

## How Benefits can support the DEI evolution and employee experience

**CEB** Conference

April 12, 2022





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Background of DEI, Emerging Trends in Benefits and Data Driven Insights (30 min)



Table Exercise 1 (20-30 w/report out)

How will I bring this to Finance, Operations, other stakeholders



Evolving relationship between Benefits and DEI Leadership and Employee Resource Groups (10 min)

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Table Exercise 2 (15-20)

 How do I interact with Employee Resource Groups and the Diversity Council (where in place)



Wrap up – practical ways to apply concepts in the future (10-15 min)



## *"Fairness does not mean everyone gets the same. Fairness means everyone gets what they need."* — Rick Riordan







Background of DEI, Emerging Trends in Benefits and Data Driven Insights



#### Current state of the workforce.....and the strong employee desire for DEI

## Employees are experiencing major burnout

**Engagement, retention**, and **productivity** are top risks for employers as employees are adapting to new ways of working

Mental health stigma is slowly breaking and employees are identifying issues and looking for support

Managers and leaders are overwhelmed in how to lead and support their teams in these types of vast change



It is difficult to maintain cultures from pre-pandemic; creating a **culture of wellbeing** is imperative but has become more difficult

Employees **needs and expectations** have shifted greatly – caregiving, flexible work

Shifting demographics and the Great Resignation are driving the **tight labor markets** 

The attention to **diversity, equity, and inclusion** has never been greater – employees are looking for action and change



## Diversity is what makes each of us unique. It's not just about gender and LGBT+, it includes our ethnicity, age, socioeconomic class, and much more

Veteran Status

LGBT+

Equity involves trying to understand and give people what they need to enjoy full, healthy lives.

**Equality**, in contrast, aims to ensure that everyone gets the same things in order to enjoy full, healthy lives.

Like equity, equality aims to promote fairness and justice, *but it can only work if everyone starts from the same place and needs the same things.* 



Source: https://www.aecf.org/blog/racial-justice-definitions/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI6sf\_g-rD7wIVAAOzAB38TwijEAAYASABEaIa3PD BwE

Caregiving

**Ethnicitv** 

### Pre-conference survey insights: where are you in your journey?

Employee experience lens is being embraced <b>7 in 10</b> . Are focusing on employee experience across all benefits	ESG focus on the rise 60% employers have made ESG commitments, of those 60% have made a connection to benefits	Most believe health and/or wealth outcomes could be connected to gender and race <b>9 in 10</b> said both health/wealth outcomes (0 said No)
DEI and benefits are in people's mind <b>7 in 10</b> Have looked at benefits from a DEI lens last year	and so are health/wealth outcomes <b>Over 60%</b> Have looked at health/wealth outcomes in the last year, and 25% planning to do so	<ul> <li>Things we've heard these past few days:</li> <li>Building business case for action can be challenging. Envisioning solutions that resonate with data helps</li> <li>Are employers best suited to address inequity challenges?</li> <li>How do I find those high value interactions to focus on?</li> <li>How do I leverage my ERGs and wellbeing champions?</li> </ul>

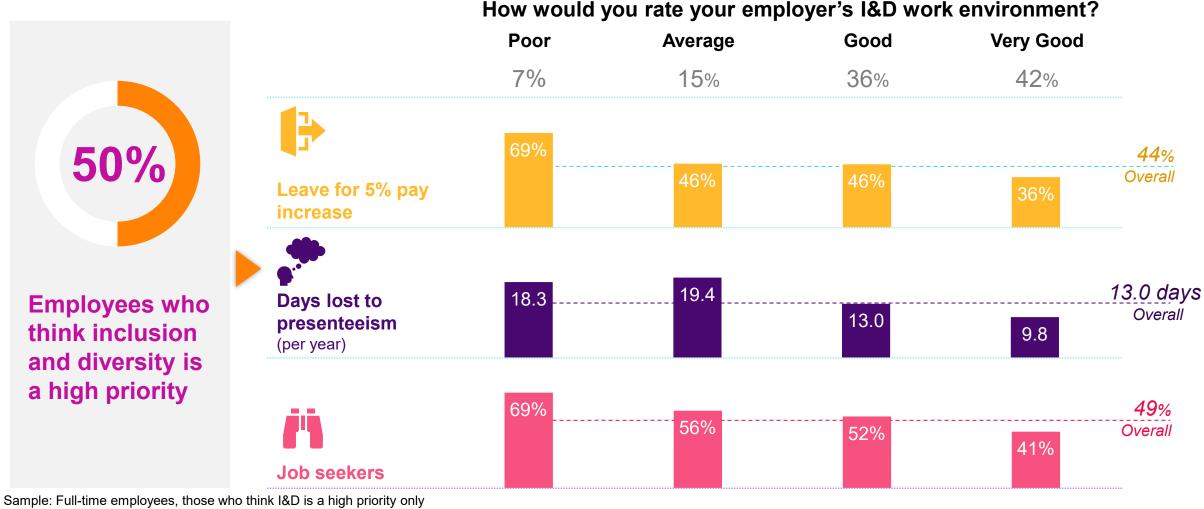
Based on 29 responses – CEB survey on "How Benefits Can Support the DEI Evolution and Employee Experience"

# How do we build the business case for change with the C-suite?

## What are the obstacles to drive change?



## Employers who fail to deliver on DEI policies could see a significant exit risk among employees who prioritize DEI issues



Source: 2022 Global Benefits Attitudes Survey, United States

## DEI is a key area of sustainability and focus for boards, management teams and heads of HR, who are asking...

Pay Fairness & Gender/Racial Gap

#### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**



#### Talent Gap

#### **Inclusive Benefits**

- Do our current benefit programs meet the needs of a diverse workforce?
- Are our benefit programs integrated and aligned with our DEI strategy?
- Do our benefit programs align with/ support our current sustainability commitments and ESG goals?

#### Culture

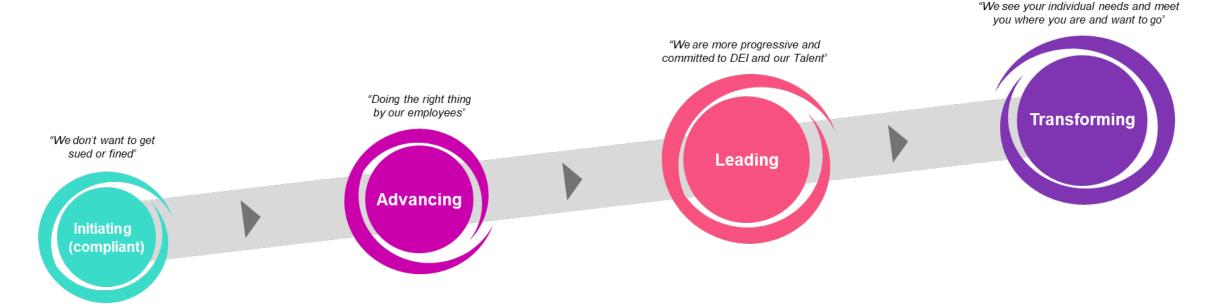
#### Has your company thought about Inclusive Benefits?

73% of employers said their #1 external influence on organization's benefits strategy in the next two years was DEI, followed by 53% indicating a tight labor markets was the top influence<sup>1</sup>

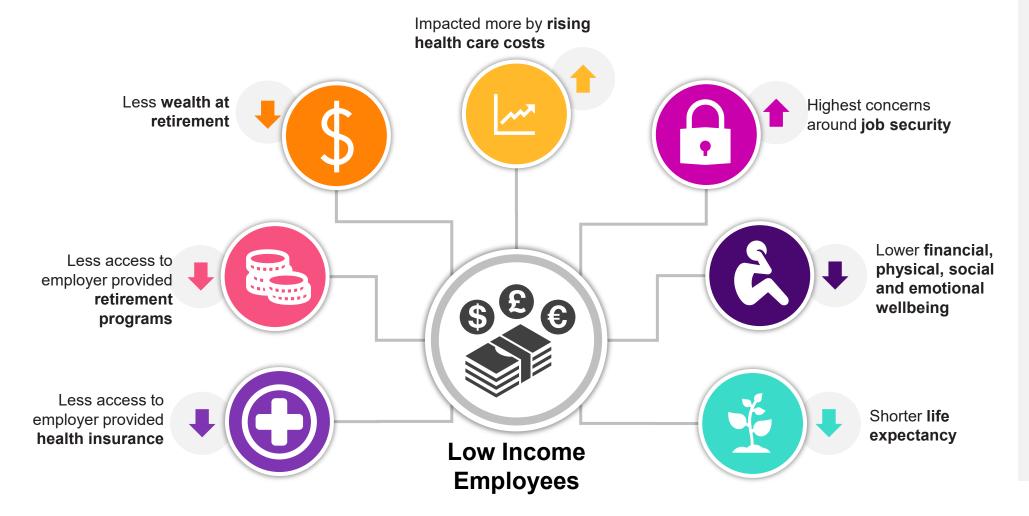
1. Source: 2021 Benefit Trends Survey, United States

Strategically and tactically bringing together Benefits with DEI and ESG Benefits can support company ESG and Sustainability strategies

#### **DEI Maturity Spectrum**



## DEI discussions have also led to a better understanding of the impact of income to outcomes



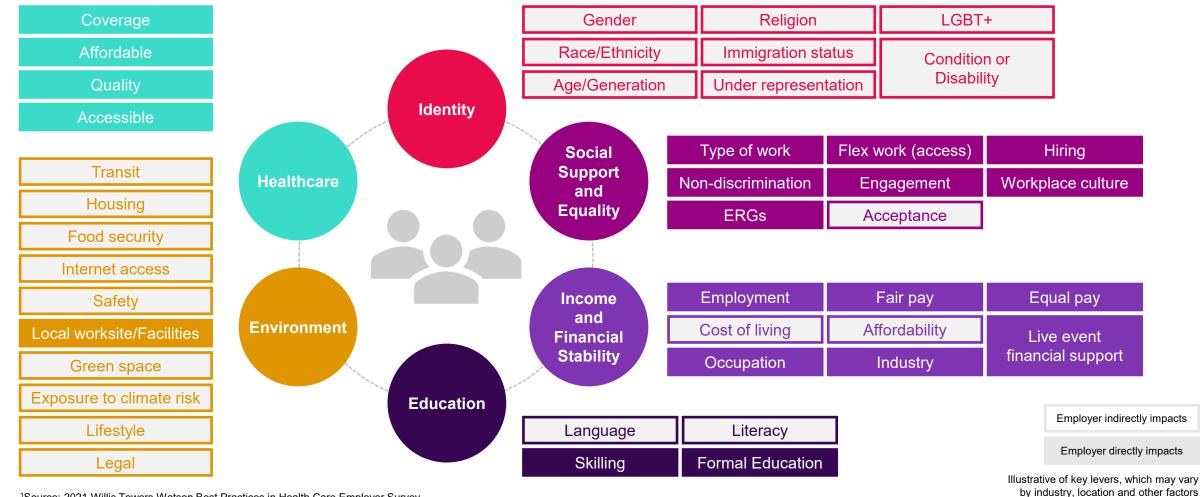
WTW's research shows that low-income employees often have suboptimal health/wealth outcomes in US



Are you seeing these themes in your population?

#### It is important to understand how SDoH influences health and wealth inequities

In 2021 only 31% of employers indicated they make health partner decision based on existence of a SDoH strategy<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Source: 2021 Willis Towers Watson Best Practices in Health Care Employer Survey

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### What happens if we don't get this right?

Black employees are 30% more likely	Female and low-income employees feel less	Across European OECD countries, <b>pension payments</b>	In the UK the average pensioner from an ethnic minority
than white	positive about their	to women aged 65 and over	can expect a retirement
employees to leave	organization's fairness	were 25% lower, on average,	income <b>24.4 per cent lower</b> than
their organization <sup>1</sup>	on promotion <sup>2</sup>	than for men. <sup>3</sup>	other pensioners <sup>4</sup>

Considerable **racial disparities** in pregnancy-related mortality Deaths per 100k live births

White Women			
Other Races		17.8	
Black Women			40.0

LGBT+ individuals are 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> times more likely

to experience depression, anxiety and substance misuse <sup>5</sup> Low-wage earners had ½ the usage of preventive care, nearly 2x the hospital admission rate, more than 4x the rate of avoidable admissions, and more than 3x the rate of emergency department visits relative to top-wage-group earners <sup>6</sup>

Hispanic people are about 50% more likely to die from diabetes than whites <sup>7</sup>

**One quarter** of older workers

(50-64 yr) in UK pursue non-

traditional jobs severely impacting

expected retirement income<sup>8</sup>

African American women are **42% more likely to die from breast cancer** than are non-Hispanic white women Minorities are underrepresented in breast imaging and have less access to screening mammography <sup>8</sup>

Sources

4. https://thepeoplespension.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Media ethnicity-gap media-brief 20200915 vf.pdf

5. https://ic.arc.losrios.edu/~hokersl/Psyc\_365/Printables/Example\_Heterosexism.pdf

6. https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2016.1147

8. https://www.sbi-online.org/Portals/0/Position%20Statements/2019/diversity-and-inclusion-statement.pdf

. https://www.verywellmind.com/gender-differences-in-suicide-methods-1067508

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Overall, globally men

are two times more

likely to commit

suicide than women 9

<sup>1.</sup> https://www.cnbc.com/2019/12/13/report-corporate-americas-diversity-efforts-fail-black-employees.html 2. https://leanin.org/women-in-the-workplace-report-2018/ensure-that-hiring-and-promotions-are-fair 3. https://www.oecd.org/gender/data/wide-gap-in-pension-benefits-between-men-andwomen.htm#:~text=March%202020%20%2D%2Dbata%20show%20that,gap%20is%20isw20iower%20than%2010%25

<sup>7.</sup> https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/hispanic-health/index.html

## Employer strategies and what employees want

#### Key priorities in the next 2 years<sup>1</sup>

Achieve health program costs that are affordable for employees, especially lower wage employees<sup>1</sup>



86%

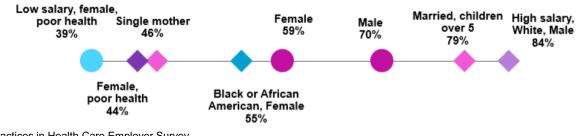
Programs to support DEI goals and address social determinants of health factors, however<sup>1</sup>:

- 29% feel this is a weakness today, 32% feel it is a strength
- 31% consider in selecting a health vendor the criteria of having a SDoH strategy

#### And the voice of employees<sup>2</sup>



of employees say their benefits meet their needs but there are distinct differences by gender, health status, salary, and race



Source:

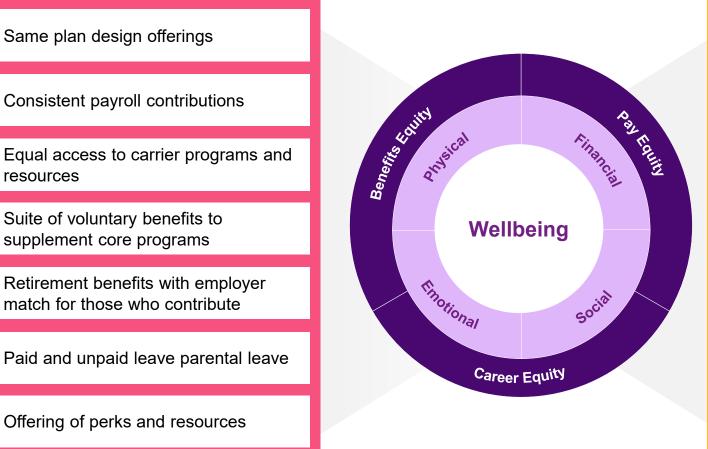
<sup>1</sup> 2021 Willis Towers Watson Best Practices in Health Care Employer Survey <sup>2</sup> 2022 Global Benefits Attitudes Survey, United States

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#### Employer-Sponsored Programs Have Unintentionally Created Inequity (examples) Equal



#### Equitable

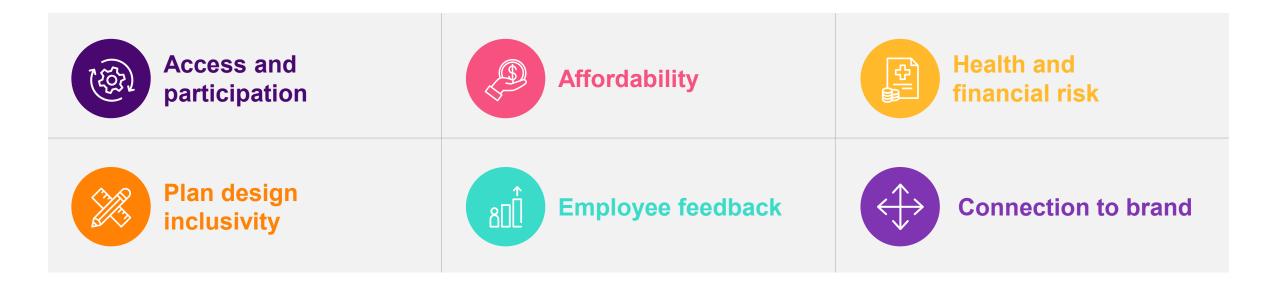


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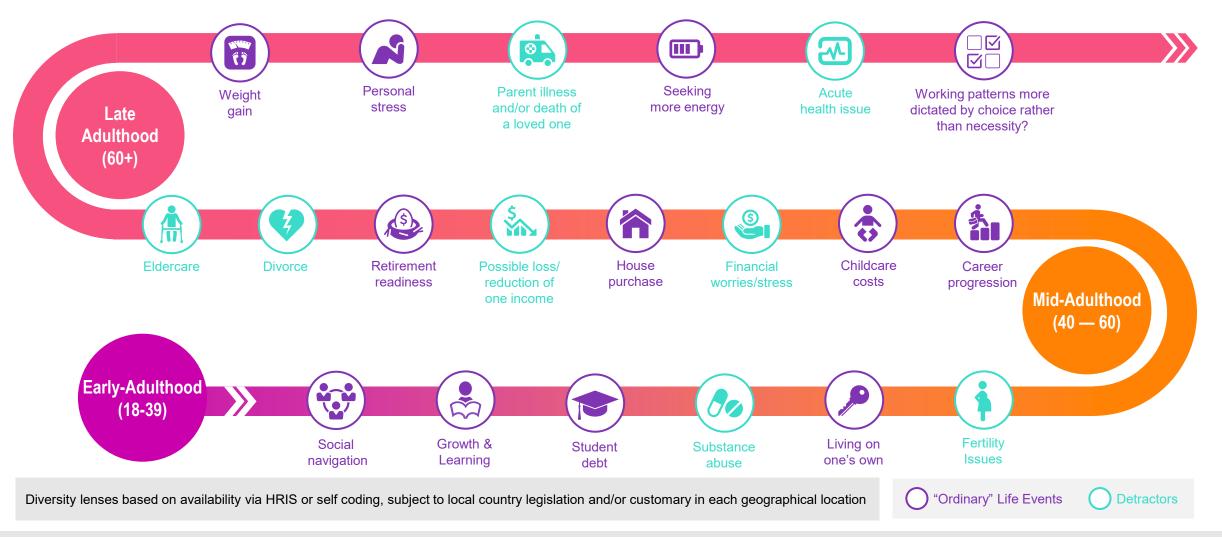
To fully understand *why* certain health inequities exist, reviewing the potential influencers is just as important as the outcomes





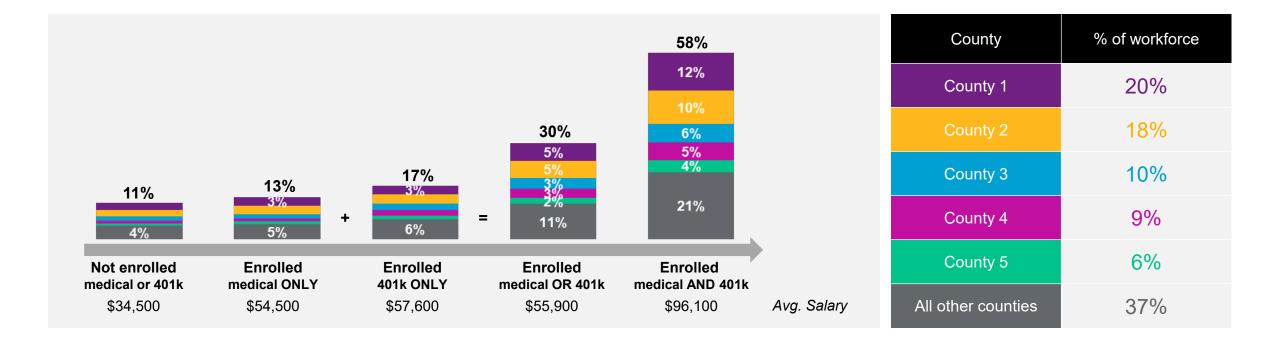
### Navigating life's ordinary and unexpected events

Meeting employees where they are – and – where they want to go through a sustainable employee experience



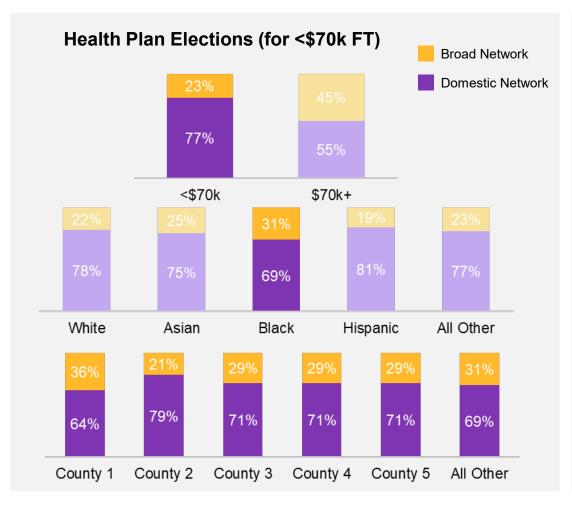
## How election patterns illustrate the role income has on benefit security

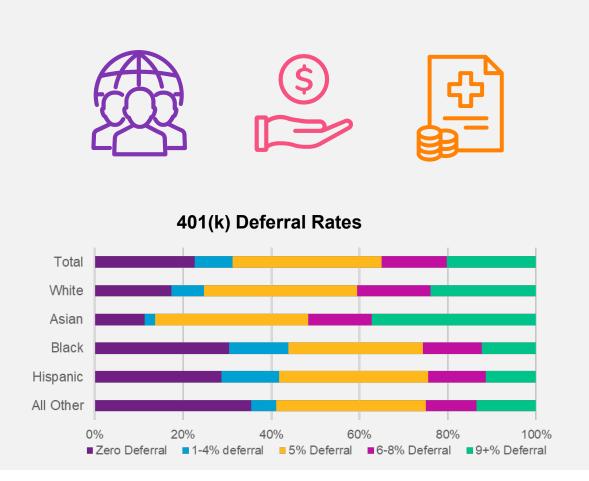
Lower income employees appear to have to participate in either medical or retirement



## Election patterns by race and location helped us better identify variances

Black employees elected domestic-only medical plans at a lower rate, despite the higher cost







### What benefits do employees want their employers to focus on?

Which of the following would you most want your employer to support you with or focus on? Ranked in top 3.

Health Status		Chronic C	Chronic Conditions		Neurodevelopmental issues		Anxiety & Depression		
Very good	Good	Fair or poor	No	Yes		No	Yes	No	Yes
Retirement	Retirement	Retirement	Retirement	Retirement		Retirement	Retirement	Retirement	Retirement
Flexible work	Flexible work	Flexible work	Flexible work	Flexible work		Flexible work	Flexible work	Flexible work	Flexible work
Getting most from benefits	Manage health	Manage health	Getting most from benefits	Manage health		Manage health	Manage health	Getting most from benefits	Manage health
Manage health	Getting most from benefits	Getting most from benefits	Manage health	Getting most from benefits		Getting most from benefits	Career	Manage health	Manage emotional health
Career	Manage emotional health	Manage emotional health	Career	Insurance products		Career	Manage emotional health	Career	Career
Insurance products	Career	Insurance products	Manage emotional health	Manage emotional health		Insurance products	Day-to-day finances	Insurance products	Insurance products
Manage emotional health	Insurance products	Career	Insurance products	Career		Manage emotional health	Getting most from benefits	Manage emotional health	Getting most from benefits

Sample: Full-time employees only.

Source: 2022 Global Benefits Attitudes Survey, United States

Male

### What benefits do employees want their employers to focus on?

Which of the following would you most want your employer to support you with or focus on? Ranked in top 3.

#### Family grouping

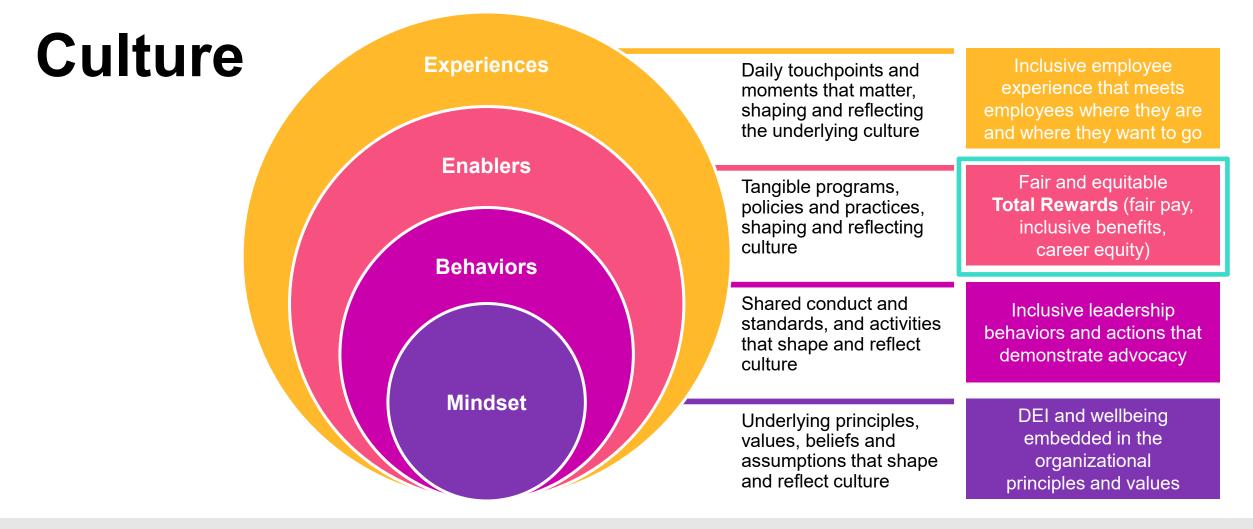
No dependent children	Single mother	Married with dependent children under 5	Married only with children 5 or more	No dependent children	Single father	Married with dependent children under 5	Married only with children 5 or more
Retirement	Flexible work	Flexible work	Retirement	Retirement	Retirement	Retirement	Retirement
Flexible work	Retirement	Managing health	Flexible work	Flexible work	Getting most from benefits	Flexible work	Managing health
Getting most from benefits	Managing emotional health	Retirement	Managing emotional health	Getting most from benefits	Flexible work	Managing health	Flexible work
Managing health	Managing health	Caregiving	Career	Managing health	Managing health	Career	Career
Managing emotional health	Career	Managing emotional health	Managing health	Career	Career	Insurance products	Day-to-day finances
Career	Caregiving	Career	Getting most from benefits	Insurance products	Caregiving	Getting most from benefits	Getting most from benefits
Insurance products	Getting most from benefits	Day-to-day finances	Caregiving	Managing emotional health	Managing emotional health	Day-to-day finances	Managing emotional health

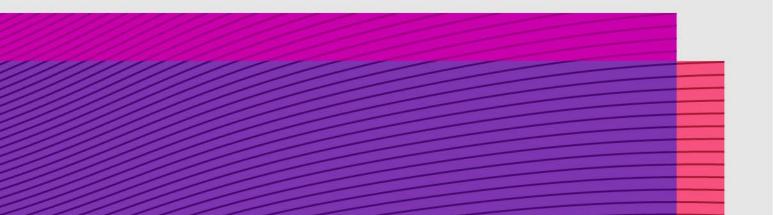
Sample: Full-time employees only.

Source: 2022 Global Benefits Attitudes Survey, United States

Female

# Creating and sustaining a culture of inclusion, wellbeing, equity and dignity can have an impact on outcomes





#### Table Exercise 1

Bringing DEI design and data insights to other stakeholders



#### Exercise 1 20-30 minutes



As a group, review the provided slides – what are some of the key insights and how do they come together?

• Discuss how this data helps you think about your benefit programs differently



How will I bring this to Finance, Operations and Talent/Recruiting?

- Key points
- How would you use it to further your benefits strategy and tactics?



#### Table report back to the group







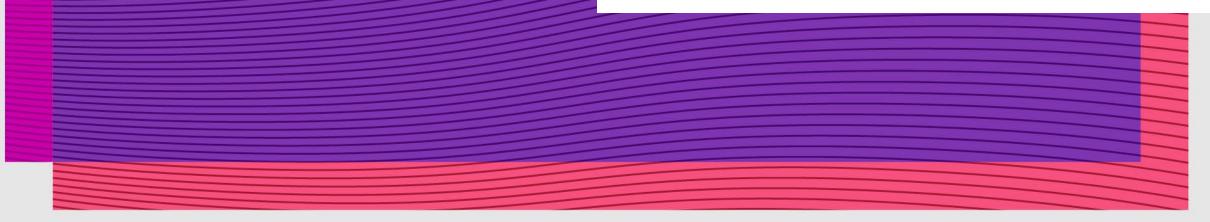
Evolving relationship between Benefits and DEI Leadership and Employee Resource Groups



## Benefits and DEI functions are on a journey of collaboration – where are you?

5	Cooperate	Tactical Partnership	Strategic Partnership
Overview	<ul> <li>DEI and Benefits mostly have independent relationship</li> <li>Benefits often are responding to "in the moment" needs of DEI</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Active communication and problem solving between teams</li> <li>Collaboration at some levels to solve problems and address new issues</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Full alignment between functions</li> <li>Priorities, roadmap jointly determined</li> </ul>
Benefits philosophy and objectives	<ul> <li>Do not meaningfully consider DEI</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Considers DEI objectives, but not part of core</li> <li>Not applied consistently across the globe</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Conceived with jointly-owned objectives in mind</li> <li>Global consistency</li> </ul>
Prioritization	<ul> <li>Designed for the majority</li> <li>Promoted as DEI-supportive after-the-fact</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Consideration for select underrepresented groups (e.g., women, LGBT+)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Full embrace of underserved, beyond traditional cohorts</li> <li>Proactive approach – solving for the "unknown unknowns"</li> </ul>
Communication protocols	<ul> <li>Focused on "in the moment" issues</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Information and feedback is shared freely</li> <li>Primarily happening at execution, "on the ground" levels</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Frequent touchpoints across all ranks of Benefits and DEI working groups, including leadership teams</li> </ul>
Measurement and success metrics	<ul> <li>Determined separately between Benefits and DEI teams</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Emerging alignment of cross-function scorecard metrics</li> <li>Programs assessed against DEI objectives and changes are embraced</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Significant overlap in success measures</li> <li>Health and wealth equity outcomes are measured and tracked</li> </ul>

#### Table Exercise 2





#### Exercise 2 15-20 minutes



As a group, review the provided slides and discuss

- How would you suggest working with your ERGs to elevate and evolve collaboration of inclusive benefits?
- · How would you also work with Facilities?
- What about those focused on ESG?



How do you envision collaborating and making benefits decisions for 2023; what about in future years? What are potential opportunities and/or obstacles?



#### Table report back to the group

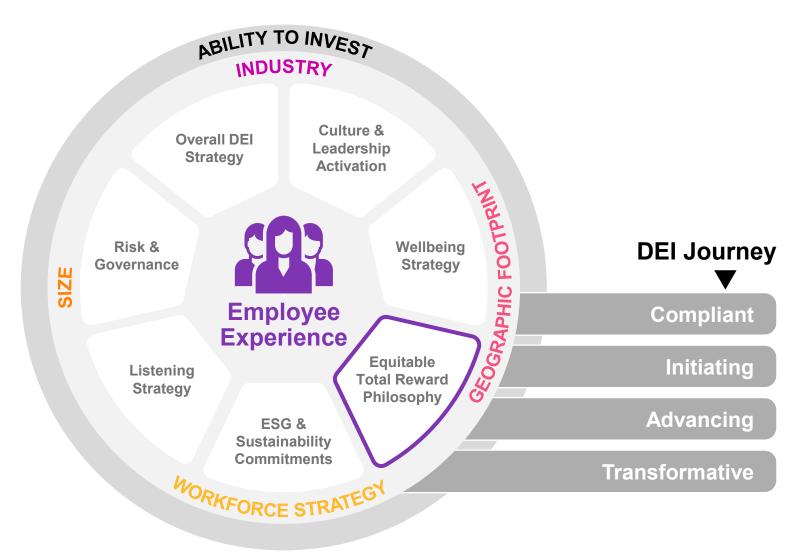




# Wrap up – Practical ways to apply concepts in the future



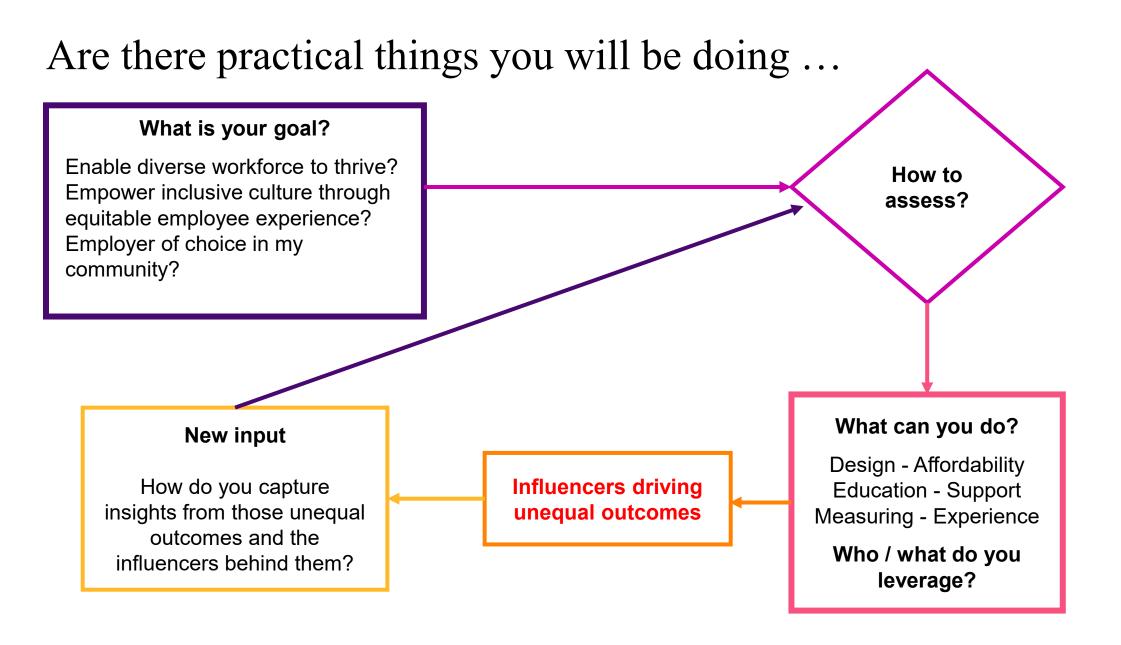
## Develop or refine benefit strategy understanding intersectionality



## Best practices from companies trying to maximize in the following areas with a DEI lens

bringing purpose, culture and values to life	signature benefit programs	hearing from employees, e.g., to inform what's the most impactful change, what's next
benefits that align with what the company does	sustainability and benefits inclusion – both what and how	thoughtful use of choice
helping employees get the most out of the benefits you offer	using innovative financing to push benefit boundaries	employee experience within the budget and resources they have
<b>Broaden</b> what's meant by "benefits"	diversity, equity and inclusion – both what and how	Equitable outcomes: <ul> <li>health</li> <li>financial security</li> <li>career growth/retention</li> </ul>





### Are there practical things you will be doing ...







## How are you thinking about a roadmap

#### Global example

	Current	Year One [Y1 priority]	Year Two [Y2 Priority]	Success Measures	ha ro
Portfolio to support Inclusive benefits across age, gender, LGBT and nationality	[Assessment of current state]	[What actions drive to Y1/2 objectives and align with success measures?]	[What actions drive to Y1/2 objectives and align with success measures?]		- Ho in co
Communication & Engagement	[Assessment of current state]	[What actions trive to Y1/2 of successing sures?]	pjectives and align with	<ul> <li>Measure 1</li> <li>Measure 2</li> <li>Measure 3</li> </ul>	ea - W m
Measurement	[Assessment of current state]	[What actions drive to Y1/2 objectives and align with success measures?]	[What actions drive to Y1/2 objectives and align with success measures?]		- Er
Leadership	[Assessment of current state]	[What actions drive to Y1/2 objectives and align with success measures?]	[What actions drive to Y1/2 objectives and align with success measures?]		- Oi lea eri

- How many of you have strategic benefit roadmaps?

- How many also include communications and education?
- What about measurement?
- Employee feedback?

- Or expectations of leadership engagement?



#### What we want you to take away



Listen with purpose Challenge assumptions Put yourself on your employees' shoes



Ask the hard questions!



You don't have to be the expert — collaborate with internal partners and vendors



Focus on insights: Think about what data is already available, how it intersects and what's the bigger story behind it



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Understand current state and how you got there before solutioning

Connect the story with business outcomes and challenges – then strive to envision a way forward

Don't let the volume of opportunity, cost restraints or other factors get in the way of progress — get creative, be agile and be patient

This is a multi-year journey and benefit evolution

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# Thank you! We appreciate you and your participation!

