

**2021 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 81 JANUARY 2021
FINAL TOPLINE
JANUARY 19-24, 2021
TOTAL N=10,334**

NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. BELOW ARE PART OF A LARGER SURVEY CONDUCTED ON THE AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL.

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. adults	10,334	+/- 1.6 percentage points
<i>Unemployed adults</i>	715	+/- 6.0 percentage points

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

E_COVIDMOD Which of the following best describes your current employment situation?

<u>Total</u>	
44	Employed full-time
12	Employed part-time
18	Retired
3	Furloughed or temporarily laid off
22	Not employed
1	No answer

ASK IF FURLOUGHED OR NOT EMPLOYED (E_COVIDMOD=4,5) [n=2,071]:

E6 Are you currently looking for work?

<u>Total</u>	
37	Yes, looking for work
62	No, not looking for work
1	No answer

ASK IF NOT EMPLOYED AND NOT CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR WORK (E_COVIDMOD=5 AND E6=2) [n=1,239]:

E6aMOD What is the main reason why you aren't currently looking for work? Is it mainly because you...

ASK IF FURLOUGHED AND NOT CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR WORK (E_COVIDMOD=4 AND E6=2) [n=106]:

E6aMOD_FURL What is the main reason why you aren't currently looking for work? Is it mainly because you...

BASED ON FURLOUGHED/NOT EMPLOYED AND NOT CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR WORK [n=1,345]:

<u>Total</u>	
17	Choose not to work
4	Looked but couldn't find a job
4	Expect to return to your job (among furloughed only)
74	Some other reason (Specify)
1	No answer

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	Choose not to <u>work</u>	Couldn't <u>find a job</u>	Other <u>reason</u>	Don't know/ Refused <u>(VOL.)</u>
May 25-Jun 29, 2016 ¹	24	3	72	1

ASK IF NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK OR A DISCOURAGED WORKER (E6=1 OR E6aMOD=2 OR E6aMOD_FURL=2) [n=753]:

CVDECON3 At the moment, what is your current outlook on finding a job in the near future? **[SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]**

BASED NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK (E6=1) [n=715]:

<u>Total</u>	
15	Very optimistic
36	Somewhat optimistic
31	Somewhat pessimistic
18	Very pessimistic
0	No answer

¹ In the 2016 survey, the question wording was: "Is that because you don't want to work right now, or because you looked but couldn't find a job, or for some other reason?" Additionally, the 2016 survey was conducted via telephone (landline and cellphone), and due to the [difference in modes](#), results may not be directly comparable to those of the 2021 survey that was conducted online.

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	Very <u>optimistic</u>	Somewhat <u>optimistic</u>	Somewhat <u>pessimistic</u>	Very <u>pessimistic</u>	Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)
May 11-31, 2010 ²	23	42	14	16	6

ASK IF NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK OR A DISCOURAGED WORKER (E6=1 OR E6aMOD=2 OR E6aMOD_FURL=2) [n=753]:

CVDECON4 How confident are you that you will be able to find a job with approximately the same income and benefits you earned in your last job?

BASED NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK (E6=1) [n=715]:

<u>Total</u>	
14	Very confident
30	Somewhat confident
37	Not too confident
18	Not at all confident
1	No answer

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	Very <u>confident</u>	Somewhat <u>confident</u>	Not too <u>confident</u>	Not at all <u>confident</u>	Does not apply (VOL.)	Other (VOL.)	Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)
May 11-31, 2010 ³	26	32	15	23	2	*	1

ASK IF NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK OR A DISCOURAGED WORKER (E6=1 OR E6aMOD=2 OR E6aMOD_FURL=2) [n=753]:

CVDECON5 In general, do you feel you have the education and training necessary to get a job?

BASED NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK (E6=1) [n=715]:

<u>Total</u>	
70	Yes, I have necessary education and training
30	No, I need more education and training
*	No answer

² The 2010 numbers are based on those currently unemployed and looking for work. The question wording was: "At the moment, what is your current outlook on finding a new job in the near future?" Additionally, the 2010 survey was conducted via telephone (landline and cellphone), and due to the [difference in modes](#), results may not be directly comparable to those of the 2021 survey that was conducted online.

³ The 2010 numbers are based on those currently unemployed and looking for work. Additionally, the 2010 survey was conducted via telephone (landline and cellphone), and due to the [difference in modes](#), results may not be directly comparable to those of the 2021 survey that was conducted online.

ASK IF NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK OR A DISCOURAGED WORKER (E6=1 OR E6aMOD=2 OR E6aMOD_FURL=2) [n=753]:

CVDECON6 Since you have been unemployed, have you...

BASED NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK (E6=1) [n=715]:

- a. Seriously considered changing your occupation or field of work

<u>Total</u>	
66	Yes, I have done this
34	No, I have not done this
1	No answer

- b. Pursued any job retraining programs or educational opportunities

<u>Total</u>	
33	Yes, I have done this
65	No, I have not done this
2	No answer

TREND FOR COMPARISON⁴:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused (VOL.)</u>
a. Changed your career or field, or seriously considered changing your career or field, or not May 11-31, 2010	52	47	1
b. Pursued any job retraining programs or educational opportunities, or not May 11-31, 2010	38	62	0

⁴ The 2010 numbers are based on those currently unemployed and looking for work. The 2010 survey was conducted via telephone (landline and cellphone), and due to the [difference in modes](#), results may not be directly comparable to those of the 2021 survey that was conducted online.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK IF NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK OR A DISCOURAGED WORKER (E6=1 OR E6aMOD=2 OR E6aMOD_FURL=2) [n=753]:**

CVDECON8 For each of the following, indicate whether or not it is something that happened to you as a result of being unemployed. **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; SPLIT OVER TWO SCREENS]**

BASED NOT EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF AND LOOKING FOR WORK (E6=1) [n=715]:

- a. Felt more stressed than usual

Total

70 Yes, has happened as a result
of being unemployed
28 No, has not happened as a
result of being unemployed
2 No answer

- b. Had more conflicts or arguments than usual with your family and friends

Total

41 Yes, has happened as a result
of being unemployed
57 No, has not happened as a
result of being unemployed
2 No answer

- c. Experienced more emotional or mental health issues, such as anxiety or depression, than usual

Total

56 Yes, has happened as a result
of being unemployed
43 No, has not happened as a
result of being unemployed
1 No answer

- d. Felt like you lost a piece of your identity

Total

53 Yes, has happened as a result
of being unemployed
45 No, has not happened as a
result of being unemployed
1 No answer

- e. Enjoyed not having to work for a while

Total

55 Yes, has happened as a result
of being unemployed
42 No, has not happened as a
result of being unemployed
3 No answer

CVDECON8 CONTINUED ...

f. Spent more time on hobbies or interests

Total

63	Yes, has happened as a result of being unemployed
36	No, has not happened as a result of being unemployed
1	No answer

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR FUTURE RELEASE