

THE IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS ON HOUSEHOLDS IN RURAL AMERICA

October 2020



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



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SURVEY BACKGROUND

The coronavirus outbreak has had unprecedented, widespread impacts on households across America. As the virus spreads around the country, outbreaks and the resulting economic shutdowns to contain its spread have caused problems in the lives of most households. However, the most severe economic and health impacts have been concentrated among a smaller group of households who are in crisis.

This survey focuses on examining the most serious problems facing U.S. households as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, with an aim to identify vulnerable populations in urgent need of government help or charitable aid. NPR, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health conducted a five-part polling series in July – August 2020 to examine the most serious health and financial problems facing households across America prior to the expiration of federal coronavirus support programs.

The coronavirus outbreak has created unusual problems for many individuals in responding to requests for surveys. Because of this situation, this survey offered adults three choices to complete the survey: online, landline, and telephone. The survey design allowed greater capture of the general population and several hard-to-reach populations beyond standard telephone polling methods. It was also designed to overcome internet connectivity issues by a substantial share of households, as well as web-based preferences among those with internet.

The findings of this series will be detailed in the following reports: (1) *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, this report; (2) *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Major U.S. Cities*; (3) *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households, By Race/Ethnicity*; (4) *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households with Children*; and (5) *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households Across America*, a national summary report.

This report details the experiences of households in rural America during the coronavirus outbreak, in different areas of their lives, including serious problems with finances, employment, health care, housing, transportation, caregiving, and well-being. It was conducted July 1 – August 3, 2020, among a representative, probability-based, address-based sample of adults age 18 or older in the U.S. nationally and in the rural U.S. Of note, this survey was conducted at one point in time in the continuing development of the coronavirus outbreak, and reported experiences may change over time. In this series, adults were asked to report on serious problems facing both themselves and others living in their households. Thus, for all questions asked about the household, measures are reported as a percentage of households.

REPORT SUMMARY

During a time of record-setting [growth in new COVID-19 cases](#) across rural America, rural communities are facing distinct challenges handling the coronavirus outbreak due to long-standing systemic health and social inequities. When it comes to healthcare, the coronavirus outbreak has dramatically affected delivery, with systems facing disruptions, delays, and deferrals in care for many patients. During this period, access to safe medical care is critical for Americans, including those in rural areas. Results from this survey show a substantial share of households in rural America report they have been unable to get medical care for serious problems when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, often facing harmful health consequences as a result. Health care delays are especially concerning among rural households with anyone living with chronic illnesses or anyone at high risk for developing serious illness from COVID-19 due to their age or underlying medical conditions. These findings raise important concerns about improving health care access and delivery for rural populations as the coronavirus outbreak spreads across rural areas.

Main findings from this report include:

- In health care, about one in four rural households (24%) report anyone in their household has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, with a majority of those unable to get care (56%) reporting negative health consequences as a result.
 - When given a list of potential reasons for not getting care, 46% of rural households report they could not get an appointment during the hours they needed, 40% report they could not find a doctor who would see them, and 39% report they could not afford that health care. One in four (25%) report they felt the health care location was too far or too difficult to get to, while 12% report they could not find a doctor who would take their health insurance.
- More than half of rural households (53%) report anyone in their household is living with a chronic illness, while 42% report anyone in their household is at high risk for developing serious illness from COVID-19 due to their age or underlying medical conditions.
 - One in three rural households with anyone who is at high risk for developing serious illness from COVID-19 (33%) report anyone in their household has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, with a majority of those unable to get care (61%) reporting negative health consequences as a result.

- Similarly, one in three rural households with anyone who has a chronic illness (33%) report anyone in their household has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, with a majority of those unable to get care (60%) reporting negative health consequences as a result.
- Since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, more than four in ten rural households (46%) report using telehealth, where anyone in their household has received advice or treatment from a doctor or other health care professional over the phone or through a smartphone, tablet, or computer because they could not see one in person.
- More than four in ten rural households (42%) report facing serious financial problems during the coronavirus outbreak, including about three in ten (31%) who have used up all or most of their savings, and an additional 10% who report not having any household savings prior to the outbreak.
- Most Black or Latino rural households (85%) report facing serious financial problems during the coronavirus outbreak, compared to 36% of white rural households.
- More than four in ten rural households (43%) report any adult household members have lost their jobs, been furloughed, or had wages or hours reduced since the start of the outbreak. Among rural households with these job or wage losses during the coronavirus outbreak, about two in three (66%) report facing serious financial problems.
- Since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, a majority of rural households with children (54%) report they have experienced serious problems caring for their children, including about one-third (34%) who report serious problems keeping the education of their children going.
- At a time when America is largely relying on the internet for their jobs and education, about one in three rural households (34%) report either having serious problems with their internet connection to do their jobs or schoolwork, or that they do not have a high-speed internet connection at home.
- Four in ten rural households with children (40%) report either having serious problems with their internet connection to do schoolwork or their jobs, or that they do not have a high-speed internet connection at home.

INTRODUCTION

This report, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, is based on a five-part polling series conducted for NPR, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. It details the experiences of households in rural areas during the coronavirus outbreak across different areas of their lives, including serious problems with their finances, jobs, health care, housing, transportation, caregiving, and well-being.

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SECTION II. METHODS

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This poll was conducted July 1 – August 3, 2020, among probability-based, address-based, representative samples of 3,454 U.S. adults ages 18 or older, including 543 adults living in rural areas. In this survey, rural was defined as a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) with a central city whose population is under 50,000, and counties that are not part of an MSA. Adults were asked to report on serious problems facing both themselves and others living in their households. As a result, for all questions asked about the household, measures are reported as a percentage of households. Race/ethnicity is categorized as non-Hispanic white and Black/Latino. Measures are reported as a percentage of households according to the respondent's own race/ethnicity (e.g., Black/Latino households), as the racial/ethnic identity of others living in respondents' households was not asked. This survey only covers the non-institutionalized U.S. population, excluding those living in nursing homes, prisons, and hospitals, who are disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. In addition, it was conducted at one point in time in the continuing development of the coronavirus outbreak, and reported experiences may change over time. For the time frame, respondents were asked about their experiences since the start of the coronavirus outbreak. Reported experiences may not have been directly caused by the outbreak. This survey was conducted among 3,454 U.S. adults, including 543 adults living in rural areas. The margin of error at the 95% confidence interval is ± 3.3 percentage points nationally and ± 5.4 percentage points for rural households.

I. Serious Financial Problems for Rural Households

More than four in ten rural households report facing serious financial problems during the coronavirus outbreak

During the coronavirus outbreak, more than four in ten rural households (42%) report facing serious financial problems (see Table 1). This includes most Black or Latino rural households (85%), while 36% of white rural households also report this.

In specific financial areas, about three in ten rural households report using up all or most of their savings (31%) during the coronavirus outbreak, while an additional 10% report they didn't have any household savings prior to the outbreak. About one in five rural households report facing serious problems with paying credit cards, loans, or other debt (21%), while nearly one in five report serious problems paying their utilities (18%). Notable shares of rural households report facing serious problems paying their mortgage or rent (16%), making car payments (16%), affording food (15%), affording medical care (15%), and other serious financial problems (15%).

Table 1. Serious Financial Problems Among Rural Households During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)

Q4-5. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak... has anyone living in your household had _____, or not? ... to your knowledge, has anyone living in your household used up all or most of their savings, or not?

	% Yes
Serious financial problems (NET)	42
Used up all/most of savings*	31
Serious problems paying credit cards/loans/debt	21
Serious problems paying utilities	18
Serious problems paying mortgage/rent	16
Serious problems making car payments	16
Serious problems affording medical care	15
Serious problems affording food	15
Other serious financial problems	15

Note: Nationally, 46% of U.S. households report serious financial problems during this time

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. Q4/Q5. N=543 rural adults ages 18+. *An additional 10% volunteered they didn't have any household savings prior to the coronavirus outbreak.

II. Serious Problems with Employment and Work for Rural Households

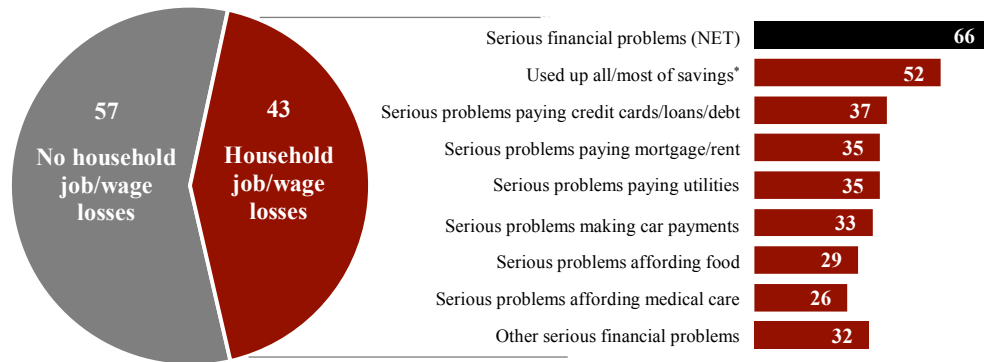
A large majority of rural households with job or wage losses report serious financial problems

More than four in ten rural households (43%) report any adult household members have lost their jobs, lost their businesses, been furloughed, or had wages or hours reduced since the start of the coronavirus outbreak. Among rural households with job or wage losses during the coronavirus outbreak, about two-thirds (66%) report facing serious financial problems during this time. Figure 1 displays serious financial problems reported in specific areas among rural households with job or wage losses.

Figure 1. Serious Financial Problems Among Rural Households with Job/Wage Losses During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)

Q6a-b. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, have any adults living in your household lost their job, lost their business, been furloughed, taken mandatory unpaid leave, or had wages or hours reduced?

Among the 43% of households with job/wage losses during the outbreak: Q4-5. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak... has anyone living in your household had _____, or not? ... to your knowledge, has anyone living in your household used up all or most of their savings, or not?



Note: Nationally, 46% of U.S. households report job/wage losses, and among U.S. households with job/wage losses, 68% report facing serious financial problems during this time

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. Q4/Q5. N=543 rural adults ages 18+. Categories ranked by highest % among respondents. *An additional 11% volunteered they didn't have any household savings prior to the coronavirus outbreak.

**About one in three rural households
face serious problems with internet connectivity**

During the coronavirus outbreak, about one in three rural households (34%) report either having serious problems with their internet connection to do their jobs or schoolwork, or that they do not have a high-speed internet connection at home.

Serious safety concerns in rural households with healthcare workers

About one in eight rural households (13%) report anyone in their household works in health care, specifically in-person at a health care institution providing patient care, such as a hospital, nursing home, doctor's office, or conducting in-home visits. Among households with these health care workers, more than four in ten (47%) report they have serious concerns about their safety from coronavirus at work.

Serious safety concerns in rural households working in non-healthcare jobs

Beyond health care, more than half of rural households (55%) report anyone in their household works outside their home in non-healthcare jobs. Among those with household members working in these non-health care jobs, about four in ten (39%) report having serious concerns about their safety from coronavirus at work.

**Serious problems aside from internet issues reported
specifically with working from home**

Though many households report facing serious problems during the coronavirus outbreak, few report serious problems specifically with working from home aside from reported issues with internet connectivity noted above. About four in ten (39%) rural households where anyone is working report that someone works from home at least some of the time. Among working households where someone works from home at least some of the time, about one in ten (11%) report serious problems working from home.

III. Serious Problems with Healthcare for Rural Households

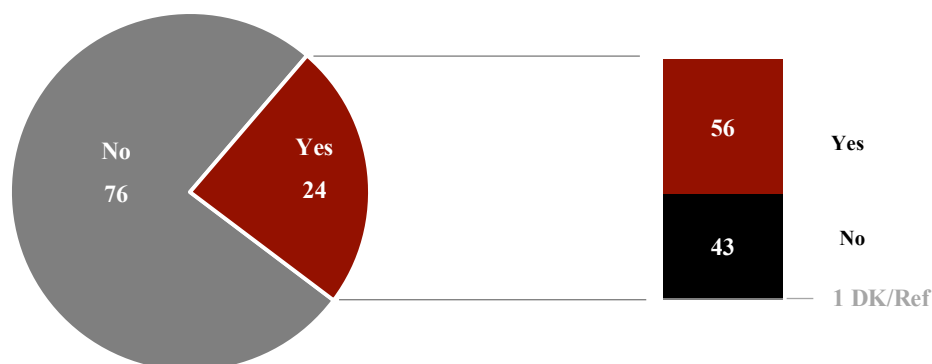
A majority of rural households with anyone unable to get medical care for serious problems when they needed it report negative health consequences

About one in four (24%) rural households report anyone in their household has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak. Among rural households where anyone has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when needed, a majority (56%) report negative health consequences as a result (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. Negative Health Consequences Among Rural Households Unable to Get Medical Care for Serious Problems During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)

Q17. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household been unable to get or delayed getting medical care for a serious problem when they needed it, or not?

Among the 24% of households where anyone has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when needed: Q18. And overall, do you think delays or being unable to get medical care had any negative health consequences for them, or not?



Note: Nationally, 20% of U.S. households report anyone has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when needed, with 57% of those unable to get needed care reporting negative consequences as a result

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. N=543 rural adults ages 18+.

Reported reasons for being unable to get medical care for serious problems

When given a list of potential reasons anyone in their household may have been unable to get medical care for serious problems when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, rural households report several issues. More than four in ten of these households report they could not get an appointment during the hours they needed (46%), while 40% report they could not find a doctor who would see them, and 39% report they could not afford that health care. One in four (25%) report they felt the health care location was too far or too difficult to get to, while about one in eight (12%) report they could not find a doctor who would take their health insurance.

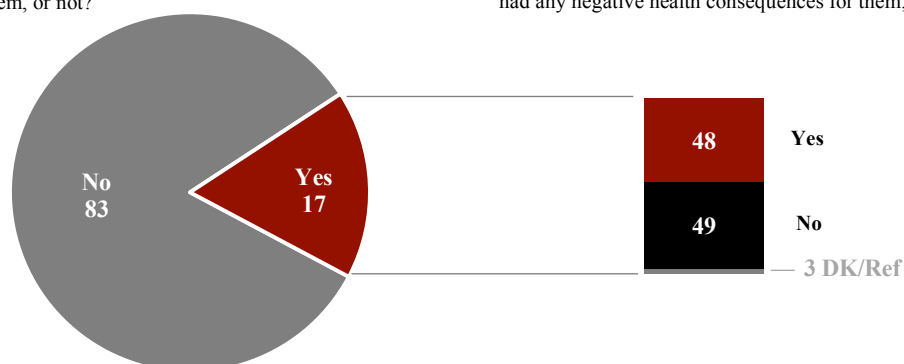
Nearly half of rural households with anyone unable to get procedures for important health problems done when needed report negative health consequences

About one in six (17%) rural households report anyone in their household has been unable to get an elective procedure or surgery done for an important health problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak. Among rural households where anyone has been unable to get a surgery or elective procedure done for an important health problem when needed, nearly half (48%) report negative health consequences as a result (see Figure 3).

Figure 3. Negative Health Consequences Among Rural Households Unable to Get Surgeries or Elective Procedures for Important Health Problems During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)

Q20. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household been unable to get or delayed getting an elective procedure or surgery done for an important health problem, or not?

Asked among the 17% of households where anyone has been unable to get a procedure done for an important health problem when needed: Q21. And overall, do you think delays or being unable to get elective procedures had any negative health consequences for them, or not?



Note: Nationally, 15% of U.S. households report anyone has been unable to get procedures done for important health problems when needed, with 54% of those unable to get needed procedures reporting negative consequences as a result

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. N=543 rural adults ages 18+.

About one in seven rural households report serious problems affording medical care

During the coronavirus outbreak, about one in seven rural households (15%) report serious problems being able to afford medical care.

More than four in ten rural households report having high risk household members

More than four in ten rural households (42%) report having anyone living in their household who is at high risk for developing serious illness from coronavirus or COVID-19 due to their age or underlying medical conditions.

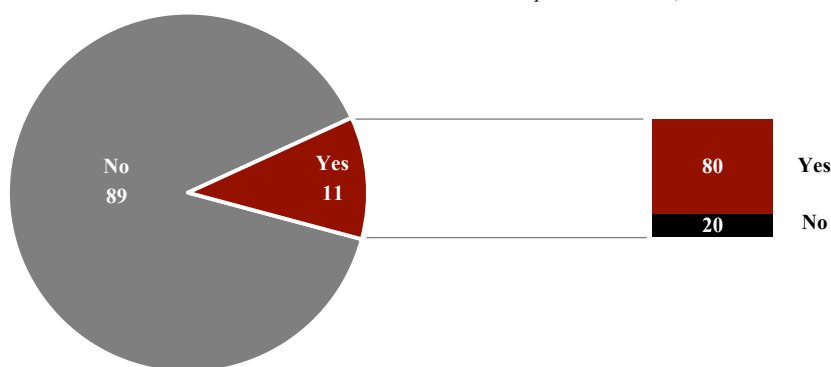
A majority of rural households with anyone who has been unable to get prescription drugs for major health issues when needed report negative health consequences

About one in ten (11%) rural households report anyone in their household has been unable to get prescription drugs to manage a major health issue during the coronavirus outbreak. Among rural households where anyone has been unable to get prescription drugs to manage a major health problem when needed, most (80%) report negative health consequences as a result (see Figure 4).

Figure 4. Negative Health Consequences Among Rural Households Unable to Get Prescription Drugs to Manage Major Health Issues During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)

Q22. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household been unable to get or delayed prescription drugs to manage a major health issue, or not?

Asked among the 11% of households where anyone has been unable to get/delayed getting prescription drugs to manage major health issues: Q23. And overall, do you think delays or being unable to get prescription drugs had any negative health consequences for them, or not?



Note: Nationally, 9% of U.S. households report anyone has been unable to get/delayed prescription drugs to manage a major health issue, with 65% of those unable to get needed prescription drugs reporting negative consequences as a result

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. N=543 rural adults ages 18+.

More than four in ten rural households report telehealth use during the coronavirus outbreak

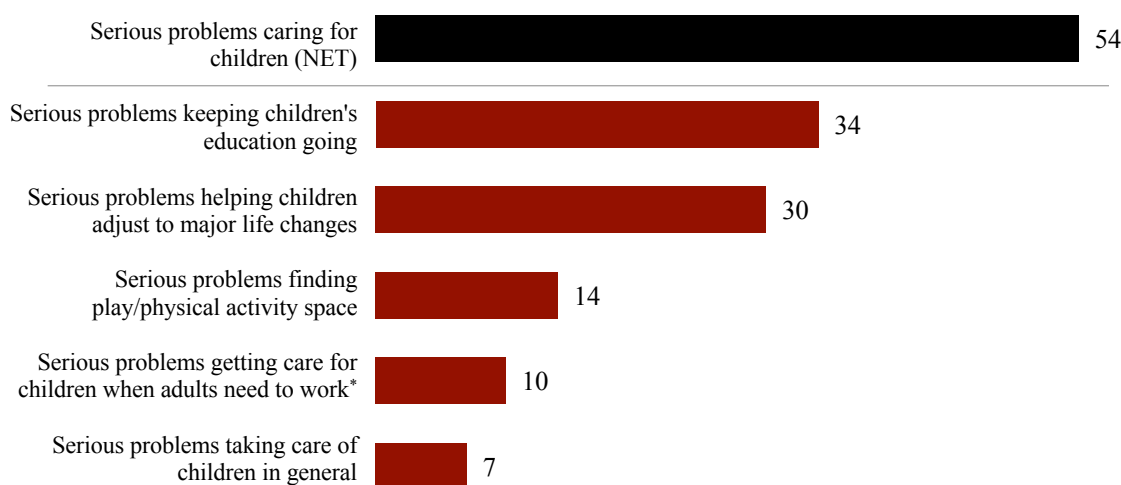
Since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, more than four in ten rural households (46%) report anyone in their household has received advice or treatment from a doctor or other health care professional over the phone or through a smartphone, tablet, or computer because they could not see one in person. Rural households reporting telehealth use express wide satisfaction with telehealth visits, as most (88%) report being satisfied with the advice or treatment they received during their most recent experience doing this.

IV. Serious Problems Caring for Children among Rural Households

A majority of rural households with children report serious caregiving problems

More than one in three (36%) rural households report any children under age 18 live there. Since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, a majority of rural households with children under age 18 (54%) report they have experienced serious problems caring for their children (see Figure 5). This includes about one-third (34%) who report serious problems keeping the education of their children going and three in ten (30%) who report serious problems helping children adjust to major changes in their lives. About one in seven rural households with children (14%) report serious problems finding space for children to play or get physical activity while maintaining a safe distance from others, while 10% of working households with children report serious problems getting care for children when adults need to work. Fewer than one in ten (7%) report serious problems taking care of children in general. When it comes to internet connectivity, four in ten rural households with children (40%) report either having serious problems with their internet connection to do schoolwork or their jobs, or that they do not have a high-speed internet connection at home.

Figure 5. Serious Caregiving Problems Among Rural Households with Children During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)



Note: Nationally, 59% of U.S. households with children report they have experienced serious problems caring for their children during the coronavirus outbreak.

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. N=181 rural adults ages 18+ living in households with children under age 18. *Question only asked among respondents in households with working or furloughed adults. *Net Q41a-e. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household had serious problems with any of the following? Taking care of children in your household? Keeping the education of children in your household going? Finding space for children in your household to play or get physical activity while maintaining a safe distance from others? Helping children in your household adjust to major changes in their lives? (Among employed/furloughed): Getting care for children when adults need to work?*

V. Serious Food and Housing Problems for Rural Households

Serious problems reported paying rent and with housing quality

During the coronavirus outbreak, nearly one in five rural households (18%) report serious problems paying for utilities (see Table 2). About one in six rural households report serious problems paying their mortgage or rent (16%), with about one in ten (9%) of all rural households reporting they have fallen behind on their rent or mortgage payments. About one in eight rural households (13%) report facing serious problems with housing quality during the coronavirus outbreak, including heating or cooling problems, mold problems, pest problems, problems with unsafe drinking water, or other serious environmental problems. Fewer than one in ten rural households (8%) report serious problems living in a severely cramped housing situation during the outbreak. Fewer than one in ten rural adults (7%) also report they have personally moved (including temporary moves) since the start of the coronavirus outbreak.

Serious problems reported missing or delaying paying major bills to ensure everyone had enough to eat

During the coronavirus outbreak, about one in six rural households (17%) report missing or delaying paying any major bills to ensure everyone had enough to eat (see Table 2), and a majority of those households (67%) reported this caused serious financial problems for them. About one in seven (15%) rural households report serious problems affording food since the coronavirus outbreak began, while fewer than one in ten (7%) report serious problems not getting enough food to eat every day.

Table 2. Serious Problems Affording Food and Housing Problems Among Rural Households During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)

<i>At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household had...</i>	
	Total
Serious problems paying utilities	18
Missed/delayed paying major bills to ensure household members had enough to eat	17
Serious problems paying mortgage/rent	16
Serious problems affording food	15
Serious heating/cooling, mold, pests, water, or environmental problems	13
Serious problems living in a severely cramped housing situation	8
Serious problems not getting enough to eat every day	7

Note: Nationally, serious problems paying utilities – 18%; missing/delaying major bills to ensure everyone had enough to eat – 17%; serious problems paying mortgage/rent – 19%; serious problems affording food – 16%; serious problems with heating/cooling/mold/pests/ water/environmental problems – 11%; serious problems with severely cramped housing – 6%; serious problems not getting enough food to eat every day – 7%

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Rural America*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. Q4f/Q38-39/Q49. Q4a-b/Q43/Q45. N=543 rural adults ages 18+.

VI. Other Serious Problems for Rural Households

More than one in five rural households report serious problems coping with isolation

More than one in five rural households (22%) report anyone in their household has had serious problems coping with social and physical isolation during the coronavirus outbreak.

Serious problems reported finding space and time for physical activity

When it comes to physical activity during the coronavirus outbreak, about one in five rural households (19%) report serious problems finding time to get physical activity or exercise, while about one in seven (15%) report serious problems finding space to get physical activity or exercise while maintaining a safe distance from others (see Table 4). In addition, among households with children, about one in seven (14%) report serious problems finding space for children to play or be physically active while maintaining a safe distance from others.

Table 4. Serious Problems with Access to Safe Physical Activity Among Rural Households During the Coronavirus Outbreak (in Percent)

At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household had serious problems finding...

	% Yes
Time for physical activity or exercise	19
Space to get physical activity or others while maintaining a safe distance from others	15
Space for children's play/physical activity while maintaining a safe distance from others*	14

Note: Nationally, 24% of U.S. households report serious problems finding time for physical activity; 19% report serious problems finding space for physical activity; and 21% of households with children report serious problems finding play/physical activity space for their children

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Households in Major U.S. Cities*, 7/1/20 – 8/3/20. Q41c/Q44-a. N=543 rural adults ages 18+. *N=181 rural adults ages 18+ living in households with children under age 18.

Fewer than one in ten rural households report receiving local government or charitable help for their serious problems

Fewer than one in ten (7%) rural households report receiving help from the local government for serious problems they have had since the start of the coronavirus outbreak. The same share (7%) also report receiving help from nonprofit groups, churches, or neighbors with serious problems they have had during this time.

VII. Serious Problems for Rural Households with Special Health Issues

Highlights of serious health care problems facing rural households with special health issues are included below. This includes health care delays reported by the 53% of rural households reporting anyone in their household is living with a chronic illness, the 42% of rural households reporting anyone in their household is at high risk for developing serious illness from COVID-19 due to their age or underlying medical conditions, and the 25% of rural households reporting anyone in their household is living with a disability.

- One in three rural households with anyone who has a chronic illness (33%) report anyone in their household has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, with a majority of those unable to get care (60%) reporting negative health consequences as a result.
- Similarly, one in three rural households with anyone who is at high risk for serious illness from COVID-19 (33%) report anyone in their household has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, with a majority of those unable to get care (61%) reporting negative health consequences as a result.
- About one in four rural households with anyone who is at high risk for serious illness from COVID-19 (24%) report anyone in their household has been unable to get an elective procedure or surgery done for an important health problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak, with more than four in ten (46%) reporting negative health consequences as a result.
- More than one in three households with anyone who has a disability (36%) report anyone in their household has been unable to get medical care for a serious problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak. And about three in ten (29%) rural households with anyone who has a disability report anyone in their household has been unable to get an elective procedure or surgery done for an important health problem when they needed it during the coronavirus outbreak.

VIII. Methodology

The poll in this study is part of an on-going series of surveys developed by researchers at the Harvard Opinion Research Program (HORP) at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and NPR. The research team consists of the following members at each institution.

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health: Robert J. Blendon, Professor of Public Health and Professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis Emeritus, and Executive Director of HORP; John M. Benson, Senior Research Scientist and Managing Director of HORP; Mary G. Findling, Senior Research Specialist; Chelsea Whitton Pearsall, Research Coordinator.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Carolyn Miller, Senior Program Officer, Research-Evaluation-Learning; Jordan Reese, Director of Media Relations; Martina Todaro, Research Associate, Research-Evaluation-Learning.

NPR: Andrea Kissack, Senior Supervising Editor, Science Desk; Joe Neel, Deputy Senior Supervising Editor, Science Desk; Scott Hensley, Senior Editor, Science Desk.

Interviews were conducted online and via telephone (cellphone and landline), **July 1 – August 3, 2020**, among a nationally representative, probability-based sample of 3,454 adults age 18 or older in the U.S., including a representative sample of 543 adults living in the rural U.S. In this survey, rural was defined as a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) with a central city whose population is under 50,000, and counties that are not part of an MSA.

The core of the sample was address-based, with respondents sampled from the United States Postal Service's Computerized Delivery Sequence (CDS) file. Sampled households were sent an invitation letter including a link to complete the survey online and a toll-free number that respondents could call to complete the survey with a telephone interviewer. All respondents were sent a reminder postcard, which also included a QR code they could scan to be linked to the survey via a smart device. Households that could be matched to telephone numbers and that had not yet completed the survey were called to attempt to complete an interview. In order to represent the hardest-to-reach populations, the address-based sample (ABS) was supplemented by telephone interviews with respondents who had previously completed interviews on the weekly random-digit dialing (RDD) SSRS Omnibus poll and online using the SSRS Opinion Panel, a probability-based panel.

A total of 2,992 respondents completed the questionnaire online, 127 by calling in to complete, and 335 were completed as outbound interviews.

Possible sources of non-sampling error include non-response bias, as well as question wording and ordering effects. Non-response produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population. To compensate for these known biases and for variations in probability of selection within and across households, the samples were weighted to match the distribution of the population based on data from the

U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey (ACS). Weighting parameters included: gender, age, education level, race/ethnicity, and for the national sample also region.

The margins of sampling error, including the design effect, is ± 3.3 percentage points nationally and ± 5.4 percentage points for rural households at the 95% confidence interval.

Respondents who were the only person living in a household were asked about their own experiences. Respondents who had anyone else also living in their household were asked about the experiences of anyone living in the household. Together these responses represent the experience of the household.

Characteristics of Population Subgroups: Rural

	Number of interviews (unweighted)
Total Rural adults	543
By Race/ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	414
Black or Latino	74
Job/wage loss in household	213
Household member works...	
In person at health care institution	68
Away from home at non-healthcare job	280
From home	154
Household member unable to get or delayed getting...	
Medical care for serious problem	132
Elective procedure or surgery	101
Prescription drugs	51
Household member used telehealth	256
Child under age 18 in household	181
Household members living with disability	140
Household members at high-risk for serious illness/death from COVID-19	256
Household members living with chronic illness	293

NPR
ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION
HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

THE IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS ON HOUSEHOLDS IN RURAL AMERICA

The survey was conducted for National Public Radio, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, online and via telephone (cellphone and landline) by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish, **July 1 – August 3, 2020**, among a nationally representative, probability-based sample of 3,454 adults age 18 or older in the U.S. The survey included nationally representative samples of adults living in urban, suburban, and rural areas.

The main part of the sample was address-based, with respondents sampled from the United States Postal Service's Computerized Delivery Sequence (CDS) file. Sampled households were sent an invitation letter including a link to complete the survey online and a toll-free number that respondents could call to complete the survey with a telephone interviewer. In order to represent the hardest-to-reach populations, the address-based sample (ABS) was supplemented by telephone interviews with respondents who had previously completed interviews on the weekly random-digit dialing (RDD) SSRS Omnibus poll and online using the probability-based SSRS Opinion Panel. A total of 2,992 respondents completed the questionnaire online, 127 by calling in by telephone, and 335 were completed by outbound interviews.

	Number of interviews (unweighted)	Margin of sampling error at the 95% confidence level (percentage points)
National total	3,454	±3.3
Urban	2,311	±2.8
Suburban	598	±5.3
Rural	543	±5.4

Respondents who were the only person living in a household were asked about their own experiences. Respondents who had anyone else also living in their household were asked about the experiences of anyone living in the household. Together these responses represent the experience of the household.

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I. FINANCIAL AND WORKPLACE EXPERIENCES

In this survey, we'll be asking you about serious problems you and people living with you have experienced as a result of the coronavirus outbreak in the United States, which began earlier this year. Most questions are about anyone living in your household, meaning you and anyone else currently living with you, whether or not they are a permanent resident at your address. By "serious problem," we mean something that creates great difficulty for you and people living in your household.

Serious Financial Problems

Q4. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had (INSERT ITEM), or not?

- a. serious problems paying (your/their) rent or mortgage

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	19	81	*
Urban	28	72	*
Suburban	18	82	*
Rural	16	83	1

- b. serious problems paying for utilities, like gas or electricity

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	18	82	*
Urban	26	74	*
Suburban	16	84	*
Rural	18	81	1

- c. serious problems making car payments

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	14	86	*
Urban	17	82	1
Suburban	13	86	1
Rural	16	84	*

d. serious problems affording medical care

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	15	84	1
Urban	18	82	*
Suburban	16	84	*
Rural	15	85	-

e. serious problems paying credit card bills, loans, or other debt

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	21	78	1
Urban	31	69	*
Suburban	21	79	*
Rural	21	79	*

f. serious problems affording food

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	16	84	*
Urban	22	78	*
Suburban	15	85	-
Rural	15	84	1

g. other serious financial problems

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	14	86	*
Urban	19	81	*
Suburban	11	89	*
Rural	15	84	1

Yes Summary Table
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Serious problems paying “your”/”their” rent or mortgage	19	28	18	16
Serious problems paying for utilities, like gas or electricity	18	26	16	18
Serious problems making car payments	14	17	13	16
Serious problems affording medical care	15	18	16	15
Serious problems paying credit card bills, loans, or other debt	21	31	21	21
Serious problems affording food	16	22	15	15
Other serious financial problems	14	19	11	15

Q4g. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had other serious financial problems, or not? **(If had other serious financial problems since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, ask)** Q4ga. What other serious financial problems (have you/has anyone living in your household) had since the start of the coronavirus outbreak?

Q4g/Q4ga Combo Table
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Have had other serious financial problems	14	19	11	15
Job loss/unemployed/laid off/reduced hours	5	9	5	6
Loss of income/wages/benefits	4	3	3	4
Serious problems affording car repairs/maintenance/gas	2	2	2	1
Serious problems paying basic living expenses/everday household needs	2	3	1	2
Serious problems paying for school/college tuition fees/student loans	1	2	1	*
Serious problems affording/finding daycare/childcare	1	*	1	1
Unable to save/Drained savings account	1	1	1	1
Problems supporting family members	1	1	1	1
Other	3	4	2	4
Don't know/Refused/Web Blank	*	1	-	*
Have not had other serious financial problems	86	81	89	84
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	*	1

Q4a. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems paying (your/their) rent or mortgage, or not? **(If had serious problems paying their rent or mortgage since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, ask)**
 Q4aa. And at any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, have (you/they) fallen behind on paying the rent or mortgage, or not?

Q4a/Q4aa Combo Table
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes, have had serious problems paying their rent or mortgage	19	28	18	16
Yes, have fallen behind on paying the rent or mortgage	11	16	12	9
No, have not fallen behind on paying the rent or mortgage	8	12	6	7
No, have not had serious problems paying their rent or mortgage	81	72	82	83
Don't know/Refused/Web blank if had serious problems paying their rent or mortgage	*	*	*	1

Q5. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/to your knowledge, has anyone living in your household) used up all or most of (your/their) savings, or not?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	31	36	29	31
No	59	52	62	59
I did not have/No one in my household had any savings prior to the coronavirus outbreak	10	12	9	10
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	-	-

Q4/Q5 Serious Financial Problems Summary Table
Based on Total Respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Have had serious financial problems (NET)	46	55	44	42
Have not had serious financial problems	54	45	56	58

Serious Problems with Employment/Work

Q6. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (INSERT ITEM), or not?

- a. (have you/anyone age 18 or older living in your household) lost (your/their job), (your/their) business, or been furloughed

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	33	39	33	30
No	53	50	52	57
I was not/No one in my household was working before the start of the coronavirus outbreak/ Don't know/Refused/Web Blank	14	11	15	13

- b. (have you/has anyone age 18 or older living in your household) had wages or hours reduced, or taken mandatory unpaid leave

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	37	45	37	34
No	49	43	47	52
I was not/No one in my household was working before the start of the coronavirus outbreak/ Don't know/Refused/Web blank	14	12	16	14

Employment Loss Summary: Lost job, lost business, been furloughed, had wages or hours reduced, or taken mandatory unpaid leave
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Employment loss for adult in the household (lost job, lost business, been furloughed, had wages or hours reduced, or taken mandatory unpaid leave)	46	54	46	43
Did not have employment loss for an adult in the household	54	46	54	57

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who lost their job or business, were furloughed, had wages or hours reduced, or took mandatory unpaid leave; National n=1570; Urban n=1115; Suburban n=241; Rural n=213)

Q7. Have any of these employment changes caused serious problems for (you/your household), or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	46	53	1
Urban	52	48	*
Suburban	45	55	*
Rural	50	50	-

**Employment loss/serious problem
Based on total respondents**

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Employment loss for adults in the household (lost job, lost business, been furloughed, had wages or hours reduced, or taken mandatory unpaid leave)/Caused serious problems	22	28	21	22
Employment loss/Didn't cause serious problems	24	26	25	21
No employment loss for adults in the household	54	46	54	57

Q8. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) lost (your/their) health insurance coverage?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	6	8	5	5
No	90	85	91	92
I did not have/No one in my household had health insurance coverage before the start of the coronavirus outbreak	4	6	4	3
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	1	-	-

Experiences in the Workplace

Q9. What about now? (Are you/?/Is anyone age 18 or older living in your household) currently employed full-time or part-time, or are no people age 18 or older living in your household currently employed at this time?)

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes, employed full-time or part-time	70	69	72	68
No, not employed full-time or part-time	30	30	28	32
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	1	*	-

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who is currently working full or part time; National n=2334; Urban n=1588; Suburban n=395; Rural n=350)

Q10. (Do you/Does anyone age 18 or older living in your household) currently do at least some of (your/their) work from home, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	50	50	*
Urban	57	43	*
Suburban	54	46	-
Rural	39	61	-

(Asked respondents/someone in their household who is currently working full or part time and is working from home at least some of the time; National n=1489; Urban n=1086; Suburban n=249; Rural n=154)

Q11. And (do you/among those people age 18 or older living in your household who are working from home, do any of them) have serious problems working from home, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	8	92	*
Urban	11	89	*
Suburban	8	92	-
Rural	11	89	-

Q12. Since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems with (your/their) internet connection to do work or schoolwork, or not?

	Yes	No	I don't have internet	Don't know/Refused/Web blank
National	18	79	3	*
Urban	22	74	4	*
Suburban	16	82	2	-
Rural	19	76	4	1

(Asked of respondents/Someone in their household who is currently working full or part time; National n=2334; Urban n=1588; Suburban n=395; Rural n=350)

Q13. And (do you/does anyone living in your household) currently work at least part time in person at a health care institution that provides patient care, such as a hospital, nursing home, doctor's office, or in-home visits?

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused/Web blank
National	19	81	*
Urban	19	80	*
Suburban	17	83	-
Rural	19	81	-

Q9/Q13 Combo Table
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Someone age 18+ in household employed full-time or part-time	70	69	72	68
Respondent/Someone in their household works in person at a health care institution that provides patient care	13	13	12	13
No, no one in their household works in person at a health care institution that provides patient care	57	56	60	55
No, not employed full-time or part-time	30	30	28	32
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	1	*	-

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who is currently working full or part time in-person at a health care institution; National n=439; Urban n=296; Suburban n=75; Rural n=68)

Q14. And (do you/among those household members, do any of them) have serious concerns about (your/their safety) from the virus at work, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	59	41	*
Urban	68	32	*
Suburban	62	38	-
Rural	47	53	-

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who is currently working full or part time; National n=2334; Urban n=1588; Suburban n=395; Rural n=350)

Q15. And aside from health care work in patient care, (do you/does anyone living in your household) currently ever leave (your/their home) to do any other type of work, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	73	27	*
Urban	67	33	*
Suburban	75	25	-
Rural	81	19	-

**Q9/Q15 Combo Table
Based on total respondents**

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Someone age 18+ in household employed full-time or part-time	70	69	72	68
Respondent/Someone living in your household currently ever leaves their home to do any other type of work	51	46	54	55
No one living in their household currently ever leaves their home to do any other type of work	19	23	18	13
No, not employed full-time or part-time	30	30	28	32
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	1	*	-

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who is currently working full or part time and ever leaves home to do non-health care work; National n=1503; Urban n=948; Suburban n=274; Rural n=280)

Q16. And (do you/among those household members, do any of them) have serious concerns about (your/their) safety from the virus at work, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	47	53	-
Urban	66	34	-
Suburban	49	51	-
Rural	39	61	-

II. HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH EXPERIENCES

Health Care

Q17. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) been unable to get medical care or delayed getting medical care for a serious problem when (you/they) needed it, or not?

	Yes, been unable to get medical care or delayed getting medical care	No	Don't know/Refused/Web blank
National	20	79	1
Urban	22	78	*
Suburban	19	81	*
Rural	24	76	*

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who have been unable to get medical care or delayed getting medical care for a serious problem when they needed it since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=727; Urban n=482; Suburban n=113; Rural n=132)

Q18. And overall, do you think delays or being unable to get medical care had any negative health consequences for you/them?

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused/Web blank
National	57	43	*
Urban	62	37	*
Suburban	57	43	*
Rural	56	43	1

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who had negative health consequences due to being unable to get medical care or delaying getting medical care for a serious problem when they needed it since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=434; Urban n=302; Suburban n=61; Rural n=71)

Q19. Please tell me whether or not any of the following were reasons that (you/anyone living in your household) could not get the health care (you/they) needed.

- a. (You/You or they) could not afford that health care

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	34	65	1
Urban	42	57	1
Suburban	41	59	-
Rural	39	60	1

- b. (You/You or they) could not find a doctor who would take your/their health insurance

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	14	84	2
Urban	23	76	1
Suburban	17	79	5
Rural	12	88	-

- c. (You/You or they) could not get an appointment during the hours you/they needed

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	46	53	1
Urban	52	47	1
Suburban	51	49	*
Rural	46	54	-

- d. (You/You or they) felt the health care location was too far or difficult to get to

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	24	76	*
Urban	32	66	1
Suburban	13	87	-
Rural	25	75	-

e. (You/You or they) could not find a doctor who would see you/them

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	44	56	-
Urban	52	48	-
Suburban	48	52	-
Rural	40	60	-

Q19 Yes Summary Table

Based on respondents/someone in their household who had negative health consequences due to being unable to get medical care or delaying getting medical care for a serious problem when they needed it since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=434; Urban n=302; Suburban n=61; Rural n=71)

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
(You/You or they) could not afford that health care	34	42	41	39
(You/ You or they) could not find a doctor who would take your/their health insurance	14	23	17	12
(You/You or they) could not get an appointment during the hours you/they needed	46	52	51	46
(You/You or they) felt the health care location was too far or difficult to get to	24	32	13	25
(You/You or they) could not find a doctor who would see you/them	44	52	48	40

Q20. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) been unable to get or delayed getting an elective procedure or surgery done for an important health problem, or not?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	15	14	14	17
No	45	43	44	40
I did not need/No one in my household needed an elective procedure or surgery done for an important health problem	40	43	41	43
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	1	-

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who have been unable to get or delayed getting an elective procedure or surgery done for an important health problem since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=531; Urban n=339; Suburban n=90; Rural n=101)

Q21. And overall, do you think delays or being unable to get elective procedures had any negative health consequences for (you/them), or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	54	44	2
Urban	49	51	*
Suburban	49	51	*
Rural	48	49	3

Q22. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) been unable to get or delayed getting prescription drugs to manage a major health issue, or not?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	9	12	8	11
No	73	66	74	71
I do not need/No one in my household needs prescription drugs to manage a major health issue	18	22	18	18
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	-	*

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who have been unable to get or delayed getting prescription drugs to manage a major health issue since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=319; Urban n=222; Suburban n=46; Rural n=51)

Q23. And overall, do you think delays or being unable to get prescription drugs had any negative health consequences for (you/them), or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	65	35	*
Urban	66	33	1
Suburban	<i>Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)</i>		
Rural	80	20	-

Telehealth

Q24. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) received advice or treatment from a doctor or other health care professional over the phone or through a smartphone, tablet, or computer because (you/they) could not see one in person?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	50	50	*
Urban	53	47	*
Suburban	50	50	-
Rural	46	54	-

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who have received advice or treatment from a doctor or other health care professional over the phone or through a smartphone, tablet, or computer because they could not see one in person since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=1763; Urban n=1214; Suburban n=292; Rural n=256)

Q25. Thinking about your/their most recent time doing this, were you/they satisfied or dissatisfied with the advice or treatment you/they received?

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	86	14	*
Urban	84	16	*
Suburban	83	17	-
Rural	88	12	1

Health and Well-being

Q26.(Has a doctor or other health care professional ever told you that you have a chronic illness, such as heart disease, lung disease, cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma or a mental health condition, or hasn't that happened?/To the best of your knowledge, has a doctor or other health care professional ever told anyone living in your household that they have a chronic illness, such as heart disease, lung disease, cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma or a mental health condition, or hasn't that happened)?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	50	49	1
Urban	47	52	1
Suburban	52	47	1
Rural	53	47	*

Q27. (Do you/Does anyone living in your household) have any disability that keeps (you/them) from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	22	77	1
Urban	20	80	*
Suburban	19	81	1
Rural	25	75	*

Q28. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems coping with social and physical isolation, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	25	75	*
Urban	27	72	1
Suburban	23	77	*
Rural	22	77	1

Q29. To the best of your knowledge, (are you/is anyone living in your household) at high risk for developing serious illness from coronavirus or COVID-19 due to (your/their) age or underlying medical conditions, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	44	56	*
Urban	42	58	*
Suburban	45	55	-
Rural	42	57	1

III. GENERAL EXPERIENCES

Q30. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, have any nonprofit groups, churches, or neighbors helped (you/anyone living in your household) with serious problems (you/they) have had, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	7	93	*
Urban	10	89	1
Suburban	6	93	1
Rural	7	93	*

Q31. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) received help from the federal or state government for serious problems (you/they) have had, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	16	84	*
Urban	22	77	1
Suburban	13	87	*
Rural	14	86	*

Q32. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) received help from the local government for serious problems (you/they) have had, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	5	94	1
Urban	9	90	1
Suburban	4	96	*
Rural	7	92	1

Q33. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) experienced discrimination or unfair treatment because of (your/their) race or ethnicity when (you/they) tried to get help from a healthcare or public health professional, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	2	98	*
Urban	3	96	1
Suburban	2	98	*
Rural	*	100	*

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who is disabled; National n=676; Urban n=425; Suburban n=111; Rural n=140)

Q34. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) experienced discrimination or unfair treatment because of (your/their) disability when (you/they) tried to get help from a healthcare or public health professional, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	6	94	*
Urban	7	92	1
Suburban	6	94	-
Rural	5	95	-

Q35. How often, if at all, do you personally wear a mask or face covering when you are in public places?

	Always	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Don't know/ Refused/ Web blank
National	74	16	5	5	*
Urban	90	8	2	*	*
Suburban	79	13	2	5	1
Rural	52	28	10	10	*

Q36. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) ever had a problem getting a mask when (you/they) needed one, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	20	80	*
Urban	24	76	*
Suburban	19	81	-
Rural	20	80	-

Q37. Do you personally know someone, such as a close friend or neighbor, who has experienced serious financial problems because of the coronavirus outbreak, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	46	54	*
Urban	54	45	1
Suburban	43	56	1
Rural	41	59	-

Food and Nutrition

Q38. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems with not getting enough food to eat every day, or (have you not/no members of your household) had serious problems with this?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	7	92	1
Urban	12	88	*
Suburban	6	93	1
Rural	7	92	1

Q39. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) missed or delayed paying any major bills in order to ensure (you/everyone) had enough to eat, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	17	83	*
Urban	23	76	1
Suburban	15	85	*
Rural	17	83	*

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who missed or delayed paying some major bills in order to ensure that they had enough to eat since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=615; Urban n=445; Suburban n=85; Rural n=85)

Q39a. Is missing or delaying paying these bills causing you/anyone living in your household serious financial problems?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	68	31	1
Urban	68	32	1
Suburban	64	36	-
Rural	67	33	-

Q39/Q39a Combo Table
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Missed or delayed paying any major bills in order to ensure they had enough to eat	17	23	15	17
This caused serious financial problems	11	16	10	11
This did not cause serious financial problems	6	7	5	6
Have not missed or delayed paying any major bills in order to ensure they had enough to eat	83	76	85	83
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	1	*	*

IV. CAREGIVING AMONG HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN

(Asked of respondents who have a child under age 18 in their household; National n=1000; Urban n=647; Suburban n=171; Rural n=181)

Q40. What is the age of the youngest child living in your household?

Q40a. Could you please tell me if your youngest child is:

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Eight years or younger (NET)	55	55	61	54
Less than one year old	10	9	10	11
1 to 2 years old	18	14	18	13
3 to 4 years old	10	12	12	9
5 to 8 years old	18	20	21	21
Nine years or older (NET)	44	44	39	44
9 to 12 years old	18	18	13	20
13 to 15 years old	14	15	15	16
16 to 17 years old	11	11	11	8
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	1	1	*	2

Q41. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems with any of the following?

(Asked of respondents who have a child under age 18 in their household; National n=1000; Urban n=647; Suburban n=171; Rural n=181)

a. taking care of children in your household

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	10	15	12	7
No	90	85	88	93
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	-	*

(Asked of respondents who have a child under age 18 in their household; National n=1000; Urban n=647; Suburban n=171; Rural n=181)

b. keeping the education of children in your household going

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	36	36	42	34
No	64	64	58	66
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	-	*

(Asked of respondents who have a child under age 18 in their household; National n=1000; Urban n=647; Suburban n=171; Rural n=181)

- c. finding space for children in your household to play or get physical activity while maintaining a safe distance from others

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	21	36	24	14
No	79	64	76	86
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	1	-

(Asked of respondents who have a child under age 18 in their household; National n=1000; Urban n=647; Suburban n=171; Rural n=181)

- d. helping children in your household adjust to major changes in their lives

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	35	34	35	30
No	65	65	65	70
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	1	-	*

(Asked of respondents who have a child under age 18 in their household and are either employed or lost their job or business, or have been furloughed; National n=943; Urban n=606; Suburban n=166; Rural n=170)

- e. getting care for children when (you/adults) need to work

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	18	21	20	10
No	67	59	64	72
I am not working	15	20	15	18
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	1	-

Q41 a-e Combo Table

Based on respondents who have a child under age 18 in their household; National n=1000; Urban n=647; Suburban n=171; Rural n=181

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Have had serious problems	59	61	60	54
No serious problem	41	39	40	46

Working Household with Child 2
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Working household with child (have a child under age 18 in their household and are either employed or lost their job or business, or have been furloughed)	34	32	35	34
Non-working household with child	1	2	1	2
No child in household	64	65	64	64
Refused if child in household	1	1	*	-

(Asked of respondents who have more than one adult in the household; National n=2333; Urban n=1500; Suburban n=422; Rural n=410)

Q42. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems taking care of parents, grandparents, or other adults living with you?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes	4	5	4	4
No	44	46	45	37
I have no parents, grandparents, or other adults needing care living with me	52	48	51	58
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	1	-	1

V. HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

(Now I am going to ask some questions/The next few questions will ask) about your current housing situation, whether or not it is your permanent address. These questions are about anyone living in your household, meaning you and anyone else currently living with you, whether or not they are a permanent resident at your address.

Q43. Since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems with living in a severely cramped housing situation, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	6	94	*
Urban	9	91	*
Suburban	3	96	1
Rural	8	92	-

Q44. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems finding time to get physical activity or exercise?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	24	76	*
Urban	35	64	1
Suburban	23	77	*
Rural	19	81	-

Q44a. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, (have you/has anyone living in your household) had serious problems finding space to get physical activity or exercise while maintaining a safe distance from others?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	19	81	*
Urban	34	66	*
Suburban	17	83	1
Rural	15	85	*

Q45. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has your home had any serious heating or cooling problems, mold problems, pest problems, problems with unsafe drinking water, or other serious environmental problems?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	11	89	*
Urban	15	85	*
Suburban	9	91	-
Rural	13	87	1

Q46. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, have you personally moved, even if temporarily?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	8	92	*
Urban	10	90	*
Suburban	7	93	-
Rural	7	93	-

Q47. At any point since the start of coronavirus outbreak, (have you/any members of your household) been using public transportation, taxis, or ride sharing services, or haven't (you/they)?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	11	89	*
Urban	34	66	*
Suburban	8	92	*
Rural	4	95	1

(Asked of respondents/someone in their household who have been using public transportation, taxis, or ride sharing services at any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak; National n=828; Urban n=759; Suburban n=45; Rural n=24)

Q48. (Are you/Is anyone living in your household) seriously concerned about (your/their) safety from the virus when using public transportation, taxis, or ride sharing services, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	62	38	-
Urban	73	27	-
Suburban	<i>Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)</i>		
Rural			

VI. HEALTH DEMOGRAPHICS

Q49. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household received any government assistance from SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or WIC, the Women, Infants, and Children Program, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	15	85	*
Urban	20	80	*
Suburban	13	86	1
Rural	16	84	*

Q50. At any point since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, has anyone living in your household received any government assistance from public assistance or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	3	97	*
Urban	5	94	1
Suburban	2	98	-
Rural	2	98	*

Q51. Does your home have high-speed internet access, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	85	15	*
Urban	81	18	1
Suburban	88	12	*
Rural	78	21	1

Q52. Are you, yourself, currently covered by any form of health insurance or health plan, or do you not have health insurance at this time?

(Asked of respondents who are covered by health insurance)

Q53. Which of the following is your main source of health insurance coverage?

(Asked of respondents who are covered by Medicaid or Medicare)

Q54. Do you also have coverage from Medicare/Medicaid or [INSERT STATE SPECIFIC NAME], or not?

(Asked of respondents who have purchased their own health insurance)

Q55. Did you purchase it from a government exchange or agency, or not?

Q52/Q53/Q54/Q55 Combo Table

Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Yes, covered by health insurance	87	83	87	89
A plan through your or your spouse's employer or union	38	37	40	38
A plan you purchased yourself	7	8	7	8
Purchased it from a government exchange or agency	2	4	2	4
Did not purchase it from a government exchange or agency	4	4	5	4
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	1	*	-	-
Medicare (total)	25	20	24	28
Medicaid (total)	16	21	15	18
Medicare and not Medicaid	16	10	17	17
Medicaid and not Medicare	8	11	8	7
Medicare + Medicaid	8	10	7	11
The VA or Tricare	4	1	5	3
Indian Health Service	*	*	-	*
Plan through your parent/mother/father	4	4	2	4
Some other form of insurance	2	2	1	1
Don't know	*	*	-	-
Refused/Web blank	*	*	-	-
No, not covered by health insurance	13	17	13	11
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	*	*

Q56. To the best of your knowledge, has a doctor or other health care professional ever told anyone living in your household that they have coronavirus or COVID-19, or hasn't that happened?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	4	96	*
Urban	6	94	*
Suburban	5	95	*
Rural	3	97	-

**Government Program
Based on total respondents**

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Uses any of these government programs: SNAP, WIC, govt asst, TANF, or Medicaid	23	31	21	26
Does not use any of these	77	69	79	74

VII. DEMOGRAPHICS

Q1. How many adults 18 or older are currently living in your household? Please include yourself and all the adults who live with you.

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
One	19	22	19	14
Multiple adults in household (NET)	81	78	81	86
Two	57	48	60	61
Three	16	17	15	17
Four	6	8	5	7
Five or more	2	5	2	1
Don't know/Refused/Web Blank	*	*	-	-

Q2. How many children under 18 are currently living in your household?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
None	64	65	64	64
Any children in household (NET)	36	35	36	36
One	17	14	16	15
Two	11	11	13	12
Three	5	6	3	4
Four	3	2	2	4
Five or more	1	2	1	2
Don't know/Refused/Web Blank	*	*	1	-

Q1/Q2 Summary Table Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
One	16	18	15	12
Two	38	32	42	40
Three	17	17	15	18
Four	14	15	16	14
Five or more	14	18	12	15
Don't know/Refused/Web Blank	*	*	-	-

AGE OF RESPONDENT
Based on total respondents

	18 to 29	30 to 49	50 to 64	65+
National	18	33	27	22
Urban	22	38	23	17
Suburban	16	32	29	23
Rural	16	31	28	25

RACE/ETHNICITY OF RESPONDENT
Based on total respondents

Are you, yourself, of Latino or Hispanic origin or descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Latin American background?

What is your race? Are you white, black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander?

(Ask those who identify as both Hispanic and American Indian/Alaskan Native)
With which do you identify more?

Race Table
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Hispanic	15	32	15	6
Non-Hispanic White	64	36	64	84
Non-Hispanic Black	11	18	11	6
Non-Hispanic Asian	6	10	7	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	*	1	2
Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	*	*	*	-
Non-Hispanic else	3	4	2	1

D2. What is the last grade or class that you completed in school?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
High school or less (NET)	38	38	36	46
Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)	3	5	4	2
High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with no diploma)	6	9	4	8
High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)	21	18	19	25
Vocational, business, technical, or training courses after high school that did not count toward an associate degree from a college, community college or university (e.g., training for a certificate or an apprenticeship)	8	5	8	12
Some College (NET)	30	25	29	32
Some college, no degree (includes some community college)	19	18	19	20
Two-year associate degree from a college or university	11	7	10	13
College or post-graduate (NET)	33	37	35	21
Four-year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	14	18	15	11
Some postgraduate or professional school, no postgraduate degree	4	4	5	2
Post-graduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical, or law degree (e.g., MA, MS, PhD, MD, JD)	15	16	16	8
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	-	*

D5. Is the home where you are currently living owned or rented?

	Owned	Rented	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	64	36	*
Urban	41	58	*
Suburban	69	31	*
Rural	77	23	*

D6. Are you registered to vote at your present address, or not?"

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	77	23	*
Urban	71	29	*
Suburban	76	24	*
Rural	81	19	*

PARTY. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, an independent, or what?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	None	Other	Don't know/ Refused/ Web blank
National	25	32	22	14	5	2
Urban	11	47	16	20	4	2
Suburban	24	35	19	15	6	1
Rural	38	19	20	16	6	1

D10/D10a/D10b Combo Table – Household Income in 2019
Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Less than \$50,000 (NET)	48	55	44	50
Under \$15,000	12	17	11	11
\$15,000 to under \$20,000	6	8	4	6
\$20,000 to under \$25,000	7	8	7	6
\$25,000 to under \$30,000	7	7	5	8
\$30,000 to under \$35,000	5	5	6	6
\$35,000 to under \$50,000	11	10	11	13
Less than \$50,000 unspecified	*	*	-	*
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000 (NET)	27	22	28	34
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	15	13	14	17
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	13	9	13	16
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000 unspecified	*	*	*	1
Over \$100,000 (NET)	23	22	27	16
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	12	10	14	8
\$150,000 to under \$200,000	6	5	8	4
\$200,000 to under \$250,000	2	3	2	1
\$250,000 or more	3	4	3	3
Over \$100,000 unspecified	*	*	*	*
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	1	1	2	1

RSEX. Are you male or female?

	Male	Female	Other	Don't know/ Refused/Web blank
National	48	51	1	*
Urban	48	52	*	*
Suburban	48	51	1	1
Rural	48	51	1	*

D11. Do you consider yourself to be heterosexual or straight, gay or lesbian, bisexual, or a different identity I haven't mentioned?

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Heterosexual or Straight	91	88	91	93
LGBQ (NET)	8	11	8	6
Gay or Lesbian	3	5	2	1
Bisexual	2	3	3	2
Queer/Other	3	3	3	3
Don't know/Refused/ Web blank	1	1	1	1

D11A. Some people describe themselves as transgender when they experience a different gender identity from their sex at birth. For example, a person who was raised male, but who identifies as female. Some people who do not identify as either male or female might also call themselves transgender. Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

	Transgender	Genderqueer or gender non- conforming	No	Don't know/Refused/Web blank
National	*	1	98	1
Urban	1	1	98	*
Suburban	1	1	97	1
Rural	*	-	99	1

LGBTQ Identity Based on total respondents

	National	Urban	Suburban	Rural
LGBTQ	8	12	8	6
Cis and Straight	91	87	90	93
Don't know/Refused/ Web blank	1	1	2	2