

# Gates Foundation COVID-19 Tracker Analysis

Wave #6 (May 22-26, 2020) - New York Quick-takes

Civis Analytics fielded a survey with 753 New York respondents on May 22-26, 2020. Below are some key takeaways from this week's research.

## New York State Highlights

### Education Highlights

55.8% of parents in New York reported that their children's plans for after high school have changed because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic or school closures, slightly more than parents of high school students nationwide (44.9%). When asked how their high school children's plans have changed, respondents most commonly indicated that their children have postponed their plans (44.2% NY, 47.3% US). Parents also reported that their high school children switched to a less expensive option (32.0% NY, 30.6% US) or an option closer to home (29.8% NY, 31.8% US).

### Have your high school child(ren)'s plans for after high school changed because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic or school closures?

US Margin of Error = 3.1%, NY Margin of Error = 11.1%

Asked to all respondents with children in high school

% of parents whose childrens' postsecondary plans have changed					
US	WA	NY	OH	FL	TX
44.9%	34.5%	55.8%	39.5%	42.4%	44.9%

### How have your high school child(ren)'s plans changed? Select all that apply.

US Margin of Error = 4.5%, NY Margin of Error = 13.8%

Asked to all parents who reported that childrens' postsecondary plans changed

Change (% response)	US	NY
Postponed plans	47.3%	44.2%
Switched to an option closer to home	31.8%	32.0%
Switched to a less expensive option	30.6%	29.8%
Other	3.6%	1.2%

We see similar trends among current postsecondary students. When asked if their plans to continue or complete their postsecondary program changed because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic or

school closures, 64.8% of New York respondents and 67.8% of national respondents currently enrolled in postsecondary education reported their plans have changed. Student responses for ways their plans have changed were fairly evenly distributed between 4 different ways, both in New York and nationally: students are postponing enrollment (19.2% NY, 21.5% US), taking a semester or year off (30.0% NY, 27.6% US), changing plans for the current semester (29.3% NY, 29.9% US), and changing plans for the next semester (31.1% NY, 30.3% US). Students in New York were less likely to transfer to another school due to COVID-19 than the other options (8.9%) and less than the overall US (17.3%) overall, but not a statistically significant difference.

Just over half of parents in New York (58.7%) and nationally (56.4%) describe their child(ren)'s homework workload as the right amount of work. 35.0% of New Yorkers report that teachers or schools are requiring their children to complete too much work at home, slightly higher than the 30.2% of national respondents. Far fewer parents (6.3% NY, 13.3% US) describe their child(ren)'s workload as not enough work.

**How would you describe the amount of work that teachers or schools are requiring your children to complete at home?**

US Margin of Error = 2.8%, NY Margin of Error = 9.2%

Workload (% response)	US	TX	NY	OH	FL	WA
Too much work	30.2%	29.7%	35.0%	27.5%	40.2%	28.8%
The right amount of work	58.2%	58.6%	58.7%	62.0%	52.3%	56.2%
Not enough work	13.3%	11.7%	6.3%	10.5%	7.5%	15.0%

When parents were asked to describe the expectations that their child(ren)'s teachers or school have for the work they are completing at home, respondents in New York and nationally were fairly aligned in their answers. Respondents most commonly indicated that teachers or schools were expecting the right amount (58.6% NY, 59.8% US). Just over a third of New York respondents (34.1%) and just under a third of national respondents (30.7%) reported that teachers or schools were expecting too much for the work their child(ren) completed at home. A small percentage of parents (7.3% NY, 9.5% US) described the expectations as not enough.

**How would you describe the expectations your child(ren)'s teachers or school have for the work they are completing at home?**

US Margin of Error = 2.8%, NY Margin of Error = 9.2%

Expectation (% response)	US	TX	NY	OH	FL	WA
Expecting too much	30.7%	28.2%	34.1%	23.3%	40.4%	36.1%

Expecting the right amount	59.8%	66.2%	58.6%	69.8%	57.1%	52.8%
Not expecting enough	9.5%	5.7%	7.3%	6.8%	2.5%	11.1%

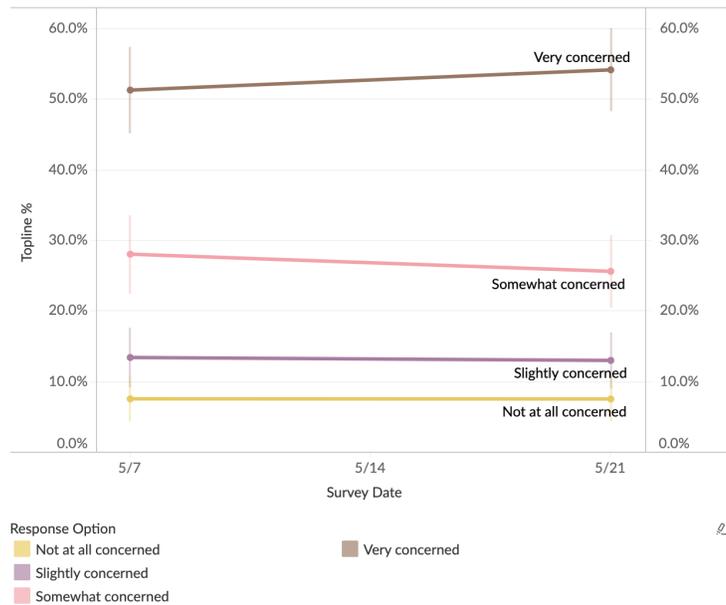
## New York Overall Highlights

### How concerned are you about Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

New Yorkers are maintaining a high level of concern about coronavirus and possibly showing an upward trend. Additionally, New Yorkers continue to be concerned about the effects of Coronavirus on their families and communities.

#### Attitudes Concern Level in NY

Question Text: "How concerned are you about Coronavirus (COVID-19)?"



When asked about activities they've done during coronavirus, New Yorkers most commonly reported that in the last week they made time to relax (4.47 avg days), connected with family (4.15 avg days), spent time on social media (4.12 avg days), and exercised (3.17 avg days). New Yorkers also reported participating in the following activities far less in the last week: drank alcohol (1.65 avg days), used marijuana (1.05 days), used non-marijuana drugs (0.76 avg days), meditated (1.55 avg days), smoked cigarettes (1.29 avg days), and used e-cigarettes or vaped (0.87 days).

Looking closer at alcohol consumption, respondents who consumed alcohol in the last 7 days most commonly reported having only 1 alcoholic drink on a typical day when they drank (31.3% NY, 32.2% US). Just 4.3% of New Yorkers and 4.5% of national respondents drank 9 or more drinks on a typical day in the last week. For New Yorkers, binge drinking was more common in males than females; males who drank at all reported binge drinking a mean of 2.17 days per week, while females who drank at all reported binge drinking a mean of 1.09 days per week.

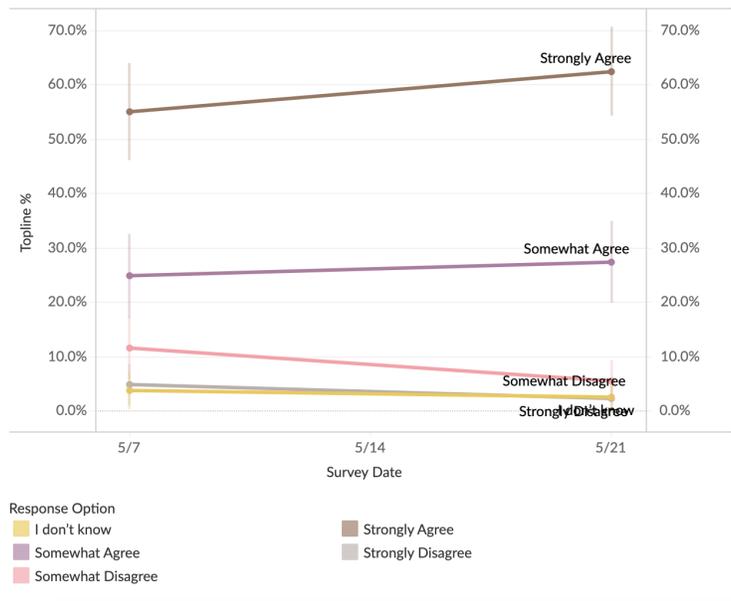
While New Yorkers and national respondents report either slightly or strongly trusting radio broadcasts (49.4% NY, 49.1% US), local newspapers (60.3% NY, 58.5% US), and Church communications (42.6% NY, 47.8% US), far less use these sources for Coronavirus information. When asked about the information sources they used to learn about the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the past 7 days, only 16.3% of New Yorkers used radio broadcasts, 27.7% used local newspapers, and 6.2% used church communications. National responses were similar as 15.9% listened to radio broadcasts, 24.8% read local newspapers, and 7.9% used church communications.

**Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Social/physical distancing is difficult, but it's worth it.**

New Yorkers continue to be committed to social/physical distancing, even though it's difficult. This may also show a possible upward trend in agreement over time.

**Agree Worth It in NY**

Question Text: "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Social/physical distancing is difficult, but it's worth it."



The majority of New York and national respondents either somewhat or strongly agree with taking preventative actions, even after restrictions are lifted, such as: continuing to practice social and physical distancing (85.8% of NY, 83.1% of US), continuing to wash hands frequently (91% NY, 89.7% US), and continuing to wear a mask in public (82% NY, 73% US). Slightly more New Yorker respondents (51.0%) than national respondents (41.4%) indicated that they would sign up for a phone app that would use Bluetooth for contact tracing.

**Methodology:** Responses were gathered through online web panels and weighted to accurately reflect the entire adult population of New York. Questions were fielded May 22-26, 2020 (753 respondents).