

Strada Public Viewpoint: COVID-19 Work and Education Survey

Interview Dates: August 5 – 6, 2020

Audience: National online survey of Americans ages 18 and above. Quotas based on the U.S. Census were used to ensure results that are nationally representative by age, gender, race/ethnicity and region. Sample size: n=1,004

1. Please select the words below that best describe the way you feel right now about the virus outbreak. Please select all that apply.

a. Concerned	54%
b. Worried	45%
c. Cautious	39%
d. Anxious	38%
e. Hopeful	31%
f. Angry	25%
g. Scared	23%
h. Afraid	22%
i. Optimistic	19%
j. Confused	19%
k. Determined	14%
l. Confident	13%
m. Resigned	11%
n. Surprised	10%
o. Supported	9%

2. 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?

a. Extremely worried	18%
b. Very worried	19%
c. Somewhat worried	25%
d. Not very worried	17%
e. Not at all worried	21%

**Base: Individuals who were employed full-time, part-time, or self-employed, n=549.*

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

- a. Yes 49%
- b. No 51%

**Base: Individuals who were in the workforce (employed full-time, part-time, self-employed, or unemployed looking for work), n=643.*

4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

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

- a. Strongly agree 14%
- b. Agree 25%
- c. Neither agree nor disagree 26%
- d. Disagree 20%
- e. Strongly disagree 15%

My job puts me at risk to contract coronavirus.

- a. Strongly agree 21%
- b. Agree 26%
- c. Neither agree nor disagree 24%
- d. Disagree 17%
- e. Strongly disagree 12%

Pursuing education or training would put me at risk to contract coronavirus.

- a. Strongly agree 15%
- b. Agree 29%
- c. Neither agree nor disagree 30%
- d. Disagree 15%
- e. Strongly disagree 11%

Pursuing more education or training will help me get a good job.

- a. Strongly agree 17%
- b. Agree 28%
- c. Neither agree nor disagree 31%
- d. Disagree 15%
- e. Strongly disagree 9%

Getting more education or training would be worth the cost.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| a. Strongly agree | 14% |
| b. Agree | 28% |
| c. Neither agree nor disagree | 31% |
| d. Disagree | 16% |
| e. Strongly disagree | 10% |

I can access the education or training I want.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| a. Strongly agree | 16% |
| b. Agree | 30% |
| c. Neither agree nor disagree | 30% |
| d. Disagree | 17% |
| e. Strongly disagree | 7% |

If I wanted to, I could access more education or training (I could pay for it, find the right program, find time to attend, etc.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| a. Strongly agree | 17% |
| b. Agree | 30% |
| c. Neither agree nor disagree | 30% |
| d. Disagree | 13% |
| e. Strongly disagree | 11% |

Colleges and universities will be able to complete their fall 2020 courses without interruption or needing to shut down and evacuate campuses.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| a. Strongly agree | 13% |
| b. Agree | 21% |
| c. Neither agree nor disagree | 30% |
| d. Disagree | 21% |
| e. Strongly disagree | 16% |

In order to advance my career, I need at least one more education credential, such as a college degree or certificate.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| a. Strongly agree | 15% |
| b. Agree | 25% |
| c. Neither agree nor disagree | 25% |
| d. Disagree | 17% |
| e. Strongly disagree | 19% |

In order to advance my career, I need more skills and work experience, but not necessarily another education credential, such as a college degree or certificate.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| a. Strongly agree | 13% |
| b. Agree | 27% |
| c. Neither agree nor disagree | 28% |
| d. Disagree | 18% |
| e. Strongly disagree | 14% |

**Base: Individuals who were in the workforce: (employed full-time, part-time, self-employed, or unemployed looking for work), n=643.*

5. If you were to enroll in additional education or training sometime within the next six months, what would be your goal?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a. One or more courses to get some skills I need for work | 13% |
| b. One or more courses for personal interests or hobbies | 10% |
| c. A certificate, certification, or license | 11% |
| d. An associate degree | 7% |
| e. A bachelor's degree | 10% |
| f. A graduate degree | 8% |
| g. I do not plan to enroll in any kind of education or training within the next six months | 42% |

6. How important are the following reasons for your preference for [INSERT THE ANSWER AT Q5] over the alternatives?

Nondegree program/skills training

Better value

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 39% |
| c. Somewhat important | 32% |
| d. Not very important | 19% |
| e. Not important at all | 6% |

Cheaper

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 3% |
| b. Very important | 32% |
| c. Somewhat important | 34% |
| d. Not very important | 19% |
| e. Not important at all | 11% |

Faster

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 32% |
| c. Somewhat important | 34% |
| d. Not very important | 17% |
| e. Not important at all | 13% |

More convenient

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 2% |
| b. Very important | 37% |
| c. Somewhat important | 38% |
| d. Not very important | 14% |
| e. Not important at all | 9% |

Better fit for my personal needs

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 6% |
| b. Very important | 32% |
| c. Somewhat important | 38% |
| d. Not very important | 15% |
| e. Not important at all | 9% |

Required in my field of work

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 6% |
| b. Very important | 34% |
| c. Somewhat important | 28% |
| d. Not very important | 15% |
| e. Not important at all | 17% |

More applied/relevant to my work

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 36% |
| c. Somewhat important | 34% |
| d. Not very important | 14% |
| e. Not important at all | 13% |

Would lead to additional education or training in the future

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 35% |
| c. Somewhat important | 35% |
| d. Not very important | 17% |
| e. Not important at all | 9% |

More benefit to my job and career advancement

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 38% |
| c. Somewhat important | 34% |
| d. Not very important | 15% |
| e. Not important at all | 9% |

*Base: Individuals who selected "One or more courses to get some skills I need for work," "One or more courses for personal interests or hobbies," and "A certificate, certification, or license," n=332.

Degree program

Better value

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 35% |
| c. Somewhat important | 32% |
| d. Not very important | 18% |
| e. Not important at all | 11% |

Cheaper

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 8% |
| b. Very important | 30% |
| c. Somewhat important | 29% |
| d. Not very important | 21% |
| e. Not important at all | 13% |

Faster

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 29% |
| c. Somewhat important | 32% |
| d. Not very important | 19% |
| e. Not important at all | 16% |

More convenient

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 1% |
| b. Very important | 36% |
| c. Somewhat important | 34% |
| d. Not very important | 15% |
| e. Not important at all | 14% |

Better fit for my personal needs.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 6% |
| b. Very important | 32% |
| c. Somewhat important | 38% |
| d. Not very important | 15% |
| e. Not important at all | 10% |

Required in my field of work

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 3% |
| b. Very important | 33% |
| c. Somewhat important | 31% |
| d. Not very important | 14% |
| e. Not important at all | 18% |

More applied/relevant to my work

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 5% |
| b. Very important | 37% |
| c. Somewhat important | 30% |
| d. Not very important | 14% |
| e. Not important at all | 14% |

Would lead to additional education or training in the future

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 4% |
| b. Very important | 35% |
| c. Somewhat important | 32% |
| d. Not very important | 17% |
| e. Not important at all | 12% |

More benefit to my job and career advancement

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 8% |
| b. Very important | 36% |
| c. Somewhat important | 29% |
| d. Not very important | 16% |
| e. Not important at all | 10% |

*Base: Individuals who selected "An associate's degree," "A bachelor's degree," or "A graduate degree," n=247.

7. If you were to enroll in additional education or training sometime within the next six months, what would your primary reason be?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| a. Learn new knowledge or skills based on my personal interests | 38% |
| b. Get a job in a different field | 23% |
| c. Advance within my company or my current field | 22% |
| d. Learn new skills to help me get better at my current job | 17% |

8. Thinking about the future, please indicate if and when you are likely to enroll in courses or training offered through the following:

Four-year college or university

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| a. Within 1 month | 3% |
| b. Within 3 months | 3% |
| c. Within 6 months | 4% |
| d. Within 1 year | 4% |
| e. Within 2 years | 5% |
| f. Within 5 years | 6% |
| g. Currently enrolled | 7% |
| h. Will not enroll | 67% |

Community college

- a. Within 1 month 1%
- b. Within 3 months 4%
- c. Within 6 months 5%
- d. Within 1 year 5%
- e. Within 2 years 6%
- f. Within 5 years 9%
- g. Currently enrolled 8%
- h. Will not enroll 62%

Trade Schools/Programs

- a. Within 1 month 2%
- b. Within 3 months 4%
- c. Within 6 months 5%
- d. Within 1 year 6%
- e. Within 2 years 5%
- f. Within 5 years 9%
- g. Currently enrolled 5%
- h. Will not enroll 65%

Employer

- a. Within 1 month 4%
- b. Within 3 months 4%
- c. Within 6 months 5%
- d. Within 1 year 7%
- e. Within 2 years 8%
- f. Within 5 years 7%
- g. Currently enrolled 8%
- h. Will not enroll 57%

Online-only community colleges, colleges or universities

- a. Within 1 month 2%
- b. Within 3 months 4%
- c. Within 6 months 7%
- d. Within 1 year 8%
- e. Within 2 years 8%
- f. Within 5 years 8%
- g. Currently enrolled 4%
- h. Will not enroll 58%

Other online nonacademic courses, trainings, or certifications

- a. Within 1 month 3%
- b. Within 3 months 4%
- c. Within 6 months 7%
- d. Within 1 year 8%
- e. Within 2 years 6%
- f. Within 5 years 9%
- g. Currently enrolled 6%
- h. Will not enroll 57%

Apprenticeship or internship with a local employer

- a. Within 1 month 2%
- b. Within 3 months 5%
- c. Within 6 months 6%
- d. Within 1 year 7%
- e. Within 2 years 7%
- f. Within 5 years 5%
- g. Currently enrolled 5%
- h. Will not enroll 64%

9. Thinking about different ways of accessing education or training, please indicate your preference:

If I were to enroll in education or training within the next six months, I would prefer:

- a. Face to face / in-person 23%
- b. Hybrid (mix of in-person and online) 29%
- c. Online education 48%

10. How important are the following reasons for your preference for [Face to face/Hybrid/Online] over the alternatives?

Face to face / In-person

Safer

- a. The most important reason 3%
- b. Very important 33%
- c. Somewhat important 28%
- d. Not very important 18%
- e. Not important at all 18%

Cheaper

- a. The most important reason 3%
- b. Very important 35%
- c. Somewhat important 28%

- d. Not very important 13%
- e. Not important at all 21%

More convenient

- a. The most important reason 2%
- b. Very important 34%
- c. Somewhat important 29%
- d. Not very important 16%
- e. Not important at all 19%

Learn more effectively

- a. The most important reason 15%
- b. Very important 45%
- c. Somewhat important 18%
- d. Not very important 10%
- e. Not important at all 12%

Easier to make friends with classmates

- a. The most important reason 4%
- b. Very important 31%
- c. Somewhat important 27%
- d. Not very important 20%
- e. Not important at all 19%

Feel more comfortable

- a. The most important reason 7%
- b. Very important 41%
- c. Somewhat important 26%
- d. Not very important 11%
- e. Not important at all 14%

More supportive environment

- a. The most important reason 6%
- b. Very important 44%
- c. Somewhat important 26%
- d. Not very important 11%
- e. Not important at all 14%

*Base: Individuals who prefer "Face to face / In-person," n=227.

Hybrid (mix of in-person and online)

Safer

- a. The most important reason 12%
- b. Very important 34%
- c. Somewhat important 32%
- d. Not very important 15%

e. Not important at all 6%

Cheaper

a. The most important reason 5%
b. Very important 30%
c. Somewhat important 39%
d. Not very important 19%
e. Not important at all 7%

More convenient

a. The most important reason 9%
b. Very important 32%
c. Somewhat important 42%
d. Not very important 12%
e. Not important at all 5%

Learn more effectively

a. The most important reason 6%
b. Very important 39%
c. Somewhat important 37%
d. Not very important 14%
e. Not important at all 5%

Easier to make friends with classmates

a. The most important reason 3%
b. Very important 26%
c. Somewhat important 31%
d. Not very important 24%
e. Not important at all 17%

Feel more comfortable

a. The most important reason 6%
b. Very important 39%
c. Somewhat important 34%
d. Not very important 16%
e. Not important at all 5%

More supportive environment

a. The most important reason 3%
b. Very important 30%
c. Somewhat important 44%
d. Not very important 16%
e. Not important at all 7%

*Base: Individuals who prefer "Hybrid (mix of in-person and online)," n=293.

Online education

Safer

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 26% |
| b. Very important | 41% |
| c. Somewhat important | 19% |
| d. Not very important | 8% |
| e. Not important at all | 7% |

Cheaper

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 5% |
| b. Very important | 44% |
| c. Somewhat important | 30% |
| d. Not very important | 13% |
| e. Not important at all | 8% |

More convenient

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 14% |
| b. Very important | 55% |
| c. Somewhat important | 20% |
| d. Not very important | 6% |
| e. Not important at all | 5% |

Learn more effectively

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 2% |
| b. Very important | 45% |
| c. Somewhat important | 35% |
| d. Not very important | 8% |
| e. Not important at all | 8% |

Easier to make friends with classmates

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 1% |
| b. Very important | 21% |
| c. Somewhat important | 16% |
| d. Not very important | 23% |
| e. Not important at all | 39% |

Feel more comfortable

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 6% |
| b. Very important | 51% |
| c. Somewhat important | 29% |
| d. Not very important | 8% |
| e. Not important at all | 7% |

More supportive environment

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| a. The most important reason | 2% |
| b. Very important | 34% |
| c. Somewhat important | 35% |
| d. Not very important | 14% |
| e. Not important at all | 15% |

**Base: Individuals who prefer "Online education," n=484.*

11. How has the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis affected your interest in enrolling in an education or training program? Would you say you are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| a. Much more likely to enroll | 13% |
| b. Somewhat more likely to enroll | 16% |
| c. No change | 52% |
| d. Somewhat less likely to enroll | 9% |
| e. Much less likely to enroll | 10% |

12. Thinking about the education and training that will be provided by colleges and universities this Fall 2020 semester compared to Fall 2019, how would you rate the value of Fall 2020?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a. Fall 2020 education will provide much greater value | 7% |
| b. Fall 2020 education will provide somewhat greater value | 8% |
| c. Fall 2020 education will provide the same value | 32% |
| d. Fall 2020 education will provide somewhat less value | 30% |
| e. Fall 2020 education will provide much less value | 23% |