In Their Own Words
The Impact of Covid19 on DREAMers

March 26, 2020
Survey Methodology

• To understand the current needs of our Scholars during the Covid-19 crisis TheDream.US surveyed our 3,700+ Scholars

• Survey was launched on Monday, March 23rd and closed on Tuesday March 24th.

• 1679 Scholars completed the Survey; a 44.6% response rate
Impact on Scholars Income
76% of Scholars work

Of those working, 80% are experiencing income loss due to:

- Work hours reduced,
- Job lost temporarily, or
- Job lost permanently

“[I’m] worried about everything: rent, food, medical care etc., that my family and I might need and might not get if there’s no work to pay for basic needs.”

-TheDream.US Scholar
Q1: For those working, how did it affect your work?

Answered: 1,276

- No effect: 21%
- Work hours reduced: 23%
- Job lost temporarily: 50%
- Job lost permanently: 7%
Impact of temporary job lost

Of the 632 respondents who said they lost their job temporarily, 92% will not be paid or will be paid a reduced amount.

“I lost a job temporarily (3 months) and they’re unsure if they’ll call back. And, I lost my other full time job.”

- TheDream.US Scholar
Q2: If you lost your job temporarily, will you be getting paid?

Answered: 632

- No Pay: 75%
- Reduced Pay: 17%
- Same Pay: 8%
Mental health support

58% of Scholars reported needing mental health support

“My anxiety has been very high as of late. How do I cope with my anxiety?”

-TheDream.US Scholar
Q3: If you are in need of mental health support, what would be helpful? Check all that apply.

Answered: 1,644    Skipped: 35

- Support group with peers: 13.14%
- Guided mental health practices (i.e. meditation): 30.29%
- One on one counseling: 26.03%
- Online Resources to access on my own: 34.49%
- Not applicable - I don’t need mental health support: 42.15%
- Other (please specify): 1.89%
Scholar Top needs

• Help with rent and utilities

• Help with food and meals

“Although I currently have a job, my parents have lost theirs and I am now the head of household. I’m stressed and unsure of how this will affect my entire household in the future.

-TheDream.US Scholar
Q4: Do you need help with any of the following during this time? Check all that apply.

Answered: 1,255    Skipped: 424

- Free or low-cost wi-fi access: 21.83%
- Free, borrowed or low-cost computer: 13.55%
- Mental health support: 25.34%
- Help with rent and/or utilities: 65.02%
- Help with food/meals: 48.05%
- Help with childcare: 2.71%
- Other (please specify): 12.35%
Concerns about Online classes

Many Scholars also reported anxiety on ability to do well in online classes and on completing majors that required labs, practicums, etc.

I’m an education major and unable to complete my fieldwork hours because schools have been shut down.

The resources at campus were really helpful in passing my classes, like tutoring. I’m concerned...not having that physical help one on one.

I’ve never taken an online class and I’m scared I will struggle with the classes and material.

I am struggling to keep up with school from home since I do not have internet access.
For More information

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