

Quick Facts

Spring 2020 -- COVID-19 Survey #1 (3/31 - 4/9)

In Spring 2020, DMACS invited 1,880 panelists to participate in a rapid response survey about how Detroiters are being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. 1,020 surveys were completed between March 31 and April 9, 2020. Results have been weighted to reflect the population of the City of Detroit.

Job Loss

35% of Detroiters employed full-time or part-time before March 1 lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic. Job losses have been most prevalent among residents with lower levels of education, those with lower incomes, residents of color, and residents under 30 years old.

- **50%** of Detroiters with a high school degree or less who were employed before March 1 lost their jobs, compared to **15%** of those with a college degree
- **52%** of Detroiters making \$30,000 or less who were employed before March 1 lost their jobs, compared to **20%** of those making \$50,000 or more
- **17%** of the city's White residents who were employed before March 1 lost their jobs, compared to **37%** of Black residents and **40%** of Hispanic residents
- **52%** of Detroiters under 30 who were employed before March 1 lost their jobs

Financial Precarity

Roughly **1-in-5** Detroiters say they are certain they will run out of money in the next three months. **44%** of those who lost their job due to the pandemic say there is a 100% likelihood they will run out of money in that time.

- Detroiters say they are more likely than not to run out of money in the next three months due to the COVID-19 crisis. On average, residents put the likelihood of running out of money at **53%**
- Older residents are less concerned they will run out of money than younger residents. Residents age 65 or older put their likelihood of running out of money at **43%**
- Only **6%** of White residents say they are certain they will run out of money in three months due to the pandemic, compared to **26%** of Black residents and **14%** of Hispanic residents.
- **27%** of Detroiters with a high school degree or less believe they will run out of money in three months, compared to **13%** of those with a college degree
- Detroiters in fair or poor health put their likelihood of running out of money in three months at **62%**

Consequences of Job Loss

Residents who lost their jobs since March 1 are more likely to be very concerned about having a place to live, getting adequate food and household supplies, and getting medication than those who remained employed. Those newly unemployed also report more serious direct impacts of the pandemic and are more likely to report depressive symptoms.

- Residents who lost their jobs since March 1 are twice as likely as those who remained employed to be very concerned about having a place to live: **31%** of the newly unemployed are very concerned about having a place to live, compared to **16%** of those who remained employed
- **57%** of those who lost their jobs are very concerned about getting food, water, and other household supplies during the pandemic, compared to **31%** of those who remained employed
- **54%** of those who lost their jobs are very concerned about getting medication during the pandemic, compared to **24%** of those who remained employed
- Detroiters who lost their jobs during the pandemic report that the COVID-19 crisis is a more serious problem for them personally, for their community, and for the US as a whole than those who remained employed during the pandemic
- Detroiters who lost their jobs are significantly more likely to report depressive symptoms: **1-in-5** Detroiters who lost their jobs say they have been unable to stop worrying and have felt depressed most of the time (5 to 7 days in the past 7 days), compared to **10%** of those who remained employed.