

Is a showdown looming over a return to the office?

Over the past two years, 60% of CEOs in the UAE said that hybrid and remote work policies had a positive impact on their organization's hiring. These policies also boosted employee morale in a majority of cases (56%) and positively impacted collaboration and innovation (68%).

However, only 36% of CEOs expected to continue hybrid work for employees whose roles were traditionally based in-office. Instead, 60% of local leaders expected them to be back on-site, similar to 65% of CEOs worldwide. In fact, attitudes remained consistent with 2021 findings, when the figure for CEOs allowing remote or partially remote work also lay at 36%.

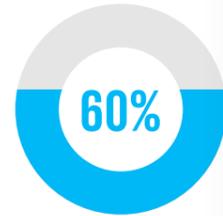
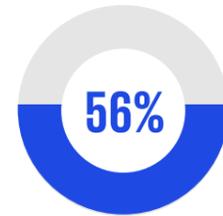
But employees around the world are less enthusiastic about returning to the office full-time. In a survey of more than 12,500 people in 29 countries, the World Economic Forum found that 66% wanted to continue with flexible working arrangements. Almost a third, or 30%, said they would consider looking for another job if forced to work on-site full-time.¹⁴

These diverging attitudes between leadership and the rank-and-file are worth taking seriously. Among the CEOs surveyed in the UAE, talent ranked second as the most pressing concern for their organizations. Working together to find solutions that satisfy both management and their employees will be one way to establish competitive advantage in a complicated economic landscape.

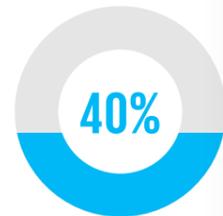
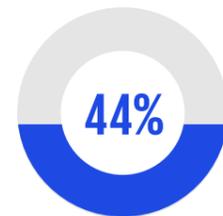
Thinking about your growth and transformation objectives, which of the following investments are you prioritizing?

New technology

Global ● UAE ●



Our workforce's skills and capabilities



60% of CEOs in the UAE expect a return to the office full-time, but 66% of employees worldwide say they prefer hybrid working.