

NIH COVID-19 Impact on Extramural Institutions Survey Supplemental Frequency Tables

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Prepared for the NIH Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity

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NIH COVID-19 Impact on Extramural Institutions Survey

Supplemental Frequency Tables

This document summarizes the frequencies for all questions in the 2020 National Institutes of Health (NIH) COVID-19 Impact on Extramural Institutions Survey. The survey was fielded to 706 research leaders (VP of Research or equivalent) at the top 1,000 NIH-funded institutions between October 7 and November 6, 2020, and received a total of 224 responses for a 32% response rate.

During the survey, respondents were asked about the status of research operations at their institutions, financial concerns their institutions face, impacts on the research workforce and research productivity, as well as mitigation plans their institutions have implemented to support researchers and facility reopening. When possible, survey measures were based on validated survey items or scales. However, some measures were modified or revised based on the target population and the survey goals.

Prior to fielding, selected questions from the NIH COVID-19 Impact on Extramural Institutions Survey underwent cognitive testing with 9 research leaders to test understanding of survey items and identify areas for improvement. Pilot testing of the questionnaire was then conducted with 12 additional research leaders. Survey items were revised based on cognitive testing and pilot testing feedback prior to fielding the survey with all research leaders beginning October 2020.

How to Use this Document

Following the conclusion of survey fielding, a series of comprehensive reports were created based on the analyses of survey results. To complement these reports, the Supplemental Frequency Tables within this document include the number (i.e., frequency) of survey respondents selecting each response option. Respondents were given the option to skip any question on the survey. The purpose of the supplemental tables is to provide additional context to the survey findings and support the NIH in potential future administrations of the survey instrument.

All survey questions are presented in this document in the order and format they were administered to respondents when the survey was fielded in 2020.

Table Format:

[question #] [survey question text]

[frequency]	[response option]
[frequency]	[response option]

Q1. Which of the following best describes your institution?

117	Doctorate-granting university with a professional school (e.g., medical, pharmacy, veterinary, dental)
38	Doctorate-granting university without a professional school (e.g., medical, pharmacy, veterinary, dental)
<10	Master's college/university
<10	Baccalaureate college/university
<10	Associate's college/community college
42	Independent research institute or organization (please specify)
<10	Special focus institution (e.g., technology, arts-related, cancer center) (please specify)
12	Other (please specify)
2	No response

Q1a. Which state/territory is your institution located in?

<10	Alabama
<10	Arizona
<10	Arkansas
<10	California
<10	Colorado
<10	Connecticut
<10	Delaware
<10	Florida
<10	Georgia
<10	Hawaii
<10	Illinois
<10	Indiana
<10	Iowa
<10	Kansas
<10	Kentucky
<10	Louisiana
<10	Maine
<10	Maryland
20	Massachusetts
<10	Michigan
<10	Minnesota
<10	Missouri
<10	Montana
<10	Nebraska
<10	New Hampshire
<10	New Jersey
17	New York
<10	North Carolina
<10	North Dakota
10	Ohio
<10	Oklahoma
<10	Oregon

<10	Pennsylvania
<10	Rhode Island
<10	South Carolina
<10	South Dakota
<10	Tennessee
10	Texas
<10	Utah
<10	Vermont
<10	Virginia
<10	Washington
<10	West Virginia
<10	Wisconsin
<10	Guam
<10	Washington D.C.
11	No response

Q2 is displayed only if Q1 ≠ Independent research institute or organization

Q2. Does your institution consider itself to be a Minority Serving Institution (MSI)?

40	Yes
137	No

Q3 is displayed only if Q2 = Yes

Q3. Does your institution consider itself to be one or more of the following? Please select all that apply.

<10	Historically Black College or University (HBCU)
<10	Primarily Black Institution (PBI)
22	Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)
<10	Tribal College or University (TCU)
<10	Native American Non-Tribal Institution (NANTI)
<10	Alaskan Native or Native Hawaiian-Serving Institution (ANNHI)
10	Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI)
<10	Other (please specify)

Q4. Is your title/role related to research oversight?

219	Yes
<10	No
1	No response

Q4a is displayed only if Q4 = No

Q4a. This survey is intended for those in roles that oversee research. Please indicate below if you would like to participate in the survey.

<10	I would like to participate in this survey
<10	I would not like to participate in this survey [END SURVEY]

Q5 is displayed only if Q4 = Yes

Q5. What is your title/role?

12	Executive Vice President for Research
75	Vice President for Research
21	Vice Provost for Research
<10	Vice Dean for Research
16	Vice Chancellor for Research
<10	Senior Associate Dean for Research
<10	Associate Dean for Research
<10	Associate Provost for Research
10	Chief Scientific Officer
<10	Chief Medical Officer
<10	Center Director
51	Other (please specify)
5	No response

Q6. Which NIH-related science areas are the largest recipients of NIH funding at your institution?

Please select up to three choices.

142	Biological Sciences
20	Data Sciences
<10	Dentistry
<10	Education
29	Engineering/Technology
143	Health Sciences/Medicine
24	Interdisciplinary
10	Mathematical/Computational Sciences
<10	Nursing
16	Pharmacy
14	Physical Sciences
46	Public Health
53	Social and Behavioral Sciences
<10	Veterinary Medicine
14	Other (please specify)
3	No response

Q7. Thinking about the last 30 days, what has been the status of your institution concerning on-site researchers and research activities as a result of COVID-19?

64	Our institution has been open at full or close-to-full capacity to all on-site researchers and research activities
54	Our institution has been open at reduced capacity to all on-site researchers and research activities
45	Our institution has been open at full or close-to-full capacity for some researchers and reduced capacity for others
57	Our institution has been open at reduced capacity for some on-site researchers and research activities, with other research continuing to take place remotely/off-site
<10	Our institution has been completely closed to on-site researchers/research activities, but research continues to take place remotely/off-site
2	No response

Q8 is displayed only if Q7 ≠ Our institution has been completely closed

Q8. Has your institution implemented any safety measures to protect the health of researchers and research support staff?

221	Yes
<10	No

Q9. Which of the following factors resulting from COVID-19 have had the *most negative impact* on your institution's research function? Please select up to three choices. **RANDOM ROTATE**

<10	Inadequate communication with leadership
50	Increased virtual meetings
49	Shift from in-person to online classrooms
43	Increased administrative responsibilities
<10	Faculty/staff layoffs
26	Furloughs due to institutional budget cuts
71	Institutional hiring freezes
45	Concerns about enrollment numbers
45	Visa considerations
<10	Individuals testing positive for COVID-19
<10	Fatalities due to COVID-19
19	Insufficient access to personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g., masks, industrial-grade sanitizing products, hand sanitizers, or other products)
32	Lack of COVID-19 testing resources (e.g., availability of testing sites, places to analyze tests, resources to conduct tests)
138	Reduced access to on-site laboratories
27	Increased faculty teaching requirements
40	Other (please specify)
<10	None of the above EXCLUSIVE
2	No response

Q10. How concerned are you about the impact of COVID-19 on the financial status of your institution?

67	Extremely concerned
80	Very concerned
58	Moderately concerned
17	Slightly concerned
<10	Not at all concerned
2	No response

Q11. Based on what you know now, how likely is it that the financial repercussions of COVID-19 will jeopardize your institution's ability to maintain its research function?

20	Extremely likely
70	Likely
51	Neutral
57	Unlikely
24	Extremely unlikely
2	No response

Q12. Thinking about the institution where you oversee research, which, if any, of the following factors has had a *substantial impact* on your institution as a result of COVID-19? Please select all that apply. RANDOM ROTATE

116	Unexpected costs associated with increased spending on technology to facilitate remote work
75	Decrease in philanthropic revenue sources (e.g., non-governmental revenue from fundraising, private foundation grants)
32	Loss of endowment funding or capital market programs
54	Loss of revenue from athletics
80	Loss of revenue from activities (e.g., camps, summer programs, daycare)
105	Loss of housing and dining revenue with students leaving campus earlier than planned
45	Unexpected costs associated with staff and students moving off campus
93	Reduction in tuition revenue from students
155	Increased expenses involved with ensuring safety of staff and students (e.g., cleaning, testing, extra housing space for quarantining)
75	Loss of state funding
28	Other (please specify)
<10	None of the above EXCLUSIVE
6	No response

Q13. Which, if any, of the below have happened at your institution due to COVID-19? Please select all that apply. RANDOM ROTATE

79	Salary cuts
168	Budget cuts
87	Furloughs
61	Terminations
77	Reduced hours
55	Loss of grants, endowments, or sponsorships
129	Loss of tuition and revenue
163	Freezes in hiring
22	Revocation of approved job offers
202	Reductions in travel
82	Cancellation of programs
65	Offerings of early retirement
64	Loss of daycare
90	Delay in promotion timelines
18	Other (please specify)
<10	None of the above EXCLUSIVE
3	No response

How much of a priority do you consider the following practices to be in restoring research operations?

Q14. Maintaining a healthy environment through the cleaning and disinfecting of facilities

<10	Not a priority
<10	Low priority
17	Medium priority
48	High priority
153	Essential
4	No response

Q15. Implementing a COVID-19 testing program to protect the research workforce

<10	Not a priority
14	Low priority
42	Medium priority
65	High priority
92	Essential
6	No response

Q16. Developing and implementing phased plans to return to the workplace safely

<10	Not a priority
<10	Low priority
15	Medium priority
59	High priority
137	Essential
6	No response

Q17. Maintaining financial sustainability considering budgetary restrictions and challenges

<10	Not a priority
<10	Low priority
13	Medium priority
65	High priority
134	Essential
5	No response

Q18. Preventing workforce layoffs and furloughs

<10	Not a priority
<10	Low priority
44	Medium priority
113	High priority
48	Essential
7	No response

Q19. Promoting research that can be conducted remotely

10	Not a priority
22	Low priority
66	Medium priority
77	High priority
43	Essential
6	No response

Q20. Addressing the specific needs of research that can only be done on-site

<10	Not a priority
<10	Low priority
16	Medium priority
77	High priority
120	Essential
4	No response

Q21. Complying with operational and reporting requirements of grant-funding

<10	Not a priority
<10	Low priority
27	Medium priority
62	High priority
120	Essential
5	No response

Q22. Since the transition to maximized remote work at your institution, how much has COVID-19 impacted overall research productivity, including research activities and outcomes?

<10	No impact
20	Minor impact
116	Moderate impact
69	Major impact
15	Don't know yet
2	No response

In your opinion, what has been the impact of COVID-19 on the following research activities at your institution?

Q23. Publishing journal articles, books, etc.

<10	Strong negative impact
43	Negative impact
90	Neutral
57	Positive impact
12	Strong positive impact
<10	N/A
9	No response

Q24. Research site/laboratory access for research deemed “noncritical” or “nonessential”

65	Strong negative impact
98	Negative impact
41	Neutral
<10	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
<10	N/A
8	No response

Q25. Research site/laboratory access for research deemed “critical” or “essential”

14	Strong negative impact
88	Negative impact
82	Neutral
19	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
<10	N/A
8	No response

Q26. Grant application submissions

<10	Strong negative impact
33	Negative impact
81	Neutral
72	Positive impact
20	Strong positive impact
<10	N/A
9	No response

Q27. Grants awarded to the institution

<10	Strong negative impact
31	Negative impact
120	Neutral
51	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
<10	N/A
9	No response

Q28. Continuation of human (IRB) reviews

<10	Strong negative impact
45	Negative impact
138	Neutral
<10	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
11	N/A
10	No response

Q29. Continuation of animal (IACUC) reviews

<10	Strong negative impact
35	Negative impact
152	Neutral
<10	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
13	N/A
9	No response

Q30. Access to clinic/human research subjects

97	Strong negative impact
82	Negative impact
17	Neutral
<10	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
15	N/A
8	No response

Q31. Access to experimental animals

18	Strong negative impact
90	Negative impact
91	Neutral
<10	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
14	N/A
8	No response

Q32. COVID-19 vaccine development

<10	Strong negative impact
<10	Negative impact
62	Neutral
51	Positive impact
17	Strong positive impact
78	N/A
9	No response

Q33. Number of support staff on-site

28	Strong negative impact
138	Negative impact
46	Neutral
<10	Positive impact
<10	Strong positive impact
<10	N/A
9	No response

Since transitioning to remote work, how has the workload in the following research areas changed?

Q34. Wet lab research (e.g., drug, chemical, or biological-related)

51	Decreased a lot
125	Decreased some
11	No impact
11	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
<10	Not sure
13	No response

Q35. Dry lab research

13	Decreased a lot
86	Decreased some
61	No impact
37	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
11	Not sure
13	No response

Q36. Clinical trials

59	Decreased a lot
72	Decreased some
34	No impact
<10	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
33	Not sure
12	No response

Q37. Other clinical research (e.g., observational studies, cohort studies)

69	Decreased a lot
82	Decreased some
26	No impact
<10	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
22	Not sure
13	No response

Q38. Behavioral and social sciences research (e.g., psychology experiments)

74	Decreased a lot
76	Decreased some
19	No impact
<10	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
29	Not sure
17	No response

Q39. Writing and submitting peer-reviewed articles for publication

<10	Decreased a lot
51	Decreased some
46	No impact
86	Increased some
15	Increased a lot
13	Not sure
11	No response

Q40. Writing and submitting book manuscripts, monographs, or conference proceedings for publication

<10	Decreased a lot
43	Decreased some
53	No impact
73	Increased some
11	Increased a lot
24	Not sure
13	No response

Q41. Writing grant proposals

<10	Decreased a lot
33	Decreased some
56	No impact
92	Increased some
26	Increased a lot
<10	Not sure
10	No response

Q42. Collecting data

40	Decreased a lot
110	Decreased some
27	No impact
21	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
<10	Not sure
10	No response

Q43. Analyzing data

<10	Decreased a lot
31	Decreased some
65	No impact
92	Increased some
13	Increased a lot
<10	Not sure
12	No response

Q44. Supervising laboratory staff

15	Decreased a lot
106	Decreased some
49	No impact
18	Increased some
12	Increased a lot
12	Not sure
12	No response

Q45. Presenting research findings

86	Decreased a lot
86	Decreased some
24	No impact
10	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
<10	Not sure
11	No response

Q46. Collaborating with colleagues

48	Decreased a lot
102	Decreased some
22	No impact
22	Increased some
<10	Increased a lot
11	Not sure
11	No response

Q47. If applicable, do you believe that COVID-19 will negatively affect the ability to earn tenure at your current institution?

49	Yes, it will make it harder to achieve tenure
68	No, it will not make it harder to achieve tenure
63	Not sure
40	N/A
4	No response

Q48 is displayed only if Q47 = Yes

Q48. You mentioned that COVID-19 may affect the ability of faculty to earn tenure. Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

36	Accommodations are in place to account for lost research time
10	We have not yet put accommodations into place, but we are planning on doing so
<10	We have not and are not planning to put accommodations in place

Q49. If applicable, do you believe that COVID-19 will negatively affect the ability of researchers/faculty to earn promotions at your current institution?

61	Yes, it will make it harder to achieve promotions
74	No, it will not make it harder to achieve promotions
72	Not sure
10	N/A
7	No response

Q50. Are researchers at the institution you oversee engaged in research aimed at understanding, preventing, or treating COVID-19?

185	Yes
27	No
<10	Not sure
<10	N/A
6	No response

Q51. Are researchers at the institution you oversee contributing to the literature on public health policy related to COVID-19 (e.g., modeling and forecasting the impacts of public health interventions)?

159	Yes
44	No
12	Not sure
<10	N/A
8	No response

Q52. Over the last 30 days, which of the following specialized research resources have been *most negatively impacted* by COVID-19 within your institution? Please select all that apply. **RANDOM ROTATE**

74	Access to core facilities
98	Access to laboratories
159	Access to clinic/human research subjects (e.g., in a clinical setting, in a community)
45	Access to animal care facilities
55	Access to supplies/specimens (e.g., autoclave, thermocycler, DNA sequencing equipment, mass spectrometers, surgical instruments, tissue, blood, and live animals)
109	Access to team members/colleagues
13	Access to data
61	Access to mentors
<10	Other (please specify)
12	None of the above EXCLUSIVE
10	No response

Q53. Does your institution have a phased physical return plan for staff, faculty, and graduate students?

195	Yes
10	No
<10	Not sure
10	N/A
8	No response

Q54. Is COVID-19 testing available for staff, faculty members, and students (if applicable) at your institution?

96	Yes, anyone can get tested
72	Yes, but only people who are symptomatic or who have had contact with someone who has COVID-19 can get tested
29	No
14	Not yet, but in planning phase
<10	Not sure
8	No response

Q55. Are contact tracing, transmission modeling, and other monitoring measures being implemented at your institution?

179	Yes
27	No
10	In planning phase
8	No response

Q56. Is there an organizational plan for reporting COVID-19 cases and emerging cases?

201	Yes
<10	No
<10	In planning phase
10	No response

Q57. In which of the following areas, if any, is your institution currently offering any COVID-19-related flexibilities for faculty/staff? Please select all that apply.

210	Telework
141	Tenure-clock considerations
66	Teaching hours
136	Employment hours
<10	Other (please specify)
<10	None of the above EXCLUSIVE
9	No response

Q58. How effectively has your institution managed the logistical process of returning to physical workplaces?

141	Very effectively
67	Somewhat effectively
<10	Not very effectively
<10	Not effectively at all
10	No response

Q59. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My institution has provided clear guidance about returning to the workplace.

113	Strongly agree
86	Agree
<10	Neither agree nor disagree
<10	Disagree
<10	Strongly disagree
9	No response

Q60. Of the following measures, please select those that your institution has established in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please select all that apply.

197	A COVID-19 response team (addressing communications, responses, and/or processes for return to the physical workplace)
194	Policies and procedures to secure adequate PPE and sanitation equipment for offices, classrooms, and labs
97	Procedures for people with disabilities to safely return to the physical workplace
139	Procedures for people with a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 to safely return to the physical workplace
161	Policies and procedures to conduct clinical and non-clinical in-person research involving human subjects
181	Reconfigurations (or assignments) of physical space to research groups to promote social distancing
178	Policies and procedures in place for employees who do not feel comfortable with returning to the physical workplace
<10	Other (please specify)
<10	None of the above EXCLUSIVE
11	No response

How difficult will the following measures be to implement as the institution reopens?

Q61. Physical distancing

13	Very difficult
51	Difficult
116	Somewhat difficult
27	Not difficult at all
<10	N/A
14	No response

Q62. PPE and hand sanitizing provisions

<10	Very difficult
18	Difficult
63	Somewhat difficult
124	Not difficult at all
<10	N/A
15	No response

Q63. Contact tracing and tracking

<10	Very difficult
48	Difficult
105	Somewhat difficult
41	Not difficult at all
<10	N/A
14	No response

Q64. Communal dining restrictions

24	Very difficult
60	Difficult
81	Somewhat difficult
28	Not difficult at all
17	N/A
14	No response

Q65. Campus and public transportation limitations

18	Very difficult
51	Difficult
84	Somewhat difficult
24	Not difficult at all
32	N/A
15	No response

Q66. Safe dormitory facilities and occupancy

20	Very difficult
55	Difficult
67	Somewhat difficult
<10	Not difficult at all
61	N/A
16	No response

Q67. Custodial services and sanitizing of classrooms and laboratory spaces

<10	Very difficult
38	Difficult
93	Somewhat difficult
63	Not difficult at all
10	N/A
16	No response

Q68. Health care providers available for staff

11	Very difficult
33	Difficult
57	Somewhat difficult
75	Not difficult at all
31	N/A
17	No response

Q69. Some members of your faculty and staff may have household and caretaking responsibilities due to COVID-19. Caretaking responsibilities include childcare, schooling, elder person care, disabled care, and/or care for ill household and/or family members. Is the institution providing/expanding facilities for childcare/family care services to accommodate the care needs of research staff?

45	Yes
116	No
23	In planning phase
28	Don't know
12	No response

The NIH has created a webpage “[COVID-19: Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding](#)” to share how NIH’s applicant and recipient community may continue its research.

Q70. Are you aware of this NIH webpage?

164	Yes
46	No
<10	Unsure
11	No response

Q71 is displayed only if Q70 = Yes

Q71. How helpful have you found the webpage “COVID-19: Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding” in addressing your questions and concerns?

54	Very helpful
85	Somewhat helpful
18	Neither helpful nor unhelpful
<10	Barely helpful
<10	Not helpful at all

Q72. Please share with us any thoughts you may have around the impact of recent social unrest on research at your institution.

OPEN END

119	Total responses
105	No response

Q73. Please provide any additional feedback that you believe will be helpful to the NIH, including suggestions on how the NIH can support your institution during this period.

OPEN END

95	Total responses
129	No response

Q74. What is your age?

<10	18-24
<10	25-34
<10	35-44
55	45-54
87	55-64
46	65-74
<10	75 or older
10	Prefer not to answer
14	No response

Q75. What is your gender identity?

116	Man
78	Woman
<10	Transgender man
<10	Transgender woman
<10	Genderqueer or gender non-conforming
<10	Questioning
<10	Something else
14	Prefer not to answer
14	No response

Q76. Which of the following do you consider yourself to be?

173	Heterosexual or straight
<10	Lesbian, Gay, or Homosexual
<10	Bisexual
<10	Asexual
<10	Questioning
<10	Something else
25	Prefer not to answer
16	No response

Q77. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

<10	Yes
185	No
16	Prefer not to answer
16	No response

Q78. With which race do you most identify? Please select all that apply.

165	White
<10	Black or African American
<10	American Indian or Alaska Native
12	Asian
<10	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
<10	Other
19	Prefer not to answer
16	No response

Q79. Do you have a disability?

<10	Yes
187	No
16	Prefer not to answer
18	No response