

THE LONGEST SUMMER

CHILDHOOD HUNGER IN THE WAKE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Top Findings from The Longest Summer: Childhood Hunger in the Wake of the Coronavirus

- **America's hunger problem is pervasive—and communities of color are being disproportionately impacted.** Forty-seven percent of American families are living with hunger; the numbers are worse among Black families (53%) and Latino families (56%).
- **Essential workers make up the majority of working food insecure households.** Seventy-four percent of food insecure working parents are in essential fields, with 27% earning less than \$40,000 annually. Despite being celebrated for working on the frontlines, they're being hit hardest by the pandemic's economic impact.
- **A significant number of families were living with (or on the edge of) hunger even before the pandemic.** Eighty-five percent of families currently living with hunger were dealing with the same hunger in the year before the pandemic.
- **Kids facing hunger are consumed by different worries than kids who aren't.** Children facing hunger are more often concerned about their parents' jobs, food, and not being able to sleep at night; kids not facing hunger are more often concerned about school starting, seeing their friends, and getting back to normal.
- **Parents are making difficult choices to feed their kids.** More than 50% of parents are skipping meals for themselves or limiting food for people in the family so their kids can eat, while nearly 40% are skipping bills more often in order to make sure their kids have food.

Report Methodology

Partnering with YouGov, a leading public opinion and data analytics firm working on behalf of Marketing for Change for No Kid Hungry, we conducted a national omnibus survey, a national survey of parents with school-aged children (ages 5-17) and follow up interviews and ethnographic research with select survey participants. The national omnibus survey was conducted with 1,153 US adults (aged 18+) fielded between May 4, 2020 and May 5, 2020. The national representative parent survey was conducted with 1,246 parents of school-aged children (ages 5-17) fielded between May 1, 2020 and May 25, 2020. To ensure proper demographic representation of the sample, final data were weighted according to the following benchmark distributions of parents of children ages 5-17 from the 2017 Current Population Survey (CPS) from the U.S. Census Bureau: age, gender, educational status, and household income within reason.

To view the full report and video diaries, visit LongestSummer.org.