

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

COVID-19 COMMUNITY  
IMPACT SURVEY:  
IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON YOUTH  
EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

Presented by: Elizabeth Beatriz

Coauthors: Justine Egan, Beatriz Pazos Vautin, Allison Guarino &  
Ziming Xuan



*Results as of June 8, 2021*

# REMINDER

This webinar is meant to be watched after you have already seen the [CCIS Introduction Webinar](#).

The introduction contains important background information explaining how to interpret these results, how we did the survey, and how to frame these findings with a racial justice lens so that we can all turn the CCIS data into action!

Visit <http://mass.gov/covidsurvey> for more!

# CCIS TEAM MEMBERS

## CCIS Project Leads

W.W. Sanouri Ursprung, Lauren Cardoso, Beth Beatriz, Glory Song, Caroline Stack, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Emily Sparer-Fine, Ben Wood, Lisa Bandoian, Heather Nelson, Amy Flynn, Lisa Arsenault, Abby Atkins

## CCIS Analytic Team

Beth Beatriz, Glory Song, Caroline Stack, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Emily Sparer-Fine, Ziming Xuan, Matthew Tumpney, Rebecca Han, Lauren Larochele, Arielle Coq, Anne Marie Matteucci, Lauren Fogharty, Vera Mouradian, Melody Kingsley, Ta Wei Lin, Anna Agan, Justine Egan, Allison Guarino, Elizabeth Showalter, Beatriz Pazos Vautin, Priyokti Rana, Mayowa Sanusi, Emily Lawson, Alana LeBrón, Lauren Cardoso, W.W. Sanouri Ursprung

## CCIS Steering Committee

Lauren Cardoso, W.W. Sanouri Ursprung, Beth Beatriz, Abbie Averbach, Ruth Blodgett, Ben Wood, Sabrina Selk, Nicole Daley, Lisa Bandoian

## CCIS Data to Action Workgroup

Jessica del Rosario, Kim Etingoff, Lisa Bandoian, Andrea Mooney, Ben Kingston, Lauren Cardoso; Dawn Fukuda, Lamar Polk, Hermik Babakhanlou-Chase, Glennon Beresin, Mahsa Yazdy, Emily White, Timothy St. Laurent, Fareesa Hasan, Nicole Roos

## CCIS Data Dissemination Workgroup

Beth Beatriz, Glory Song, Emily Sparer-Fine, Ta Wei Lin, Vera Mouradian, Rebecca Han

# CCIS COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Many groups that were critical in the success of this effort and gave important input on the development and deployment of the survey:

- Health Resources in Action (HRiA)
- John Snow International (JSI)
- Academic Public Health Volunteer Corps and their work with local boards of health and on social media
- Mass in Motion programs, including Springfield, Malden, and Chelsea
- Cambodian Mutual Assistance
- The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
- The Immigrants' Assistance Center, Inc
- Families for Justice as Healing
- City of Lawrence Mayor's Health Task Force
- The 84 Coalitions, including the Lawrence/Methuen Coalition
- Boys and Girls Clubs, including those in Fitchburg and Leominster and the Metro South area
- Chinatown Neighborhood Association
- Father Bill's
- UTEC
- MassCOSH
- Stavros Center for Independent Living
- Greater Springfield Senior Services
- Center for Living and Working
- DEAF, Inc.
- Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Viability, Inc.



# PURPOSE AND INTENT

# COVID-19 & YOUTH



This webinar will share some key findings from the COVID-19 Community Impact Survey (CCIS) showing the pandemic's impact on youth education and employment:

- Inform immediate and short-term actions
- Identify ways to advance new, collaborative solutions with community partners to solve the underlying causes of inequities
- Provide data that stakeholders at all levels can use to "make the case" for a healthy future for ALL.

Remember to watch the [CCIS Introduction Webinar](#) for important background, tools, and tips to frame these findings with a racial justice lens to turn the CCIS data into action!

Visit <http://mass.gov/covidsurvey> for all things CCIS!

# YOUTH CCIS RESPONDENTS PROFILE



3,052 youth ages 14-24 took the survey in Fall 2020



32% speak a language other than English at home



46% under 18 years old  
54% 18 and over



21% youth with disabilities



39% working youth

The CCIS worked intentionally to reach diverse youth populations by **partnering with community-based organizations** serving youth in MA, as well as communities most impacted by COVID-19



Artwork by Farah Jeune



# YOUTH EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT



# FRAMING MATTERS

Despite the common belief that youth are not impacted or worried about COVID-19, the data shows us that youth are deeply concerned and have been significantly impacted by the pandemic, especially youth of color, LGBTQA youth, youth with disabilities, and young parents.

- Work can be protective or harmful for all workers. Before and during the pandemic, youth worked in industries that required them to work outside the home, which was a risk factor for exposure to COVID-19. Risk factors related to work and COVID-19 were disproportionately spread among specific groups of young workers.

# COVID AND SCHOOL

 1 in 3 youth reported worrying about continuing their education this school year.

Certain groups were even more likely to report being worried about continuing their education this school year.

- 58% of youth with a self-care/independent living disability
- 56% of youth with a cognitive disability
- 51% of youth of transgender experience
- 46% of non-binary youth
- 44% of Hispanic/Latinx youth
- 42% of AI/AN youth
- 40% of Black, nH/nL youth
- 40% of Multiracial, nH/nL youth

These youth were **also** more likely to report being worried about:

Getting supports needed to engage in school, particularly remotely, such as:



Getting help with homework



Accessing an affordable internet connection



Accessing computers, laptops, or tablets

Economic stressors in their family that may impact their ability to fully engage in their education, such as:



Finding a job for themselves

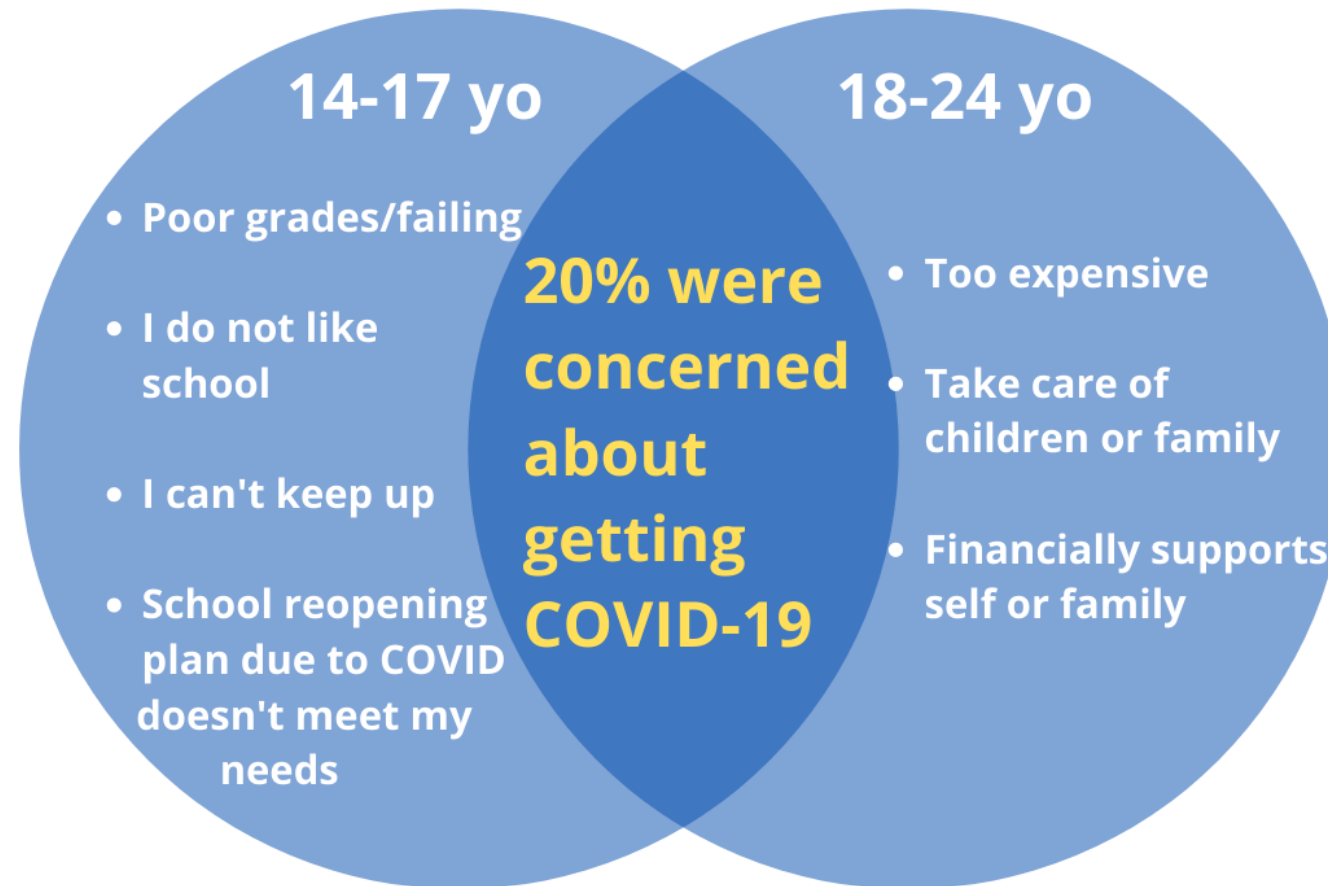


Someone in their family keeping a job or finding a job

# COVID AND SCHOOL

23% of youth said they definitely won't, probably won't or don't know if they will continue school.

## Reasons for not continuing school in the fall



# RESOURCES NEEDED FOR SCHOOL & WORK



9% wanted help getting a computer, tablet, or phone

- 33% of youth who are blind/vision impairment
- 19% of youth with a mobility disability
- 18% of youth with a self-care/independent living disability
- 14% of Asian, nH/nL youth
- 14% of Hispanic/Latinx youth
- 14% of Black, nH/nL youth
- 12% of youth who speak a language other than English



17% wanted a tutor to help with homework

- 49% of youth who are blind/vision impairment
- 30% of youth with a mobility disability
- 26% of youth with a self-care/independent living disability
- 24% of youth with a cognitive disability
- 23% of Hispanic/Latinx youth
- 23% of Black, nH/nL youth
- 23% of youth under age 18
- 19% of youth who speak a language other than English



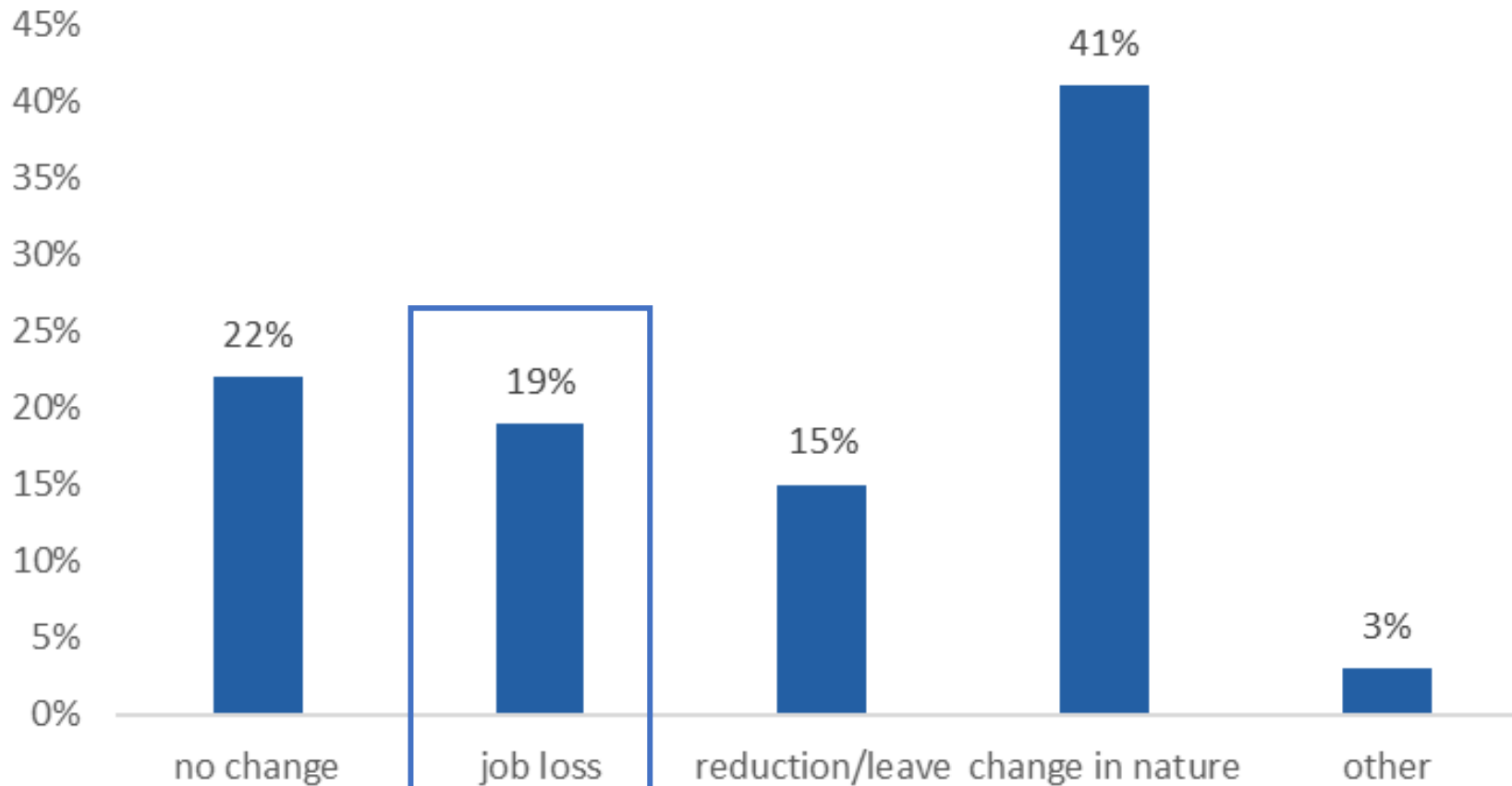
28% wanted help finding a job

- 42% of youth with a self-care/independent living disability
- 42% of AI/AN youth
- 36% of Asian, nH/nL
- 36% of Hispanic/Latinx youth
- 36% of youth who speak a language other than English
- 34% of Black, nH/nL youth
- 34% of youth with a cognitive disability

51% of youth were employed in the past year.

# CHANGE IN NATURE OF WORK

% youth among those employed in the past year



Overall, nearly 8 in 10 youth employed in the past year reported changes in their employment due to the pandemic:

1 in 3 youth reported job loss, reduced hours, or taking leave.

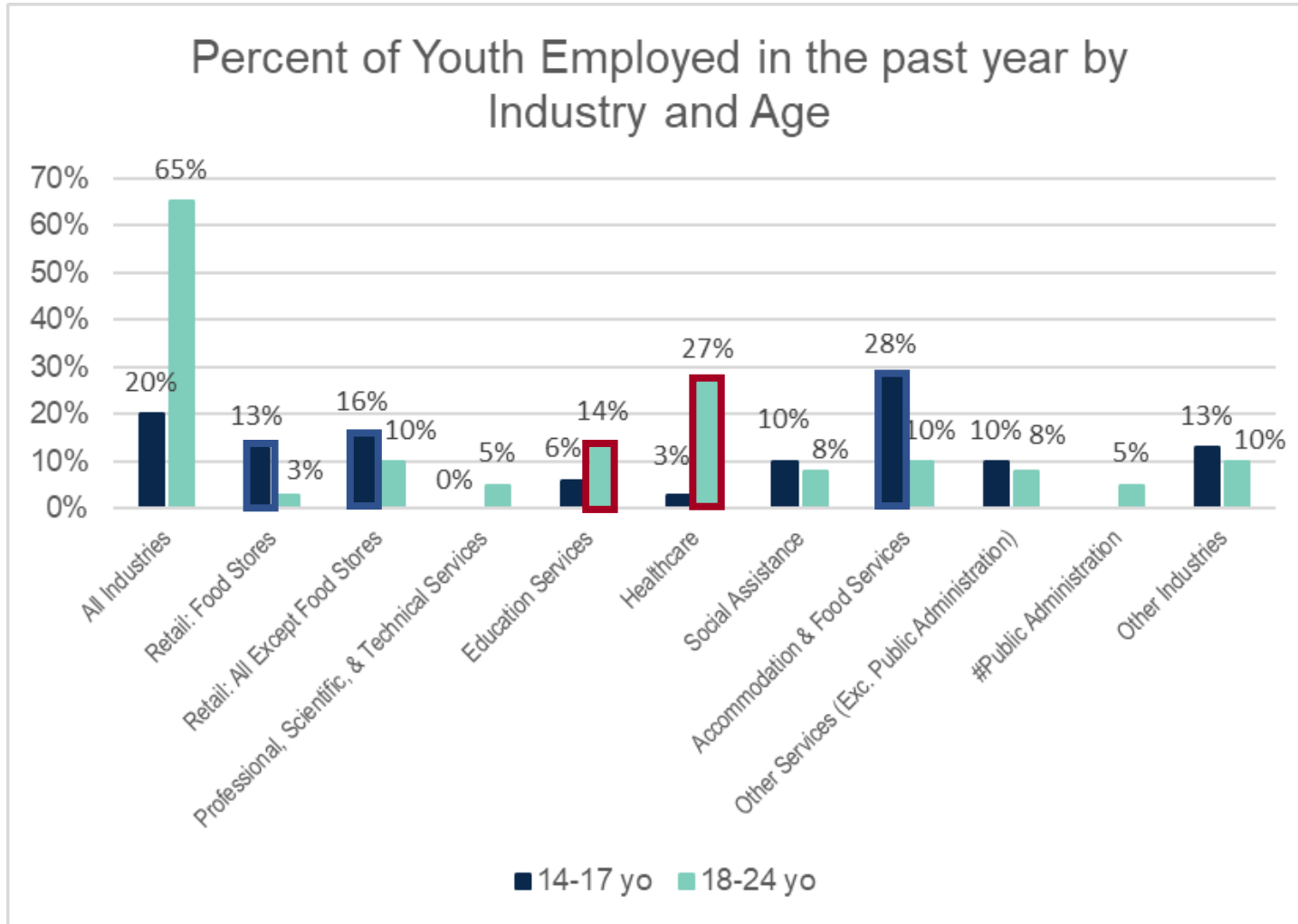
Those **most likely** to do so were:

- Black, nH/nL
- Hispanic/Latinx
- Bisexual/Pansexual youth
- Youth with a cognitive disability
- Young parents
- Youth living in a rural area

Youth were **2x** as likely to report losing their jobs compared to adult workers (19% v 10%).

# WHERE ARE YOUTH WORKING?

Youth worked in industries hit very hard by the pandemic



Nearly 3 in 5 (57%) younger youth worked in accommodation & food services, or retail.

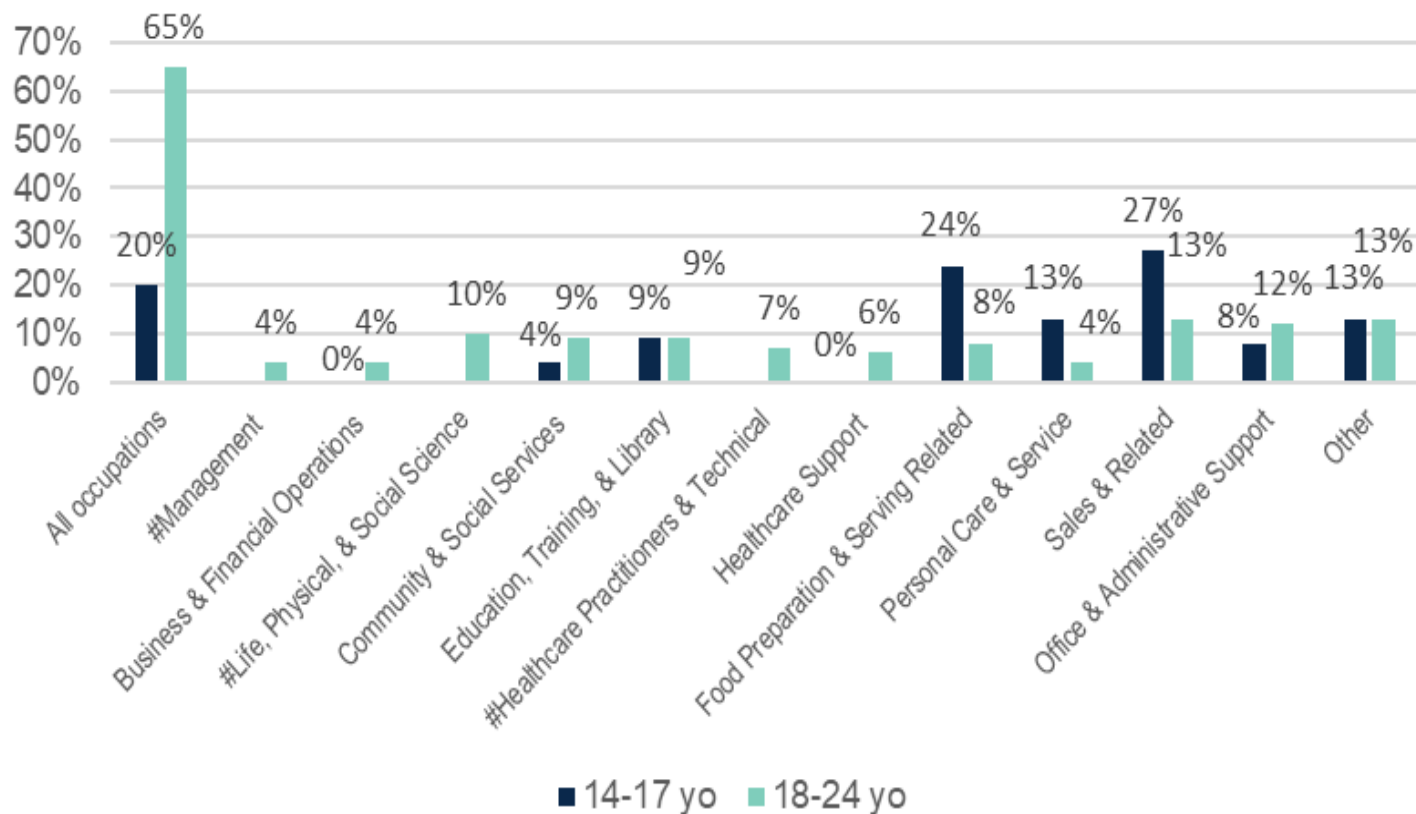
2 in 5 (41%) older youth worked in healthcare or education.

Data notes: 1) Industry groups are based on Bureau of Census Industry Codes (CIC); 2) retail: food stores = grocery stores, specialty food stores, gas stations [includes those with convenient stores]; 3) "other industries" = Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Utilities; Construction; Manufacturing; Wholesale Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; Information; Finance & Insurance; Real Estate & Rental & Leasing; Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt & Remed. Svcs; Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation; 4) All percentages are weighted to the statewide age and race/ethnicity distribution of those 14-24 years.

# WHAT JOBS ARE YOUTH DOING?

Reopening plans need to include youth as many worked in jobs which were lost during the pandemic especially during the upcoming summer months when many youth work

Percent of Youth Employed in the past year by Occupation and Age



**1 in 2 (51%)** younger youth worked in sales and related jobs, or food preparation and serving jobs.

**1 in 4 (25%)** older youth worked in sales and related jobs, or office and administrative support jobs

Data notes: 1) occupation groups are based on Bureau of Census Occupation Codes (COC); 2) "other occupations" = Computer & Mathematical; Architecture & Engineering; Legal; Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media; Protective Service; Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance; Farming, Fishing, & Forestry; Construction & Extraction; Installation, Maintenance, & Repair; Production; Transportation & Material Moving; 3) All percentages are weighted to the statewide age and race/ethnicity distribution of those 14-24 years.



# EMPLOYER PROVIDED PROTECTIVE MEASURES



**3 in 5** currently working youth worked a job outside of the home facing increased risk of exposure to COVID.

Certain groups were even more likely to work outside the home.

- **88%** of parents
- **85%** of youth 14–17-year-olds
- **79%** of youth living in rural areas
- **73%** of males
- **64%** of youth of non-transgender experience

Among those working outside the home many youth were not able to access workplace protections



**3 in 5** (64%) respondents worked in places that **provided personal protective equipment (PPE)**.



**3 in 5** (61%) respondents worked in places that **implemented social distancing**.



**2 in 5** (37%) respondents worked in places that **provided additional health & safety training**.

This lack of workplace protections was even more pronounced for younger youth, bisexual youth, and youth of color.

# KEY TAKEAWAYS: YOUTH EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

The pandemic has had a significant impact on youth's education and employment – as reopening continues, policies must include youth and take into consideration that:

- Youth have been asked to work and continue their education while helping out at home more during the pandemic.
- Many youth work in industries and occupations hard hit by the pandemic. Youth were twice as likely as adults to lose their jobs in the past year.
- Youth who graduated during the pandemic may have had difficulty entering the workforce due to the pandemic.

The future economic, social and political impacts from COVID will be acutely felt by youth for years to come.

# WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Visit <http://mass.gov/covidsurvey> for more information on how residents of Massachusetts have been impacted by the pandemic and how we can all work together to turn these data into action!