

Providing Support During the COVID-19 Pandemic

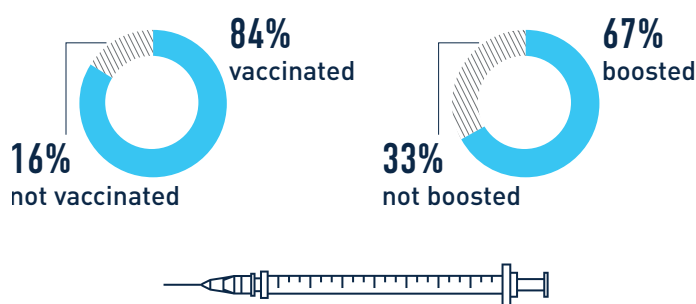
Direct Support Workforce 24-month follow-up survey | National version

Direct support workers provide an array of critical supports making it possible for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to live, work, and thrive in their communities. The pandemic has affected this work in many ways. This survey, completed by 2,657 respondents, comprising of direct support professionals (DSPs) and frontline supervisors (FLSs) from 44 states and

the District of Columbia, gathered information about the experiences of DSPs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, respondents' health and well-being, vaccination experiences, and the use of technology. It was completed between June 1-July 22, 2022. The results are intended to inform efforts to support public health and prepare for future waves of this and other pandemics.

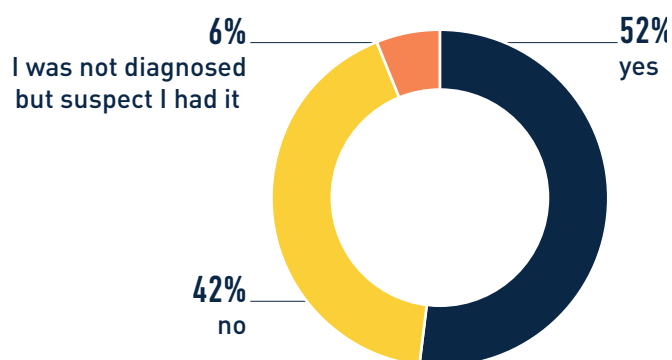
VACCINATION STATUS

Respondents reported whether they were vaccinated against COVID-19.



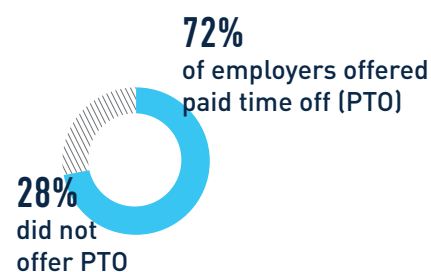
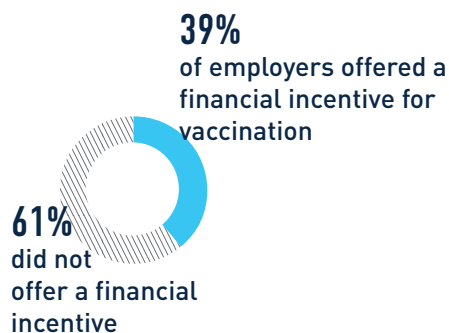
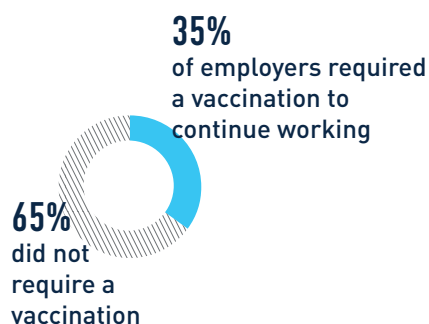
COVID-19 DIAGNOSIS

Respondents reported whether they were diagnosed with COVID-19.



REQUIREMENTS AND INCENTIVES

Employers of workers utilized a number of strategies to ensure that workers were not contracting or spreading COVID-19. Respondents reported whether their employer required vaccinations, provided a financial incentive, or provided paid time off for them to get their vaccine.



WAGES

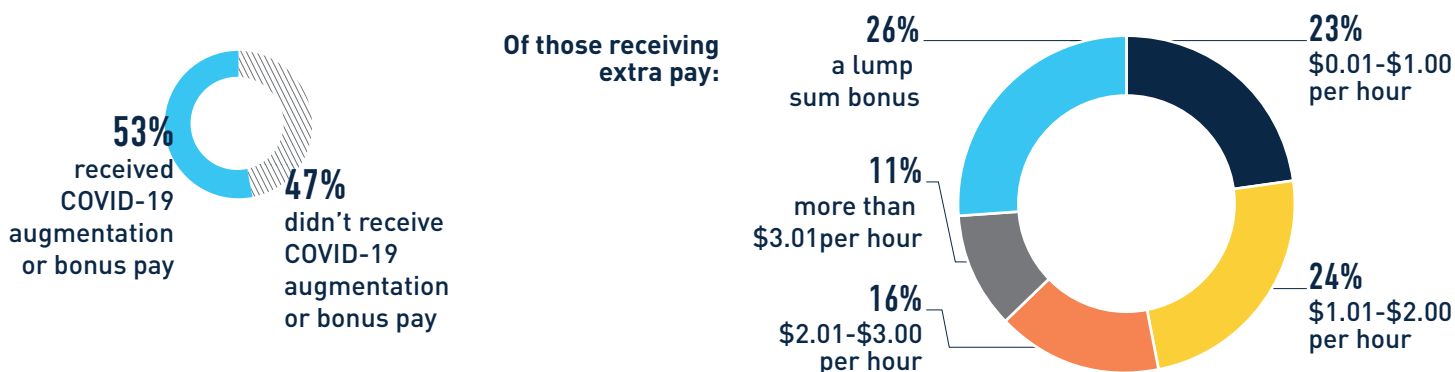
DSPs reported on their wages before the pandemic and their current wages. Note that these wages are only DSP wages and Frontline supervisors are not included.



*This is higher than the national median wage of \$13.36/hour (NCI, 2022).

EXTRA PANDEMIC PAY

DSPs reported whether they received extra pay for pandemic-related risks. Many DSPs received extra pay, although states and businesses had varying levels of access to additional dollars to compensate essential workers.



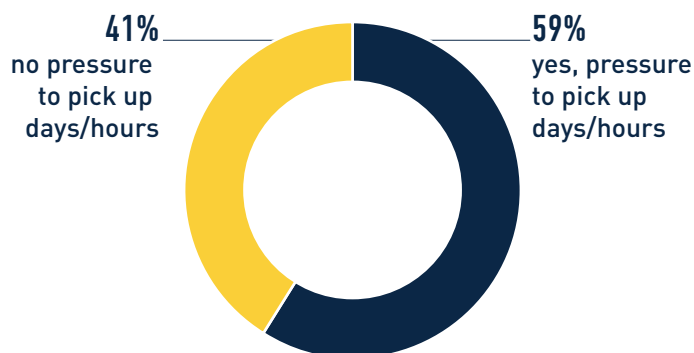
SCHEDULES

Respondents were asked to report on how the pandemic affected the number of hours they worked.



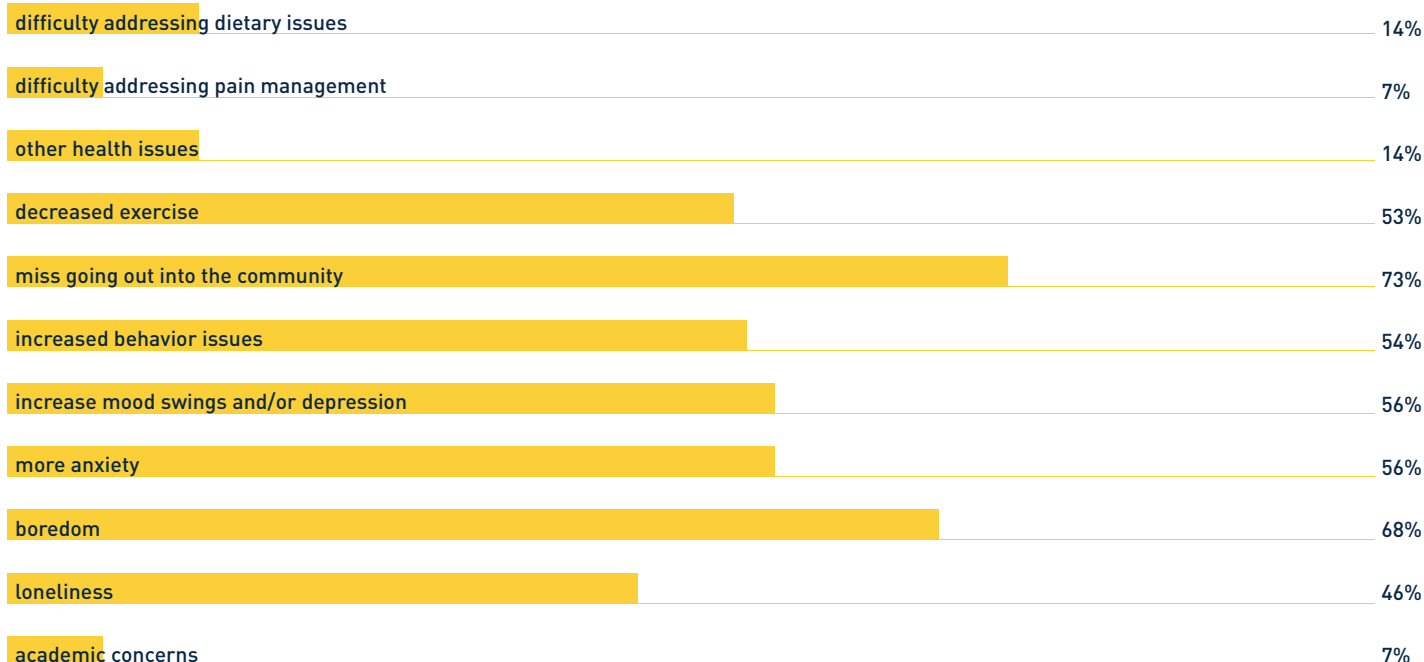
PRESSURE TO WORK

Respondents were asked if they felt pressure to work extra days and/or hours.



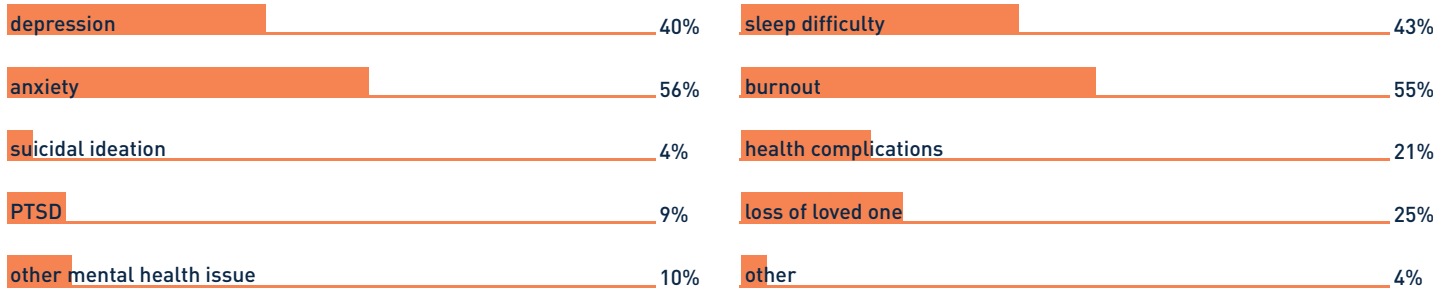
IMPACT OF ISOLATION ON PEOPLE SUPPORTED

Many people experienced social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Respondents were asked about the consequences of increased isolation on the people they supported.



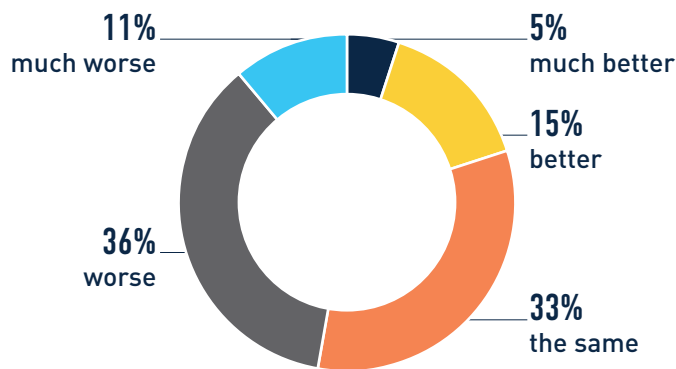
RESULTS OF PANDEMIC ON RESPONDENTS

Respondents reported whether they have experienced any mental or physical health concerns as a result of the pandemic.



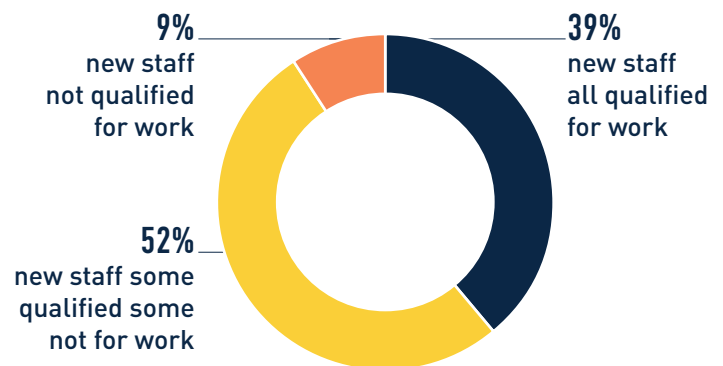
WORK LIFE BALANCE

Respondents were asked to gauge the quality of their work life compared to the beginning of the pandemic.



QUALIFICATION OF NEW STAFF

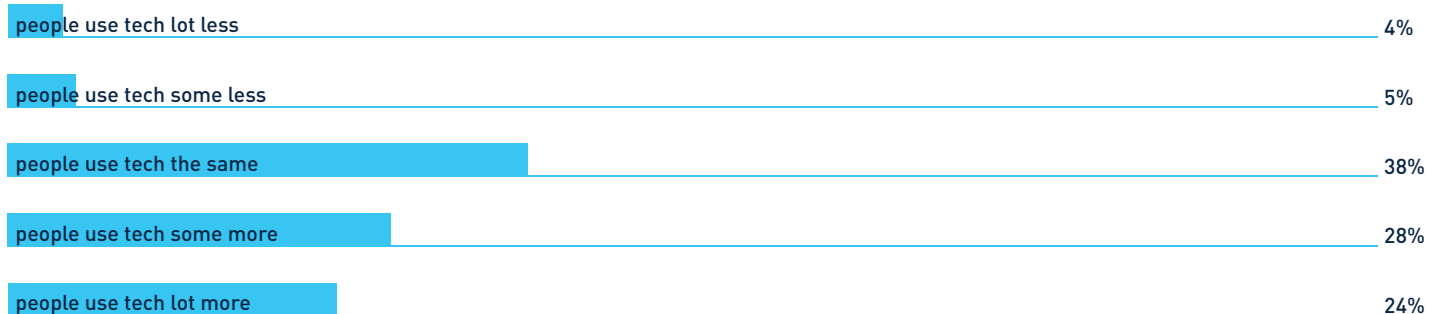
Respondents were asked if they thought that new staff (hired within the past 6 months) were qualified to do the work that they were hired for.



CHANGE IN USAGE OF TECHNOLOGY: PEOPLE SUPPORTED

Respondents were asked a number of questions about technology, such as video conferencing or remote supports, and the change in usage of technology since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on their work. Specifically, respondents were asked how usage of technology has changed for the people they support.

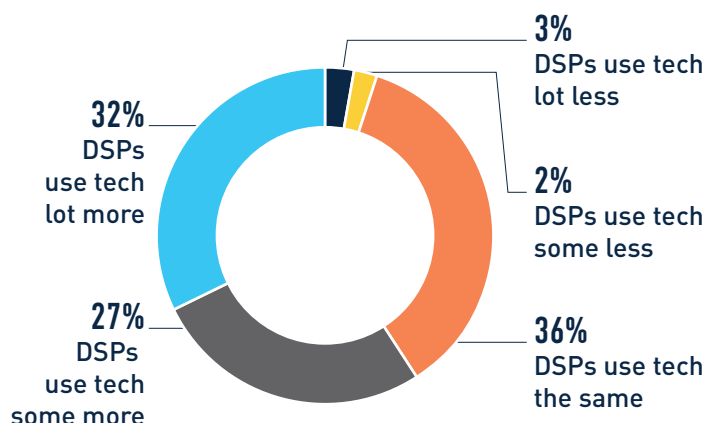
since the beginning of COVID:



CHANGE IN USAGE OF TECHNOLOGY: RESPONDENT

Respondents were asked if their usage of technology has changed since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

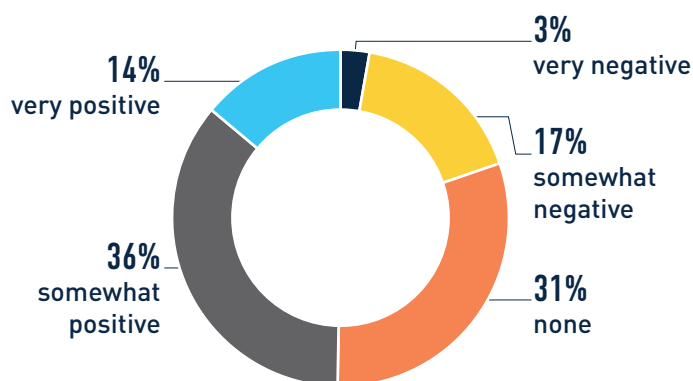
since the beginning of COVID:



IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON WORK

Respondents reported the impact that the use of technology has had on their work.

COVID impact on DSP tech use:

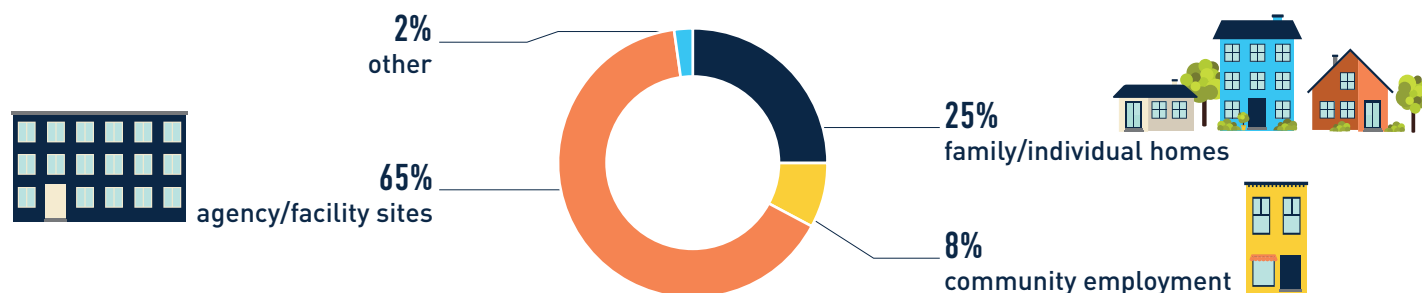


DEMOGRAPHICS, ROLE, AND SETTING

Respondents self-reported demographic information and the primary setting where they worked.



average age
47 years



44% reported working in more than one setting

Please contact Jerry Smith...: "National Core Indicators. (2022). National Core Indicators Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities 2020 Staff Stability Survey Report. <https://www.nationalcoreindicators.org/resources/staff-stability-survey/>

Funded by grant #90RTCP0003 from the National Institute on Disability Independent Living Rehabilitation Research and cooperative agreement #90DDUC0070 from the Administration on Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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