



County Profile Discussion Guide: Exploring the impacts of **COVID-19** for your county



1. Consider your county's population and quality-of-life data. Which groups of individuals might be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?

1a. How might the health and well-being of these groups be impacted?

1b. How might these groups be impacted in terms of employment and income?

Each profile covers a range of topics that can help you explore these questions. Pay particular attention to data about your county's age structure (p. 4), race and ethnicity mix (p. 8), poverty rates (p. 11), **SNAP** participation rates (p. 12), housing characteristics (p. 15), health insurance coverage (p. 17), other health indicators such as diabetes and obesity (p. 18), and internet connectivity.

2. Consider the economic and industry data for your county. What immediate impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic are you seeing? What are some potential longer-term implications that you might want to consider?

Pay particular attention to data about your county's household incomes (p. 21), unemployment rate (p. 23), employment sectors (p. 25), top industries (p. 26), top employers (p. 27), farm employment (p.35), and consumer food expenditures (p. 36). Looking again at poverty rates (p. 11), **SNAP** participation rates (p. 12), housing characteristics (p. 15), and health insurance coverage (p. 17) may be helpful, as well.

3. How might this data inform your response to challenges related to COVID-19?

4. Can you identify creative ways to address the challenges facing your county? How might you respond to future challenges?

5. It is likely that an issue of this scale may occur again in our lifetimes. How can you use the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic to build resilience in your county?

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