Surface Transportation Board 2022 Survey Results

In 2021, the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) was recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in the Federal Government - ranked number 5 out of 29 small agencies. The STB takes honor in serving the public values its employees, continuing to take pride in its accomplishments and remaining committed to ongoing improvements.

The STB's 2022 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey results reflect progress in a number of items. The STB's overall employee engagement index increased 4%, as well as Leaders Lead by 5%. The number of challenges remain at 0 (where responses were 35% negative or higher). Survey respondents indicated that the Board, with senior leaders and supervisors, demonstrated commitment to employee safety and health, supporting their well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic, their transition to the worksite, as well as supporting and providing workplace flexibilities. Work units continued to collaborate and meet their goals. The STB values its employees for their commitment, hard work, and adaptability in successfully carrying out the Board's mission. The Board continues to serve as a model federal agency and will continue striving to further promote employee satisfaction and engagement.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Do Not Know/ No |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Basis to |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Judge/ There have |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | Neither | | | | been no |
| | | | | | | Neither | | | | Strongly | | Agree nor | | | | recent hires in my |
| | | | | Strongly Agree/ | Agree/ | Agree nor Disagree/ | | Strongly Disagree/ | | Agree/ Always/ | Agree/ | Disagree/ Sometimes/ | | Strongly Disagree/ | | work unit / |
| | | | | Always/ | Most of | Sometimes/ | Disagree/ | Never/ | | Very Good/ | Most of the time/ | Fair/ Neither | Disagree/ Rarely/ | Never/ Very Poor/ | | not have |
| | | | | Very Good/ Very | the time/ Good/ | Fair/ Neither Satisfied nor | Rarely/ Poor/ | Very Poor/ Very | | Very | Good/ | Satisfied nor | Poor/ | Very | Item Response | any accessibility |
| Item | item Text | Response Type | Percent Positive | Satisfied % | Satisfied % | Dissatisfied % | Dissatisfied % | Dissatisfied % | Percent Negative | Satisfied N | Satisfied N | Dissatisfied N | Dissatisfied N | Dissatisfied N | Total** N | needs N |
| | *I am given a real opportunity to improve my skills in my organization. | Agree-disagree | 72.6% | 46.6% | 25.9% | 12.6% | 7.7% | 7.2% | 14.9% | 34 | 19 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 73 | |
| | I feel encouraged to come up with new and better ways of doing things. My work gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 78.5% 75.2% | 42.9% 42.1% | 35.6% 33.1% | 9.2% | 10.6% 9.7% | 6.7% 5.9% | 17.3% 15.6% | 32 31 | 26 24 | | - | 4 | 73 | N/A N/A |
| 4 | I know what is expected of me on the job. *My workload is reasonable. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 91.2% 69.3% | 54.1% 37.9% | 37.1% 31.4% | 2.6% | 2.4% | 3.7% | 6.1% 22.9% | 39 28 | 28 25 | | | 2 | 73 74 | N/A N/A |
| 6 | *My talents are used well in the workplace. | Agree-disagree | 71.0% | 39.9% | 31.1% | 10.2% | 12.7% | 6.1% | 18.8% | 29 | 23 | 8 | | 4 | 73 | N/A |
| 7 8 | *I know how my work relates to the agency's goals. *I can disclose a suspected violation of any law, rule or regulation without fear of reprisal. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 95.6% 82.8% | 57.2% 56.2% | 38.4% 26.6% | 1.2% | 3.2% 2.9% | 0.0% 3.9% | 3.2% 6.9% | 42 40 | 28 18 | | 3 | 0 | 74 69 | N/A 5 |
| 9 | I have enough information to do my job well. | Agree-disagree | 82.3% 69.5% | 37.1% 27.0% | 45.2% 42.5% | 9.2% | 7.3% | 1.2% | 8.5% 9.8% | 27 19 | 34 | | 5 | _ | 74 74 | N/A |
| | I receive the training I need to do my job well. I am held accountable for the quality of work I produce. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 95.5% | 45.3% | 42.5% 50.1% | 1.1% | 3.4% | 0.0% | 3.4% | 19 | 37 | | 3 | 0 | 74 | N/A N/A |
| | Continually changing work priorities make it hard for me to produce high quality work. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | (Note: This item is negatively worded, so percent positive scores include "Strongly Disagree" or "Disagree" responses and percent negative scores include "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" responses. Percent positive | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | scores mean that continually changing work priorities do not make it hard for employees to produce high quality work.) | Agree-disagree, negatively worded | 55.5% | 14.7% | 14.5% | 15.2% | 36.4% | 19.2% | 29.2% | 10 | 10 | 12 | 26 | 14 | 72 | , |
| 13 | I have a clear idea of how well I am doing my job. | Agree-disagree | 87.8% | 45.0% | 42.8% | 9.8% | 2.4% | 0.0% | 2.4% | 32 | 33 | | 2 | 0 | 74 | N/A |
| 14 16 | *The people I work with cooperate to get the job done. *In my work unit, differences in performance are recognized in a meaningful way. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 89.6% 50.8% | 53.7% 17.2% | 35.9% 33.7% | 6.2% 31.8% | 2.4% 10.3% | 1.8% 7.0% | 4.2% 17.4% | 41 10 | 26 19 | | 6 | 4 | 74 57 | N/A 17 |
| 17 | Employees in my work unit share job knowledge. | Agree-disagree | 89.0% | 55.1% | 34.0% | 2.9% | 6.3% | 1.8% | 8.1% | 41 | 26 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 74 | 0 |
| 18 | *My work unit has the job-relevant knowledge and skills necessary to accomplish organizational goals. | Agree-disagree | 85.9% | 51.2% | 34.7% | 4.4% | 5.4% | 4.2% | 9.6% | 38 | 26 | | | 3 | 74 | 0 |
| | Employees in my work unit meet the needs of our customers. Employees in my work unit contribute positively to my agency's performance. | Always-never Always-never | 98.7% 96.8% | 55.3% 59.0% | 43.4% 37.9% | 1.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 36 43 | 29 27 | | | | 66 73 | 6 |
| 21 | Employees in my work unit produce high-quality work. | Always-never | 96.2% | 55.1% | 41.1% | 3.8% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 40 | 31 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 73 | 1 |
| 22 23 | Employees in my work unit adapt to changing priorities. New hires in my work unit (i.e. hired in the past year) have the right skills to do their jobs. | Always-never Agree-disagree | 93.0% 77.9% | 61.7% 45.2% | 31.2% 32.6% | 5.7% 20.7% | 1.4% | 0.0% 1.4% | 1.4% | 45 29 | 23 20 | | | | 72 64 | 10 |
| 24 25 | I can influence decisions in my work unit. I know what my work unit's goals are. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 78.5% 86.2% | 43.1% 50.5% | 35.4% 35.6% | 15.1% 11.7% | 6.4% 2.2% | 0.0% | 6.4% 2.2% | 31 36 | 27 | | | 0 | 73 74 | N/A N/A |
| 26 | My work unit commits resources to develop new ideas (e.g., budget, staff, time, expert support). | Agree-disagree | 59.7% | 30.9% | 28.8% | 21.3% | 13.5% | 5.5% | 18.9% | 21 | 20 | 13 | 10 | | 67 | N/A 6 |
| 27 28 | My work unit successfully manages disruptions to our work. Employees in my work unit consistently look for new ways to improve how they do their work. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 84.1% 72.7% | 39.5% 24.6% | 44.5% 48.0% | 6.3% | 7.8% 3.1% | 1.9% | 9.7% 5.1% | 28 16 | 33 32 | | | | 71 65 | 2 8 |
| 29 | Employees in my work unit incorporate new ideas into their work. | Agree-disagree | 66.2% | 27.8% | 38.4% | 27.1% | 1.4% | 5.2% | 6.6% | 18 | 26 | 17 | 1 | 3 | 65 | 8 |
| 31 | Employees in my work unit approach change as an opportunity. Employees in my work unit consider customer needs a top priority. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 56.3% 92.3% | 23.3% 42.1% | 50.2% | 5.8% | 4.6% 0.0% | 3.5% | 8.1% 2.0% | 14 29 | 22 34 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 63 68 | 9 |
| 32 33 | Employees in my work unit consistently look for ways to improve customer service. Employees in my work unit support my need to balance my work and personal responsibilities. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 78.1% 90.8% | 36.7% 53.3% | 41.4% 37.5% | 19.8% | 0.0% 2.5% | 2.1% 1.2% | 2.1% 3.7% | 23 38 | 26 26 | | . 0 | 1 | 62 71 | 9 |
| | Employees in my work unit are typically under too much pressure to meet work goals. | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | _ | | |
| | (Note: This item is negatively worded, so percent positive scores include "Strongly Disagree" or "Disagree" responses and percent negative scores include "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" responses. Percent positive | Agree-disagree, | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 34 35 | scores mean employees are typically not pressured to meet work goals.) | negatively worded | 62.7% 72.7% | 9.1% 31.3% | 18.5% 41.4% | 9.7% 14.8% | 41.4% | 21.3% 7.6% | 27.6% 12.5% | 6 23 | 13 | | 30 | | 71 | 2 |
| 36 | Employees are recognized for providing high quality products and services. Employees are protected from health and safety hazards on the job. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 86.7% | 59.8% | 27.0% | 9.1% | 1.2% | 3.0% | 4.2% | 44 | 31 19 | 7 | 1 | | 73 | 0 |
| 37 38 | My organization is successful at accomplishing its mission. I have a good understanding of my organization's priorities. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 87.8% 81.9% | 51.6% 46.2% | 36.2% 35.7% | 7.0% | 5.2% | 0.0% | 5.2% | 37 | 26 27 | | 4 | 0 | 72 73 | 1 N/A |
| 39 | My organization effectively adapts to changing government priorities. | Agree-disagree | 78.4% | 42.5% | 35.9% | 13.8% | 4.6% | 3.2% | 7.8% | 29 | 25 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 69 | 3 |
| | My organization has prepared me for potential physical security threats. My organization has prepared me for potential cybersecurity threats. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 68.5% 92.4% | 27.0% 53.7% | 41.5% 38.6% | 17.5% 5.1% | 11.2% | 2.9% 1.2% | 14.0% 2.6% | 19 39 | 30 29 | | | | 71 73 | 2 |
| | In my organization, arbitrary action, personal favoritism and/or political coercion are not tolerated. | Agree-disagree | 75.4% 78.8% | 40.4% | 35.0% | 15.8% | 3.9% | 4.9% | 8.8% | 27 | 23 | 10 | 3 | | 66 | 7 |
| 44 | *I recommend my organization as a good place to work. *I believe the results of this survey will be used to make my agency a better place to work. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 78.8% 59.1% | 26.0% | 34.6% | 17.3% | 18.8% | 4.1% | 23.6% | 32 16 | 26 23 | | | 3 | 65 | N/A 8 |
| | My supervisor is committed to a workforce representative of all segments of society. Supervisors in my work unit support employee development. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 89.5% 84.6% | 69.4% 55.5% | 20.1% | 8.5% 9.2% | 2.0% | 0.0% | 2.0% 6.2% | 47 40 | 14 22 | | | | 67 72 | 5 |
| 47 | My supervisor supports my need to balance work and other life issues. | Agree-disagree | 94.3% | 77.9% | 16.5% | 3.4% | 2.2% | 0.0% | 2.2% | 56 | 12 | 2 | | 0 | 72 | N/A |
| 48 | My supervisor listens to what I have to say. My supervisor treats me with respect. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 90.0% 91.0% | 67.9% 76.9% | 22.1% 14.0% | 5.3% 7.1% | 4.7% 1.9% | 0.0% | 4.7% 1.9% | 50 56 | 17 11 | | 3 | 0 | 73 73 | N/A N/A |
| | I have trust and confidence in my supervisor. My supervisor holds me accountable for achieving results. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 91.1% 95.6% | 72.6% 67.4% | 18.5% 28.2% | 4.2% | 4.7% | 0.0% | 4.7% 0.0% | 53 49 | 14 21 | | - | | 73 73 | N/A N/A |
| 52 | Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by your immediate supervisor? | Good-poor | 88.2% | 73.1% | 15.0% | 8.8% | 3.1% | 0.0% | 3.1% | 53 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 73 | N/A |
| | My supervisor provides me with constructive suggestions to improve my job performance. My supervisor provides me with performance feedback throughout the year. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 86.0% 88.6% | 49.8% 50.6% | 36.2% 38.0% | 11.2% 8.8% | 2.8% | 0.0% | 2.8% | 36 37 | 27 | | | | 73 73 | N/A 0 |
| 55 | In my organization, senior leaders generate high levels of motivation and commitment in the workforce. | Agree-disagree | 72.3% | 39.6% | 32.7% | 13.3% | 3.6% | 10.8% | 14.4% | 28 | 23 | | , | | 70 | , |
| 56 | My organization's senior leaders maintain high standards of honesty and integrity. | Agree-disagree | 87.8% | 52.3% | 35.5% | 5.3% | 3.7% | 3.3% | 7.0% | 38 | 25 | 4 | | | 72 | 0 |
| 57 | *Managers communicate the goals of the organization. Managers promote communication among different work units (for example, about projects, goals, needed | Agree-disagree | 77.2% | 39.3% | 37.9% | 11.4% | 5.6% | 5.8% | 11.4% | 29 | 27 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 72 | 0 |
| 58 | managers promote communication among different work units (for example, about projects, goals, needed resources). | Agree-disagree | 75.4% | 40.3% | 35.0% | 15.0% | 4.0% | 5.7% | 9.7% | 28 | 25 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 70 | 2 |
| | Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by the manager directly above your immediate supervisor? | Good-poor | 87.3% | 52.3% | 35.0% | 4.5% | 2.5% | 5.7% | 8.2% | 38 | 24 | | 2 | 4 | 71 | 2 |
| 60 | I have a high level of respect for my organization's senior leaders. Senior leaders demonstrate support for Work-Life programs. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 77.7% 85.1% | 50.3% 56.7% | 27.5% 28.4% | 10.8% 11.2% | 7.1% 1.4% | 4.4% 2.3% | 11.5% 3.7% | 37 40 | 20 20 | | 6 | 3 | 73 70 | 0 |
| 62 | Management encourages innovation. | Agree-disagree | 71.9% | 38.6% | 33.3% | 16.8% | 3.7% | 7.6% | 11.2% | 27 | 24 | 11 | . 3 | | 70 | 3 |
| 63 64 | Management makes effective changes to address challenges facing our organization. Management involves employees in decisions that affect their work. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 70.5% 71.3% | 36.0% 40.2% | 34.6% 31.1% | 13.8% | 9.7% 8.0% | 6.0% 7.1% | 15.6% 15.1% | 25 29 | 24 22 | | 7 | 5 | 69 71 | 2 |
| 65 | *How satisfied are you with your involvement in decisions that affect your work? | Satisfied-dissatisfied | 66.3% | 35.9% | 30.5% | 18.1% | 11.1% | 4.5% | 15.6% | 26 | 23 | 13 | | ١. | | N/A |
| | *How satisfied are you with the information you receive from management on what's going on in your | | Ì | Î | | | | | Î | ĺ | | | | 3 | /3 | Ì |
| 66 | organization? | Satisfied-dissatisfied | 70.0% | 35.0% | 35.0% | 14.8% | 12.1% | 3.2% | 15.2% | 25 | 26 | 10 | 9 | 2 | 72 | N/A |
| 67 | *How satisfied are you with the recognition you receive for doing a good job? | Satisfied-dissatisfied | 75.4% | 41.7% | 33.7% | 13.1% | 4.6% | 6.9% | 11.5% | 30 | 25 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 73 | N/A |
| 68 | *Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your job? | Satisfied-dissatisfied | 73.3% | 37.9% | 35.3% | 11.7% | 11.0% | 4.0% | 15.0% | 28 | 26 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 73 | N/A |
| 69 | Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your pay? | Satisfied-dissatisfied | 67.9% | 30.4% | 37.5% | 15.4% | 9.8% | 6.9% | 16.7% | 21 | 28 | 11 | , | | 72 | N/A |
| | | î | i | i e | | | | | ì | i | | | | , | | |
| 70 | *Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your organization? My organization's management practices promote diversity (e.g., outreach, recruitment, promotion | Satisfied-dissatisfied | 74.7% | 37.6% | 37.1% | 10.6% | 11.9% | 2.8% | 14.8% | 28 | 27 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 73 | N/A |
| 71 | opportunities). | Agree-disagree | 76.8% | 46.3% | 30.5% | 13.9% | 4.2% | 5.1% | 9.3% | 30 | 19 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 63 | 9 |
| 72 | My supervisor demonstrates a commitment to workforce diversity (e.g., recruitment, promotion opportunities, development). | Agree-disagree | 79.9% | 61.7% | 18.2% | 18.1% | 0.0% | 2.1% | 2.1% | 41 | 12 | 11 | . 0 | 1 | 65 | 8 |
| 73 | I have similar access to advancement opportunities (e.g., promotion, career development, training) as others in my work unit. | Agree-disagree | 73.3% | 43.8% | 29.5% | 7.1% | 8.5% | 11.1% | 19.6% | 30 | 21 | . 5 | 6 | 8 | 70 | 2 |
| 74 | My supervisor provides opportunities fairly to all employees in my work unit (e.g., promotions, work | Agree-disagree | 80.4% | 48.7% | 31.7% | 10.7% | 4.0% | 4.8% | 8.9% | 33 | 22 | | 3 | | 68 | |
| | assignments). | 1 | | | | | | | | i | | <u> </u> | 3 | 3 | - 08 | 5 |
| 75 76 | In my work unit, excellent work is similarly recognized for all employees (e.g., awards, acknowledgements). Employees in my work unit treat me as a valued member of the team. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 81.5% 90.4% | 46.2% 55.5% | 35.3% 34.9% | 9.6% | 1.4% | 7.5% | 8.9% 3.1% | 30 40 | 24 25 | 6 | 1 0 | 5 | 66 72 | 7 |
| 77 | Employees in my work unit make me feel I belong. | Agree-disagree | 87.7% | 56.0% | 31.7% | 9.2% | 1.2% | 1.9% | 3.1% | 40 | 23 | 7 | 1 | | 72 | 1 |
| 79 | Employees in my work unit care about me as a person. I am comfortable expressing opinions that are different from other employees in my work unit. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 87.0% 80.2% | 53.2% 45.0% | 33.8% 35.2% | 11.5% | 1.5% | 0.0% 4.6% | 1.5% 5.9% | 37 32 | 24 25 | | | 3 | 70 71 | 3 |
| | In my work unit, people's differences are respected. I can be successful in my organization being myself. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 86.9% 80.0% | 47.9% 49.3% | 39.0% 30.7% | 10.3% | 0.0% | 2.8% | 2.8% 10.1% | 33 35 | 27 22 | | 0 | 2 | 69 71 | 3 |
| 82 | I can easily make a request of my organization to meet my accessibility needs. | Agree-disagree | 83.8% | 55.2% | 28.6% | 16.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 19 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 39 |
| | My organization responds to my accessibility needs in a timely manner. My organization meets my accessibility needs. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 80.7% 81.3% | 54.2% 56.3% | 26.6% 25.0% | 13.0% 15.5% | 6.3% 3.2% | 0.0% | 6.3% 3.2% | 18 16 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 33 28 | 40 |
| 85 | My job inspires me. The work I do gives me a sense of accomplishment. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 60.2% 75.0% | 23.4% | 36.7% 42.7% | 23.8% | 7.6% | 8.4% | 16.0% 12.4% | 18 | 27 | 16 | 6 | 6 | 73 | N/A N/A |
| 87 | I feel a strong personal attachment to my organization. | Agree-disagree | 63.8% | 31.0% | 32.9% | 21.3% | 8.8% | 6.1% | 14.9% | 22 | 26 | 14 | 7 | 4 | 73 | N/A |
| | I identify with the mission of my organization. It is important to me that my work contribute to the common good. | Agree-disagree Agree-disagree | 77.0% 95.4% | 30.7% 56.8% | 46.3% 38.6% | 17.8% 4.6% | 1.4% | 3.7% 0.0% | 5.2% 0.0% | 22 41 | 35 29 | | | _ | 73 73 | N/A N/A |
| | | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |