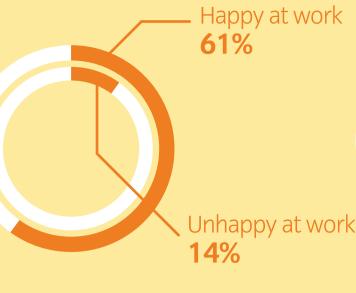


# THE KEY TO HAPPINESS AT WORK

We spend most of our time at work. When we're not there, we're probably thinking about it—getting on, moving up, improving our lot. But what makes us happy there? And which workers are the most content? **City & Guilds' Career Happiness Index 2012** has the answers.

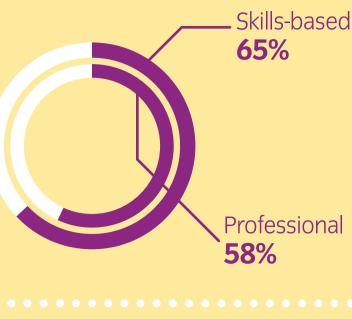
**ENJOYING OUR JOBS** 

**MOST OF US ARE** 



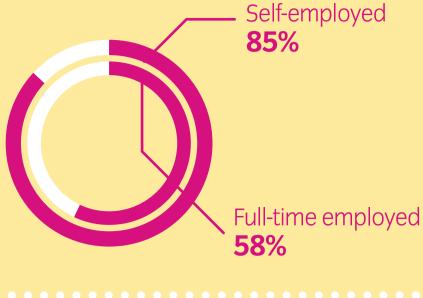
**ROLES ARE MORE CONTENT 65**%

**THOSE IN SKILLS-BASED** 



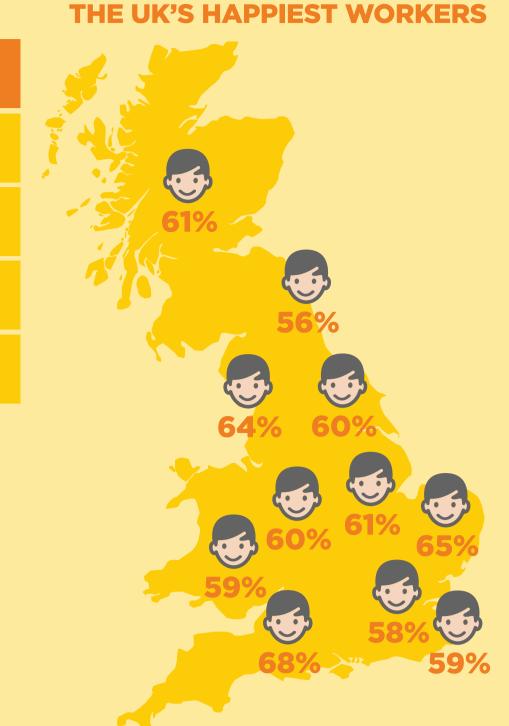
ARE FAR HAPPIER

**SELF-EMPLOYED WORKERS** 



| AGE   | HAPPY                                     | UNHAPPY |
|-------|---|---------|
| 56+   | 65% & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & | 10%     |
| 46-55 | 59% & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & | 16%     |
| 35-45 | 60% & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & | 13%     |
| 18-34 | 62%                                       | 15%     |
|       |   |         |

**WORKERS AGED OVER 56 ARE HAPPIEST OF ALL** 



## Floristry and gardening, with 87% saying everything at work is rosy. Florists and gardeners like their work environment the

AND THE HAPPIEST CAREER IS...



most. Most career groups say getting on well with colleagues is the most important ingredient for a happy work life.

|          |                              | % AGREEING<br>THEY ARE HAPPY | ATTRIBUTE THAT RESPONDENTS MOST ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR JOB                                   |  |  |
|----------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 900      | Florists & gardeners         | 87%<br>87%                   | I am in a working environment that I like and I<br>do something worthwhile and useful (89%) |  |  |
|          | Hairdressers & beauticians   | <b>79</b> %                  | I have control of duties, manage my own workload and have stimulating work (71%)            |  |  |
|          | Plumbers & water<br>workers  | 76%                          | I get on well with colleagues (78%)   |  |  |
|          | Marketers & PR               | <b>75</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues and I am in a working environment that I like (75%)           |  |  |
|          | Scientists & researchers     | <b>69</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues (90%)   |  |  |
| <b>P</b> | Leisure & tourism<br>workers | 67%                          | I get on well with colleagues (87%)   |  |  |
|          | Construction<br>workers      | 66%<br>••••••••              | I get on well with colleagues (81%)   |  |  |
|          | Doctors &<br>dentists        | <b>65</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues (88%)   |  |  |
|          | Lawyers                      | 64%                          | I get on well with colleagues (86%)   |  |  |
|          | Nurses                       | <b>62</b> %                  | I feel that I am doing something worthwhile and useful (87%)                                |  |  |
| <b>O</b> | Architects                   | <b>62</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues (81%)   |  |  |
| 121      | Childcare & youth workers    | 60%<br>60%                   | I feel that I am doing something worthwhile and useful (82%)                                |  |  |
| 1+2      | Teachers                     | <b>59</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues (86%)   |  |  |
|          | Accountants                  | <b>58</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues (79%)   |  |  |
|          | Car workers<br>& mechanics   | <b>57</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues (86%)   |  |  |
|          | Electricians                 | <b>55</b> %                  | I have control of duties, and manage my own workload (78%)                                  |  |  |
|          | Caterers                     | <b>55</b> %                  | I get on well with colleagues (85%)   |  |  |
|          | HR & personnel<br>staff      | <b>54</b> %                  | I have control of duties, and manage my own workload (79%)                                  |  |  |
|          | IT & telecoms<br>workers     | 48%                          | I get on well with colleagues (83%)   |  |  |
|          |                              |                              |   |  |  |

#### feel recognised and appreciated 59% feel recognised and appreciated feel their work is worthwhile and useful feel their work is worthwhile and useful

**HAPPIEST CAREERS: REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL** 

64% get training support and development get to use their skills everyday

% agreeing to this

Of those surveyed, are most likely to be self-employed (35%) **PLUMBERS & WATER WORKERS** 

Bankers

**FLORISTS & GARDENERS** 

feel recognised and appreciated feel their work is worthwhile and useful

get training support and development

78% believe it's important that they have scope for career progression

agree), while bankers are least likely to agree.

I get on well with my colleagues

I feel that I am doing something

I am able to use my skills every

get to use their

skills everyday

WHAT MAKES US HAPPY AT WORK?

**82%** 

**73%** 

68%

## 65% get to use their skills everyday Least likely of all careers surveyed to be unhappy in their jobs (7%)

feel their work is

get to use their skills everyday

get training support and development

I get on well with colleagues (76%)

**HAIRDRESSERS & BEAUTICIANS** 

**MARKETERS & PR** feel recognised and appreciated

worthwhile and useful get training support and development

Achieving that perfect work life balance is important to this group (85%)

Scientists &

Florists &

Scientists &

Florists &

researchers (90%)

gardeners (89%)

researchers (82%)

The most important aspect of a job is feeling our work is recognised and appreciated: 62% of all workers say it's very important to them. Florists are most likely to feel their work is recognised and appreciated (80% of them **MOST LIKELY MOST LIKELY TO AGREE TO DISAGREE** 

Hairdressers &

Bankers (**35%**)

Nurses, leisure &

Bankers (**35%**)

tourism workers (22%)

beauticians (14%)

### worthwhile and useful I have control of my duties, and **69%** manage my own workload

I am doing something Florists & Bankers (**35%**) 68% challenging and stimulating gardeners (87%)

|  | day  | 68%         |  | gardeners ( <b>82%</b> )                    | 20             | Dalikeis ( <b>33</b> %)                          |
|--|--|-------------|--|---|----------------|--|
|  | I am in a working environment<br>that I like             | <b>67</b> % |  | Florists &<br>gardeners ( <b>89%</b> )      | 20             | Bankers ( <b>24%</b> )                           |
|  | I have a good work/life balance                          | 64%         |  | Florists &<br>gardeners ( <b>73%</b> )      | £              | Bankers ( <b>33%</b> )                           |
|  | I feel my work is recognised and appreciated             | 58%         |  | Florists &<br>gardeners ( <b>80%</b> )      |                | Leisure & tourism<br>workers ( <b>37%</b> )      |
|  | I get support in training and development                | 53%         |  | Nurses, florists & gardeners ( <b>64%</b> ) | 26<br>26<br>31 | IT & telecoms workers,<br>bankers ( <b>34%</b> ) |
|  | I am adequately financially rewarded                     | 44%         |  | Scientists & researchers ( <b>63%</b> )     |                | Lawyers ( <b>50%</b> )                           |
|  | I have scope for career progression                      | 41%         |  | Scientists & researchers ( <b>65</b> %)     |                | Car workers<br>& mechanics ( <b>55%</b> )        |
|  | I have flexible working conditions, such as home working | 40%         |  | Florists &<br>gardeners ( <b>69</b> %)      |                | Car workers &<br>mechanics ( <b>65%</b> )        |
| While 61% of those surveyed say being adequately financially rewarded is very important, having money isn't necessarily the key to contentment.  Londoners are most likely to feel they are adequately financially rewarded, but are the second least likely to be happy of all the regions surveyed.  Of those surveyed, the self-employed earn less than those in full time employment but are by far the happiest, with 25% saying they are very happy and 41% agreeing they are very proud of their job - more than twice the average of all those surveyed. |  |             |  |   |                |  |

# ROLE MODEL, BUT OF THOSE WHO DO A FAMILY MEMBER IS MOST POPULAR,

**SOMEONE WHO INSPIRES AND INFLUENCES** 



**17%** 13% 13%

8%

4%

**18-34 AGREEING %** 

26%

14%

18%

10%

6%

**30%** 

**ESPECIALLY AMONG THOSE AGED 18-34:** 

| THE MAIN REASON GIVEN FOR THE ROLE MODEL'S ABILITY TO INSPIRE IS THEIR HARD WORK. WE ALSO RESPECT THOSE WHO GET RESULTS IN A PLEASANT WAY. |     |  |  |  |  |
|--|-----|--|--|--|--|
| They have worked really hard to get to where they are now  | 50% |  |  |  |  |
| They are able to get results in a pleasant / positive way  | 43% |  |  |  |  |
| They are able to pass on their skills / knowledge effectively  | 41% |  |  |  |  |
| They are committed to their personal development and continue to learn new skills  | 32% |  |  |  |  |

They have been able to achieve a good work-life balance

Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.