Public Viewpoint: COVID-19 Work and Education Survey
Results from April 8–9, 2020
Key Insights: April 8-9, 2020

1. Americans’ fears and anxieties about the COVID-19 pandemic remain elevated but may be stabilizing.

2. Most believe COVID-19’s effects on their lives will be gone by October.

3. Millennials have suffered the greatest negative impact on their work.

4. Generation X and millennials were the most likely to say that if they were to lose their jobs, they would need more education to maintain their current wage or salary.
Americans’ fears and anxieties about the COVID-19 pandemic remain elevated but may be stabilizing.
The share of Americans who are worried declined from 56% the previous week to 50% this week.

Please select the words that best describe the way you feel right now about the virus. Select all that apply.
Americans’ specific worries about their jobs, finances, and health have also declined slightly.

What effect do you think the coronavirus outbreak will have on each of the following parts of your life?

(% very negative or somewhat negative)

Weekly online surveys with n >= 1,000
65% of Americans are worried they will lose their jobs.

How worried are you that you may lose your job as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) events, or are you not at all worried?

- Somewhat worried
- Very worried
- Extremely worried

Online surveys n=>500 individuals employed full-time, part-time, or self-employed
Most Americans believe the pandemic’s effects on their lives will be gone by October.
70 percent of adults believe that for them personally, the effects of the crisis will not last longer than six months.

How long do you think the impact of coronavirus will be to you personally?

- 6 months or less: 70%
- 7 months or more: 30%

online survey n=1,001 fielded April 8–9, 2020
Millennials have suffered the greatest negative impact on their work.
The majority of Americans have either lost their jobs or seen their hours or income reduced.

Did you lose your job or have your hours or income from work been reduced because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation?

Online surveys n=>600 individuals in the workforce (employed or unemployed and looking for work)
61% of millennials said they had either lost their jobs or seen their hours or earnings reduced as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.

Did you lose your job or have your hours or income from work been reduced because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation?

Share of workers

- **Millennials**: 61%
- **Generation Z**: 56%
- **Generation X**: 52%
- **Baby Boomers**: 44%

Online surveys n=1,858 individuals in the workforce (employed or unemployed and looking for work)
Generation X and millennials were the most likely to say that if they were to lose their jobs, they would need more education to maintain their current wage or salary.
34% of Americans said if they were to lose their jobs, they would need more education.

If I were to lose my job because of coronavirus (COVID-19) events, I will need additional education or training to find another job with the same wages or income.

Share of workers

- Disagree: 35%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 31%
- Agree: 34%

Online surveys n=1,264 individuals in the workforce (employed or unemployed and looking for work)
38% of Generation X said that if they were to lose their jobs, they would need more education.

If I were to lose my job because of coronavirus (COVID-19) events, I will need additional education or training to find another job with the same wages or income.

Share of workers

- Generation X: 38%
- Millennials: 37%
- Generation Z: 30%
- Baby Boomers: 21%

Online surveys n=1,256 individuals in the workforce (employed or unemployed and looking for work)
Methodology

• Weekly tracking of education consumers' perceptions of COVID-19's impact on postsecondary education and work in America, completed by Heart+Mind Strategies on behalf of Strada Education Network’s Center for Consumer Insights.

• Online survey of Americans ages 18 and above.

• Representative of the general population in age, gender, geographic region, and race/ethnicity.

• Current report for survey results from April 8-9, 2020, n=1,001. Previous waves: April 1-2, 2020, n=1,000; March 25-26, 2020, n=1,006; and March 18-19, 2020, n=1,035.

• A theoretical margin of error based on a probability sample of size 1,000 would be +/- 3.1% at 95% confidence. This is not a probability-based sample and a margin of error cannot be estimated. Based on experience, we believe the sampling error would be at least this number.

• Please contact the Center for Consumer Insights with questions or information requests at consumervoice@stradaeducation.org or learn more at StradaEducation.org/PublicViewpoint