C-brief

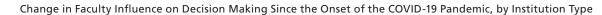
October 2021

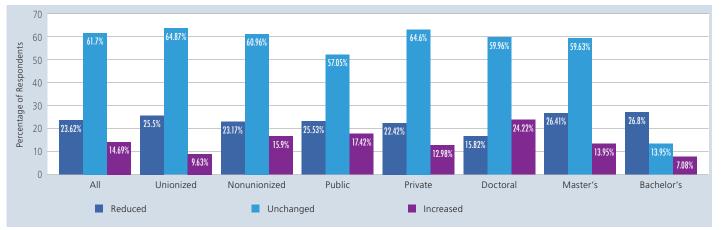


THE STATUS OF SHARED GOVERNANCE DURING COVID-19

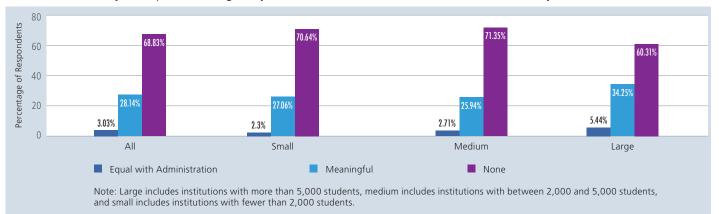
In January and February, the American Association of University Professors conducted the 2021 AAUP Shared Governance Survey. In part, this survey explored how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted shared governance in higher education. Respondents included one senate chair or faculty governance leader from 585 four-year U.S. higher education institutions.

Findings reveal that most respondents (61.7 percent) reported that faculty influence on decision making had not changed since the onset of the pandemic, 23.62 percent reported reduced faculty influence, and 14.69 percent reported increased faculty influence. The chart below compares changes in faculty influence by institution type.



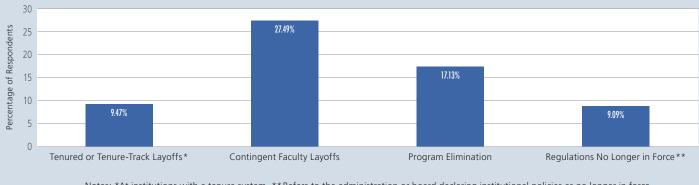


When asked how involved faculty members were in budgetary decisions after the start of the pandemic, 3.03 percent of respondents reported that faculty participation was equal to that of administration, 28.14 percent reported that faculty participation was meaningful, and 68.83 percent indicated that faculty members were not involved in budgetary decisions.



Faculty Participation in Budget Adjustments Since the Onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, by Institution Size

Respondents were also asked about the actions taken at their institution since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 27 percent of respondents reported that contingent faculty were laid off, followed by program eliminations (17.13 percent), tenured or tenure-track faculty layoffs (9.47 percent), and administrations declaring regulations as no longer in force (9.09 percent).



Actions Taken by Administrations and Boards Since the Onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Notes: *At institutions with a tenure system. **Refers to the administration or board declaring institutional policies as no longer in force. Contingent appointments include full-time faculty appointments at institutions with and without tenure systems.