



Deo Volente Fall 2020 COVID-19 Survey Brief: Changes in the Impact on Effectiveness

Deo Volente: Who We Are and What We Do

We are a ministry focused on assisting churches and mission organizations with strategy, research, and project initiation. Our work is non-fee based. Our intent is Kingdom growth. Our team’s background is steeped in business, ministry, research, and project delivery. Our sole orientation is to add value to Kingdom ministries. Visit <https://deo-volente.org/our-projects/> to learn more about the survey and <https://deo-volente.org/> to learn more about Deo Volente. Feel free to contact us at info@deo-volente.org.

Changes in the Impact on Effectiveness

In May of 2020, the world was still in the throes of trying to make sense of the most consequential disruption of everyday life in decades, if not longer. We surveyed churches and mission organizations to understand the impacts of the pandemic. By November of 2020, people and organizations had adjusted to a new way of life even though COVID-19 was still racing across the globe. We, therefore, conducted a follow-up survey to see how things have changed. **In this survey brief, we compare the reported impact on effectiveness in May with the reported impact on effectiveness in November.** The wording of the question is as follows: *The pandemic has negatively affected your organization's ability to achieve progress on its measures of success.*

The pandemic has negatively impacted the effectiveness of churches more than mission organizations. The percentages that responded Agree or Strongly Agree in May were roughly similar. By November, 62 percent of churches either Agreed or Strongly Agreed, compared to only 47 percent of mission organizations.

More churches reported negative impacts on effectiveness in November than in May. In May, 54 percent of churches Strongly Agreed or Agreed that the pandemic had negatively impacted their effectiveness. By November, this percentage had increased to 62 percent.

Fewer mission organizations reported negative impacts in November than in May. In May, 55 percent of mission organizations Strongly Agreed or Agreed that the pandemic had negatively impacted their effectiveness. By November, this percentage had decreased to 47 percent.

The evidence suggests that the pandemic has had significant impacts on effectiveness. This is especially true for churches even after an adjustment period during which time the dust settled.

