



# Government Meetings Survey Key Findings

**Nine out of 10 federal workers believe that in-person meetings, conferences and other face-to-face events are important for doing their jobs effectively and for advancing the mission of their agencies.**

**In-person meetings are mission critical.**

- Ninety-eight percent of federal employees believe that in-person meetings, conferences and events are important to advancing their agency's mission. Two in three believe they are "very important."
- Ninety-two percent say that engaging with colleagues, peers, partners and vendors face-to-face improves their ability to do their jobs effectively.
- Eighty-four percent agree that America's future innovation and competitiveness is tied to engaging, collaborating and learning with those inside and outside of government.

**Face-to-face interaction is a valuable tool for improving employee training and development, providing efficient taxpayer services, facilitating cross-agency collaboration and developing private-sector partnerships.**

- Two in three federal employees believe that collaborating and innovating are best accomplished in-person. Seven in 10 say that it offers the best way to build public-private partnerships.
- Eighty-nine percent say that in-person trainings, conferences and continuing education events provide a better learning environment.

- Three in four say they receive better feedback (75%) and are better able to focus (78%).
- Eight in 10 say in-person trainings better foster teamwork (81%) as well as networking and engagement (86%).

**The overwhelming majority of federal workers experience increased value from in-person meetings as opposed to remote ones.**

- Eighty percent of federal employees say they are more likely to actively participate in a face-to-face training. The same percentage say they have attended an in-person event that would not have resulted in the same level of success if conducted remotely.

## Survey Methodology

This survey was conducted among 100 federal agency employees from March 2-10, 2015. All respondents have travel-related responsibilities as part of their roles at 35 randomly selected agencies. This includes attending meetings and events; coordinating or evaluating meetings and travel for someone else; and setting, influencing or enforcing travel policies.

The survey was conducted using a mixed-mode methodology offering respondents the opportunity to complete the survey either online via APCO's web-based platform, insightwebpoll.com, or over the telephone administered by trained interviewers from APCO Insight Data Collection Services in Colorado Spring, CO. A randomized sample list of federal agency employees was purchased from Leadership Directory. Data have not been weighted. The survey was sponsored by Meetings Mean Business and conducted by APCO Insight, an international opinion research firm.