

U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey: Data for Men and Women

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Household Pulse Survey Design

- Household Pulse Survey (HPS) – Designed to understand impacts of Covid-19 on American families relating to employment, food security, housing, health and educational disruption.
- Several partners including: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, Housing and Urban Development, National Center for Education Statistics, etc.

Impetus for the Survey

- With circumstances changing rapidly, HPS addresses urgent need for near real time data as American families experience rapid and unprecedented disruptions.
- Designed to deploy quickly and efficiently
 - Leverage existing Census Bureau infrastructure and data assets for current surveys.
 - Engagement with federal agencies to solicit questionnaire content important to multiple federal and state programs with a minimum of public burden.

Survey Content

- Basic Demographics: Age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, marital status and educational attainment
- Employment Status: Loss of employment income, expected loss of employment income, working, reasons for not working if not working
- Food Security: Past food sufficiency, current food sufficiency, free meals, money spent on groceries and prepared foods
- Health: overall health, mental health, health insurance and delay in getting health care
- Housing: Tenure, paid rent/mortgage on time this month, confidence about paying rent/mortgage next month
- Education: Effects of COVID on how children received education, access to computer/digital device, who provided the device, internet availability, who paid for the internet, hours spent with teachers and hours householder spent on educational activities

Survey Methodology

- Respondents were reached via email and text invitations to take an online survey using existing email and cell-phone contact frames.
- Because our National Processing Center was closed down due to Covid-19 it wasn't possible to mail out survey invitations.
- Emails and cell-phone numbers were linked to the Census Bureau's Master Address File (MAF) records
 - The phone frame contains phone/address pairs for over 88 percent of address in the U.S.
 - The email frame contains email/address pairs for almost 80 percent of addresses in the country.
 - The majority of these contacts were acquired in the last two years.

Survey Data and Resources at

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey.html>

Explore More

DATA TOOL

Household Pulse Data Tool

An interactive application for exploring data from the Household Pulse Survey. This application is not supported in Internet Explorer 11 and older versions.

TABLE

Household Pulse Survey Data Tables

Weekly releases to the Household Pulse Survey detailed tables.

PUBLIC USE FILE (PUF)

Household Pulse Survey Public Use File (PUF)

Weekly releases to the Household Pulse Survey PUF files.

TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

Household Pulse Survey Technical Documentation

Background information on the Household Pulse Survey, Source and Accuracy statements, and User Note.

Household Pulse Survey

The new Household Pulse Survey is designed to deploy quickly, and efficiently collect data on how people's lives have been impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Experimental Data Products

Innovative statistical products created using new data sources or methodologies that benefit data users in the absence of other relevant products.

Interactive Tools

United States Census Bureau

// Census.gov / Our Surveys & Programs / Household Pulse Survey / Data / Household Pulse Survey Interactive Tool

Household Pulse Survey

Loss in Employment Income

Expected Loss in Employment Income

Food Scarcity

Delayed Medical Care

Housing Insecurity

K-12 Educational Changes

Filter By:

State: --All--

Reset

The Household Pulse Survey is designed to deploy quickly and efficiently, collecting data on a range of ways in which people's lives have been impacted by the pandemic. Data will be disseminated in near real-time to inform federal and state response and recovery planning.

Measure Definition: Percent of adults in households where someone had a loss in employment income since March 13, 2020.

Note: Percentages are based on reporting distributions and do not include the populations that did not respond to specific items.

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✉

Week 2

Household Pulse Survey Total US

U.S. Census Bureau

Week	State	Total Individual Population age 18+	Total Loss in Employment Income	Loss in Employment Income Percent
2	Alabama	3,717,378	1,648,851	44.4
2	Alaska	524,925	239,409	45.6
2	Arizona	5,597,268	2,383,738	42.7
2	Arkansas	2,246,527	866,958	38.6
2	California	29,939,021	16,264,632	54.3

Is this page helpful? X

👍 Yes 👎 No

Data Tables: Teleworking

Transportation Table 1. Teleworking during the Coronavirus Pandemic, by Select Characteristics: United States

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, Week 17.

Note: These data are experimental. Users should take caution using estimates based on subpopulations of the data – sample sizes may be small and the standard errors may be large.**

Total Population 18 Years and Older

Select characteristics	Total	Some adult in household substituted some or all of their typical in-person work for telework because of the coronavirus			
		Yes	No	No change in work	Did not report
Total	249,170,916	87,274,206	105,963,083	43,325,561	12,608,066
Age					
18 - 24	23,451,795	9,000,768	8,595,132	5,705,229	150,667
25 - 39	66,867,792	29,541,428	24,780,805	10,711,209	1,834,349
40 - 54	62,382,250	25,830,620	25,640,473	8,735,139	2,176,019
55 - 64	42,785,627	14,342,752	19,951,764	6,563,886	1,927,226
65 and above	53,683,452	8,558,639	26,994,909	11,610,098	6,519,807
Sex					
Male	120,531,610	42,635,581	50,846,477	21,563,816	5,485,736
Female	128,639,306	44,638,625	55,116,606	21,761,744	7,122,330

Data Tables: Mental Health Activities

Health Table 4. Mental Health Activities in the Last 4 Weeks, by Select Characteristics: United States

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, Week 17.

Note: These data are experimental. Users should take caution using estimates based on subpopulations of the data – sample sizes may be small and the standard errors may be large.**

Total Population 18 Years and Older

Select characteristics	Total	Received counseling or therapy from a mental health professional such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse, or clinical social worker			Needed counseling or therapy from a mental health professional, but did not get it for any reason			Took prescription medication to help with any emotions or with your concentration, behavior or mental health		
		Yes	No	Did not report	Yes	No	Did not report	Yes	No	Did not report
Total	249,170,916	19,380,633	174,458,248	55,332,035	20,474,539	173,556,041	55,140,335	39,256,562	154,665,662	55,248,692
Age										
18 - 29	45,084,316	4,427,633	26,189,055	14,467,627	5,679,663	24,993,733	14,410,920	5,940,160	24,677,634	14,466,522
30 - 39	45,235,271	5,064,525	29,784,251	10,386,496	5,349,729	29,512,839	10,372,703	7,318,398	27,529,474	10,387,399
40 - 49	41,503,283	3,506,362	28,977,133	9,019,789	3,549,854	28,894,848	9,058,581	6,930,098	25,560,112	9,013,074
50 - 59	42,663,823	3,287,083	31,106,277	8,270,463	3,042,463	31,391,443	8,229,917	7,865,589	26,528,502	8,269,732
60 - 69	43,415,796	2,098,238	33,593,159	7,724,399	1,936,061	33,826,771	7,652,963	6,956,272	28,779,472	7,680,052
70 - 79	24,860,632	714,548	19,822,397	4,323,687	623,615	19,933,514	4,303,503	3,609,446	16,943,881	4,307,306
80 and above	6,407,794	282,244	4,985,976	1,139,574	293,154	5,002,893	1,111,748	636,600	4,646,588	1,124,607
Sex										
Male	120,531,610	7,610,738	85,096,764	27,824,108	7,668,488	85,178,706	27,684,416	14,199,046	78,598,838	27,733,726
Female	128,639,306	11,769,895	89,361,484	27,507,927	12,806,051	88,377,335	27,455,919	25,057,516	76,066,824	27,514,966

Data Tables: Experienced and Expected Loss of Employment Income

Employment Table 1. Experienced and Expected Loss of Employment Income, by Select Characteristics: United States

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, Week 17.

Note: These data are experimental. Users should take caution using estimates based on subpopulations of the data – sample sizes may be small and the standard errors may be large.**

Total Population 18 Years and Older

Select characteristics	Total	Experienced loss of employment income since March 13, 2020 (for self or household member)			Expected loss of employment income in next 4-weeks (for self or household member)		
		Yes	No	Did not report	Yes	No	Did not report
Total	249,170,916	112,212,936	135,542,190	1,415,790	59,733,026	187,655,534	1,782,356
Age							
18 - 24	23,451,795	11,795,597	11,643,295	12,903	4,833,199	18,604,053	14,543
25 - 39	66,867,792	33,575,742	32,924,427	367,623	17,567,948	48,879,752	420,091
40 - 54	62,382,250	32,540,367	29,563,038	278,845	17,583,247	44,447,311	351,692
55 - 64	42,785,627	20,038,073	22,448,226	299,328	11,053,699	31,360,485	371,443
65 and above	53,683,452	14,263,158	38,963,204	457,090	8,694,933	44,363,933	624,586
Sex							
Male	120,531,610	54,781,301	65,073,046	677,263	29,911,474	89,797,843	822,293
Female	128,639,306	57,431,635	70,469,144	738,527	29,821,552	97,857,691	960,063

Data Tables: Changes to Household Spending

Household Spending Table 2. Changes to Household Spending or Shopping Behavior in the Last 7 Days, by Select Characteristics: United States

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, Week 17.

Note: These data are experimental. Users should take caution using estimates based on subpopulations of the data – sample sizes may be small and the standard errors may be large.**

Total Population 18 Years and Older

Select characteristics	Total*	Made more purchases online	Made more purchases curbside pickup	Made more purchases in-store	Increased use of credit cards or smartphone apps for purchases	Increased use of cash instead of credit cards or smartphone apps for purchases	Avoided eating at restaurants	Resumed eating at restaurants	Canceled or postponed in-person medical or dental appointments	Attended in-person medical or dental appointments	Canceled or postponed housekeeping or caregiving services	Resumed or started new housekeeping or caregiving services	Did not make any changes to spending or shopping behavior	Did not report
Total	249,170,916	113,595,321	58,071,799	20,613,271	84,197,689	11,258,070	127,582,733	22,714,488	61,502,866	53,681,645	17,898,173	5,607,708	48,928,076	16,016,154
Age														
18 - 24	23,451,795	10,879,643	6,023,003	1,932,763	8,390,021	679,517	10,916,286	2,253,838	4,870,692	3,438,671	1,303,784	396,220	3,979,848	2,682,475
25 - 39	66,867,792	33,977,603	20,900,163	4,478,774	25,697,848	2,357,627	35,340,241	6,705,083	17,628,780	11,983,115	5,969,906	1,725,833	10,938,159	4,998,357
40 - 54	62,382,250	28,388,961	14,421,357	4,753,311	21,682,831	2,753,612	32,056,964	5,430,319	16,481,225	11,914,638	4,684,951	1,269,389	12,186,690	3,700,606
55 - 64	42,785,627	18,446,563	7,934,992	4,001,711	13,200,530	2,396,165	22,429,439	3,618,104	11,146,630	9,737,300	2,748,501	838,782	9,022,310	2,186,433
65 and above	53,683,452	21,902,550	8,792,284	5,446,713	15,226,458	3,071,150	26,839,803	4,707,144	11,375,538	16,607,922	3,191,031	1,377,483	12,801,069	2,448,283
Sex														
Male	120,531,610	51,523,974	26,299,648	9,766,848	38,704,569	5,530,521	58,752,732	10,614,616	26,817,955	22,069,950	7,809,262	2,624,376	26,857,478	8,156,478
Female	128,639,306	62,071,347	31,772,151	10,846,423	45,493,120	5,727,549	68,830,001	12,099,872	34,684,911	31,611,695	10,088,911	2,983,331	22,070,598	7,859,676

Closing Questions

- In terms of best practices, I wonder if others have insights into improving ways of contacting potential survey respondents given that Covid-19 has increased housing instability and unintended movement.
- Thinking about exchanges of data, are there additional ways to make these data available to users in addition to interactive data tools, tables and data sets? In other words, how do we package the data so it's most useful to others telling the story of gender differences.