

## Tracking the COVID-19 Recession's Effects on Food, Housing, and Employment Hardships



The unemployment rate is very high and millions report that their households did not get enough to eat or that they are behind in paying the rent. We are able to track the extent of this hardship thanks to nearly real-time data from several sources on the unfolding economic crisis.

The impacts of the pandemic and the economic fallout have been widespread, but are particularly prevalent among Black, Latino,<sup>1</sup> Indigenous, and immigrant households. These disproportionate impacts reflect harsh, longstanding inequities — often stemming from structural racism — in education, employment, housing, and health care that the current crisis is exacerbating.

Relief measures have mitigated hardship, but there are significant gaps — including, for example, leaving out the poorest households from any increase in SNAP benefits — and implementation challenges that have delayed aid to some households. The measures are also temporary.

The data below, which we will update periodically, drive home the need for substantial, continued relief measures. The extent and severity of continued hardships like hunger, eviction, and homelessness will depend on whether such relief is robust and reaches those in need, as well as the trajectory of the pandemic and the pace of economic recovery. The implications for children in particular are significant: households with children face especially [high hardship rates](#), which research has shown can have serious effects on children's long-term health and financial security.

### Emerging Data Show High Rates of Hardship

The Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey, launched in April, has provided nearly real-time weekly data on how the unprecedented health and economic crisis is affecting the nation. Data from this and other sources, such as unemployment data from Census' Current Population Survey and the Department of Labor, show that tens of millions of people are out of work and struggling to afford adequate food and pay the rent. The impacts on children are large. (See figures 1 and 2. For more on our methodology and data by state, see tables 1-6 below.)

### Difficulty Getting Enough Food

Data from several sources show a dramatic increase in the number of households struggling to put enough food on the table. About 29 million adults — 12.1 percent of all adults in the country — reported that their household sometimes or often didn't have enough to eat in the last seven days, according to the Household Pulse Survey for the week ending July 21. The rates were more than twice as high for Black and Latino respondents (21 percent for both groups) as for white respondents (8 percent; see Figure 2). And 11 to 20 percent of adults with children reported that their children sometimes or often didn't eat enough in the last seven days because they couldn't afford it, well above the pre-pandemic figure. This translates into an

FIGURE 1

#### Millions of Children in Households Struggling to Afford the Basics



**8 million children**

live in a household that is behind on rent



**9 to 17 million children**

live in a household where children **did not eat enough** because they couldn't afford it

Source: CBPP analysis of Household Pulse Survey, week ending July 21

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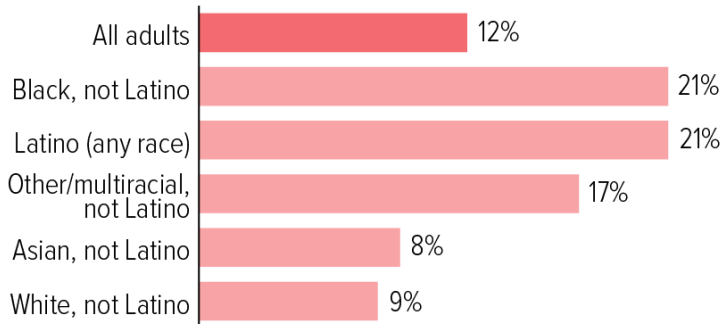
<sup>1</sup> Federal surveys generally ask respondents whether they are "of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin." This report uses the term "Latino."

estimated 9 to 17 million children who live in a household in which the children were not eating enough because the household couldn't afford it.

FIGURE 2

### Black and Latino Households Likelier to Experience Food Insufficiency During Pandemic

Share of adults saying that their household sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the last 7 days, as of week ending July 21



Note: Other/multiracial, not Latino = people identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or more than one race. Percentages are based on reporting distributions and do not include the populations that did not respond to the question. Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey

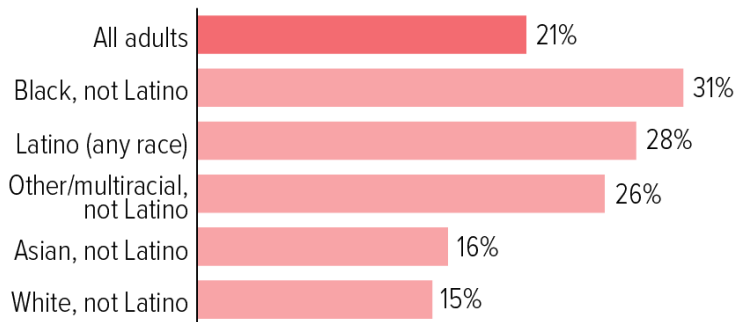
## Inability to Pay Rent or Mortgage

An estimated 14.8 million adults who live in rental housing — 1 in 5 adult renters — were behind on rent for the week ending July 21. Here, too, the rates were much higher for Black (31 percent) and Latino (28 percent) renters than white (15 percent) renters.

FIGURE 3

### 1 in 5 Renters Behind on Rent During Pandemic, With Black and Latino Renters Facing Greatest Hardship

Share of adult renters saying they are behind on last month's rent, as of week ending July 21



Note: Other/multiracial, not Latino = people identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or more than one race. Behind on rent = did not pay on time or deferred rent. Chart excludes renters who did not respond to the question.

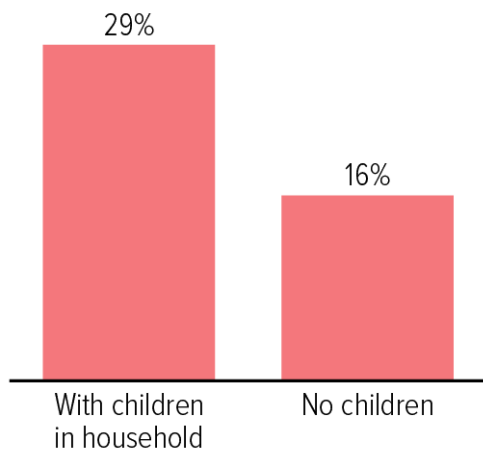
Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey

In addition, renters who are parents or otherwise live with children are nearly twice as likely to be behind on rent compared to adults not living with anyone under age 18. (See Figure 4.) Some 8 million children lived in a household that was behind on rent for the week ending July 21.

FIGURE 4

## Households With Children Nearly Twice as Likely to Be Behind on Rent

Share of adult renters saying they are behind on last month's rent, as of week ending July 21



Note: Behind on rent = did not pay on time or deferred rent. Chart excludes renters who did not respond to question.

Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey

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While households that don't rent their homes but have mortgage payments typically have higher incomes than renters, these households can also face difficulties, especially if they have lost their jobs or seen their incomes fall significantly. The Pulse data show that 13 million adults say they are behind in their mortgage payments as well.

## Unemployment Is High, With Job Losses Concentrated in Low-Paid Industries

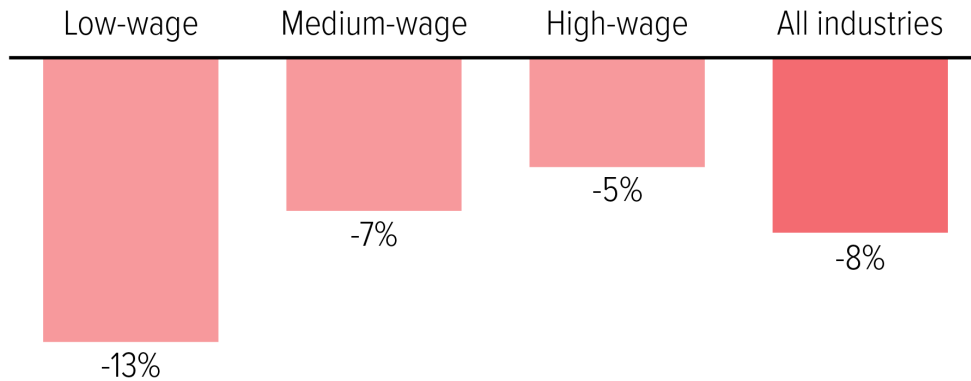
The unemployment rate jumped in April to a level not seen since the 1930s — and still stood at 8.4 percent in August. Some 13.0 percent of Black workers and 10.5 percent of Latino workers were unemployed in July, compared to 7.3 percent of white workers. Unemployment has also risen faster among workers who were born outside the United States (this includes individuals who are now U.S. citizens) than U.S.-born workers. Changes in unemployment going forward will likely heavily depend on both how well the nation does in controlling the spread of the virus and the steps policymakers take to provide effective stimulus that boosts overall demand for goods and services.

The majority of jobs lost in the crisis have been in industries that pay low average wages, with the lowest-paying industries accounting for 30 percent of all jobs but 51 percent of the jobs lost from February to July, the latest month of Labor Department employment data. Jobs in low-paying industries were down almost twice as much between February and July 2020 (12.9 percent) as jobs in medium-wage industries (7.4 percent) and three times as much as in high-wage industries (4.5 percent).

FIGURE 5

### Job Losses Largest in Low-Wage Industries

Percent change in number of jobs, February to August 2020



Note: Industries were ranked by average wages in February and divided into three groups containing roughly the same number of jobs.

Source: CBPP calculations of Bureau of Labor Statistics data

## Millions of Children Facing Hardship

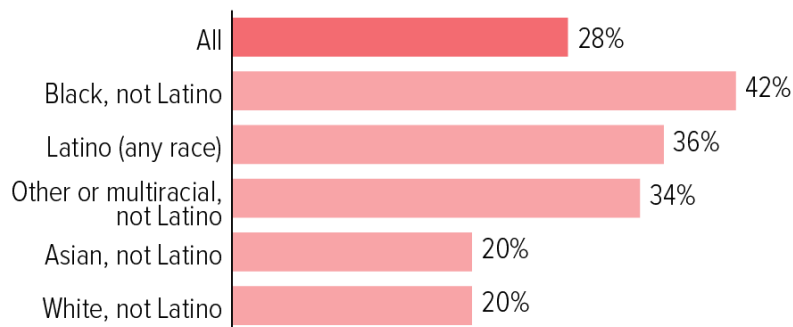
Households with children are more likely to have trouble affording food or paying the rent or mortgage than households without children. Based on five weeks of Census Bureau Pulse Survey data collected from June 18 to July 21, we estimate that:

- Approximately 19 million children, or 1 in 4 children, live in a household that isn't getting enough to eat, is behind on rent or mortgage payments, or both.
- These levels of hardship are substantially higher among Black and Latino children, reflecting longstanding inequities that the current crisis has exacerbated.

FIGURE 6

### Children Facing Significant Hardship, With Wide Racial and Ethnic Gaps

Percent of children in a household that's behind on rent or mortgage and/or didn't get enough to eat, by race/ethnicity



Note: Behind on rent or mortgage = did not pay on time or deferred payment. Didn't get enough to eat = household had "not enough to eat" sometimes or often in the last 7 days. Other or multiracial, not Latino = people identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander, or more than one race. Chart excludes those who did not respond to one or both hardship questions. Listed household races/ethnicities are based on that of the adult responding to survey. Survey does not collect data on children directly; figures for children are estimated based on number of children in each household. For children in households that neither have a mortgage nor pay cash rent, such as those living in employer-provided housing, hardship is determined based only on whether these households had enough to eat.

Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey public use file for June 18 to July 21.

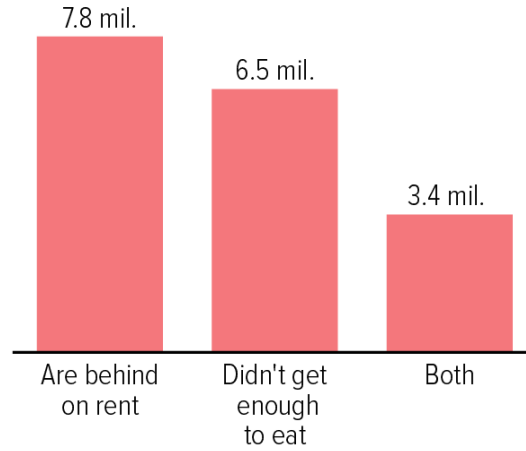
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Children in renter households, which tend to have lower incomes and less savings, are facing particularly high rates of hardship. An estimated 2 in 5 children who live in rental housing live in a household that isn't getting enough to eat or is behind on rent. This represents over 10 million children.

FIGURE 7

## Millions of Children in Renter Households Face Food or Housing Hardship, or Both

Estimated children in households that:



Note: Behind on rent = did not pay on time or deferred payment. Didn't get enough to eat = household had "not enough to eat" sometimes or often in last 7 days. Figures omit children in households that do not pay cash rent, such as those in employer-provided housing, as well as those who did not respond to one or both hardship questions. Survey does not collect data on children directly; figures for children are estimated based on number of children in each household.

Source: CBPP analysis of Census' Household Pulse Survey public use file, week ending July 21

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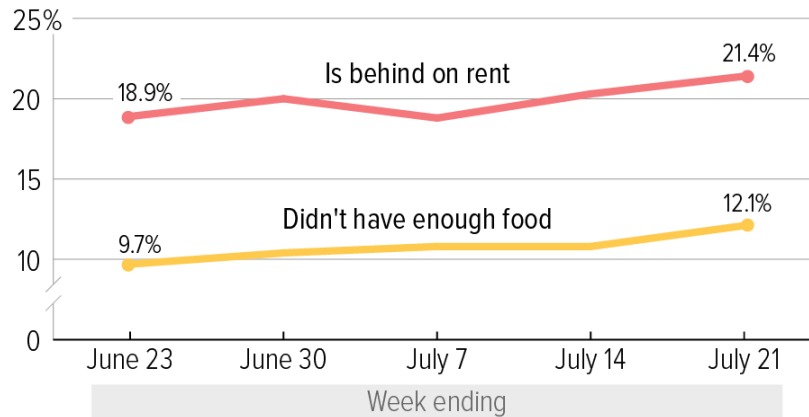
## Hardship Trending Upward

The latest hardship data predate the expiration of \$600 weekly supplemental Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation on July 31, but key measures of hardship were already rising in mid-July. (See Figure 8.) This could happen for several reasons. People may have exhausted the stimulus payments they received or any savings they were using to replace lost income, and the impact of higher food prices may be mounting. Continued delays in some workers' unemployment benefits may be increasing hardship as well.

FIGURE 8

## Rising Signs of Food and Housing Hardship

Share of adults who reported that their household:



Note: Behind on rent = household did not pay on time last month or deferred payment. Didn't have enough food = household sometimes or often "had not enough to eat" in last 7 days.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey published tables

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Future hardship trends will depend on several factors, including the incidence of COVID-19, whether the job market rebounds, and the relief measures policymakers put or keep in place.

## State-by-State Food, Housing, and Employment Hardship Data

Data by state show that hardship is widespread. The following charts provide state-level data on:

- the share of adults reporting that their household didn't have enough to eat (Table 1);
- the share of adults saying children in their household were not eating enough because they couldn't afford enough (Table 1);
- the increase in SNAP caseloads (Table 2);
- the share of adults behind on rent (Table 3);
- the number of children in households that aren't getting enough to eat and/or are behind in the rent or mortgage (Table 4);
- the number of children in *renter* households that aren't getting enough to eat and/or are behind in the rent (Table 5); and
- the three-month moving average unemployment rate and recent jobless claim data (Table 6).

For data from the Pulse survey — on those not getting enough to eat, being behind on rent, and the number of children facing various hardships — we average data from multiple weeks of the survey to improve accuracy. Information on the number of weeks included is available in each table's notes.

Differences in Pulse hardship rates between states may reflect sampling error, so we suggest not drawing strong conclusions from modest differences between states. The data do show, however, that high levels of food need are widespread across the country.

## Difficulty Getting Enough Food

The Pulse survey asks adult respondents if their household did not have enough to eat and if children in the household were not eating enough because the household couldn't afford it.

TABLE 1

### High Shares of Households Report Difficulty Getting Enough Food

Among adults; data collected July 9 to July 21

**How to read this table:** In the United States, over 27 million adults reported that their household sometimes or often didn't have enough to eat in the last seven days. This represents 11 percent of all adults in the country. Over 18 million adults living with children reported that "the children were not eating enough because we just couldn't afford enough food." This represents 20 percent of adults living with children.

State	Adults Reporting That Household Didn't Have Enough to Eat		Adults Reporting That Children in Household Weren't Eating Enough Because Couldn't Afford Enough	
	Number	As a Percent of Adults	Number	As a Percent of Adults Living with Children
<b>United States</b>	<b>27,671,000</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>18,138,000</b>	<b>20%</b>
Alabama	469,000	13%	385,000	25%
Alaska	54,000	10%	35,000	19%
Arizona	696,000	13%	517,000	25%
Arkansas	299,000	14%	184,000	21%
California	3,787,000	13%	2,747,000	24%
Colorado	354,000	8%	191,000	12%
Connecticut	229,000	9%	162,000	17%
Delaware	79,000	11%	46,000	17%
District of Columbia	63,000	12%	45,000	25%
Florida	1,922,000	11%	1,403,000	24%
Georgia	854,000	11%	506,000	15%
Hawai'i	109,000	10%	66,000	16%
Idaho	115,000	9%	85,000	15%
Illinois	975,000	10%	868,000	24%
Indiana	497,000	10%	327,000	17%
Iowa	150,000	6%	84,000	10%
Kansas	176,000	8%	112,000	14%
Kentucky	287,000	9%	182,000	15%
Louisiana	578,000	17%	390,000	28%
Maine	63,000	6%	37,000	13%
Maryland	463,000	10%	384,000	21%
Massachusetts	406,000	8%	219,000	12%
Michigan	709,000	10%	435,000	16%
Minnesota	300,000	7%	198,000	13%
Mississippi	339,000	16%	223,000	24%
Missouri	462,000	10%	216,000	13%
Montana	103,000	13%	47,000	18%
Nebraska	130,000	9%	73,000	14%
Nevada	340,000	14%	237,000	26%
New Hampshire	51,000	5%	54,000	15%



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State	Adults Reporting That Household Didn't Have Enough to Eat		Adults Reporting That Children in Household Weren't Eating Enough Because Couldn't Afford Enough	
	Number	As a Percent of Adults	Number	As a Percent of Adults Living with Children
New Jersey	463,000	7%	373,000	14%
New Mexico	226,000	15%	179,000	27%
New York	1,936,000	14%	1,052,000	20%
North Carolina	952,000	12%	460,000	17%
North Dakota	62,000	11%	20,000	10%
Ohio	802,000	9%	527,000	16%
Oklahoma	351,000	12%	198,000	17%
Oregon	302,000	9%	160,000	15%
Pennsylvania	1,003,000	11%	668,000	20%
Rhode Island	106,000	13%	58,000	21%
South Carolina	502,000	13%	251,000	19%
South Dakota	55,000	9%	35,000	15%
Tennessee	654,000	13%	355,000	17%
Texas	3,396,000	16%	2,305,000	25%
Utah	161,000	7%	124,000	12%
Vermont	33,000	7%	16,000	11%
Virginia	627,000	10%	377,000	18%
Washington	460,000	8%	256,000	14%
West Virginia	139,000	10%	84,000	17%
Wisconsin	349,000	8%	158,000	11%
Wyoming	33,000	8%	24,000	15%

Note: Figures are a two-week average. As recommended by the Census Bureau, percentages exclude persons not replying to the question.

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey public use files for survey weeks 11 - 12, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey/datasets.html>.

Table 2 shows the increase in SNAP caseloads based on recent data available for each state through June compared to February 2020, the last month before the economic effects of the pandemic hit. Available data suggest that 6-7 million more people have applied and been approved for benefits since February, a 17 percent increase nationally. This rise is unprecedented: at the onset of the Great Recession it took 17 months to add this number of people to SNAP. While SNAP participation in most states is still substantially lower than during the peak months after the Great Recession, the increase so far due to COVID-19 has been rapid.

The differences in the increase in caseloads across states in part reflect differences in job losses across the months of the pandemic and the degree to which businesses were operating. They also may reflect how quickly states adapted their SNAP application processes to almost entirely remote communications (i.e., online and telephone) and how quickly they processed applications for unemployment insurance (UI). The Families First Act, the first large-scale relief bill enacted in March, allowed the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide states substantial flexibility in program operations to help them manage their workloads to focus on processing new applications — flexibility that USDA is now ending.<sup>i</sup> The slower growth in June may reflect states taking higher income from UI benefits into account (for households that were approved for UI in late April or May), in addition to increased earnings from the economy partially reopening in some places. But UI income is slated to fall substantially as a result of the expiration of the temporary \$600-per-week federal UI supplement, which very likely will cause SNAP caseloads to rise further. SNAP caseloads also shrink when the economy is strong, as they did in the years leading up to the COVID-19-related downturn.

TABLE 2

### The Number of SNAP Participants Increased Substantially in Almost All States

Preliminary, subject to change. From state- or USDA-reported data, as of August 11, 2020

State	February 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	Percent change:		
					February to April	February to May	February to June
Alabama	705,000	740,000	755,000	756,000	5%	7%	7%
Alaska	81,000	86,000	88,000	88,000	6%	9%	10%
Arizona	801,000	867,000	915,000	902,000	8%	14%	13%
Arkansas	318,000	375,000	393,000		18%	24%	
California	4,031,000	4,451,000	4,689,000	4,802,000	10%	16%	19%
Colorado	431,000	507,000	524,000	539,000	18%	21%	25%
Connecticut	362,000	382,000	388,000	387,000	6%	7%	7%
Delaware *	116,000	126,000			9%		
District of Columbia *	109,000	118,000			9%		
Florida	2,684,000	3,212,000	3,661,000	3,816,000	20%	36%	42%
Georgia	1,278,000	1,603,000	1,707,000		25%	34%	
Guam *	41,000	52,000			28%		
Hawai'i	152,000	171,000	178,000	180,000	13%	17%	18%

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Preliminary, subject to change. From state- or USDA-reported data, as of August 11, 2020

State	February 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	Percent change:		
					February to April	February to May	February to June
Idaho	149,000	153,000	151,000	153,000	3%	2%	3%
Illinois	1,748,000	1,929,000	2,032,000		10%	16%	
Indiana	617,000	680,000	715,000	775,000	10%	16%	26%
Iowa	296,000	330,000	338,000	308,000	11%	14%	4%
Kansas	190,000	202,000	209,000	213,000	6%	10%	12%
Kentucky	482,000	593,000	624,000	653,000	23%	29%	35%
Louisiana	770,000	812,000	843,000	853,000	6%	10%	11%
Maine	165,000	176,000	180,000	179,000	7%	9%	8%
Maryland	591,000	690,000	782,000	845,000	17%	32%	43%
Massachusetts	757,000	882,000	911,000	912,000	17%	20%	21%
Michigan	1,176,000	1,499,000	1,528,000	1,344,000	27%	30%	14%
Minnesota	370,000	404,000	424,000		9%	14%	
Mississippi	424,000	457,000	479,000		8%	13%	
Missouri	657,000	752,000	766,000	773,000	14%	17%	18%
Montana	106,000	108,000	110,000	109,000	3%	4%	4%
Nebraska*	153,000	166,000			8%		
Nevada	412,000	497,000	512,000		21%	24%	
New Hampshire*	72,000	77,000			7%		
New Jersey	661,000	683,000	718,000		3%	9%	
New Mexico	445,000	481,000	492,000	493,000	8%	11%	11%
New York	2,560,000	2,683,000	2,749,000		5%	7%	
North Carolina	1,224,000	1,329,000	1,383,000	1,407,000	9%	13%	15%
North Dakota*	48,000	51,000			8%		
Ohio	1,326,000	1,632,000	1,610,000		23%	21%	
Oklahoma	576,000	598,000	608,000		4%	6%	
Oregon	586,000	670,000	691,000	706,000	14%	18%	20%
Pennsylvania	1,737,000	1,861,000	1,907,000	1,904,000	7%	10%	10%

TABLE 2

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Preliminary, subject to change. From state- or USDA-reported data, as of August 11, 2020

State	February 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	Percent change:		
					February to April	February to May	February to June
Rhode Island*	146,000				N/A		
South Carolina	568,000	593,000	625,000	639,000	4%	10%	13%
South Dakota	78,000	79,000	79,000	78,000	1%	2%	0%
Tennessee	844,000	905,000	891,000	876,000	7%	6%	4%
Texas	3,284,000	3,708,000	3,899,000	3,932,000	13%	19%	20%
Utah	170,000	177,000	166,000	160,000	5%	-2%	-6%
Vermont*	68,000	72,000			7%		
Virginia	680,000	747,000	767,000	774,000	10%	13%	14%
Virgin Islands*	20,000	22,000			9%		
Washington	801,000	898,000	923,000		12%	15%	
West Virginia <sup>a</sup>	282,000	307,000	299,000	295,000	9%	6%	
Wisconsin	598,000	687,000	697,000	689,000	15%	17%	15%
Wyoming*	26,000	27,000			4%		
<b>Total these states</b>	<b>36,867,750*</b> (53 states/territories)	<b>41,300,000</b> (52)	<b>42,400,000</b> (43)	<b>30,500,000<sup>b</sup></b> (32)	<b>12%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>19%<sup>b</sup></b>
% U.S. participants in these states	100%	99.9%	98%	70%			
<i>Extrapolated to U.S.</i>	<i>36,867,750</i>	<i>41,400,000</i>	<i>43,200,000</i>	<i>43,800,000<sup>b</sup></i>			

\* Preliminary Department of Agriculture (USDA) data. All others are state-reported figures. Because for February we have combined data from different sources, the state February figures do not add to USDA's February national total. Historically, the data states reported have differed only slightly from the USDA data, but for April 2020, the most recent month for which USDA has posted preliminary data, there appear to be data reporting issues in about one-fifth of the states.

<sup>a</sup> Estimated individuals receiving SNAP based on reported households.

<sup>b</sup> The figures for June 2020 should be viewed with caution as they rely on data for only 32 states with 70 percent of SNAP participants. The states that have not provided data for June had slightly lower growth in the number of SNAP participants through May, so the actual growth in June may be lower than represented here.

Sources: Compilation of state-reported number of SNAP participants. CBPP, "SNAP Online: A Review of State Government SNAP Websites," April 23, 2020, <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/snap-online-a-review-of-state-government-snap-websites>, includes links to the data on each state's website for the states that post them. We also have obtained data from a handful of states that do not post their monthly data. The U.S. total for February 2020 and the February and April 2020 figures for states that do not share more recent data are from the Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, "SNAP Data Tables," FY16 through FY20 National View Summary, <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>.

## Behind on Rent

Table 3 shows the number of adults reporting that they are behind on rent by state.

TABLE 3

### One-Fifth of Renters Are Behind on Rent

Among adults in rental housing; data collected July 9 to July 21

#### Did Not Pay Last Month's Rent on Time or Deferred Payment

	Number	Percent
<b>United States</b>	<b>14,341,000</b>	<b>21%</b>
Alabama	302,000	36%
Alaska	23,000	18%
Arizona	243,000	17%
Arkansas	98,000	18%
California	1,812,000	16%
Colorado	141,000	12%
Connecticut	100,000	16%
Delaware	30,000	21%
District of Columbia	26,000	11%
Florida	924,000	21%
Georgia	414,000	20%
Hawai'i	45,000	14%
Idaho	59,000	17%
Illinois	673,000	27%
Indiana	242,000	21%
Iowa	88,000	18%
Kansas	92,000	17%
Kentucky	189,000	23%
Louisiana	247,000	26%
Maine	21,000	11%
Maryland	259,000	22%
Massachusetts	223,000	15%
Michigan	323,000	20%
Minnesota	105,000	11%
Mississippi	182,000	35%
Missouri	209,000	17%
Montana	33,000	16%
Nebraska	45,000	13%
Nevada	166,000	20%
New Hampshire	26,000	11%
New Jersey	384,000	21%
New Mexico	88,000	25%
New York	1,670,000	30%
North Carolina	518,000	27%
North Dakota	35,000	21%
Ohio	541,000	28%
Oklahoma	189,000	24%
Oregon	130,000	11%

TABLE 3

**One-Fifth of Renters Are Behind on Rent**

Among adults in rental housing; data collected July 9 to July 21

**Did Not Pay Last Month's Rent on Time or Deferred Payment**

	Number	Percent
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	381,000	18%
<b>Rhode Island</b>	40,000	20%
<b>South Carolina</b>	282,000	31%
<b>South Dakota</b>	39,000	28%
<b>Tennessee</b>	348,000	27%
<b>Texas</b>	1,529,000	24%
<b>Utah</b>	39,000	7%
<b>Vermont</b>	14,000	14%
<b>Virginia</b>	302,000	19%
<b>Washington</b>	248,000	14%
<b>West Virginia</b>	69,000	29%
<b>Wisconsin</b>	128,000	12%
<b>Wyoming</b>	22,000	26%

Note: Figures are a two-week average. As recommended by the Census Bureau, percentages exclude persons not replying to the question.

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey public use files for survey weeks 11 - 12, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey/datasets.html>.

## Children Facing Hardships

Because the Pulse survey was not designed to provide precise counts of children (but rather to provide more timely data on *adult* well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic than most household surveys), these figures are approximations, especially in smaller states.

TABLE 4

### Children in Households That Are Behind on Rent or Mortgage and/or Didn't Get Enough to Eat

Data collected June 18 to July 21

	Number	Percent
<b>United States</b>	<b>18,883,000 (plus or minus (±) 490,000)</b>	<b>28% (± 1)</b>
Alabama	416,000 (± 55,000)	35% (± 3)
Alaska	37,000 (± 7,000)	23% (± 3)
Arizona	407,000 (± 53,000)	27% (± 3)
Arkansas	199,000 (± 27,000)	29% (± 3)
California	2,186,000 (± 157,000)	28% (± 2)
Colorado	230,000 (± 52,000)	19% (± 4)
Connecticut	156,000 (± 19,000)	25% (± 3)
Delaware	55,000 (± 8,000)	26% (± 3)
District of Columbia	39,000 (± 9,000)	34% (± 6)
Florida	1,257,000 (± 123,000)	31% (± 2)
Georgia	727,000 (± 90,000)	30% (± 3)
Hawai'i	80,000 (± 13,000)	30% (± 4)
Idaho	96,000 (± 15,000)	20% (± 3)
Illinois	817,000 (± 107,000)	32% (± 3)
Indiana	454,000 (± 78,000)	29% (± 4)
Iowa	106,000 (± 17,000)	16% (± 3)
Kansas	137,000 (± 22,000)	21% (± 3)
Kentucky	230,000 (± 24,000)	25% (± 3)
Louisiana	403,000 (± 65,000)	37% (± 4)
Maine	47,000 (± 10,000)	21% (± 4)
Maryland	419,000 (± 51,000)	32% (± 3)
Massachusetts	294,000 (± 53,000)	23% (± 3)
Michigan	471,000 (± 57,000)	23% (± 3)
Minnesota	239,000 (± 47,000)	20% (± 3)
Mississippi	292,000 (± 39,000)	38% (± 4)
Missouri	302,000 (± 39,000)	23% (± 3)
Montana	48,000 (± 9,000)	23% (± 4)
Nebraska	90,000 (± 18,000)	21% (± 3)
Nevada	211,000 (± 29,000)	31% (± 4)
New Hampshire	47,000 (± 8,000)	19% (± 3)
New Jersey	520,000 (± 77,000)	28% (± 3)
New Mexico	175,000 (± 31,000)	35% (± 5)
New York	1,120,000 (± 157,000)	31% (± 4)
North Carolina	606,000 (± 76,000)	30% (± 3)
North Dakota	35,000 (± 6,000)	22% (± 3)
Ohio	629,000 (± 95,000)	26% (± 3)

TABLE 4

### Children in Households That Are Behind on Rent or Mortgage and/or Didn't Get Enough to Eat

Data collected June 18 to July 21

	Number	Percent
Oklahoma	252,000 (± 42,000)	27% (± 4)
Oregon	138,000 (± 23,000)	18% (± 3)
Pennsylvania	731,000 (± 89,000)	29% (± 3)
Rhode Island	60,000 (± 10,000)	31% (± 4)
South Carolina	315,000 (± 34,000)	26% (± 3)
South Dakota	55,000 (± 13,000)	27% (± 5)
Tennessee	456,000 (± 56,000)	30% (± 3)
Texas	2,058,000 (± 161,000)	30% (± 2)
Utah	138,000 (± 26,000)	16% (± 3)
Vermont	18,000 (± 3,000)	16% (± 3)
Virginia	399,000 (± 60,000)	24% (± 3)
Washington	250,000 (± 42,000)	18% (± 3)
West Virginia	106,000 (± 18,000)	29% (± 4)
Wisconsin	291,000 (± 45,000)	23% (± 3)
Wyoming	35,000 (± 7,000)	25% (± 4)

Note: Figures are a five-week average. Survey does not collect data on children directly; figures for children are approximations based on number of children in each household. As recommended by the Census Bureau, percentages exclude persons not replying to the question. For children in households that neither have a mortgage nor pay cash rent, such as those living in employer-provided housing, hardship is determined based only on whether these households had enough food. Margins of error reflect a 90 percent confidence level.

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey public use files for survey weeks 8 - 12, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey/datasets.html>.

TABLE 5

### Children in Renter Households That Are Behind on Rent and/or Didn't Get Enough to Eat

Data collected June 18 to July 21

	Number	Percent
<b>United States</b>	<b>10,440,000 (plus or minus (±) 402,000)</b>	<b>41% (± 1)</b>
Alabama	186,000 (± 32,000)	49% (± 7)
Alaska	18,000 (± 5,000)	35% (± 7)
Arizona	224,000 (± 35,000)	42% (± 5)
Arkansas	99,000 (± 18,000)	46% (± 6)
California	1,362,000 (± 144,000)	35% (± 3)
Colorado	85,000 (± 25,000)	28% (± 7)
Connecticut	83,000 (± 16,000)	41% (± 5)
Delaware	20,000 (± 4,000)	30% (± 8)
District of Columbia	31,000 (± 8,000)	50% (± 10)
Florida	641,000 (± 77,000)	40% (± 4)
Georgia	441,000 (± 89,000)	44% (± 6)
Hawai'i	45,000 (± 10,000)	34% (± 6)
Idaho	43,000 (± 12,000)	32% (± 8)



TABLE 5

## Children in Renter Households That Are Behind on Rent and/or Didn't Get Enough to Eat

Data collected June 18 to July 21

	Number	Percent
Illinois	450,000 (± 84,000)	49% (± 6)
Indiana	229,000 (± 60,000)	43% (± 9)
Iowa	60,000 (± 13,000)	39% (± 7)
Kansas	55,000 (± 14,000)	29% (± 5)
Kentucky	140,000 (± 25,000)	42% (± 7)
Louisiana	218,000 (± 58,000)	50% (± 7)
Maine	21,000 (± 8,000)	35% (± 11)
Maryland	286,000 (± 51,000)	51% (± 6)
Massachusetts	152,000 (± 50,000)	34% (± 8)
Michigan	242,000 (± 42,000)	39% (± 6)
Minnesota	106,000 (± 37,000)	38% (± 10)
Mississippi	166,000 (± 35,000)	56% (± 6)
Missouri	136,000 (± 25,000)	34% (± 6)
Montana	27,000 (± 8,000)	39% (± 9)
Nebraska	37,000 (± 8,000)	36% (± 6)
Nevada	131,000 (± 27,000)	41% (± 7)
New Hampshire	18,000 (± 6,000)	31% (± 8)
New Jersey	270,000 (± 56,000)	42% (± 6)
New Mexico	66,000 (± 16,000)	42% (± 6)
New York	779,000 (± 135,000)	45% (± 7)
North Carolina	343,000 (± 58,000)	45% (± 7)
North Dakota	16,000 (± 4,000)	34% (± 7)
Ohio	368,000 (± 81,000)	45% (± 7)
Oklahoma	123,000 (± 23,000)	41% (± 7)
Oregon	73,000 (± 17,000)	23% (± 5)
Pennsylvania	352,000 (± 56,000)	47% (± 6)
Rhode Island	35,000 (± 8,000)	52% (± 8)
South Carolina	157,000 (± 26,000)	46% (± 7)
South Dakota	33,000 (± 11,000)	56% (± 11)
Tennessee	259,000 (± 41,000)	48% (± 6)
Texas	1,210,000 (± 125,000)	46% (± 3)
Utah	48,000 (± 15,000)	26% (± 7)
Vermont	9,000 (± 3,000)	37% (± 10)
Virginia	172,000 (± 41,000)	33% (± 6)
Washington	144,000 (± 38,000)	28% (± 6)
West Virginia	49,000 (± 14,000)	45% (± 10)
Wisconsin	165,000 (± 36,000)	47% (± 7)
Wyoming	17,000 (± 6,000)	42% (± 10)

Note: Figures are a five-week average. Survey does not collect data on children directly; figures for children are approximations based on number of children in each household. As recommended by the Census Bureau, percentages exclude persons not replying to the question. Figures omit children in households that do not pay cash rent, such as those living in employer-provided housing. Margins of error reflect a 90 percent confidence level.

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey public use files for survey weeks 8 - 12, <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey/datasets.html>.

## High Unemployment

Table 6 provides state-by-state data on the unemployment rate over the June-August period and data on ongoing unemployment benefit claims.

Unemployment in most states has been highly elevated since April, as has the number of people claiming unemployment insurance benefits.

TABLE 6

### Unemployment, Jobless Claims High Across the Country

States	Unemployment rate (June-August average)	Current jobless benefits claims for week ending August 29 <sup>a</sup>
Alabama	7.0	165,000
Alaska	10.5	47,000
Arizona	8.9	550,000
Arkansas	7.5	146,000
California	13.3	9,327,000
Colorado	8.2	266,000
Connecticut	9.5	321,000
Delaware	10.7	40,000
District of Columbia	8.6	83,000
Florida	9.7	456,000
Georgia	6.9	788,000
Hawai'i	13.1	228,000
Idaho	5.0	34,000
Illinois	12.3	706,000
Indiana	8.5	389,000
Iowa	7.1	106,000
Kansas	7.2	236,000
Kentucky	5.5	169,000
Louisiana	8.8	387,000
Maine	7.8	69,000
Maryland	7.7	416,000
Massachusetts	15.1	915,000
Michigan	10.8	1,221,000
Minnesota	7.9	300,000
Mississippi	8.7	140,000
Missouri	7.2	198,000
Montana	6.4	86,000
Nebraska	4.8	51,000
Nevada	14.2	347,000
New Hampshire	7.9	63,000
New Jersey	14.0	853,000
New Mexico	10.8	133,000
New York	14.7	2,911,000
North Carolina	7.5	566,000

TABLE 6

## Unemployment, Jobless Claims High Across the Country

States	Unemployment rate (June-August average)	Current jobless benefits claims for week ending August 29 <sup>a</sup>
North Dakota	6.3	25,000
Ohio	9.6	739,000
Oklahoma	6.4	141,000
Oregon	9.9	278,000
Pennsylvania	12.0	1,378,000
Puerto Rico	N.A.*	492,000
Rhode Island	12.2	118,000
South Carolina	7.9	241,000
South Dakota	6.1	14,000
Tennessee	9.3	377,000
Texas	7.7	1,333,000
Utah	4.6	55,000
Vermont	7.5	39,000
Virgin Islands	12.9**	5,000
Virginia	7.4	492,000
Washington	9.6	407,000
West Virginia	9.8	55,000
Wisconsin	7.3	223,000
Wyoming	7.1	13,000
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>29,137,000</b>

<sup>a</sup> Compiled from data for regular state UI benefits, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation. Including other smaller programs, 29,768,326 people were claiming benefits in that week.

\* The Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico forecasts in its recent Fiscal Plan that this is 33 percent.

\*\* Rate is an average over the May-July period and not seasonally adjusted.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics from the Bureau of Labor Statistics; Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment for Virgin Islands from Virgin Islands Electronic Workforce System; Unemployment Weekly Claims Report, Department of Labor, September 17, 2020.

<sup>i</sup> "States Are Using Much-Needed Temporary Flexibility in SNAP to Respond to COVID-19 Challenges," CBPP, updated August 6, 2020, <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/most-states-are-using-new-flexibility-in-snap-to-respond-to-covid-19>; "USDA Rolling Back SNAP Flexibility That States Need in Current Crisis," CBPP, August 10, 2020, <https://www.cbpp.org/blog/usda-rolling-back-snap-flexibility-that-states-need-in-current-crisis>.