

# Geauga Public Health

May 1-18, 2020

## Community Input Survey Results Report

This report is based on community input collected from people who conduct business in Geauga County.



### **GEAUGA PUBLIC HEALTH**

*Promoting and Protecting Community Health*

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## The Intent of the Survey Report

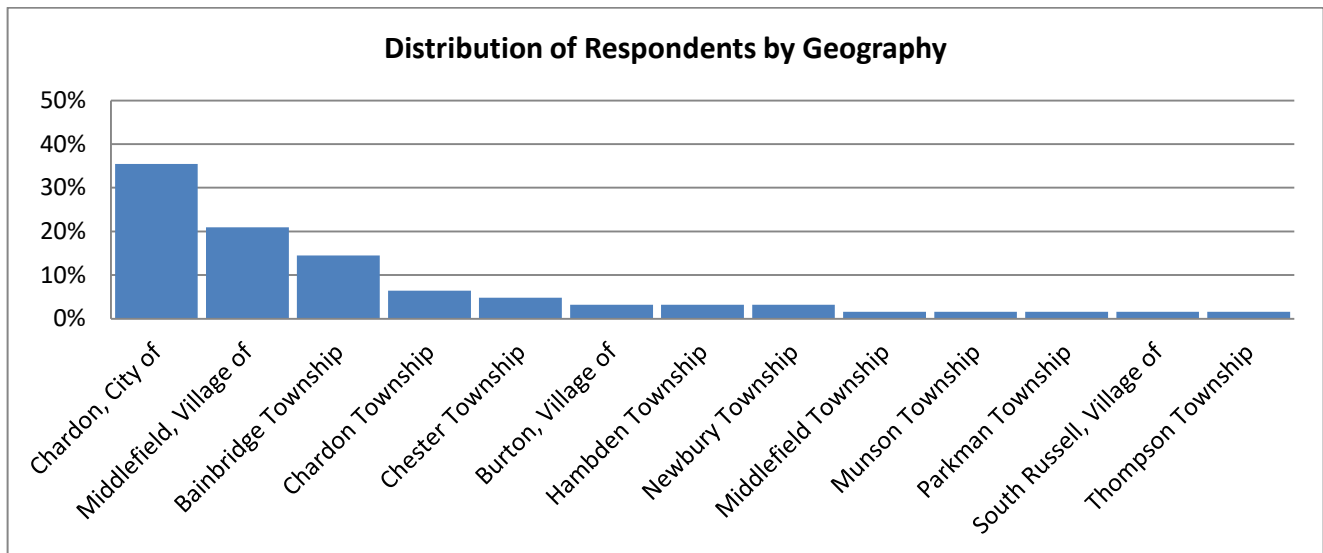
Governor DeWine and Lieutenant Governor Husted have repeatedly stated that success of the re-opening of businesses in Ohio will depend largely on how safe the public feels as they venture back out into the business community. It is our hope and goal that the transition is a successful one. It is our intent to share the observations of the public and how those observations made them feel about their safety and then how that would shape their choices moving forward. Those in the business community who read this report might then get some evidence, as informal as it may be, to help guide their decisions on how they address those safety concerns. Again, the goal is to support a successful transition.

## Methodology

The survey tool is a SurveyMonkey self-reported instrument. The link was made available via the Geauga Public Health social media. This is a non-scientific polling of the public who chose to participate to provide some insight, however informal, as to what they are seeing and how it might shape their own behaviors regarding efforts to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19.

## Who Responded to the Survey?

There were 62 survey responses recorded between May 1 and the time this report was written. More than one third were from the City of Chardon and 21% were from the Village of Middlefield.



The majority of responses were about observations made in Grocery Stores (47%) and Retail Stores (14%). Gas stations comprised 6% of the responses. Nearly one quarter of the responses were recorded as “other”. The category of Restaurants and Bars has been added to the survey as these have also re-opened.

## Grocery Stores

<b>Observations of Respondents in Grocery Stores (29 respondents)</b>	<b>%</b>
I saw an employee engaged in sanitizing/cleaning activities	62%
I observed that hand sanitizer was accessible for the public	28%
I observed employees coughing	7%
I observed all of the employees wearing masks	45%
I observed that almost all of the employees were wearing masks	24%
I observed that the majority of employees were wearing masks	14%
I observed that the minority of employees were wearing masks	14%
I did not see any employees wearing masks	3%
I observed all of the customers wearing masks	0%
I observed that almost all of the customers were wearing masks	14%
I observed that the majority of customers were wearing masks	45%
I observed that the minority of customers were wearing masks	41%
I did not see any customers wearing masks	0%
It was my observation that six foot customer spacing was being well-maintained with the understanding that families, etc. do/can remain closer.	28%
I observed more than one situation where distancing was <u>not</u> being maintained even with the understanding that families, etc. do/can remain closer.	72%

The customers that reported making the observations listed above described how it impacted them.

- 64% of the respondents who made observations at grocery stores reported that they felt safe to continue to conduct business in the place where they made the observation.
- 36% of the respondents who made observations at grocery stores reported that they would rather look for an alternative where they felt safer.

Of those who reported not feeling safe enough to continue doing business there, these were the most common issues

- Six foot spacing was not observed
- Minority of customers wearing masks
- Did not see hand sanitizer accessible for customers
- Did not see anyone engaging in sanitizing/cleaning activities
- Minority of employees wearing masks

Of those who reported feeling safe enough to continue doing business there, these were the most common observations:

- Majority (including responses of “all”, “all but few”, and “majority”) of customers wore masks
- Majority (including responses of “all”, “almost all”, and “majority”) of employees wore masks
- There was an employee engaged in sanitizing/cleaning
- Six foot customer spacing

Conclusion: Customers are more likely to feel safe to shop at grocery stores where they see people cleaning, employees in masks, customers in masks, and implementation of appropriate social distancing.

## Retail Stores

<b>Observations of Respondents in Retail Stores (14 respondents)</b>	<b>%</b>
I saw an employee engaged in sanitizing/cleaning activities	21%
I observed that hand sanitizer was accessible for the public	14%
I observed employees coughing	14%
I observed all of the employees wearing masks	29%
I observed that almost all of the employees were wearing masks	14%
I observed that the majority of employees were wearing masks	7%
I observed that the minority of employees were wearing masks	7%
I did not see any employees wearing masks	43%
I observed all of the customers wearing masks	0%
I observed that almost all of the customers were wearing masks	7%
I observed that the majority of customers were wearing masks	14%
I observed that the minority of customers were wearing masks	71%
I did not see any customers wearing masks	7%
It was my observation that six foot customer spacing was being well-maintained with the understanding that families, etc. do/can remain closer.	14%
I observed more than one situation where distancing was <u>not</u> being maintained even with the understanding that families, etc. do/can remain closer.	86%

The customers that reported making the observations listed above described how it impacted them.

- 18% of the respondents who made observations at retail stores reported that they felt safe to continue to conduct business in the place where they made the observation.
- 82% of the respondents who made observations at retail stores reported that they would rather look for an alternative where they felt safer.

Of those who reported not feeling safe enough to continue doing business there, these were the most common issues

- Six foot spacing was not observed
- Minority of customers wearing masks
- Did not see hand sanitizer accessible for customers
- Did not see anyone engaging in sanitizing/cleaning activities

There were too few respondents who reported feeling safe enough to continue doing business there to analyze.

Conclusion: Many more customers reported that they felt unsafe (82%) than reported feeling safe (18%) at the retail store where they were shopping. Customers are more likely to feel unsafe to shop at retail stores where they do not see customers in masks, implementation of appropriate social distancing, people cleaning, and employees in masks.

The other categories that will typically be analyzed had too few respondents to be considered at all representative.

### **Public Disease Prevention Strategies**

We asked the respondents to please indicate what strategies they are implementing to keep safer.

<b>Prevention Strategies Employed by the Respondents (62 respondents)</b>	<b>%</b>
I wash my hands frequently	98%
I stay on my own property except for essential trips out	85%
I keep a social distance of 6 feet as much as possible	98%
I wear a mask when I go into buildings where others are	90%
I stay home from work when I am ill.	76%

For this last section, we will be tracking this over time to see how the process of opening up businesses impacts decisions of the public regarding their own disease prevention efforts.

We hope this information provides some value to those who read it. It is always our intent to help facilitate the development of both a healthy population and a thriving economy. We hope this helps business owners and managers make decisions that will keep both employees and customers safe. As always, let us know how we can help.