Colorado Statewide Food Insecurity Survey

This survey was **conducted online among 535 Coloradans from April 13th - April 26th, 2021** and overall has a **margin of error of ±4.2%pts** at the 95% confidence level. Respondents were identified via Dynata, an online panel recruiting firm, which generates a survey panel sample based on a stratified random sample with key demographics as the strata. Samples start by targeting respondents who are profiled as residents of the state of Colorado, ages 18+. The completed sample is then **balanced by the following demographics based on the Census' American Community Survey (ACS)** data for Colorado: gender, age, region (county groups), race, ethnicity and Household income in 2019. The survey was conducted with the support of Kupersmit Research, Hunger Free Colorado's long-time survey research partner.

Sample Compared to Population

Collection Period: 4/13/21 to 4/26/21
Sample Size: n = 535

Gender	ACS Based Targets	April'21 Sample	Race	ACS Based Targets	April'21 Sample
Female	50%	49%	White	84%	79%
Male	50%	49%	Black	4%	4%
Transgender	0%	0%	Native American/American Indian	1%	3%
Non-Binary	0%	0%	Asian/Pacific Islander	3%	3%
Perfer not to say	0%	1%	Multi-racial	4%	5%
Age	**ACS**	**April'21 Sample**	Other	4%	3%
18 to 24	11%	12%	Not sure/Refused	0%	2%
25 to 34	20%	19%	**Ethnicity (Hispanic/Latino)**	**ACS**	**April'21 Sample**
35 to 44	18%	18%	Yes	21%	19%
45 to 54	16%	17%	No	79%	79%
55 to 64	16%	16%	Not sure/Refused	0%	1%
65+	19%	18%	**Household Income in 2019**	**ACS**	**April'21 Sample**
Region (County Groups)	**ACS**	**April'21 Sample**	Less than $25k	15%	15%
Region 1 - Eastern Plains	3%	3%	$25-50k	19%	14%
Region 2 - North Front Range + North/Central Mountains	14%	15%	$50-75k	18%	18%
Region 3 - Metro Suburbs	44%	44%	$75-100k	14%	15%
Region 4 - Denver	13%	13%	$100-150k	18%	19%
Region 5 - South Front Range + Southern Mountains	20%	20%	$150-200k	8%	9%
Region 6 - West Slope	6%	5%	$200k+	8%	8%
			Not sure/Prefer not to say	0%	2%

Results by Question

Q1 - Which of the following best describes your age? (n = 535)

Age	Frequency	Percent
18-24	62	11.589
25-34	101	18.879
35-44	96	17.944
45-54	93	17.383
55-64	86	16.075
65 or older	97	18.131

Q2 - Which of the following best describes your gender identity? (n = 535)

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Female	264	49.346
Male	264	49.346
Non-Binary	2	0.374
Prefer not to say	3	0.561
Transgender	2	0.374

Q3 - In which county do you live? (n = 535)

Grouped by Region	Frequency	Percent
R1 – Eastern Plains	18	3.364
R2 – North Front Range/Mts	78	14.579
R3 – Metro Suburbs	237	44.299
R4 – Denver	68	12.710
R5 – South Front Range/Mts	107	20.000
R6 – West Slope	27	5.047

Q4 - Which of the following best describes your situation now compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic began? (n = 535)

Income Since COVID-19	Frequency	Percent
Not sure/Prefer not to say	20	3.738
Your household has seen a drop in income, and are very concerned about your economic situation	64	11.963
Your household has seen a drop in income, but are about as comfortable as you were before March	106	19.813
Your household income has increased	81	15.140
Your household income has stayed the same	264	49.346

Q5 - Thinking about your ability to pay basic expenses (including rent/mortgage, food, medication, etc.), which of the following best describes your household? (n = 535)

Economic Situation	Frequency	Percent
Even before the Coronavirus crisis, we did not have enough money to meet basic expenses, and it's just as bad (or worse) now	15	2.804
Not sure/Prefer not to say	12	2.243
There is enough money now to pay for basic expenses and we should be okay for the foreseeable future	381	71.215
There is enough money to meet basic expenses now, but I am worried about the next few weeks/ months	79	14.766
There is not enough money to meet basic expenses now, but we were doing okay before the Coronavirus crisis	48	8.972

Q6 - Relative to other concerns you have for your household, how important of an issue is hunger? (n = 535)

Hunger Relative to Other Concerns	Frequency	Percent
Hunger is not a concern	353	65.981
Hunger is a mild concern	58	10.841
Hunger is among my top concerns	78	14.579
Hunger is the most important concern I have	35	6.542
Not sure/Prefer not to say	11	2.056

Q7 - The food I/we bought just didn't last, and I/we didn't have money to get more [Q7 is HH3 of USDA Food Security Survey Six-Item] (n = 535)

Food Didn't Last	Frequency	Percent
Never True	363	67.850
Sometimes True	119	22.243
Often True	53	9.907

Q8 - I/we could not afford to eat balanced meals [Q8 is HH4 of USDA Food Security Survey Six-Item] (n = 535)

Can't Afford Balanced Meals	Frequency	Percent
Never True	340	63.551
Sometimes True	126	23.551
Often True	69	12.897

Q9 - In the last three months, did 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? [Q9 is AD1 of USDA Food Security Survey Six-Item] (n = 535)

Ever Cut Meal Size / Skip Meals	Frequency	Percent
Don't know	16	2.991
No	410	76.636
Yes	109	20.374

Q10 - How often did you or other adults in your household cut the size of your meals or skip meals? [Q10 is AD1a of USDA Food Security Survey Six-Item] (n = 109)

How Often Cut / Skip?	Frequency	Percent
Almost every week	41	7.664
Only 1 or 2 days per month	19	3.551
Some weeks, but not every week	49	9.159

Q11 - In the last three months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food? [Q11 is AD2 of USDA Food Security Survey Six-Item] (n = 535)

Ever Eat Less Than Should	Frequency	Percent
Not sure	18	3.364
No	396	74.019
Yes	121	22.617

Q12 - In the last three months, were you ever hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food? [Q12 is AD3 of USDA Food Security Survey Six-Item] (n = 535)

Ever Hungry But Didn't Eat	Frequency	Percent
Not sure	18	3.364
No	422	78.879
Yes	95	17.757

Q13 - How easy or hard is it for your household to get healthy food? (n = 535)

Easy or Hard is Healthy Food	Frequency	Percent
Very easy	286	53.458
Somewhat easy	174	32.523
Somewhat hard	62	11.589
Very hard	13	2.430

Q14 - How Big of a Problem is…Healthy foods at your local store are too expensive? (n = 535)

Healthy Foods Expense	Frequency	Percent
Not a problem at all	139	25.981
Not much of a problem	153	28.598
Somewhat of a problem	168	31.402
Big problem	75	14.019

Q15 - How Big of a Problem is…The stores in your area only sell processed foods and unhealthy food? (n = 535)

Stores Only Sell Unhealthy Foods	Frequency	Percent
Not a problem at all	234	43.738
Not much of a problem	160	29.907
Somewhat of a problem	103	19.252
Big problem	38	7.103

Q16 - How Big of a Problem is…Not having transportation to get to and from the store? (n = 535)

Lack of Transportation	Frequency	Percent
Not a problem at all	349	65.234
Not much of a problem	83	15.514
Somewhat of a problem	69	12.897
Big problem	34	6.355

Q17 - Which of the following programs have you or someone else in your household, been enrolled in during the past three months? (n = 535)

Non-Food Benefit Programs Enrolled In	Frequency	Percent
Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)	31	5.794
Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	36	6.729
Housing Assistance	29	5.421
Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)	34	6.355
Medicaid	99	18.505
Medicare	120	22.430
Social Security	115	21.495
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	22	4.112
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	14	2.617
Veterans' Benefits	30	5.607
None of these apply to my household	230	42.991
Not sure	34	6.355

Q18 - In the past three months, which of the following applied to your household? (n = 535)

Food Benefits Enrolled In	Frequency	Percent
Children received free meals at school or a school meal site	75	14.019
Children received WIC	37	6.916
Older adults received meals at senior centers or similar places	20	3.738
Household members received SNAP	71	13.271
Some food came from local food pantries, soup kitchens, or charities	62	11.589
None of these apply	350	65.421
Not sure	22	4.112

Q19 - If you utilized school meals or school meal sites, did you receive enough meals to cover breakfast and lunch for your children for the week? (n = 75)

For Utilized School Meals – Enough?	Frequency	Percent
Not Sure/Prefer Not to Answer	4	5.333
Did Not Use School/Summer Meals	5	6.666
Partially cover	29	38.666
Completely cover	37	49.333

Q20 - If you did not use school meals or school meal sites, what were the reasons? (n = 460)

For NOT Utilized School Meals – Why?	Frequency	Percent
I was not able to pick up the food at the time provided	17	3.257
I did not have transportation to get to the meal site	15	2.874
The food was not what my family eats	16	3.065
No sites near me	28	5.364
Did not think it was for me	74	14.176
Did not need them	307	58.812
Did not know they were available	43	8.238
Did not know where to find them	22	4.215

Q21 - If you did not use WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children), what were the reasons? (n = 187)

For NOT WIC – Why?	Frequency	Percent
Did not need it	81	43.316
Did not qualify (not pregnant or no children age 5 or under)	27	14.439
Not familiar with it	17	9.091
Did not know how to apply/ Need assistance applying	11	5.882
Did not think I qualified due to income	26	13.904
Benefits are not worth the effort	7	3.743
Did not think it was for me	18	9.626

Q22 - If you utilized SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), how much of your household food needs did SNAP cover? (n = 71)

For Utilized SNAP – Enough?	Frequency	Percent
Did not use	18	25.352
Some	25	35.211
Most	22	30.986
All	6	8.451

Q23 - If you utilized SNAP, how long does it last each month on average? (n = 71)

For Utilized SNAP – How Long?	Frequency	Percent
Less than 2 weeks	25	35.211
2 - 3 weeks	18	25.352
3 - 4 weeks	6	8.451
All Month	22	30.986

Q24 - If you did not use SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), what were the reasons? (n = 464)

For NOT Utilized SNAP – Why?	Frequency	Percent
Did not need it	273	50.556
Not familiar with it	52	9.630
Did not know how to apply/ Need assistance applying	33	6.111
Did not think I qualified	111	20.556
Benefits are not worth the effort	19	3.519
Did not think it was for me	52	9.630

Q25 - If you used a food pantry or similar organization, were you able to obtain the kinds of food and amount of food needed for your household? (n = 62)

For Pantry Utilized – Enough of Kind?	Frequency	Percent
I was not able to get the kinds of food or amount of food needed	10	1.869
I was able to get the kinds of food needed, but it was not enough	14	2.617
I was able to get enough food, but it was not the kind I needed	14	2.617
I was able to get the kinds of food and amount of food needed	23	4.299
Not sure	1	0.187

Q26 - If you did not use a food pantry or a similar organization, what were the reasons? (n = 473)

For Pantry NOT Utilized – Why?	Frequency	Percent
Did not need them	325	63.976
Did not know where to find them	47	9.252
No locations near me	51	10.039
Concerns about data collected by food pantry	21	4.134
Did not think it was for me	64	12.598

Q27 - Do you need food delivered to you? (n = 535)

Need Food Delivery?	Frequency	Percent
No	418	78.131
Yes, and I have been able to get it delivered	79	14.766
Yes, but I have not been able to get it delivered	38	7.103

Q28 - What is your current employment status? (n = 535)

Employment Status	Frequency	Percent
A homemaker or caretaker	20	3.738
Receiving/awaiting approval for disability payments	19	3.551
Retired	109	20.374
Student	16	2.991
Furloughed from a job	7	1.308
On layoff from a job	6	1.121
Unemployed and actively looking for work	19	3.551
Unemployed and not looking for work	5	0.935
Working part-time (< 32 hours per week), do not want to work more	37	6.916
Working part-time (< 32 hours per week), would like to work more	25	4.673
Working full-time (32+ hours per week)	255	47.664
Other	7	1.308
Not Sure/Prefer Not to Say	10	1.869

Q29 - Did you, or anyone in your household, receive unemployment benefits of any kind in the past three months? (n = 535)

Receive Unemployment?	Frequency	Percent
No	438	81.869
Yes	97	18.131

Q30 - Did you, or anyone in your household, receive a stimulus payment in the last three months (also known as an Economic Impact Payment)? (n = 535)

Receive Economic Impact Payment?	Frequency	Percent
No	152	28.411
Yes	383	71.589

Q31 - Did you, or anyone in your household, receive a stimulus payment in the last three months (also known as an Economic Impact Payment)? (n = 535)

Receive Economic Impact Payment?	Frequency	Percent
Divorced	40	7.477
Living with a domestic partner	39	7.290
Married	301	56.262
Single	120	22.430
Widowed	24	4.486
Not sure/Prefer not to say	11	2.056

Q32 - How many people currently live in your household? (n = 535)

People in Household	Frequency	Percent
One	87	16.262
Two	193	36.075
Three	92	17.196
Four	93	17.383
Five	48	8.972
Six	15	2.804
Seven or more	7	1.308

Q33 - Which of the following best describes where you live? (n = 535)

Rural or Urban	Frequency	Percent
A small town or rural area	92	17.196
In a city	159	29.720
In a suburb of a city	267	49.907
Not sure/Prefer not to say	17	3.178
Missing	0	0.000
Total	535	100.000

Q34 - Is there more than one language spoken in the home? (n = 535)

Multiple Languages	Frequency	Percent
No	433	80.935
Yes	92	17.196
Prefer not to answer	10	1.869

Q35 - Do you identify as an individual with a disability? (n = 535)

Disability?	Frequency	Percent
No	445	83.178
Yes	79	14.766
Prefer not to answer	11	2.056

Q36 - Have you heard of the organization Hunger Free Colorado? (n = 535)

Heard of Hunger Free Colorado?	Frequency	Percent
No	396	74.019
Yes	128	23.925
Prefer not to answer	11	2.056

Q37 - Which of the following best describes your household income for LAST year, 2019? (n = 535)

2019 Household Income	Frequency	Percent
Less than $15,000	55	10.280
$15,000 - $24,999	25	4.673
$25,000 - $34,999	36	6.729
$35,000 - $49,999	39	7.290
$50,000- $74,999	98	18.318
$75,000 - $99,999	80	14.953
$100,000 - $149,999	102	19.065
$150,000 - $199,999	47	8.785
$200,000 or over	42	7.850
Not sure/Prefer not to say	11	2.056

Q38 - Are you from a Hispanic, Latino or Spanish-Speaking background? (n = 535)

Hispanic / Latino?	Frequency	Percent
No	424	79.252
Yes	103	19.252
Not sure/Prefer not to say	8	1.495

Q39 - With which race do you identify yourself? (n = 535)

Race	Frequency	Percent
Asian/Pacific Islander	18	3.364
Black, African-American	23	4.299
Native American, American Indian	14	2.617
White	425	79.439
Multi-racial	26	4.860
Prefer to specify	17	3.178
Not sure/Prefer not to say	12	2.243