

NATIONAL SICKIE DAY WORK LIFE INSIGHTS

The first Monday in February has been notoriously dubbed 'National Sickie Day' because of the historically higher than normal instances of workplace absence. Regardless of whether this trend continues this year, it raises questions about employees intentions and attitudes towards 'pulling a sickie' using medical grounds as an excuse, after all, February is a chilly time of the year when people want to hibernate and illness flourishes, which provides the perfect cover! In this factsheet, we share the opinions and feelings of those who have pulled a sickie in the past.

51

THE PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE THAT CLAIM TO HAVE PULLED A SICKIE IN THEIR WORKING LIVES

In the last 12 months	51%
12 months to 3 years ago	34%
More than 3 years ago	28%

(SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

45%

of those who have pulled a sickie think about working for another organisation all of the time or very often, compared to 22% amongst those who have never pulled a sickie!



EMPLOYEES THAT HAVE PULLED A SICKIE ARE...

more dissatisfied with their jobs
less positive about going to work

MORE LIKELY TO PULL A SICKIE IN



28% WINTER



14% SUMMER

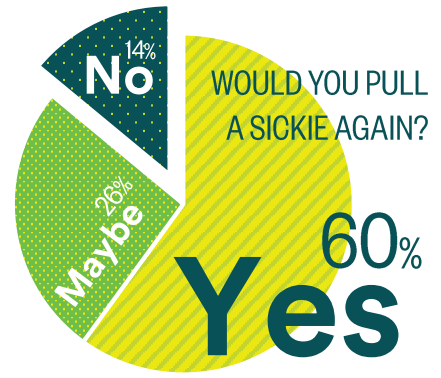
46% ANYTIME OF THE YEAR

32%	COMPLETELY FINE
34%	EXAGGERATING A TEMPORARY/MINOR PROBLEM
26%	USING AN EXISTING CONDITION AS AN EXCUSE

64% felt guilty



Only 8% felt smug



76% CONVINCED THEMSELVES PULLING A SICKIE WAS JUSTIFIED

TOP EXCUSES GIVEN TO EMPLOYERS
(SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)



WHEN IT'S THOUGHT TO BE ACCEPTABLE

work feels **too much stress**
under the weather
genuine reasons (e.g. childcare, emergencies, bereavement, etc.)
can't give 100%
OVERWORKED
WON'T IMPACT OTHERS

WHEN IT'S NOT ACCEPTABLE

doing it regularly
shirking responsibilities
hangover
to extend holidays
when you **know it's busy** at work
FEELING LAZY



79% GOT AWAY WITH IT 21% HAVE BEEN CAUGHT OUT

ABOUT HARRIS INTERACTIVE

Worklife insights are brought to you by Employee Power™, Harris Interactive's ready to deploy employee engagement survey solution. For information about how Harris Interactive can help keep you ahead of what's next for your employees through ready to deploy (fast, insightful, actionable) or bespoke research solutions, contact one of our experts today. [Contact employeeresearch@harrisinteractive.co.uk](mailto:Contact_employeeresearch@harrisinteractive.co.uk)

ABOUT THE RESEARCH

Nationally representative UK sample of 1039 panellists in employment (full-time, part-time, temporary or contract), of which 530 claimed to taken a sickie. Surveyed Jan 2019.

