Diversity & Inclusion Benchmarking Survey

South America Data Sheet

200+ Corporate Respondents
5+ Countries
23+ Industries
South American organisations have publicly declared their commitment to Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) for some time now, but how have they translated strategy into execution and what impact is it having on the employee experience? PwC’s Global D&I Survey finds out.

**Diversity still a barrier to progression**

Organisations in South America are struggling to help translate D&I strategy into action. While D&I is a stated value or priority area for 80% of organisations, 38% of respondents still feel diversity is a barrier to employee progression.

**Few D&I programmes reach full maturity**

Only 3% of surveyed S. American organisations’ D&I programmes reach the highest level of maturity when assessed against the four dimensions of PwC’s D&I maturity model.

1. Understanding the Facts of Today (UFT): Initiating a continuous data-driven process for understanding the facts of what’s happening in the organisation today
2. Building an Inspirational Strategy (BIS): Creating a business-focused vision and strategy for D&I that reflects the reality of today and the real potential of tomorrow
3. Developing Leadership Engagement (DLE): Engaging leadership around an inspirational D&I strategy by articulating the business case and establishing supportive governance
4. Creating Sustainable Movement (CSM): Executing the D&I strategy across all elements of the business

**D&I programme goals**

While more than half the organizations surveyed (59%) leverage their D&I program to attract and retain talent or comply with legal requirements, a much smaller group (16%) are leveraging D&I to achieve business results, such as innovation or improved financial performance.

The primary objective of D&I is to...

- 36% Attract and retain talent
- 16% Achieve business results
- 23% Comply with legal requirements
- 14% Enhance external reputation
- 11% Respond to customer expectations
- 22% No D&I leader in place
- 27% Staff with non-D&I responsibilities
- 21% Peer to C-Suite
- 30% Reports to senior executives

**Programme oversight**

Having a C-Suite D&I leader can be a differentiator between organisations where diversity is not considered a barrier to progression and those where it is. Yet, only 21% of organisations surveyed have adopted this programme structure.

**Degree of programme maturity**

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<th>UFT</th>
<th>BIS</th>
<th>DLE</th>
<th>CSM</th>
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<tr>
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<td>27%</td>
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<td>29%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Differentiated</td>
<td>3%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: PwC: Global D&I Data, 06/09/2021 based on 200+ responses across 23+ industries in 5 countries

*Percentages do not add up to 100% as some respondents opted out of questions which did not allow for them to be fully assessed against certain dimensions of the maturity model.*
Accountability for D&I results

Tasking leaders with specific D&I goals is key to driving results. Despite this, around a quarter of global organisations surveyed have adopted this practice (26%) and fewer measure progress towards the achievement of these goals.

How does your organisation drive accountability for D&I results?

- Leaders are tasked with specific D&I goals: 26%
- Leaders’ progress toward meeting their D&I goals is measured: 22%
- D&I goals influence performance evaluation and compensation outcomes for leaders: 15%
- D&I goals influence performance evaluation and compensation outcomes for all employees: 18%
- None of the above: 23%

Training programmes in place

Around a third of global organisations surveyed (34%) provide training on non-discrimination and regulatory compliance, and a significant portion focus on embracing differences in the workplace. Yet, there’s opportunity to expand training on embedding inclusive behaviors and managing diverse populations.

Training programmes focus on...

- Non-discrimination & regulatory compliance: 34%
- Embracing difference: 38%
- Overcoming unconscious bias: 35%
- Managing diverse populations: 32%
- Embedding inclusive behaviors: 26%

Role of affinity networks/resource groups

While the majority (76%) of global organisations surveyed have affinity groups, they are mostly used to foster networks and execute programmes, rather than to inform decision-making and help drive business priorities.

Affinity groups at my organisation...

- No affinity groups: 24%
- Provide support and mentorship: 25%
- Connect people: 37%
- Execute programmes: 32%
- Leveraged to drive strategic priorities: 18%

Leveraging data

Driving sustainable change requires effective monitoring efforts. Most organisations track employee demographics (e.g., gender), but significantly fewer measure discrepancies in compensation, performance, or promotions based on these attributes.

My organisation gathers and analyses the following types of data...

- Employee demographics: 44%
- Discrepancies in performance: 27%
- Discrepancies in compensation: 28%
- Discrepancies in promotions: 22%
- Feedback from customers: 18%
- None: 15%

Source: PwC: Global D&I Data, 06/09/2021 based on 200+ responses across 23+ industries in 5 countries
Take the D&I Benchmarking Survey

Diagnose the maturity of your organisation’s D&I programme, and see how your organisation compares to others in your region and industry.

pwc.com/diversity-survey

Additional reading

Hopes and fears 2021 - In one of the largest global surveys of workers, people revealed a mostly optimistic story, but one with some concerning undercurrents, including 50% stating they have been held back by discrimination at work. Access the full report to find out more.

A remarkable thing could happen as we return to work - This report details why 2021 will be a pivotal moment for leaders as they connect in new ways with their employees and society.

For a deeper discussion, contact:

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