After weeks of impact to Americans’ emotional and economic well-being because of COVID-19, many are beginning to consider what will come next in their lives. For millions of them, those plans include decisions about education and training. But what is happening to their current education and future plans? Where and when do they expect to enroll? What kind of programs do they want? And where are they turning for advice on their choices?

Responses from more than 8,000 adults now are included in this survey*, updated weekly and designed to track the impact of the pandemic on American lives, work, and education. Its intent is to provide insights to the education and training providers, policymakers, employers, and individual Americans who are navigating the crisis.

### Who has canceled or changed their education plans?

- **About one-third of Americans ages 18 to 64.**
- **Nearly two-thirds of the youngest adults, ages 18 to 24.**

### Who is the most likely to enroll in courses or training?

Among adults who are not currently enrolled, those with postsecondary degrees or credentials report they are more likely to enroll in all types of education within the next six months than those without.

- **Other online nonacademic courses, trainings, or certifications:**
  - 16%
  - 7%
- **Employer:**
  - 14%
  - 7%
- **Apprenticeship or internship with a local employer:**
  - 13%
  - 6%
- **Online-only community colleges, colleges, or universities:**
  - 13%
  - 8%
- **Trade schools/programs:**
  - 10%
  - 5%
- **Four-year college or university:**
  - 9%
  - 4%
- **Community college:**
  - 8%
  - 6%

### Who do Americans turn to for advice on education?

Families are ranked as the most valuable source of advice about education or training for those considering enrolling.

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*Survey completed weekly March 25 through May 14 by Heart+Mind Strategies on behalf of the Center for Consumer Insights.*
Strada Public Viewpoint: COVID-19 Work and Education Survey

Interview Dates: May 13-14, 2020

Audience: National online survey of Americans ages 18 and above. Quotas and weights based on the U.S. Census were used to ensure results that are nationally representative by age, gender, race/ethnicity, education level, and region. Sample size: n=1,010. Where noted, data are aggregated across multiple weeks.

1. 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 19%
   b. Very worried 17%
   c. Somewhat worried 27%
   d. Not very worried 18%
   e. Not at all worried 19%

   *Base: Individuals who were employed full-time, part-time, or self-employed, aggregated across multiple weeks, n=4,346.

2. Did you lose your job, or have your hours or income from work been reduced because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation?
   a. Yes 52%
   b. No 48%

   *Base: Americans age 18+, aggregated across multiple weeks, n=5,529.
3. 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 12%
   b. Agree 21%
   c. Neither agree nor disagree 32%
   d. Disagree 22%
   e. Strongly disagree 14%

   *Base: Individuals who were in the workforce: (employed full-time, part-time, self-employed, or unemployed looking for work), aggregated across multiple weeks, n=4,782.

4. What best describes any ways you have adjusted your education plans because of the coronavirus outbreak?

   a. Have cancelled plans 14%
   b. Have changed plans 20%
   c. No change 26%
   d. Not applicable 39%

   *Base: Americans age 18-65, aggregated across multiple weeks, n=6,428. Numbers do not add to 100 due to rounding

5. Which of the following best describes how your education plans have changed? [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

   a. Started or enrolled in courses, training, or program 14%
   b. Delayed planned enrollment in courses, training, or program 37%
   c. Reduced the number of courses or amount of training 26%
   d. Changed the school or provider of courses or training 20%
   e. Changed my field of study or major 11%

   *Base: Americans age 18-65 who have adjusted education plans, aggregated across multiple weeks, n=511.

6. 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 3%
   d. Within 1 year 4%
   e. Within 2 years 6%
   f. Within 5 years 8%
   g. Will not enroll 75%
Community college
   a. Within 1 month 1%
   b. Within 3 months 3%
   c. Within 6 months 5%
   d. Within 1 year 6%
   e. Within 2 years 5%
   f. Within 5 years 7%
   g. Will not enroll 73%

Trade Schools/Programs
   a. Within 1 month 1%
   b. Within 3 months 2%
   c. Within 6 months 5%
   d. Within 1 year 6%
   e. Within 2 years 6%
   f. Within 5 years 8%
   g. Will not enroll 72%

Employer
   a. Within 1 month 2%
   b. Within 3 months 5%
   c. Within 6 months 5%
   d. Within 1 year 8%
   e. Within 2 years 6%
   f. Within 5 years 8%
   g. Will not enroll 66%

Online-only community colleges, colleges, or universities
   a. Within 1 month 2%
   b. Within 3 months 4%
   c. Within 6 months 6%
   d. Within 1 year 7%
   e. Within 2 years 6%
   f. Within 5 years 8%
   g. Will not enroll 66%

Other online non-academic courses, trainings, or certifications
   a. Within 1 month 3%
   b. Within 3 months 5%
   c. Within 6 months 6%
   d. Within 1 year 7%
   e. Within 2 years 7%
   f. Within 5 years 8%
   g. Will not enroll 64%
**Apprenticeship or internship with a local employer**

a. Within 1 month 3%
b. Within 3 months 4%
c. Within 6 months 4%
d. Within 1 year 6%
e. Within 2 years 5%
f. Within 5 years 8%
g. Will not enroll 72%

*Base: Americans age 18-65 who are not currently enrolled, aggregated across multiple weeks, n=1,542.*

7. **When it comes to getting more education or training, please rank how valuable advice from each of the following would be for you personally, where a rank of 1 is “most valuable” and a rank of 7 is “least valuable”**.

**Employers**

a. Ranked first 16%

**Colleges/universities or community colleges**

a. Ranked first 21%

**Information provided by state or local government**

a. Ranked first 8%

**Internet search**

a. Ranked first 13%

**Family**

a. Ranked first 29%

**Community organization**

a. Ranked first 4%

**Church/Faith Community**

a. Ranked first 9%

*Base: Americans age 18-65 who are considering enrolling in the next five years, aggregated across multiple weeks, n=1,619.*