

21 Trends for 2021:

Transforming Talent and the Future of Work



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Existing trends are accelerating, driving digital transformation at an unprecedented scale as a result of the global health, economic and social crisis. Coupled with uncertainty and the emergence of new trends organizations need to transform their workforces to ensure they have the skills and competencies needed to retain and retool for an uncertain future.

Organizations can better prepare for the coming 2021 trends impacting talent and the new global "work" order by:

- Creating greater workforce flexibility
- Strengthening talent sustainability and worker wellbeing
- Powering digital transformations

These 21 Trends in 2021 outline the major forces of demographic shifts, rise of individual choice, growing client sophistication, technological revolution as well as emerging trends shaping the workplace and workforce of the future.

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Four Forces and a New Reality: Existing Trends Accelerate



- Skills scarcity
- Workforce transformation
- Polarization and social tensions
- Rapid rise in remote work = on-demand workforce



- Supply chain resilience
- Rise in focus on ESG metrics and governance
- Strategic Talent management
- Data + insight = connected platform as and new value creation



- Human-Machine co-evolution
 - Rise of digital disruptors
- Digitization of customer experience
- Education (r)evolution



- **Employers responsible for Physical & Emotional wellness**
- Consumerization of work: employees = consumers
- More choice, autonomy and flexibility for knowledge workers
- Hybrid workplaces, multifunctional homes and new balance of caring responsibilities

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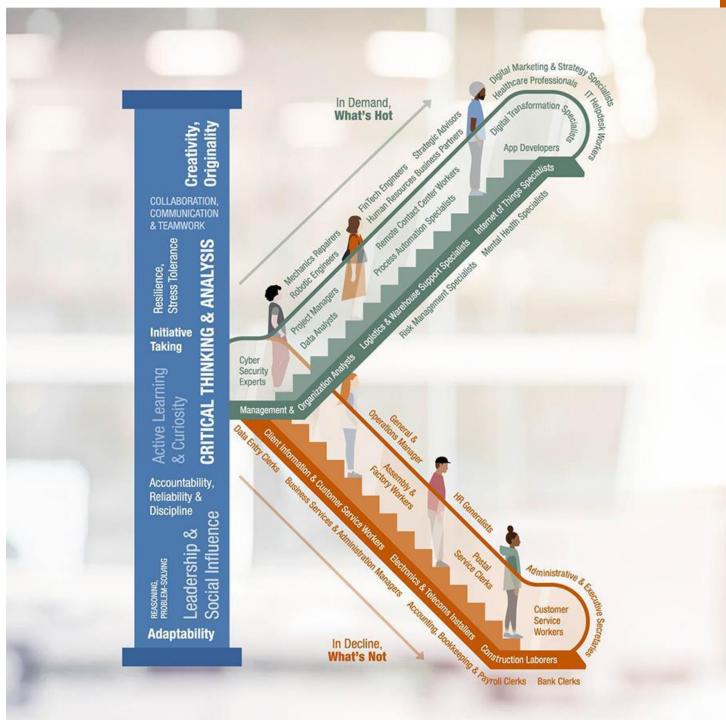
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Shifting Demographic Trends

- 1. Skills Scarcity
- 2. Growing Polarization
- 3. Rapid Rise in Remote Work
- 4. Gender Gap Accelerating

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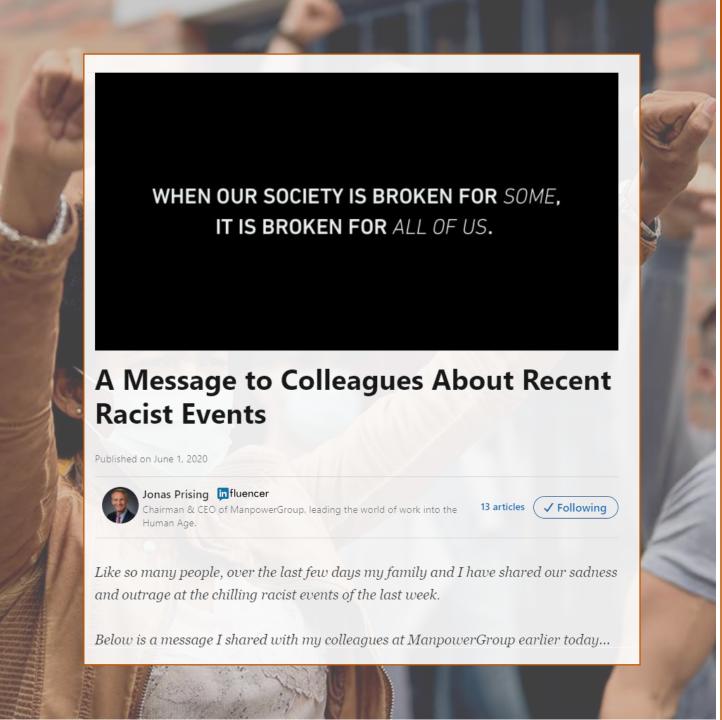




Skills Scarcity

Is exacerbating due to most significant workforce transformation since World War II. The global talent shortage is expected to result in 85m unfilled roles by 2030*. Tech & human skills will continue to grow in demand while admin, hospitality, and legal/business support jobs will decline. Individuals and organizations will need more and faster reskilling solutions.

Sources: ManpowerGroup "What Workers Want" report, EY/SAP: The Staffing Industry Faces a Dynamic Future, 2020.





Growing Polarization Requires Companies to Stand Up and Speak Out

Increasing social tension and greater recognition of inequity, especially race, will call for more transparency from organizations around human capital, diversity and inclusion as key to recovery and growth.

Employees and customers demands for companies to take a stand on social justice, climate change and other global issues, will continue to magnify where politicians have done too little. Policies will emerge to address social challenges and disclosures on race, gender and other Human Capital metrics as Stakeholder Capitalism picks up pace.





Rapid Rise in Remote Work

Creating an on-demand workforce, hybrid work models and untethered work are all on the rise. Reducing real estate footprint, an increasing urban exodus, global mobility and creating job opportunities beyond borders will drive both employee and employer preferences. 43% of workers think the Covid-19 crisis marks the end of every day in the workplace.





Gender Gap Accelerating

As women are disproportionately affected by both social and economic crises due to pandemic, overrepresented in job losses across industries including retail, leisure and hospitality and underrepresented in growth sectors including tech, ops and logistics, while also taking on more caring responsibilities at home.





The Rise of Individual Choice Trends

- 5. New Hierarchy of Individual Needs Calls for Greater Flexibility, Autonomy, and Choice
- 6. Health and Well-being, Physical and Emotional
- 7. Omnipresence of Digital Interactions
- 8. Employees as Consumers with Demands for Transparency and Equity

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I would like an employer that encourages me to prioritize my health and wellbeing



Give me more opportunities to learn remotely and more coaching to develop my career



Let Me Work My Way



I'd like the option to work remotely at least 2 days a week, an easier & safer commute, and to spend more time with family

Offer Me **Employment Security**



I just want to keep my job



Keep Me and My Family Healthy



Going into the workplace makes me concerned for mine and my family's health



TREND #5

New Hierarchy of Individual Needs Calls for Greater Flexibility, **Autonomy and Choice**

Concerns for health, employment security and skills development along with flexibility to achieve best blend and balance of work and home responsibilities will be shared by individual and organizations alike.

The homebody economy will grow as consumer behaviors shift and wellness at work becomes the norm. Employers will increasingly redesign and revalue the workplace for best blend of 'heads down' remote work and 'heads up' collaboration and creativity. Gig, freelance and contract work will optimize worker choice.





Employee Health & Wellbeing



New Work Models incl part-time, contract, flexible



More Upskilling, Learning & Development



Become More Data-Driven



Leadership & Manager Development



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



TREND #6

Importance of Health and Well-being, both Physical and Emotional

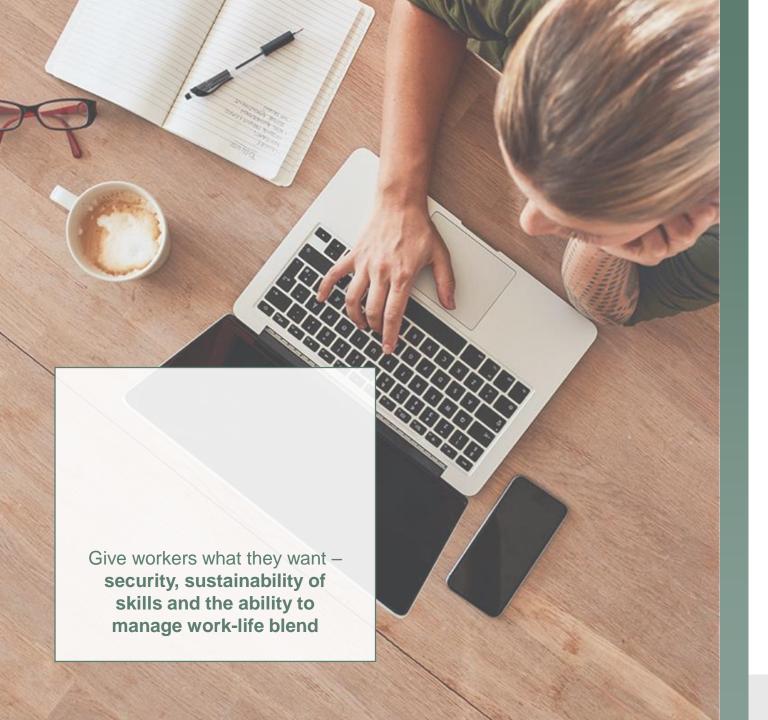
At never-seen-before levels of employer responsibility. This requires a greater role for HR, with more duty of care including ways to help employees switch off and disconnect. There is a growing need for new empathetic leadership skills for the caring age. Acknowledgement of using tech for good, including the value of sharing personal data to support overall health and prevent virus spread.





Omnipresence of Digital Action

Increased adoption of social networking and virtual communities is swelling digital adoption with new ways to interact anywhere, anyhow, anytime.





Employees as Consumers with Louder Demands for Transparency and Equity

Within the organization with the emergence of a new employer / employee relationship reflecting What Workers Want – security, sustainability of skills, work life blend and wellness.

From employees, customers and communities for organizations to act as global citizens and environmental stewards, adopting new levels of stakeholderism with clear environmental, social and corporate governance goals and metrics.





Technological Revolution Trends

- 9. The Continued Human-machine Co-evolution
- 10. Every Company Must Become a Tech Company
- 11. Technology Will Allow Individuals and Employers to Learn More About Wellbeing Management

12. Rise of Digital Disruptors and the Digitization of the Customer Experience

13. Education (R)evolution

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The Continued Human-machine Co-evolution

The reacceleration of automation at scale fueled by 5G will speed up the skills revolution, transform industries and drive increased productivity, with higher wages and more new-collar jobs.





Every Company Must Become a **Tech Company**

Sophisticated and ethical AI, will change the nature of work while 'SuperTeams' will combine the best in human skills and intelligent machines working together to solve problems, gain insights, and create new value.

The growth of cyber and remote working means every company must be a tech company to be able to compete and create more value.





Technology Will Allow Individuals and Employers to Learn More About Wellbeing Management

Using technology as a tool to solve for 'always on' culture while enhancing productivity. Organizations need to be able to answer new questions on data ownership and transparency as trust and ethics is increasingly viewed as a basic need.





Rise of Digital Disruptors and the Digitization of the **Customer Experience**

Growth of new industries including telemedicine, pharma, edtech and self-care will drive changes in personalization and ondemand, remote, touch-free and contactless solutions bringing together the best of technology and human skills.





Education (R)evolution

The ongoing need for upskilling and reskilling will change the future of education. Individuals and organizations will shift towards ondemand, micro-certification, virtual teaching and cloud coaching at scale providing new solutions for the Skills Revolution.



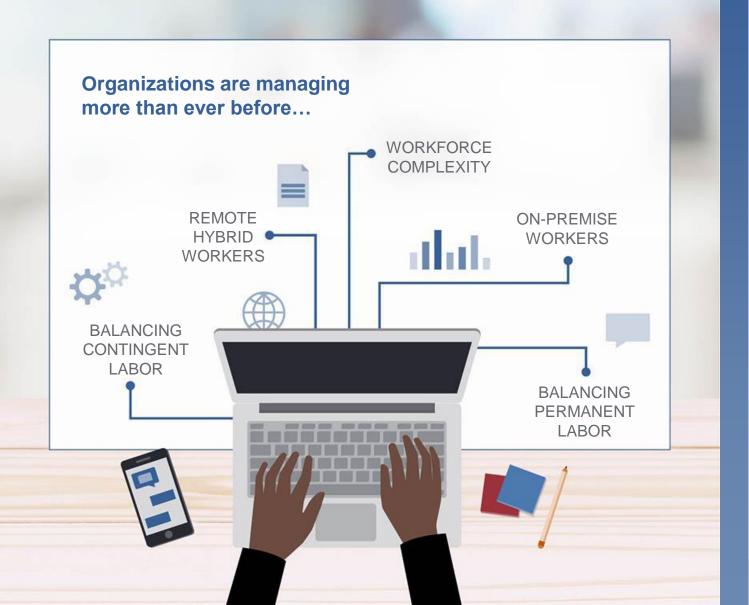


Rise of Client Sophistication Trends

- 14. Acceleration of Workforce Strategy and Strategic Talent Management
- 15. Data-centricity Increasing Demand for Al-driven Assessments and Solutions
- 16. Supply Chain Resilience, Resulting in Race for Organizations to Evolve as Connected Platforms and Ecosystems

17. Renewed Demands on Leaders

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Acceleration of Workforce Strategy and Talent Management

In a race to optimize workforce mix and achieve competitive advantage, organizations will seek out more internal, consumer-focused, personalized solutions, and new operating models for future agility to redefine workplace and worker.

Assessing Potential, Identifying Soft Skills with SkillsInSightTM



SkillsInSight[™] Assessment

Mapping Career Advancement with **MyPath**



Shaping the Future of Net Zero Employment with Career **Development Studios**







TREND #15

Data-centricity Increasing Demand for Al-driven Assessments and Solutions

The results producing meaningful interpretations, insights and actions that can bring data-driven changes in behavior, helping organizations predict performance and individuals know more about their skills and potential.





Supply Chain Resilience, **Creating Connected** Platforms and Ecosystems

Supply chain resilience and vendor consolidation will be at a premium to mitigate uncertainty and manage risk.

Organizations will need to create ecosystems that establish increasing returns at scale, zero marginal costs and sustainable competitive advantage via aggregated suppliers, satisfied users and amplified networks.





Renewed Demands on Leaders

To lead with empathy and digital agility, championing ESG and being a part of driving the green deal and climate action regardless of sector, with focus on recovery and sustainability.



Emerging Trends: Ones to Watch

- 18. A Recovery Revolution with Rise of Healthtech, Edtech, Greentech & 'Amazonization" of Healthcare
- 19. Pivoting to Progress
- 20. Amplified Consumerization of Work
- 21. Net Zero Employment Emerges as the Epitome of Responsible ESG

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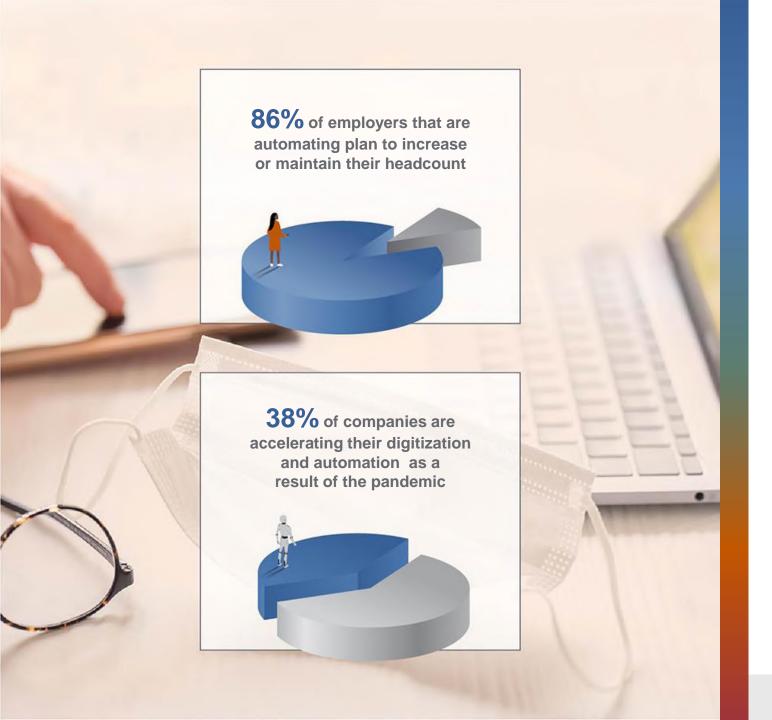


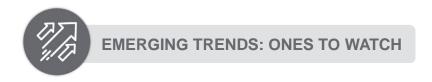


Recovery Revolution with Healthtech, Edtech, Greentech & 'Amazonization" of Healthcare

Rapidly changing healthcare, new norms in telemedicine and AI diagnoses along with hybrid education will emerge reinvented postpandemic. Accelerated action on climate change and emergence of next generation tech industries and green roles will compete for indemand sustainable skills.

Largest global vaccination program in decades will lead to new co-operation, roles, skills, pace of production and definition of last mile health delivery. Growing demand for healthcare supplies, distribution, biometrics and talent.

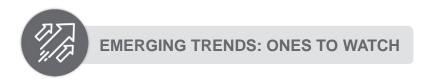




Pivoting to Progress

Emergence of greater business agility: think Airbnb shifting to long term/ local rentals, high fashion to leisure wear, gyms to home fitness, restaurants to take-out. Heavily impacted industries are reinventing - air and travel, retail, finance & banking, fashion, commercial real estate, food and beverage will all transform for the long-term.

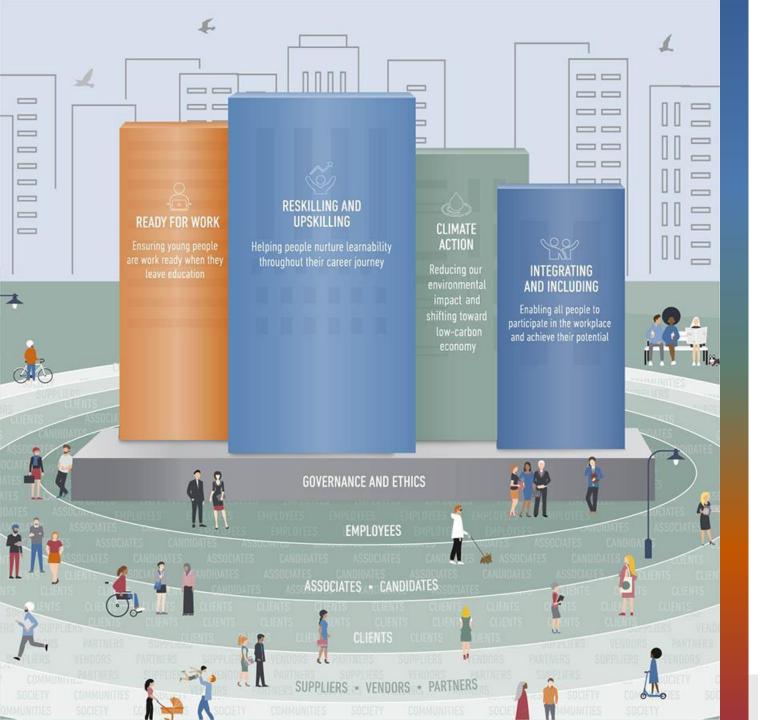


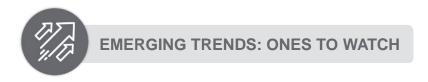


Amplified Consumerization of Work

As tech and online retail advances and the workplace goes hybrid, Artificial and Ambient Intelligence, mixed realities and multisense, multidevice experiences will become people's everyday interactions.

Expectations of new opportunities and breakthroughs, along with a seamless, personalized virtual experience at work and home will be a new reality in the digitized post-Covid world.





Net Zero Employment Emerges as the Epitome of Responsible ESG

As skills needs shift faster, best employers will commit to achieving a balance of being net zero on jobs. Every time companies restructure and jobs are lost, others will be created and people will be reskilled to fill new roles either inside or outside the organization.