

Both Vaccinated And Unvaccinated Workers Put Cleaning At Top Of Return-To-Work Priorities, New Survey Finds

With The Fear Of Contracting COVID-19 Or The Next Highly Transmissible Virus Widespread, A Majority Of Employees Are Placing A Renewed Emphasis On Cleaning



Employees speak out about workplace cleaning

“Actions speak louder than words. I should be able to see the cleaning being done frequently so that I know it’s happening.”

“Ensure cleaning is done frequently to prioritize the health and safety of employees, please.”

“Hire the best and most qualified company not the cheapest. It is so much more important now.”

“Clean our workspace like you would clean your home. We live here, too.”

“Cleaning and disinfecting is important in any workplace to prevent any infection not just Covid.”

“Cleaning is important to maintaining employee health and safety. Health and safety impact the bottom-line.”

“Cleaning is the most critical factor helping to keep our communities safe.”

“Cleaning attracts customers.”

About The Cleaning Coalition Of America Survey

The research findings are based on a survey programmed and fielded by Dynata. Conducted in the U.S. spanning October 26-28, 2021, the survey targeted working professionals over the age of 18. 1,600 respondents – who represent a Census-balanced sample across gender, age, region, race, education, and income – were asked about their return to the office expectations and the role of cleaning in the workplace. 1099 vaccinated and 501 unvaccinated respondents were deliberately surveyed – reflecting the CDC reported vaccination rate in U.S adults of 68.7% on October 24, 2021.

Americans are putting increased emphasis on the cleanliness of the workplace, a trend that will likely continue far beyond the pandemic

89.9%

of respondents believe workplace cleaning protocols are very or somewhat important, with 93.4% of vaccinated respondents and 82.2% of unvaccinated respondents sharing this sentiment

77.2%

of respondents believe the workplace should be cleaned at least once a day, with 81.2% of vaccinated respondents and 68.5% of unvaccinated respondents sharing this sentiment

With the pandemic increasing worker anxiety, both vaccinated and unvaccinated Americans find comfort in knowing their office is being cleaned regularly

62.1%

of respondents believe that seeing professional cleaners at the workplace would make them feel safer and more protected from contracting COVID-19

47.1%

of respondents cite regular disinfecting of shared spaces as the most important step employers can take to make workers feel safe

47.5%

of respondents have asked their employer about their company’s cleaning protocols

Beyond cleaning, many Americans still have broad concerns about workplace safety

43.0%

of respondents believe that returning to the workplace could pose a risk to their health and safety

38.3%

of respondents would consider changing their jobs if the workplace was not cleaned frequently

35.2%

of respondents cited COVID-19 infection rates as the greatest impediment to returning to the workplace

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Q1 What is your gender?

	Frequency	Percent
Male	770	48.1
Female	826	51.6
Self-Describe	4	0.3

Q2 What is your age?

	Frequency	Percent		Frequency	Percent		Frequency	Percent
18	10	0.6	41	51	3.2	64	26	1.6
19	8	0.5	42	41	2.6	65	34	2.1
20	13	0.8	43	33	2.1	66	27	1.7
21	23	1.4	44	36	2.3	67	15	0.9
22	24	1.5	45	22	1.4	68	18	1.1
23	20	1.3	46	26	1.6	69	19	1.2
24	24	1.5	47	19	1.2	70	6	0.4
25	27	1.7	48	17	1.1	71	13	0.8
26	21	1.3	49	20	1.3	72	5	0.3
27	30	1.9	50	30	1.9	73	7	0.4
28	29	1.8	51	23	1.4	74	7	0.4
29	19	1.2	52	27	1.7	75	2	0.1
30	34	2.1	53	18	1.1	76	5	0.3
31	43	2.7	54	26	1.6	77	4	0.3
32	31	1.9	55	20	1.3	78	2	0.1
33	31	1.9	56	35	2.2	79	2	0.1
34	35	2.2	57	34	2.1	80	2	0.1
35	51	3.2	58	33	2.1	81	2	0.1
36	59	3.7	59	29	1.8	84	1	0.1
37	52	3.3	60	24	1.5	87	1	0.1
38	61	3.8	61	32	2.0	99	1	0.1
39	55	3.4	62	24	1.5			
40	56	3.5	63	25	1.6			

Q3 In what state are you based?

	Frequency	Percent
Alabama	24	1.5
Alaska	4	0.3
Arizona	41	2.6
Arkansas	21	1.3
California	137	8.6
Colorado	21	1.3
Connecticut	14	0.9
Delaware	6	0.4
Florida	155	9.7
Georgia	84	5.3
Hawaii	3	0.2
Idaho	6	0.4
Illinois	67	4.2
Indiana	32	2.0
Iowa	12	0.8
Kansas	11	0.7
Kentucky	23	1.4
Louisiana	30	1.9
Maine	7	0.4
Maryland	16	1.0
Massachusetts	21	1.3
Michigan	53	3.3
Minnesota	19	1.2
Mississippi	14	0.9
Missouri	41	2.6

	Frequency	Percent
Nebraska	14	0.9
Nevada	20	1.3
New Hampshire	9	0.6
New Jersey	40	2.5
New Mexico	3	0.2
New York	110	6.9
North Carolina	46	2.9
North Dakota	2	0.1
Ohio	60	3.8
Oklahoma	16	1.0
Oregon	8	0.5
Pennsylvania	71	4.4
Rhode Island	6	0.4
South Carolina	33	2.1
South Dakota	4	0.3
Tennessee	39	2.4
Texas	136	8.5
Utah	8	0.5
Vermont	1	0.1
Virginia	41	2.6
Washington	19	1.2
District of Columbia	5	0.3
West Virginia	9	0.6
Wisconsin	33	2.1
Wyoming	5	0.3

Q4 What is your current work status?

	Frequency	Percent
100% remote	484	30.3
100% in office	833	52.1
Hybrid	283	17.7

Q5 What is your COVID-19 vaccination status?

	Frequency	Percent
Vaccinated (one or more shots)	1099	68.7
Unvaccinated	501	31.3

Q6 Prior to the pandemic, how important to you were your workplace's cleaning protocols?

	Frequency	Percent
Very important	839	52.4
Somewhat important	529	33.1
Not important	191	11.9
Unsure	41	2.6

Q7 How important are your workplace's cleaning protocols to you now?

	Frequency	Percent
Very important	1061	66.3
Somewhat important	378	23.6
Not important	131	8.2
Unsure	30	1.9

Q8 Have you asked your employer about the cleaning practices at your workplace?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	760	47.5
No	795	49.7
Unsure	45	2.8

Q9 Have you heard from your employer about their cleaning practices since the pandemic?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1092	68.3
No	471	29.4
Unsure	37	2.3

Q10 How many times a week do you expect your workplace to be cleaned?

	Frequency	Percent
3+ times per day	506	31.6
1-2 times per day	729	45.6
Twice a week	199	12.4
Once a week	124	7.8
Never	42	2.6

Q11 How many times a week did you think your workplace was being cleaned prior to the pandemic?

	Frequency	Percent
3+ times per day	308	19.3
1-2 times per day	580	36.3
Twice a week	327	20.4
Once a week	312	19.5
Never	73	4.6

Q12 Would you consider changing your job if your workplace was not cleaned frequently?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	613	38.3
No	627	39.2
Unsure	360	22.5

Q13 Would seeing professional cleaners at your workplace make you feel safer and more protected from contracting COVID-19 or other common illnesses?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	994	62.1
No	432	27.0
Unsure	174	10.9

Q14 Are you concerned that returning to the workplace could pose a risk to your health and safety?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	688	43.0
No	760	47.5
Unsure	152	9.5

Q15 What factors are the greatest impediments to returning to the office?**r1** COVID-19 Infection Rates

	Frequency	Percent
Rank 1st	563	35.2
Rank 2nd	366	22.9
Rank 3rd	227	14.2
Rank 4th	164	10.3
Rank 5th	171	10.7
Rank 6th	109	6.8

r2 Vaccination Rates

	Frequency	Percent
Rank 1st	278	17.4
Rank 2nd	381	23.8
Rank 3rd	253	15.8
Rank 4th	216	13.5
Rank 5th	201	12.6
Rank 6th	271	16.9

r3 Public Transit Safety

	Frequency	Percent
Rank 1st	104	6.5
Rank 2nd	170	10.6
Rank 3rd	196	12.3
Rank 4th	290	18.1
Rank 5th	394	24.6
Rank 6th	446	27.9

r4 Workplace Cleaning Protocols

	Frequency	Percent
Rank 1st	253	15.8
Rank 2nd	331	20.7
Rank 3rd	420	26.3
Rank 4th	296	18.5
Rank 5th	184	11.5
Rank 6th	116	7.3

r5 Crime and Public Safety

	Frequency	Percent
Rank 1st	242	15.1
Rank 2nd	178	11.1
Rank 3rd	246	15.4
Rank 4th	317	19.8
Rank 5th	334	20.9
Rank 6th	283	17.7

r6 Schools Reopening and Availability of Childcare

	Frequency	Percent
Rank 1st	160	10.0
Rank 2nd	174	10.9
Rank 3rd	258	16.1
Rank 4th	317	19.8
Rank 5th	316	19.8
Rank 6th	375	23.4

Q16 What is the most important step your employer can take to make you feel safe returning to the office?

	Frequency	Percent
Ensure regular disinfecting of shared spaces to mitigate the spread of viruses	754	47.1
Improve communication to employees about COVID-19 protocols	451	28.2
Install hand sanitizer stations to reduce pathogen transmission	223	13.9
Invest in proper signage to ensure employees understand the rules of the building	77	4.8
Install plexiglass partitions to reduce contact between employees	95	5.9

Q17 Have you ever come into work feeling sick with the flu or common cold?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	693	43.3
No	859	53.7
Unsure	48	3.0

Q18 Pre-pandemic, how frequently do you think an airplane was cleaned and disinfected?

	Frequency	Percent
After each flight	673	42.1
Once a day	504	31.5
Twice a day	158	9.9
Once a week	189	11.8
Twice a week	76	4.8

Q19 Today, how frequently do you think an airplane is cleaned and disinfected?

	Frequency	Percent
After each flight	1094	68.4
Once a day	265	16.6
Twice a day	165	10.3
Once a week	48	3.0
Twice a week	28	1.8

Q20 What is the one message you would like to send to your employer about cleaning?

- "A clean workplace is a healthy workplace."
- "Cleaning and disinfecting is important in any work place to prevent any infection not just Covid."
- "Actions speak louder than words. I should be able to see the cleaning being done frequently so that I know it's happening."
- "All employers should take action to protect their staff."
- "Clean as frequent as possible to reduce the spread of germs."
- "Hire the best and most qualified company not the cheapest. It is so much more important now."
- "Clean our workspace like you would clean your home. We live here, too."
- "Cleaning attracts customers."
- "Cleaning is important even if COVID apparently isn't spread through surfaces."
- "Cleaning is important to maintaining employee health and safety. Health and safety impact the bottom-line."
- "Cleaning is of utmost importance during this pandemic and should be made a priority."
- "Cleaning is the most critical factor helping to keep our communities safe."
- "Cleaning is very important and should be done on a regular basis and it's everybody's responsibility."
- "Continue to disinfect more frequently even after infection rates drop."
- "Ensure cleaning is done frequently to prioritize the health and safety of employees, please."