
“WORK, WORK, WORK, WORK...”: HAVE CANADIANS WORKED MORE, LESS OR ABOUT THE SAME SINCE COVID-19?

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INTRODUCTION: HOW MUCH WORK HAVE CANADIANS BEEN DOING SINCE COVID-19

At some future point the Labor Day that we marked on Monday, September 7th, will likely be remembered as the first in this century that occurred during a pandemic. COVID-19 has seen changes in the nature of work that have been the object of much discussion notably with the expansion of people working from home. But less has been said about the amount of work undertaken by Canadians during the pandemic. That which follows asked Canadians whether since the outbreak of COVID-19 they've been working more, less or about the same on a weekly basis. While a slight majority of Canadians say that their workload hasn't changed, there are important variations in the responses by age and occupation. The survey was conducted via web panel by Leger Marketing in partnership with the Association for Canadian Studies between August 28th and August 30th with 1521 respondents. No margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample (Web panel in this case). However for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1521 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 3.1\%$, 19 times out of 20.

SLIGHT MAJORITIES IN BOTH CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES SAY THAT THEIR WORKLOAD IS ABOUT THE SAME SINCE COVID-19 BUT SLIGHTLY MORE SAY THEY'VE WORKED LESS THAN SAY THEY'VE WORKED MORE

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 would you say that the amount of work you do weekly is:		
	Canada	United States
More than before the outbreak of COVID-19	15%	19%
About the same since the outbreak of COVID-19	52%	51%
Less than since the outbreak of COVID-19	26%	21%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	8%	9%

THOSE UNDER 35 ARE MOST LIKELY TO SAY THEY'VE WORKED LESS SINCE COVID-19

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 would you say that the amount of work you do weekly is:									
	Total	Man	Woman	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 +
More than before the outbreak of COVID-19	15%	13%	16%	22%	18%	25%	14%	10%	4%
About the same since the outbreak of COVID-19	52%	53%	51%	35%	51%	49%	52%	58%	59%
Less than since the outbreak of COVID-19	26%	27%	25%	38%	30%	21%	27%	24%	22%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	8%	7%	8%	6%	2%	5%	7%	8%	15%

WHICH OCCUPATIONS ARE WORKING MORE SINCE COVID-19 AND WHICH ARE WORKING LESS

- **WORKING MORE:** MANAGERS / ADMINISTRATORS / OWNERS (Director, editor, entrepreneur, executive, manager and business people); PROFESSIONALS (Archeologist, architect, artist, lawyer, banker, biologist, chemist, accountant, consultant, foreman)
- **WORKING LESS:** SKILLED, SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS (Bricklayer, truck driver, electrician, machine operator, mechanic, painter, plumber, etc.)
- PERSONNEL SPECIALIZED IN SERVICES (Security agent, taxi driver, hairdresser, cook, clergy member, military force member)
- STUDENTS: (Full-time or whose studies take up most of his/her time)

	More than before the outbreak of COVID-19	About the same since the outbreak of COVID-19	Less than since the outbreak of COVID-19	I don't know / I prefer not to answer	
MANAGERS / ADMINISTRATORS / OWNERS (Director, editor, entrepreneur, executive, manager, businessperson, journalists)	30.1%	46.2%	21.5%	2.2%	100.0%
PROFESSIONALS (Archeologist, architect, artist, lawyer, banker, biologist, chemist, accountant, consultant, foreman)	26.2%	47.0%	23.5%	3.4%	100.0%
OFFICE WORKER (Cashier, office clerk, accounting clerk, secretary, etc.)	21.4%	52.2%	24.2%	2.2%	100.0%
PERSONNEL SPECIALIZED IN SALES (Insurance agent, salesperson, sales clerk, real estate agent, real estate broker, sales)	17.8%	57.5%	24.7%		100.0%
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIES WORKERS (Computer operator, programmer-analyst, technician, audio-technician, lab technician)	17.7%	67.7%	14.5%		100.0%
STUDENT (Full-time or whose studies take up most of his/her time)	16.9%	37.7%	39.2%	6.2%	100.0%
PERSONNEL SPECIALIZED IN SERVICES (Security agent, taxi driver, hairdresser, cook, clergy member, military force member)	15.2%	41.9%	41.0%	1.9%	100.0%
MANUAL WORKERS (Farmer, packer, day labourer, miner, fisherman, forest worker, etc.)	13.2%	52.8%	32.1%	1.9%	100.0%
SKILLED, SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS (Bricklayer, truck driver, electrician, machine operator, mechanic, painter, plumber, etc.)	7.5%	43.8%	47.5%	1.2%	100.0%

PEOPLE WHOSE WORKLOAD HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED REPORTED THE BEST MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, how would you rate your mental health?	Since the outbreak of COVID-19 would you say that the amount of work you do weekly is:				Total
	More than before the outbreak of COVID-19	About the same since the outbreak of COVID-19	Less than since the outbreak of COVID-19	I don't know / I prefer not to answer	
Excellent	12.6%	18.2%	8.1%	10.4%	14.2%
Very good	23.3%	32.2%	19.1%	36.5%	27.8%
Good	42.6%	39.0%	49.9%	37.4%	42.2%
Bad	18.8%	8.0%	16.0%	7.0%	11.6%
Very bad	2.2%	2.0%	5.1%	4.3%	3.0%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	0.4%	0.6%	1.8%	4.3%	1.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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