In May 2021, MissionSquare Research Institute conducted an online survey of 1,203 state and local government employees (493 K-12 employees and 710 other government employees), fielded by Greenwald Research. Final data were weighted by gender, age, income, and industry type to reflect the distribution of the state and local government workforce as found in the U.S. Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey and the U.S. Census of Governments. Since the start of the pandemic, the size of the state and local government workforce has decreased by nearly 1.3 million, with almost 1 million of those job losses occurring in state and local government education (Source: BLS).

**Impact of COVID-19 on the K-12 education workforce:**

One year later

**MissionSquare Research Institute** conducted surveys in May 2020, October 2020, and May 2021 to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public sector workers’ financial and employment outlooks, and health and safety concerns. Visit slge.org/workforce for past infographics and reports and be on the lookout for the full report of K-12 results in September 2021.

In May 2021, MissionSquare Research Institute conducted an online survey of 1,203 state and local government employees (493 K-12 employees and 710 other government employees), fielded by Greenwald Research. Final data were weighted by gender, age, income, and industry type to reflect the distribution of the state and local government workforce as found in the U.S. Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey and the U.S. Census of Governments.

Since the start of the pandemic, the size of the state and local government workforce has decreased by nearly 1.3 million, with almost 1 million of those job losses occurring in state and local government education (Source: BLS).

**MissionSquare Research Institute** conducted surveys in May 2020, October 2020, and May 2021 to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public sector workers’ financial and employment outlooks, and health and safety concerns. Visit slge.org/workforce for past infographics and reports and be on the lookout for the full report of K-12 results in September 2021.

**Impacts of COVID-19 on the K-12 education workforce:**

One year later

**Vaccine status and views**

As of May 2021:

- **K-12 workers:** 75% of K-12 workers were fully vaccinated, as compared with 60% of all state and local government employees.
- **42%** of K-12 workers are more likely than other government workers (36%) to have been strongly encouraged to get vaccinated by their employer.
- **55%** of K-12 workers are more likely than other government workers (47%) to think government employers should mandate vaccines.

**Impact on students**

- **77%** of K-12 employees said that internet access/speed for students learning from home had been an issue during the pandemic.
- **69%** of K-12 employees said that school technology capabilities had been an issue during the pandemic.
- **90%** of K-12 employees said that concerns about students in their school back-to-school routines or other students; 34% are extremely concerned.

**Financial outlook**

- **50%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has negatively impacted them and their family financially.
- **44%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that they are concerned about being able to retire when they want.
- **38%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that having reduced general savings has been an issue during the pandemic.

**Views on working in the public sector during COVID**

- **59%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made the public more aware of the importance of what they do.
- **55%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the risks I’m taking working during the pandemic are not on par with my compensation.
- **43%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that working during the pandemic has made me consider changing jobs.

**Morale and job satisfaction**

- **63%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the quality of colleagues/coworkers has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **62%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that job security has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **60%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the quality of leadership/management has been an issue during the pandemic.

**Top 3 job elements least satisfied with:**

- **62%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that job security has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **65%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that retirement benefits and health insurance has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **60%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the quality of leadership/management has been an issue during the pandemic.

**Top 3 emotions felt at work:**

- **Stressed:** 58% of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made them more stressed.
- **Burn-out/fatigued:** 52% of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made them more burned out or fatigued.
- **Anxious:** 28% of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made them more anxious.

**Top 3 job elements most satisfied with:**

- **72%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the quality of leadership/management has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **69%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that job security has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **65%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that retirement benefits and health insurance has been an issue during the pandemic.

**Impact of COVID-19 on the K-12 education workforce:**

One year later

**Vaccine status and views**

As of May 2021:

- **75%** of K-12 workers were fully vaccinated, as compared with 60% of all state and local government employees.
- **42%** of K-12 workers are more likely than other government workers (36%) to have been strongly encouraged to get vaccinated by their employer.
- **55%** of K-12 workers are more likely than other government workers (47%) to think government employers should mandate vaccines.

**Impact on students**

- **77%** of K-12 employees said that internet access/speed for students learning from home had been an issue during the pandemic.
- **69%** of K-12 employees said that school technology capabilities had been an issue during the pandemic.
- **90%** of K-12 employees said that concerns about students in their school back-to-school routines or other students; 34% are extremely concerned.

**Financial outlook**

- **50%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has negatively impacted them and their family financially.
- **44%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that they are concerned about being able to retire when they want.
- **38%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that having reduced general savings has been an issue during the pandemic.

**Views on working in the public sector during COVID**

- **59%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made the public more aware of the importance of what they do.
- **55%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the risks I’m taking working during the pandemic are not on par with my compensation.
- **43%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that working during the pandemic has made me consider changing jobs.

**Morale and job satisfaction**

- **63%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the quality of colleagues/coworkers has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **62%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that job security has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **60%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the quality of leadership/management has been an issue during the pandemic.

**Top 3 emotions felt at work:**

- **Stressed:** 58% of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made them more stressed.
- **Burn-out/fatigued:** 52% of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made them more burned out or fatigued.
- **Anxious:** 28% of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the pandemic has made them more anxious.

**Top 3 job elements most satisfied with:**

- **72%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that the quality of leadership/management has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **69%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that job security has been an issue during the pandemic.
- **65%** of K-12 employees are more likely than other government workers to say that retirement benefits and health insurance has been an issue during the pandemic.

**MissionSquare Research Institute** conducted surveys in May 2020, October 2020, and May 2021 to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public sector worker’s financial and employment outlooks, and health and safety concerns. Visit slge.org/workforce for past infographics and reports and be on the lookout for the full report of K-12 results in September 2021.

In May 2021, MissionSquare Research Institute conducted an online survey of 1,203 state and local government employees (493 K-12 employees and 710 other government employees), fielded by Greenwald Research. Final data were weighted by gender, age, income, and industry type to reflect the distribution of the state and local government workforce as found in the U.S. Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey and the U.S. Census of Governments.

Since the start of the pandemic, the size of the state and local government workforce has decreased by nearly 1.3 million, with almost 1 million of those job losses occurring in state and local government education (Source: BLS).