

Civis Analytics fielded a survey with 751 Ohio respondents on August 20-23, 2020. Below are some key takeaways from this wave's research.

Ohio Highlights

School Reopenings

40.4% of parents of K-12 students in Ohio say that they have disenrolled their children from the school they were originally supposed to attend this year, in response to school reopening plans, compared to 39.7% of parents in the US overall. Of those that disenrolled their children, 58.0% are enrolling in an online program, 30.8% are enrolling in a public school, and 19.9% are making plans to homeschool. 77.7% of Ohioan parents who disenrolled their children say that they will re-enroll their children back into the original school once it is safe to do so.

35.6% of parents of K-12 students in Ohio report that their children will be attending all in-person classes, 43.2% report that their children will be attending all remote classes, and 21.2% reporting a hybrid of in-person and remote. 72.5% of K-12 parents said that their children's school provided the option to choose between in-person, remote, or hybrid classes. 56.2% of K-12 Ohioan parents reported that their children's school has provided information about mental and physical health, 34.3% reported receiving information about racial justice, and 61.2% reported receiving information about food services.

Most parents of K-12 students in Ohio would be more willing to send their children to school if safety measures were taken, but much fewer think that their children's schools will be able to successfully implement those measures. For example, 56.1% of parents said they would be more willing to send their children to school if the school avoided large gatherings; however, only 63.5% of parents think it is likely that the school can implement this safety measure.

Most K-12 parents in Ohio think schools can successfully implement safety measures, but at slightly lower rates than parents in the US overall. Ohioan parents are most confident in schools' abilities to Require sick students and staff to stay homes (67.7% of parents in OH say schools will likely be successful in implementing, compared to 70.1% of parents in the US overall), and least confident in schools' abilities to dismiss in-person class for if a student or teacher tests positive for coronavirus (57.0% of parents in OH say schools will likely be successful in implementing, compared to 66.0% of parents in the US overall).

How likely do you think it is that your children’s school will be able to successfully implement each of the following safety measures? (% of K-12 parents who responded “Very likely” or “Somewhat likely”)

US Margin of Error = 2.5%, OH Margin of Error = 7.9%

Safety Measure Feasibility (% “Likely”)	US	OH	WA	FL	NY	TX
Provide masks and hand sanitizer to each student	71.9%	66.9%	61.9%	66.0%	78.7%	70.2%
Increase cleaning and disinfecting of facilities	74.6%	67.5%	69.7%	70.0%	78.3%	71.7%
Require sick students and staff to stay home	70.1%	67.7%	62.1%	62.2%	75.1%	70.4%
Avoid large gatherings (e.g. cafeteria lunch, assemblies)	67.4%	63.5%	63.8%	63.9%	74.4%	67.6%
Reduce the hours per day that a student is at school	65.7%	58.5%	62.3%	59.1%	71.8%	66.4%
Dismiss in-person class for 2-5 days if a student or teacher tests positive for coronavirus	66.0%	57.0%	60.3%	56.4%	73.8%	65.9%
Enforce social distancing in classrooms and hallways	64.0%	57.2%	56.2%	64.2%	74.2%	67.9%

Postsecondary Education Transitions

65.6% of parents of high school seniors in Ohio report that their child is planning to apply to four-year colleges this fall; of those, 68.2% say they and their child feel “Very prepared” to navigate the college financial aid process, compared to 6.6% who feel “Not at all prepared.” 69.2% of parents of high school students report that their child has already taken the SAT or ACT, and another 13.8% of parents said that their child will take the SAT or ACT by December 31, 2020. 85.0% of parents of high school seniors say that their child has been in touch with a school guidance counselor to make plans for after graduation.

Following up with students who graduated from high school in the spring, 71.4% of parents of recent high school graduates in Ohio report that their child changed his or her postsecondary plans between March 2020 and now. Of those who changed plans, 40.2% switched to an option closer to home, 38.5% switched to a less expensive option, and 21.3% postponed their plans.

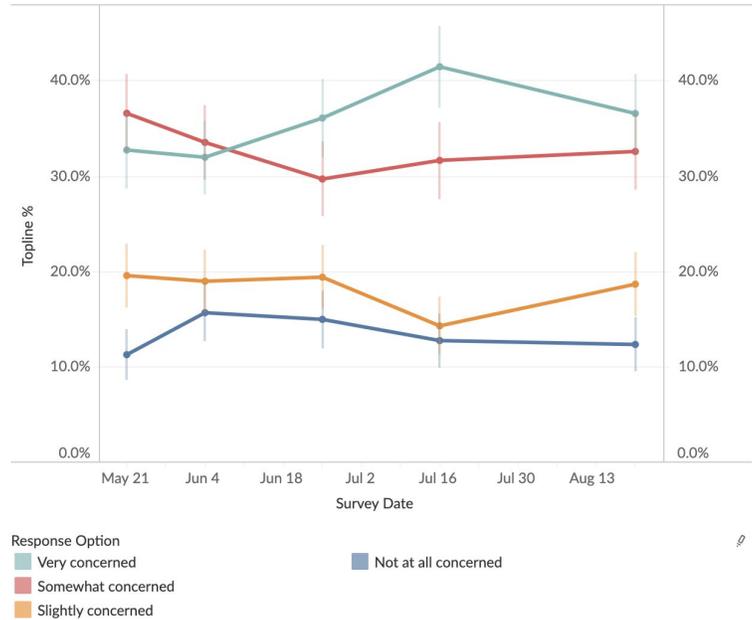
Attitudes toward Coronavirus

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

Concern among Ohioans has decreased in the past month; 36.5% of adults in Ohio say that they are “Very concerned” about Coronavirus (COVID-19), compared to 41.4% from our last wave of research in July.

Attitudes Concern Level in OH

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



When asked about specific concerns in relations to COVID-19, 62.4% of Ohioans are “very” or “somewhat concerned” about long-term health effects, 59.9% are “very” or “somewhat concerned” about transmitting COVID-19 to others, 56.6% are “very” or “somewhat concerned” about immediate illness and symptoms of COVID-19, and 49% are “very” or “somewhat concerned” about losing work or income while sick.

After an increase in the proportion of Ohioans who thought their state’s actions were insufficient over the month of June, reactions to the closures, restrictions and other steps that the state of Ohio has taken have remained steady since early July. In this most recent wave (August 20-23), 30.0% of Ohioans report that they wish their state would do even more, 38.8% say the steps have been appropriate, 17.9% say that some of the steps are important, but overall they go too far, and 10.0% believe everyone is overreacting.

Which statement best reflects your feelings about closures, restrictions, and other steps that the state of Ohio* has taken to slow the spread of the virus?

* Each respondent was asked about their home state
 US Margin of Error = 1.3%, OH Margin of Error = 4.3%



I wish they would do even more	37.1%	30.0%	32.6%	43.7%	30.5%	40.9%
I think the steps are appropriate given the serious nature of the crisis	37.9%	38.8%	40.4%	33.2%	46.5%	36.9%
I think some of the steps are important, but overall they go too far	13.8%	17.9%	14.0%	13.5%	15.5%	10.9%
I think everyone is overreacting	7.1%	10.0%	9.2%	5.4%	3.9%	7.2%

72.8% of Ohioans report “always” wearing a face mask or covering while in public, up from 62.5% in July. However, slightly fewer Ohioans are always maintaining social/physical distance (60.3%, compared to 62.3% in July). The proportion of Ohioans who always stay home has also decreased slightly (47.9%, compared to 49.9% in July).

Methodology: Responses were gathered through online web panels and weighted to accurately reflect the entire adult population of Ohio. Questions were fielded August 20-23, 2020 (751 respondents).