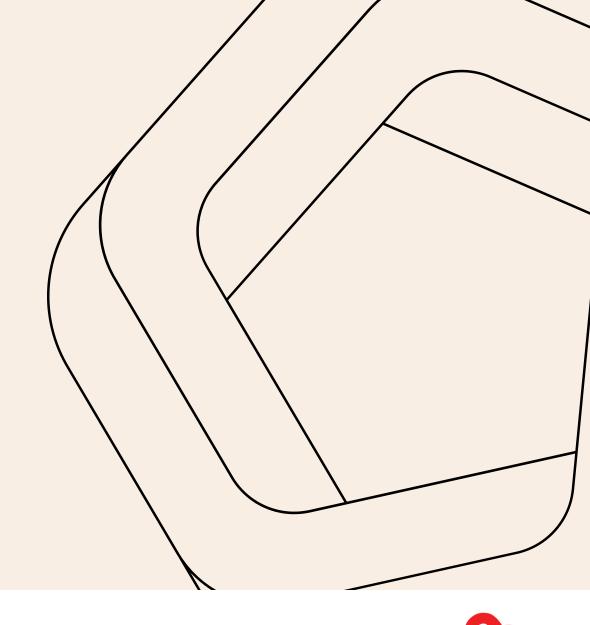
Survey on Security Employees in Singapore (Wave 5)

November 2023







Content

- 1. Overview of Industry
- 2. Work Prospects
- 3. Wages
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Verian

Overview of Industry

- Survey Description
- Distribution of Job Ranks
- Type of Contract

We surveyed 1006 security officers (excludes auxiliary police officers) with least 1 month of work experience in their current security role.

Current Wave

This is the 5th wave* in a series of longitudinal surveys of security officers in Singapore.

Survey Period

22 June – 1 August 2023

Method of Administration

The 15-min survey was administered in-person using electronic tablets at the USE customer service centre by Verian's interviewers. Security officers were surveyed after they had completed their transactions at the service centre.

Incentives Provided

\$10 Fairprice voucher for non-union members

\$20 Fairprice voucher for union members



80% of officers are currently employed at their highest PWM job rank, while 19% are employed at a level below their highest PWM job rank.



SR05: What is your highest PWM job rank (based on PLRD records)? (N = 1006) SR06a: What job rank are you currently employed at? (N = 1006)

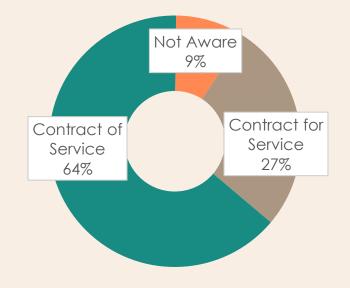


9% of officers reported being unaware of the type of contract they held.

Examples were provided to help the officers understand the difference between the two types of contracts:

- Contract of Service
 (e.g., has an employer-employee relationship; receives CPF payment and benefits such as medical insurance)
- Contract for Service
 (e.g., independent contractor, self-employed person, or vendor; may not receive CPF payment and benefits such as medical insurance)

What type of contract are you holding with your employer currently?

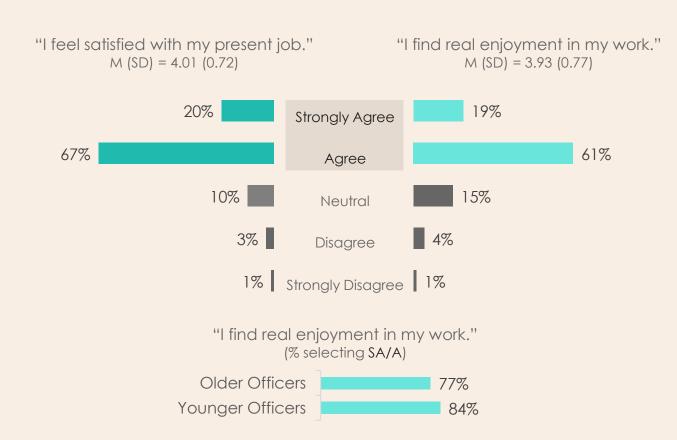


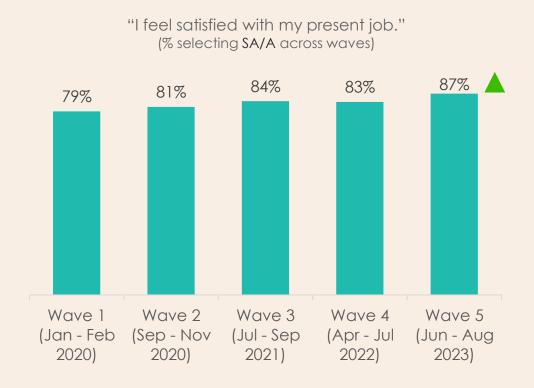
Work Prospects

- Job satisfaction & enjoyment
- Reasons for joining and staying in the security industry
- Job security & intention to quit
- Working Patterns
- Usage of technology and intention to upskill

Job satisfaction levels remain high (87% SA/A that they are satisfied).

Job satisfaction levels seems to be increasing over the different waves. Most officers also found enjoyment in their work (80% SA/A that they found enjoyment in their work), with younger officers (84% SA/A) tending to report more enjoyment in their work compared to older officers (77% SA/A).





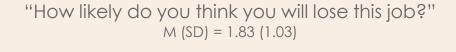
HS01_1: I feel satisfied with my present job. (Wave 4 N = 1002; Wave 5 N = 1006) HS01_2: I find real enjoyment in my work. (N = 1006) Responses coded as 1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree

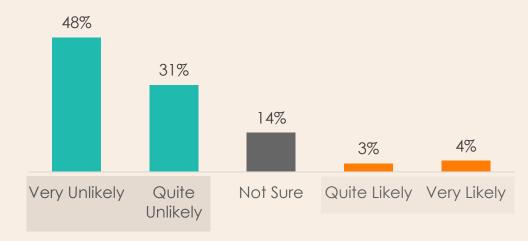
* Older officers are 52 years (median age) or older; younger officers are below 52 years



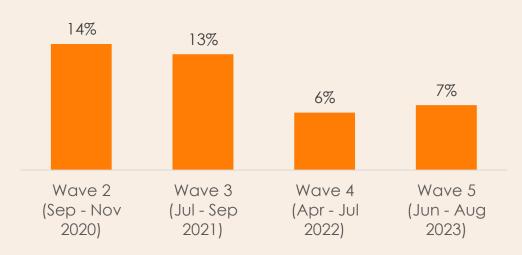
Most officers believed that their job was secure (79% indicated that it was VU/QU that they would lose their jobs).

The proportion of officers who believed that they may lose their job (7% VL/QL) remains similar to the previous wave.





"How likely do you think you will lose this job?"
(% selecting QL/VL across waves)

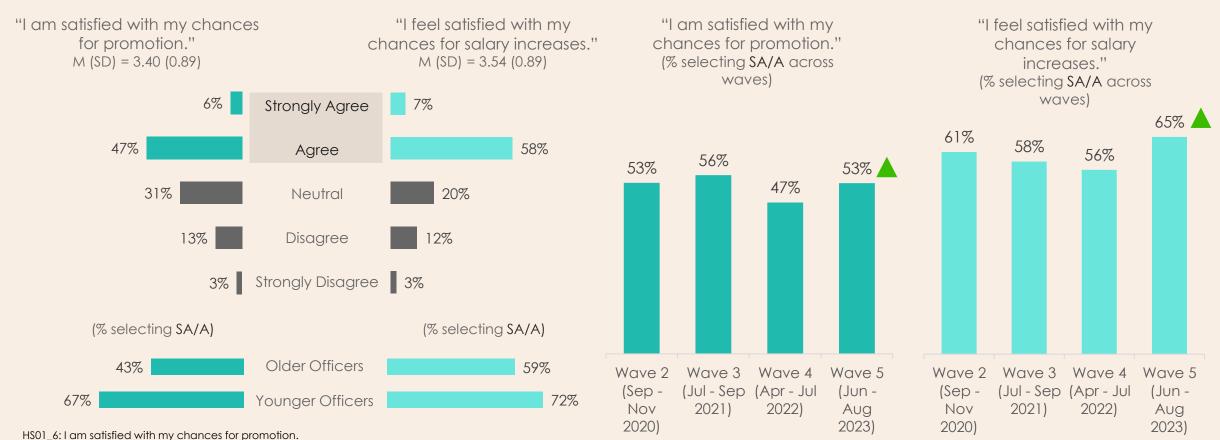


SR06b: How likely do you think you will lose this job? (Wave 4 N = 1002; Wave 5 N = 1006)

Responses coded as 1 = Very Unlikely, 5 = Very Likely

Most officers were satisfied with their chances for promotion (53% SA/A) and salary increases (65% SA/A).

Compared to wave 4, officers in wave 5 were more satisfied with their chances for promotion and salary increases. Younger officers tend to report higher levels of satisfaction compared to older officers.



HS01_7: I feel satisfied with my chances for salary increases. (Wave 4 N = 1002; Wave 5 N = 1006)

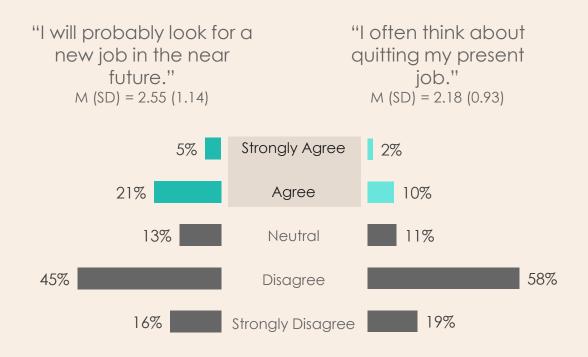
Responses coded as 1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree



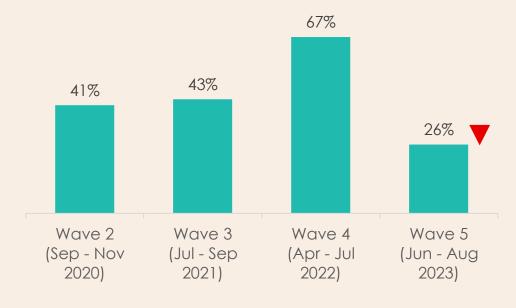
^{*} Older officers are 52 years (median age) or older; younger officers are below 52 years

Intentions to look for a new job in the near future (26% SA/A) or quit the present job (12% SA/A) were generally low.

Compared to wave 4, significantly fewer officers reported an intention to look for a new job.



"I will probably look for a new job in the near future." (% selecting SA/A across waves)



 $HSO1_3$: I often think about quitting my present job. (Wave 5 N = 1006) $HSO1_4$: I will probably look for a new job in the near future. (Wave 4 N = 1002; Wave 5 N = 1006)

Responses coded as 1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree

Many join and stay in the security industry because of good pay, job stability, retirement, recommendations from friends, and wanting to try something new.

Some also mentioned that they stay in the industry because they simply liked the job.

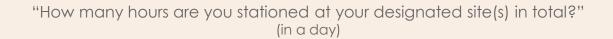
Reasons for joining the security industry

```
people interest available
experience environment previously
easy goodpayhigh
retrench new little pay flexible
friend injury try earnswitch
gain find retirechange
entry like learn age income salary
opportunity old extra just
previous money
lowbarrier
```

Reasons for staying in the security industry

```
comfortable flexibility
earn environment
new age good stablejob
people learn old suitable
enjoy people learn old suitable
enjoy pincome
flexible salary retirement
security benefit opportunity
easy
experience gain
```

Officers working at mainly residential sites (e.g., condominiums) tend to be stationed for the longest hours while those working at mainly public sites (e.g., ministries, schools) tend to be stationed for the shortest hours.



"How many hours are you stationed at your designated site(s) in total?" (in a week)





BI010: How many hours are you stationed at your designated site(s) in total? (In a day; In a week) (N = 1006)

AP

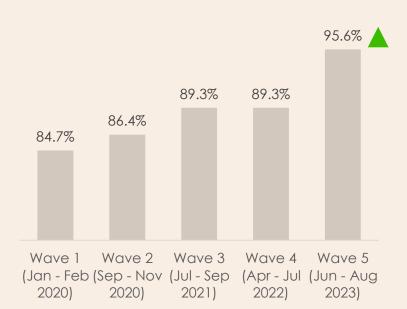
Note that the alphabets indicate significance testing across segments. Mean hours that do not feature the same alphabet are significantly different from each other.

Compared to the previous waves, more officers were expected to use technology/security systems at their workplace (95.6%)

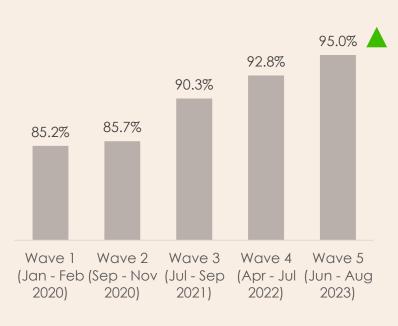
More officers were using technology/security systems at their workplace (95%), and most were comfortable doing so (99%).

"Are you expected to use technology/security systems at your workplace?"

(% selecting Yes across waves)



"Do you use technology/security systems at your workplace?"
(% selecting Yes across waves)



"Are you comfortable using technology/security systems at your workplace?"

(% selecting **Yes** across waves)



KT02: Do you use technology/security systems at your workplace? KT03: Are you comfortable using technology/security systems at your workplace? KT05: Are you expected to use technology/security systems at your workplace? (Wave 4 N = 1002; Wave 5 N = 1006)

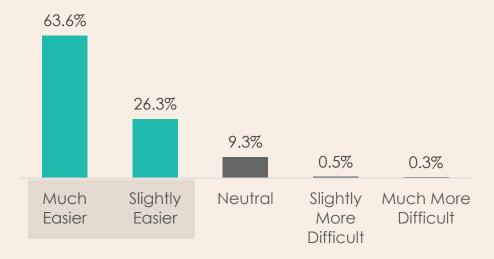


Most officers find that their work has become easier (90% ME/SE) with the use of technology.

Most officers used CCTV, Mobile Patrol App, and Visitor Management Systems.

"To what extent has the use of technology made your work easier?"

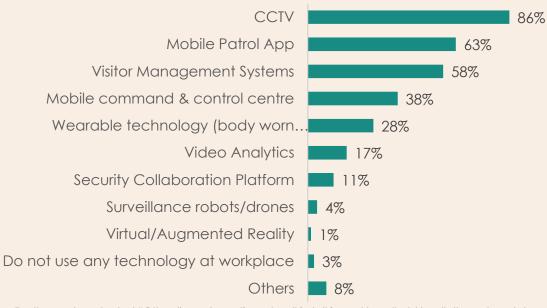
M (SD) = 1.83 (1.02)



KT04: To what extent has the use of technology made your work easier? (N = 1006) KT06: What kind of technology do you use at your workplace? (N = 1006)

"What kind of technology do you use at your workplace?"

(% selecting each option)



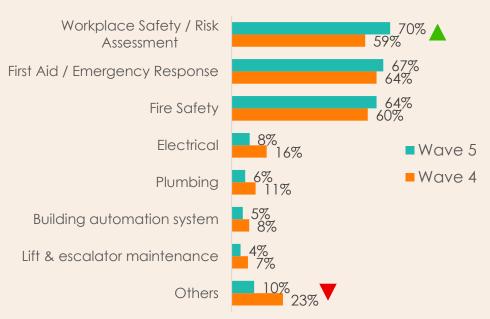
For those who selected "Others", most mentioned walkie talkie and handheld/ walk-through metal detectors.



The proportion of officers equipped with workplace safety/ risk assessment skills has increased.

Officers were mostly looking to upgrade themselves for supervisor and managerial positions, with the lack of time being a key barrier that prevents security officers from acquiring new skills.

"Which of the following skills do you possess?" (% of officers indicating that they possess the skill)



For those who selected "Others", many mentioned proficiency with X-rays, Recognise Terrorist Threat (RTT),

Protected Areas & Protected Places (PAPP)

"What other job-related skills would you like to learn in the next 6 months?"

communication
interested firstaid
papp yet firstaid
courses plan electrical
program
cyber
control
sure epr
company SSS NONE fire xray
ray
SUPERVISOR rank
cybersecurity Safety related
management technology
computer drone diploma
screening

"What are the reasons/barriers that prevent you from taking up new skills?"





Wages

- Median basic salary
- Payment of wages
- Awareness of PWM Wage Level
- Expectation for salary increase
- Fairness of wages

The median basic salary for most job ranks was equal to or higher than PWM Baseline wages.

| Current Job Rank | Median Basic Salary for Each Rank (before OT and allowances) | | | | | Median Take- home Salary | PWM Baseline |
|---------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| | Wave 1 | Wave 2 | Wave 3 | Wave 4 | Wave 5 | (after CPF deduction, incl. OT) | Wages 2023 |
| SO | \$1,400 | \$1,300 | \$1,450 | \$1,500 | \$1,670 (n =185) | \$2,000 | \$1,650 |
| SSO | \$1,420 | \$1,500 | \$1,585 | \$1,633 | \$1,830 (n = 169) | \$2,200 | \$1,830 |
| SS | \$1,754 | \$1,800 | \$1,785 | \$1,839 | \$2,096 (n = 66) | \$2,600 | \$2,040 |
| SSS | \$1,900 | \$2,000 | \$2,050 | \$2,045 | \$2,220 (n = 23)* | \$2,951 | \$2,240 |
| CSO | \$3,650 | \$1,967 | \$4,749 | \$4,356 | \$2,525 (n = 7)* | \$2,964 | - |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$1,850 (n = 450) | \$2,200 | - |

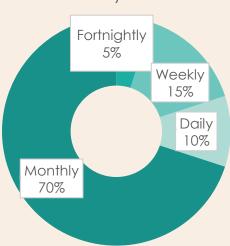
^{*} Note that the number of SSS and CSO in our sample is small and hence, reported results may not accurately reflect the median basic salary of the full population.

B

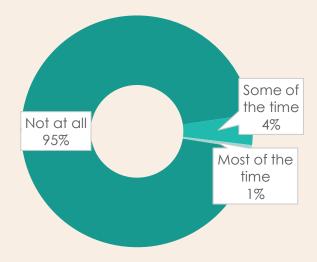
Most officers (70%) were paid on a monthly basis. Most of employers (95%) paid wages on time.

Most employers issued officers with a copy of their employment contract (82%) and a monthly payslip (85%).

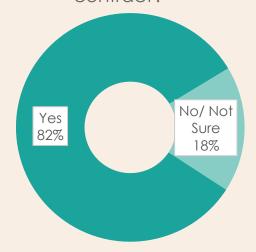
"Are you paid a daily, weekly, fortnightly, or monthly rate?"



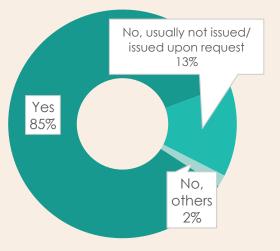
"How often do your employers pay you late?"



"Does your employer issue you with a copy of your employment contract?"

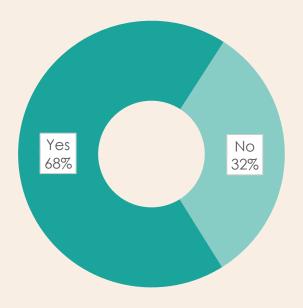


"Does your employer issue you with your payslip monthly?"



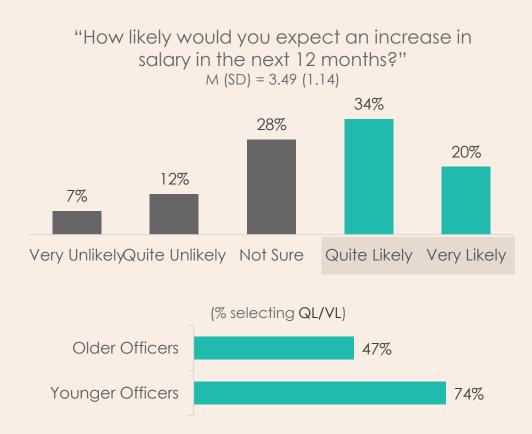
Most officers (68%) said they were aware of the wage levels under the PWM.

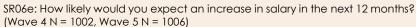
"Are you aware of wage levels under the Progressive Wage Model?"



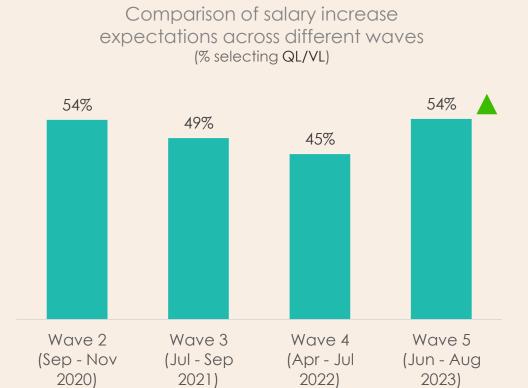
More than half of the officers surveyed (54% QL/VL) expected an increase in salary in the next 12 months, with more younger officers expecting a salary increase compared to older officers.

Expectations for salary increase were higher compared to wave 4.





Responses coded as 1 = Very Unlikely, 5 = Very Likely
* Older officers are 52 years (median age) or older; younger officers are below 52 years

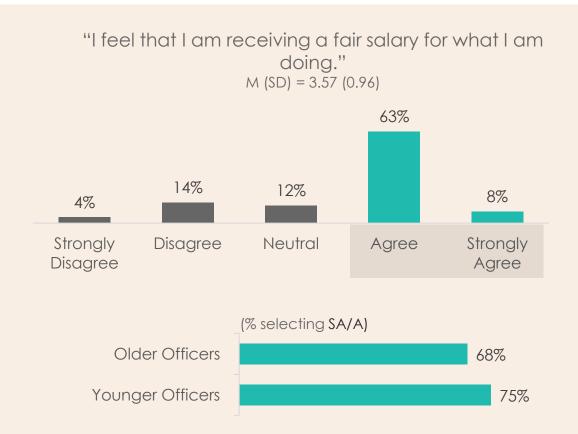


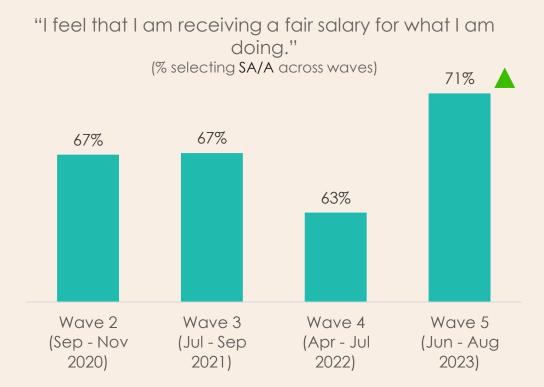
These arrows indicate significant differences in wave 5 compared to wave 4 $\,$



Most officers (71% SA/A) felt that they were receiving a fair salary for what they were doing. This is a higher proportion compared to wave 4.

Younger officers were more likely to perceive a fair salary compared to older officers.





 $HSO1_5$: I feel that I am receiving a fair salary for what I am doing. (Wave 4 N = 1002; Wave 5 N = 1006)

* Older officers are 52 years (median age) or older; younger officers are below 52 years

Responses coded as 1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree

These arrows indicate significant differences in wave 5 compared to wave 4



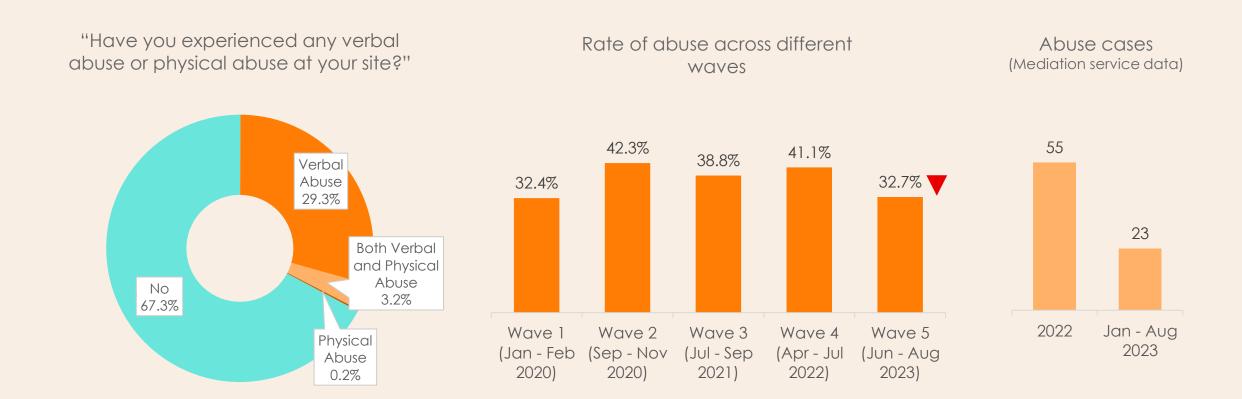
Welfare

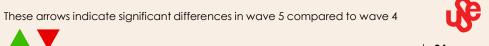
- Workplace abuse
- Seeking help
- Overtime hours
- Non-security duties

- Breaks & Resting Areas
- Mental well-being
- Knowledge of labour laws

Most officers have not experienced verbal or physical abuse at their site (67.3%).

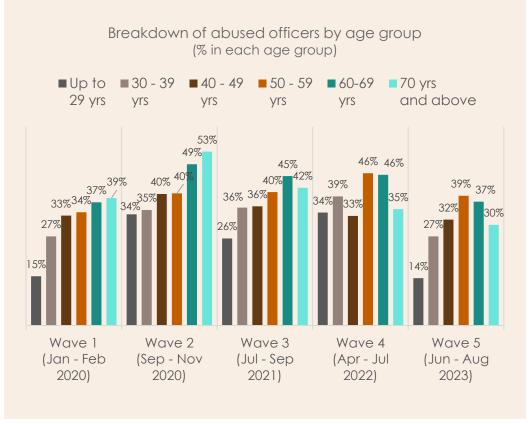
As compared to wave 4, fewer officers report facing abuse. The latest mediation service data also shows a dip in the number of abuse cases.



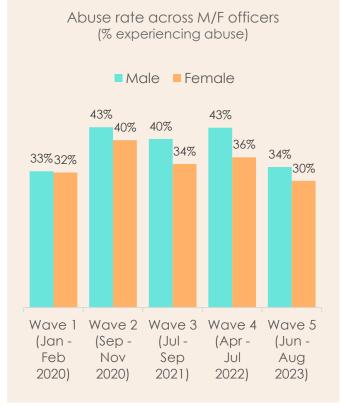


Abuse rates differed by age group and work site.

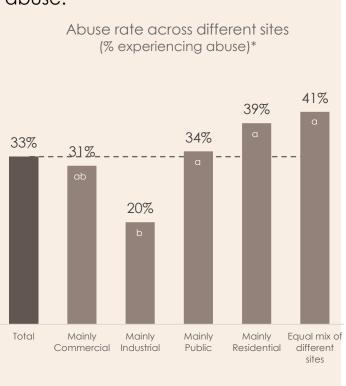
Similar to previous waves, officers aged 50 years and above tend to experience more abuse than officers below 50 years.

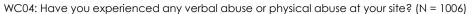


For this wave, the rate of abuse across male (34%) and female officers (30%) was similar.



Those working at mainly residential sites, or an equal mix of different sites tend to experience the most abuse.

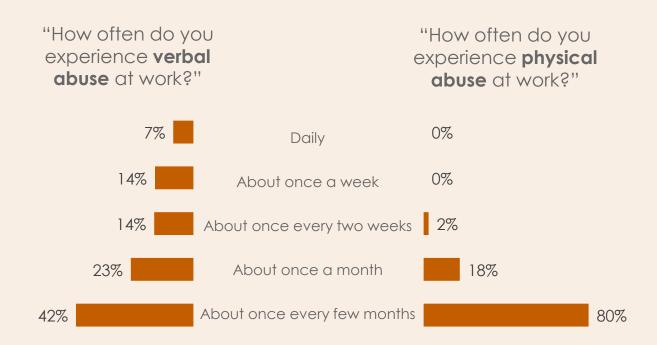






Amongst officers who have experienced abuse, the frequency of verbal abuse was higher than the frequency of physical abuse.

Most tend to encountered abuse from the general public.





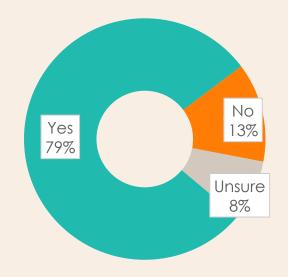


For those who selected "Others", most mentioned residents/ tenants and delivery personnel

Most officers (79%) felt like they could speak up against unfair treatment.

Officers would primarily approach their security supervisor, the police, or USE for help if they were abused at their workplace.

"Do you feel like you can speak up against unfair treatment?"



"Where will you seek help if you are abused at the workplace?"

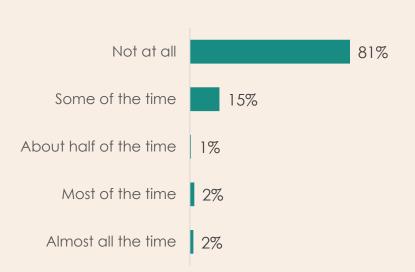
(top 3 choices)



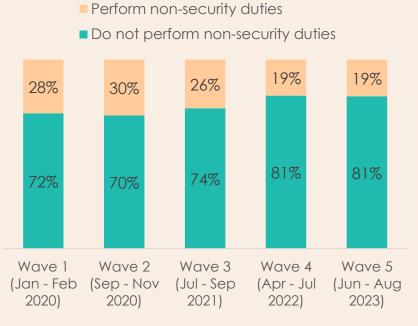
Most officers (81%) did not perform non-security duties. This has not changed since wave 4.

The more common non-security duties officers would perform includes housekeeping (cleaning and sweeping the floor) as well as collecting (and delivering) parcels.

"How often do you perform other nonsecurity duties outside your PWM functions (e.g., sweep the floor)?"



Rate of performing non-security duties across waves

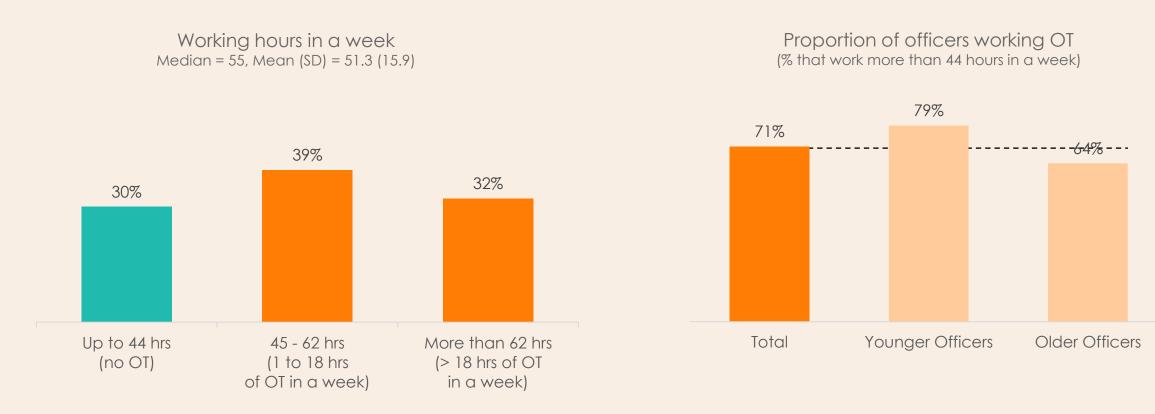


"What are some examples of nonsecurity duties you have to perform?



The median number of working hours in a week was 55 hrs. 71% of officers report working OT (> 44 hours per week).

Younger officers were more likely to work OT compared to older officers



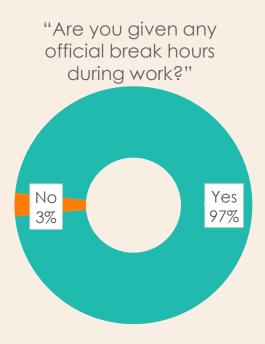
BI10: How many hours are you stationed at your designated site(s) in total? (in a week) (N = 1006) BI011: How many days do you work a week? (N = 1006)

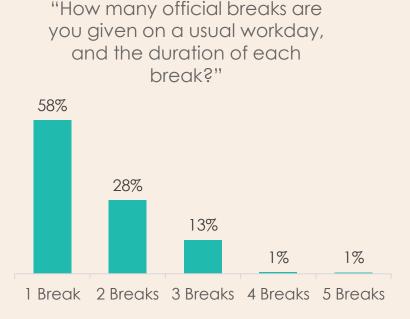
BI18: How many official breaks are you given on a usual workday, and the duration of each break? (N = 974)

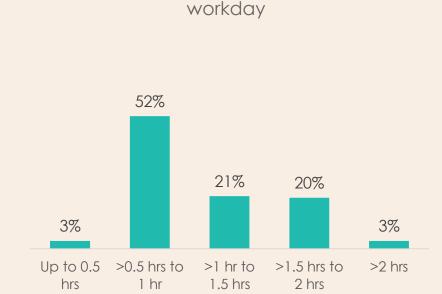


Most officers (97%) were given official break hours during work, with a majority (86%) having 1 to 2 official breaks on a usual workday.

Most officers had breaks lasting from 30 minutes to 1 hour (52%).





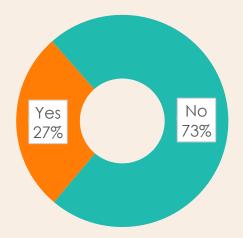


Total duration of official breaks on a usual

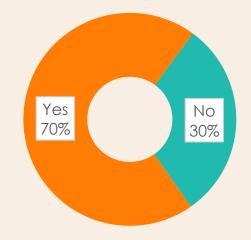
The majority (73%) were not expected to work during their official break hours.

Officers were mostly provided a separate resting area (70%) for their official breaks. Officers were also mostly provided with a proper resting area (75%) for their official breaks (e.g., proper tables and chairs for their meals).

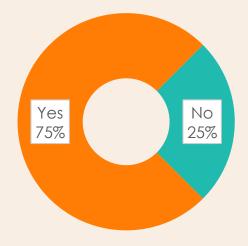
"Are you expected to work during your official break hours?"



"Are you provided a separate resting area for your official breaks?"

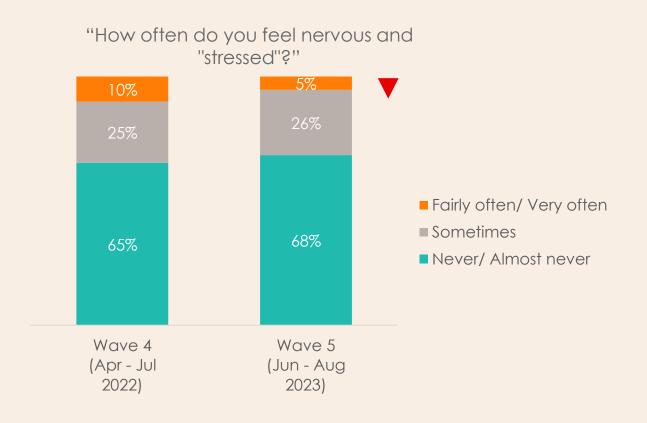


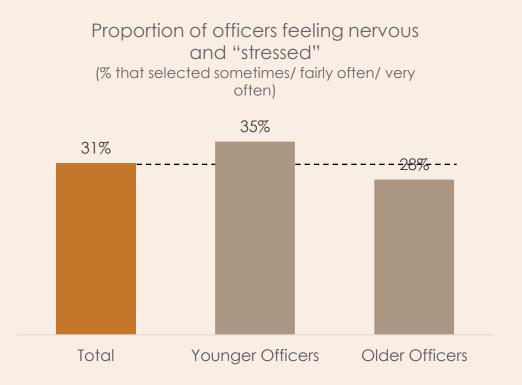
"Are you provided a proper resting area for your official breaks?"



Compared to wave 4, significantly fewer officers in wave 5 reported feeling nervous and "stressed" fairly often or very often.

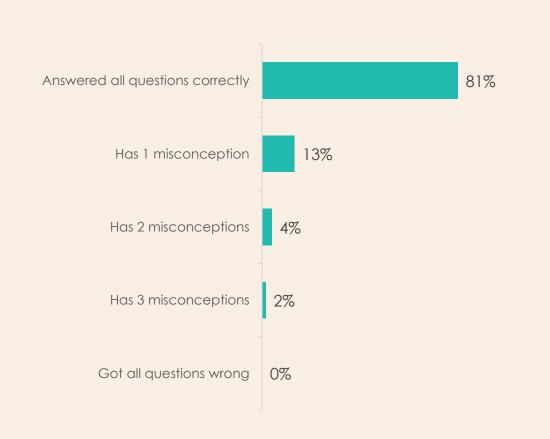
Compared to older officers, younger officers were more likely to report feeling nervous and "stressed" at least sometimes.



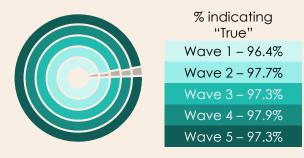


The awareness of labour laws among security officers remains high (81% answered all questions correctly).

The statement that had the highest misconception was that workers should be paid 2 times the daily basic rate of pay for overtime work on rest day (13% indicated false) – this is consistent with findings from past waves.



"You are entitled to minimally 1 Rest Day per work week."



"You should be paid 2.0 times the daily basic rate of pay for overtime work on Rest Day."



% indicating
"True"

Wave 1 – 83.8%

Wave 2 – 78.7%

Wave 3 – 81.6%

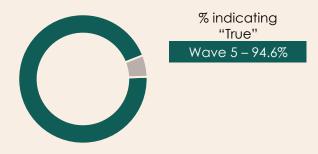
Wave 4 – 80.5%

Wave 5 – 87.1%

"You should be paid 1.5 times your hourly basic rate of pay for the hours of overtime beyond normal hours of work."



"You cannot work more than 72 hours of OT each month."



KL01_1: You are entitled to minimally 1 Rest Day per work week (N = 1006)

KL01_2: You should be paid 1.5 times your hourly basic rate of pay for the hours of overtime beyond normal hours of work (N = 1006)

KL01_3: You should be paid 2.0 times the daily basic rate of pay for overtime work on Rest Day (N = 1006)

KL01_4: You cannot work more than 72 hours of OT each month. (N = 1006) * This question was only added this wave so there is no past data.



Summary of Key Findings

Overview of Industry

- 80% of officers were currently employed at their highest PWM job rank, while 19% were employed at a level lower than their highest PWM job rank.
- 64% of officers held a contract of service, 27% held a contract for service, and 9% were unaware of what contract they held.

Work Prospects

- · Job satisfaction levels remain high.
- Most officers believed that it was unlikely that they would lose their job, and intentions to look for a new job or quit the present job were low.
- Compared to 2022, more officers were satisfied with their chances for promotion and salary increases.
- Officers who worked at mainly residential sites tend to be stationed for the longest hours while those who worked at mainly public sites tend to be stationed for the shortest hours.
- Compared to 2022, usage of technology and comfort with using technology has increased.
- Lack of time was a key barrier preventing officers from picking up new skills.

Wages

- The median basic salary for most job ranks was equal to or higher than PWM Baseline wages.
- Most officers were paid on a monthly basis, received a monthly payslip, and were paid on time. Most employers also issued officers with a copy of their employment contract.
- Most officers were aware of the wage levels under the PWM.
- Compared to 2022, more officers expected an increase in salary in the next 12 months.
- Compared to 2022, more officers felt that they were receiving a fair salary.

Welfare

- Compared to 2022, the rate of abuse has declined.
- Most officers felt like they could speak up against unfair treatment.
- The median number of working hours in a week was 55 hrs.
- Most officers did not perform non-security duties outside of their PWM function.
- Most officers were given official break hours during work. Most officers were provided a separate and proper resting area for their breaks.
- Compared to 2022, perceived stress levels have declined.
- Most officers were aware of the labour laws, with 81% answering 4 knowledge questions correctly.

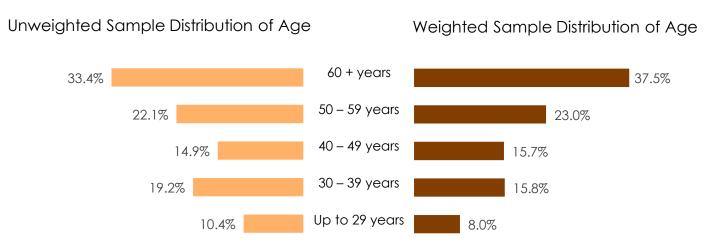
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Annex

- Methodology (Survey Weights & Who Took Part)
- Other Findings

Note on Survey Weights

Based on past findings, age is likely to have an impact on several outcome measures. As such, we weighed the data by **age group** (based on population data from January 2023) to make the results more representative of the actual population of security officers.

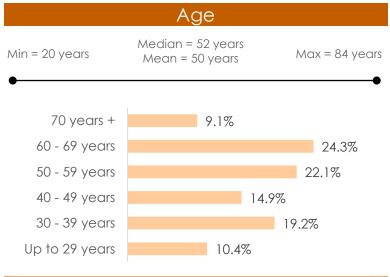


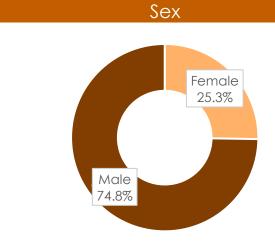
Minimum weight = 0.769; maximum weight = 1.122.

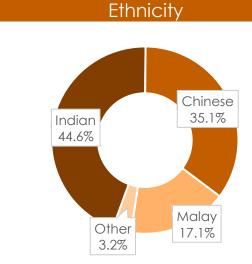
Weighting efficiency = effective base/ unweighted base = 98.3% (i.e., high weighting efficiency). This indicates minimal distortion of data after applying weights.



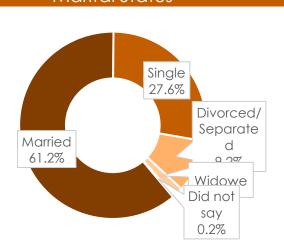
Who took part (1)



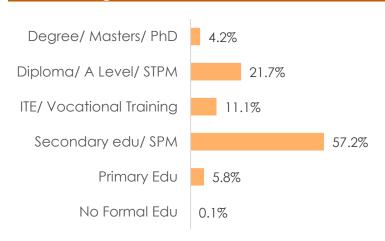




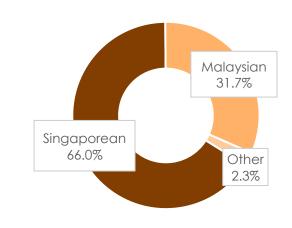
Marital Status







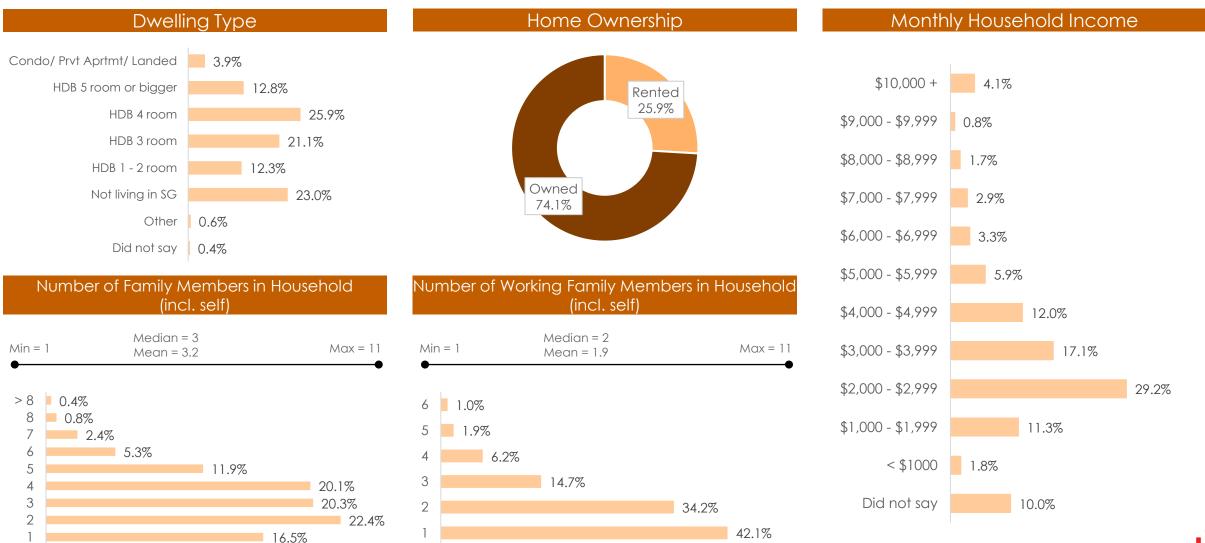






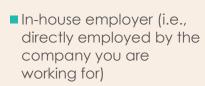
Verian

Who took part (2)

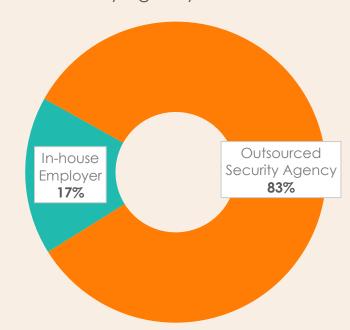


Most (83%) worked for outsourced security agencies and had one notification (93%).

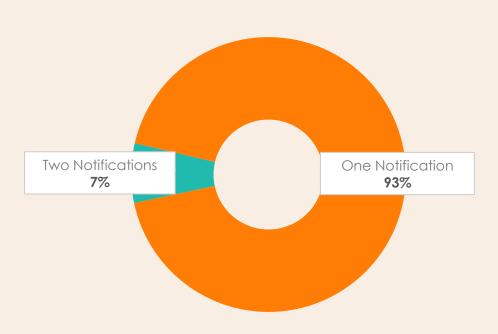
"Are you working for an in-house employer or outsourced security agency?"



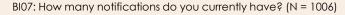
 Outsourced security agency (i.e., employed by a security agency which then assigns you a work site to work as a security officer)



"How many notifications do you currently have?"



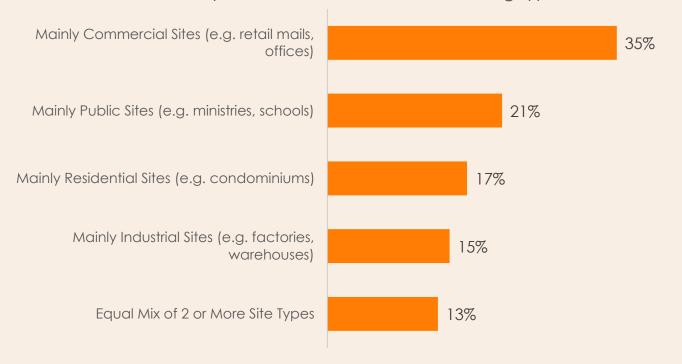
BI01:Are you working for an in-house employer (i.e., directly employed by the company you are working for) or outsourced security agency (i.e., you are employed by a security agency which then assigns you a work site to work as a security officer)? (N = 1006)



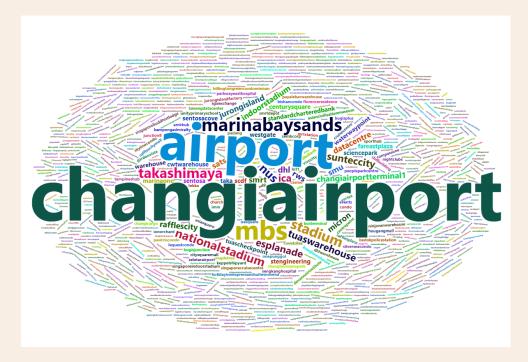


There was a good spread of officers working at various sites, with many officers being deployed to commercial sites such as the airport.





"What is the name of the site(s) you are deployed to?"



BI09a: How often do you work at each of the following type of sites? (Commercial, Industrial, Residential, Public) (N = 1006) Note: "Mainly Commercial/ Public/ Residential/ Industrial Sites" means the officer spends the largest bulk of time at those sites. BI09b: What is the name of the site(s) you are deployed to? (N = 1006)

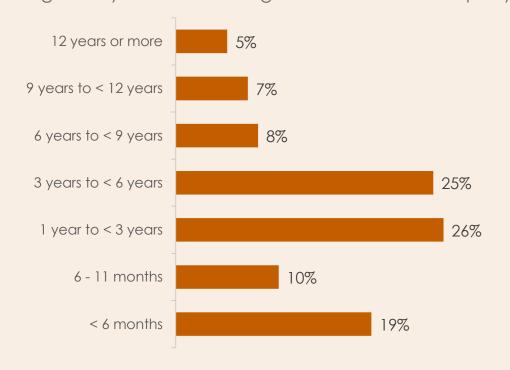
On average, officers had worked about 8 years in the security industry and about 3 years 7 months in their current company.

Older officers tend to have spent more time in the security industry compared to younger officers.

"How long have you worked in the security industry?"



"How long have you been working with the current company?"

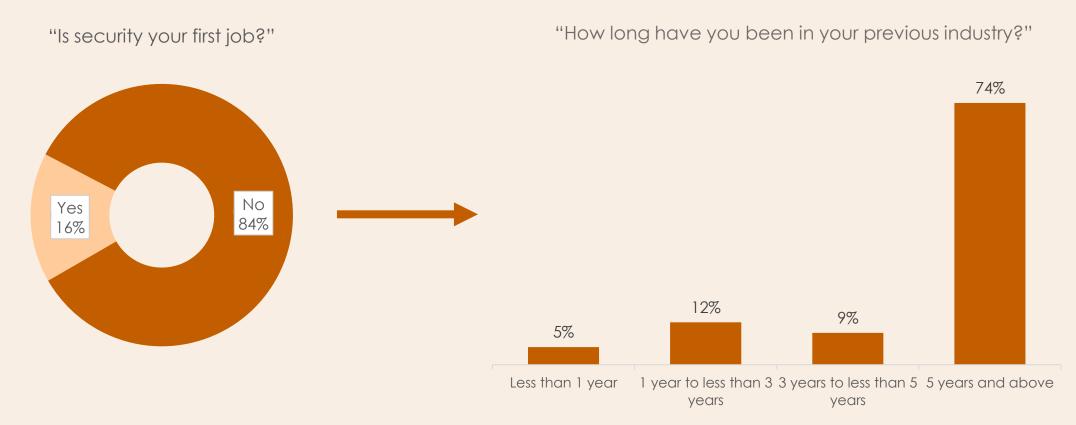


BI03a: How long have you worked in the security industry? (N = 1006) BI03b: How long have you been working with the current company? (N = 1006)

^{*} Older officers are 52 years (median age) or older; younger officers are below 52 years

Most officers (83%) had other jobs before entering the security industry.

Among officers who had other jobs before security, the vast majority (71%) had worked in their previous industry for 5 years or more.

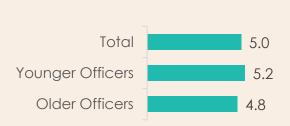


The most common working pattern (31%) was a 6-day work week with 12-hr shifts.

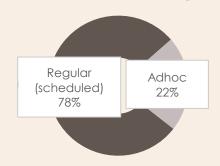
On average, officers worked about 5 days each week, with younger officers tending to work more days than older officers.

Most officers (78%) also reported that their work schedule was regular.

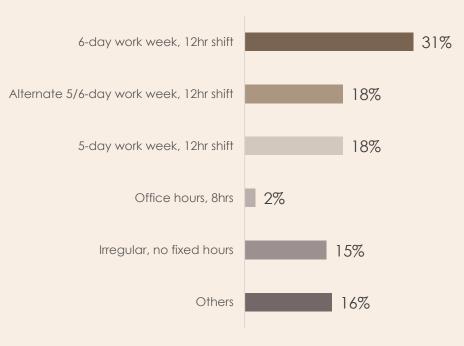
Average number of working days per week



"Is your work schedule regular?"



"What is your current working pattern?"



For those who selected "Others", common responses were "4-day work week, 12hr shift" and "3-day work week, 12hr shift"

BIO11: How many days do you work a week? (N = 1006)

BI012: What is your current work pattern? (N = 1006) BI016: Is your work schedule regular? (N = 1006)

^{*} Older officers are 52 years (median age) or older; younger officers are below 52 years

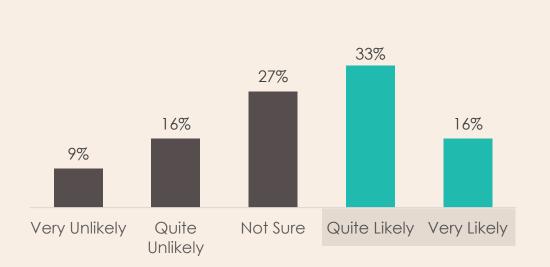
Half of the officers reported that they expect to take on a greater level of responsibilities in the next 12 months (50% QL/VL).

Younger officers were more likely to expect to take on a greater level of responsibilities compared to older officers.

"How likely would you expect to take on a greater level of responsibilities in the next 12 months?"

M (SD) = 3.32 (1.17)





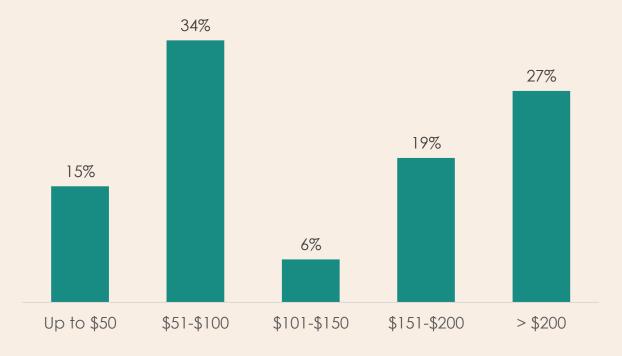


SR06c: How likely would you expect to take on a greater level of responsibilities in the next 12 months? (N = 1006)

The median expected salary increment was \$150.

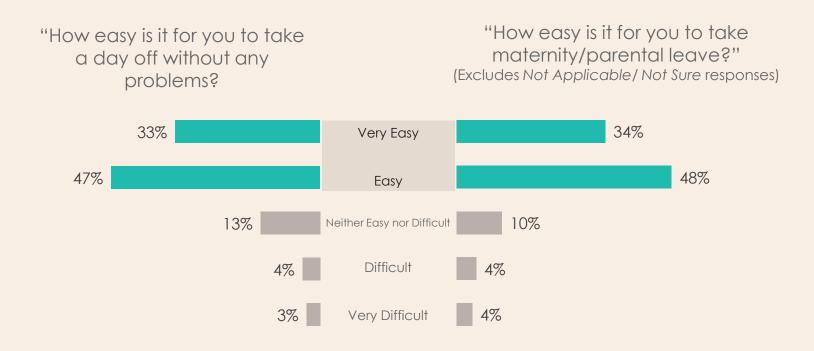
"How much of salary increment will you be expecting to get in year 2024 (in SGD)?"

(among those who selected QL/VL)



Most officers found it easy/very easy to take a day off without any problems (80%).

Among those that were aware/ found it applicable (n = 266), most found it easy/very easy to take maternity/ paternity leave (82%).

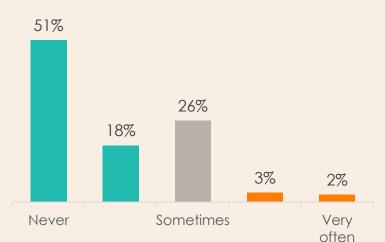




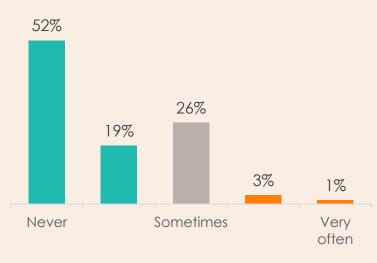
In the last month, few officers felt nervous and stressed (5%), have been upset because of an unexpected incident (4%), or have been unable to cope with the things they have to do (3%) <u>fairly often or very often</u>.

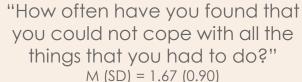
"How often do you feel nervous and "stressed"?"

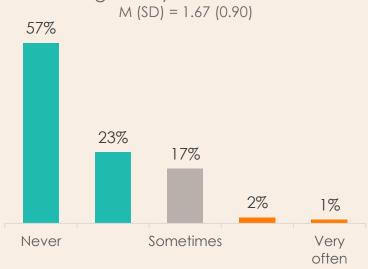
M (SD) = 1.87 (1.04)



"In the last month, how often have you been upset because of something that happened unexpectedly?" M (SD) = 1.83 (0.98)







The following are questions about how you feel about yourself in the last month.)

HS02_1: How often do you feel nervous and "stressed"? (N = 1006)

HS02_2: In the last month, how often have you been upset because of something that happened unexpectedly? (N = 1006)

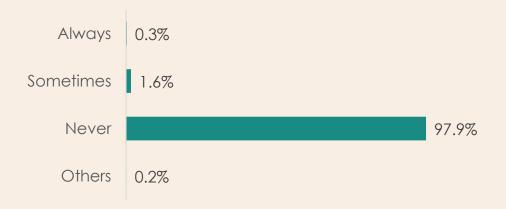
HS02_3: How often have you found that you could not cope with all the things that you had to do? (N = 1006)

Responses coded as 1 = Never, 5 = Often

Most officers (97.9%) were not penalised for LD by their employer.

Officers shared that the long hours, needing to stand, and patrolling were some of the most tiring aspects of the job.

"How often have you been penalised for liquidated damages (LD) (for any reasons) by your employer?"



"What is the most tiring aspect about the job?"

