

## Findings from survey of public statisticians and data scientists

Responses were submitted between 08.02.2022 to 21.02.22 inclusive by RSS members who work in the civil service and wider public sector, n = 151/  
response rate 16%. If you would like to receive a .csv file of the data, please email [policy@rss.org.uk](mailto:policy@rss.org.uk)

The survey asked the following questions:

1. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements below.
  - a. I have had to work longer hours than normal for sustained periods.
  - b. I have not been able to complete all of my work on time.
  - c. My workload is still higher than it was before the pandemic.
  - d. I have not taken a substantial amount of my leave so that I can better manage my workload.
  - e. I have felt able to manage both my work and personal commitments
2. Please indicate the extent to which you have felt discouraged or supported by each of the following.
  - a. My line manager
  - b. My head of profession
  - c. The broader statistical community
3. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements
  - a. There is good communication in my organisation between statisticians and non-statisticians.
  - b. I feel able to raise any statistical issues (or concerns with how statistics are used) within my department.
  - c. I feel supported to provide expert comment to the public on published statistics when that is relevant.
  - d. I feel supported to speak to the media about statistical issues.

Table 1 Number of respondents to question 11 and percentages

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree	(blank)
I have had to work longer hours than normal for sustained periods.	<b>11</b> 7%	<b>33</b> 22%	<b>5</b> 3%	<b>14</b> 9%	<b>33</b> 22%	<b>24</b> 16%	<b>27</b> 18%	<b>4</b> 3%
I have not been able to complete all of my work on time.	<b>12</b> 8%	<b>38</b> 25%	<b>18</b> 12%	<b>13</b> 9%	<b>30</b> 20%	<b>21</b> 14%	<b>16</b> 11%	<b>3</b> 2%
	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>

My workload is still higher than it was before the pandemic.	7%	18%	11%	14%	16%	20%	11%	3%
I have not taken a substantial amount of my leave so that I can better manage my workload.	24	37	9	4	33	21	18	5
	16%	25%	6%	3%	22%	14%	12%	3%
I have felt able to manage both my work and personal commitments.	9	16	31	14	26	38	13	4
	6%	11%	21%	9%	17%	25%	9%	3%
	All Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree		All Agree		(blank)	
I have had to work longer hours than normal for sustained periods.	49	14	84	4				
	32%	9%	56%	3%				
I have not been able to complete all of my work on time.	68	13	67	3				
	45%	9%	44%	2%				
My workload is still higher than it was before the pandemic.	55	21	71	4				
	36%	14%	47%	3%				
I have not taken a substantial amount of my leave so that I can better manage my workload.	70	4	72	5				
	46%	3%	48%	3%				
I have felt able to manage both my work and personal commitments.	56	14	77	4				
	37%	9%	51%	3%				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There is no association between civil service grade and the response given to statements above</li><li>There is no association between gender and the response given to statements above</li><li>There is no association between organization/department and the response given to statements above</li></ul>								

Table 2 Number of respondents to question 13 and percentages

Very discouraged	Discouraged	Somewhat discouraged	Neither discouraged nor supported	Somewhat supported	Supported	Very supported	(blank)
	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

The broader statistical community	0%	1%	1%	50%	32%	9%	3%	4%
My line manager	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>
My head of profession	1%	1%	3%	4%	14%	36%	40%	1%
	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>
	1%	3%	1%	40%	21%	19%	12%	3%

	All discouraged	Neither discouraged nor supported	All supported	(blank)
The broader statistical community	<b>4</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>6</b>
	3%	50%	43%	4%
My line manager	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>1</b>
	5%	4%	90%	1%
My head of profession	<b>7</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>4</b>
	5%	40%	52%	3%

- There is no association between gender and the response given to statements above
- There is no association between organization/department and the response given to statements above

Table 3 Number of respondents to question 15 and percentages

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree	(blank)
There is good communication in my organisation between statisticians and non-statisticians.	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>
	1%	6%	9%	9%	23%	41%	10%	1%
I feel able to raise any statistical issues (or concerns with how statistics are used) within my department.	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>
	2%	2%	7%	7%	18%	41%	21%	2%
I feel supported to provide expert comment to the public on published statistics when that is relevant.	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>
	2%	5%	7%	16%	21%	27%	13%	8%

I feel supported to speak to the media about statistical issues.	<b>11</b> 7%	<b>12</b> 8%	<b>22</b> 15%	<b>65</b> 43%	<b>10</b> 7%	<b>9</b> 6%	<b>5</b> 3%	<b>17</b> 11%
	All disagree		Neither agree nor disagree		All agree		(blank)	
There is good communication in my organisation between statisticians and non-statisticians.	<b>25</b> 17%		<b>13</b> 9%		<b>111</b> 74%		<b>2</b> 1%	
I feel able to raise any statistical issues (or concerns with how statistics are used) within my department.	<b>16</b> 11%		<b>11</b> 7%		<b>121</b> 80%		<b>3</b> 2%	
I feel supported to provide expert comment to the public on published statistics when that is relevant.	<b>22</b> 15%		<b>24</b> 16%		<b>93</b> 62%		<b>12</b> 8%	
I feel supported to speak to the media about statistical issues.	<b>45</b> 30%		<b>65</b> 43%		<b>24</b> 16%		<b>17</b> 11%	

- There is association between civil service grade and agreement/disagreement with “I feel able to raise any statistical issues (or concerns with how statistics are used) within my department”.
- There is no association between gender and the response given to statements above
- There is no association between organization/department and the response given to statements above