Perceptions of the Pandemic and its Effects

May 21, 2020

Arizona State University

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC
Methodology
How the poll was conducted

- Fielded from 4/24/2020 to 5/7/2020 (by Hootology)
- 813 Arizonans (via Innovate)
- Web-based (desktop and mobile devices)
- 10-minute average completion time
- Balanced for age, gender, ethnicity, region
- American Indian, Hispanic, and rural residents were oversampled
- Margin of error is +/- 3 percentage points (95% confidence level)
The poll in context

3/15: Arizona closes public schools

3/30: Arizona executive “stay home” order

4/24-5/7: Morrison Institute-Arizona Republic poll in field

5/15: Arizona executive order expires

3/27: CARES Act is signed ($2T)

4/13: Americans begin receiving stimulus checks

5/8: Arizona “soft” reopen
Government response and policy options
Rating government entities

How would you rate the response of your government entities to COVID-19? Rate the response to COVID-19 on each government level.

Percent of Arizonans who rank each government entity as “good” or “excellent”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government Entity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-12 School Administration(s)</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State government</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County government</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal government</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Municipal government</td>
<td>27%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
39% Urban Arizonans Rated the state government response to COVID-19 as “excellent” or “good.”

30% Rural Arizonans
Civil liberties and public health

Do you agree with the following statement …
The right balance has been struck between civil liberties and public health in the COVID-19 response.

- Yes, I agree. 48%
- No, more priority should be placed on public health. 34%
- No, more priority should be placed on civil liberties. 18%
Do you agree with the following statement …
The right balance has been struck between civil liberties and public health in the COVID-19 response.

Yes, I agree.
- Not Affiliated with a Party: 45%
- Republican: 49%
- Democrat: 50%

No, more priority should be placed on civil liberties.
- Not Affiliated with a Party: 17%
- Republican: 27%
- Democrat: 11%

No, more priority should be placed on public health.
- Not Affiliated with a Party: 38%
- Republican: 24%
- Democrat: 39%
Arizonans of all income levels and education levels believe that Arizona should routinely assess public health emergency preparedness with agreement increasing as incomes and educations increase.

### Arizonans who agree or strongly agree Arizona should routinely assess public health emergency preparedness, by income

- **Greater than $150,000**: 96%
- **$100,001 - $150,000**: 85%
- **$75,001 - $100,000**: 82%
- **$50,001 - $75,000**: 77%
- **$25,000 - $50,000**: 80%
- **Less than $25,000**: 71%

### Arizonans who agree or strongly agree Arizona should routinely assess public health emergency preparedness, by education

- **Master’s degree or higher**: 93%
- **Four-year college or university graduate**: 79%
- **Community College Degree (AA) or technical college graduate**: 80%
- **High school or GED**: 73%
- **Have not graduated high school**: 55%
Sixty-one percent of Arizonans agree or strongly agree that the U.S. should provide health care coverage for all citizens.

Registered voters who agree or strongly agree that the U.S. should provide health care coverage for all citizens, by party affiliation

- Republican: 36%
- Not affiliated with a party: 59%
- Democrat: 81%
Seventy percent of Arizonans believe that Arizona should increase funding for public health agencies. Agreement with this statement varies with education. Highly educated Arizonans tend to agree with this statement at higher rates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have not graduated high school</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school or GED</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community College Degree (AA) or technical college graduate</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four-year college or university graduate</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s degree or higher</td>
<td>93%</td>
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The economy and housing
Overall financial position

More than half of Arizonans (56%) say they are doing about as well as they were last year financially.

Compared with one year ago, are you better off financially, about the same, or worse off?

- Better off: April/May 2020 - 16%, June/July 2019 - 21%
- About the same: April/May 2020 - 56%, June/July 2019 - 55%
- Worse off: April/May 2020 - 29%, June/July 2019 - 23%

How would you describe the economic impact COVID-19 has had on your household?

- Strong positive impact: 4%
- Positive impact: 6%
- No impact: 33%
- Negative impact: 43%
- Strong negative impact: 13%
Perceptions of personal financial position

To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the financial impact COVID-19 has had on your household?

- **I was struggling financially before COVID-19 started.**
  - Strongly Agree/Agree: 31%
  - Neutral: 21%
  - Disagree/Strongly Disagree: 47%

- **I have increased the amount I am saving since COVID-19 started.**
  - Strongly Agree/Agree: 67%
  - Neutral: 17%
  - Disagree/Strongly Disagree: 18%

- **I am struggling financially since COVID-19 started.**
  - Strongly Agree/Agree: 40%
  - Neutral: 20%
  - Disagree/Strongly Disagree: 40%

- **I have reduced my spending since COVID-19 started.**
  - Strongly Agree/Agree: 39%
  - Neutral: 25%
  - Disagree/Strongly Disagree: 37%
More than half of Arizonans say they will spend their stimulus check on necessities.

If I receive a stimulus check from the government, I will …
(check all that apply)

- Spend it on necessities, like housing costs, groceries, or utility bills: 55%
- Save it: 45%
- Invest it: 12%
- Donate it: 9%
- Spend it on non-necessities, like entertainment or hobbies: 8%
- Other: 5%
Loss of income during the pandemic

Arizonans with lower incomes have been more likely to be furloughed or to have lost their jobs.
Furloughs and layoffs, by age and education

Younger, older, and less-educated workers have been particularly hard-hit by the pandemic.
Support for small businesses, by HH income

Since COVID-19, has any of the following changed for your household? Supporting small businesses.

- **Less than $25,000**
  - Increased: 57%
  - About the same: 31%
  - Decreased: 12%

- **$25,000 - $50,000**
  - Increased: 48%
  - About the same: 27%
  - Decreased: 25%

- **$50,001 - $75,000**
  - Increased: 55%
  - About the same: 19%
  - Decreased: 25%

- **$75,001 - $100,000**
  - Increased: 41%
  - About the same: 20%
  - Decreased: 20%

- **$100,001 - $150,000**
  - Increased: 46%
  - About the same: 40%
  - Decreased: 14%

- **Greater than $150,000**
  - Increased: 56%
  - About the same: 36%
  - Decreased: 7%
What is most true about your work environment and the protective health gear available (masks, gloves, shields, etc.)?

- We have all the protective health gear that we need.
- We have some protective health gear but not enough.
- We do not have any protective health gear.
Perceptions of telework

Most people agree office jobs can be done as effectively from home (60%) and agree teleworking should continue once COVID-19 restrictions ease (55%).

Most office jobs can be done as effectively from home as from an office.

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<th>Agree</th>
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<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>43%</td>
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Teleworking should continue once COVID-19 restrictions ease.

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Almost one-third of Arizonans (29%) feel like their housing situation is less secure than before COVID-19.
Missed rent/mortgage, by HH income

Arizonans in the highest income brackets missed their rent or mortgage payments more than lower income Arizonans.

Have you missed a rent or mortgage payment as a result of COVID-19?

- Less than $25,000: 18%
- $25,000 - $50,000: 15%
- $50,001 - $75,000: 9%
- $75,001 - $100,000: 16%
- $100,001 - $150,000: 22%
- Greater than $150,000: 35%
Education and health
Parents with children from low income families are less likely to say that their children have the technology necessary to engage in online learning and are less likely to say that their children are actively engaged in online learning.

- **My children have the necessary technology to fully engage in online learning (agree/strongly agree).**
  - Less than $25,000: 67%
  - $25,000-$50,000: 62%
  - $50,001-$75,000: 70%
  - $75,001-$100,000: 78%
  - $100,001-$150,000: 86%
  - Greater than $150,000: 91%

- **My child/children are actively engaged in learning (agree/strongly agree).**
  - Less than $25,000: 53%
  - $25,000-$50,000: 57%
  - $50,001-$75,000: 66%
  - $75,001-$100,000: 61%
  - $100,001-$150,000: 79%
  - Greater than $150,000: 88%
Concern about disruption to learning

In contrast, parents of children in higher income brackets are more likely to be concerned that their child will fall behind in school. People with higher household incomes are also more likely to be concerned that COVID-19 will decrease the chance their child will graduate high school.

![Graph showing concern over household income](image-url)
Concern about learning disruption, by race

Percent of parent/guardians who agree/strongly agree with: I worry that my child(ren) will fall behind.

- African American/Black: 67%
- Hispanic: 63%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 61%
- Other: 60%
- Caucasian/White (Non-Hispanic): 44%
- Asian American or Pacific Islander: 28%
Concern about completing high school

I am concerned the COVID-19 disruption will decrease my child(ren)’s likelihood of graduating high school.

- Hispanic: 49%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 48%
- African American/Black: 38%
- Caucasian/White (Non-Hispanic): 28%
- Asian American or Pacific Islander: 22%
Personal precautions during the pandemic

Most Arizonans (75%) say they are taking all the COVID-19 precautions they want to take. However, income and access to protective gear are reported to be the top barriers to preventing Arizonans from taking all the precautions they would want to take to minimize exposure to the coronavirus.

- Income: 49%
- Access to protective gear: 48%
- Access to cleaning supplies: 44%
- Family members/roommates: 31%
- Living arrangement: 25%
- Transportation limitations: 22%
- I am an essential worker: 21%
- Employer expectations: 18%
- Unexpected emergency: 16%
- Access to clean water for hygiene: 9%
- I am taking care of someone outside my home: 6%
Of the Arizonans who have used telemedicine during COVID-19, an most are satisfied or very satisfied.

If you used telemedicine during COVID-19, how satisfied were you with the medical care you received? (n=253)

- Very satisfied: 34%
- Satisfied: 48%
- Somewhat satisfied: 12%
- Dissatisfied: 6%

20% of Arizonans have used telemedicine for the first time during COVID-19.
Half of Arizonans say that they are cooking more since COVID-19 and 28% of Arizonans say they are exercising more and eating healthy more since COVID-19.

- 53% of Arizonans say they are cooking more since COVID-19
- 28% of Arizonans say they are exercising more since COVID-19
- 28% of Arizonans say they are eating healthy more often since COVID-19
Social distancing, general population

In the last 24 hours, other than the people in your household, how many different individuals have you been within six feet of?

- 37% of people have been within six feet of 0 people.
- 32% have been within six feet of 1-3 people.
- 16% have been within six feet of 4-7 people.
- 11% have been within six feet of 8-20 people.
- 4% have been within six feet of 21+ people.
Gain more insight.