We gratefully acknowledge financial support for this research from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the National Science Foundation.
Understanding America Study (UAS)

- Since 2014, longitudinal, national probability-based internet panel of currently approximately 9,000 US residents, collecting information at multiple time points each year on economic, labor, attitudinal, and health measures, etc.

- Tracking pandemic effects started March 10, 2020
  - First survey in field March 10-31
  - As of April 1, two-weekly tracking surveys
Every day ~500 respondents answer UAS questions, 7000 over a two-week period

- The process repeats every two weeks providing continuous tracking information of how the pandemic affects households.

- Thousands of graphs updating daily show results: [https://covid19pulse.usc.edu/](https://covid19pulse.usc.edu/)

- Full wave data files released for public use every two weeks, including a harmonized longitudinal file and codebooks: [https://uasdata.usc.edu/page/Covid-19+Home](https://uasdata.usc.edu/page/Covid-19+Home)
  - Currently six waves of national data and eleven waves of LA County data available (tonight).
  - Currently about seventy-five research groups worldwide are using UAS COVID19-related data
  - We have added contextual data that can be downloaded with the longitudinal data
    - With more to come

- If funding permits, we hope to continue the tracking surveys well into 2021 or whenever the pandemic effects recede
Survey Categories - Longitudinal Questions

• Symptoms, Testing, and Medical Care
• Coronavirus Knowledge and Expectations
• Protective Social and Health Behaviors
• Risk Perceptions
• Mental Health and Substance Abuse
• Discrimination and Stigma
• Economic and Food Insecurity
• Social Safety Net
• Housing and Debt
• Crime and Safety
• Labor Market Outcomes
Survey Categories - Additional Questions

• K-12 Education / Post-secondary Education
• Behavioral Health
  • Social media use
  • Alcohol and cannabis use
  • Chronic disease diagnoses
  • Mental health condition diagnosis
  • PTSD, OCD, eating disorders, loneliness
• Sexual and Gender Identity
• Food Security / Food purchasing behaviors
• Entrepreneurial activities and plans
• Use of cash
• Attitudes towards lifting stay at home order
Potential for Analysis

• UAS has thousands of background variables that can be used to inform understanding of how families experience the pandemic

• Daily tracking illuminates developments in real time

• New questions build on six years of collected data on the same households and we can add new questions quickly

• Use of contextual data allows for assessment of the effects of policy measures on behavior and outcomes
Potential for Analysis

Illustrative Findings
Comparison with BLS employment numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>BLS Employment (16+)</th>
<th>UAS jobs (18+)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>61.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
<td>50.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>52.8%</td>
<td>51.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We expect June to show further employment growth.

### Employment and Jobs in BLS and UAS

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</table>

- BLS Employment (16+)
- UAS jobs (18+)
Already in March, we saw strong socio-economic disparities.

Do You Have the Kind of Job Where Working From Home Could Be an Option, If Required?

- GED OR BELOW:
  - Yes: 15.8%
  - No: 80.5%
  - Unsure: 3.6%

- SOME COLLEGE:
  - Yes: 28.2%
  - No: 67.9%
  - Unsure: 3.9%

- COLLEGE AND ABOVE:
  - Yes: 58.0%
  - No: 35.3%
  - Unsure: 6.6%
Non-College Women Hit Hardest with Job Losses

Percentage Employed
By Gender and Educational Level

- **fem no coll**
- **female coll**
- **male no coll**
- **male coll**
Working Women Balancing Work and Child Wrangling

Primary Responsibility for Children When School is Closed? - Among those currently working - Early April 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Only Me</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only my partner</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only Both</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other help</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Psychological distress peaked early April
Mask Wearing Dramatically increased in April
Protective Behavior began to change in May and June
Data available at UASdata.usc.edu