

FOR YOUR BENEFIT **SPECIAL EDITION**

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

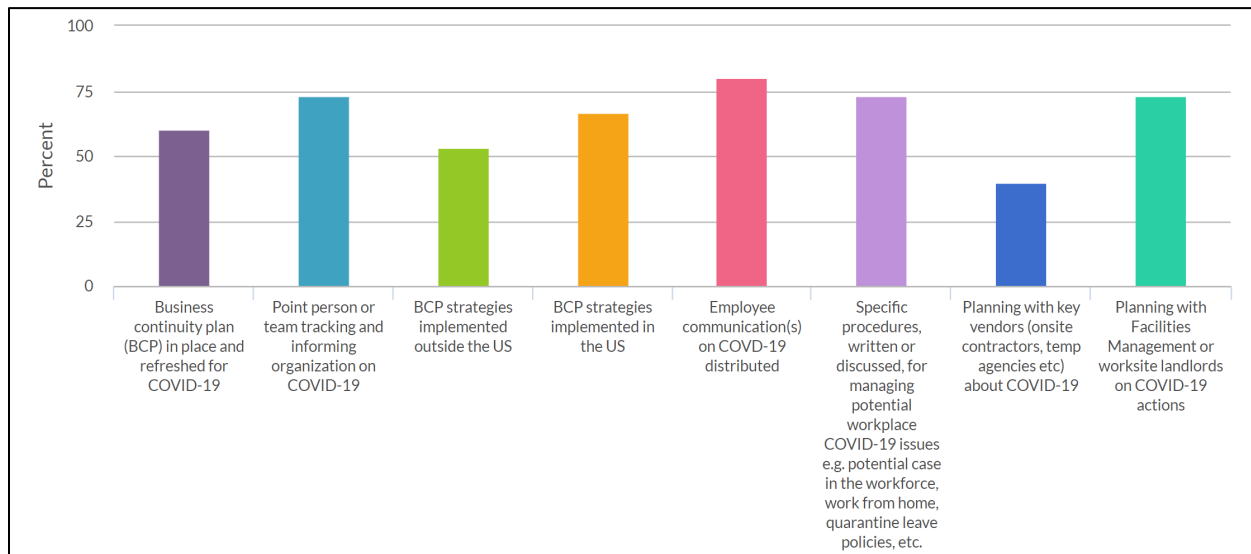
The novel Coronavirus COVID-19 is an emerging issue that is causing business disruption and employee concern. To assess how members are responding the NEBGH conducted a Flash Survey in early March.

Here are the results:

Level of Concern

78.5% of organizations had high or very high concerns about COVID-19. The survey went out before the WHO declared a pandemic and the recent travel restrictions announced by the President. As with any emerging disease concerns change over time and it is anticipated that organizations level of concern has increased since we did the survey

Planning



As can be seen from the graph above there is a significant level of planning across several fronts in many organizations. The implementation of the business continuity plan (BCP) outside of the US may have been lower because some organizations are only US based. Planning with vendors, contractors and temp agencies was lower. This is an important aspect to consider as the virus doesn't discriminate between employees and contractors and everyone has to be vigilant if plans are to be successful.

Actions Organizations are Taking to Mitigate Employee Related COVID-19 Issues

The top actions that being taken are:

1. Actively encouraging sick employees with any respiratory disease to stay home
2. COVID-19 specific employee communications
3. Restricting employee business travel based on CDC recommendations
4. New or increased options to work from home
5. Workplace increased cleaning/disinfection
6. Provision of increased hand sanitizers

Actions that have less frequently been implemented include:

- Stockpiling masks (surgical or N95)
- Communications to families and dependents
- Additional PTO for COVID-19 related caregiving or contact quarantine etc.

