

The Big Freelancer Survey 2022

Hello, Welcome and Thank You.

With your help we are building a better, more accurate picture of our industry. This will help us to focus on how best we can help going forward. Please be as honest as you feel comfortable to be.

All answers are anonymous.

1 - First, a couple of questions about your work

A. What area of Entertainment do you **mainly** work in?

If you work in several, please choose the **main area**.

- a. Film
- b. TV
- c. Theatre
- d. Live events/concerts
- e. Opera
- f. Dance
- g. Circus
- h. Recorded Audio
- i. Video Games
- j. Other (Please state)

B. Which sub sectors do you work in (Theatre/Dance/Opera/Circus)?

Please choose based on your answer to question 1a.

Pick as many as relevant.

- a. West End
- b. Off West End / London
- c. Regional / National
- d. Touring - National
- e. Touring - International
- f. Live Streams
- g. Fringe
- h. Studio
- i. Immersive
- j. Education / Creative Learning
- k. Other

C. Which sub sectors do you work in (TV)?

Please choose based on your answer to question 1a.

Pick as many as relevant.

- a. Live Broadcast
- b. TV Movie

- c. Commercials
- d. Documentary
- e. HETV (High End TV)
- f. Education / Creative Learning
- g. Other

D. Which sub sectors do you work in (Film)?

Please choose based on your answer to question 1a.

Pick as many as relevant.

- a. Feature Films
- b. Short Films
- c. Low Budget Films
- d. Documentary
- e. Education / Creative Learning
- f. Other

E. Which sub sectors do you work in (Live Events)?

Please choose based on your answer to question 1a.

Pick as many as relevant.

- a. Live Performance
- b. Touring - National
- c. Touring - International
- d. Live Streams
- e. Immersive
- f. Education / Creative Learning
- g. Other

F. Which sub sectors do you work in (Audio)?

Please choose based on your answer to question 1a.

Pick as many as relevant.

- a. Radio
- b. Podcasts
- c. Documentary
- d. Education / Creative learning
- e. Other

G. Which sub sectors do you work in (Video Games)?

Please choose based on your answer to question 1a.

Pick as many as relevant.

- a. AAA
- b. Indie
- c. Sub Indie
- d. Other

H. Tell us which sector and sub sector you work in.

Please fill in if you selected 'Other' in 1a.

2 - How many years experience do you have working in the Entertainment industry?

Please enter a number (enter 1 for up to 1 year)

3 - Which type of work do you mainly do?

Please pick the closest option(s), or submit your role in 'Other'.

- a. Performance (acting / dancing / singing)
- b. Music (instrumental)
- c. Music (composition)
- d. Directing / Assistant Directing
- e. Writing
- f. Dramaturgy
- g. Producing
- h. Production Management
- i. Stage Management
- j. Company Management
- k. Sound (Creative / Design)
- l. Sound / Audio (Technical)
- m. Lighting (Creative / Design)
- n. Lighting / LX (Technical)
- o. Set Design (Creative)
- p. Carpentry / Set Building
- q. Movement / Choreography
- r. Camera / Photography
- s. Video Design / Projection
- t. Automation
- u. Rigging
- v. Costume (Creative/Production)
- w. Wardrobe (Technical)
- x. Hair / Wigs
- y. Make-Up
- z. Location Work
- aa. Front of House / Venue-based
- bb. Stage / Floor Crew
- cc. Graphics
- dd. SFX / VFX
- ee. Editing
- ff. Armoury
- gg. Fight / Stunt work
- hh. Puppetry (design / construction)
- ii. Props making / Supervising
- jj. Voice / Dialect / Language coaching
- kk. Support (incl. Chaperone)
- ll. Covid / Health & Safety
- mm. Office / Production
- nn. Marketing / PR

oo. Casting

pp. Other (Please state)

4 - Now, a few questions about you, and how you identify.

Just a reminder that all answers are anonymous. The following section contains questions about your background and current circumstances. It is important for us to know this to help lobby for support where it might be most needed.

A. Where do you live?

If you select Other, please let us know where.

- a. England
- b. Scotland
- c. Wales
- d. Northern Ireland
- e. Other (Please state)

B. What is your first spoken language?

If you select Other, please let us know the language.

- a. English
- b. Welsh
- c. Irish
- d. Scottish Gaelic
- e. Other (Please state)

C. Thinking about when you were growing up, which of the following applies best to the highest or main income earner in your household?

- a. Director/senior manager/professional.
- b. Mid-level manager/professional.
- c. Administrative/sales/service worker.
- d. Skilled/qualified manual worker.
- e. Semi-skilled manual worker.
- f. Semi-routine or routine/unskilled worker.
- g. Long-term unemployed/never undertaken paid work.
- h. Don't know/not applicable/prefer not to say.

D. Please select all that apply to you.

For these purposes, school age is considered 4-18 inclusive.

- a. I am a co-parent/carer of pre-school age child/children
- b. I am a single parent/sole carer of pre-school age child/children
- c. I am a co-parent/carer of school age child/children
- d. I am a single parent/sole carer of school age child/children
- e. I am a co-carer of someone else (not a child)

- f. I am a sole carer of someone else (not a child)
- g. None of the above.
- h. Prefer not to say.

Just a reminder that all your answers to every question are recorded anonymously. All the data collected will help to lobby for support where it is most needed now, and in the future. We are aware that the following questions are sensitive. While our intention is to be as inclusive as possible, we recognise that the use of language differs from person to person. If you use different language from that used in the question, please feel free to select 'Other', and enter your preferred self description.

E. Which of the following options would best describe your ethnicity?

- a. Mixed / Multiple - White and Black Caribbean
- b. Mixed / Multiple - White and Black African
- c. Mixed / Multiple - White and Asian
- d. Mixed / Multiple - Any Other Backgrounds
- e. Middle East & North African
- f. Middle East & North African - Any Other Mixed Background
- g. Asian or Asian British - Indian
- h. Asian or Asian British - Pakistani
- i. Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi
- j. Asian or Asian British - Chinese
- k. Asian - Any Other/Mixed Asian Background
- l. Black or Black British - African
- m. Black or Black British - Caribbean
- n. Black - Any Other/Mixed Black Background
- o. White - British
- p. White - Irish
- q. White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- r. White - Any Other/Mixed White Background
- s. Any Other Ethnic Group
- t. Prefer Not To Say
- u. Other (Proceed to 4f)

F. Please state your ethnicity below.

Please answer if you selected 'Other' in 4e.

G. Please select all that apply to you.

We understand neurodiversity to refer to the whole diversity of human cognition, including autism, ADHD, learning difficulties, learning disabled people, and mental health conditions.

If you use other language, please input in 'other'.

- a. Deaf, deaf or hard of hearing
- b. Disabled - blind or low vision
- c. Disabled - physical impairment
- d. Disabled - neurodivergent
- e. Non disabled
- f. Other access/mobility/dexterity needs
- g. Prefer not to say
- h. Other (Please State)

H. How do you identify your sexual orientation?

- a. Pan-sexual
- b. Bisexual
- c. Gay man
- d. Gay woman / lesbian
- e. Queer
- f. Asexual
- g. Heterosexual
- h. I use other language
- i. Prefer not to say

I. How would you describe your sexual orientation?

Using your own language. Please answer if you selected 'I use other language' in 4h

J. What is your gender?

- a. Male
- b. Female
- c. Non binary
- d. I use other language
- e. Prefer not to say

K. How would you describe your gender?

Using other language. Please answer if you selected 'I use other language' in 4j

L. Do you identify with the gender you were assigned at birth?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Prefer not to say

5- Thank you. We're going to take a closer look at your experience with work since the pandemic hit in March 2020.

Don't worry—all answers will be anonymous.

A. In the tax year 2020-21, roughly what percentage of your income (not including government / charitable support) came from your regular sector specific freelance work?

By this, we mean the work that you told us about earlier.

- a. 0% / Not applicable
- b. 10%
- c. 20%
- d. 30%
- e. 40%
- f. 50%
- g. 60%
- h. 70%
- i. 80%
- j. 90%
- k. 100%

B. In the tax year 2020-21, did you receive any financial support from the UK government?

Not including Arts Council / locally administered / devolved government grant support.

- a. SEISS
- b. Universal Credit
- c. Furlough / Job Retention Scheme
- d. No UK Government support

C. In the tax year 2020-21, did you receive any other type of financial support?

- a. Arts Councils / Creative Scotland
- b. Charitable Grants
- c. Locally administered grants
- d. Other direct government support
- e. Funding from professional bodies / unions
- f. None
- g. Other

D. In the tax year 2020-21 did you have to find work outside of Entertainment to subsidise your income?

- a. Yes
- b. No

E. How successful were you in finding work outside of Entertainment?

- a. I found new additional work
- b. I looked for but was unsuccessful at finding additional work
- c. I found some work but not enough

F. If you already had work outside of Entertainment, did you lose this?

- a. Yes - I lost all of it
- b. Yes - I lost some of it
- c. No - I lost none of it
- d. Not applicable

G. Did you have any financial debt before Covid?

- a. Yes
- b. No

H. Has your debt level changed?

- a. My debt level has increased
- b. My debt level has stayed the same
- c. My debt level has decreased

I. Did you have any savings before Covid?

- a. Yes
- b. No

J. Have your savings changed?

- a. My level of savings have increased
- b. My level of savings have stayed the same
- c. My level of savings have decreased

K. In the tax year 2020-21, were you involved in any projects that were affected by Covid?

- a. Yes - Canceled
- b. Yes - Delayed
- c. Yes - other
- d. No - none of my projects were affected
- e. No - I wasn't involved in any projects

6 - Thanks, we're over half way through now. Let's dig a little deeper into your current situation.

A. Would you say that you still work in the industry?

- a. No - I have completely left the sector
- b. Yes - I am still here
- c. Yes - but I am considering changing/leaving
- d. I've moved sub sector (eg theatre to tv)
- e. I do a mix of work - some in the sector

B. Thinking about your previous answer, do you view this as temporary, permanent or unable to say?

- a. Temporary
- b. Permanent
- c. Unable to say
- d. Not applicable

C. Which of these best describes how secure you currently feel about your work?

- a. Very secure
- b. Quite secure
- c. Quite insecure
- d. Very insecure

D. Thinking of your work overall, which of these best describes how safe you currently feel in your workplace?

Could be Covid related, or other risks, health & safety, bullying, harassment etc.

- a. Very safe
- b. Quite safe
- c. Quite unsafe
- d. Very unsafe

E. Since the start of the pandemic, have you experienced or witnessed any of the following forms of behaviour in relation to your work?

Please choose as many as apply.

- a. Bullying
- b. Harrassment
- c. Sexism
- d. Racism
- e. Ableism
- f. Transphobia
- g. Homophobia

- h. Unfair treatment
- i. Dangerous workplace
- j. Other discrimination
- k. None of the above
- l. Other (Please state)

F. To your knowledge, was the incident reported?

If there were multiple incidents, please select the answer that fits the majority of incidents.

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. I dont know

G. To your knowledge, was the incident then appropriately addressed?

If there were multiple incidents, please select the answer that fits the majority of incidents.

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. I don't' know

7. Thank you, we're almost there. Now let's do some blue sky thinking, and look at what you would like to see change in the future.

These next questions are a bit more free-form, so please feel free to contribute as much or as little as you would like.

Any answers or quotes used in the survey reports will be fully anonymised.

a. What are your hopes and wishes for the future of the industry?

From a personal perspective, feel free to write as much or as little as you would like.

B. What are your fears and concerns for the future of the industry?

From a personal perspective, feel free to write as much or as little as you would like.

C. Is there anything else you would like to tell us or share?

Feel free to write as much or as little as you like.

8. Are you interested in taking part in any follow up research?

If so, please input your email address here. This is completely optional.

Thank you.

Please email your filled out form to hello@freelancersmaketheatrework.com.