

# HHS UPDATE

**NTEU** National Treasury Employees Union

## **Top Survey Takeaways**

### **HHS Employees Overwhelmingly Value Telework**

We asked you about telework and you responded. Almost 1,500 HHS employees have spoken up so far and your answers to the NTEU survey on telework are revealing.

Here are a few of the highlights:

- Employees report that a reduction or elimination of telework would increase the time and money you spend on commuting; reduce your productivity; and increase child care expenses.
- How much time would be added to commutes? One-third said 1-4 hours per week; one-third said 5-9 hours per week; and 29 percent said a whopping 10 hours or more per week.
- 84 percent of employees said that changes to their telework would be a factor in deciding to leave HHS or retire.

Clearly, telework is a valued option for HHS employees and one we must continue fighting to save. Here is what one employee told us:

*As NTEU is aware, the telework program has become essential to the federal workforce. It's not only beneficial for employees but also tremendously beneficial to the environment and ultimately beneficial to the government. Personally, my productivity is much higher when working from home because I can control my environment better. This helps focus and accuracy.*

Increased productivity was a theme woven through many of the written comments and one that has been noted in numerous studies about telework. That reason alone should make an employer take notice, and we will be sure HHS understands what it loses if telework is compromised.

The survey will close soon. If you haven't yet shared your thoughts with us, spend four minutes today and take the survey.

**NTEU Telework Survey**

## **Resources You Can Use**

### **Guidance on Renewing Your Telework Schedule**

Language imposed by the Federal Service Impasses Panel (FSIP) requires HHS employees to renew their telework agreement every six months. NTEU has put together guidance for HHS employees on renewing, and what to do if your request is denied.

You can find that and other useful information on navigating changes in your workplace at [NTEU's Resource Page for HHS employees](#).

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