



Workforce analytics  
The three-minute guide





# Why it matters now

## Business leaders are looking to the CHRO for answers

After all the effort spent to consolidate their workforce data, many CHROs now enjoy ready access to a wealth of information. To date, many have used that information to generate reports more quickly and efficiently. But that's just scratching the surface of what can be done with this massive pile of data.

This isn't about looking backward at talent or reward trends. It's about anticipating how changes to the business are likely to influence the talent picture—and vice versa. And for many CHROs, that takes a level of insight that they never had at their fingertips.

That's where workforce analytics comes in.

# Why workforce analytics?

## Generating more reports isn't enough

Workforce analytics is a topic frequently invoked in discussions of how to get more value from all this data and improve the effectiveness of HR Reporting—but fad-weary CHROs want to know what analytics may really deliver.

How much impact can they expect to see? Where does it make sense to start? How should they collaborate with the rest of the executive team? Those who can find answers to these questions may have an even bigger impact on the strategic direction of the business—in the moment and in the future.

Workforce analytics can give HR the tools and insights needed to make a bigger contribution at the strategy table.

# The benefits

## **Anticipate workforce disruptions before they strike**

How can we sustain employee productivity during a merger? Who's at risk of leaving, and why? Which departments may be hit the hardest? How will the aging workforce affect our bottom line? Who are our high-potential employees? The answers to questions like these can have a big impact on the business. Your data can hold the clues.

## **Deliver smarter business-focused insights**

In the wake of the economic challenges of the past few years, many companies have turned to data out of necessity. They simply need better insights to inform decision-making. Workforce decisions are no exception. Tools such as scenario analysis and simulation modeling may have seemed overblown 10 years ago, but today they are becoming standard parts of doing business.

# What to do now

## **Connect with leaders in the business**

Workforce analytics should be able to help solve a problem, anticipate what's next, and lay the groundwork for action. Leaders from a range of teams and disciplines must engage and smoothly interact to determine that all three tasks are successfully completed.

## **Shore up your data**

Workforce analytics doesn't require flawless data to do its job—but the better the quality, the better the insights. Establishing which data is more relevant to a particular issue is the first step. From there, focus your efforts on managing data quality in these areas that matter most.

## **Focus on one problem**

Where there's data, workforce analytics can deliver answers. That sounds great in theory, but without clear direction, in practice it may lead to a lack of focus. Start by identifying one pressing workforce-related business problem, and expand out from there.

# Time's up



## Make your mark

The workforce is the lifeblood of any organization—and when it's operating at a high level, the likelihood of the company reaching key business goals is raised considerably. In the past, many HR leaders had a difficult time making the case for their role in guiding business strategy. But equipped with data-based insights from workforce analytics, they're able to more clearly demonstrate value—and drive real changes in behavior.

If that sounds interesting, we should talk. Here's where to get started.

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