

# Health Care

## By the Numbers

## HUMAN COSTS OF COVID-19

### Human Toll in Cases, Deaths and Exposure

121,117

COVID-19 deaths in the United States as of June 24, 2020, with 2.3 million confirmed cases <sup>1</sup>

479,496

Worldwide deaths from COVID-19 as of June 24, 2020, with 9.3 million confirmed cases <sup>2</sup>

23%

Black lives lost to COVID-19 as a percentage of all lives lost in the U.S. Black people are dying at a rate nearly twice that of others. <sup>3</sup>

7,088

Number of people tested positive for COVID-19 in the 174,000-person Navajo Nation, the highest infection rate anywhere in the United States <sup>4</sup>

43,000

Nursing home residents and staff who have died from COVID-19 as of June 11, 2020 <sup>5</sup>

68,000

Minimum number of incarcerated people infected with COVID-19 in prisons, jails, and immigration detention centers as of June 24, 2020 <sup>6</sup>

2,439

Number of incarcerated people infected at a single Ohio prison, Marion Correctional Institution <sup>7</sup>

584

Minimum number of incarcerated people who have died from exposure to COVID-19 <sup>8</sup>

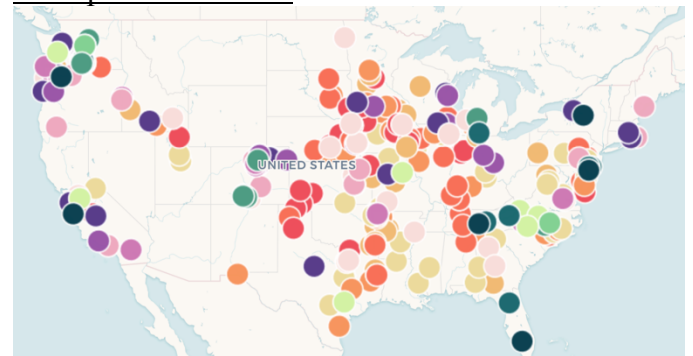
10+%

Percentage of incarcerated people sickened by COVID-19 in Tennessee, New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio, Arkansas, Connecticut, and Kansas <sup>9</sup>

32,947

Minimum number of meatpacking, food processing, and farmworkers who have contracted COVID-19 as of June 24, 2020 <sup>10</sup>

Food plant outbreaks:



SOURCE: [Leah Douglas, The FERN](#)

2,129

Number of workers infected at two meat processing plants owned by Smithfield Foods and Tyson Foods<sup>11</sup>

**567,715**

Number of people in the United States experiencing homelessness on a typical night, and therefore at high risk of contracting COVID-19 <sup>12</sup>

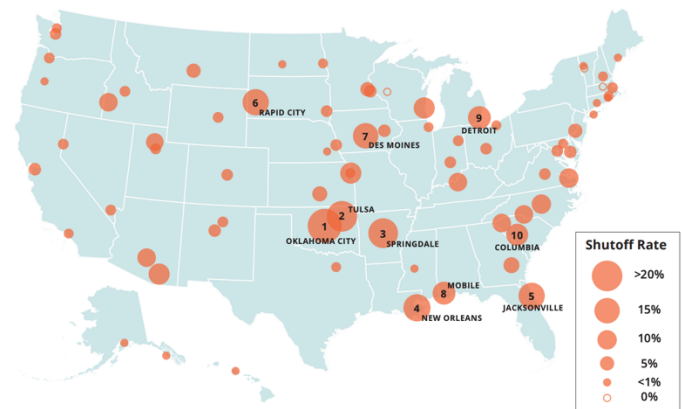
**15 million**

Number of people in the United States whose water is shut off in a single year, putting people at high risk of contracting COVID-19 <sup>13</sup>

**1 in 5**

Portion of Oklahoma City and Tulsa households whose water was shut off in 2016 <sup>14</sup>

Portion of households experiencing water shutoffs:



SOURCE: [Food & Water Watch](#)

## Human Toll in Jobs, Food, Rent and Dollars

**1 in 2**

Households in which someone lost hours or lost a job because of COVID-19, as of April 29, 2020 <sup>15</sup>

**47.05 million**

Anticipated job cuts, April to June 2020 <sup>16</sup>

**66.8 million**

Number of workers in occupations with high risk of layoffs <sup>17</sup>

**1 in 3**

Portion of households with children experiencing food insecurity, late April 2020 (34.5%).<sup>18</sup>

**52%**

Portion of renters worried about how to pay rent, May 2020. 63% of renters reported losing income.<sup>19</sup>

**100,000**

Estimated number of small businesses that shut down permanently in March and April 2020 <sup>20</sup>

**7.5 million**

Number of small businesses at risk of closing through the first five months of the pandemic <sup>21</sup>

**4.8% + 12%**

Decrease in GDP the first and second quarters of 2020 (Q2 is projected) <sup>22</sup>

**\$6 trillion**

Amount committed by the federal government to economic relief through the CARES Act and the Federal Reserve as of April 2020 <sup>23</sup>

**\$3 to \$10 trillion**

Amount of additional federal spending economists believe is necessary to meet people's needs <sup>24</sup>

**5.3 million**

Number of workers expected to lose jobs by the end of 2021 without federal aid to state and local governments <sup>25</sup>

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# Hospital Layoffs and Bailouts

**1.4 million**

No. of health care jobs eliminated in April 2020 during the pandemic as hospitals and other companies, facing revenue losses, laid off workers<sup>26</sup>

**\$15 billion**

Federal bailout given to the nation's 60 largest hospital chains<sup>27</sup>

**\$108 billion**

Cash reserves the nations' 20 largest hospital chains are sitting on<sup>28</sup>

**64,000**

Number of workers laid off, furloughed, or having hours cut by the Tenet Healthcare, Mayo Clinic, Trinity Health, Beaumont Health, the Henry Ford Health System in Michigan; SSM Health and Mercy, Fairview Health, and Prisma Health while receiving a bailout of more than \$2 billion.<sup>29</sup>

**\$1 billion**

Federal bailout given to HCA Healthcare alone. HCA made more than \$7 billion in profits the last two years, has a net worth of \$36 billion, and paid its CEO \$26 million in 2019.<sup>30</sup>

**0**

Number of layoffs that would occur in a pandemic if hospitals were publicly financed through global budgets under Medicare for All<sup>31</sup>

**1 to 1.5%**

Percent of their pay that the CEOs of HCA and Tenet Healthcare have committed to returning to help their workers<sup>32</sup>

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# Systemwide Medical Costs

**\$139 - \$558 billion**

Estimated national cost of COVID-19 treatment over two years<sup>33</sup>

**\$13.9 to \$41.8 billion**

Estimated cost of hospital care for 670,000 to 2 million uninsured COVID-19 patients<sup>34</sup>

**\$34 - \$251 billion**

Potential cost increase for private insurance plans in 2020<sup>35</sup>

**\$140 million**

Predicted loss (half of operating revenue) over a three-month period for a typical hospital system with a business model based on maximizing patient revenue<sup>36</sup>

**Up to 1,200%**

Percentage increase in the amount hospitals are spending on basic supplies such as masks<sup>37</sup>

# Potential Costs per Patient

**\$1.1 million**

Amount Swedish Medical Center billed Michael Flor of Washington State for COVID-19 treatment<sup>38</sup>

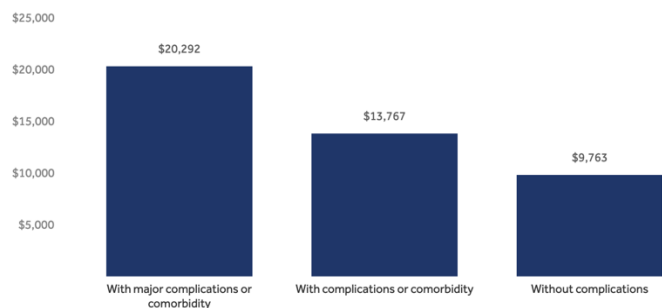
**\$1,300 - \$1,464**

Average out-of-pocket costs to patients for pneumonia hospitalization, 2018<sup>41</sup>

**\$9,763 - \$20,982**

Cost of a hospitalization for pneumonia, 2018 (ranging from no complications or comorbidity to major complications or comorbidity)<sup>39</sup>

Average total cost of treatment for an inpatient admission for pneumonia among large employer plans, by level of complexity, 2018



SOURCE: [Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker](#)

**15 - 18%**

Percentage of pneumonia admissions at in-network hospitals that lead to a surprise out-of-network bill<sup>42</sup>

**4 - 40%**

Projected increase in individual and employer premiums in 2021<sup>43</sup>

**1 in 7**

Portion of Americans who would avoid seeking medical care for COVID-19 symptoms because of the cost of treatment<sup>44</sup>

**\$12,692 - \$88,114**

Median cost to an employer-sponsored insurance plan for a hospitalization for pneumonia, 2018 (ranging from no complications or comorbidity to major complications or comorbidity)<sup>40</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control (June 10, 2020), “Cases in the U.S.,” <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Center for Systems Science and Engineering (June 24, 2020). “COVID-19 Dashboard.” Johns Hopkins University. <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>.

<sup>3</sup> The COVID Tracking Project (viewed June 24, 2020). “The COVID Racial Data Tracker.” *The Atlantic*. <https://covidtracking.com/race>.

<sup>4</sup> Navajo Department of Health (June 24, 2020). “Dikos Ntsaaígíí-19 (COVID-19).” <https://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19>.

<sup>5</sup> Paul, Emily (June 11, 2020). “How to Track COVID-19 Nursing Home Cases and Deaths in Your State.” AARP. <https://www.aarp.org/caregiving/health/info-2020/coronavirus-nursing-home-cases-deaths.html>. See also CMS, “COVID-19 Nursing Home Data,” <https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-Nursing-Home-Data/bkwz-xpvg>.

<sup>6</sup> Williams, Timothy, Libby Seline & Rebecca Griesbach (June 24, 2020). “Coronavirus Cases Rise Sharply in Prisons Even as They Plateau Nationwide.” *New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/16/us/coronavirus-inmates-prisons-jails.html>.

<sup>7</sup> The New York Times (June 24, 2020). “Coronavirus in the U.S.: Latest Map and Case Count.” <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html>.

<sup>8</sup> The Marshall Project (June 18, 2020). “A State-by-State Look at Coronavirus in Prisons.” <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2020/05/01/a-state-by-state-look-at-coronavirus-in-prisons>.

<sup>9</sup> See The Marshall Project (June 18, 2020), footnote 8.

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- <sup>10</sup> Douglas, Leah (June 24, 2020). "Mapping Covid-19 outbreaks in the food system." Food & Environment Reporting Network. <https://thefern.org/2020/04/mapping-covid-19-in-meat-and-food-processing-plants/>.
- <sup>11</sup> See The New York Times (June 24, 2020), footnote 7.
- <sup>12</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness (2020). "State of Homelessness: 2020 Edition." <https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/homelessness-statistics/state-of-homelessness-2020/>.
- <sup>13</sup> Food & Water Watch (2018). "America's Secret Water Crisis: National Shutoff Survey Reveals Water Affordability Emergency Affecting Millions." <https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/insight/americas-secret-water-crisis>.
- <sup>14</sup> See Food & Water Watch (2018), footnote 13.
- <sup>15</sup> Montanaro, Domenico "Poll: Half Of Americans Financially Affected By Coronavirus" National Public Radio (April 29, 2020). <https://www.npr.org/2020/04/29/847517729/poll-half-of-americans-financially-affected-by-coronavirus>
- <sup>16</sup> Faria-e-Castro, Miguel "Back-of-the-Envelope Estimates of Next Quarter's Unemployment Rate" *Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis* (March 24, 2020). <https://www.stlouisfed.org/on-the-economy/2020/march/back-envelope-estimates-next-quarters-unemployment-rate>
- <sup>17</sup> Faria-e-Castro, Miguel (March 24, 2020), footnote 13.
- <sup>18</sup> Bauer, Lauren (May 6, 2020). "The COVID-19 Crisis Has Already Left Too Many Children Hungry in America." The Hamilton Project. [https://www.hamiltonproject.org/blog/the\\_covid\\_19\\_crisis\\_has\\_already\\_left\\_too\\_many\\_children\\_hungry\\_in\\_america](https://www.hamiltonproject.org/blog/the_covid_19_crisis_has_already_left_too_many_children_hungry_in_america).
- <sup>19</sup> Akala, Adedayo (Apr. 28, 2020), "Only about half of Americans are confident they can pay full rent in May: Survey," CNBC, <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/28/only-half-of-americans-confident-they-can-pay-full-rent-in-may-survey.html>.
- <sup>20</sup> Bartik, Alexander (April 2020). "How Are Small Businesses Adjusting to Covid-19? Early Evidence from a Survey." National Bureau of Economic Research. <https://www.nber.org/papers/w26989.pdf>
- <sup>21</sup> Main Street America (April 9, 2020), "New Report: The Impact of COVID-19 on Small Businesses," <https://www.mainstreet.org/blogs/national-main-street-center/2020/04/09/new-report-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-small-business>.
- <sup>22</sup> See Bureau of Economic Analysis (May 28, 2020), "Gross Domestic Product, 1st Quarter 2020 (Second Estimate); Corporate Profits, 1st Quarter 2020 (Preliminary Estimate)", <https://www.bea.gov/news/2020/gross-domestic-product-1st-quarter-2020-second-estimate-corporate-profits-1st-quarter>; Swagel, Phill (April 24, 2020), "CBO's Current Projections of Output, Employment, and Interest Rates and a Preliminary Look at Federal Deficits for 2020 and 2021," Congressional Budget Office, <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/56335>.
- <sup>23</sup> Dam, Andrew (April 15, 2020), "The U.S. has thrown more than \$6 trillion at the coronavirus crisis. That number could grow" The Washington Post Business Analysis. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/04/15/coronavirus-economy-6-trillion/>
- <sup>24</sup> Desmond, Matthew (May 26, 2020), "Can America's Middle Class Be Saved from a New Depression?" New York Times, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/05/26/magazine/coronavirus-milwaukee-unemployment-jobs.html>.
- <sup>25</sup> Bivens, Josh & David Cooper (June 10, 2020), "Without federal aid to state and local governments, 5.3 million workers will likely lose their jobs by the end of 2021," Economic Policy Institute, <https://www.epi.org/blog/without-federal-aid-to-state-and-local-governments-5-3-million-workers-will-likely-lose-their-jobs-by-the-end-of-2021-see-estimated-job-losses-by-state/>.
- <sup>26</sup> "The Employment Situation – April 2020" *Bureau of Labor Statistics* (May 8, 2020). <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf>
- <sup>27</sup> Silver-Greenberg, Jessica, Jesse Drucker and David Enrich (June 8, 2020). "Hospitals Got Bailouts and Furloughed Thousands While Paying C.E.O.s Millions." <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/08/business/hospitals-bailouts-ceo-pay.html>.
- <sup>28</sup> Drucker, Jesse Jessica Silver-Greenberg and Sarah Kliff (May 25, 2020). "Wealthiest Hospitals Got Billions in Bailout for Struggling Health Providers." New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/25/business/coronavirus-hospitals-bailout.html>.
- <sup>29</sup> Silver-Greenberg et al. (2020). See footnote 24.
- <sup>30</sup> Silver-Greenberg et al. (2020). See footnote 24.
- <sup>31</sup> Under Medicare for All, hospitals would receive annual lump-sum payments based on local medical and staffing needs. These payments would eliminate fee-for-service payments, which have allowed hospitals to drive up healthcare costs and led to sudden revenue shortfalls during the pandemic when patients and doctors cancelled many appointments and procedures.
- <sup>32</sup> Silver-Greenberg et al. (2020). See footnote 24.
- <sup>33</sup> Cox, Cynthia "How health costs might change with COVID-19" *Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker* (April 15, 2020). <https://www.healthsystemtracker.org/brief/how-health-costs-might-change-with-covid-19/>
- <sup>34</sup> "Analysis Estimates Up To 2 Million Uninsured People Could Require COVID-19 Hospitalization" *Kaiser Family Foundation* (April 7, 2020). <https://www.kff.org/uninsured/press-release/analysis-estimates-up-to-2-million-uninsured-people-could-require-covid-19-hospitalization/>
- <sup>35</sup> Covered California (March 22, 2020), "The Potential National Health Cost Impacts to Consumers, Employers and Insurers Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)," <https://hbex.coveredca.com/data-research/library/COVID-19-NationalCost-Impacts03-21-20.pdf>
- <sup>36</sup> "Covid-19 could carry a \$200B price tag for hospitals" *Advisory Board* (May 7, 2020). <https://www.advisory.com/daily-briefing/2020/05/07/covid-finance>
- <sup>37</sup> Grimm, Christi "Hospital Experiences Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Results of a National Pulse Survey March 23–27, 2020" *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services* (April 2020). <https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-06-20-00300.pdf>
- <sup>38</sup> Westneat, Danny (June 12, 2020). "Coronavirus survival comes with a \$1.1 million, 181-page price tag." Seattle Times. <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/inspiring-story-of-seattle-mans-coronavirus-survival-comes-with-a-1-1-million-dollar-hospital-bill/>.
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<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> See Covered California (2020), footnote 32.

<sup>44</sup> Witters, Dan "In U.S., 14% With Likely COVID-19 to Avoid Care Due to Cost" Gallup (April 28, 2020). [https://news.gallup.com/poll/309224/avoid-care-likely-covid-due-cost.aspx?mod=article\\_inline](https://news.gallup.com/poll/309224/avoid-care-likely-covid-due-cost.aspx?mod=article_inline)