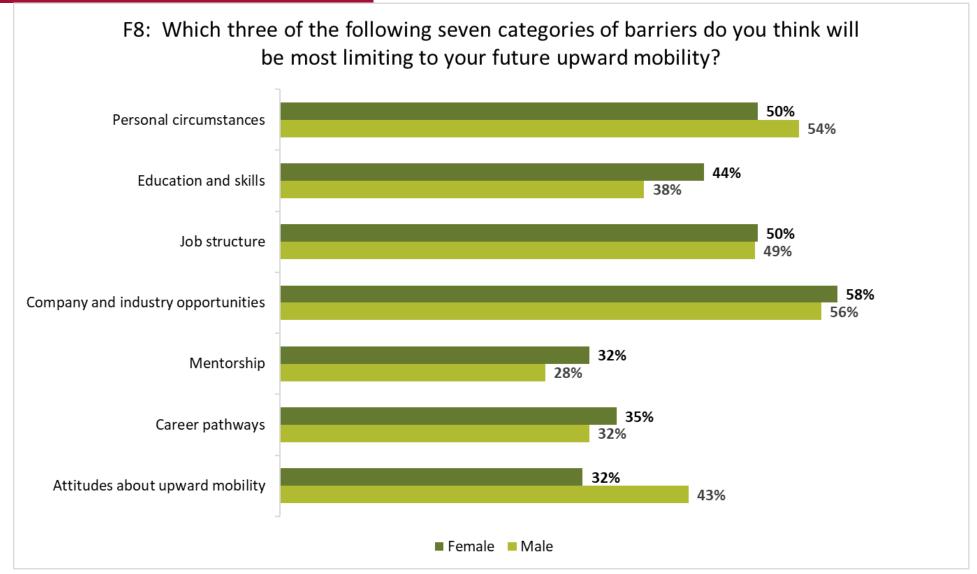
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



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



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



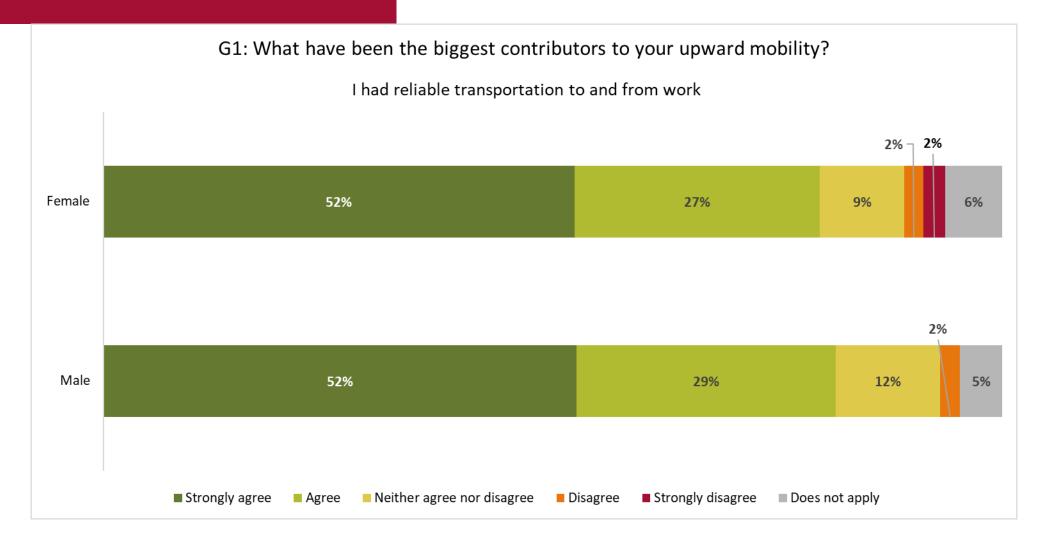
Note: Only respondents who don't know or do not expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

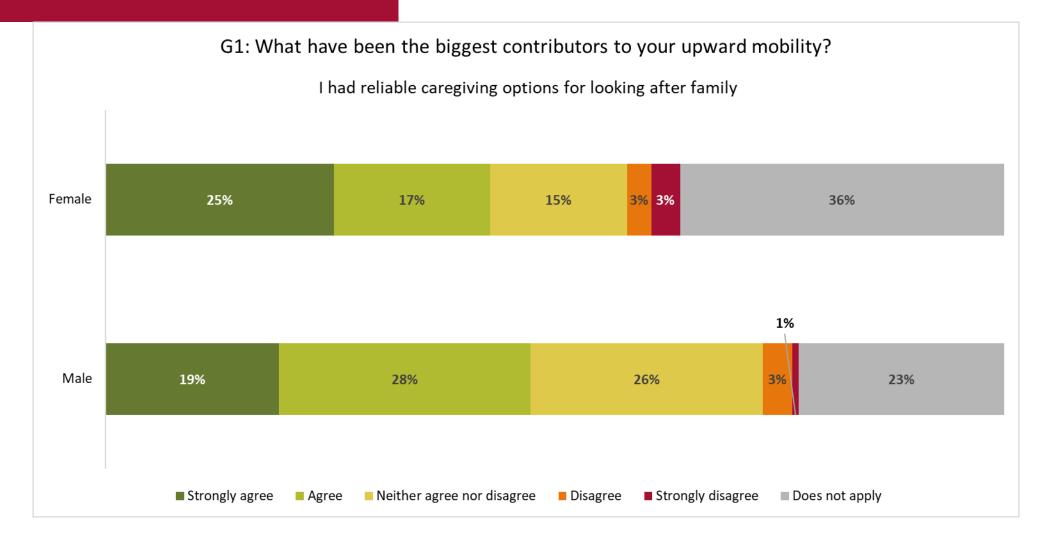
#### Section G

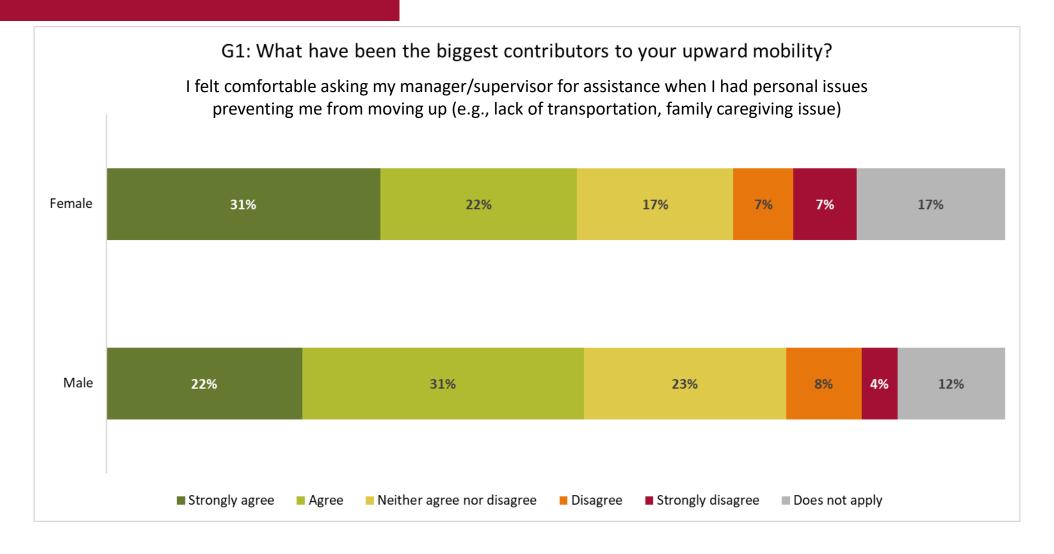
#### Contributors

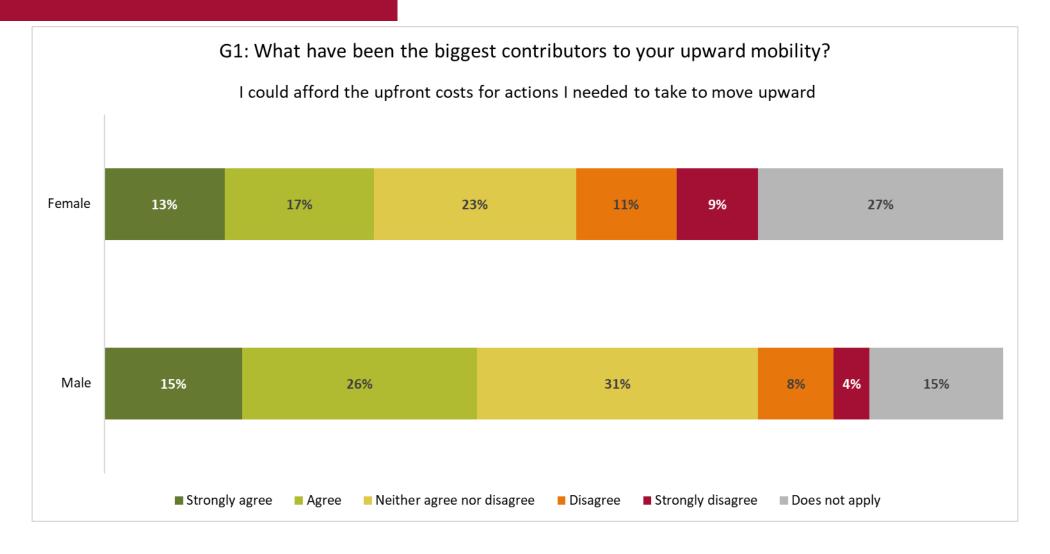
Only shown to those who DID achieve upward mobility in the last three years.

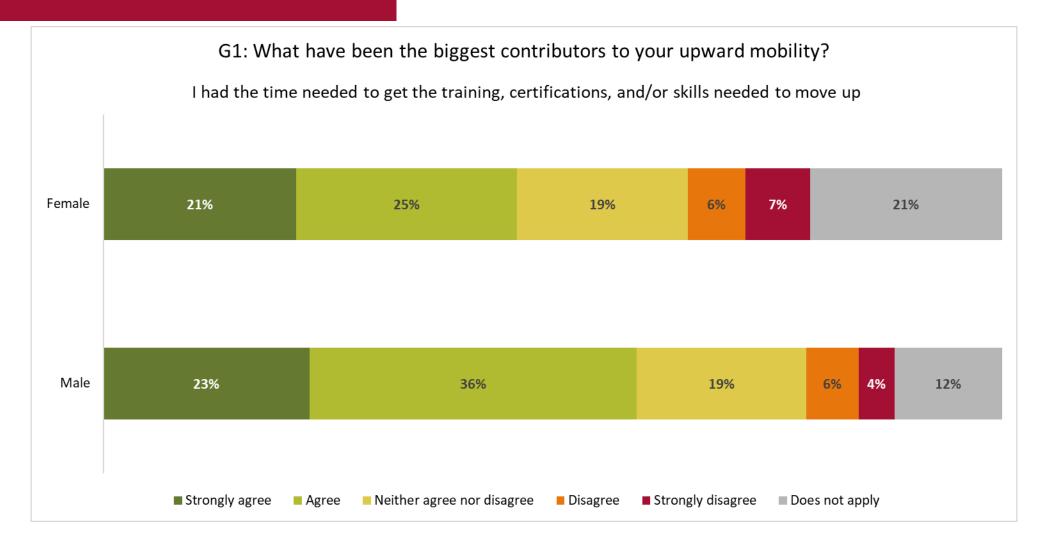
Female: N = 374; Male: N = 275

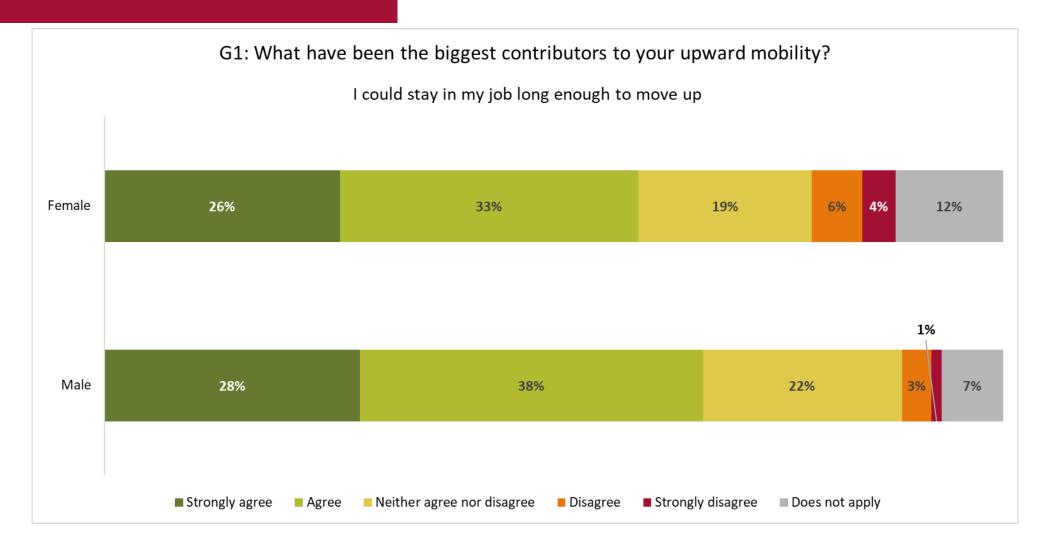


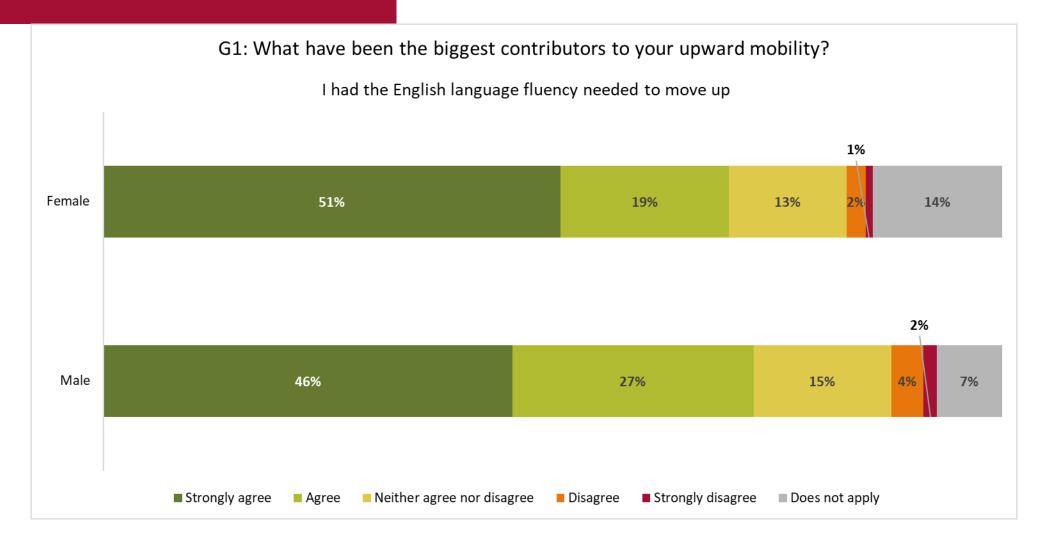


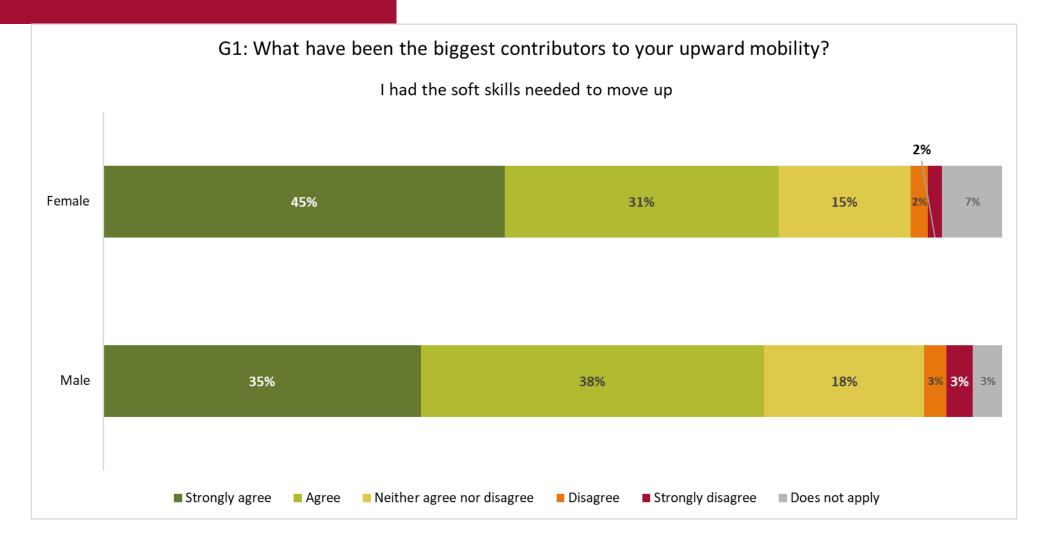


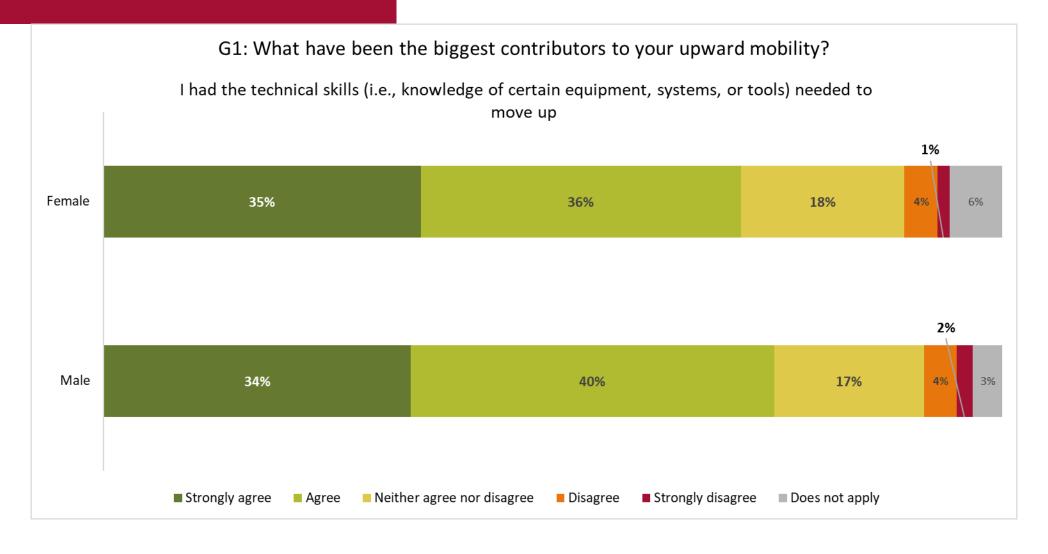


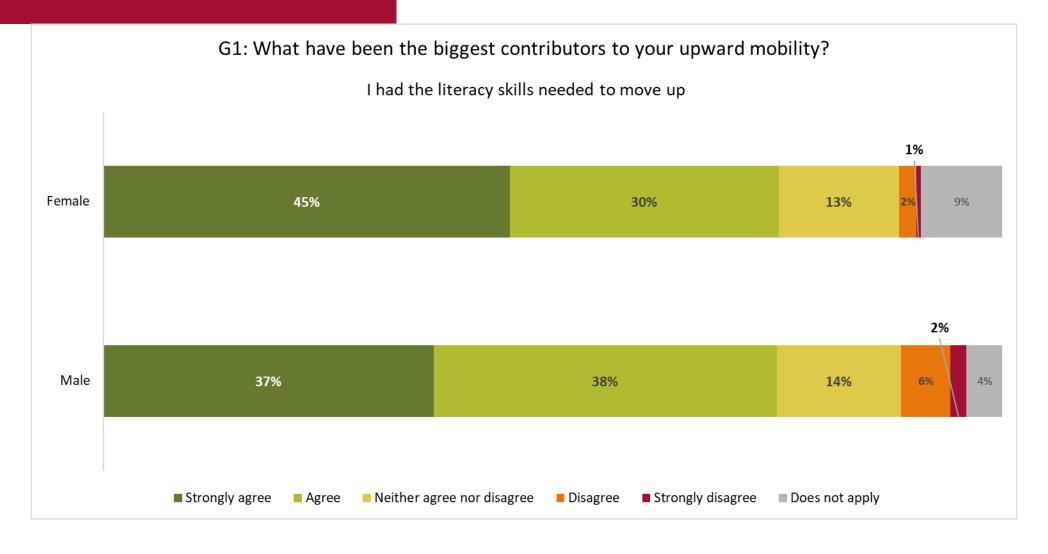


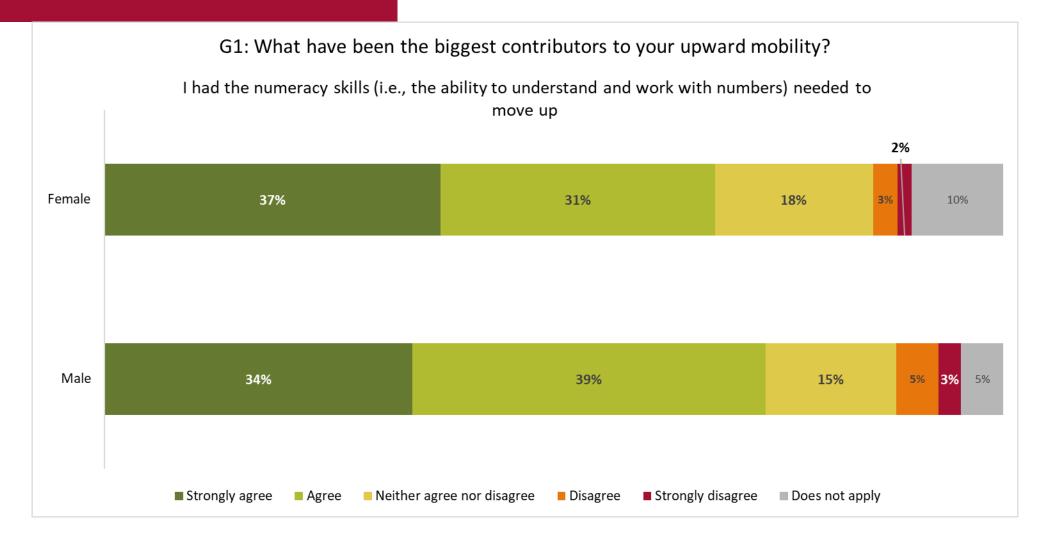




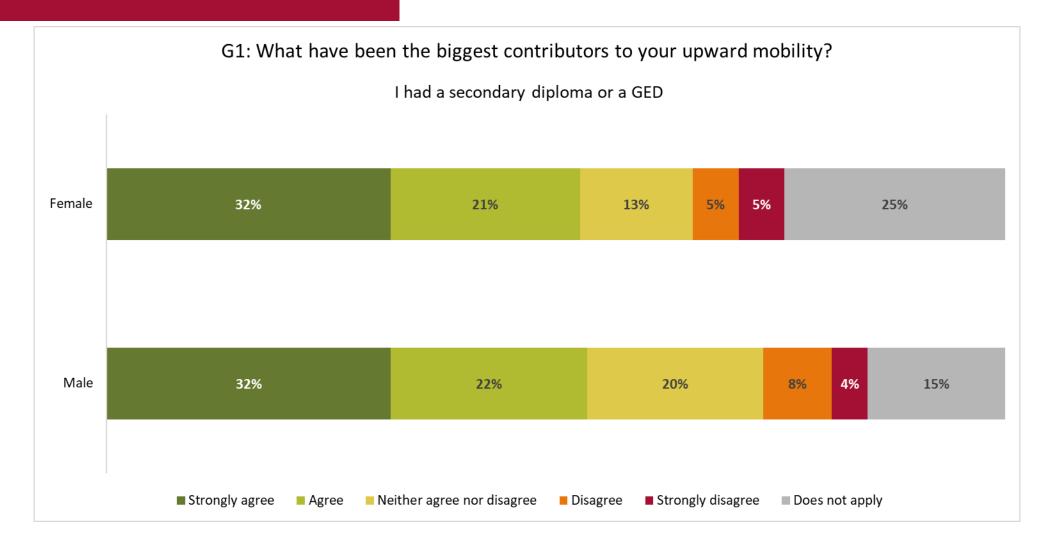


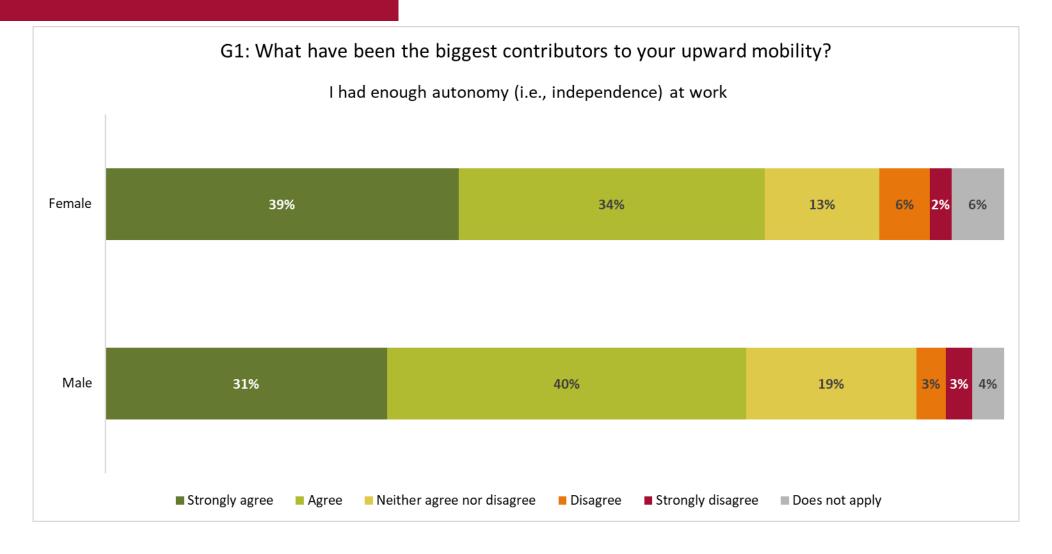




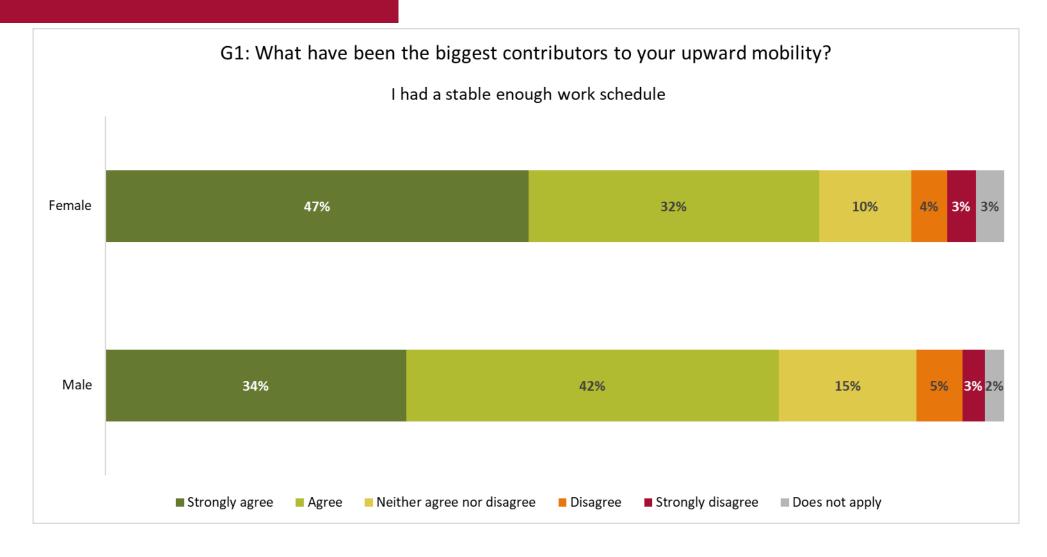


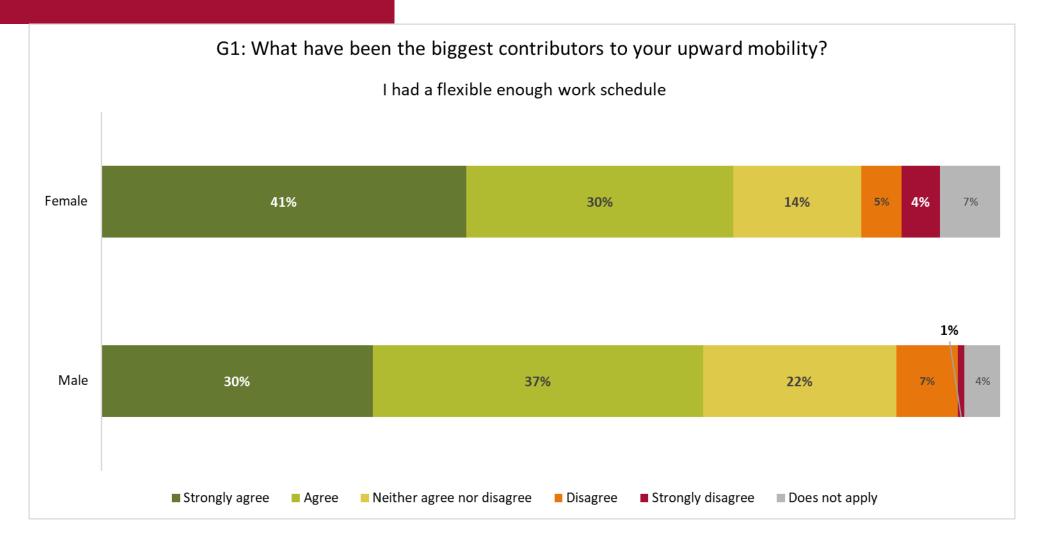
#### Section G Education and skills



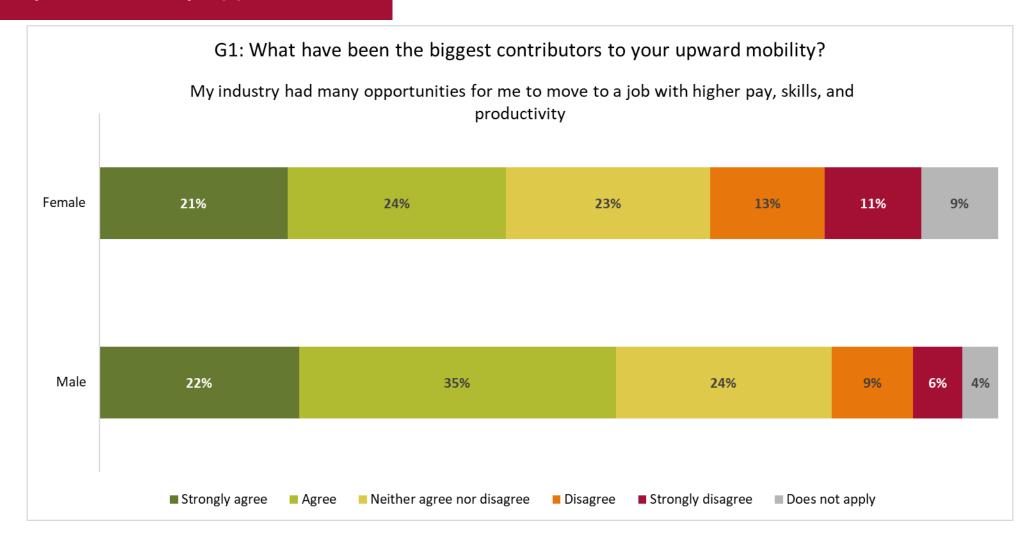


### Section G Job structure

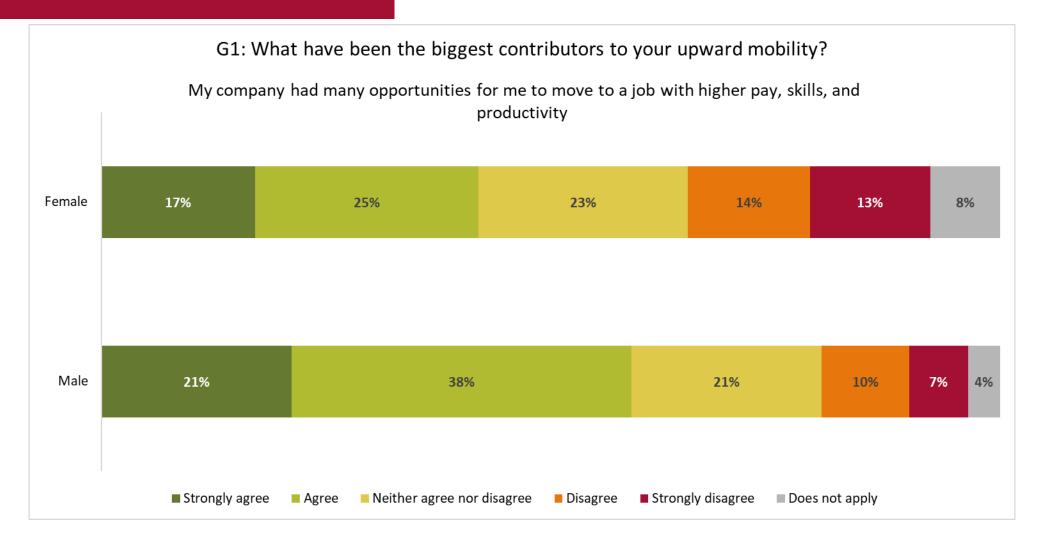


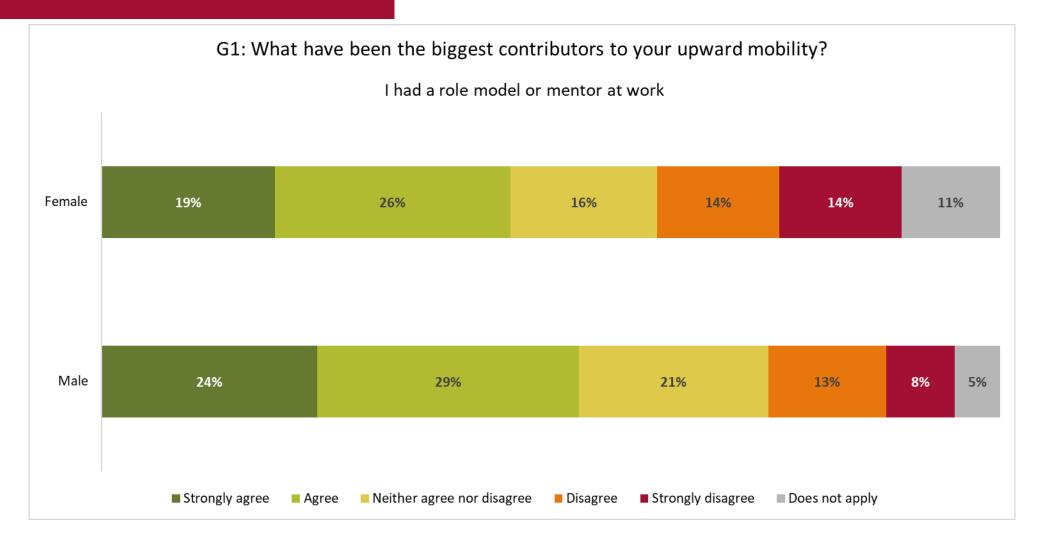


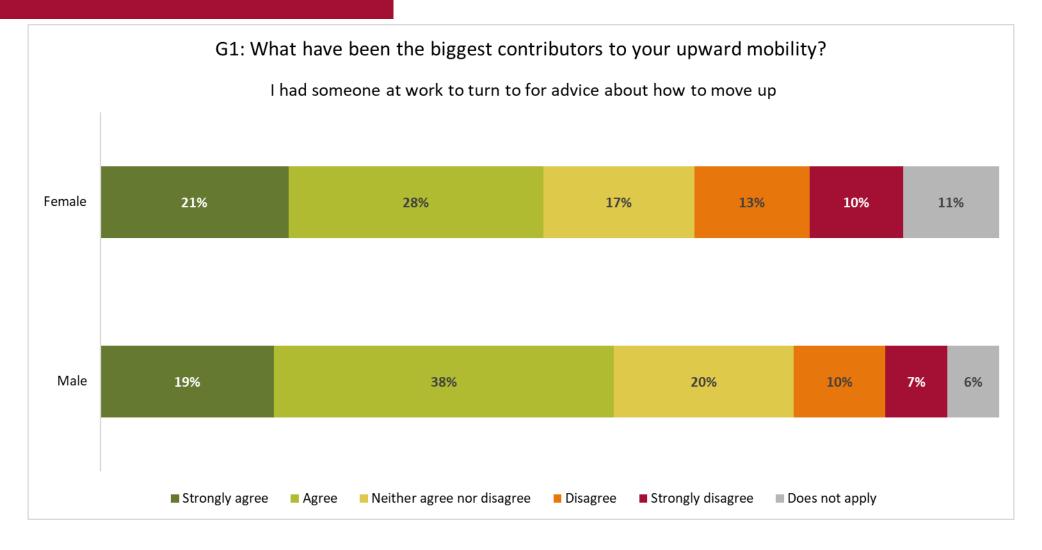
## Section G Company and industry opportunities



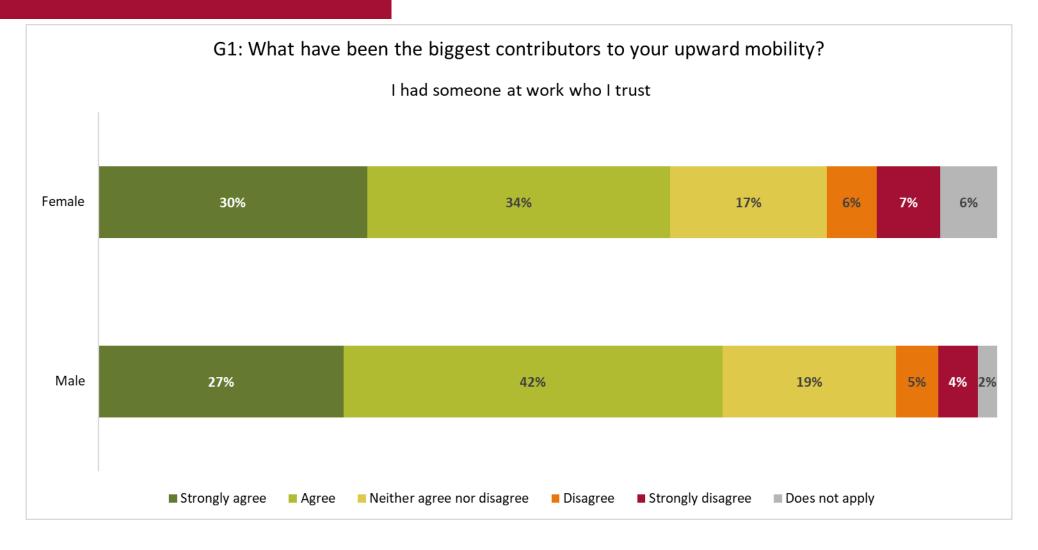
# Section G Company and industry opportunities



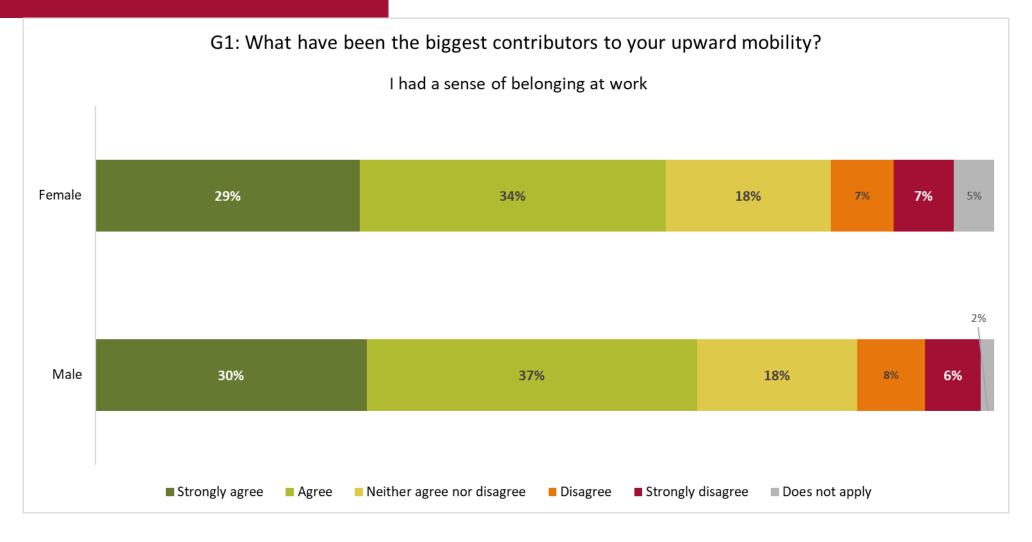


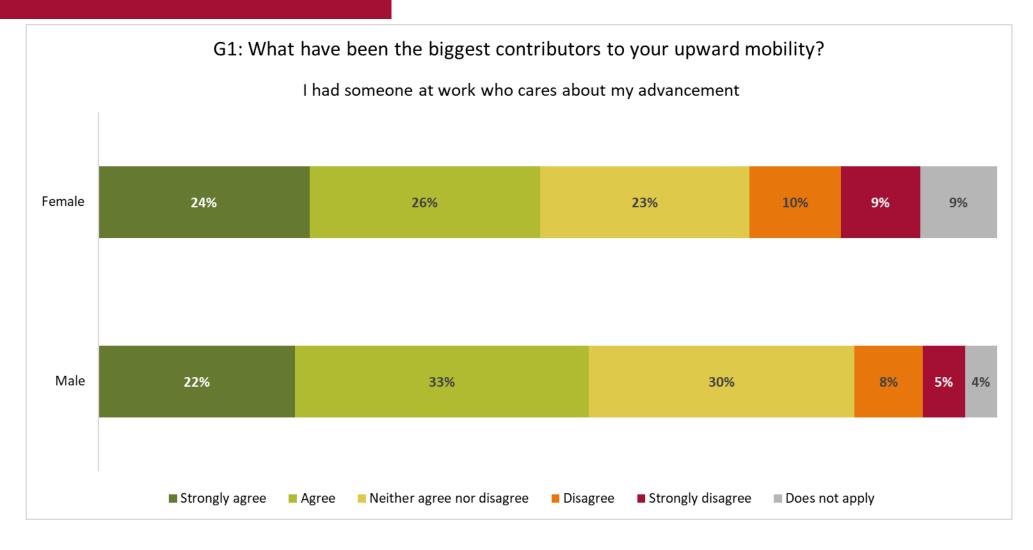


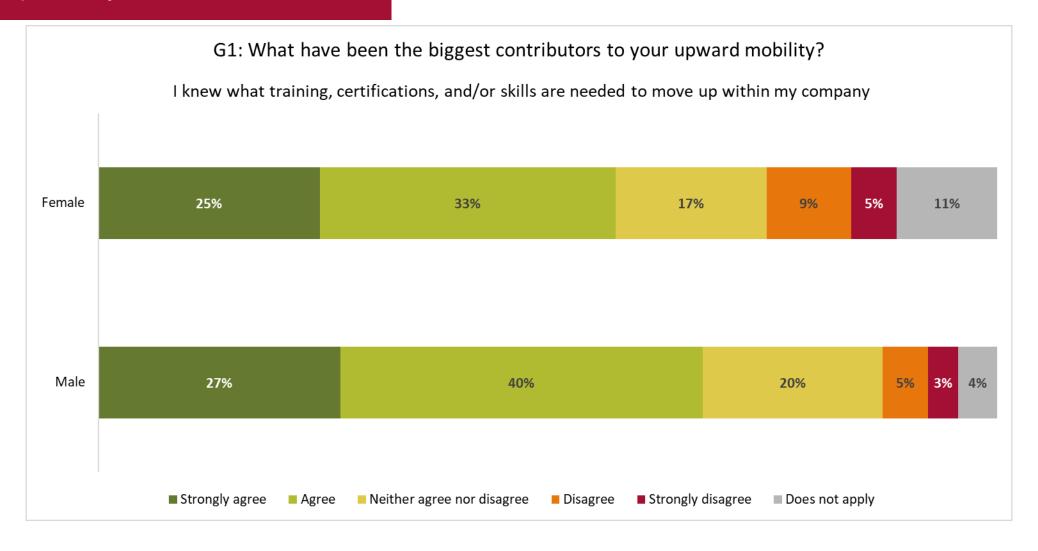
#### Section G *Mentorship*

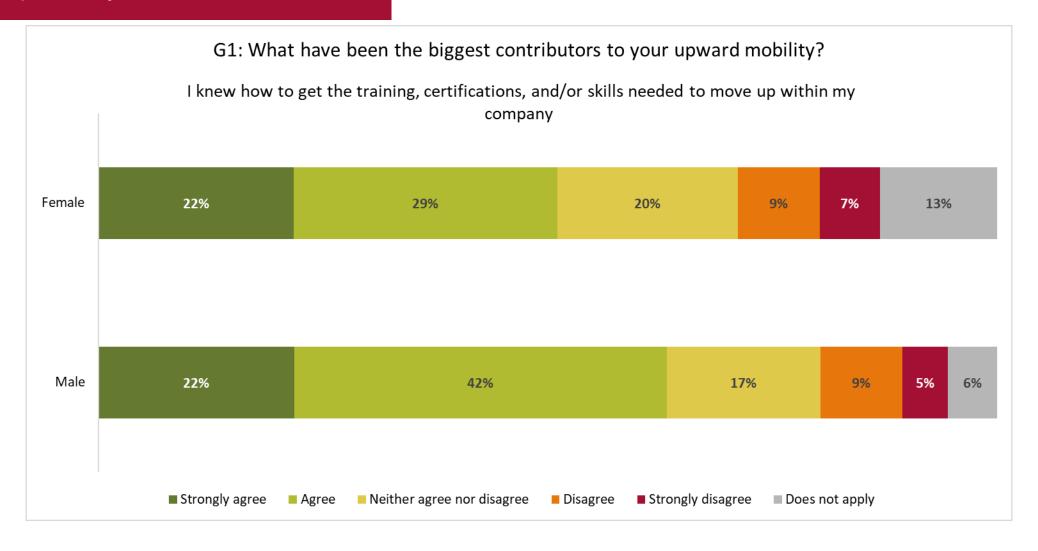


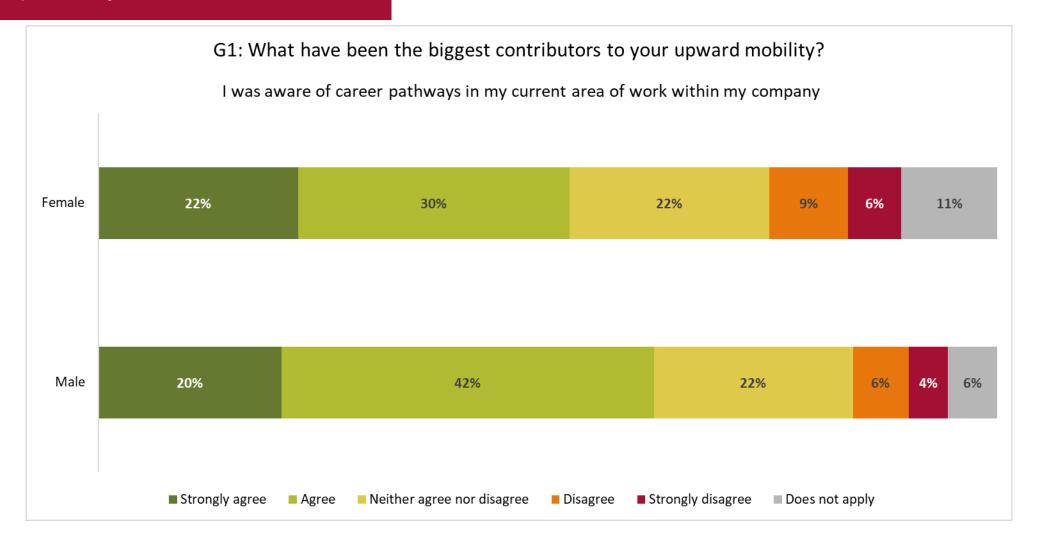
#### Section G *Mentorship*

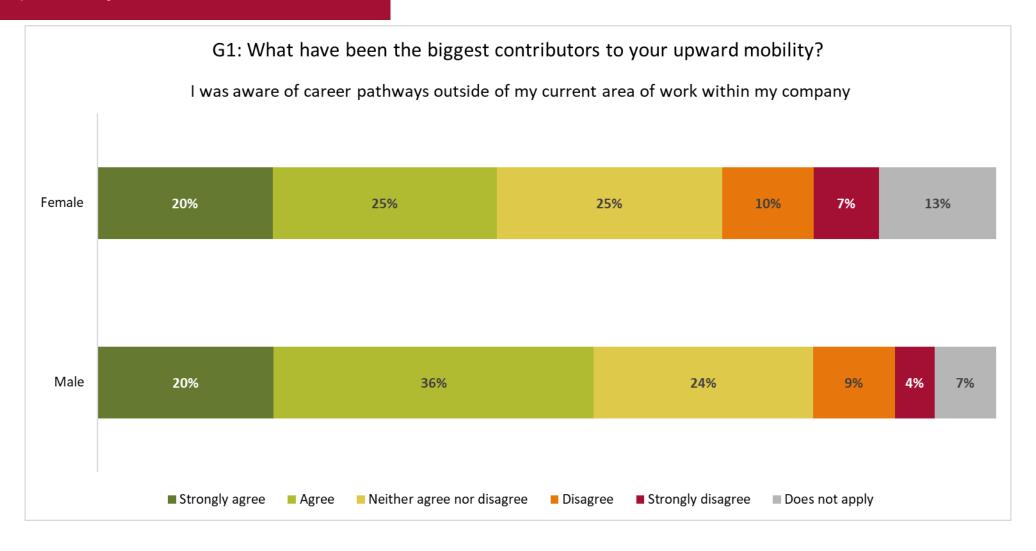


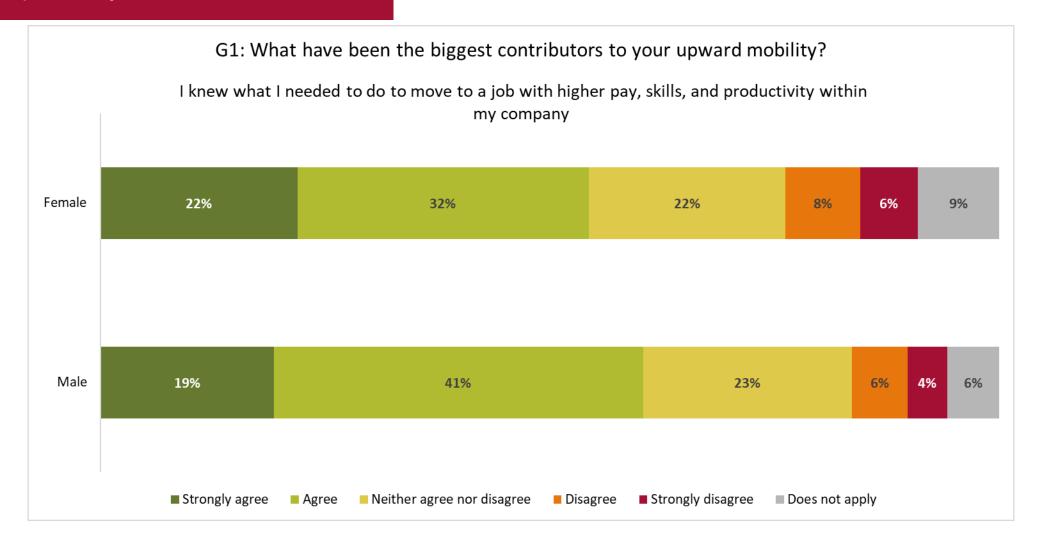


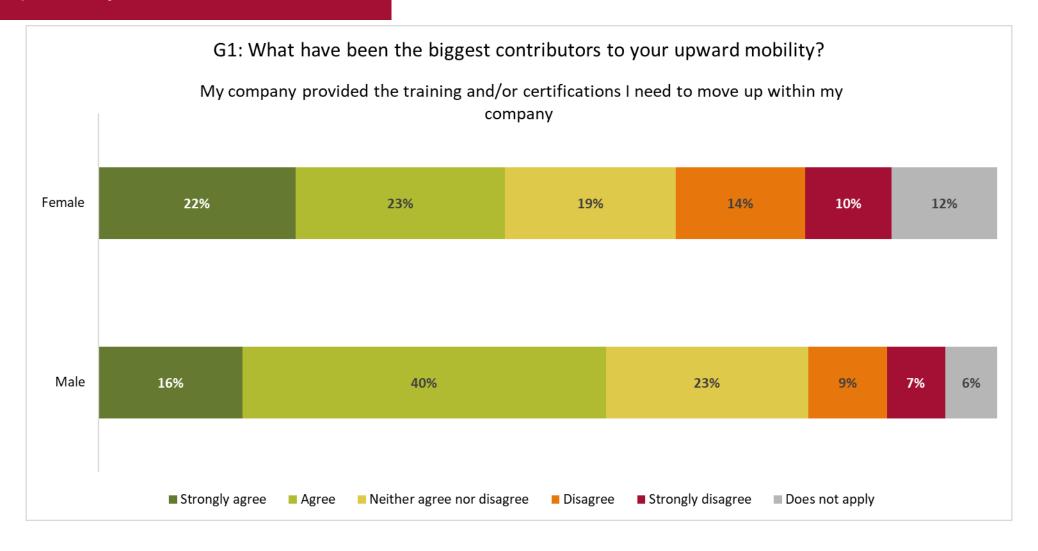




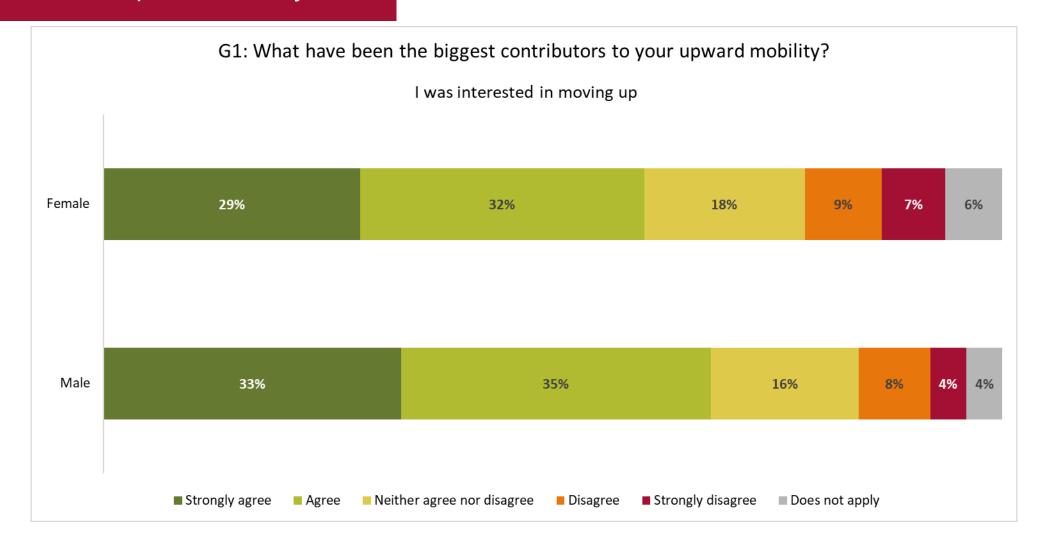


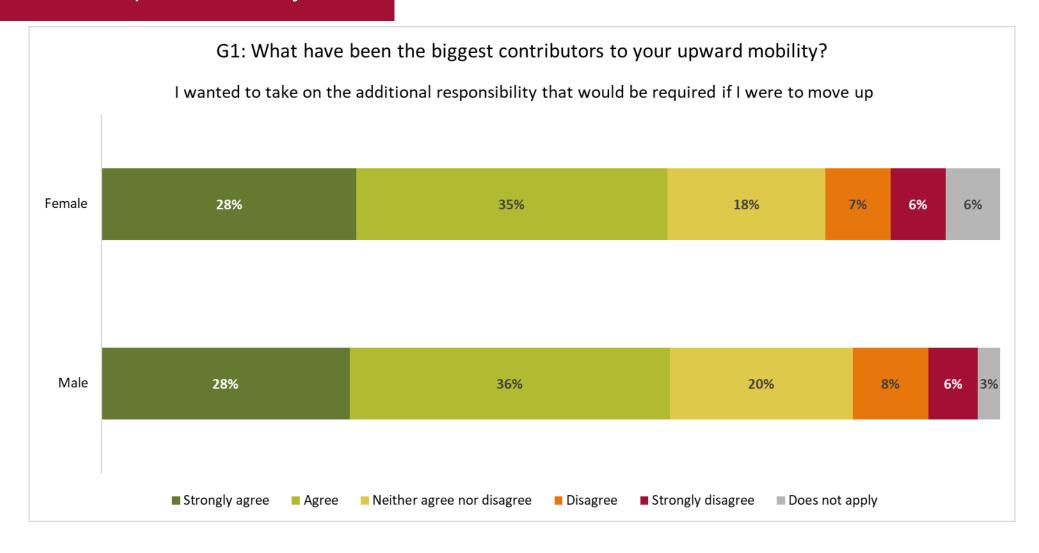


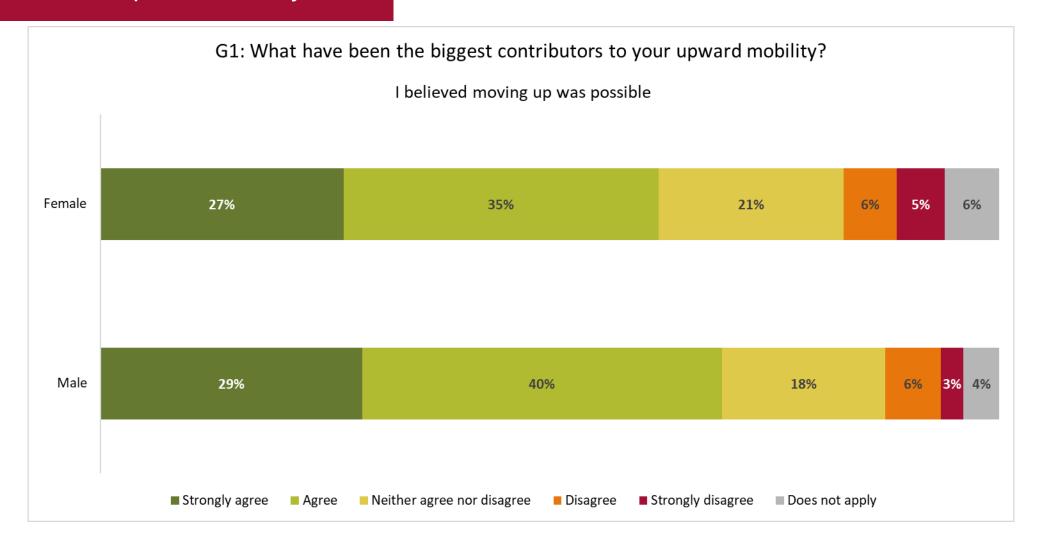


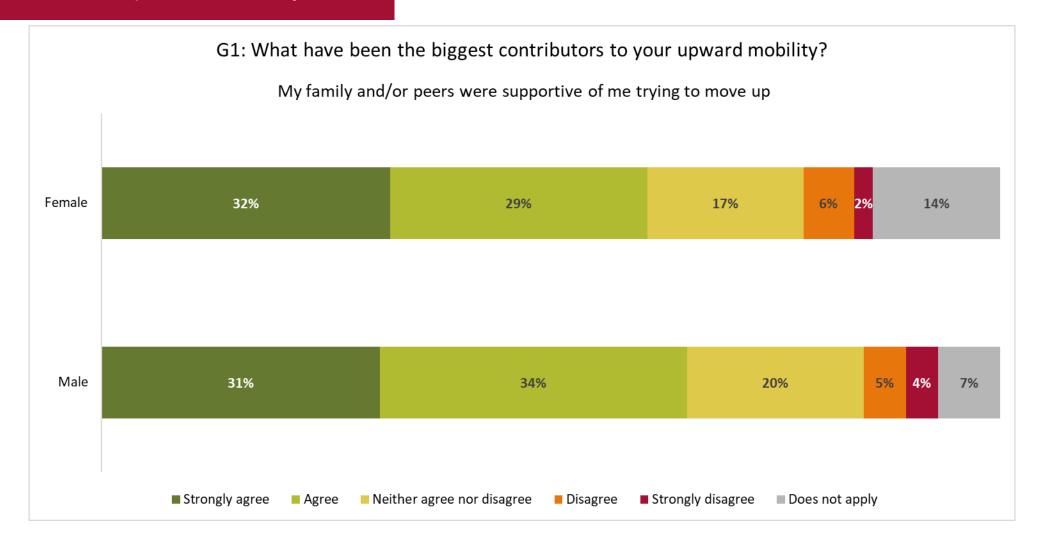


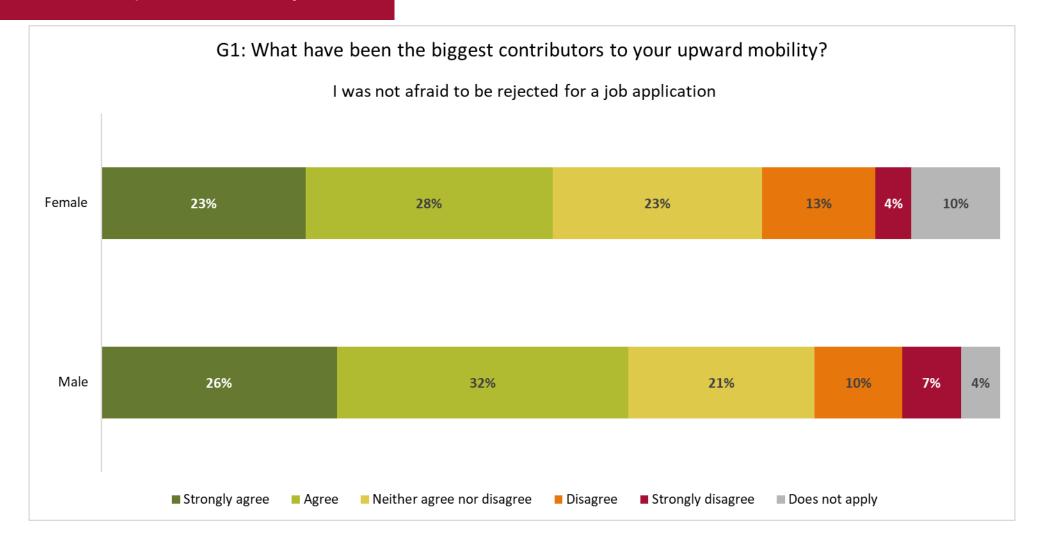
### Section G Attitudes about upward mobility

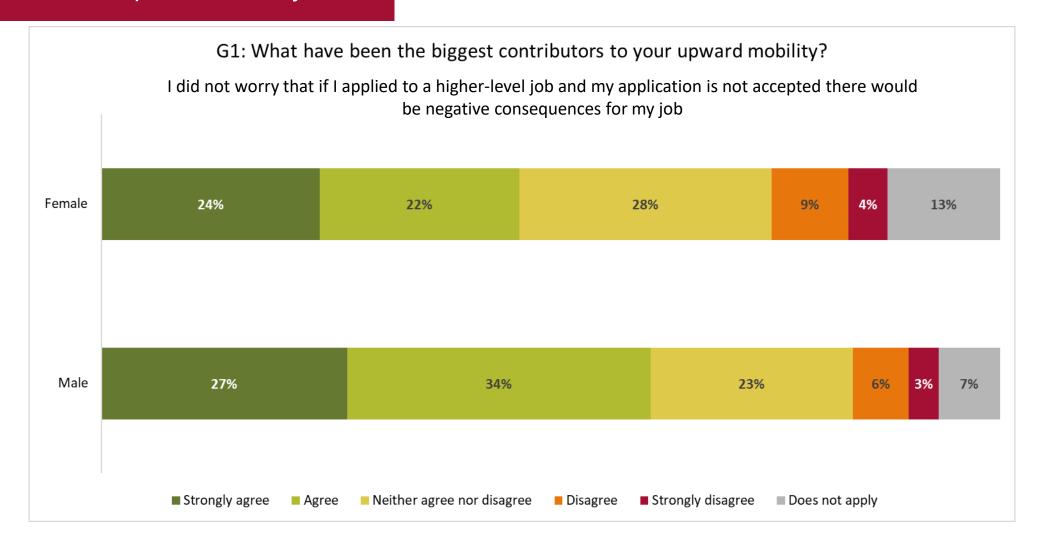


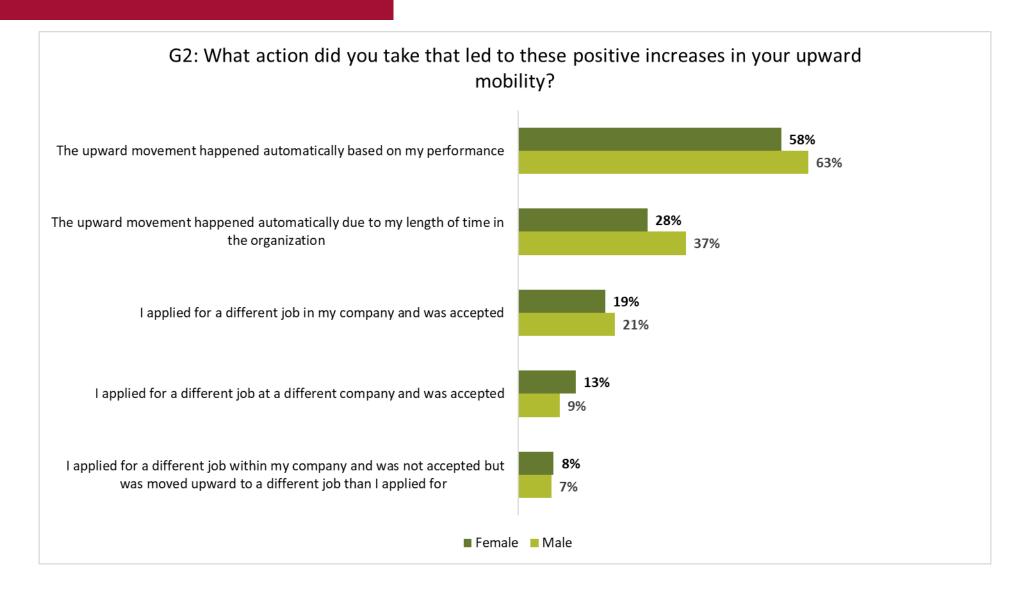


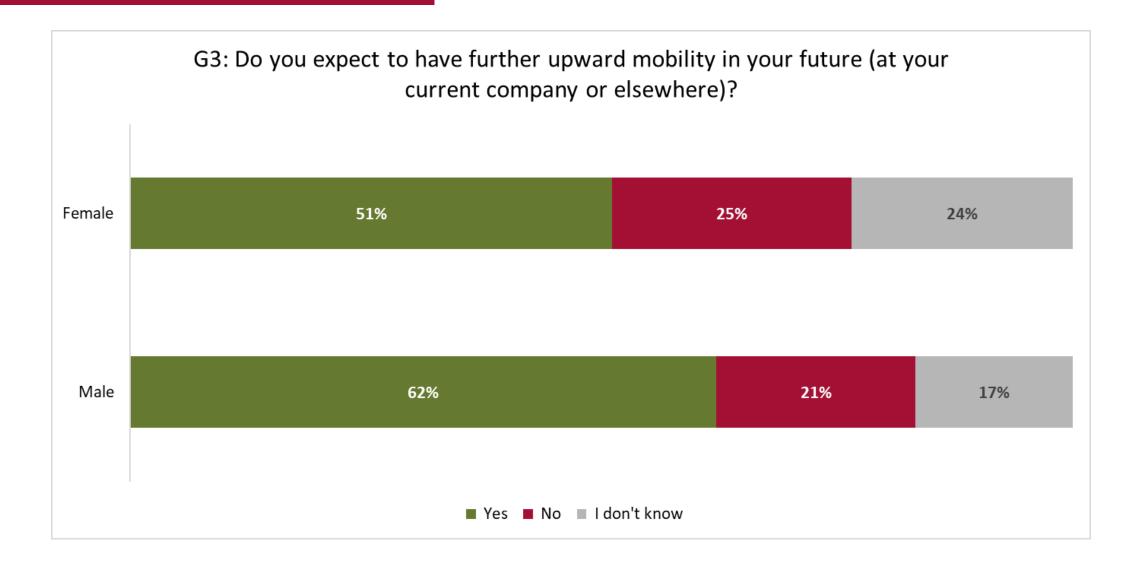




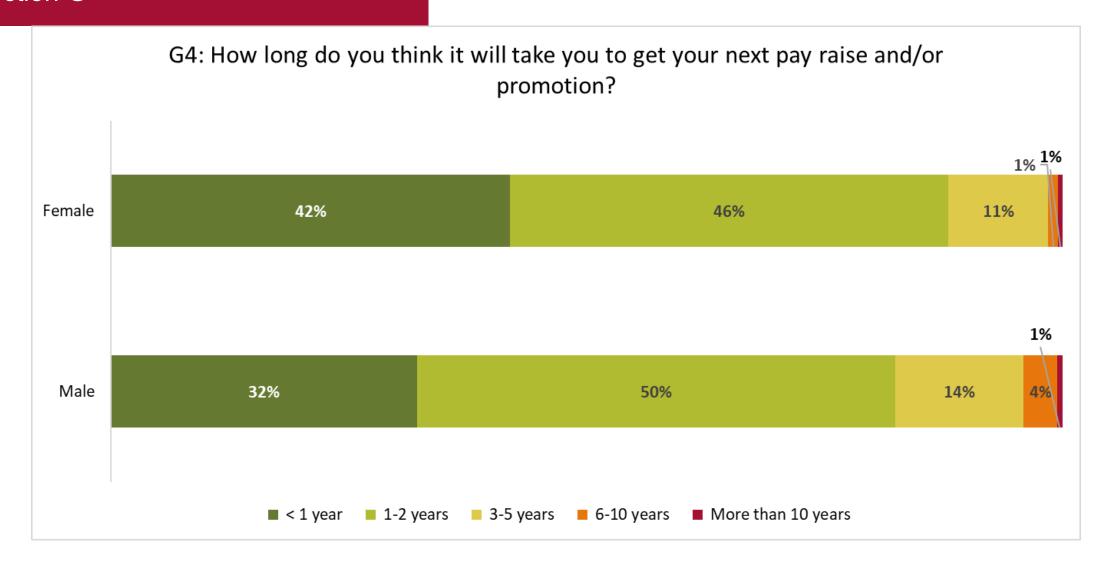




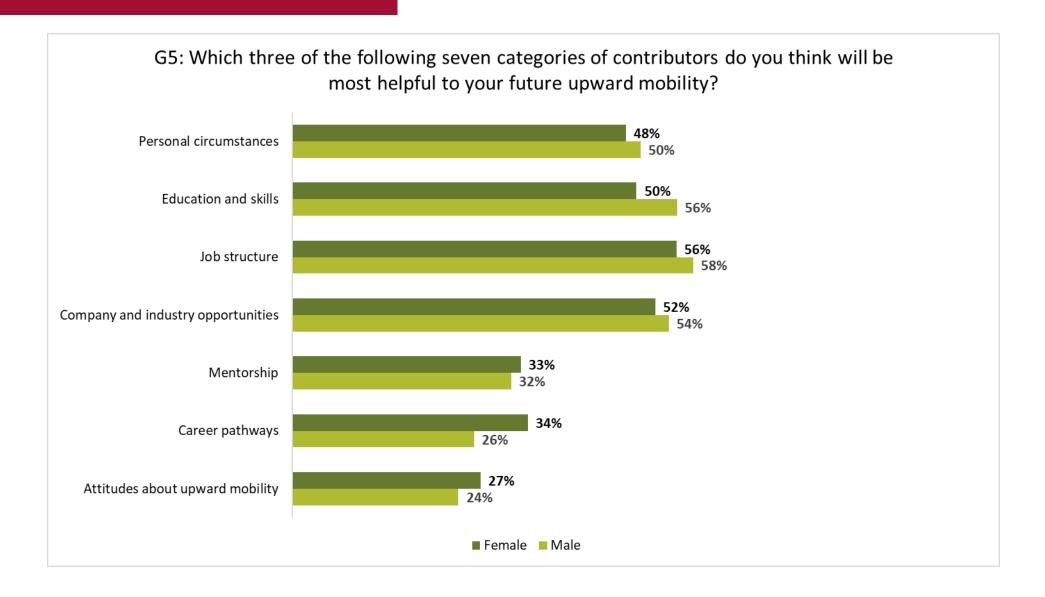


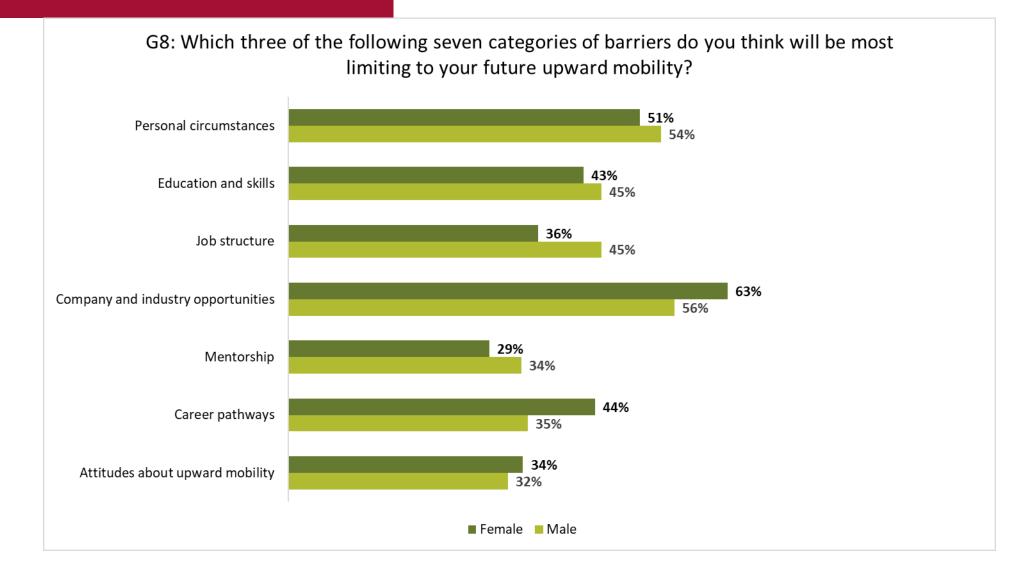


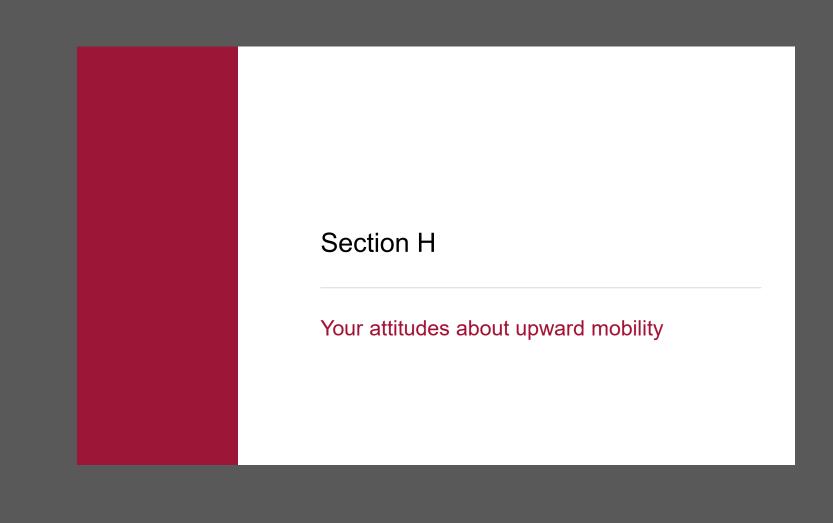
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

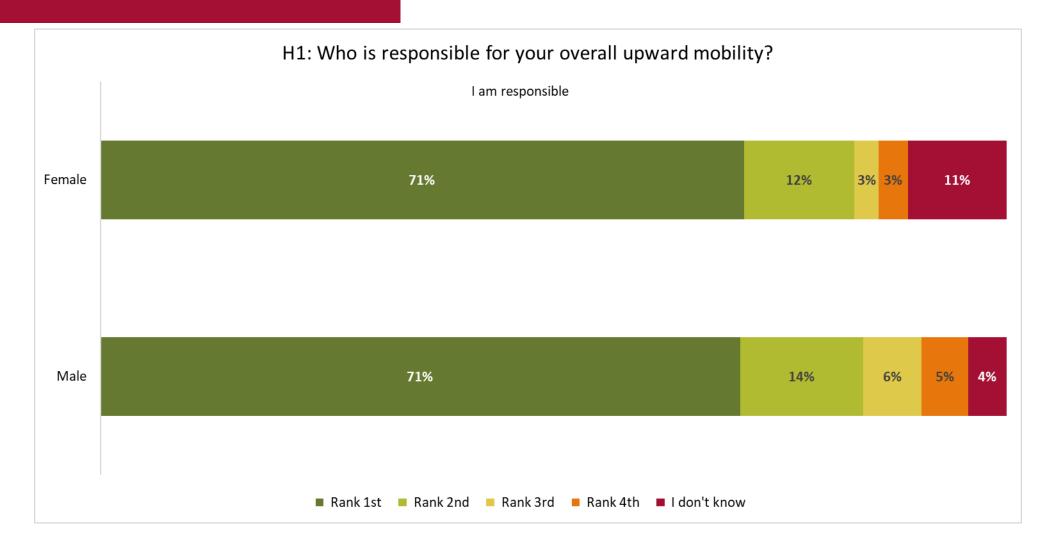


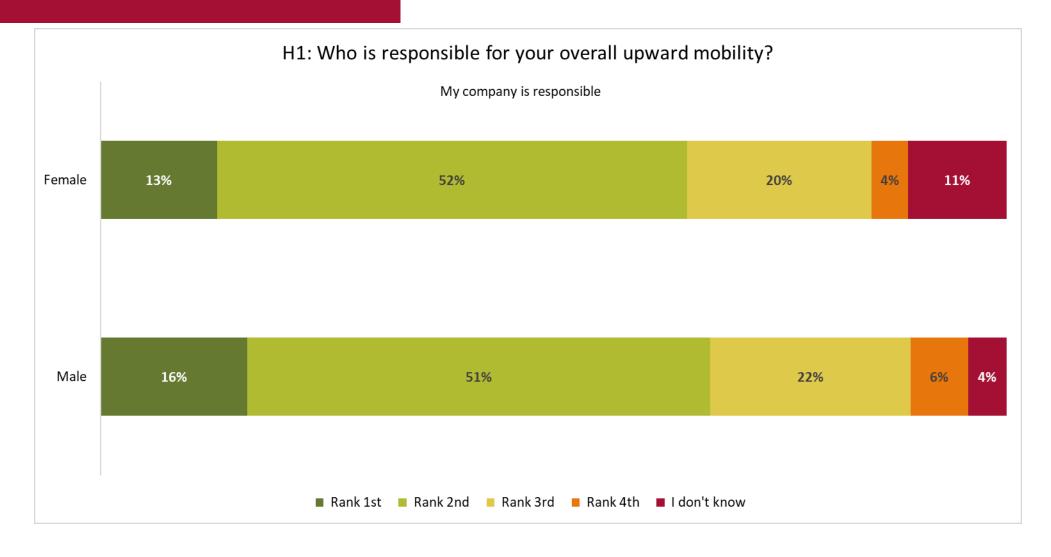
Note: Only respondents who expect upward mobility in the future answered this question.

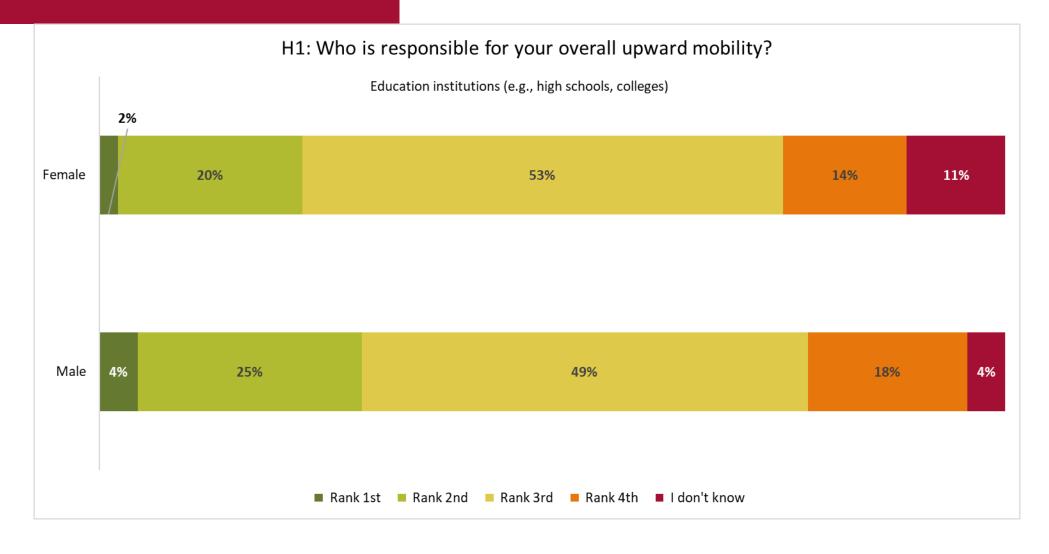


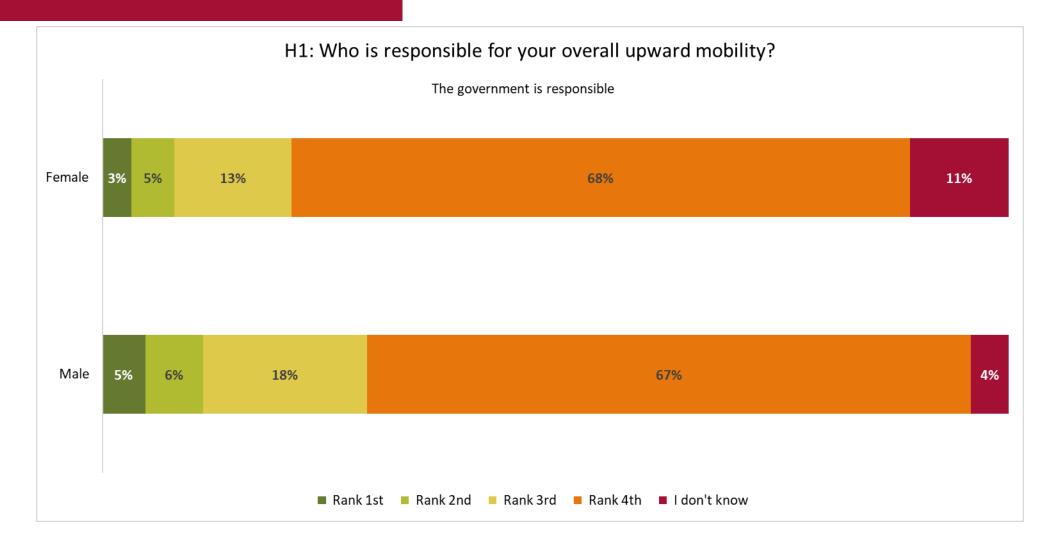


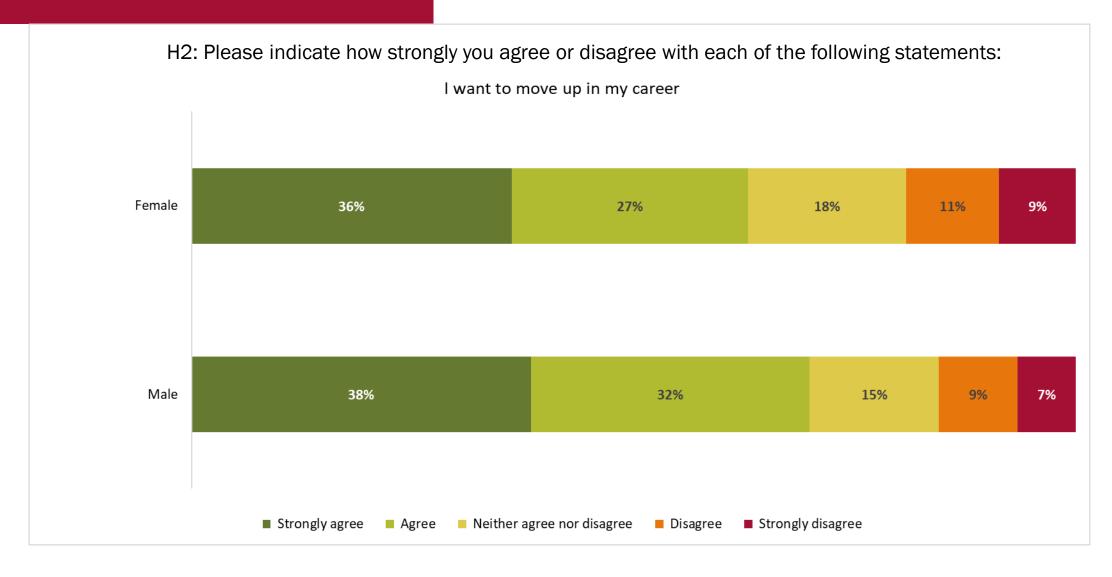


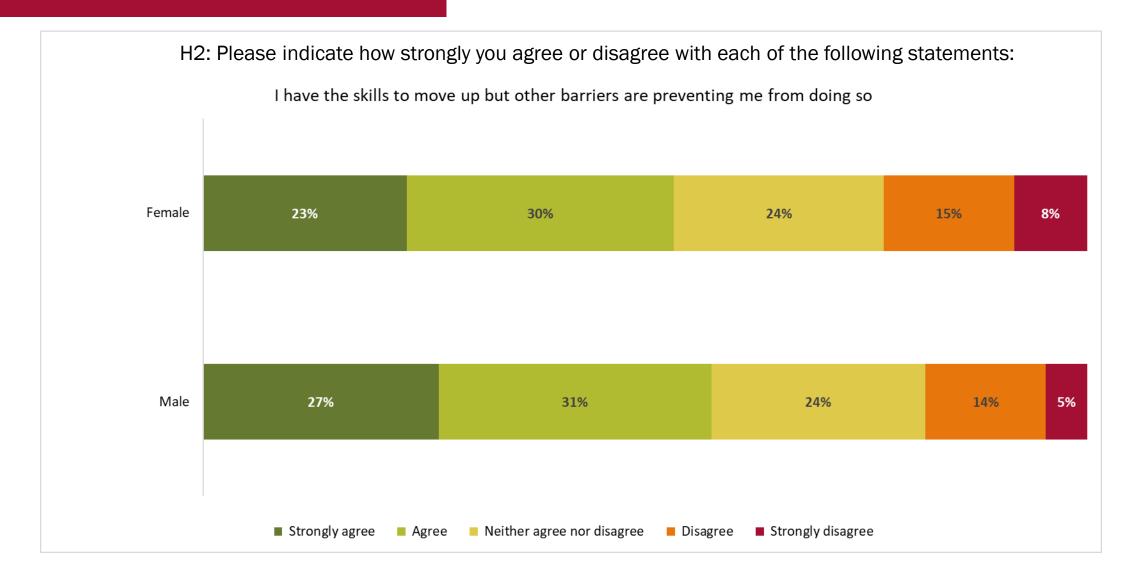


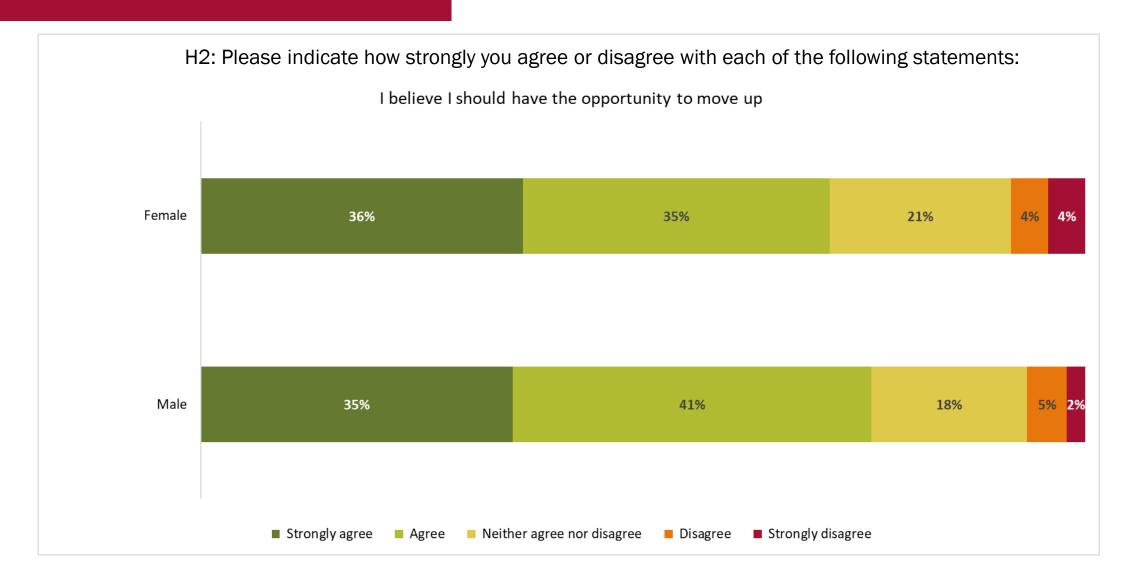


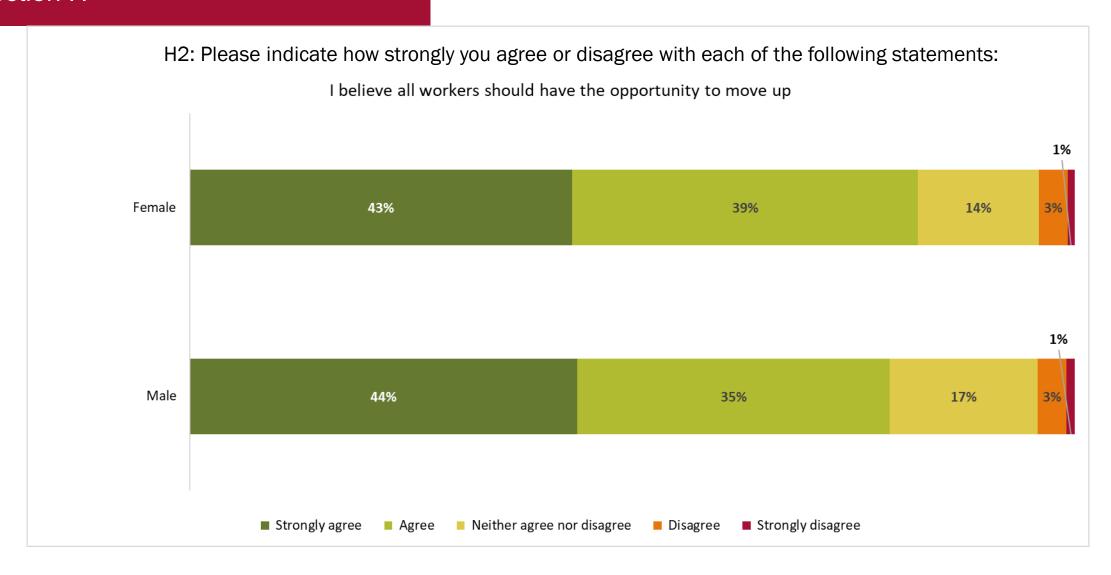


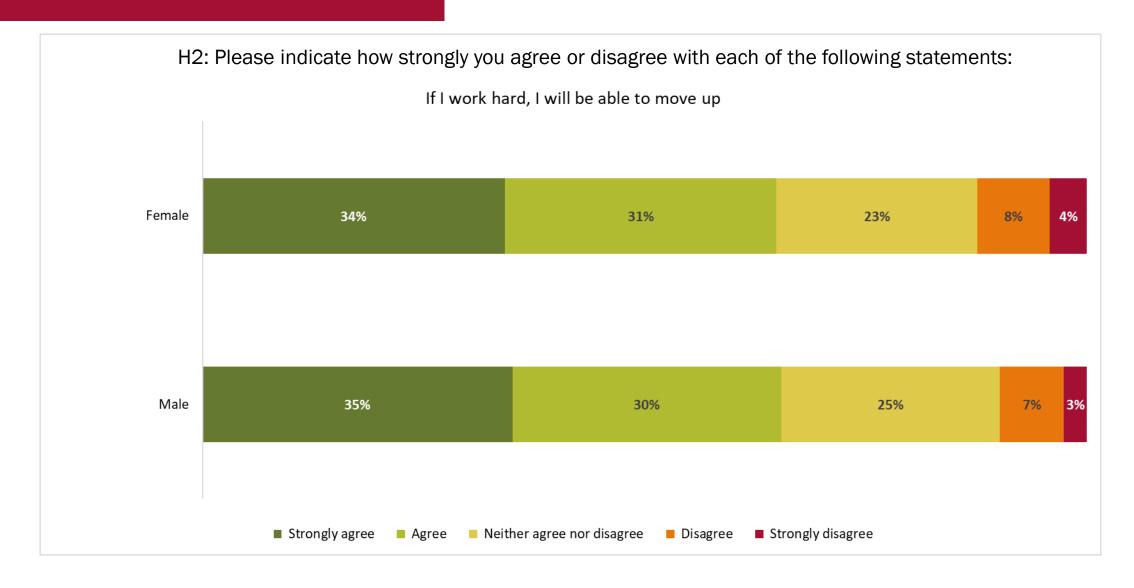


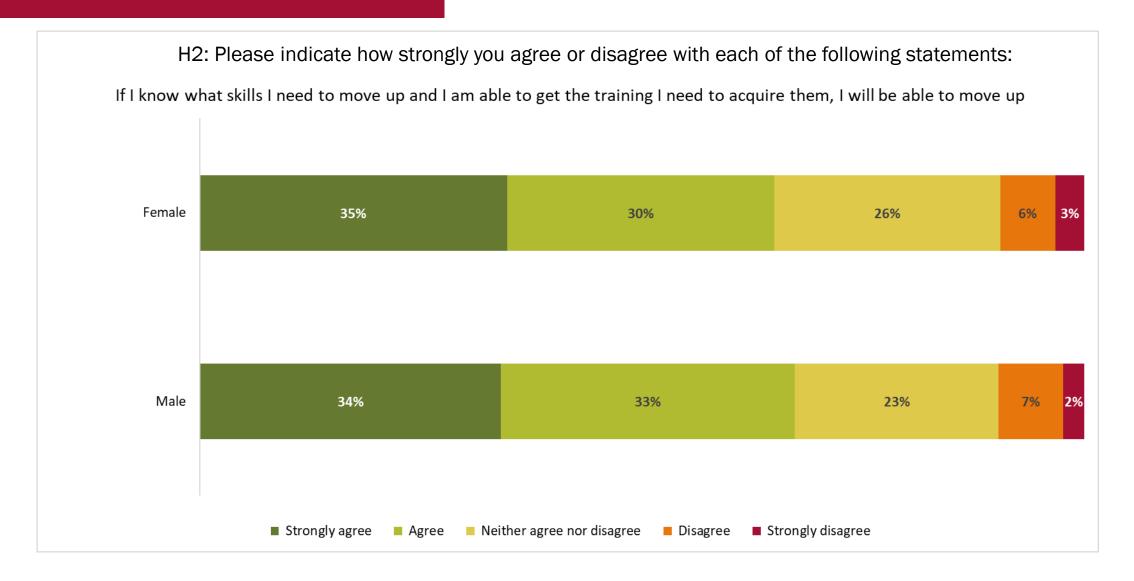




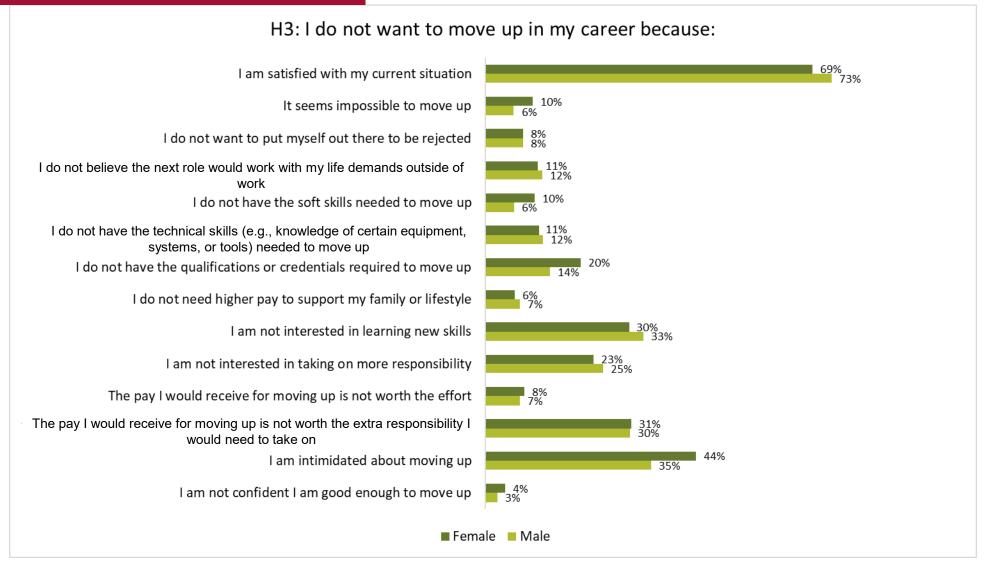




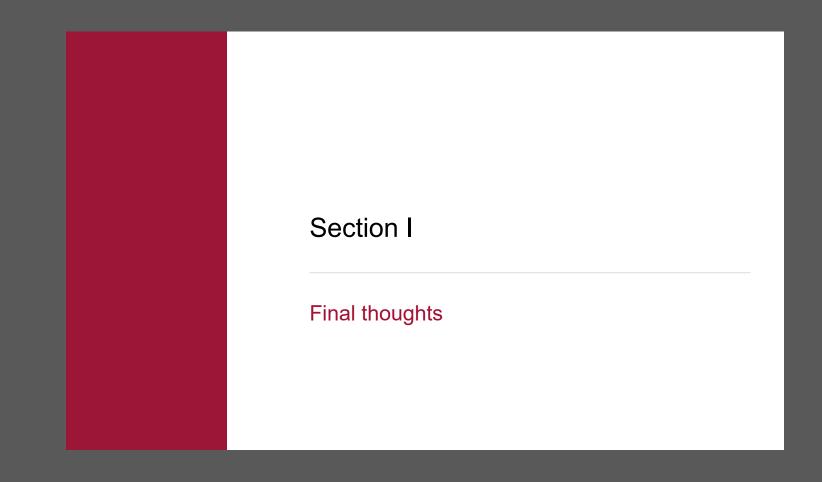




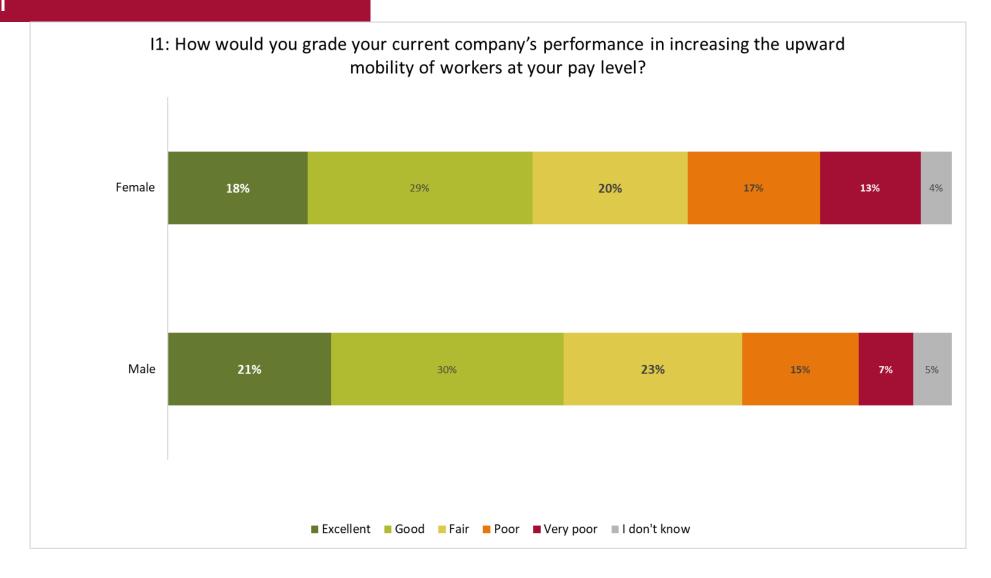
Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September–November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



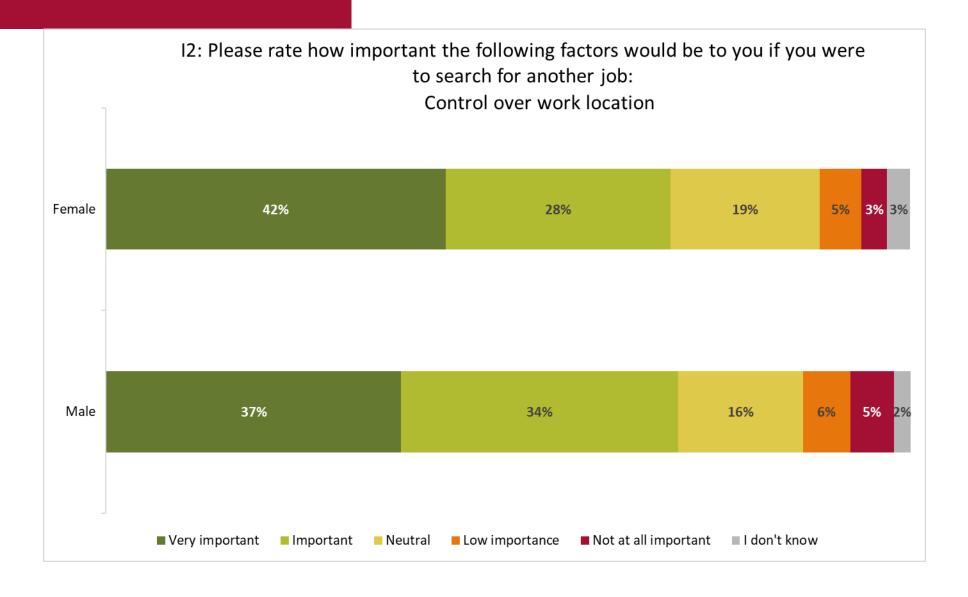
Note: Only those who do not want to move up in their career – those who answered "strongly disagree" or "disagree" in previous question "I want to move up in my career" – answered this question



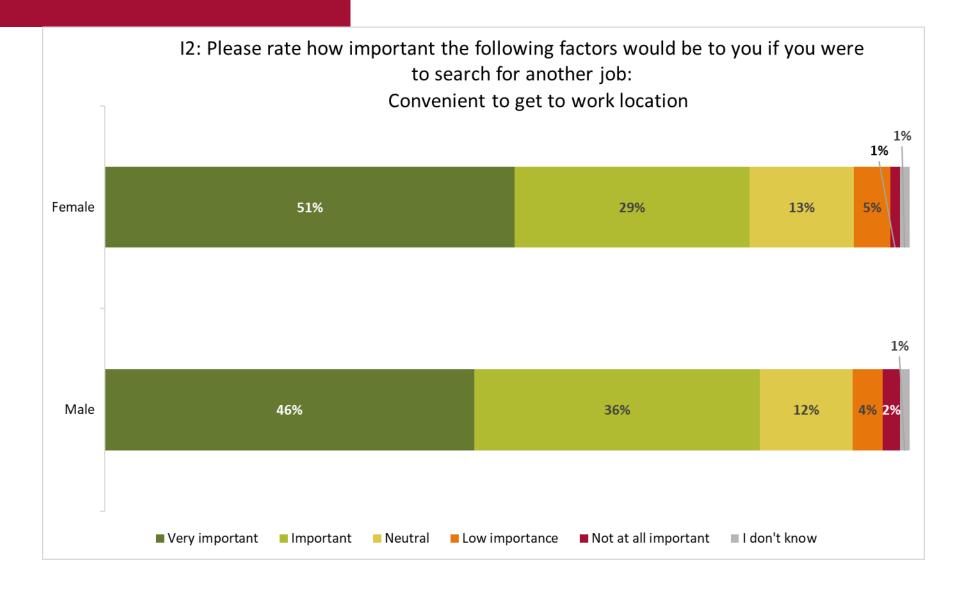
Section I



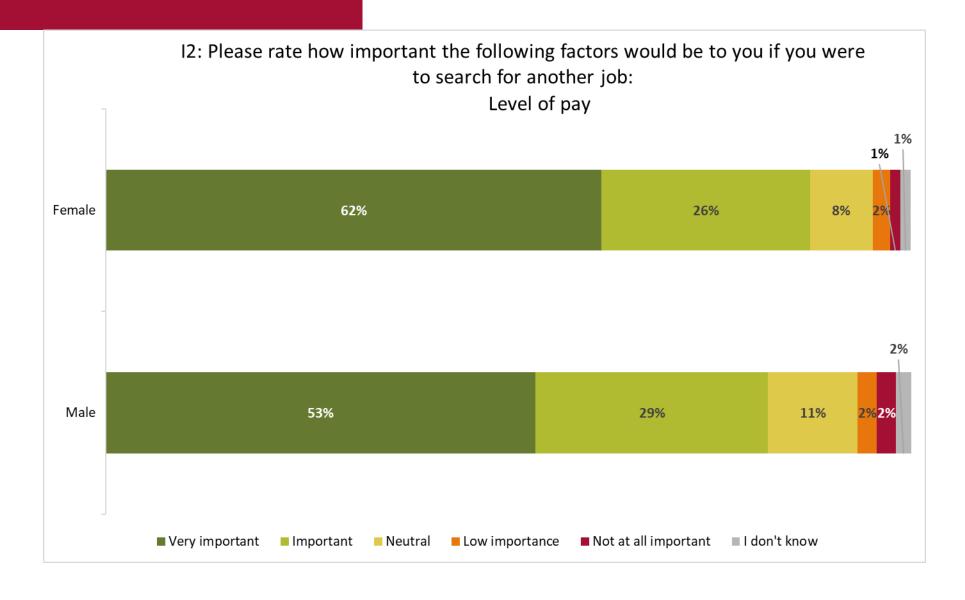
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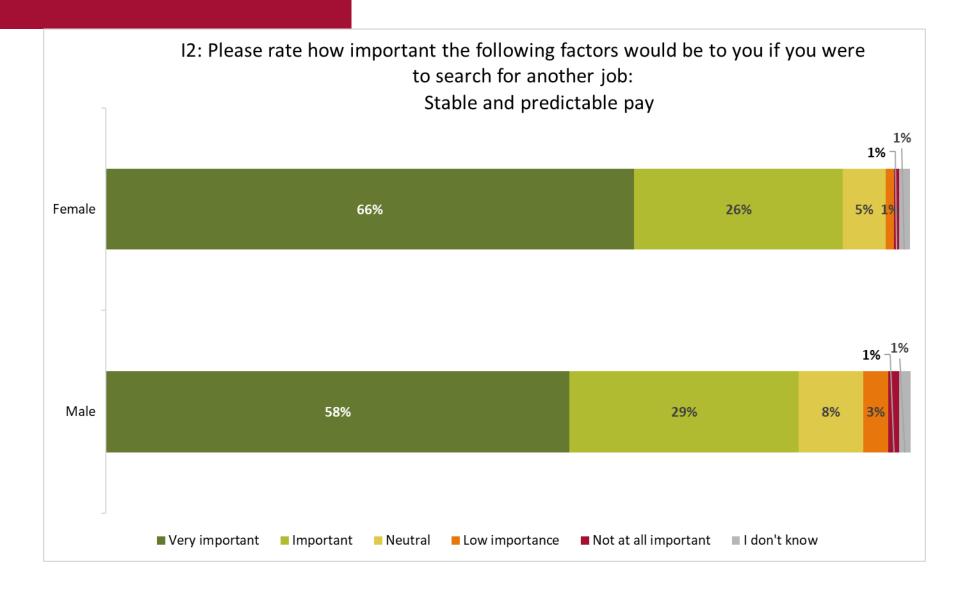
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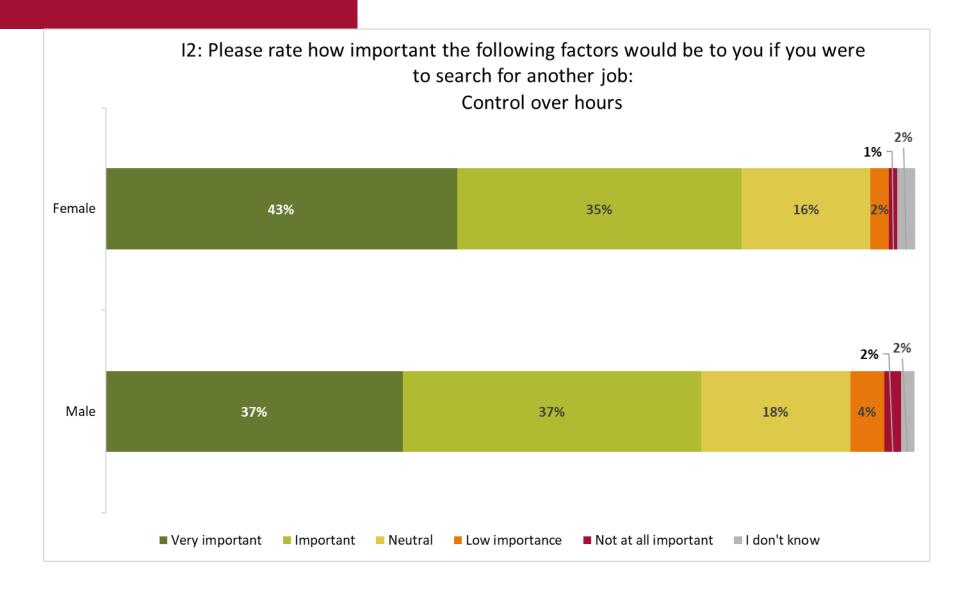
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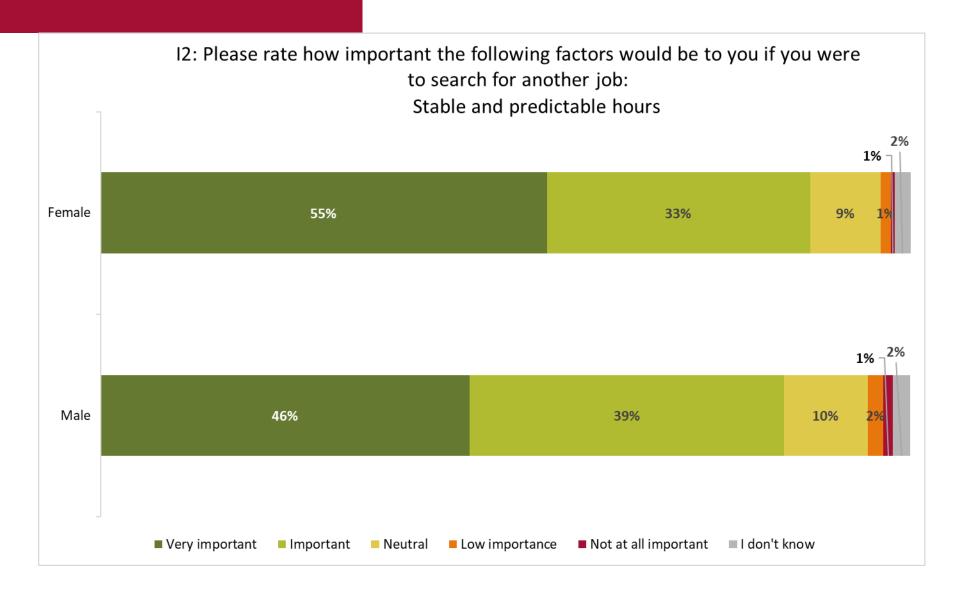


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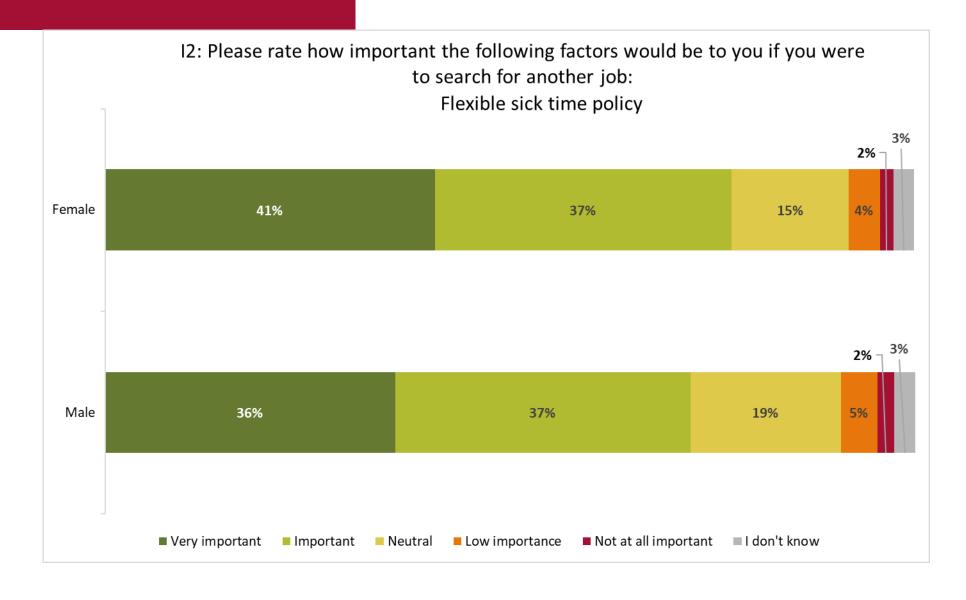


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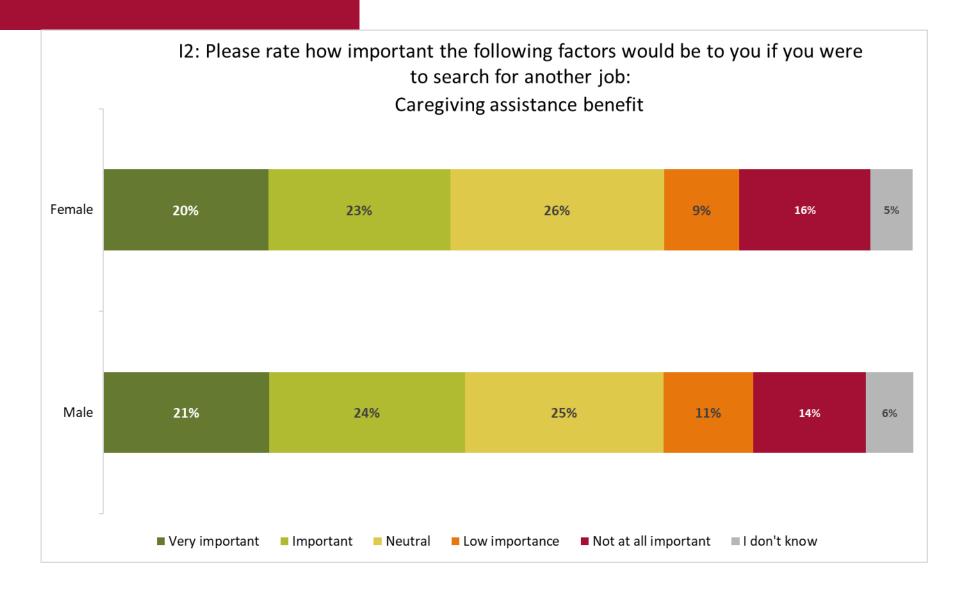
## Section I



Section I

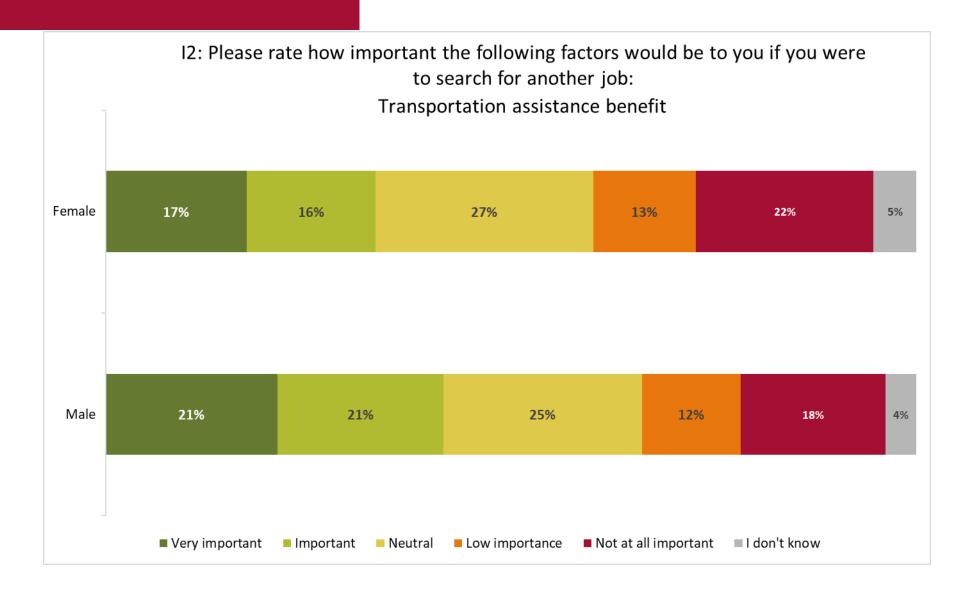


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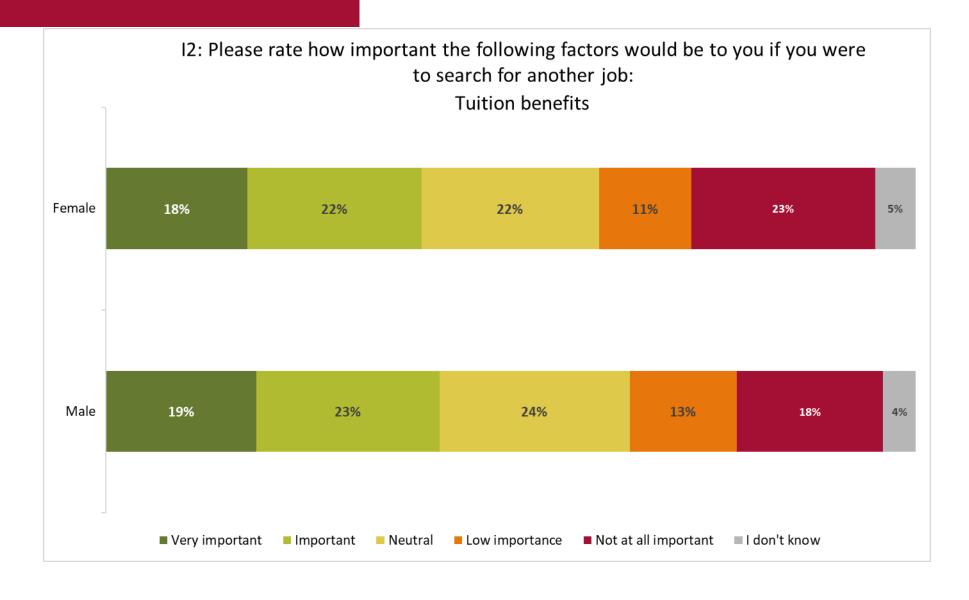


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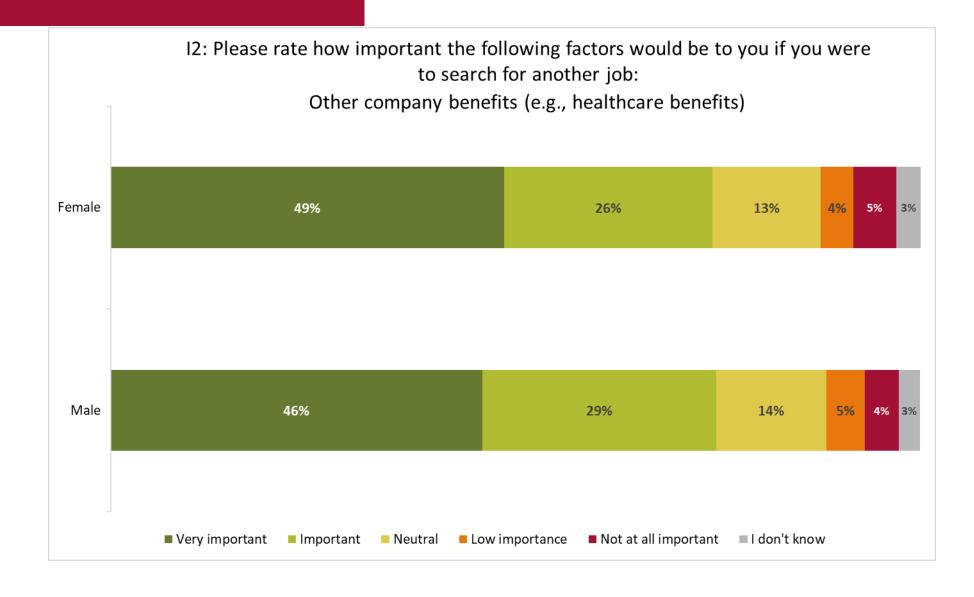
## Section I



Section I

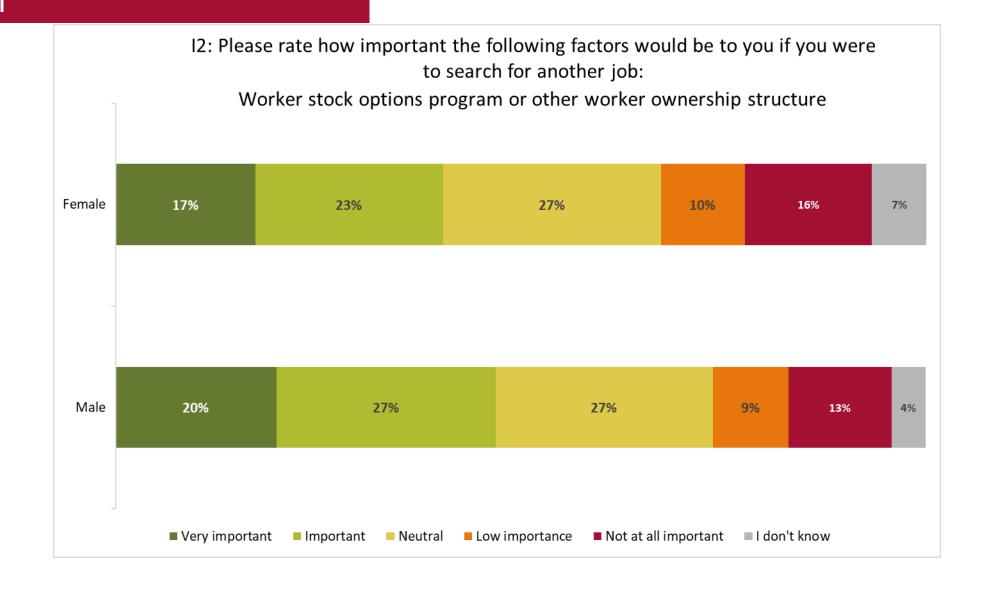


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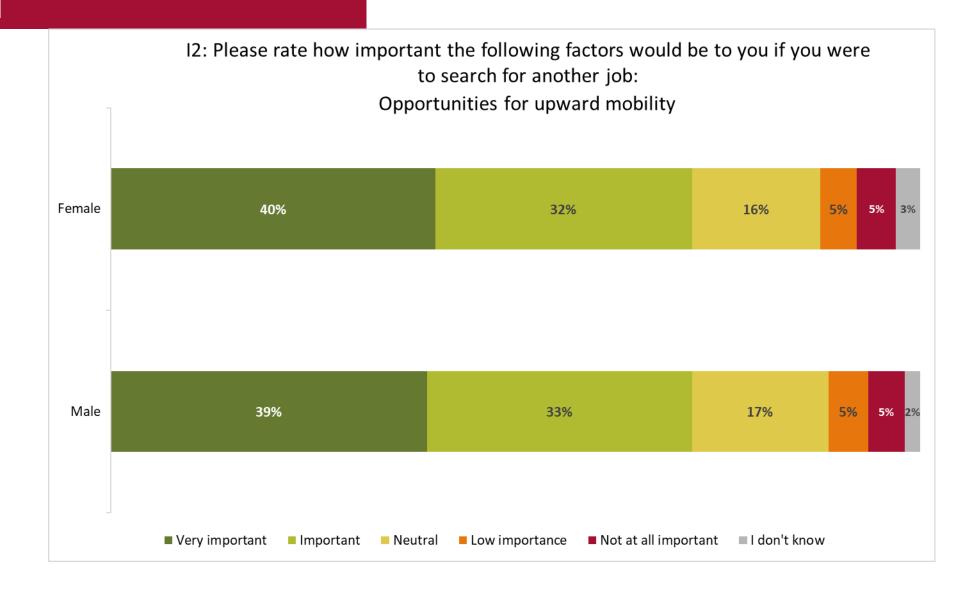
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## Section I

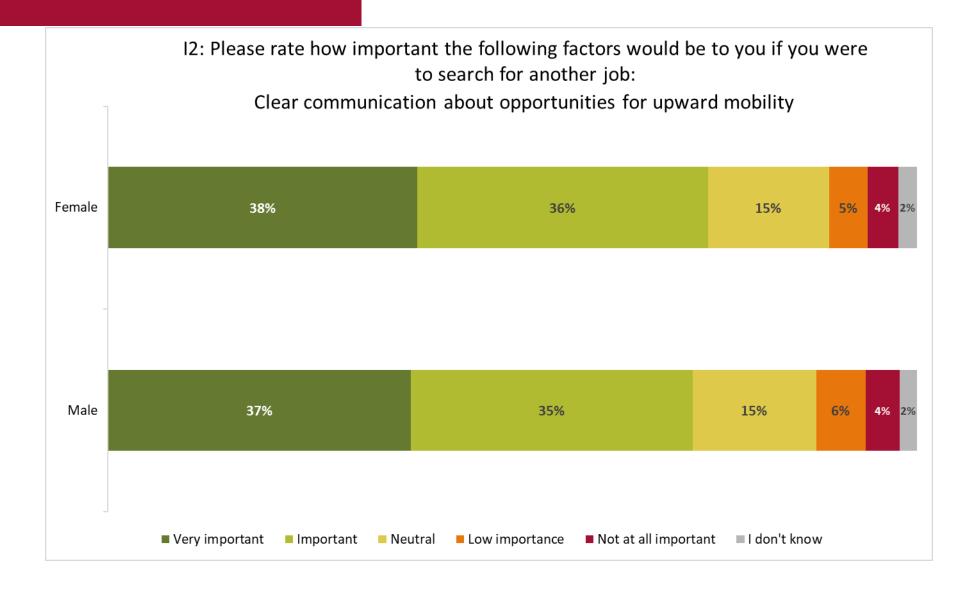


Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.

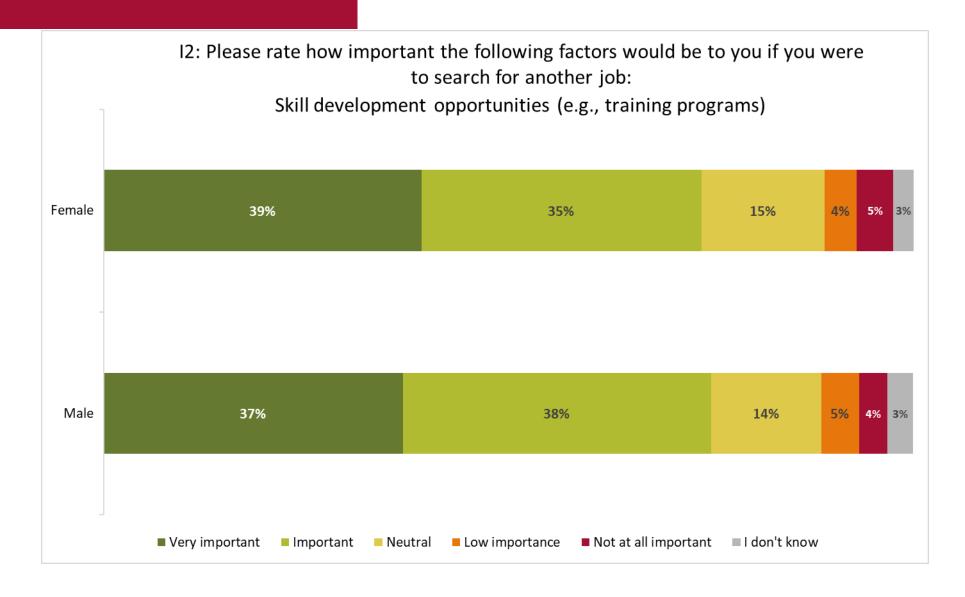
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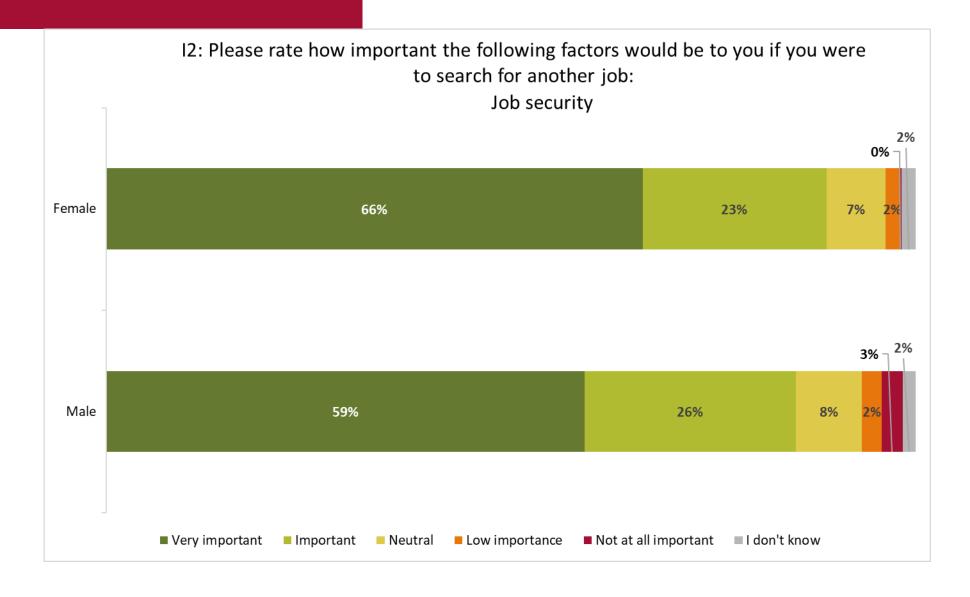
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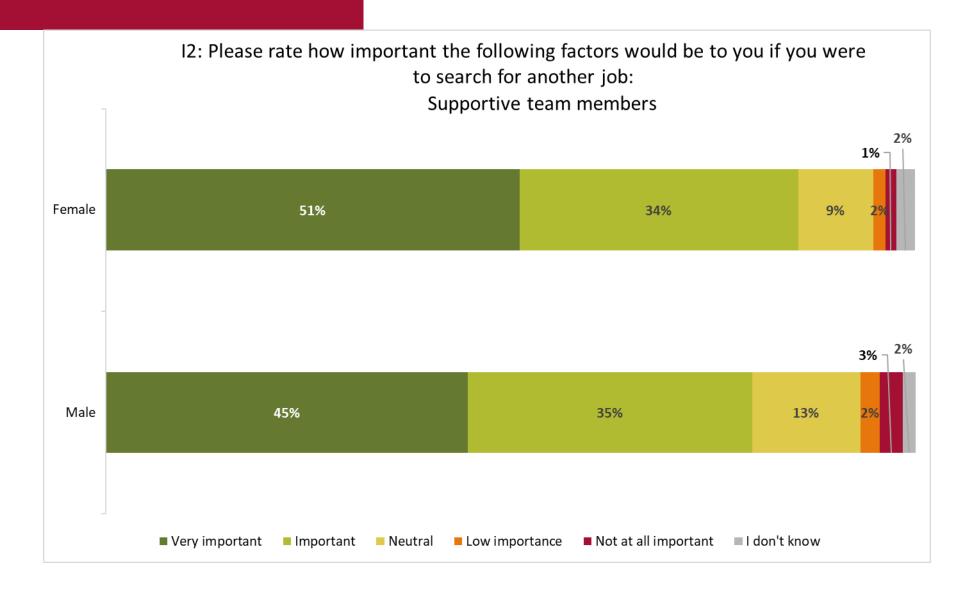
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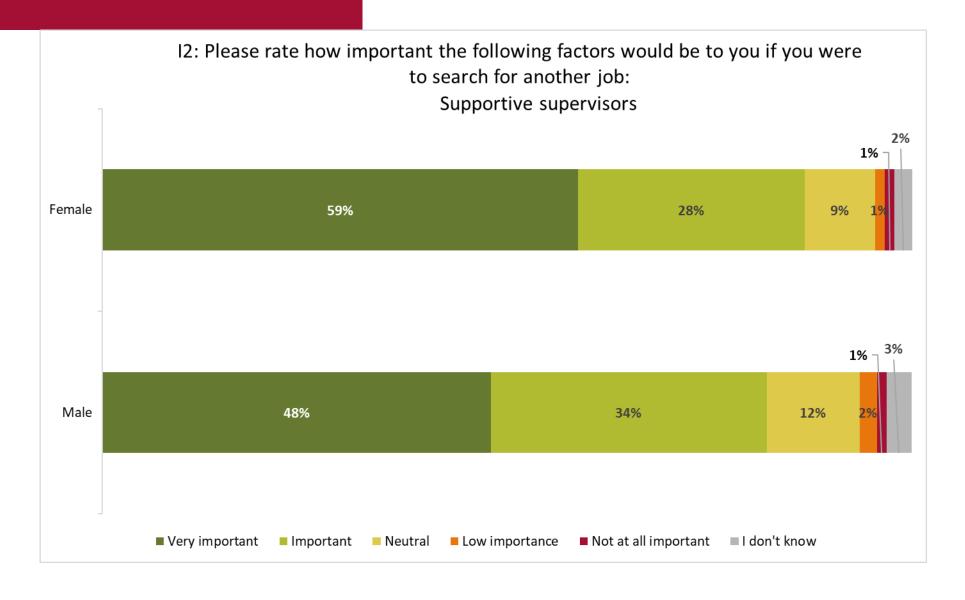


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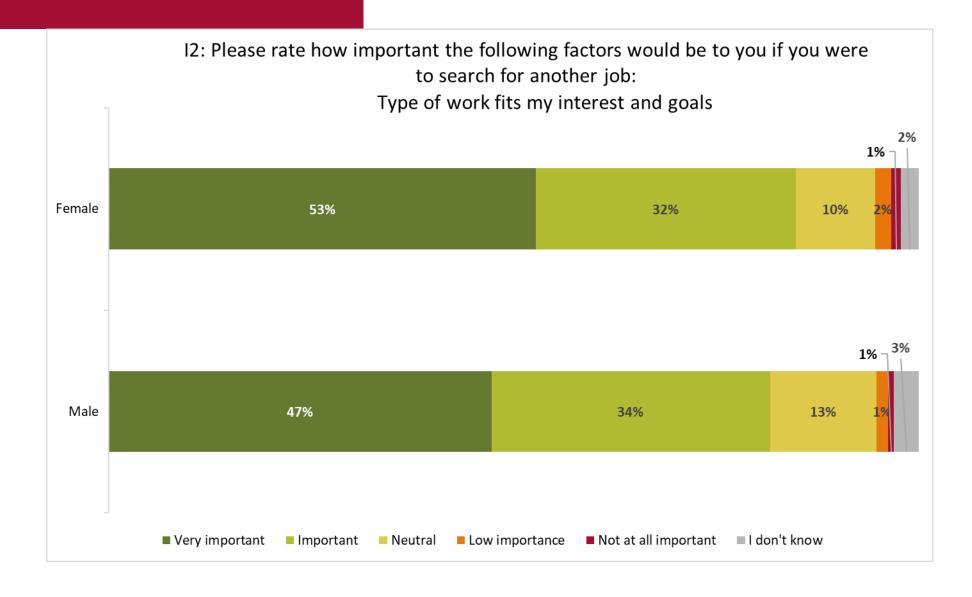


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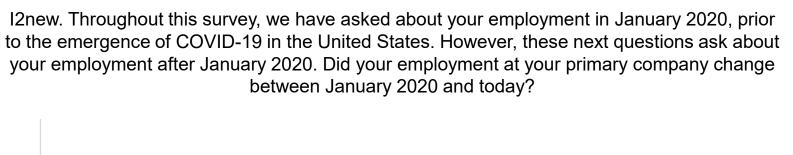


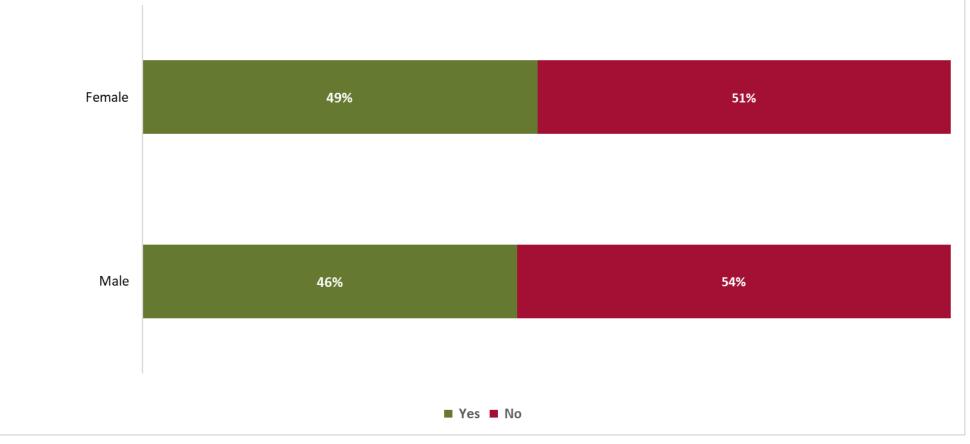


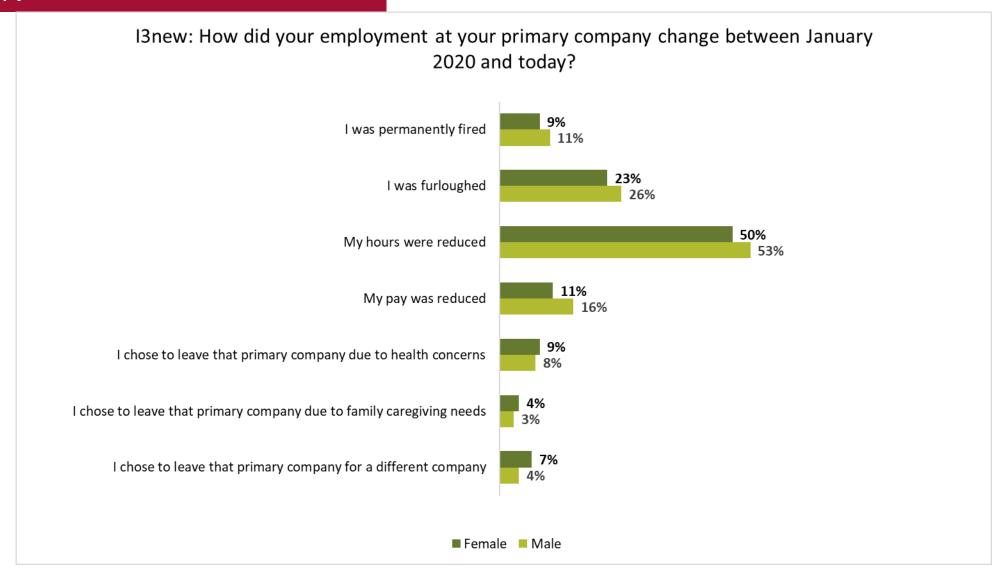
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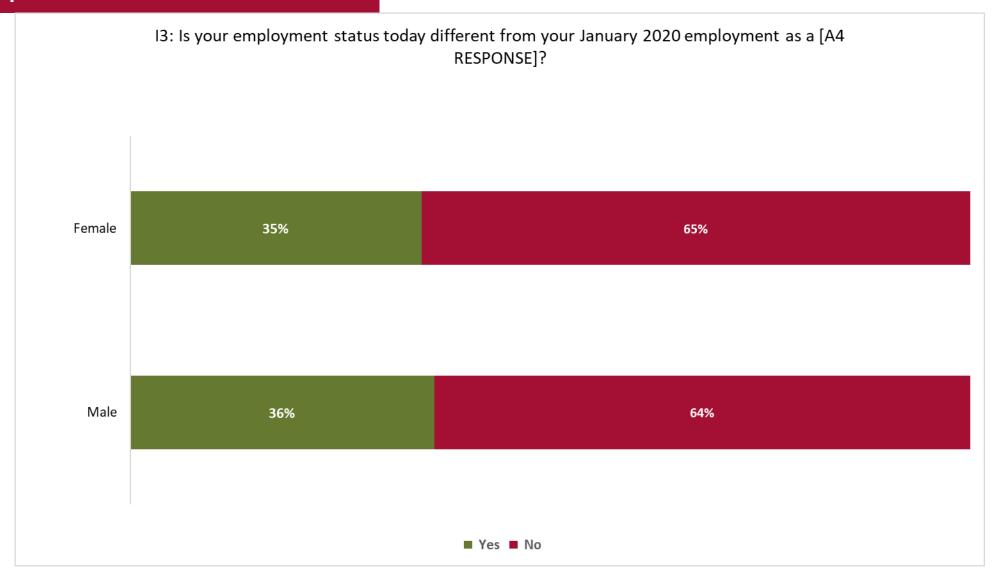


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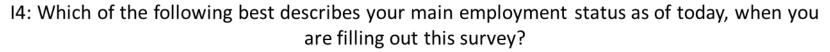


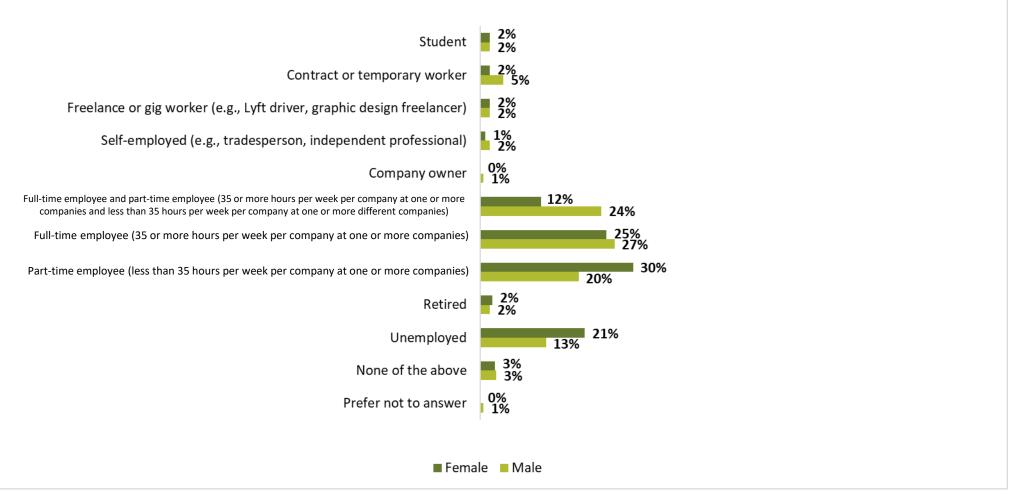






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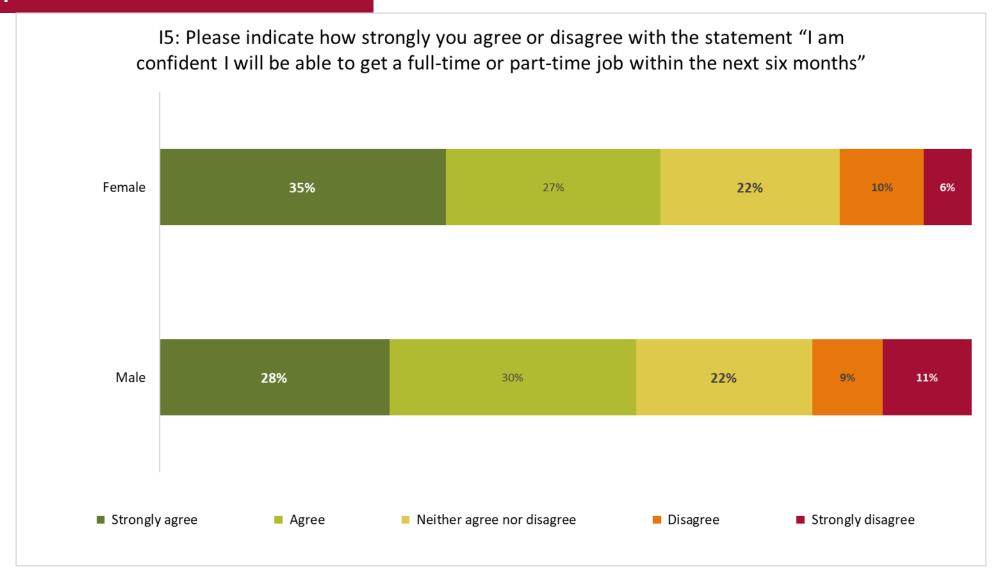




Note: Only respondents whose employment status changed since January 2020 answered this question.

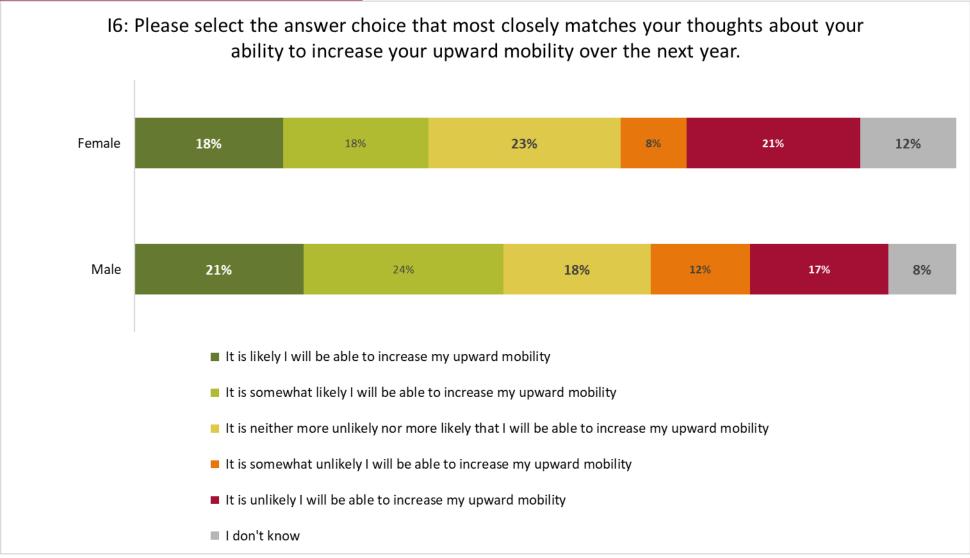
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Source: "Upward Mobility Survey of Low-Wage Workers in the U.S.," September-November 2020, Project on Managing the Future of Work, Harvard Business School.



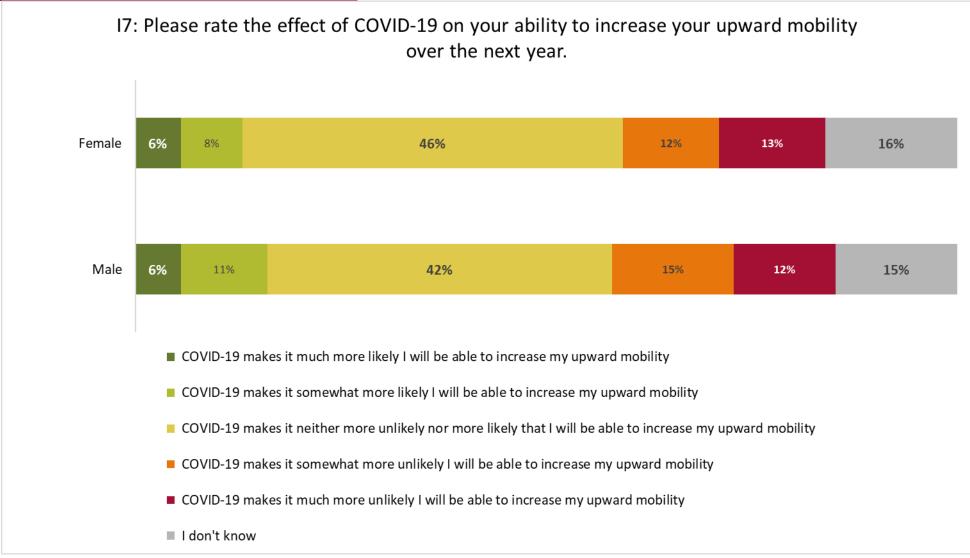
Note: Only respondents who are not currently a full-time and/or part-time employee answered this question.

## Section I



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.

## Section I



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.