



United States Department of Agriculture

Economic Research Service: 2020 Updates

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Economic Research Service
www.ers.usda.gov





**ECONOMIC
RESEARCH
SERVICE
(ERS):
PANDEMIC
RESPONSE**

Successfully delivered all scheduled and calendar reports

2X or more demand from within USDA for short turn-around analyses from ERS related to COVID-19

Recruitment, interviewing, on-boarding are proceeding well in Kansas City

Pivoting towards rapid response to information development and dissemination

**USDA
RESEARCH
SARS-COV-2
AGRICULTURE-
SPECIFIC KEY
QUESTIONS --
ERS**

1. What are the economic impacts of the pandemic on the agriculture and food sectors, and on rural well-being?
2. How can we swiftly fill knowledge and information gaps, strengthen and support critical cross-cutting issues to protect the food and agriculture supply chain while keeping the agricultural workforce healthy and our nation's food supply safe?
(Partnering with NIFA)



KEY Q: WHAT ARE THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE PANDEMIC ON THE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECTORS, AND ON RURAL WELL-BEING?

The Economic Research Service is employing its economic expertise and data to produce short-term analyses and longer-term research to inform public and private decision making, including impacts on:

- Food security/sufficiency, Food Spending, and Food Prices
- Food Supply Chain Resilience
- Farm Economy (including farm income and debt)
- Commodity and Livestock Markets (including production, sales and prices)
- International Trade
- Rural America (including economic vulnerability, employment and health infrastructure)



KEY Q: WHAT ARE THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE PANDEMIC ON THE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECTORS, AND ON RURAL WELL-BEING?

ERS has acquired or is working with other statistical agencies to acquire data to help understand the impacts of the pandemic. These data sources include:

- Point of sale data from **food retailers** of food items purchased and their cost (weekly)
- Data on food spending at grocery stores and other retailers from a large sample of **households** (bi-weekly)
- Data on **food sufficiency** and food spending from a large sample of households as part of the Census Bureau's **Household Pulse Survey**

<https://www.census.gov/householdpulsedata>.



**ERS' COVID-19
RAPID RESPONSE
TEAM:
INFORMATION
DISSEMINATION**

Internal data, analyses, white papers and dashboards

“Trending” Charts of Note ([Subscribe](#) to get highlights from our current and past research)

[Media Resources Page](#)

(Topic Page coming soon)

In progress: Working Paper Series

