

## **NORC AmeriSpeak Omnibus Survey: As COVID-19 Continues, 40 Percent of Laid-off Workers Are Turning to Debt to Get By**

### ***Interview Dates***

*May 14-18, 2020*

*Nationally representative sample of 1,001 English-speaking adults age 18 and over, conducted using the AmeriSpeak Panel, the probability-based panel of NORC at the University of Chicago. Of the 1,001 respondents, 124 completed the survey by phone and 877 via the web.*

*The self-funded poll was conducted during a monthly Omnibus survey. It included 1,001 interviews with a nationally representative sample (margin of error +/- 4.37 percent) of adult Americans age 18+ using the AmeriSpeak Panel. AmeriSpeak® is NORC's probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97 percent of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.*

**NOTE:** *All results show percentages among respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Frequencies may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.*

**EMPLOY1. Which of the following describes your current employment status?**

	All	White	Hispanic	College degree	No college degree	Under 30	30 and older
AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020	N=991	N=642	N=145	N=363	N=628	N=171	N=820
Working – as a paid employee	41	39	55	49	37	48	40
Working – self-employed	8	9	6	9	7	8	8
<b>Not working – temporarily laid off or furloughed since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Not working – permanently laid off since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>
Not working – unemployed, looking for work since before the COVID-19 pandemic	3	2	3	1	4	9	2
Not working – retired	24	28	7	26	23	0	29
Not working – disabled	6	6	7	2	9	2	7
Not working – other	6	6	6	6	7	13	5

\*Excluded 10 missing

**IMPACT. Since these guidelines were announced, has your household's income increased, remained the same, or decreased?**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=983)</b>
Increased substantially	3
Increased slightly	9
Remained the same	57
Decreased slightly	17
Decreased substantially	8
I'm no longer earning an income	6

\*Excluded 18 missing

**OUTLOOK. How long do you think it will be before you'll be back to earning what you were before you were affected?**

<b>AmeriSpeak</b>	<b>All adults who had changes to their income (N=434) 4/16/2020 - 4/20/2020</b>	<b>All adults who had changes to their income (N=405) 5/14/2020 - 5/18/2020</b>
1 to 2 months from today	28	24
3 to 5 months from today	32	20
6 to 8 months from today	10	13
9 months to 1 year from today	10	13
More than 1 year from today	5	13
I do not believe my income will ever return to what it was pre-COVID-19	16	17

\*Excluded 19 missing

**COPING. Which of the following is your household doing to get by financially? (Mark all that apply.)**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>	<b>Laid-off adults (N=110)</b>
Not paying or asking for an extension/reduction in regular household bills or housing costs	11	23
Charging expenses on a credit card that you will not be able to pay off in full when the bill is due	10	25
Taking out a short-term loan, such as a payday or title loan	2	6
Withdrawing money from a retirement account, such as a 401(k) or IRA	5	11
Withdrawing money from a savings account you were planning to use for a different expense (like a car or other major purchase)	14	37
Setting up a crowdfunding account (such as GoFundMe)	2	5
Borrowing money from friends or family	6	13
Taking on additional work	9	6
Receiving unemployment	8	24
Skipping meals or eating less	12	21
None of these things	56	20
Other	3	1

**GENDER**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>
Male	46
Female	54

**AGE**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>
18-29	17
30-44	25
45-59	26
60+	32

**RACE / ETHNICITY**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>
White, non-Hispanic	64
Black, non-Hispanic	12
Other, non-Hispanic	2
Hispanic	15
2+, non-Hispanic	4
Asian, non-Hispanic	3

**EDUCATION**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>
No high school diploma	8
High school graduate or equivalent	26
Some college	29
Bachelor's degree or above	37

**MARITAL STATUS (99)**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>
Married	51
Widowed	5
Divorced	11
Separated	3
Never married	21
Living with partner	8

**HOUSEHOLD INCOME (101)**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>
Less than \$5,000	2
\$5,000 to \$9,999	3
\$10,000 to \$14,999	5
\$15,000 to \$19,999	7
\$20,000 to \$24,999	7
\$25,000 to \$29,999	5
\$30,000 to \$34,999	6
\$35,000 to \$39,999	3
\$40,000 to \$49,999	10
\$50,000 to \$59,999	7
\$60,000 to \$74,999	7
\$75,000 to \$84,999	5
\$85,000 to \$99,999	11
\$100,000 to \$124,999	8
\$125,000 to \$149,999	6
\$150,000 to \$174,999	2
\$175,000 to \$199,999	2
\$200,000 or more	5

**REGION**

<b>AmeriSpeak 5/14/2020 – 5/18/2020</b>	<b>All adults (N=1001)</b>
Northeast	17
Midwest	22
South	38
West	23