Strada Public Viewpoint: COVID-19 Work and Education Survey

Interview Dates: Sept. 2-3, 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=1,008.

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

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

a. Strongly agree 21%
b. Agree 32%
c. Neither agree nor disagree 28%
d. Disagree 11%
e. Strongly disagree 9%

Getting more education or training would be worth the cost.

a. Strongly agree 17%
b. Agree 25%
c. Neither agree nor disagree 31%
d. Disagree 16%
e. Strongly disagree 11%

*Base: Individuals who were in the workforce: (employed full-time or part-time, self-employed, or unemployed looking for work) n=651.

2. 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 12%
b. One or more courses for personal interests or hobbies 10%
c. A certificate, certification, or license 14%
d. An associate degree 7%
e. A bachelor's degree 7%
f. A graduate degree 5%
g. I do not plan to enroll in any kind of education or training within the next six months 46%
3. Please carefully review the list below and select the single most important item to you personally.
   a. Pay my bills/take care of immediate needs 35%
   b. Provide a better quality of life for me/my family 31%
   c. Do/find something I love 19%
   d. Qualify/apply for good jobs/jobs I want 10%
   e. Give me more flexibility in my schedule 6%

4. Now please carefully review the list below and select the most important feeling or emotional consequence to you personally that results from being able to [INSERT RESPONSE FROM QUESTION 3.]
   a. Feel a sense of purpose and direction 28%
   b. Feel driven, confident and prepared 19%
   c. Feel like a good parent/spouse/partner 22%
   d. Feel less stress and in control 31%

5. 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 11%
   b. Somewhat more likely to enroll 14%
   c. No change 58%
   d. Somewhat less likely to enroll 7%
   e. Much less likely to enroll 11%

6. How much do you worry about the following?

   Having enough to eat for myself/my family
   a. A lot 21%
   b. Quite a bit 16%
   c. Some 19%
   d. Not very much 18%
   e. Not at all 26%

   Paying my rent or mortgage
   a. A lot 21%
   b. Quite a bit 16%
   c. Some 19%
   d. Not very much 17%
   e. Not at all 27%

   Health and safety of myself/my family
   a. A lot 33%
b. Quite a bit 21%
c. Some 24%
d. Not very much 13%
e. Not at all 9%

**Having a steady paycheck or source of income**

a. A lot 26%
b. Quite a bit 17%
c. Some 22%
d. Not very much 13%
e. Not at all 21%

**Finding a job and career I love**

a. A lot 17%
b. Quite a bit 16%
c. Some 20%
d. Not very much 13%
e. Not at all 35%

7. **My most recent experience with education was:**

a. Very positive 20%
b. Somewhat positive 21%
c. Neither positive nor negative 40%
d. Somewhat negative 12%
e. Very negative 7%

8. **How well do you feel you understand the following?**

**Different career paths I could pursue with my current skills**

a. I understand this very well 36%
b. I have some understanding of this 34%
c. I don’t know very much about this 16%
d. I don’t know anything about this 13%

**My strengths, aptitudes and abilities as a person**

a. I understand this very well 46%
b. I have some understanding of this 33%
c. I don’t know very much about this 12%
d. I don’t know anything about this 9%

**The most valuable skills I should develop through education and training**

a. I understand this very well 36%
b. I have some understanding of this 34%
c. I don’t know very much about this 17%
d. I don’t know anything about this 13%
The cost of tuition, books, and other expenses

a. I understand this very well 34%
b. I have some understanding of this 31%
c. I don’t know very much about this 18%
d. I don’t know anything about this 17%

Length of time to complete an education program

a. I understand this very well 36%
b. I have some understanding of this 33%
c. I don’t know very much about this 16%
d. I don’t know anything about this 14%

Financial aid, scholarships, or loans

a. I understand this very well 29%
b. I have some understanding of this 30%
c. I don’t know very much about this 22%
d. I don’t know anything about this 19%