



# FREELANCERS ON FLEXIBLE WORKING

Qdos spoke with sole traders about their lives as self-employed workers, exploring a range of issues that impact them most.



86 RESPONDENTS

AUGUST 2021

## An even split of experienced and new self-employed workers

The biggest group (**27%**) have worked this way for more than 10 years, with the second largest group (**24%**) between 1 and 3 years.



## Questions asked of government

If these sole traders were to go employed at any stage, the perceived lack of government support (**38%**) would be the driving reason.



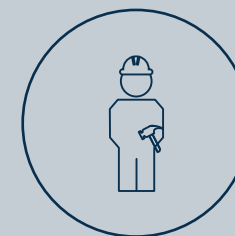
## Flexibility of self-employment reflected in responses

By far the most (**44%**) survey respondents work self-employed full time. **22%** split self-employment with another income stream, while **28%** only work part time self-employed. The remaining **7%** work for themselves on an ad-hoc basis and irregularly.



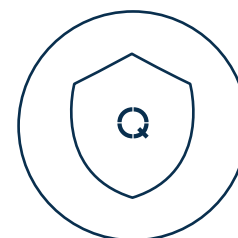
## Demand for flexible workers the biggest opportunity

The opportunities created by the pandemic for flexible workers such as sole traders has not gone unnoticed. **61%** believe there will be a greater demand for flexible workers, who help businesses operate more efficiently.



## Self-employment here to stay

Regardless of recent challenges, sole traders by and large (**90%**) will continue to work for themselves, which is both good news for the flexibility of the labour market and the economic recovery. What's more, **58%** say they will remain self-employed until they retire.



## ABOUT QDOS

Qdos are award-winning contractor insurance and IR35 specialists that aim to ensure a thriving industry of flexible workers.