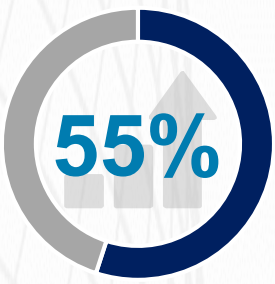


# 2020 NIH Extramural Surveys:

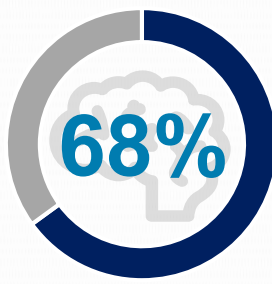
## The Impact of COVID-19 on the Research Community

In October of 2020, 45,348 researchers at domestic, NIH-funded institutions and 224 research leaders from the top 1,000 NIH-funded domestic institutions responded to an NIH COVID-19 Impact on Extramural Research Survey, which aimed to gauge the impact of COVID-19 on the research community.

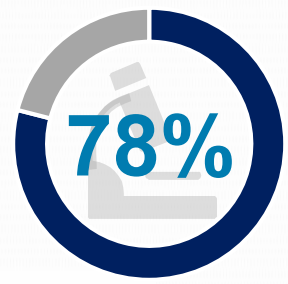
At a high-level, survey findings emphasized the impact of COVID-19 on the **career trajectory**, **mental health**, and **research productivity** of extramural researchers:



of respondents said **the pandemic will have a negative impact their career trajectory**



of respondents said **societal/political events negatively affected their mental health**, more than other factors



of respondents reported **lower levels of productivity** since the pandemic began



### CAREER TRAJECTORY

**61%** of lab-based researchers agreed that the pandemic will harm their career trajectory

- **Asian respondents** were more likely than other groups to anticipate a negative career trajectory (**65%**), with a decline in research activities and lab-based research driving opinions
- **Black or African American respondents** were least likely to anticipate a negative career trajectory (**39%**), with relatively fewer lab researchers and more public health researchers driving a more optimistic outlook

Top **career stages** that anticipate negatively impacted career trajectories due to COVID-19:



**Postdoctoral Fellow/ Resident**



**Faculty (0-6 Years)**



**Faculty (7-14 Years)**

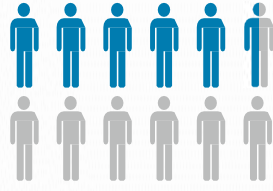


#### A Closer Look...

The strongest predictor of a **negative** career trajectory perception is researchers' **ability to apply for grants**

Top factors that negatively impacted researchers' **mental health** include:

- 1** | Societal and/or political events
- 2** | Physical and/or social isolation
- 3** | Disruption of promotion/tenure timeline



of respondents said their **mental/physical health had a substantially negative impact on productivity**.

- **Women** and respondents identifying as **"other" genders** were consistently **more negatively impacted** than men across top factors affecting mental health
- **Early career investigators** were consistently **more negatively impacted** across top factors affecting mental health
- **Asian researchers** cited **visa considerations as negatively affecting their mental health** at twice the rate than the average

### MENTAL HEALTH



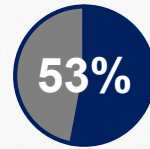
**Did You Know?** Survey findings indicated mental and physical health is the **#1** factor negatively impacting the productivity of early career investigators, Hispanics, and African American respondents



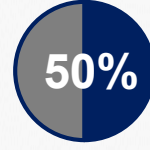
### RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY

- Early- (**80%**) and mid-career investigators (**81%**) reported **lower levels of productivity** due to COVID-19, with **faculty members** reporting a **more negative** impact than **non-faculty researchers**
- **53%** of Hispanics indicated their **mental/physical health has negatively impacted research productivity** since the pandemic began

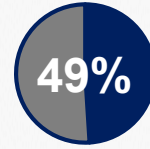
Top factors that negatively impacted researchers' **overall productivity** include:



**Virtual instead of in-person interactions with trainees, mentors, or supervisors**



**Cancellation of in-person regional, national, and/or international conferences**



**Changes in laboratory and/or animal facility access**



#### The Bottom Line:

The less institutional support provided to researchers leads to a greater impact on productivity

## AT A GLANCE: COVID-19 IMPACTS ON EXTRAMURAL INSTITUTIONS



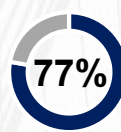
**83%**

of respondents indicated that COVID-19 had a **moderate or major impact on overall research productivity** at their institution

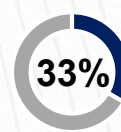


**41%** of respondents said it is likely the **financial repercussions of COVID-19 will jeopardize their institution's ability to maintain research functions**

**2 in 3** respondents were **very or extremely concerned** about the pandemic's impact on the **financial status of their institution**:



of **Doctorate-granting universities** reported as very or extremely concerned



of **Independent research institutions** reported as very or extremely concerned