

Where Is Maine Working? Boulos Asked, 167 Answered In The COVID Office Impact Survey

Portland, Maine, January 19: The Boulos Company has released its Where is Maine Working? survey on the impact of COVID-19. The survey, conducted September through November, provides a snapshot of the local response to the pandemic. More than 160 Maine professionals from a range of industries answered questions about working from home, productivity, office re-entry plans, and more.

Boulos conducted the survey to provide Maine's business community with insight into how their peers have responded to the pandemic, and to share critical information as they move forward in an unprecedented real estate market.

"The majority of respondents are 'sometimes' working from home, along with 28 percent who are not working from home—indicating that many companies have already begun a staggered approach to re-entering the office," said Boulos' VP of Operations & Marketing Tophier Stephenson. "One clear takeaway is that while most companies plan to keep their office space, workplace re-entry will be a nuanced process, the steps for which will vary across companies and industries."

Employee safety and comfort were common concerns and continue to drive workplace re-entry decisions. Seventy percent of respondents noted that they're making no changes to their office footprint as a result of COVID-19, but 38 percent reported that up to 20 percent of their companies' workforce would work from home permanently, and many indicated a desire to develop a hybrid system. Isolation from colleagues, constricted collaboration, and IT problems had a negative impact on WFH productivity, while not having to commute was cited as a common positive.

Survey Results Available At: <https://boulos.com/covid-impact>

Kick Off MEREDA with Boulos' 2021 Market Outlook

The Boulos Company's annual roundup and guide for the year ahead will be available on January 20, just in time for MEREDA's Annual Forecast Conference. This year's market outlook is a comprehensive review of everything, from Portland's hard-hit restaurant scene to the emerging cannabis industry, highlighting pivots and innovations forced by the pandemic. "The 2021 Market Outlook is our most robust report to date," said Boulos Managing Director Drew Sigfridson. "For anyone who's expecting nothing but doom and gloom, interest in Maine's industrial market and other trends may come as a pleasant surprise."



2021 Market Outlook Available On 1/20/2020 At: <http://mainemarketoutlook.com/>

In light of COVID and travel restrictions, Boulos is offering Matterport virtual tours created by their in-house team. Matterport technology allows brokers to create a 3D walk-through of a property, highlighting every feature. "It's going to help us get through a tough COVID winter with safe, convenient showings," said Sigfridson. "It's already proven popular with out-of-state parties who prefer not to travel right now."

About The Boulos Company:

The Boulos Company is a Maine and New Hampshire commercial real estate firm dedicated to serving owners, investors, and tenants, blending Maine and New Hampshire market knowledge with global networks through CCIM and SIOR. Founded by Joseph Boulos in 1975, the firm has grown to include more than 30 Portland, Maine and Portsmouth, New Hampshire-based team members. More information is available at boulos.com.

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