



Poll of New Yorkers Who Work in Tech Executive Summary

Details

- In early 2021, Tech:NYC gauged the thoughts of nearly 600 workers across New York City's tech sector through an online survey.
- The data offer insights into the opinions of a cross section of New Yorkers who work in tech, including their views on what makes New York City appealing and what's in store for its future.

Key Takeaways

- Tech workers are markedly bullish on New York's recovery.
- Tech workers are drawn to New York for its jobs, diversity, and culture.
- Despite all of this, if tech workers were to leave New York, cost of living would be the top reason.

Poll Highlights

- **Why are you a New Yorker?**
 - Employment opportunities (12 percent), the ability to meet people with a diversity of backgrounds (11 percent), and the culture of creativity and innovation (10 percent) are the biggest reasons people in the tech community live in NYC.
 - Nearly half of respondents said that if they were to leave NYC, it would be because of the cost of living (18 percent), quality of life (15 percent), or high tax rates (14 percent).

- **What is your view of the pandemic?**
 - Thirty-six percent of respondents expect the city's economy to return to pre-pandemic levels within the next year, 28 percent in one to two years, and 34 percent expect the recovery to take more than two years.
 - The pandemic has made it harder for 62 percent of respondents to get work done, including 67 percent among parents or guardians of school age children.
 - After the pandemic, 40 percent imagine themselves going into the office two or fewer times weekly.
 - Forty-nine percent of respondents personally know between one and five people who have permanently left NYC during the pandemic, while 19 percent know six to ten people, and 16 percent know more than ten people.
 - A majority (52 percent) of respondents see themselves moving out of NYC within the next ten years.

- **How do you feel about politics and policy?**
 - Eighty-seven percent of respondents who are registered voters plan to vote in NYC's June primary elections. Seventy percent have also donated to a political candidate in the past year.
 - Sixty-three percent of respondents believe NYC's government and economy require significant changes across the board, whereas 37 percent believe it only needs small reforms beyond recovering from the pandemic.
 - Ninety-six percent of respondents believe tech is a good industry fit for NYC.
 - Eighty-eight percent of respondents agree it is imperative for NYC's schools to place a greater emphasis on teaching tech skills and partnering with companies to create internship and apprenticeship programs.
 - Seventy-five percent of respondents agree NYC should provide subsidies or economic incentives to technology companies that provide jobs, invest in community programs, and offer tech skills courses.
 - Seventy-seven percent of respondents want the city to support companies moving at least partially toward having microhub offices in the boroughs, rather than large central offices, after the pandemic.