

Coronavirus: Impact on the World of Work

We are in a completely unprecedented situation. The worldwide coronavirus pandemic has changed the way businesses operate and the way individuals think about their jobs.

As a result of the crisis, our team at Bluecrew wanted to get a better understanding of how Americans are thinking about their jobs, the hiring market, the federal government's coronavirus response, and more.

We surveyed more than 1,600 American workers and analyzed their responses to uncover the perspectives across different types of workers.

These 6 trends showed the clearest picture of how coronavirus has impacted the world of work.





Trend 1:
Americans are worried about finding work.

There is a mounting concern across the population about job market recovery and not being able to find work.

46%

of Americans surveyed are concerned that they won't be able to find a new job if they lose their current position.

For hourly jobs, this struggle to find new work is already apparent. Of survey respondents who are looking for a new hourly job (approximately a quarter of those surveyed)...

51%

said that there aren't many jobs available

30%

said that there aren't jobs available that they are qualified for

Deep Dive: Hourly & Gig Workers



56% are concerned they won't be able to find a new job (10% higher than the total population).



More than a third think it will take 11 months or longer for the job market to recover.



Trend 2: The CARES Act is causing confusion.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides relief for American workers, small businesses, industries, and state/local governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For individual American workers, some of the most widely-known benefits of the CARES Act include:

- A stimulus check of up to \$1,200 per person, plus \$500 per dependent child, for qualifying taxpayers.
- An additional \$600 per week in unemployment benefits provided by the federal government.
- Up to 13 weeks of additional unemployment benefits.
- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance for those not typically eligible for unemployment benefits, such as gig workers.

But a lot of workers are unaware of the recently-passed CARES Act or don't know what the act includes, and many are confused about whether or not they qualify.

Of the general population...



Nearly half do not know how to receive CARES Act benefits and **2 in 5** are unaware of the expanded unemployment benefits the act provides.

Breaking it down, it's clear that workers are struggling to identify if they are covered by the CARES Act and how to access the aid that is offered.

Among hourly & gig workers...

44%

don't know how to receive CARES Act benefits.

28%

are confused about how to receive benefits.

19%

are unaware of the CARES Act.



Trend 3: Workers are afraid that systems are too overloaded to provide benefits.



Across the population, **40%** of individuals are concerned that they won't be able to access unemployment or assistance due to technical glitches or confusing processes.



The concern is significant, as **nearly a third** of all respondents have either filed or plan to file for unemployment.

Both fear and the effects of unemployment are concentrated in hourly & gig workers.

47%

are concerned about being unable to access unemployment or other assistance programs.

29%

have had their hours reduced.

45%

have either already filed or plan to file for unemployment.

21%

have had their place of business close.



**Trend 4:
Nearly everyone is feeling the panic.**

70%

of Americans are worried about making ends meet during the pandemic, and more than one-third plan to use their stimulus check for basic living expenses. Clearly, a large portion of Americans are struggling to make ends meet.

Two of the most impacted groups are hourly workers & gig workers.

Hourly & Gig Workers

8 in 10

are worried about making ends meet

41%

plan to use their stimulus check for basic living expenses

Are most concerned about



1. Paying for basic living expenses



2. Health & safety

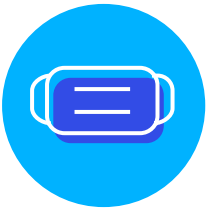


Trend 5: Workers are anxious about exposure to coronavirus.



Among the general population, **more than a third** are worried about being exposed to COVID-19 at work. This is an even bigger fear for hourly & gig workers.

What would make them feel safer?



1. Masks



2. Better personal protective material



3. Limiting the number of people in the workplace

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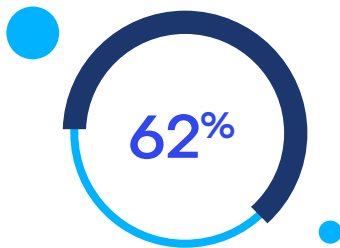
Nearly 1 in 5 are considering quitting their job because of the possibility of exposure.



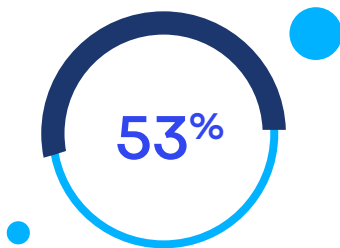
Trend 6: Employers aren't offering more.

As much as workers have been impacted, employers have been, too. Some have had to close during “shelter-in-place”, and others have needed to adapt their processes to accommodate social distancing and increased sanitization.

Yet one thing most companies haven't done is offer help.



62% of Americans say their employers have not offered any additional relief or benefits to workers.



53% of hourly & gig workers report that their employers have not offered any additional relief or benefits.

For the people on the front lines keeping essential businesses open, this can be a big concern.

Changing the world of work

What are American businesses going to look like on the other side of the coronavirus pandemic? We don't know.

But we believe companies that adapt their processes to keep employees safe and those that are ready with a plan of action when they're able to re-open will have a leg up on their competition.

Whether you're scaling operations to keep up with new demands or preparing to re-open your doors in the near future, Bluecrew is here to help. You can learn more about our simple, scalable staffing solutions at bluecrewjobs.com.