

Gates Foundation COVID-19 Tracker Analysis

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



Civis Analytics fielded a survey with 749 Ohio respondents on May 22-26, 2020. Below are some key takeaways from this week's research.

Ohio Highlights

Education Highlights

39.5% of Ohioans with children in high school report that their children's future postsecondary plans have changed, compared to 44.9% nationally. Of those students whose plans have changed, they are roughly equally likely to have chosen to postpone their plans (34.5%), switch to a less expensive option (34.6%), or switch to an option closer to home (33.4%).

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%, OH Margin of Error = 12.4%

Asked to all respondents with children in high school

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

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

US Margin of Error = 4.5%, OH Margin of Error = 18.2%

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

Change (% response)	US	OH
Postponed plans	47.3%	34.5%
Switched to a less expensive option	30.6%	34.6%
Switched to an option closer to home	31.8%	33.4%
Other	3.6%	5.4%

In Ohio, 80.5% of parents of K-12 students believe that their children will be prepared for the next school year, similar to 83.0% of US parents. The majority of parents in Ohio (62.0%) believe their

childrens' workloads at home have been appropriate, while 27.5% believe it is too much and 10.5% believe it is not enough.

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%, OH Margin of Error = 9.7%

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

Similarly, 69.8% of parents in Ohio believe that their childrens' teachers are expecting the right amount out of students, while 23.3% believe that teachers are expecting too much and only 6.8% believe that they're not expecting 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%, OH Margin of Error = 9.7%

Expectation (% response)	US	FL	NY	OH	TX	WA
Expecting too much	30.7%	40.4%	34.1%	23.3%	28.2%	36.1%
Expecting the right amount	59.8%	57.1%	58.6%	69.8%	66.2%	52.8%
Not expecting enough	9.5%	2.5%	7.3%	6.8%	5.7%	11.1%

Overall Highlights

Ohioans are less concerned about COVID-19 relative to the overall US, with 32.7% of Ohioans vs. 41.7% of US respondents saying they're very concerned. 20.8% of Ohioans report wanting their state to do more to address coronavirus, compared to the overall US (25.6%), though this is not a statistically significant difference. However, only 40.6% of Ohioans say that they definitely intend to social/physical distance, which is significantly lower than the 52.7% of Americans who reported the same.

Do you intend to stay at home and avoid all non-essential contact with others to reduce the spread of COVID-19?

US Margin of Error = 1.3%, OH Margin of Error = 4.3%

<i>% of responses</i>	US	OH
Definitely	52.7%	40.6%
Probably	26.1%	30.5%
Probably not	11.6%	16.9%
Definitely not	5.9%	8.2%
I don't know	3.8%	3.8%

Looking ahead to after restrictions are lifted, the majority of Ohioans plan to continue sanitizing regularly and social/physical distancing. 90.3% plan on washing their hands and disinfecting surfaces regularly (compared to 89.7% US), and 78.2% plan on social/physical distancing (compared to 83.1% US). Most Ohioans also believe that everybody should wear a mask in public (67.2% in Ohio, compared to 73.0% in the US).

Most Ohioans believe that the outbreak will continue for another month; 80.2% strongly or somewhat agree with that belief, on par with 82.4% of the overall US. They also believe that social/physical distancing and shelter-in-place orders have also been successful, with 79.3% of the Ohioans strongly or somewhat agreeing with this belief compared to 81.3% of the US overall. Interestingly, Ohioans are less likely to believe that they can make a meaningful difference by donating or volunteering right now (44.7% strongly or somewhat agree, compared to 53.4% of Americans overall).

When looking for information about COVID-19, the largest portions of Ohioans are using broadcast news (42.6%) and cable news (40.5%). Ohioans are more likely to learn about coronavirus from President Trump and Vice President Trump than the average American (36.4% of Ohioans, compared to 28.7% of Americans).

Which of the following information sources have you used to learn about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the past 7 days? Please select all that apply.

US Margin of Error = 1.8%, OH Margin of Error = 6.1%

Shown to a random 50% of respondents

Source (% selected)	US	OH
Local public health officials	28.5%	31.8%
Federal public health officials (e.g. HHS, CDC)	32.2%	33.0%
The World Health Organization (WHO)	25.3%	19.1%
People in your network (family, friends, or acquaintances)	32.1%	34.7%
Your physician	16.9%	14.7%
Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter)	32.5%	33.0%
Cable news networks (e.g. Fox News, CNN, MSNBC)	42.0%	40.5%
Broadcast news (e.g. NBC, CBS, ABC)	45.4%	42.6%
National newspapers	18.5%	13.3%
President Trump and Vice President Pence	28.7%	36.4%
Radio broadcasts	15.9%	17.2%
Church communications	7.9%	9.4%
Local newspapers	24.8%	22.3%

Ohioans are largely taking the same precautions as Americans overall to keep themselves safe from COVID-19. The one statistically significant exception is that Ohioans are less likely to report working or studying from home (24.5% compared to 32.9% in the US overall). This may be due to differences in job types in Ohio compared to the US overall.

Over the last 7 days, 45.0% of Ohioans report drinking alcohol, 18.1% report smoking marijuana, and 12.7% report using recreational drugs other than marijuana. Of Ohioans who consumed alcohol, 24.9% report drinking 4 or more drinks on average on a typical day, on par with 25.3% nationally.

54.3% of men who consumed alcohol in Ohio reported drinking five or more drinks at least once in the past week (compared to 54.7% nationally), compared to 30.0% of women reporting drinking four or more drinks at least once in the past week (compared to 36.2% nationally).

Half of Ohioans (51.3%) reported that they spent time posting on or browsing social media 6 to 7 days in the last week. 40.9% of Ohioans also reported that they made time to relax 6 to 7 days in the last week, and a little more than a third (35.5%) connected with family or friends 6 to 7 days in the last week.

Methodology: Responses were gathered through online web panels and weighted to accurately reflect the entire adult population of Ohio. Questions were fielded May 22-26, 2020 (749 respondents).