

Approximately One-in-five Workers Will Spend Thanksgiving With Co-Workers, Finds New CareerBuilder Thanksgiving Survey

-Among the top ten markets with the largest economies, Houston, Dallas, and Atlanta are most likely to spend the holiday with co-workers

-16 percent of workers have to work on Thanksgiving, up slightly from 14 percent last year

CHICAGO, November 25, 2014 – As Americans prepare to give thanks this Thursday, co-workers may play a role in many Thanksgiving celebrations. Nearly one-in-five (19 percent) workers say they plan to celebrate Thanksgiving with co-workers either in or out of the office, on par with last year. A new CareerBuilder Thanksgiving survey was conducted nationally online by Harris Poll from August 11 and September 5, 2014 and included more than 3,700 workers.

Workers Who Celebrate Thanksgiving With Co-Workers By:

U.S. Markets with the Largest Economies

- Houston – 40 percent
- Dallas – 32 percent
- Atlanta – 31 percent
- Los Angeles – 25 percent
- Washington DC – 20 percent
- San Francisco – 15 percent
- Boston – 15 percent
- Philadelphia – 13 percent
- New York – 11 percent
- Chicago – 10 percent

By Region

- South – 30 percent
- West – 18 percent
- Midwest – 12 percent
- Northeast – 12 percent

By Industry

- Leisure and Hospitality – 20 percent
- Healthcare – 19 percent
- IT – 16 percent
- Retail – 15 percent
- Manufacturing – 14 percent

By Diverse Groups

- Disabled workers – 34 percent
- Hispanic workers – 29 percent
- African American workers – 26 percent
- LGBT workers – 23 percent
- Asian workers – 13 percent

This compares to 15 percent of non-diverse workers (defined as white, straight, non-disabled male under 50).

By Age

- 18-24 – yes, 21 percent
- 25-34 – yes, 19 percent
- 35-44 – yes, 23 percent
- 45-54 – yes, 15 percent
- 55+ – yes, 18 percent

Not everyone gets to enjoy the holiday at home.

Sixteen percent of workers said they have to work on Thanksgiving (up from 14 percent last year), with hospitality workers the most likely to be on the clock:

- Leisure and Hospitality – 46 percent
- Retail – 39 percent
- Healthcare – 31 percent
- Transportation and Utilities – 22 percent

Would you rather spend Thanksgiving Day with co-workers or your family?

It's no surprise that workers look forward to spending time with family on Thanksgiving. However, given the choice, nearly one-in-ten reported they prefer not spending the holiday with family or co-workers:

- My family – 91 percent
- My co-workers – 1 percent
- Neither – 8 percent

Survey Methodology

This survey was conducted online within the U.S. by Harris Poll on behalf of CareerBuilder among 3,719 U.S. workers (employed full-time, not self-employed, government and non-government) between August 11 and September 5, 2014 (percentages for some questions are based on a subset, based on their responses to certain questions). With a pure probability sample of 3,719, one could say with a 95 percent probability that the overall results have a sampling error of +/-1.61 percentage points. Sampling error for data from sub-samples is higher and varies.

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