

Hunger Free America

COVID-19 National Survey

TOPLINE RESULTS – April 10, 2020

Prepared By Kupersmit Research

This survey of 1,042 American adults (18+) was conducted online. Quotas were utilized to ensure representation by age, geography, gender identity and income. The survey was conducted April 3-8, 2020 and carries a margin of error of $\pm 3.0\%$ at the 95% confidence level.

For further information, please contact Nicole Aber (Naber@hungerfreeamerica.org).

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONNAIRE WAS ADMINISTERED ONLINE. AN ANSWER WAS REQUIRED FOR EACH QUESTION, UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

ALL RESPONDENTS ARE FROM THE DYNATA ONLINE PANEL. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE INTERVIEWER ARE PRESENTED IN CAPS. RESPONSES MAY NOT ADD TO 100% BECAUSE OF ROUNDING.

Screener

Thank you for taking the time to take our survey today. Before you begin, we have a few questions to see if you qualify:

SCREENER:

1. Which of the following best describes your age?

Under 18	(TERM)
18-24	11%
25-34	18
35-44	17
45-54	17
55-64	17
65+	20
Not sure/Refused	(TERM)

2. Which of the following best describes your gender identity?

Female	51%
Male	48
Transgendered	<1%
Non-Binary	<1%
Prefer not to say	(TERM)

3. Please select the state where you currently live from the drop down list:

CODE STATE

Attitudes Toward Poverty and Those in Need

Today's survey will ask you questions about your household and the impact, if any, of the Coronavirus crisis on your personal economic security.

4. To begin, which of the following best describes your situation since the beginning of March:

Your household income has stayed the same	59%
Your (or someone in your household) have seen a drop in income, but are about as comfortable as you were before March	19
You (or someone in your household) have seen a drop in income, and are very concerned about your economic situation	20
Not sure/Prefer not to say	3

5. Thinking about your ability to pay basic expenses (rent/mortgage, food, medication), which of these best describes your household:

There is enough money now to pay for basic expenses and we should be okay for the foreseeable future	57%
There is enough money to meet basic expenses now, but I am worried about the next few weeks/ months	26
There is not enough money to meet basic expenses now, but we were doing okay before the Coronavirus crisis	10
Even before the Coronavirus crisis, we did not have enough money to meet basic expenses, and it's just as bad (or worse) now	4
Not sure/Prefer not to say	3

For these statements below, please indicate whether the statement was often true, sometimes true, or never true in the past month—that is, since the start of March through today.

These questions are not about whether you ate less because you were too worried or upset to eat, or because you ate less because you were purposely try to lose weight, or if your grocery store didn't have enough food.. We only want to know about whether **a lack of money** impacted you and/or your household's food purchasing and eating.

6. I/we could not afford to buy all the food that was needed, the food just didn't last, and there was not enough money to get more.

Was this true often, sometimes, or never true in your household in the last month?

Often true	12%
Sometimes true	24
Never true	61
Not sure/Prefer not to say	3

7. I/we could not afford to eat balanced meals.

Was this true often, sometimes, or never true in your household in the last month?

Often true	11%
Sometimes true	22
Never true	64
Not sure/Prefer not to say	4

8. I/we have had to make hard choices between buying enough food and having money for necessities like medications or rent.

Often true	13%
Sometimes true	21
Never true	63
Not sure/Prefer not to say	3

9. In the last month, did you or other adults in your household ever cut the size of your meals and/or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes	24%	
No	73	SKIP NEXT Q
Not sure	3	SKIP NEXT Q

IF YES: (n=251)

10. How often did you or other adults in your household cut the size of your meals/and or skip meals —almost every day, some days, or only 1 or 2 days?

Almost every day	44%
Some days out of the month	47
Only 1 or 2 days in the month	7
Not sure	2

11. In the last month, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes	25%
No	72
Not sure	3

12. In the last month, were you ever physically hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes	19%
No	78
Not sure	3

13. Do you currently have any children under the age of 18 living in your household?

Yes	31%	
No	68	SKIP TO Q16
Not sure/Prefer not to say	2	SKIP TO Q16

IF THEY HAVE CHILDREN UNDER 18 CONTINUE HERE (n=320):

14. In the last month, did you ever need to cut the size of meals and/or skip meals for a child or children because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes	37%
No	63
Not sure	1

15. In the last month, did your child or children ever eat less than you felt they should because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes	28%
No	71
Not sure	2

ALL CONTINUE HERE:

16. Which of the following most closely reflects your situation before the Coronavirus crisis?

I/we could afford enough food before the crisis 83%

I/we struggled to afford enough food before the crisis 13

Not sure 4

17. Which of the following most closely reflects your view?

I/we are confident we will be able to afford enough food for the foreseeable future 63%

I/we are okay for now, but worry we won't be able to afford enough food if this crisis goes on much longer. 26

I/we are struggling just as much with being able to afford enough food as before the crisis 5

I/we are struggling even more with being able to afford enough food because of this crisis 4

Not sure 3

18. Please check all that usually apply to your household:

There are students who receive free or reduced meals at school ASK Q19 15%

There are seniors in our household who receive meals at senior centers or similar places SKIP TO Q20 7

I/we get some food from local food pantries, soup kitchens, and/or other charities SKIP TO Q20 14

None of these apply SKIP TO Q20 71

Not sure SKIP TO Q21 2

IF THEY HAVE A STUDENT WHO RECEIVES MEALS (n=151)

19. Since students are no longer eating meals at schools, are you able to get meals from your school district?

Yes, we are able to pick up or get delivered all the school meals they are missing 64%

Yes, some of the school meals they are missing 21

No, they are entirely missing school meals 15

ASK ALL:

21. If you needed help getting food, who/where would you turn? Please check all that apply:

Family and friends	60%
Food pantry/food bank	31
SNAP, also known as Food stamps	24
Charities in your community	15
Your church/synagogue/mosque/other faith-based agency	15
School and/or government food distribution sites	10
WIC, for pregnant women and kids under five	5
Other/SPECIFY	1
Would not turn to anyone	12
Not sure	11

22. Are you aware of how and where to apply for government programs that help struggling individuals and families get free food?

Yes	51%	
No	41	SKIP NEXT Q
Not sure	8	SKIP NEXT Q

IF YES (n=532):

23 Which of the following methods are you familiar with for getting free food from government programs? Please check ALL that apply.

Web site	58%
Phone number or hotline	34
By walking into a government office	34
By accessing help from a nonprofit group, either in person, over the phone, or online	34
Smart phone application	27
None of these	10

24. The main government food assistance program, SNAP (also known as food stamps) reduces U.S. hunger and helps keep grocery stores and farmers in business.

This program is less than 2% of the total federal budget. Current benefits average \$1.34 per meal. In this time of crisis, do you think the average SNAP benefits should be...

Increased significantly	36%	TOTAL “INCREASED”:	62%
Increased slightly	26		
Kept the same	24		
Decreased slightly	3		
Decreased significantly	2	TOTAL “DECREASED”:	5%
Not sure	9		

Attitudes Regarding Health Care

Think for a moment about the cost of health insurance and health care, and the Coronavirus crisis in America.

25.	Regarding health care treatment for people with COVID-19, do you believe:	
	The federal government should make testing and treatment free for all Americans	64%
	The federal government should make testing and treatment more affordable for all Americans	24
	The federal government should play no role in making testing and treatment more affordable for all Americans	5
	Not sure	8

Thinking about the American health system overall - for those under age 65 who are not currently eligible for Medicare or Medicaid - do you support or oppose the following?

26.	Replacing the current system of employer-based health insurance and Obamacare with Medicare for All (or moving to something similar).	
	Strongly support	26%
	Somewhat support	21
	Neither	15
	Somewhat oppose	9
	Strongly oppose	18
	Not sure	10
	TOTAL "SUPPORT":	47%
	TOTAL "OPPOSE":	27%
27.	Adding a public option to the current system, where Americans could purchase government health insurance like Medicare.	
	Strongly support	27%
	Somewhat support	35
	Neither	14
	Somewhat oppose	4
	Strongly oppose	8
	Not sure	11
	TOTAL "SUPPORT":	62%
	TOTAL "OPPOSE":	12%
28.	Keeping the current system as it is today, where individuals get insurance from their employer or can purchase regulated plans with deductibles and benefits that fit their budgets through the ACA exchanges (popularly known as Obamacare).	
	Strongly support	21%
	Somewhat support	28
	Neither	19
	Somewhat oppose	11
	Strongly oppose	10
	Not sure	11
	TOTAL "SUPPORT":	49%
	TOTAL "OPPOSE":	21%

29. Go back to the system before Obamacare, where private insurers were deregulated and could deny insurance to those with pre-existing conditions while offering lower-cost, low-benefit plans.

Strongly support	12%	TOTAL “SUPPORT”:	24%
Somewhat support	12		
Neither	15		
Somewhat oppose	16		
Strongly oppose	37	TOTAL “OPPOSE”:	53%
Not sure	8		

30. If you had to choose one option, which would you choose?

Moving to Medicare for All	29%
Adding a public option	25
Keeping Obamacare as is	17
Ending Obamacare	15
Not sure	14

Demographics

The following questions are used for statistical purposes only:

31. Are you currently:

Employed full time	46%
Employed part-time	10
A homemaker	6
Retired	22
A student	2
Unemployed and looking for a job	6
Unemployed and not looking for a job	3
Other	3
Not sure/Prefer not to say	1

IF FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME EMPLOYED, CONTINUE HERE; OTHERS SKIP TO PARTY AFFILIATION:

32. How worried are you that you could lose your job in the near future?

Very worried	26%
A bit worried	28
Not very worried	26
Not at all worried	20
Not sure	1

ALL RESUME HERE:

33. Thinking about your political affiliation, would you say you consider yourself to be a Democrat, Republican, another party or Independent?

Strong Democrat	23%
Lean Democrat	17
Lean Republican	15
Strong Republican	17
Independent	19
Libertarian Party	1
Other party	1
None of these	5
Not sure/Prefer not to say	3

34. How often do you vote?

Always	54%
Most of the time	21
Sometimes	11
Never	11
Not sure/Prefer not to say	3

20. Thinking about next year's elections for President of the United States, as well as other offices at the state and local level:

How likely is it that you will vote in the 2020 elections?

Certain	63%
Very likely	16
Pretty likely	9
Not very likely	6
Not at all likely	6

36. What is your current marital status?

Single	26%
Married	52
Widowed	4
Divorced	10
Living with a domestic partner	6
Not sure/Prefer not to say	1

38. Which of these best describes where you live?

A large metropolitan area or its suburbs	30%
A small city	46
A small town or rural area	24
Not sure/Prefer not to say	1

39. Are you from a Hispanic, Latino or Spanish-Speaking background?
- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| Yes | 16% |
| No | 83 |
| Not sure/Refused | 1 |
40. With which race do you identify yourself?
- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| White | 74% |
| Black, African-American | 13 |
| Asian | 5 |
| Native American, American Indian | 1 |
| Multi-racial | 3 |
| Other race | 4 |
| Not sure/Refused | 1 |
41. Please choose the answer that best reflects your personal/household situation about COVID19, the coronavirus.
- | | |
|---|----|
| I have been diagnosed with it and/or have symptoms that I believe are/were it | 6% |
| I have been directly exposed to people who have been diagnosed with it and/or have symptoms that I believe are/were it, but I have not been diagnosed with it and I don't have any symptoms | 10 |
| I don't believe I have been directly opposed not do I believe I have every had any symptoms | 79 |
| Not sure | 6 |
42. Which of the following best describes your household income for LAST year, 2019?
- | | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Less than \$19,999 per year | 9% |
| \$20-\$29,999 | 9 |
| \$30-\$39,999 | 8 |
| \$40-\$49,999 | 13 |
| \$50-\$74,999 | 17 |
| \$75-\$99,999 | 13 |
| \$100-\$149,999 | 15 |
| \$150,000-\$199,999 | 7 |
| \$200,000 or more | 7 |
| Not sure/Prefer not to say | 1 |

Thank you for your time.