MercerMarsh **Benefits** 

# **Benefits** technology 2023

Adapt. Connect. Succeed

Delivering benefits that truly benefit in a hyper-connected world

The need for benefits technology in the workplace is intensifying, and organizations across the globe are responding, with

of HR professionals planning to increase investment in digital benefit platforms to support benefit administration and communication in the next 1-3 years. 69%

Technology is integral to transforming businesses processes, and adapting at speed in the face of continuous crises, with

of those with benefit technology in place saying it is somewhat to very effective in keeping them agile in the face of change. 89%

It builds an intentional and authentic approach, bringing business priorities, people needs and risk management together, allowing employers to deliver on their key benefit program objectives. For HR professionals over the next 1-3 years these objectives are:



better supporting employee attraction, retention and engagement.

better supporting employee well-being.

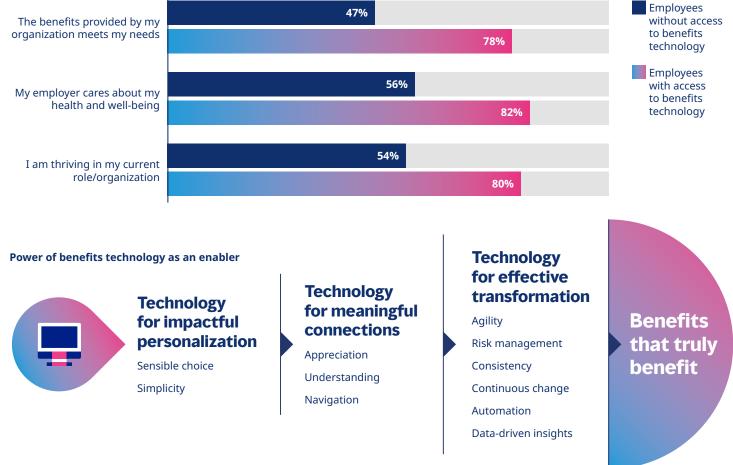
benefits that truly benefit

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expanding benefits to be more inclusive/ supportive of all segments of the workforce.

With only **59% of employees** saying that their benefits meet their needs, the time to focus on technology for impactful personalization, meaningful connections and effective transformation is now.

Employees who have access to benefits technology report better outcomes



## **Technology for impactful personalization**

Offering a technology-enabled range of benefits that genuinely meet people's evolving needs has powerful advantages for employers and employees.

The majority of employees who said they could personalize their benefits have access to benefits technology

I can personalize my benefits package to meet my personal needs (Strongly Agree + Agree)



result of the benefits they receive Employers should look to implement programs that support a wide range of employee needs without creating confusion. Benefits such as personal spending accounts are flexible for employee use and can be one-size-fits all. This is where technology is foundational.

# **Technology for meaningful connections**

The importance of effective benefit communication, content and delivery continue to grow as employers seek to maximize returns from their health and benefits programs. There is little point in offering a world-class employee benefits plan if employees don't understand, use or appreciate it.

**Technology enables** organizations to connect their values to how they support and communicate with employees



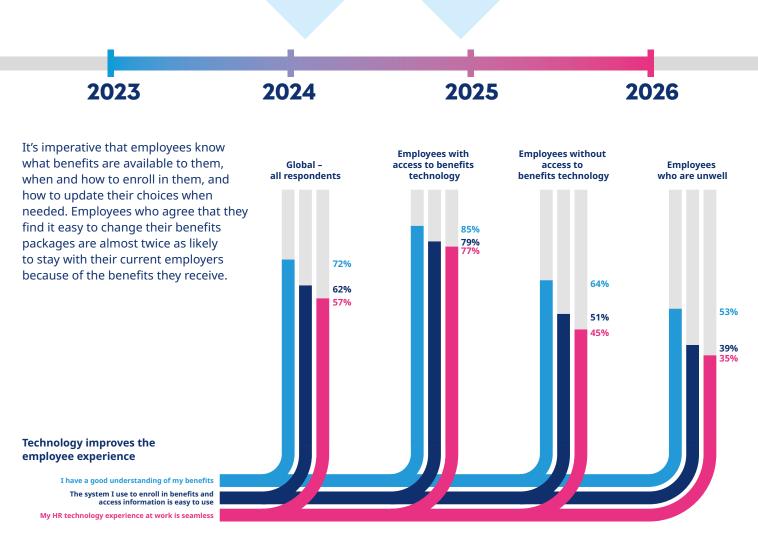
priority for the

next 1-3 years



global consistency in how employees understand, access and use their benefits in the

next 1-3 years



Employees need a clear starting point that helps them navigate and interact with the benefits they need, when they need them.

# **Technology for effective transformation**

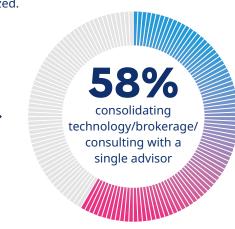
Will benefits administration ever move from transactional to transformational? The benefits landscape is moving from a legacy of lethargy to the reality of a fast-changing world. This new landscape demands a long-term strategic approach to benefits that focuses on the employee experience and administrative simplicity.

#### HR teams have yet to solve the problem of administration overload

HR benefit program priorities	12 months	2-3 years	5 years
Automating administration processes	46%	26%	13%

With time pressures on HR and benefits teams escalating, technology reduces the administrative burden, streamlines processes and frees up time to focus on strategic initiatives that have a real impact on your people. Technology represents a fraction of the total spend on benefits, but without it, the return on investment and impact of benefits spend cannot be maximized.

**Technology enables** consistency – HR teams continue to look towards consistency in consulting, broking and technology over the next five years



If you're operating in more than one market, cost competitiveness and a desire for a consistent employee experience will continue to drive a trend toward digitalization and centralization. Consistency will naturally lead to reduced risk and a more effective return on investment.

### **Technology enables data-driven insights**

The power of aggregated data across benefits helps HR build a clear strategy over time. That strategy path can be explained to the C-suite in the same data-driven language that other business functions use, driving future investment in benefits technology.

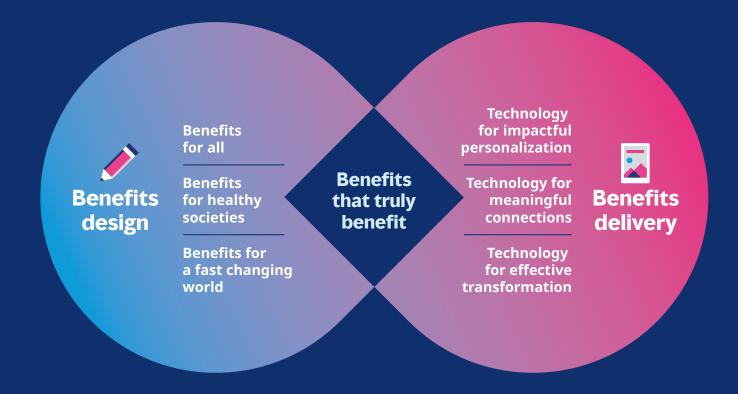
Efficiency and data are driving CEO and CFO priorities for investment in benefits technology

Create a more consistent, cost-effective and efficient HR operating model	38%
Deliver data insights to control or predict future benefit costs	36%
Deliver data insights to improve talent-related decision-making	36%

## Conclusion

The past few years have forced HR teams to continually rethink business and employee priorities in response to global and local crises and respond with support at a moment's notice. Now, we're seeing a shift from reactive change to **proactive future planning**. Only through technology will organizations be able to achieve their broader strategic goals and deliver benefits programs that are consistent, compliant, cost effective and transformational.

Benefits design and delivery must work together to create benefits the truly benefit



### Learn more by reading our Benefits Technology Report now.



For further information, please contact your local Mercer Marsh Benefits office. Marsh McLennan businesses provide a range of solutions to help you build a resilient workforce and business, including:

- Benefits strategy, broking, design, financing and delivery
- Benefits technology
- · Health and well-being, including mental health and longevity
- Global benefits
- · Business continuity
- Enterprise risk management
- · Business resiliency and crisis management
- · Cybersecurity risk management
- Environmental, social and governance (ESG)
- · Diversity, equity and inclusion
- Workforce communications
- Flexible working and work design
- Employee experience, listening and total rewards
- · Living wage
- Retirement

### About Mercer Marsh Benefits™ Mercer Marsh Benefits provides clients with one source for managing the costs, people risks, and complexities of employee benefits. The network is a combination of Mercer and Marsh experts working across 130 countries to develop local solutions drawn from global expertise. <u>Mercer</u> and <u>Marsh</u> are businesses of <u>Marsh McLennan</u> (NYSE: MMC), the world's leading professional services firm in the areas of risk, strategy and people, with more Guy Carpenter and Oliver Wyman, Marsh McLennan helps clients navigate an increasingly dynamic and complex environment. For more information, visit marshmclennan.com, or follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter.