

# **A Survey on Health Care Access during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

## **Consent Question:**

University at Albany Public Affairs Survey

This research is being conducted by Professor Ashley Fox from the Department of Public Administration and Policy at the University at Albany, State University of New York. It is a study of public opinion on issues relating to health care.

Your participation is voluntary. Participation involves taking an online survey that lasts approximately 15 minutes. You may choose to not answer any or all questions.

The information collected will be maintained anonymously. Names and other identifying information will not be used in any presentation or paper written about this project.

Questions about this project may be directed to: Ashley Fox, Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Policy, University at Albany, SUNY. Email: afox3@albany.edu. Phone: XXX XXX XXXX.

[CONSENT] Do you consent to participate in this survey?

- ☐ Yes, I consent
- ☐ No, I do not

*This will be the only forced-response question in the survey. If the respondent does not give his or consent, they will be thanked for their time and the survey will end.*

## Section 1. Experiment

### Arm 1. Coronavirus-induced unemployment:

*The respondent will be shown one of the following 2 versions of the newspaper text or a control condition [no newspaper text] (selected at random):*

Please take a few minutes to carefully read the following newspaper article. Once you are finished, you will be asked a few questions to better understand your perspective on the article and gauge your opinions on current events.

## **‘It’s like we are just a piece of garbage’: Laid-off Philly workers face life without health insurance**

by [Juliana Feliciano Reyes](#), Updated: April 2, 2020



Days after Mayor Jim Kenney [issued a sweeping order](#) requiring most Philadelphia businesses to shut down to slow the spread of the coronavirus, Sean McGuire found out he was losing his job.

McGuire, 30-year-old former football player who worked as a concierge supervisor at the Hampton Inn near the Convention Center, was devastated. He had given the last ten years of his life to Hersha Hospitality Management, which owns the inn, working in numerous

roles over the past decade with the company: dishwasher, bell clerk, front desk, breakfast bar.

But a few weeks later, after reading his layoff letter closely, he realized his situation was even worse than he had thought. Hersha had cut his health insurance on the same day he was laid off. He got a severance check for \$1,500, not enough to even meet rent in the South Philadelphia neighborhood where he lives. He said he had a stroke two years ago, at 29, and the doctors were not able to fully understand why. But his insurance covered tens of thousands of dollars in medical bills.

As the coronavirus rages through Philadelphia, thousands of workers like McGuire are losing their health-care benefits when they lose their jobs. About 830,000 Pennsylvanians filed for unemployment in the last two weeks of March, more than the number of workers who filed in all of 2019.

“We’re losing our jobs,” McGuire said. “That’s a big thing. And to turn around and you can’t go to the clinic because you don’t have health insurance? It’s just like we’re a piece of garbage. They just threw us to the curb.”

Employees can keep their employer plan for up to three years under a federal program known as COBRA, but they have to foot the entire bill- around [\\$7,000 a year](#) for a single individual. This is more than McGuire, who made too much last year to qualify for Medicaid, says he can afford, but a hospital stay for complications stemming from Coronavirus without health insurance [could cost as much as \\$20,000](#).

### Comprehension Questions

The following questions are about the article you just read. Please select the answer choice that best represents what the article said happened.

[COMPREHENSION1\_ARM1] According to the article, why did Sean McGuire lose his job?

- A. Coronavirus caused hotels to shutdown
- B. Hotel felt pressure from Airbnb and shut-down

[COMPREHENSION2\_ARM1] According to the article, why did Sean lose his health insurance?

- A. He had employer-sponsored health coverage that was terminated when he lost his job
- B. His state does not provide Medicaid coverage to people making under 130% of the federal poverty level

## Arm 2. “Normal” unemployment:

BROKE IN PHILLY

### **‘It’s like we are just a piece of garbage’: Hotel workers made redundant by Airbnb face life without health insurance**

by Juliana Feliciano Reyes, Updated: April 2, 2016



When Sean McGuire found out he was losing his job, he was devastated. McGuire, a 30-year-old former football player, had given the last ten years of his life as a concierge supervisor at the Hampton Inn near the Convention Center in downtown Philadelphia working in numerous roles over the past decade with the company: dishwasher, bell clerk, front desk, breakfast bar. Facing pressure from Airbnb, the Inn was forced to shutter its doors after Philly legalized the service in 2015.

A few weeks later, after reading his layoff letter closely, he realized his situation was even worse than he had thought. But his insurance covered tens of thousands of dollars in medical bills. He had lost his health insurance on the same day he was laid off. He got a severance check for \$1,500, not enough to even meet rent in the South Philadelphia neighborhood where he lives. McGuire had had a stroke two years ago, at 28, and the doctors were not able to fully understand why. Without health insurance, he pondered what would happen if he had another.

“We’re losing our jobs,” McGuire said. “That’s a big thing. And to turn around and you can’t go to the clinic because you don’t have health insurance? It’s just like we’re a piece of garbage. They just threw us to the curb.”

Philadelphia is the largest city in the U.S. where residents can rent out their homes legally on a daily basis. From April to September of 2015, Philly saw a 270 percent increase in Airbnb listings. And even before the city legalized the service, the Licensing and Inspections department maintained that it would not crack down on hosts, and especially if there were no complaints.

Since losing his job, McGuire has been trying to make his way in the gig economy as an Uber driver. But Uber does not provide health insurance benefits and buying a plan on the individual market is too expensive. Employees can keep their employer plan for up to three years under a federal program known as COBRA, but they have to foot the entire bill- around [\\$7,000 a year](#) for a single individual. This is more than McGuire, who made too much last year to qualify for Medicaid, says he can afford. But he also made too much last year to qualify for Medicaid, which requires that you make under 130% of the federal poverty level according to last year's tax return.

"So I am constantly worrying in the back of my mind," he said. "I really don't know where things will go if I have another stroke."

[COMPREHENSION1\_ARM2] The following questions are about the article you just read. According to the article, why did Sean McGuire lose his job?

- A. He was dismissed for misconduct
- B. Hotel felt pressure from Airbnb and shut-down

[COMPREHENSION2\_ARM2] Why did Sean lose his health insurance?

- A. He had employer-sponsored health coverage that was terminated when he lost his job
- B. His state does not expand Medicaid coverage to people making under 130% of the federal poverty level

**Control Condition: No Newspaper article, just ask questions**

## Section 2. Health Reform

[HR1] Which of the following two statements do you agree with more:

- A. There should be a government insurance plan that would cover all medical and hospital expenses for everyone
- B. Medical expenses should be paid by individuals through private insurance plans like Blue Cross or other company paid plans

[HR1\_10SCALE] On a scale of 1-10 where 1 means you agree completely with statement A and a 10 means you agree completely with statement B, which of the following statements do you agree with more:

- A. There should be a government insurance plan that would cover all medical and hospital expenses for everyone
- B. Medical expenses should be paid by individuals through private insurance plans like Blue Cross or other company paid plans

A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	B
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[HR2] How positively/negatively do you view each of the following:

	Very Positive	Somewhat Positive	Neutral	Somewhat Negative	Very Negative	Don't know
a. The healthcare industry generally						
b. Health Insurance Companies						
c. Doctors/health care providers						
d. Medicare						
e. Medicaid						

[HR3] Thinking about healthcare that is available to you, how satisfied are you with the quality of healthcare available to you?

- A. Very satisfied
- B. Somewhat satisfied
- C. Somewhat dissatisfied
- D. Very dissatisfied
- E. No opinion

[HR4] Now thinking about healthcare in the country as a whole, overall, how would you rate the quality of healthcare in this country?

- A. Excellent
- B. Good

- C. Fair
- D. Poor
- E. No opinion

[HR5] How satisfied are you with the affordability of your healthcare coverage?

- A. Very satisfied
- B. Somewhat satisfied
- C. Somewhat dissatisfied
- D. Very dissatisfied
- E. No opinion

[HR6] Now thinking about healthcare in the country as a whole, overall, how would you rate the affordability of healthcare in this country?

- A. Excellent
- B. Good
- C. Fair
- D. Poor
- E. No opinion

[HR7] How likely would you be to support a proposal to reform the US health system that does the following<sup>i</sup>:

	Strongly Favor	Favor	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Unsure
a. Eliminates private health insurance but allows people to choose their doctors, hospitals and other medical providers					
b. Requires many employers and some individuals to pay more in taxes but eliminates health insurance premiums and deductibles					
c. Increase the taxes that you personally pay but decreases your overall costs for healthcare.					
d. Provides a basic tax financed health plan to everyone but allows people to purchase supplementary private health insurance.					

[HR8] As of today, do you favor or oppose a national health plan or “Medicare-for-All” plan in which all Americans would get their health insurance from a single government plan?<sup>ii</sup>

- A. Strongly favor
- B. Somewhat favor
- C. Somewhat oppose
- D. Strongly oppose

E. DK

[HR9] [If favor in HR8] What is the main reason you favor such a plan? \_\_\_\_\_ (ask open-ended?)

[HR10] [If oppose in HR8] What is the main reason you oppose such a plan? \_\_\_\_\_ (ask open-ended?)

[HR11] Of the following approaches to reforming health care in the US, which do you most support?

- A. Incrementally building on the Affordable Care Act to expand coverage, but not replacing employer-sponsored coverage
- B. Creating a universal Medicare-for-All system that would replace employer-sponsored coverage
- C. Reversing the Affordable Care Act and moving towards more private health insurance coverage with high-risk pools that offer subsidized health insurance to the most expensive patients
- D. Something else, \_\_\_\_\_

[HR12] Do you have a mostly positive or mostly negative reaction to the following terms<sup>iii</sup>:

	Mostly Positive	Mostly Negative	No Opinion
a. Universal Health Coverage			
b. Medicare for All			
d. National health plan			
e. Obamacare			
f. Medicare for All who want it			

[HR13] Have you or anyone close to you lost their health insurance in the last 6 months due to being laid off from work or for other reasons?

- A. Yes, I lost my health insurance due to losing my job
- B. Yes, I lost my health insurance for other reasons
- C. Yes, somebody close to me lost their health insurance due to losing their job
- D. Yes, somebody close to me lost their health insurance for other reasons
- E. No
- F. Unsure

[HR14] Which of the following best represents your *current* primary source of health insurance coverage, if any?

- A. Private health insurance plan sponsored through an employer (your own or your spouse's or parent's plan), specify \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Private health insurance plan that you (or your spouse/parents) purchase on the individual marketplace with a subsidy from the government
- C. Private health insurance plan that you (or your spouse/parents) purchase on the individual marketplace with no subsidy
- D. None, uninsured



- E. Medicaid, a program that provides health insurance to certain low-income families
- F. Medicare, the program that provides insurance to people 65 and older
- G. Veteran's Affairs or Tricare
- H. Other, \_\_\_\_\_

### Section 3. Coronavirus and Health Reform

Thank you for this information. The remainder of the Questionnaire will ask you questions about how Coronavirus has been affecting your life and attitudes on policy issues.

Currently, insurance companies and the government have agreed to cover the cost of Coronavirus testing, but treatment for complications from the Coronavirus may not be covered. As you may have heard, the recently passed \$2.2 trillion dollar stimulus bill did not include a provision to cover out-of-pocket costs of health care related to treatment for Coronavirus.

For people without insurance, the costs for a hospital stay for complications stemming from Coronavirus without health insurance could cost as much as \$20,000. Even for people with insurance, treatment could add up to \$1,300 in out-of-pocket costs.

[COVID\_HR1] In your view, to what extent should people with Coronavirus have to pay out of pocket for their Coronavirus treatment if their insurance does not cover?

- A. None
- B. Some- i.e, co-pay/co-insurance/deductible
- C. All

[COVID\_HR2] Which of the following best represents your attitude towards how treatment for Coronavirus that is not covered by health insurance should be paid for:

- A. The government should underwrite the full cost of treatment.
- B. Health insurance companies should shoulder the full cost.
- C. A combination of both.
- D. Neither, people without insurance should pay out of pocket for treatment related to the Coronavirus.
- E. Something else, specify\_\_\_\_\_

[COVID\_HR3] Has Coronavirus changed your opinion about whether the US should move towards a “Medicare-for-All” plan in which all Americans would get their health insurance from a single government plan?<sup>iv</sup>

- A. Yes, I am now *more* favorable
- B. Yes, I am now *less* favorable
- C. Has not affected my opinion either way

## Section 4. Coronavirus Stimulus

[Stimulus1] How has your work changed since the start of the Cro crisis? [check all that apply]

- ☐ Work from home
- ☐ Lost job
- ☐ Furloughed
- ☐ Reduced hours
- ☐ Pay cut
- ☐ Work more hours
- ☐ Increased pay (i.e., from working overtime/hazard pay)
- ☐ Nothing changed

[Stimulus2] Has anyone in your immediate family been laid off or furloughed because of the COVID-19 crisis?

- A. Yes
- B. No

As you may have heard, the recently passed 2.2 trillion dollar Coronavirus stimulus bill set aside \$250 billion for direct payments to individuals and families, \$350 billion in small business loans, \$250 billion in unemployment insurance benefits and \$500 billion in loans for distressed companies. Under the plan, individuals who earn up to \$75,000 (married couples up to \$150,000) would get direct payments of \$1,200 each (\$2,400 for married couples) -- and an additional \$500 per each child. The payment would scale down by income, phasing out entirely at \$99,000 for singles and \$198,000 for couples without children.

[Stimulus3] What is your opinion on the adequacy of the stimulus package to address the economic needs of the American public?

- A. More than adequate
- B. Adequate
- C. Not adequate at all
- D. Don't know/unsure

[Stimulus4] What is your opinion on the adequacy of the stimulus package to keep the economy functioning?

- A. More than adequate
- B. Adequate
- C. Not adequate at all
- D. Don't know/unsure

[Stimulus5] Have you received any personal benefit from the stimulus bill, for instance in the form of a check from the government or small business loan?

- A. Yes, check from the government
- B. Yes, small business loan
- C. Yes, employment benefits\_\_\_\_\_
- D. No
- E. Unsure

[Stimulus6] When it comes to responding to the economic issues presented by the Coronavirus, which of the following would you most want to see the government do:

- A. Nothing. Let the market run its course.
- B. More direct payments to workers affected by the Coronavirus.
- C. More stimulus for small and large businesses to enable them to keep operating.
- D. Guarantee the salary of all workers.
- E. Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

## Section 5. Policy Responses to COVID-19

In an effort to reduce the spread of Coronavirus, many are practicing social distancing. Social distancing is the act of staying away from situations where you may be in close contact with others, such as social gatherings, work, school, faith-based gatherings, sports gatherings, restaurants and other public gatherings whether or not you are sick yourself.

[POLICY1] How much would you say that social distancing in response to the novel Coronavirus has affected you from an economic standpoint?

- A. Not at all- has not affected my finances personally
- B. A little – affected my finances but not severely
- C. A lot- lost significant income as a consequence

[POLICY2] Regardless of the extent to which your personal/household finances have been affected so far, if the social distancing measures currently in place in your area are maintained through June 1st, how concerned are you that you will be worse-off economically at that date than you are now?

- A. Very concerned
- B. Somewhat concerned
- C. Not at all concerned

[POLICY3] Which of the following best describes your own belief about the seriousness of Coronavirus as a threat to the nation's health and the need for social distancing measures?

- A. This is all an overreaction. The disease is not that serious. We should relax social distancing measure right away.
- B. Coronavirus is a serious illness and we should continue social distancing measures until we can safely relax them.
- C. The disease is a large threat to the health of the nation that will force unconscionable choices if we do not all act together to socially distance for as long as needed.

[POLICY4] Which of the following statements do you agree with more:

- A. While Coronavirus is a serious illness, the threat to the economy is a bigger threat. We need to prioritize putting people back to work even if this costs some lives.
- B. People should not put economic concerns above people's health. We will need to socially distance as long as it takes to reduce the health risk.

[POLICY5] When it comes to responding to the novel Coronavirus, which social distancing measures do you think are the most important to continue until at least June 1<sup>st</sup>? [select all that apply]

- ☐ Require everyone across the country to practice social distancing (i.e., issue a stay-at-home order for everyone except essential workers).
- ☐ Require people in heavily affected areas to socially distance.
- ☐ Encourage people to engage in voluntary social distancing measures but not issue stay at home orders.
- ☐ Social distancing (stay at home orders) of older people age 66+ and other medically vulnerable individuals.

- ☐ Close schools
- ☐ Close universities
- ☐ Cancel large events (e.g., sporting events, concerts, conferences)
- ☐ Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

[POLICY6] When it comes to responding to the novel Coronavirus, which social distancing measures do you think are the most important to continue past June 1<sup>st</sup>? [select all that apply]

- ☐ Require everyone across the country to practice social distancing (i.e., issue a stay-at-home order for everyone except essential workers) until the disease is sufficiently controlled.
- ☐ Require only people in heavily affected areas to socially distance but not places that are less affected until the disease is sufficiently controlled.
- ☐ Encourage people to engage in voluntary social distancing measures but not issue stay at home orders.
- ☐ Social distancing (stay at home orders) of older people age 66+ and other medically vulnerable individuals.
- ☐ Close schools
- ☐ Close universities
- ☐ Cancel large events (e.g., sporting events, concerts, conferences)
- ☐ Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

## Section 6. Personal Response to COVID-19

[Personal1] Which of the following social distancing measures have you personally been engaging in [check all that apply]:

- ☐ Working from home
- ☐ Staying home and only going out to get groceries/necessary supplies or for solo exercise
- ☐ Purposefully distancing yourself from older relatives
- ☐ Purposefully distancing yourself from other family members
- ☐ Keeping your children home from school or daycare because they are closed
- ☐ Keeping your children home from school or daycare voluntarily

[Personal2] To what extent are you socially distancing?

- A. All of the time. I am staying at home and away from others who are not in my household nearly all the time.
- B. Most of the time. I leave home as infrequently as possible to buy food or other essentials.
- C. Some of the time. I have reduced the amount of time that I am in public spaces.
- D. None of the time. I am doing everything I normally do.

[Personal3] What are the chances of you personally attending a populated place (e.g., park, beach, and etc.), except for grocery stores, hospitals, or workplace), or party of more than 10 persons in the next two weeks apart from any essential work-related duties you have to complete?

- A. Highly likely
- B. Likely
- C. Unlikely
- D. Highly unlikely
- E. Don't know/unsure

[Personal4] Should be required to wear facial masks when going out in public places where social distancing is not feasible (i.e., on public transportation, in grocery stores)?

- A. Strongly agree
- B. Agree
- C. Disagree
- D. Strongly disagree
- E. Don't know/unsure

[Personal5] Which of the following are you doing to personally protect yourself and others from Coronavirus? [check all that apply]

- ☐ Wash hands more often
- ☐ Used hand sanitizer
- ☐ Sought out testing for Coronavirus
- ☐ Changed travel plans
- ☐ Avoided contact with others
- ☐ Avoiding contact with older adults (parents/grandparents, etc)
- ☐ Avoided gatherings

- ☐ Sought information on Coronavirus
- ☐ Self-quarantined/isolated

[Personal6] Please select your top 3 concerns about Coronavirus as of today (Select 3)  
[randomize order of response options]:

- ☐ Experiencing serious complication or possibly dying from Coronavirus
- ☐ Someone I care about experiencing serious complication or possibly dying from Coronavirus
- ☐ Not being able to put food on the table
- ☐ Feeling isolated, anxious, and/or depressed
- ☐ Not being able to get needed care if I get Coronavirus (or not currently having care if have Coronavirus)
- ☐ Not being able to access care or treatment for pre-existing or other conditions that arise
- ☐ My children's education
- ☐ Not being able to pay the rent, mortgage, or utility bill
- ☐ Not being able to take care of family members
- ☐ Not being able to work
- ☐ Long term financial impacts
- ☐ Other, please specify

[Personal7] Have you experienced any difficulties due to the coronavirus crisis? (check all that apply):

- ☐ Reduced income
- ☐ Lost my job
- ☐ Loss of childcare
- ☐ Getting food
- ☐ Getting supplies
- ☐ Getting routine/essential medications
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Accessing healthcare
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Other, please specify



## Section 7. Personal Worry about COVID-19

[WORRY] How worried are you about each of the following:

	Very Worried	Somewhat Worried	Not Worried at All
a. Contracting coronavirus?			
b. Experiencing a serious complication or death from Coronavirus if you were to contract it?			
c. Someone close to you (family, close friend, loved one) experiencing a serious complication or death from the Coronavirus if they were to contract it?			
d. The negative effects of social distancing measures on the economy in general			
e. The negative effects of social distancing on my personal finances			
f. Your local health system capacity being overwhelmed if current social distancing measures are relaxed before we have the ability to closely monitor Coronavirus?			
g. Schools closing or remaining closed			
h. Shortages of necessary items			

## Section 8. Media Sources/Consumption

[MEDIA1] How much media coverage of Coronavirus have you been consuming in the past week?

- A. Frequent (multiple times a day)
- B. A lot (once a day)
- C. Somewhat (weekly)
- D. Very Little (less than weekly)

[MEDIA2] When did you start paying attention to Coronavirus?

- A. When coverage of the outbreak began in China (around December)
- B. When coverage of the outbreak began in Italy (around January)
- C. When coverage of the outbreak began in the US (around February)
- D. Still not paying close attention

[MEDIA3] What sources do you rely on to get information on Coronavirus? (Select top 3):

- ☐ TV (e.g., local or national news)
- ☐ Social media (e.g., Twitter & Facebook)
- ☐ Newspapers
- ☐ News Magazines (e.g., Economist, Time, National Review)
- ☐ Blogs and podcasts (e.g., Vox, Hot Air)
- ☐ Federal government websites
- ☐ Local health department websites
- ☐ Friends or family members
- ☐ Health practitioners such as doctors, nurses, and pharmacists
- ☐ Health researchers, such as epidemiologists
- ☐ Scientific articles
- ☐ Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

[MEDIA4] What sources do you trust to provide accurate Coronavirus information? (Select all that apply):

- ☐ TV (e.g., local or national news)
- ☐ Social media (e.g., Twitter & Facebook)
- ☐ Newspapers
- ☐ News Magazines (e.g., Economist, Time, National Review)
- ☐ Blogs and podcasts (e.g., Vox, Hot Air)
- ☐ Federal government websites
- ☐ Local health department websites
- ☐ Friends or family members
- ☐ Health practitioners such as doctors, nurses, and pharmacists
- ☐ Health researchers, such as epidemiologists
- ☐ Scientific articles
- ☐ Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

[MEDIA5] Of the following TV news media outlets, which would you say is your primary source of news information?

- A. Fox News [skip pattern]
- B. MSNBC
- C. CNN
- D. Evening news or morning shows on major networks (ABC/NBC/CBS, etc)
- E. Alternative news media outlets (e.g., You Tube Channels)
- F. Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

[Skip pattern- if Fox News]:

[MEDIA5-1] Which show on Fox do you watch most regularly:

- A. Sean Hannity
- B. Tucker Carlson
- C. Both equally
- D. Other,\_\_\_\_\_

These questions are borrowed from the Stanford Survey:

[https://stanforduniversity.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0P4AN78jTK29ISB](https://stanforduniversity.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0P4AN78jTK29ISB)

[MEDIA6] How much confidence, if any, do you have in each of the following to act in the best interests of the public?

	No confidence at all	Very little confidence	Some confidence	A great deal of confidence	Complete confidence	Can't Choose
a. National Government						
b. State Government						
c. Local Government						
d. Medical Scientists						
e. Journalists						
f. Public school principals for K-12						
g. Business leaders						

[MEDIA7] Putting aside Coronavirus, how is your health in general?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Fair
- D. Bad
- E. Very bad

[MEDIA8] Has a doctor ever told you that you have any of the following health conditions [check all that apply]?

- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Heart disease
- ☐ Cancer
- ☐ HIV/AIDS
- ☐ Asthma
- ☐ Chronic lung Disease
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

[MEDIA9] Did you receive the flu vaccine this year (i.e., in the Fall)?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't remember

[MEDIA10] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: I have specific concerns about vaccines and their safety that would prevent me from vaccinating myself or my children according to the recommended vaccination schedule.

- A. Strongly agree
- B. Somewhat agree
- C. Somewhat disagree
- D. Strongly disagree
- E. Don't know

[MEDIA11] Which of the following best describes your smoking status?

- A. Current smoker, frequent
- B. Current smoker, occasional
- C. Former smoker, frequent
- D. Former smoker, occasional
- E. Never smoked

[MEDIA12] Do you now use e-cigarettes or other electronic "vaping" products every day, some days, or not at all?

- A. Every day
- B. Some days
- C. Not at all

[MEDIA13] In the past 4 weeks, have you been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for Coronavirus?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know

[MEDIA14] In the past 4 weeks, have you been ill with a cold or flu-like illness?

- A. Yes

B. No

[MEDIA15] Have you been tested for Coronavirus?

- A. Yes, I was tested and the test was positive for Coronavirus
- B. Yes, I was tested and the test was negative for Coronavirus
- C. No, I tried to get tested but could not get a test
- D. No, I have not tried to be tested.

[MEDIA16] In the last two weeks have you (or other adults in your household) sought food assistance from any of the following [check all that apply]

- ☐ Yes, from a soup kitchen
- ☐ Yes, from a school district
- ☐ Yes, from the food stamps program/EBT
- ☐ Yes, from a community food distribution program
- ☐ No, have not sought food assistance
- ☐ Don't know

[MEDIA17] In the last 6 weeks, did (you/you or other adults in your household) ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

- A. Yes
- B. No

## Section 9. Mental Health

Over the **last 2 weeks**, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?

[MH1] Little interest or pleasure in doing things

- A. Not at all
- B. Several days
- C. More than half the days
- D. Nearly every day

[MH2] Feeling down, depressed or hopeless

- A. Not at all
- B. Several days
- C. More than half the days
- D. Nearly every day

## **Section 9. Impact of COVID on Childcare**

[CHILDCARE1] Do you have school-age kids?

- A. Yes
- B. No

[Skip Pattern]

[CHILDCARE1\_1] If yes, what are their ages [check all that apply]:

- ☐ <4
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 8
- ☐ 9
- ☐ 10
- ☐ 11
- ☐ 12
- ☐ 13
- ☐ 14
- ☐ 15
- ☐ 16
- ☐ 17
- ☐ 18

[CHILDCARE1\_2] In response to social distancing measures put in place, have schools in your area closed?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know

[CHILDCARE1\_3] Which of the following best describes what you are currently doing for childcare?

- A. Kids are still in school/daycare
- B. Kids are home with me/partner
- C. Kids are being watched by a grandparent
- D. Kids are being watched by another caretaker, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Other, \_\_\_\_\_

[CHILDCARE2] Is free "grab-and-go" breakfast and lunch for children available in your school district?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't know

[CHILDCARE3] Do you have an adult child in college?

D. Yes

E. No

[CHILDCARE3\_1] If yes, did your adult child's university close the campus?

A. Yes

B. No

[CHILDCARE3\_2] If yes, is your college-age child/children living with you now?

A. Yes

B. No

[ELDERLYCARE1] Is there anyone living with you (or that you live with) who is age 65 years old or older?

A. Yes

B. No

[ELDERLYCARE1\_1] If yes, how many \_\_\_\_\_



## Section 10. Ideology/Party ID Questions

[IDEOLOGY1] In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

- A. Democrat
- B. Republican
- C. Independent
- D. Other, describe \_\_\_\_\_

[IDEOLOGY2] If Independent, which party might you feel most kinship with?

- A. Democratic Party
- B. Republican Party
- C. Tea Party
- D. Libertarian Party
- E. Working Families Party
- F. Green Party
- G. Socialist Equality Party
- H. None/Unaffiliated
- I. Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

[IDEOLOGY3] Are you planning to vote [have you already voted] in the Democratic Primary?

- A. Yes
- B. No, not planning to or would never vote in a Democratic primary
- C. Primary was cancelled in my state
- D. Don't know

[IDEOLOGY4] (If yes to the above) Who are you planning to vote for [did you vote for] in the Democratic Primary?

- A. Bernie Sanders
- B. Joe Biden
- C. Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

[IDEOLOGY5] If you had to describe your ideology along a Left-Right political spectrum, which of the following would come closest to how you would describe yourself?

- A. Far Right
- B. Center Right
- C. Neither Right nor Left
- D. Center Left
- E. Far Left

[IDEOLOGY6] How political do you consider yourself to be:

- A. Deeply political- deeply engaged with politics
- B. Somewhat political
- C. Neither political nor unpolitical
- D. Somewhat unpolitical
- E. Not political at all- uninterested in politics

[IDEOLOGY7] Who did you vote for in the 2016 Presidential Election?

- A. Did not vote in the 2016 Presidential election

- B. Was not eligible to vote in the 2016 Presidential election
- C. Donald Trump
- D. Hillary Clinton
- E. Someone else, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- F. Don't remember

[IDEOLOGY8] Who do you plan to vote in the 2020 Presidential election?

- A. Not planning to vote
- B. Not eligible to vote
- C. Donald Trump
- D. Joe Biden (or whoever is the ultimate Democratic nominee)
- E. Have not yet made up my mind
- F. Write in other candidate, specify who in the box \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 11. Cultural Cognition

[Culture1] People in our society often disagree about how far to let individuals go in making decisions for themselves. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Agree Strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
65a. The government interferes far too much in our everyday lives					
65b. Sometimes government needs to make laws that protect people from hurting themselves					
65c. It's not the government's business to try to protect people from hurting themselves.					
65d. The government should stop telling people how to live their lives.					
65e. The government should do more to advance society's goals even if that means limiting the freedom of choices of individuals.					
65f. Government should put limits on the choices individuals can make so they do not get in the way of what is good for society.					

[Culture2] People in our society often disagree about issues of equality and discrimination. How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

	Agree Strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
66a. We have gone too far in pushing for equal rights in this country.					
66b. Our society would be better off if the distribution of wealth was more equal.					
66c. We need to dramatically reduce inequalities between the rich and the poor.					
66d. We need to dramatically reduce inequalities between whites and blacks [This is a modification].					
66e. We need to dramatically reduce inequalities between men					

and women [This is a modification].					
66f. Discrimination against minorities is still a very serious problem in our society.					
66g. It seems like blacks, women, homosexuals and other groups don't want equal rights, they want special rights just for them.					

## Section 12. Rumors

[RUMORS1] The following are a list of theories about the origins of the Coronavirus that you may or may not have heard discussed in different outlets. Regardless of whether you think they are true or not, please mark all of the theories that you heard about the origins of the Coronavirus as of today [check all that apply]

- ☐ It accidentally escaped from a level-4 lab in Wuhan
- ☐ It was purposefully leaked from a level-4 lab in Wuhan as a bioweapon
- ☐ The US army brought the virus to Wuhan
- ☐ It naturally jumped directly from bat to humans
- ☐ It naturally jumped from bats to another animal, then to humans
- ☐ It was introduced in a “wet” market in China (a market that sells and slaughters) live animals (either from a bat or other animals sold there)
- ☐ Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

[RUMORS2] Which do you personally believe is the most likely origin of the Coronavirus [select one]:

- A. It accidentally escaped from a level-4 lab in Wuhan
- B. It was purposefully leaked from a level-4 lab in Wuhan as a bioweapon
- C. The US army brought the virus to Wuhan
- D. It naturally jumped directly from bat to humans
- E. It naturally jumped from bats to another animal, then to humans
- F. It was introduced in a “wet” market in China (a market that sells and slaughters live animals) either from a bat or other animals sold there
- G. Other, specify\_\_\_\_\_

[**Follow up:** For accurate information on current scientific understanding about the origins of the Coronavirus, see here: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/06/us/coronavirus-scientists-debate-origin-theories-invs/index.html>]

## Section 13. Demographics

[DEMOGRAPHIC1] What kind of work did you do? That is, what was your occupation?  
(For example: plumber, typist, farmer...) \_\_\_\_\_

[DEMOGRAPHIC2] Is your job considered “essential” according to the rules of your state or what your employer has told you?  
A. Yes  
B. No

[DEMOGRAPHIC3] What year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

[DEMOGRAPHIC4] In which state are you currently residing (may be different than your permanent address)? \_\_\_\_\_

[DEMOGRAPHIC5] Please enter your zip or postal code of your permanent address: \_\_\_\_\_

[DEMOGRAPHIC6] Were you born in the US?  
A. Yes  
B. No

[DEMOGRAPHIC7] Are you or your partner currently pregnant?  
A. Yes  
B. No

(Question wording from Pew: [https://www.pewforum.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2015/11/201.11.03\\_rls\\_ii\\_questionnaire.pdf](https://www.pewforum.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2015/11/201.11.03_rls_ii_questionnaire.pdf))

[DEMOGRAPHIC8] What is your present religion, if any?  
A. Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopal, Reformed, Church of Christ, etc.)  
B. Roman Catholic (Catholic)  
C. Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)  
D. Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)  
E. Jewish (Judaism)  
F. Muslim (Islam)  
G. Buddhist  
H. Hindu  
I. Atheist (do not believe in God)  
J. Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)  
K. Something else (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

[DEMOGRAPHIC9] How important is religion in your life – very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?  
A. Very important  
B. Somewhat important  
C. Not too important

- D. Not at all important
- E. Don't know/Refused

[DEMOGRAPHIC10] What gender do you identify as?

- A. Female
- B. Male
- C. Other, \_\_\_\_\_

[DEMOGRAPHIC11] What was your annual household income in 2019 in US dollars?

- A. < \$10,000
- B. \$10,001-\$20,000
- C. \$20,001-\$50,000
- D. \$50,001-\$75,000
- E. \$75,001-\$150,000
- F. \$150,001-\$200,000
- G. >\$200,000

[DEMOGRAPHIC12] Which of the following categories best describes you?<sup>v</sup>

- A. White
- B. Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin
- C. Black or African American
- D. Asian
- E. American Indian or Alaskan Native
- F. Middle Eastern or North African
- G. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- H. Some other Race Ethnicity or Origin

[DEMOGRAPHIC13] How would you describe your class background as you experienced it growing up?

- A. Lower middle class
- B. Middle class
- C. Upper middle class
- D. Upper class/wealthy

## Debriefing Message:

Thank you for answering these questions. Before you complete the survey, please take a moment to read the following debriefing message.

Debrief: In order to properly test our hypotheses about how different types of information about about how employer-sponsored health insurance affects people's insurance coverage in times of economic downturn/hardship, we created a series of fictitious newspaper articles. The article you read at the beginning of this survey was one of these. The information presented in the article was correct, but we altered the way it was presented in order to test hypotheses about the credibility of these types of messages. We chose not to tell you this at the time in order to ensure that your reactions to the information presented in the article were spontaneous and were not influenced by your prior knowledge about the purpose of this study.

You can view the original press release on which this article was based by clicking here: <https://www.inquirer.com/jobs/labor/coronavirus-layoffs-health-insurance-hourly-workers-philadelphia-20200402.html>

and here:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/03/19/unemployment-insurance-today-coronavirus/>

The information we collected from this survey will be maintained anonymously. Names and other identifying information will not be used in any presentation or paper written about this project.

If you have any questions or concerns about this study please contact: Ashley Fox, Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Policy, University at Albany, SUNY. Email: [afox3@albany.edu](mailto:afox3@albany.edu). Phone: 518 442 5205.

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<sup>i</sup> Question from KFF: <https://www.kff.org/slideshow/public-opinion-on-single-payer-national-health-plans-and-expanding-access-to-medicare-coverage/>

<sup>ii</sup> Kaiser Family Foundation: <https://www.kff.org/slideshow/public-opinion-on-single-payer-national-health-plans-and-expanding-access-to-medicare-coverage/>

<sup>iii</sup> KFF: <https://www.kff.org/slideshow/public-opinion-on-single-payer-national-health-plans-and-expanding-access-to-medicare-coverage/>

<sup>iv</sup> Kaiser Family Foundation: <https://www.kff.org/slideshow/public-opinion-on-single-payer-national-health-plans-and-expanding-access-to-medicare-coverage/>

<sup>v</sup> New census categories: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/06/18/census-considers-new-approach-to-asking-about-race-by-not-using-the-term-at-all/>