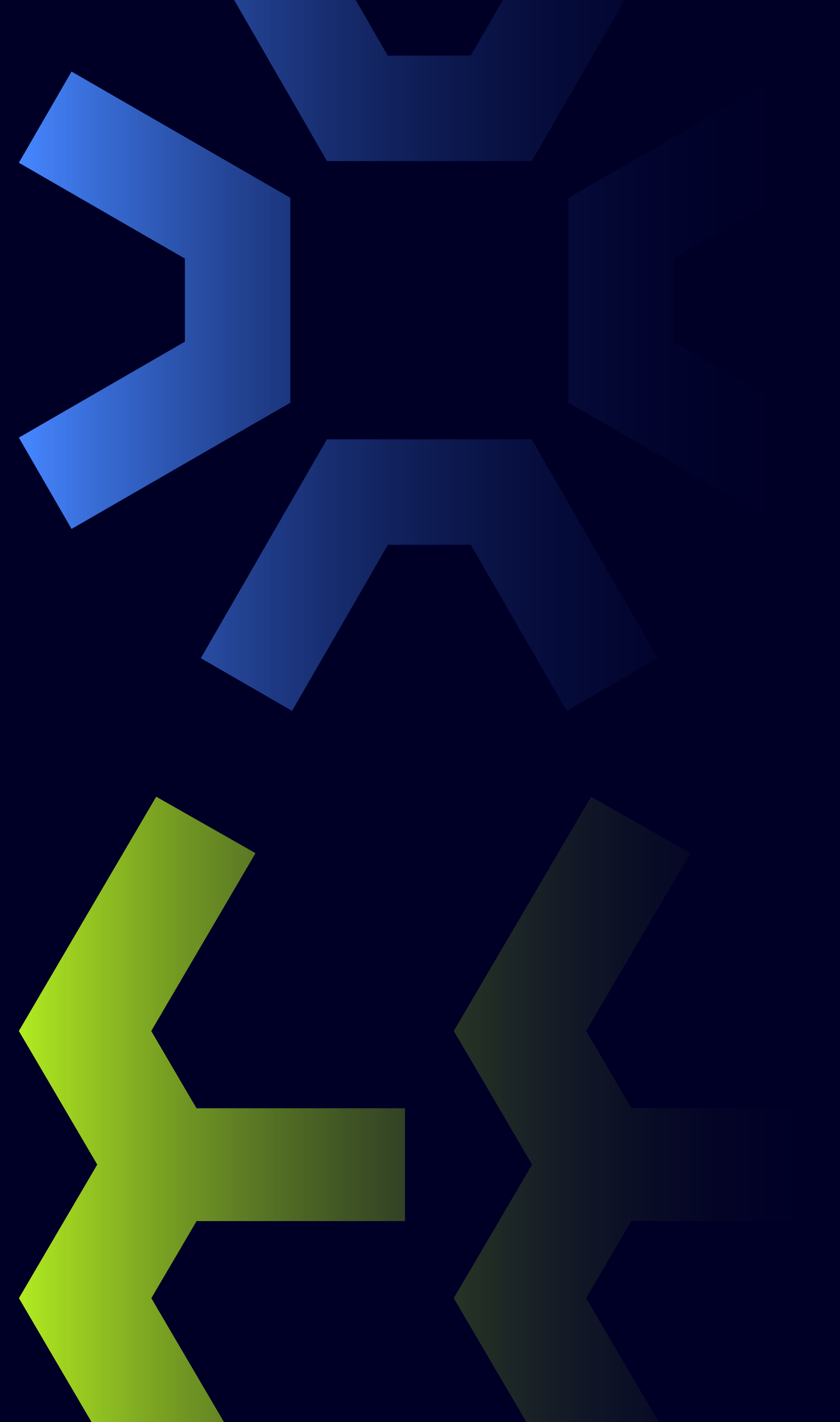




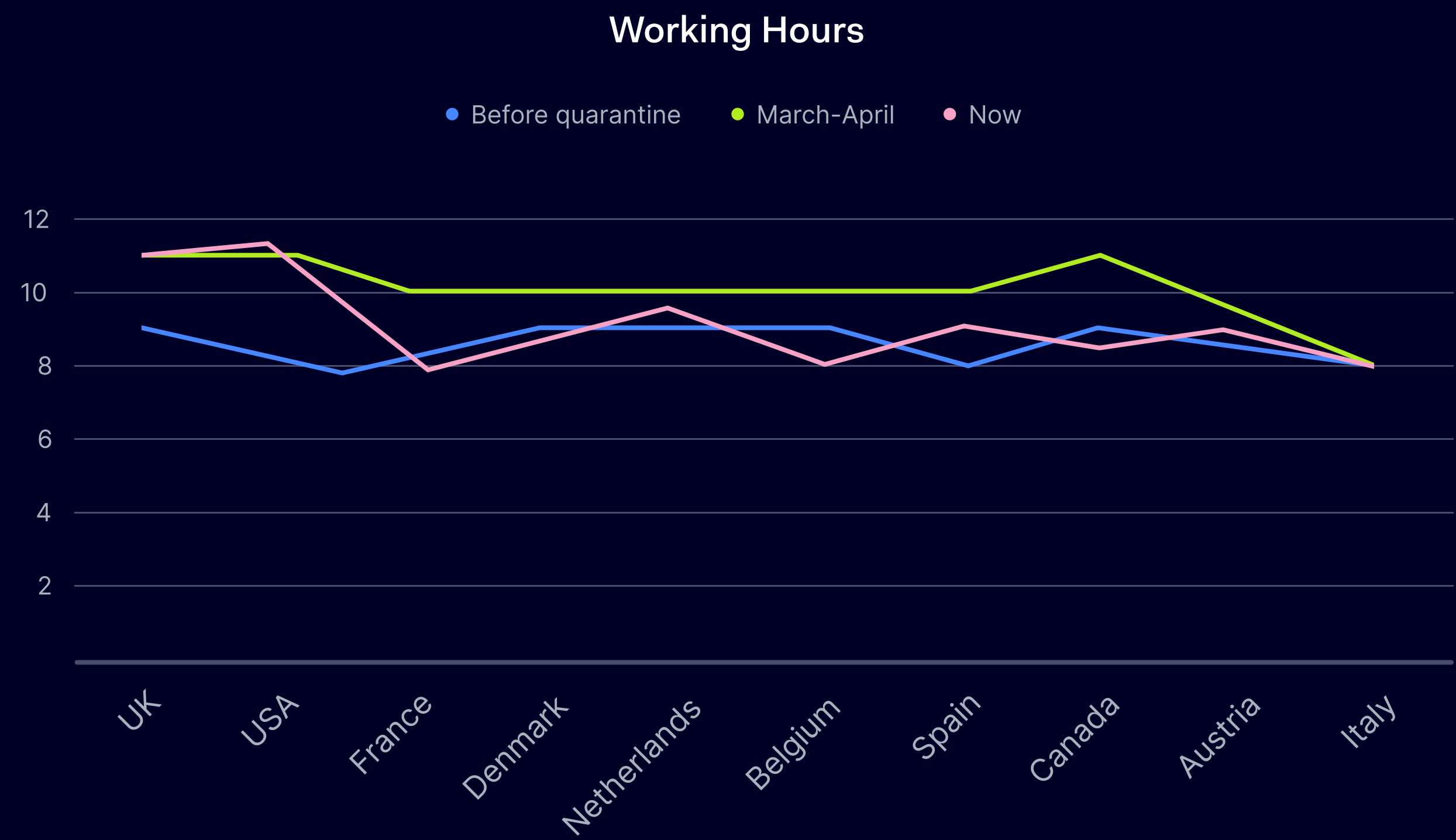
Employees spending an extra 2.5 hours working during the COVID-19 pandemic

WFH report



Business VPN sales increased by almost 600% due to remote work

Data from NordLayer indicates that employees in the US and UK are working 2.5 hours longer per day on average via remote business VPNs.













At the beginning of the worldwide quarantine period in April, employees in the US were reported to be working an additional 15 hours per week (an uplift of 40%). This has been the largest jump in working hours globally and equated to more than one extra work week per month. Fast-forward to 4 months later and we were still seeing the same trend with elongated working days in the US and the UK.

Furthermore, this jump in working hours directly correlated to mandated remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

France, Canada and Spain are back to their pre-quarantine working routine, although previous data highlighted a 2-hour increase in working hours.

Average usage hours on VPN servers

Country	Before quarantine	March-April	Now
 UK	9	11	11
 USA	8	11	11
 France	8	10	8
 Denmark	9	10	9
 Netherlands	9	10	9.5
 Belgium	9	10	8
 Spain	8	10	9
 Canada	9	11	8.5
 Austria	9	10	9
 Italy	8	8	8

Working Times

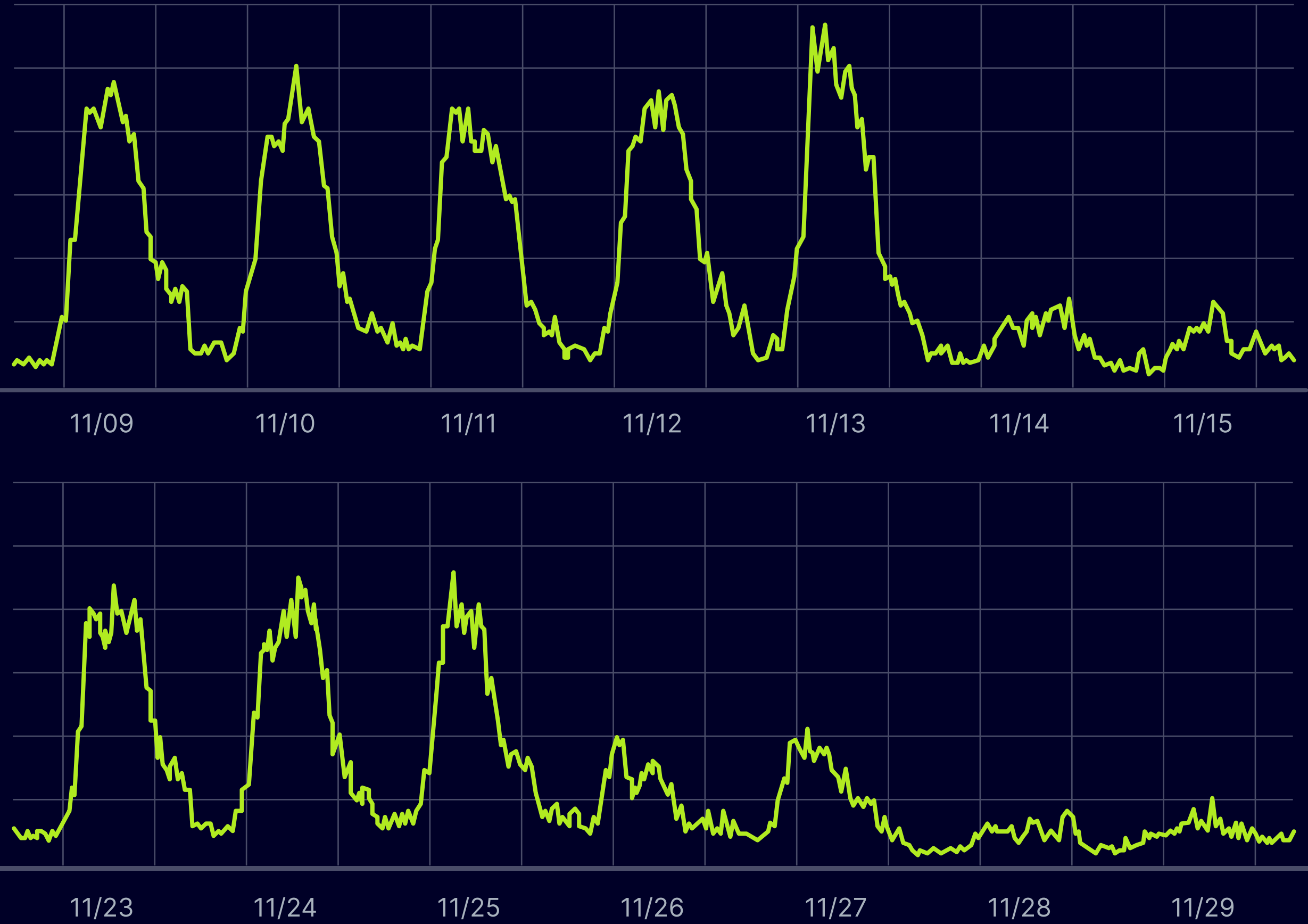
	Before quarantine			Now		
Country	Log in time	Log out time	Total working hours	Log in time	Log out time	Total working hours
UK	07:00	17:00	9	08:00	20:00	11
USA	09:00	18:00	8	09:00	21:00	11
France	09:00	18:00	8	09:00	18:00	8
Denmark	09:00	18:00	9	09:00	18:00	9
Netherlands	09:00	18:00	9	08:30	18:00	9.5
Belgium	07:00	17:00	9	08:00	17:00	8
Spain	09:00	18:00	8	09:00	19:00	9
Canada	09:00	19:00	9	09:00	18:30	8.5
Austria	07:00	17:00	9	07:00	17:00	9
Italy	10:00	18:00	8	10:00	18:00	8

Online working hours across most of Europe have started to stabilise with many employees having had the opportunity to return to the office in some capacity. However, the UK and US are working until 20:00 and 21:00 in the evening respectively, regularly logging off later than usual to wrap up an extended working day.

We have saw that there isn't a significant drop in the usage of business VPNs during lunch times, which might also suggest that lunch breaks have become shorter.

In November, NordLayer also observed an increase in business VPN server load during Thanksgiving (41%) and Veteran’s day (70%) when compared to the average weekend. This suggests that many Americans were logging on to work during US national holidays amid the global pandemic.





NordLayer network traffic of United States



The usage of business VPNs skyrocketed during March-April, which coincided with a widely-reported spike in the utilisation of home networks and devices, many of which might lack the protection necessary for secure remote work.

Business VPN usage surged in Canada, Austria, and the Netherlands, growing by over 200%. Interestingly, Italians showed a modest 10% growth.

NordLayer usage growth

Country	Growth, %
 UK	48.1
 USA	65.93
 France	187.71
 Denmark	180.35
 Netherlands	240.49
 Belgium	187.76
 Spain	95.89
 Canada	206.26
 Austria	207.86
 Italy	10.57

Spending on cloud security is predicted to increase by 33% this year, becoming a \$585M market.

According to Gartner, more than 80% of company leaders plan to have their staff work remotely at least part-time.

For additional details on Gartner’s latest update of their security and risk management spending forecast, please see [here](#).

User Base growth by country

