



Nature of Foreign Service Work (cont'd)

Mixed Messages

Experiences

Sixty-six percent of the respondents indicated that the best thing about the Foreign Service is the nature of the work.

Approximately half of the Foreign Service's employees agreed or strongly agreed with the statements:

- My work provides a sense of accomplishment (52%)
- My work makes good use of my skills/abilities (48%)
- My work is important to the success of my department (53%)

Unfavourable Responses

Experiences

Less than half of the respondents stated that the work expected of them is appropriate:

- When they are based in their Headquarters city (42%), with 20% stating that it is hardly every appropriate
- When they are assigned abroad (33%), with 28% stating that it is hardly ever appropriate

Almost 25% of employees would hardly ever recommend the Foreign Service as a good place to work.

Expectations

Most of the elements in the survey regarding the nature of the work were quite important to employees. However, 49% stated that learning languages other than English and French is important or very important to them, with 20% actually saying that it is unimportant.