CFO Forums COVID-19 poll results
Key considerations for the next normal
May 6, 2020
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Contents

Path to recovery 3-4
Post-crisis technology 5
Post-crisis workforce 6
Poll respondent industry representation 7

About the poll

CFOs from 166 U.S. companies participated in a Virtual CFO Forum (webcast) on May 6, 2020 and responded to polling questions during the session. Seventy percent represented private companies with about one-third from companies with annual revenue of more than $1 billion. An industry breakdown appears at the end of this report.

Participating CFOs have agreed to have their responses aggregated and presented.

This poll is intended to provide information regarding CFOs’ thinking across a variety of pandemic-related topics. It is not, nor is it intended to be a scientific sample in any way, including in its number of respondents, selection of respondents, or response rate, especially within individual industries. Accordingly, this report summarizes findings for the polled population but does not necessarily indicate economy- or-industry-wide perceptions or trends.

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More information

For additional information about the polling results and methodology, please contact: uscfoprogram@deloitte.com

For insights to help CFOs and other executives respond to the current crisis, please visit the dedicated COVID-19 site on Deloitte.com.
Path to recovery

What is your best guess for when your company will return to a pre-crisis (or near-normal) level of operations?

Nearly 60% of CFOs say they do not expect their operations to return to near-normal levels in 2020. The Retail/Wholesale sector is particularly optimistic, followed by Services and Manufacturing.

*Sample sizes for industries may not add up to total due to responses from “other” industries.
Path to recovery

We will open our local offices/operations for our workforce as soon as local and/or state governments permit it.

About half of CFOs say they plan to open local offices/operations as soon as local and/or state governments permit it.
Post-crisis technology

In the next 12 months, your investments in information technologies for virtual and automated business operations will:

About 60% of CFOs say their investments in information technologies for virtual and automated business operations will increase over the next 12 months.

- Substantially increase: 5%
- Increase: 56%
- Remain about the same: 35%
- Decrease: 4%
- Substantially decrease: 0%
### Post-crisis workforce

**Compared to pre-crisis levels, by what percentage will the size of your workforce likely to change in a year?**

About two-thirds of CFOs say they expect their workforce to be within 10% of its current size a year from now. The Retail/Wholesale and Services sectors are the most likely to expect substantial reductions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>More than 20% lower</th>
<th>More than 10% lower</th>
<th>Within 10% of current level</th>
<th>More than 10% higher</th>
<th>More than 20% higher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail/Wholesale</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy/Resources</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare/Pharma.</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecom/Media/Ent.</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Poll responses by industry

- Manufacturing: 28
- Financial Services: 39
- Healthcare/Pharma: 18
- Technology: 19
- Retail/Wholesale: 19
- Energy/Resources: 12
- Services: 22
- Telecom/Media/Ent.: 6
- Other: 3

Poll respondent industry representation