

Contractor Social Wellbeing Survey 2018 - Findings

Introduction

As part of its environmental certification obligations, PF Olsen continues to periodically survey the contractor workforce. The purpose is to provide information which can be used to manage any issues raised and assists with the objective of an involved, motivated and safe workforce.

This year's survey was slightly altered from previous years, covering eight areas of focus (down from nine) and several new questions. The areas of focus include safety, training, industry views, work/life balance, financial, community, environment and demographics.

The survey was completed by 250 respondents in the first half of 2018. This was a decrease from the previous survey in 2015, which consisted of 306 respondents. This is the third appearance of the survey (first ran in 2012) allowing the opportunity for comparisons and possible trends to appear.

General Safety

Identical to the 2015 survey, 22% of respondents believe they have received long term effects from injuries at work. Of the 22% of respondents who suffer from long term effects, only 20% and 25% say that those injuries affect their ability to work and their quality of life respectively. This is a decrease from 44% and 56% in the 2015 survey.

There is also a clear trend in the ability to say no to dangerous work. The percentage has increased over all three surveys, now sitting at 98% being able to say no to dangerous work.

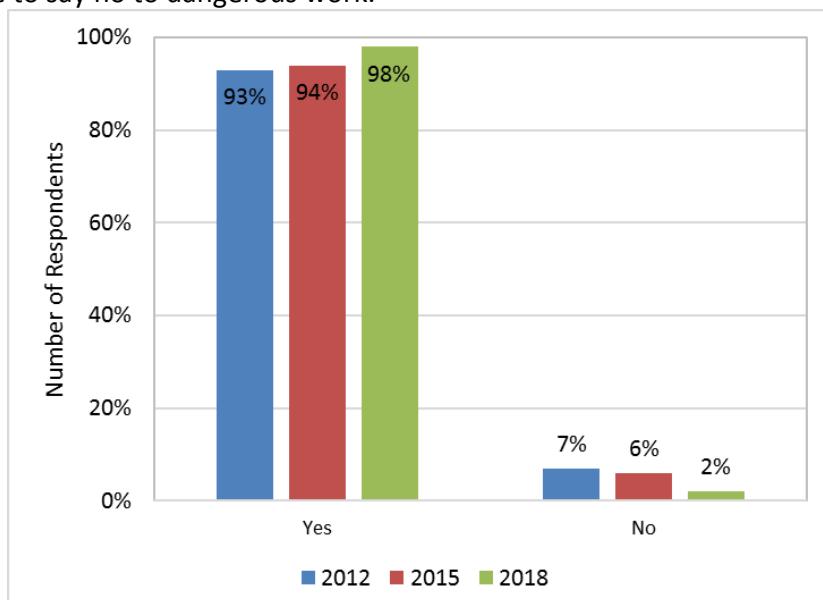


Figure 1: Showing the percentage of workers who refuse to undertake dangerous work

Training and Experience

Respondents are now spending an increased length of time within the industry, with the number of respondents having worked > 20 years now sitting at 37%, up from 27% in the 2015 survey. Along with 61% of respondents having received training within the last year (and 85% within the last three years) this indicates that the workforce is becoming more experienced.

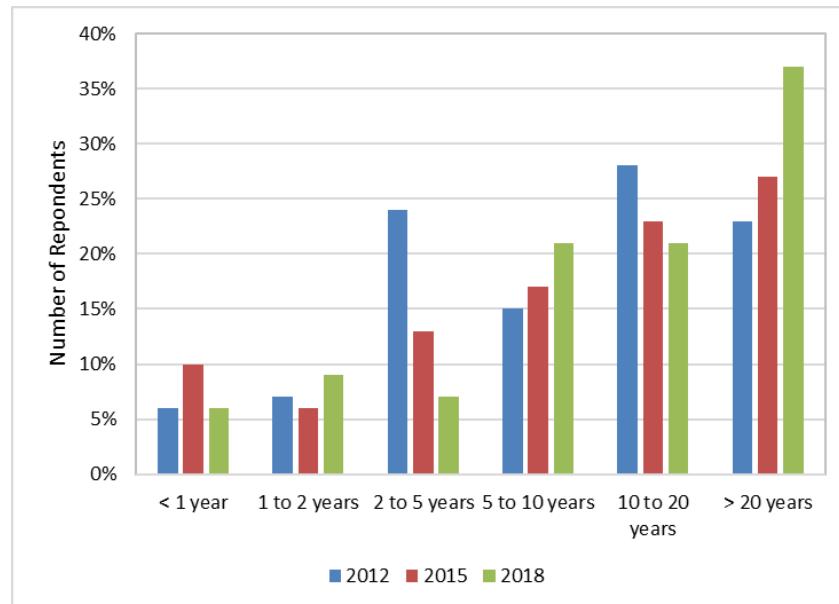


Figure 2: Length of time within the forest industry

Industry Views

More people appear to be enjoying their jobs, with 86% enjoying it either "all" or "most" of the time, an 8% increase from the 2015 survey. Confidence in the industry has also risen with 69% of respondents believing it is an industry with a good future. This is reflected where 72% of respondents indicated they would remain in the forestry industry if given a choice, an increase of 7% from the 2015 survey.

The people and teamwork, outdoors and work environment, and the lifestyle and future opportunities were the top three things that are seen as being good about working in forestry. Conversely, poor weather, issues with people, and long hours / early starts were the top three things that were seen as being bad about working in forestry.

Work / Life Balance

Work travel time has seen drastic reductions across the board with 63% of respondents having less than an hour travel to work. In the 2015 survey only 20% of respondents were in this range. Despite the decrease in travel time, the number of hours worked by respondents increased, with 46% working over 50 hours a week (an increase of 5% from the 2015 survey).

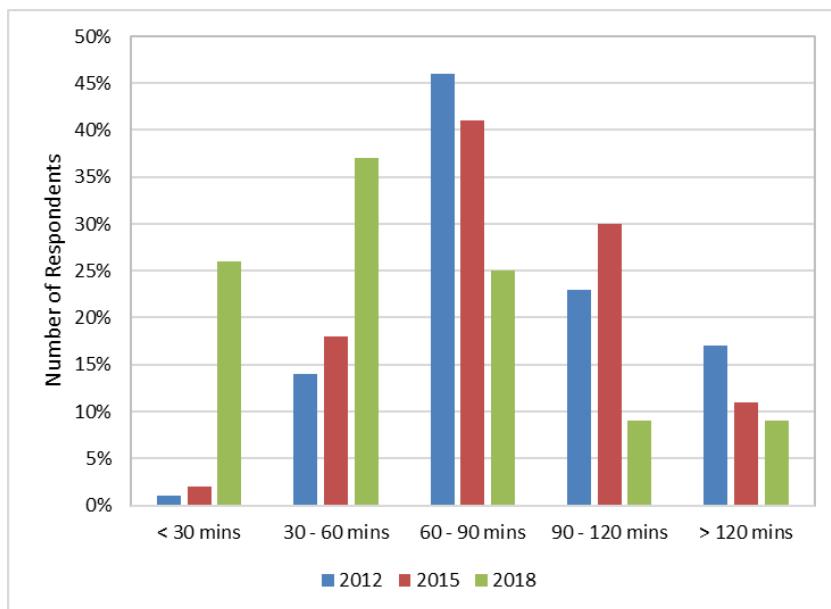


Figure 3: Average length of time taken to travel to work

Financial

Sixty percent of contractors find that their income is either not enough or just enough, which is an increase of 5% from the previous survey. This is likely due to an increase of living costs. Roughly a third of the respondents either disagree or strongly disagree that their income meets their expectations of the job or that the pay is similar to other jobs they could do in New Zealand.

Environment

Respondents were asked about their views on industry and the environment through a series of questions. This included things such as looking after the environment, the industry being unfairly targeted by media, and training around environmental matters.

The results for this section were interesting as there was a larger number of respondents with neutral viewpoints for all three questions compared to the previous two surveys. This means that there must be a decrease in the number of respondents either agreeing or disagreeing with the statements. In all three instances, less people agreed with the statements in 2018 compared to previous surveys.

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Statement	Disagree	Neutral	Agree
The industry does a good job at looking after the environment	9%	30% (↑12% from 2015)	60% (↓13% from 2015)
The industry is unfairly targeted by officials, the media, or public	12%	37% (↑15% from 2015)	51% (↓15% from 2015)
The industry provides enough help to its workers to enable proper environmental protection	5%	28% (↑12% from 2015)	61% (↓15% from 2015)