

NORC AmeriSpeak Omnibus Survey: Despite Concerns about Being Out of Work, Americans Increase Spending to Stockpile Goods

Interview Dates: March 12-16, 2020

Nationally representative sample of 1,003 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 1,003 respondents, 139 completed the survey by phone and 864 via the web.

The self-funded poll was conducted during a monthly Omnibus survey. It included 1,003 interviews with a nationally representative sample (margin of error +/- 4.3 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.*

BVI3. How concerned are you that you might be laid off or unable to work due to the impacts of the coronavirus?

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Employed Adults (N=490)
Extremely concerned	8
Very concerned	10
Somewhat concerned	31
Not very concerned	26
Not at all concerned	24
Don't know	1

***Excluded Missing N=1*

BVI4. Does your employer offer you the following benefits (even if you do not personally use the benefit)? (Select all that apply)

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Employed Adults (N=491)
Paid sick leave	64
Paid vacation/personal leave	75
Health insurance	72
Ability to work from home	33
Short-term disability insurance	53
Long-term disability insurance	50

BVI8. Have you or someone else in your household purchased extra household “emergency” goods in response to a potential coronavirus outbreak?

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1000)
Yes, I have	34
No, but I plan to	21
No, and I do not plan to	42
I don't know	3

***Excluded Missing N=3*

BVI9. How much would you say [that you've spent/you intend to spend] on these extra household emergency goods?

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=514)
Less than \$200	66
\$201 - \$400	24
\$401 - \$600	3
\$601 - \$800	1
\$801 - \$1000	1
More than \$1000	1
Not sure	4

***Excluded Missing N=1*

BVI10. Did/Will you use any of the following methods to pay for these extra household goods? (Select all that apply)

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	BVI8=1 or 2 (N=515)
Money I had been planning to spend on something else (for example, I purchased extra goods instead of paying a household bill)	29
Credit cards I am not sure I'll be able to pay off in full when the bill is due	20
Savings I had intended to spend on something else (for example, money I was saving for a car or other major purchase)	31
A short-term loan (for example, a payday loan or title loan)	7

BVI3 * BVI4D. Whether having "working from home" benefit has any impact on concerned workers and less concerned workers

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	Have Working from Home Benefit (N=172)	Do Not Have Working from Home Benefit (N=285)
Less concerned workers	73	38
Concerned workers	27	62

***More concerned group included respondents indicating they feel extremely/very/somewhat concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19, and less concerned group included respondents indicating they feel not very/not at all concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19.*

BVI8 * BVI3. Whether or not purchased extra household “emergency” goods between concerned workers and less concerned workers

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	Less Concerned Workers (N=267)	Concerned Workers (N=223)
Yes, I have	30	41
No, but I plan to	19	19
No, and I do not plan to	47	37
I don't know	4	3

***More concerned group included respondents indicating they feel extremely/very/somewhat concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19, and less concerned group included respondents indicating they feel not very/not at all concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19.*

NOTE: Numbers reported subject to rounding.

BVI9 * BVI3. Spending difference between concerned workers and less concerned workers

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	Less Concerned Workers (N=121)	Concerned Workers (N=145)
Less than \$200	78	59
\$201 - \$400	20	29
\$401 - \$600	1	6
\$601 - \$800	0	1
\$801 - \$1000	1	3
More than \$1000	0	1
Not sure	1	2

***More concerned group included respondents indicating they feel extremely/very/somewhat concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19, and less concerned group included respondents indicating they feel not very/not at all concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19.*

NOTE: Numbers reported subject to rounding.

Age * concerned workers and less concerned workers

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	Less Concerned Workers (N=267)	Concerned Workers (N=223)
18-24 year olds	28	72
25 and older	55	45

***More concerned group included respondents indicating they feel extremely/very/somewhat concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19, and less concerned group included respondents indicating they feel not very/not at all concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19.*

Race Ethnicity * concerned workers and less concerned workers

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	Less Concerned Workers (N=267)	Concerned Workers (N=223)
White	55	45
People of color	45	55

***More concerned group included respondents indicating they feel extremely/very/somewhat concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19, and less concerned group included respondents indicating they feel not very/not at all concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19.*

Education * concerned workers and less concerned workers

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	Less Concerned Workers (N=267)	Concerned Workers (N=223)
Without a college degree	40	60
With a college degree	66	34

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Income level * concerned workers and less concerned workers

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	Less Concerned Workers (N=267)	Concerned Workers (N=223)
With incomes less than \$40K	35	65
With incomes greater than \$40K	58	42

***More concerned group included respondents indicating they feel extremely/very/somewhat concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19, and less concerned group included respondents indicating they feel not very/not at all concerned about getting laid off or unable to work due to impacts of COVID-19.*

Demographics

GENDER

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1003)
Male	48
Female	52

AGE

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1003)
18-29	21
30-44	26
45-59	23
60+	29

RACE / ETHNICITY

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1003)
White, non-Hispanic	63
Black, non-Hispanic	12
Other, non-Hispanic	1
Hispanic	16
2+, non-Hispanic	3
Asian, non-Hispanic	4

EDUCATION

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1003)
No HS diploma	11
HS graduate or equivalent	28
Some college	28
BA or above	33

MARITAL STATUS

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1003)
Married	48
Widowed	5
Divorced	11
Separated	2
Never married	25
Living with partner	7

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1000)
Working – as a paid employee	49
Working – self-employed	9
Not working – on temporary layoff from a job	2
Not working – looking for work	4
Not working – retired	21
Not working – disabled	10
Not working – other	5

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1003)
Less than \$5,000	3
\$5,000 to \$9,999	4
\$10,000 to \$14,999	5
\$15,000 to \$19,999	6
\$20,000 to \$24,999 w	6
\$25,000 to \$29,999	5
\$30,000 to \$34,999	6
\$35,000 to \$39,999	3
\$40,000 to \$49,999	9
\$50,000 to \$59,999	11
\$60,000 to \$74,999	9
\$75,000 to \$84,999	7
\$85,000 to \$99,999	8
\$100,000 to \$124,999	9
\$125,000 to \$149,999	4
\$150,000 to \$174,999	3
\$175,000 to \$199,999	1
\$200,000 or more	2

REGION

AmeriSpeak 3/12/2020 - 3/16/2020	All Adults (N=1003)
Northeast	17
Midwest	21
South	38
West	24