BENEFITS & BEYOND

The benefits expectation gap

Evolving needs are reshaping the workplace, and employees expect their workplace benefits to keep up. Here's what employers need to know to provide modern benefits¹ that attract and retain talent.

1: MODERN BENEFITS? A MUST HAVE

Employers and employees agree they've got to have them.



But there's a disconnect with employers and employees thinking their benefits packages are modern:

EMPLOYERS WHO AGREE:



Need to know:

Employees seek benefits with:

- > Flexibility
- > Financial support
- > Overall well-being support

EMPLOYEES WHO AGREE:

THE GAP





Defining modern benefits packages: Employers: Add newer benefits Employees: Widen benefits scope

2: ASSESS EMPLOYEE NEEDS TO GAIN FOCUS

How important is overall employee well-being to employers?

EMPLOYERS WHO SAY IT'S IMPORTANT TO THEM:

97%

EMPLOYEES WHO SAY IT'S IMPORTANT TO THEIR EMPLOYER:



THE GAP



66%

What employee well-being areas should employers prioritize (Top 2)?2

EMPLOYERS RANK:

1. Mental health	69 %
2. Physical health	68 %
3. Financial health	50 %
4. Social health	13 %

EMPLOYEES RANK: 1. Physical health 2. Mental health

2. Mental health	59 %
3. Financial health	55 %
4. Social health	20 %

> The biggest gap exists in mental health

Need to know:

> The groups' top concerns are flipped

What challenges do employees face?

EMPLOYERS SAY	
Cost of everyday goods	45 %
Saving for retirement	44 %
Cost of housing	42 %
Mental health concerns	38 %
Personal debt concerns	33 %
Paying medical expenses	33%

Need to know:

- > Financial stress is the top employee concern
- The significant gap in how mental health challenges are perceived

EMPLOYEES SAY

Saving for retirement	45 %
Cost of everyday goods	44 %
Cost of housing	29 %
Making it paycheck to paycheck	26 %
Personal debt concerns	25 %
Mental health concerns	22 %

 Employers underestimate employees' struggle with living paycheck to paycheck

3: HOW TO MAKE BENEFITS EVEN BETTER

Employers and employees both say there's room to improve.

Employees who face these challenges believe their employer should help.

SAVING FOR RETIREMENT



JUST MAKING IT PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK



MENTAL HEALTH



And employers seem ready to help meet workforce challenges:



7 IN 10 ANTICIPATE SOME CHANGE TO THEIR BENEFITS SUITE IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS.



ANTICIPATE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE OR Complete Benefits overhaul in the Next two years.

Need to know:

To provide a more modern benefits program:

- > Find out what challenges employees face
- > Include program changes that address them

Find out what you need to know about new workforce expectations in *Benefits & Beyond*.

For more information, please contact your Prudential Representative.

¹ Our survey asked employers and employees to define "modern benefits" both through an open-ended question and by giving them suggested options to choose from. ² Percentages are based on items ranked #1 or #2 (in the top 2 most important).

All statistics and references are derived from the data obtained through the Benefits & Beyond research, conducted in January and February of 2025.

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