



EDUCATION
NETWORK

Public Viewpoint: COVID-19 Work and Education Survey

Results from March 25-26, 2020

Methodology

- Weekly tracking of education consumers' perceptions of COVID-19's impact on postsecondary education and work in America completed by Heart+Mind Strategies in behalf of Strada Education Network's Center for Consumer Insights.
- Online survey of Americans ages 18 and above.
- Representative of the general population with regard to age, gender, geographic region and race/ethnicity.
- Current report for survey results from March 25-26, 2020; n=1,006. Initial survey March 18-19, 2020. Margin of error is +/-3% at a 95% confidence level.
- Please contact the Consumer Insights team with questions, or information requests at consumervoice@stradaeducation.org or learn more at www.StradaEducation.org/PublicViewpoint.



Overview

- The majority of Americans are feeling concerned (64%), cautious (59%), and worried (51%).
- 55% expect their finances to be negatively impacted.
- 57% percent of Americans in the workforce are worried they will lose their jobs (15% extremely worried, 14% very worried, 28% somewhat worried).
- 46% say they have already lost work, wages, and income because of the coronavirus.
- One-third (33%) believe that if they lose their jobs, they will need additional education to find a comparable one.
- If Americans could choose where to receive education and training, their top preferences would be online colleges and universities (26%), apprenticeships/internships with a local employer (18%), or online community colleges (17%). These are followed by in-person at a university (15%) or community college (13%).



Key Questions

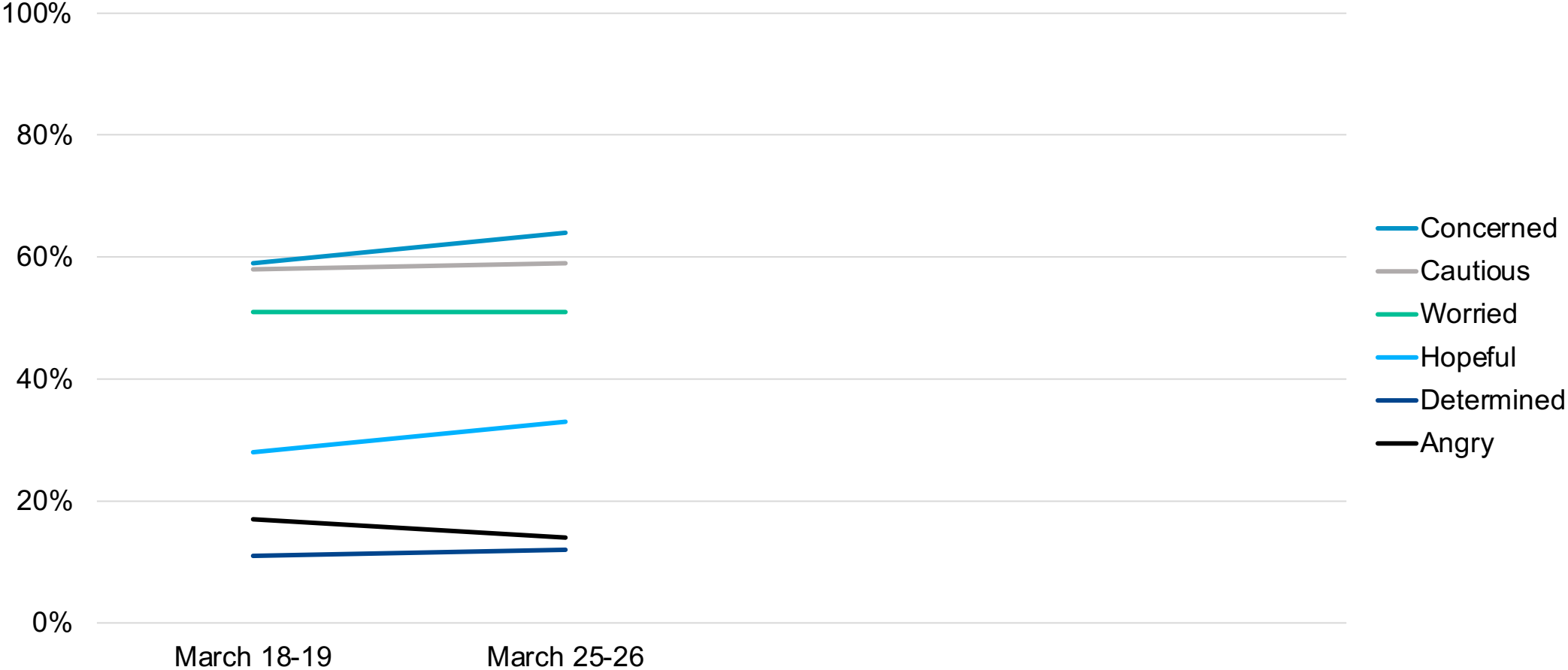
Six key questions about the impact of COVID-19 on work and education in Americans' lives:

1. How are you feeling?
2. How do you expect COVID-19 to impact your finances?
3. Are you worried about losing your job because of coronavirus?
4. Have you already lost income from work?
5. If you lose your job, will you need more education to find a comparable one?
6. Where would you prefer to get future education or training?



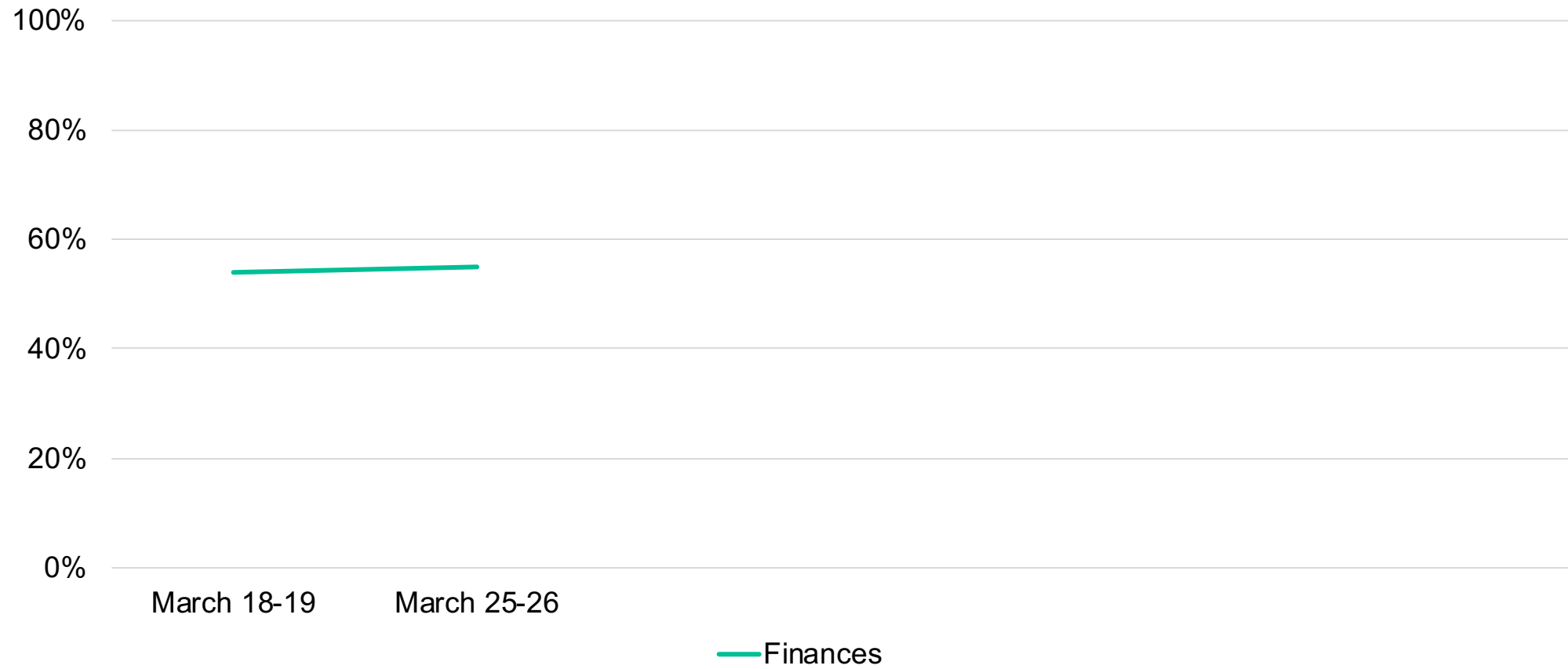
The majority of Americans are feeling concerned, cautious, and worried

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



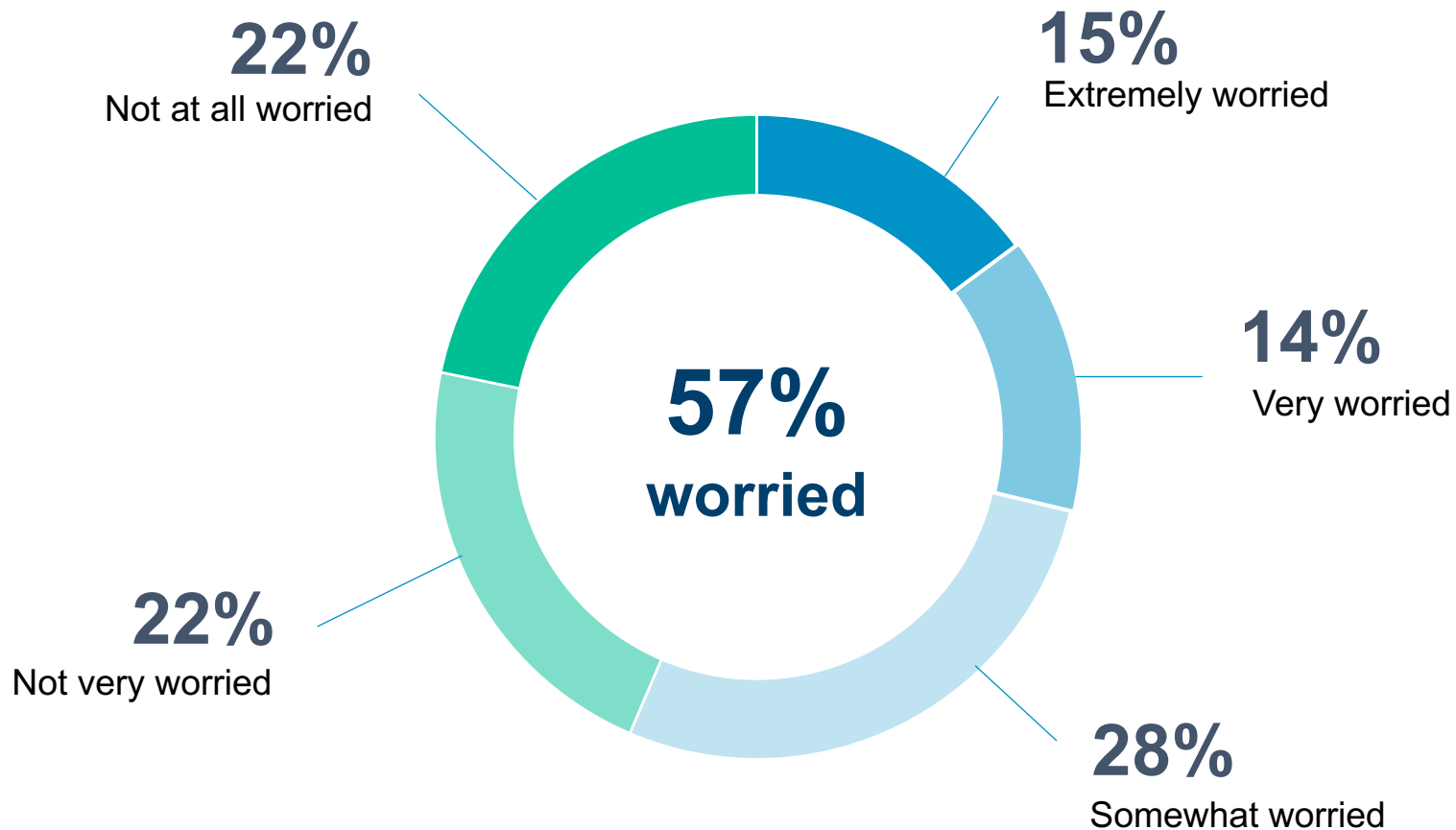
A growing majority expect COVID-19 will negatively affect finances

What effect do you think the coronavirus outbreak will have on each of the following parts of your life?
(% Very or Somewhat Negative)



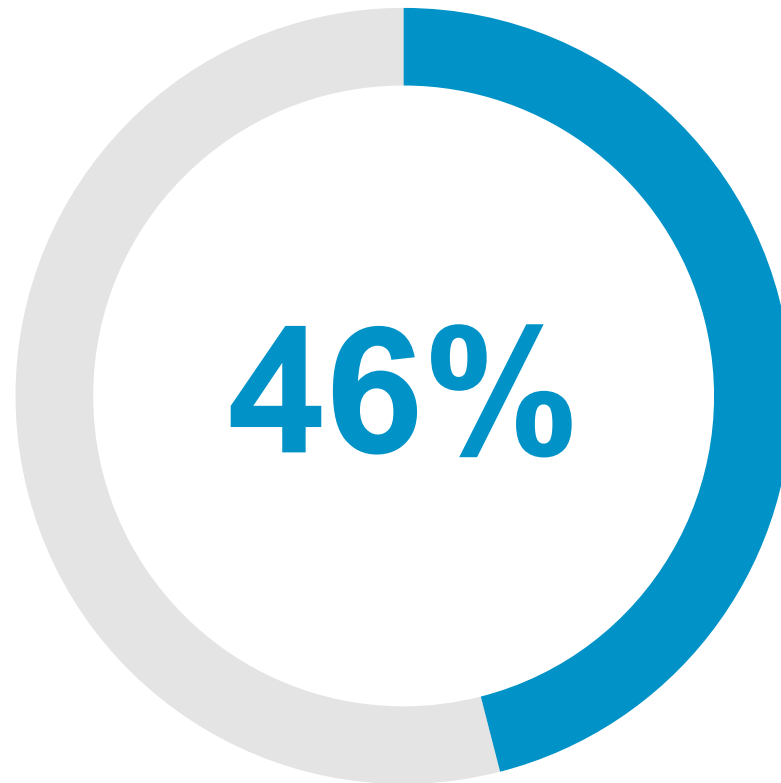
More than half the workforce is worried about losing their job

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?



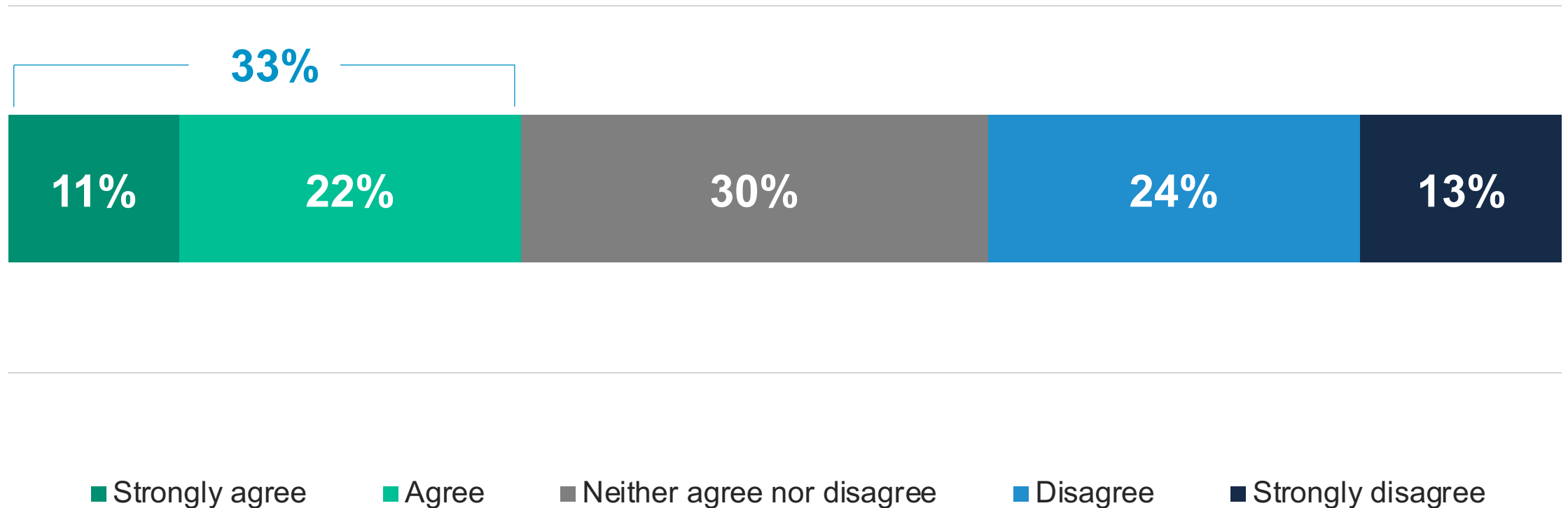
Nearly half the workforce has already lost income

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



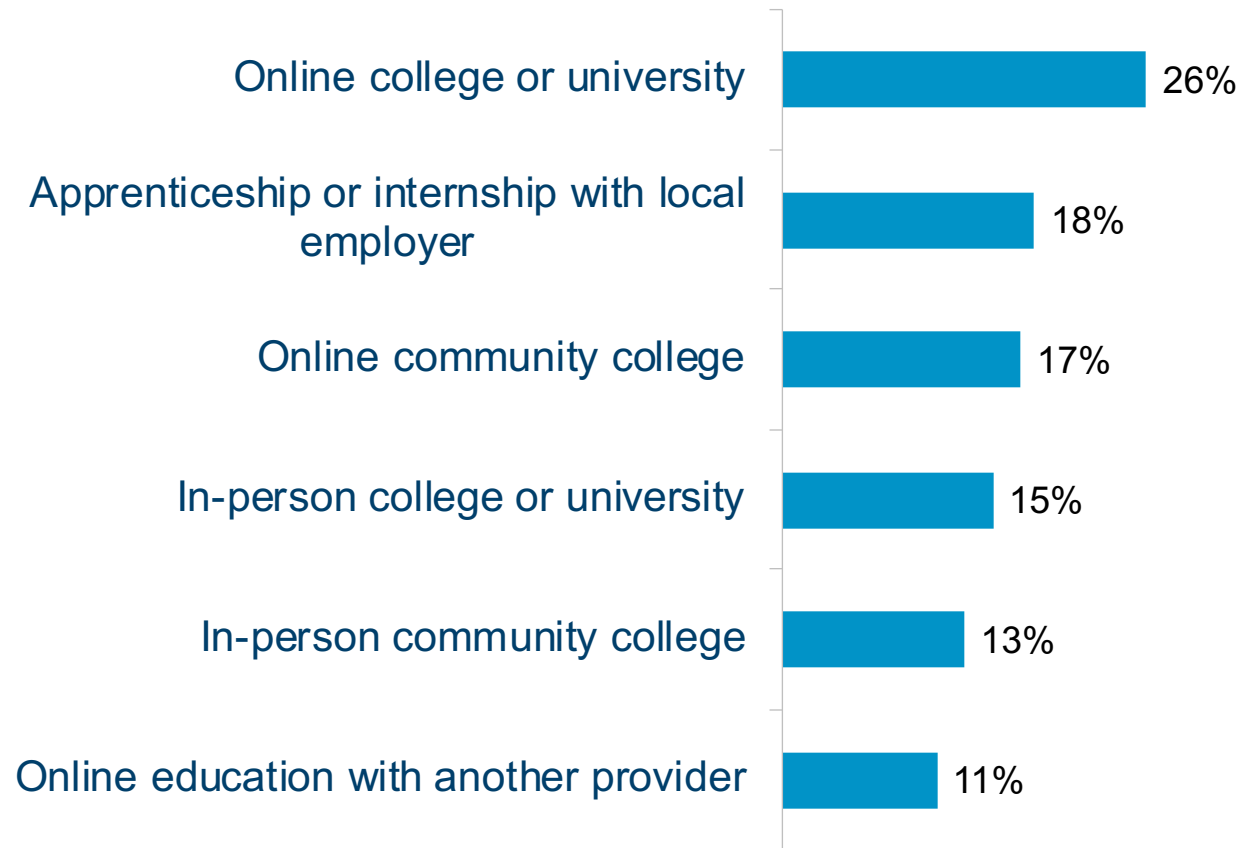
One-third believe they will need more education and training to get a comparable job

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.



Online and employers are preferred education providers

If you had \$5,000 available to invest in your future education or training, where would you prefer to spend it?



Top choices vary by group

- Adults with degrees prefer online college or university (31%).
- Adults with some college and no degree prefer online community college (26%)
- Adults with high school education or less prefer apprenticeship (24%)



Summary

- The majority of Americans are feeling concerned, cautious, and worried, and expect their finances will be negatively impacted by COVID-19.
- More than half of working Americans are worried they will lose their jobs, and nearly half say they have already lost work, wages and income because of the coronavirus.
- A third believe that if they lose their jobs, they will need additional education to find another job with the same wages or income.
- If Americans could choose where to receive education and training, their top preferences are online colleges and universities, apprenticeships/internships with a local employer, or online community colleges.



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