POVERTY AMIDST PANDEMIC
How have the 140 million poor and low-income people in the U.S. fared during the global coronavirus pandemic?

DATA AS OF SEPTEMBER 2020

HEALTH
MILLIONS HAVE LOST THEIR HEALTH COVERAGE AND ARE FACING DEPRESSION.

- MILLIONS LOSE COVERAGE: Nearly 12 million people have lost their employer-sponsored health insurance since the start of the pandemic.

- POVERTY AND DEPRESSION: Adults making under $25,000 were over 3X as likely to say they experienced depression symptoms most days during the previous week, compared to adults making over $200,000. In June, essential workers, unpaid adult caregivers, and racial and ethnic minorities reported contemplating suicide more than other adults.

JOBS
POOR AND LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS FACE HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES AND MORE DIFFICULT WORK CONDITIONS.

- RECORD JOB LOSS CONTINUES: More than 29.6 million people claimed unemployment benefits in August. For every open position, there were two people seeking work.

- POOR UNEMPLOYMENT DOUBLES: For adults with family incomes below $60,000, unemployment rates more than doubled since August 2019, from 6.6% to 15.7% in August 2020. Unemployment for those making over $150,000 was just 5%.

- WORK FROM HOME PRIVILEGES: Poor and low-income adults have fewer chances to work from home. Those with family incomes above $150,000 were about 4X as likely to have worked from home than poor and low income adults.

HOUSING
POOR AND LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ARE FACING IMMENSE HOUSING INSECURITY.

- 1 IN 10 ON EDGE: One in ten poor and low-income renters reported that they were somewhat or very likely to face eviction in the next two months.

- VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE: Nearly one in three poor and low-income renters said they had little or no confidence in their ability to pay the next month’s rent.

FOOD SECURITY
LOST INCOMES HAVE LED TO RAMPANT FOOD INSECURITY.

- 13 MILLION PEOPLE with incomes under $50,000, nearly 1 in 5 adults, reported sometimes or often not having enough to eat in August.

- SNAP SPIKE: SNAP (Food Stamps) enrollment increased by 5.5 million new people, or 15%, from March to April of this year.

- BLACK AND LATINOX FOOD INSECURITY: Black and Latinox people were over 2X as likely as White people.

READ THE FULL EXPLAINER AT TINYURL.COM/140MILLIONCOVID