

Covid 19 and employment upheavals: worried employees

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The Covid 19 pandemic and the measures taken to limit its spread (containment, social distancing) have led to a recession and a major economic crisis. The economic data show significant job losses. The [Insee Emploi-Chômage](#) note published on September 8th notes 715,000 salaried jobs lost in France in the first half of this year. Against this backdrop, employees are deeply concerned about their professional future and the risk of job loss.

Several studies reviewed on WPRN have attempted to capture employees' concerns about employment and work in such a troubled context. The objective of this note is to shed light on how the economic upheavals linked to this crisis are experienced by employees.

The studies highlight a significant concern among employees regarding the risk of job loss (1). The impacts on work may also have led employees to feel a loss of meaning with regard to work and to revise their professional priorities (2).

Employees express strong concerns about the risk of job loss, job stagnation and wage regression, a fear that is all the more strongly felt when employees belong to a «vulnerable» group

A study by the University of Ghent, available on WPRN conducted at the end of March and based on a representative panel of Belgian employees, highlights the worries related to employment that affect employees. More than one out of five respondents indicate that they are afraid of losing their job as a result of the crisis. And one in seven think they will lose their job by the end of the year. These data are consistent with those expressed by other surveys. In France, in a [survey](#) of 1,000 people conducted in April by Censuwide for the Glassdoor recruitment platform, 39% of respondents feared losing