WABASH HEARTLAND
INNOVATION NETWORK

Placemaking Survey

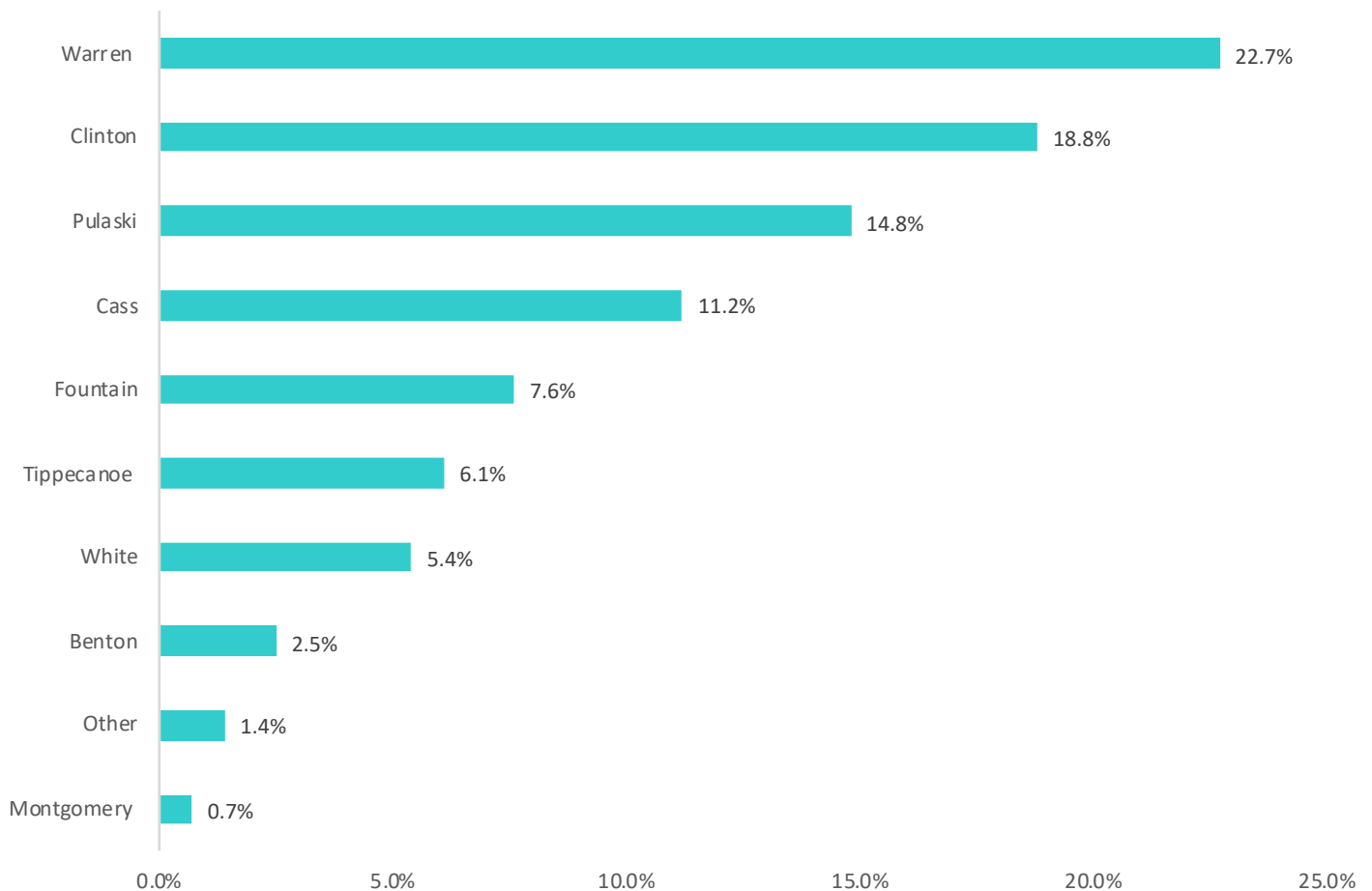REGIONAL REPORT 2020

WHIN

Says Who?

Nearly 280 residents of the Wabash Heartland Region responded the COVID-19 Impact Internet, E-Learning and Remote Work Survey between August 10, 2020, and October 10, 2020.

It is important to keep in mind that this is a convenience sample and not a scientific one. Therefore, the typical profile of a respondent is as follows: female (67.1%), either 21-44 years old (44.4%) or 45-64 years old (39%), and has either a Bachelor's degree (32.9%) or higher (25.6%).
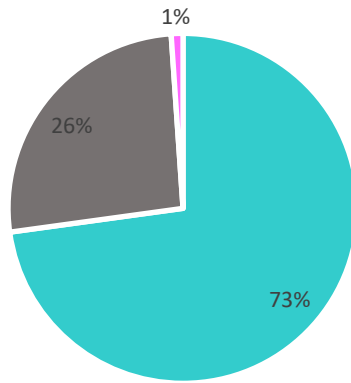
While all counties in the WHIN region were represented, most respondents came from Warren (23%), Clinton (19%), or Pulaski (15%) counties. This breakdown is particularly noteworthy, as Warren county has the lowest population size in the WHIN region based on 2018 U.S. Census Bureau Population estimates.

277
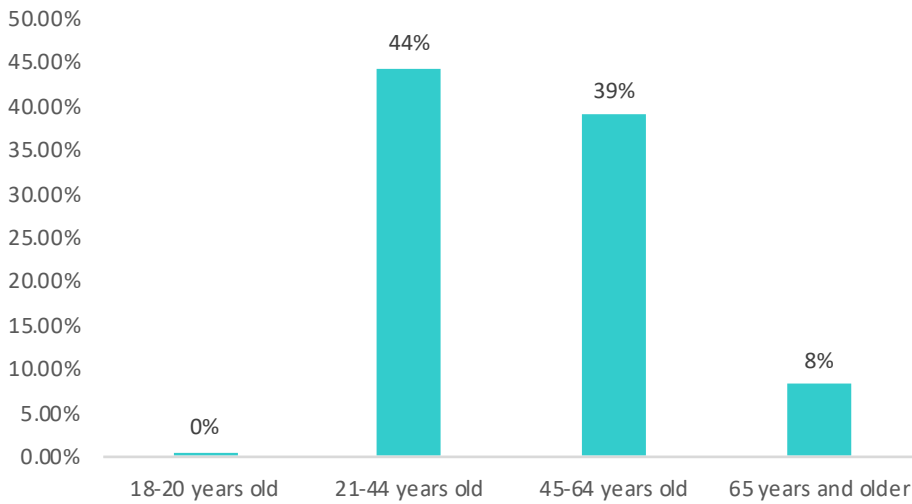## residents from the WHIN county region responded to the survey.

County of Residence

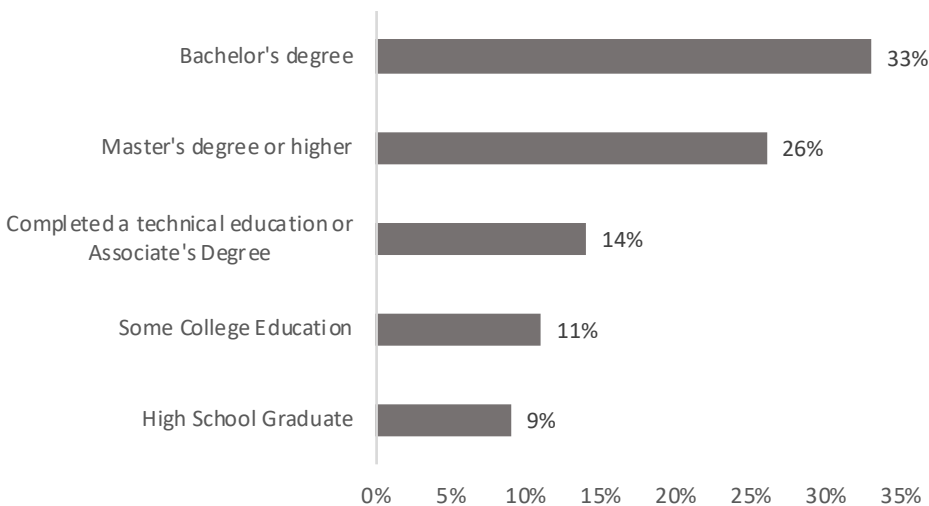| County	Percentage
Warren	22.7%
Clinton	18.8%
Pulaski	14.8%
Cass	11.2%
Fountain	7.6%
Tippecanoe	6.1%
White	5.4%
Benton	2.5%
Other	1.4%
Montgomery	0.7%

Gender

Legend: Female, Male, Other

- Female: 73%
- Male: 26%
- Other: 1%

Age

- 18-20 years old: 0%
- 21-44 years old: 44%
- 45-64 years old: 39%
- 65 years and older: 8%

Educational Attainment

- Bachelor's degree: 33%
- Master's degree or higher: 26%
- Completed a technical education or Associate's Degree: 14%
- Some College Education: 11%
- High School Graduate: 9%
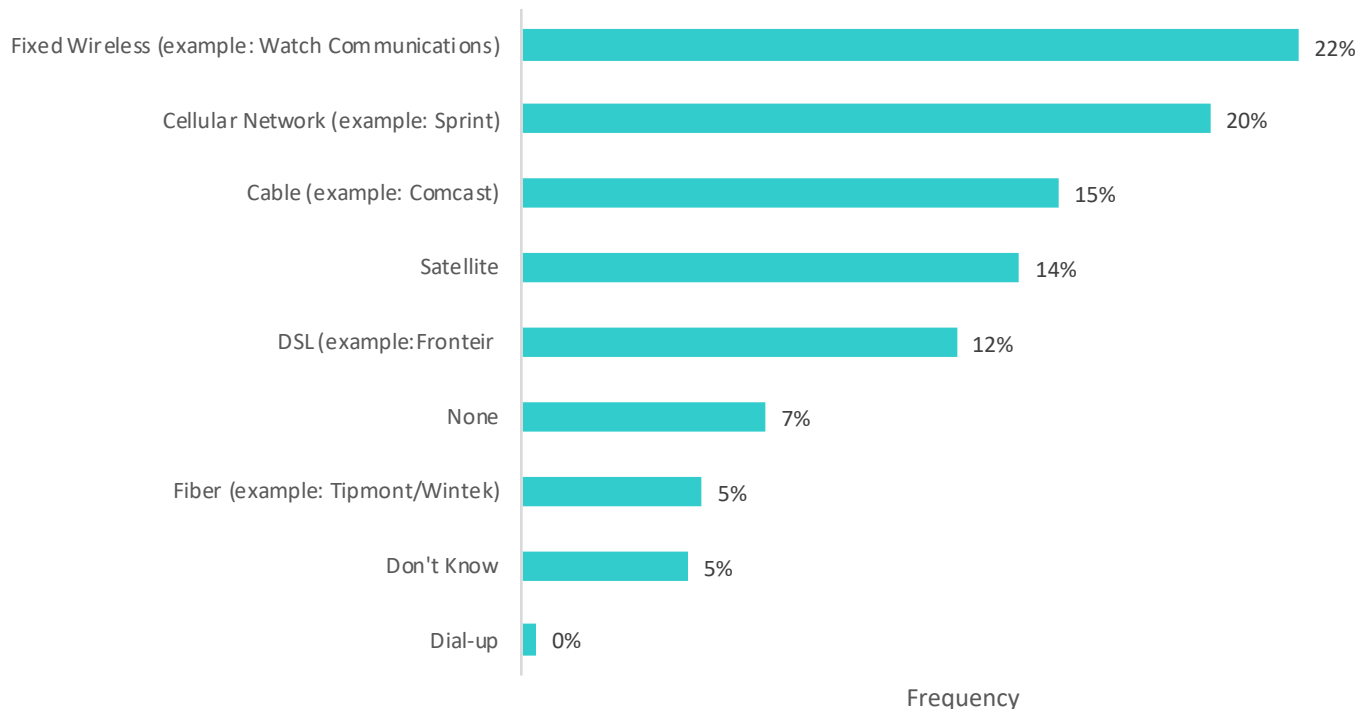
Internet Access at Home

One of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic is an increased need for internet access at home. Based on this survey, most respondents had either fixed wireless (22%) or cellular network (19.5%). To better understand the implications of these results, be sure to check out the WHIN State of Broadband report, which goes over each type of broadband available in the region.

This survey sought to understand the quality of resident's internet service through asking about resident's ability to do common tasks on their connection. For example, 50.2% of residents reported being able to stream video without interruption "most of the time" while 30.1% said "rarely." The results are relatively the same for video conferencing.
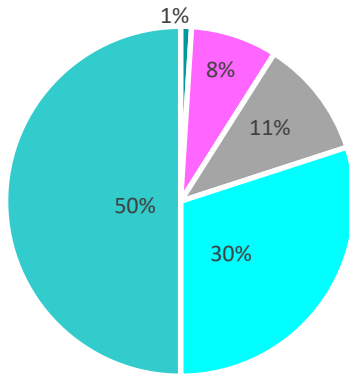
Overall, 43.6% of respondents reported that their internet service adequately meets all their family members' needs "most of the time" and 29.6% reported it rarely does.

22%

of respondents selected Fixed Wireless as their primary type of internet service used at home.

## What is the primary type of internet service used at your residence?

Type	Percentage
Fixed Wireless (example: Watch Communications)	22%
Cellular Network (example: Sprint)	20%
Cable (example: Comcast)	15%
Satellite	14%
DSL (example: Fronteir	12%
None	7%
Fiber (example: Tipmont/Wintek)	5%
Don't Know	5%
Dial-up	0%

Frequency

Legend: Don't Know · Never · All the time · Rarely · Most of the time

1%
8%
11%
30%
50%

Internet Access at Home

Can you stream a video without interruption?

Legend: Don't Know · Never · All the time · Rarely · Most of the time

4%
5%
12%
29%
50%
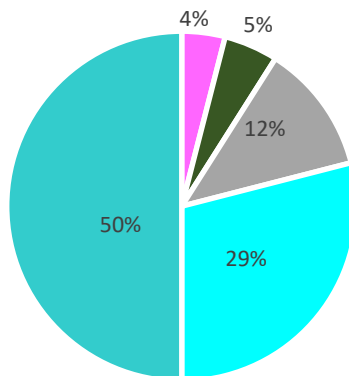
Internet Access at Home

Can you use video conferencing (example: Zoom) and similar apps without interruption?

Legend: Don't Know · All the time · Never · Rarely · Most of the time

1%
10%
15%
30%
44%
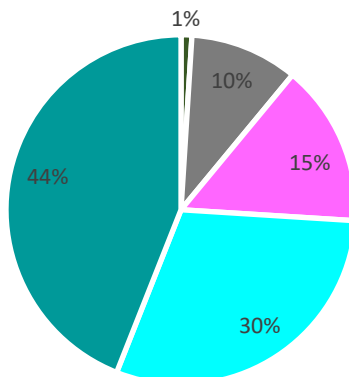
Internet Access at Home

Is your internet service adequate to meet all your family members' needs?

E-Learning

The second focus area of the survey was E-learning. The intent of this section was to learn more about how the pandemic has impacted families and their school-age children across the 10-county region. Based on this survey, over half (62.3%) had child(ren) attending K-12 schools. Of those respondents, 26% felt very comfortable supporting their children with learning and educational concepts and 25% felt somewhat comfortable.

When it comes to the digital divide, access to devices must be taken into account along with internet connection. Based on this survey, a Chromebook is used by 36% of children attending K-12 schools as their primary learning device to complete schoolwork. The Chromebook is rented from or provided by a school, church, library or other local community organization.

Survey results also provide insight into shared internet usage. Twenty-seven percent of respondents reported that their children can do their schoolwork "most of the time" at home despite other family members using the internet at the same time in comparison to 16% of families who reported "rarely."
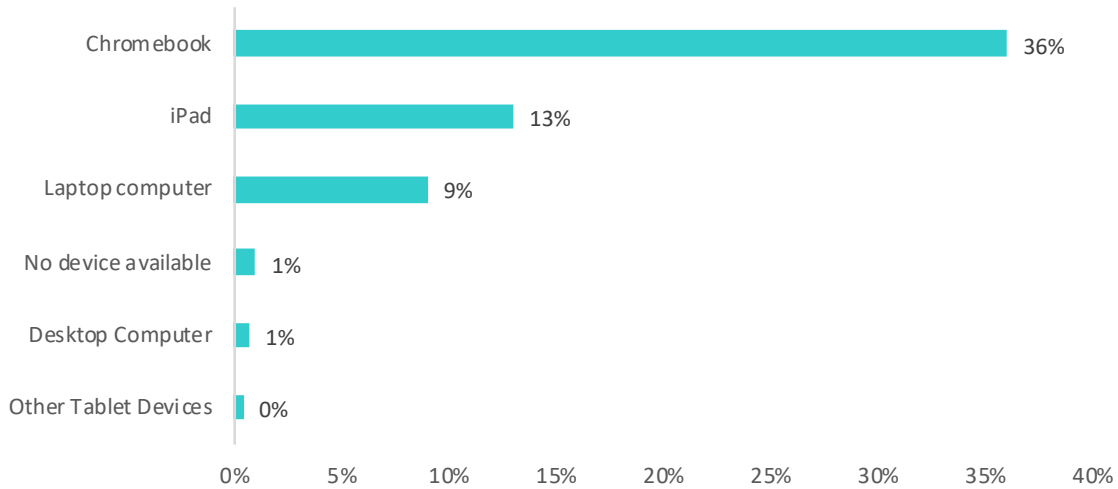
50%
of the respondents rented from, or were provided their child's or children's remote device/devices by a school, church, library or other

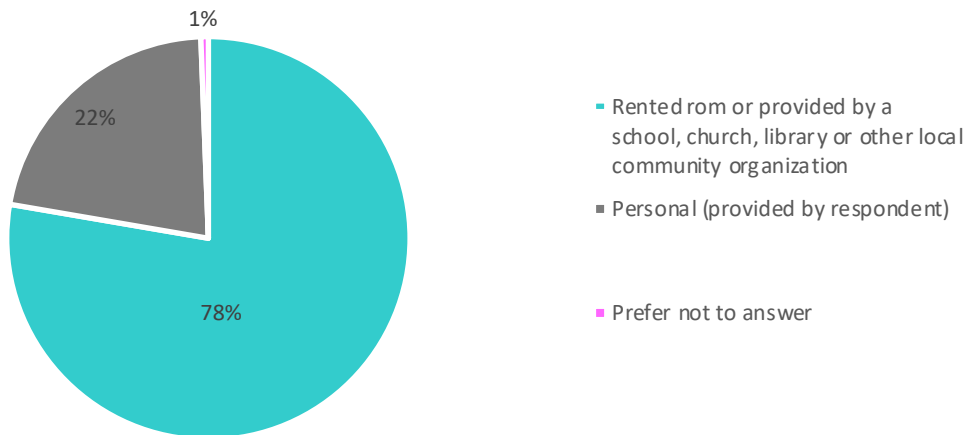## Do you have a child(ren) attending K-12 schools?

■ No   ■ Yes

38%

62%
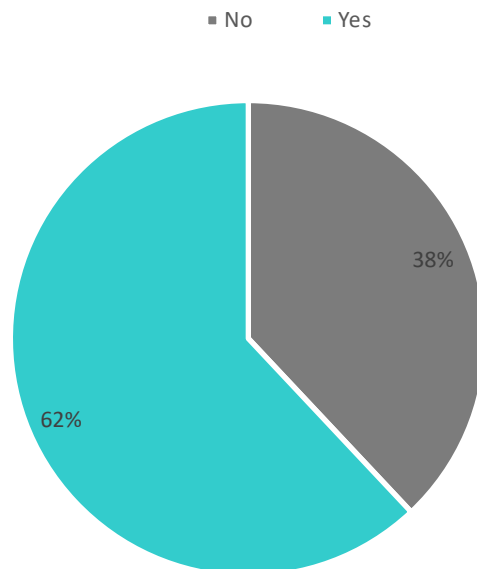
E-Learning

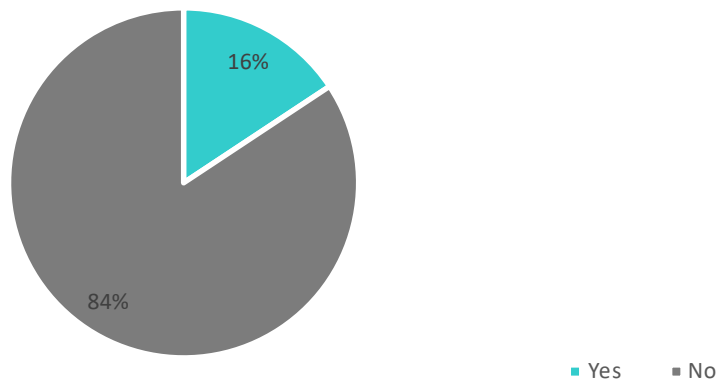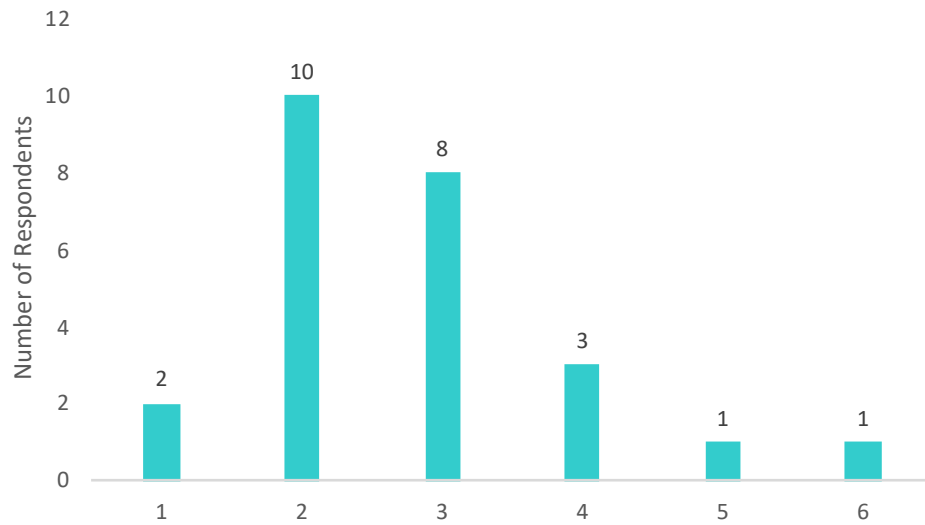What is the primary learning device your child(ren) most often use to complete schoolwork remotely?

Device	Percentage
Chromebook	36%
iPad	13%
Laptop computer	9%
No device available	1%
Desktop Computer	1%
Other Tablet Devices	0%

E-Learning

The learning device your child(ren) uses is: (Check all that apply)

- Rented rom or provided by a school, church, library or other local community organization — 78%
- Personal (provided by respondent) — 22%
- Prefer not to answer — 1%

E-Learning

Is the learning device shared with others in your family?
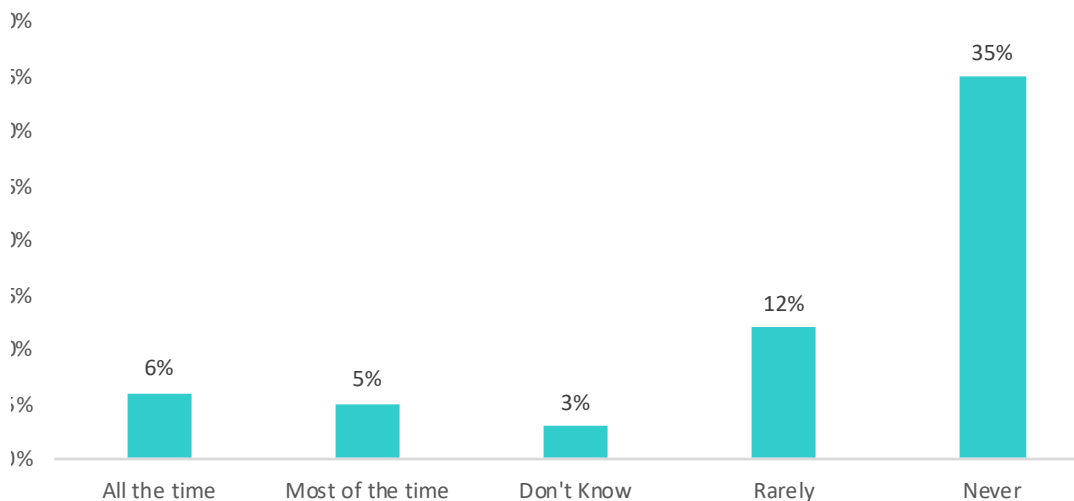
- Yes — 16%
- No — 84%

E-Learning

How many family members share the learning device?
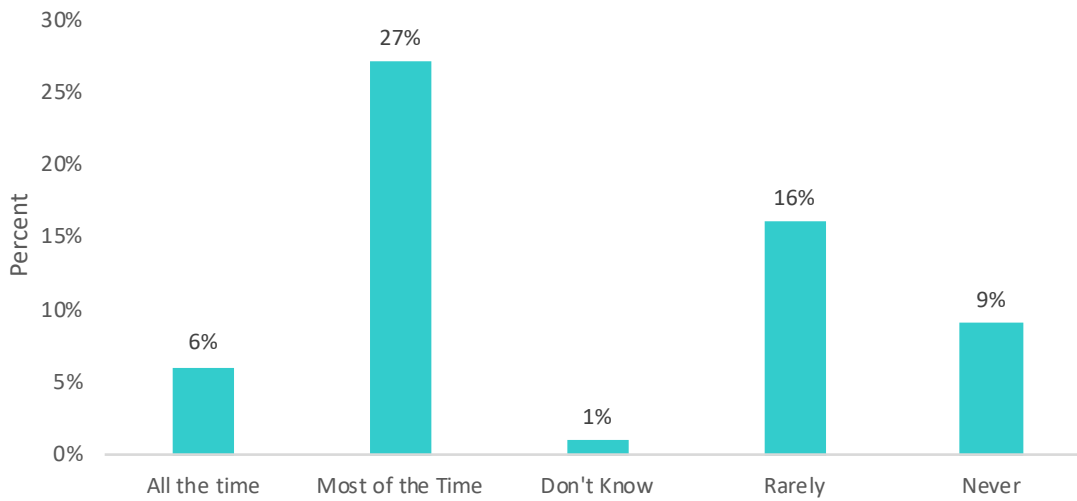
E-Learning

Is your child(ren) able to do school assignments at home without consideration of other internet users in the house(for example, is your child able to do school assignments at home despite other family members using the internet at the same time)?

E-Learning

Is your child(ren) dependent on a community-based organization or school to provide internet connectivity (example: hot spots) to do schoolwork remotely?
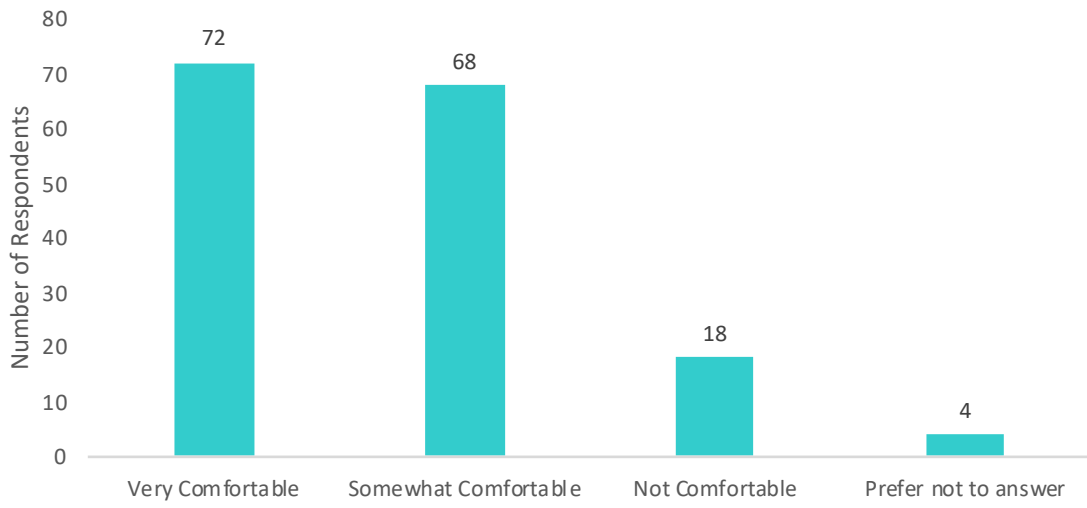
E-Learning

I am comfortable supporting my child(ren) with learning the educational concepts in their remote homework?

Chart: Number of Respondents
- Very Comfortable: 72
- Somewhat Comfortable: 68
- Not Comfortable: 18
- Prefer not to answer: 4

Remote Work

The third focus area of the survey was remote work. The purpose of this area of the survey was to explore and better understand the dynamics of remote work and its impact on the WHIN region communities, in particular, the workforce.

Of those who responded to the survey, 78.3% reported to be employed. Nearly 30% said their job status had not been impacted at the time they took the survey.

Of those employed, 30% reported to be working from home and receiving some sort of technical equipment/support from their employers.
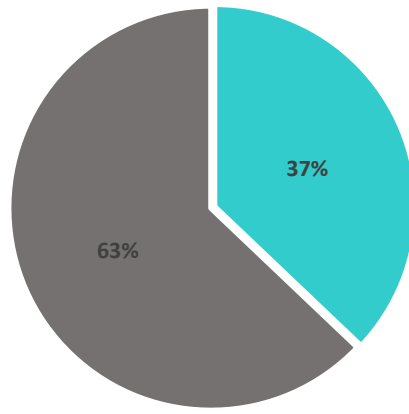
When respondents were asked about their quality of internet usage at home, 18% reported that they were able to work from home 'most of the time' despite other family members using the internet at the same time.

Regarding household members' employment status, 18.4% of survey participants reported to have household members who were full-time essential workers, with 37.1% versus 62.9% working from home.

30%
of respondents said home is the workplace location when working remotely.
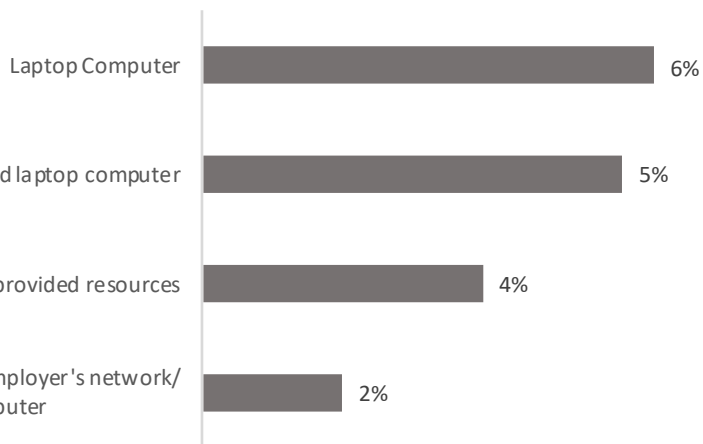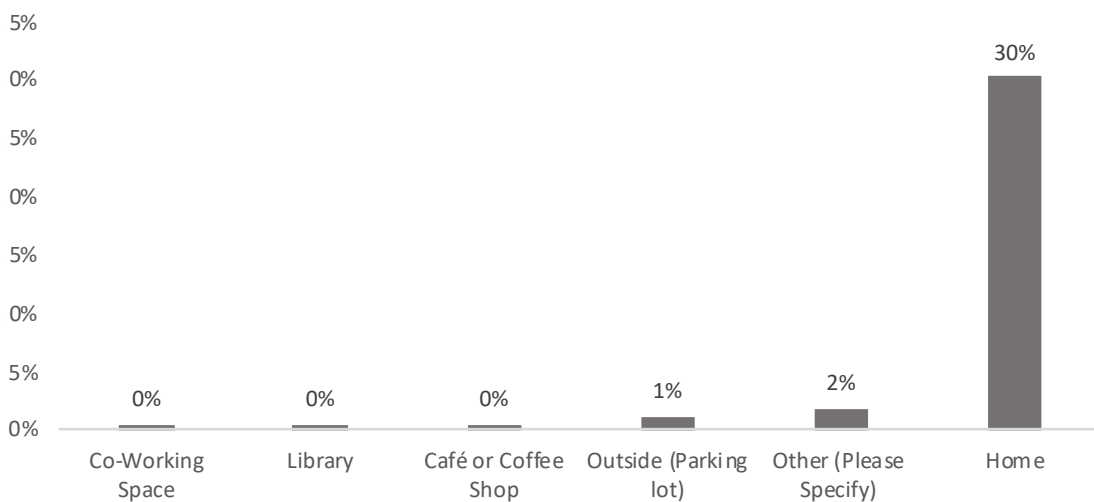
Are you currently employed?

3%

14%

84%

- Yes
- No
- Prefer Not to Answer
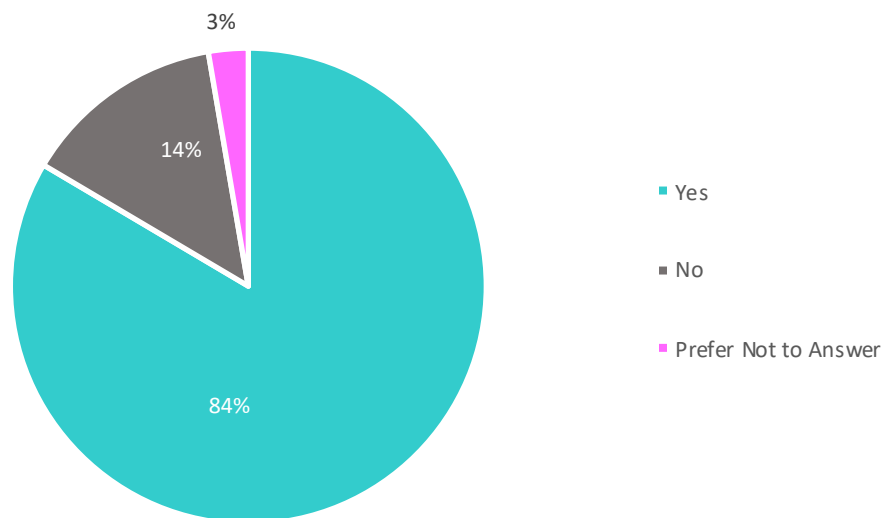
Remote work:

Because of COVID-19, is any member of your household working from home?

Yes — 37%
No — 63%

Remote work:

What resources does your employer provide to enable you to work remotely (please check all that apply)?* Note: It won't add to 100% because of the small number of respondents who answered this question.

Resource	%
Laptop Computer	6%
Employer's network or VPN and laptop computer	5%
No employer-provided resources	4%
Technical support, Access to the employer's network/VPN and Laptop computer	2%

Remote work:

Where do you work most often when working remotely?

Location	%
Co-Working Space	0%
Library	0%
Café or Coffee Shop	0%
Outside (Parking lot)	1%
Other (Please Specify)	2%
Home	30%
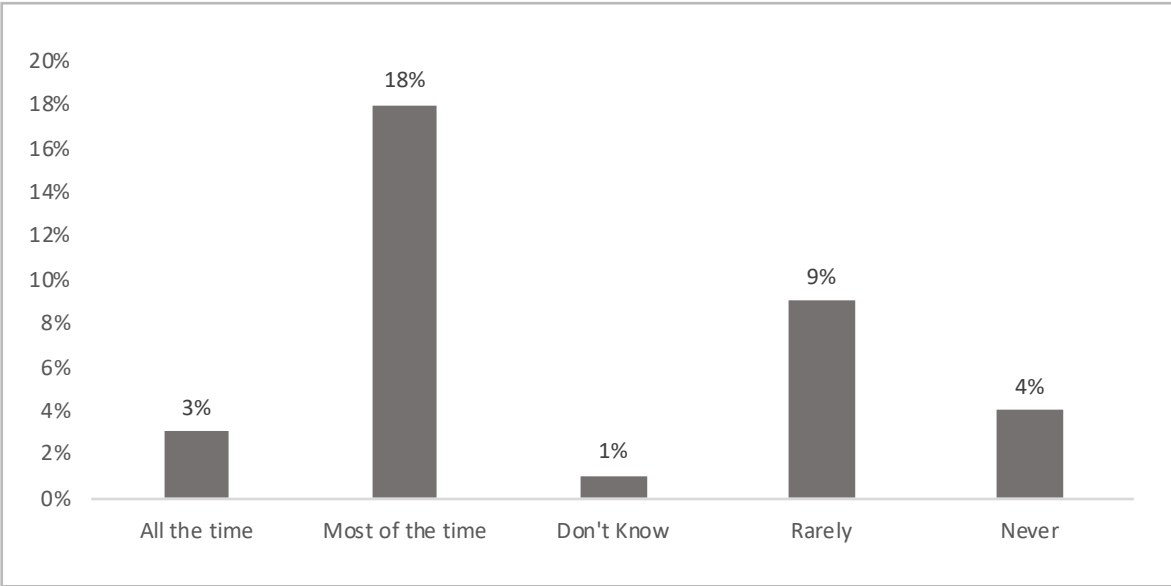
Remote work:

Are you able to work at home without consideration of other Internet users in the house(for example, are you able to work from home most of the time despite other family members using the internet at the same time)?

Chart: "Are you able to work at home..."
- All the time: 3%
- Most of the time: 18%
- Don't Know: 1%
- Rarely: 9%
- Never: 4%
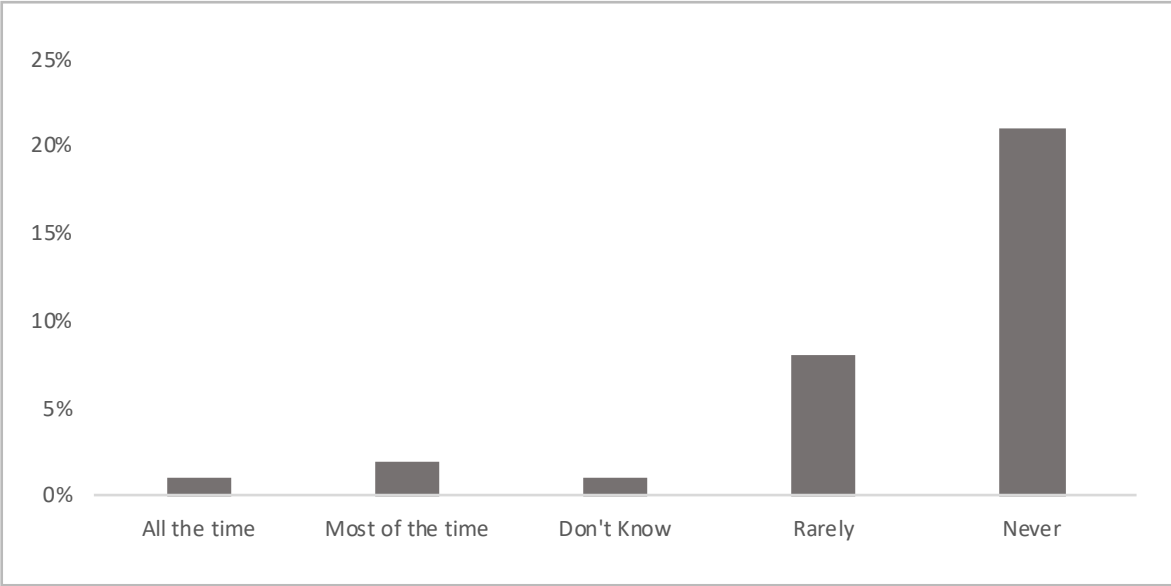
Remote work:

Are you dependent on a community-based organization or school to provide internet connectivity (example: hot spots) to do your remote work?

Chart: "Are you dependent on a community-based organization..."
- All the time: 1%
- Most of the time: 2%
- Don't Know: 1%
- Rarely: 8%
- Never: 21%
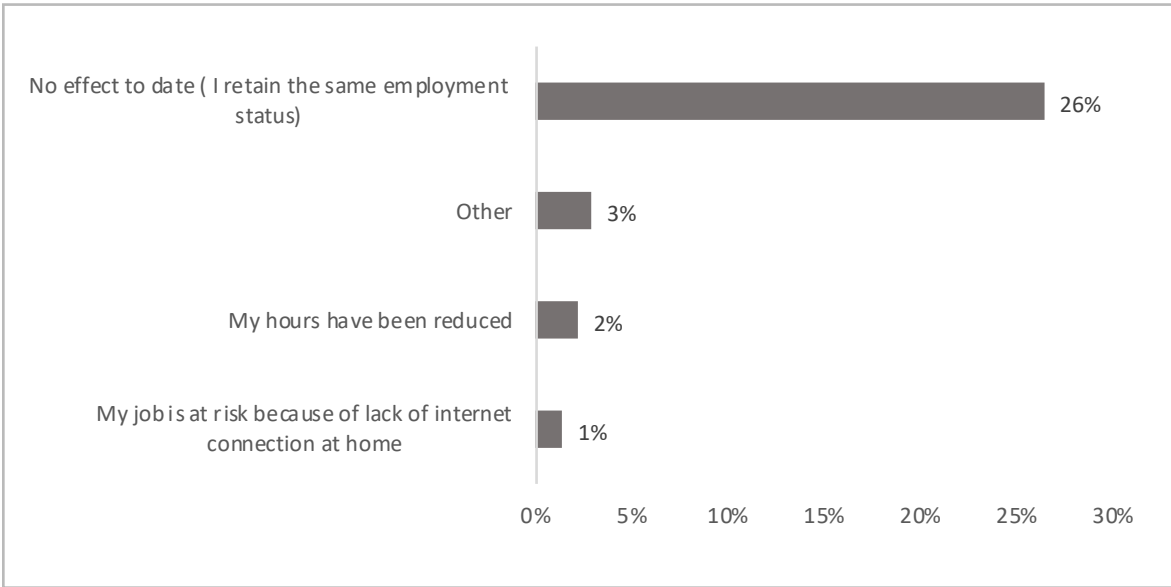
Remote work:

How has COVID-19 affected your job status? (Check all that apply)

Chart: "How has COVID-19 affected your job status?"
- No effect to date (I retain the same employment status): 26%
- Other: 3%
- My hours have been reduced: 2%
- My job is at risk because of lack of internet connection at home: 1%

Category	Value
Full-time essential workers	18%
Ful-time remote workers	8%
Other	3%
Part-time essential essential workers	2%

0% 2% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12% 14% 16% 18% 20%

Remote work:

The current job status of members of my household is: (Check all apply.) Essential workers examples: Critical retail: grocery stores, hardware stores, mechanics; Critical trades: construction workers, electricians, plumbers; childcare; health care; transportation; agriculture and food production; water and wastewater; nonprofit and social service organizations.