

# Is Remote Work Here to Stay?

## Beyond digital transformation

When COVID-19 caused organizations around the world to shift to remote work, it seemed like this accelerated digital transformation was the main story. The speed of transformation was stunning.

As the global pandemic swept across the globe, Microsoft commissioned research to understand the depth of change for organizations managing through COVID-19.

Here are some of highlights from the full report.

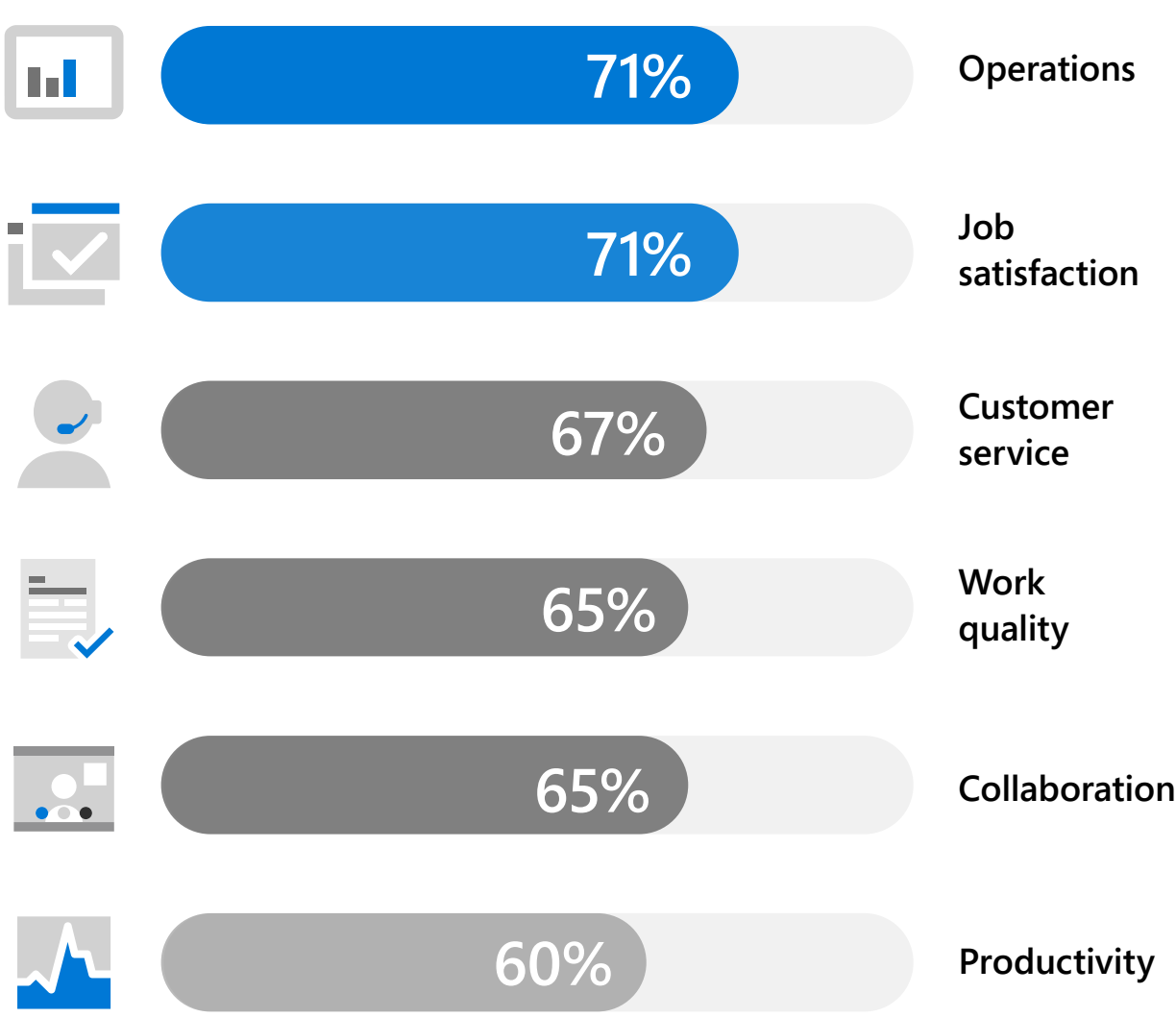
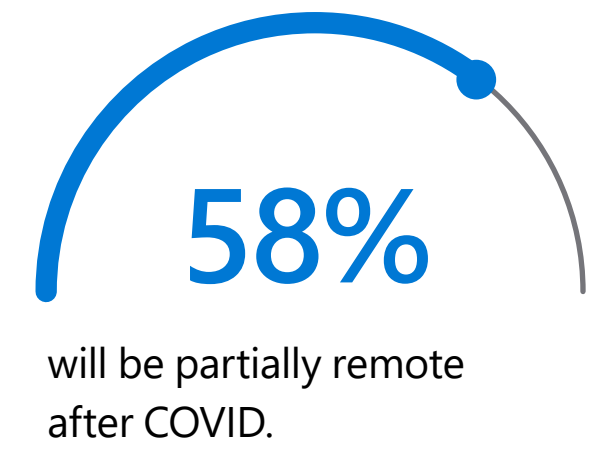
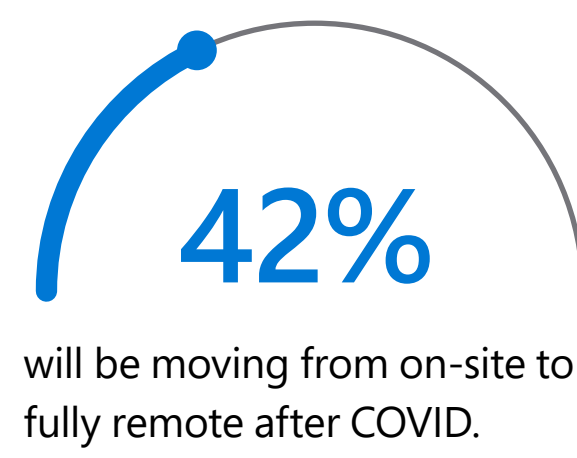
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We surveyed 225 business decision makers globally between September 11 and 28, 2020. Company size was 300-500 employees.

What we found is that the digital transformation was also a catalyst for deeper cultural change, especially for office-based organizations.

## The paradigm shift

Based on this research, there is almost no scenario for office workers to be 100 percent on-site. This is where the magnitude of cultural change is most evident.



## Why the paradigm shift will stick

While decision-makers put high value on things like employee job satisfaction and customer service, it's in operations that we can see the big picture. A positive impact here is a positive impact on the bottom line.

Remote work is showing good results for key performance indicators. Showing percent of respondents who say remote work has had a positive impact on each category.

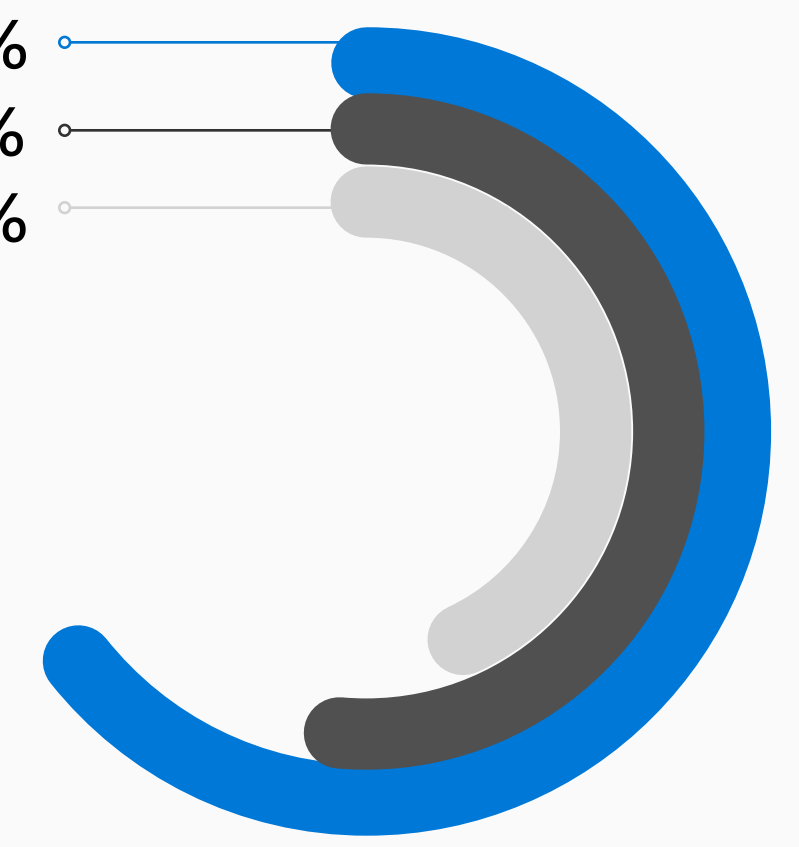
## The challenges

Being aware of the challenges and how to work through them can keep change heading in the right direction. Security tops the list of challenges for office-based businesses.

Security threats encountered during transition to remote work:

64%  
52%  
43%

- Data security
- Advanced cyberthreats
- Employee errors



## Why remote work will become permanent

For change to take root and become the new reality, the challenges need to be appropriately resolved. The research points to concrete and sensible actions by decision-makers to keep change on track.

# #1



Priority for decision-makers in the coming months: Security controls to protect access to apps

## Discover more

Our report revealed the thinking of hundreds of business decision makers across the globe. To understand how this research may impact your own plans for the future, and how Microsoft 365 can help you manage remote secure work, get the full report.

Get the full report

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