

COVID-19 US State Policy Database (CUSP)

Informing COVID-19 prevention policies and
policies to prevent economic precarity

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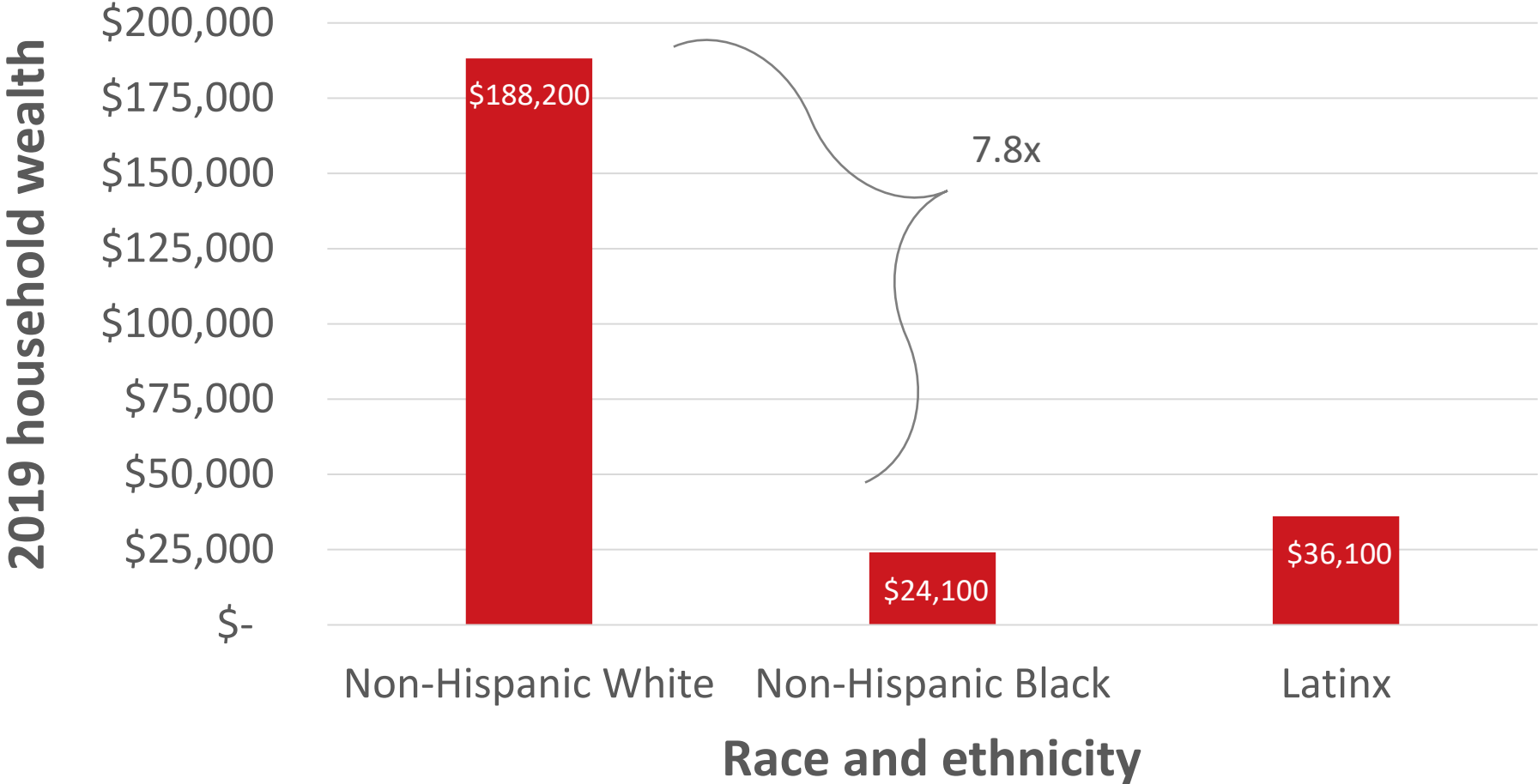
Jraifman@bu.edu

Premise of our work

1. COVID brings joint health and economic disasters. In a context of structural racism and inequities, disasters make disparities worse.
2. Policy actions during disasters can reduce or exacerbate disparities: Federal leadership is key
 - COVID prevention policies
 - Vaccine priorities and delivery
 - Stimulus payments, expanded unemployment insurance
3. Disasters can be an opportunity change structural inequities or inform them in the future: Unemployment insurance, minimum wage, paid sick leave

Pre-COVID structural inequities, driven by historical and modern-day policies

2019 median household wealth by race/ethnicity



Source: Bhutta, N., Chang, A.C., Dettling, L.J., Hsu, J.W. and Hewitt, J., 2020. Disparities in Wealth by Race and Ethnicity in the 2019 Survey of Consumer Finances. *FEDS Notes*, (2020-09), pp.28-2.

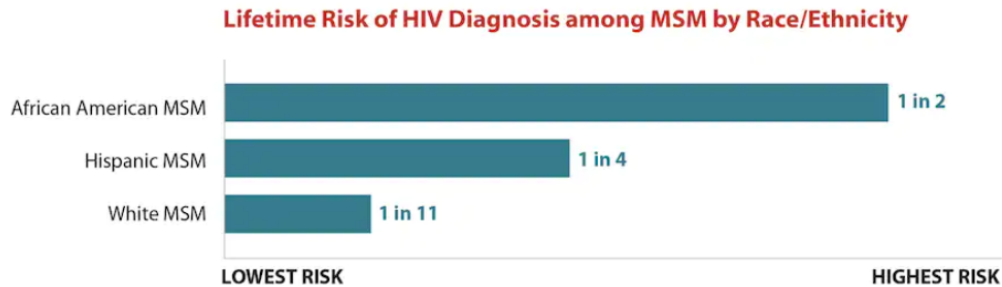
Disasters & diseases: Disparities

Economic Policy Institute
About Areas of Research Publications Experts Resou

Working Economics Blog

Posted September 12, 2018 at 5:10 pm by **Valerie Wilson**

10 years after the start of the Great Recession, black and Asian households have yet to recover lost income



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

BROOKINGS

SOCIAL MOBILITY MEMOS

Hurricanes hit the poor the hardest

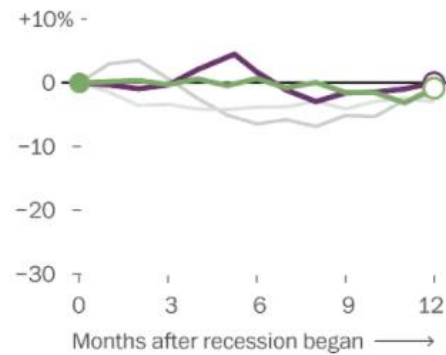
Eleanor Krause and Richard V. Reeves - Monday, September 18, 2017

In context of structural inequities, disasters make disparities worse: Unemployment

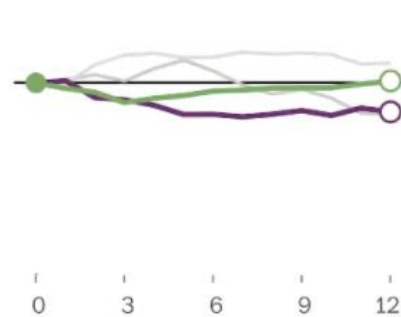
The coronavirus crisis is different

Job growth (or loss) since each recession began, based on weekly earnings

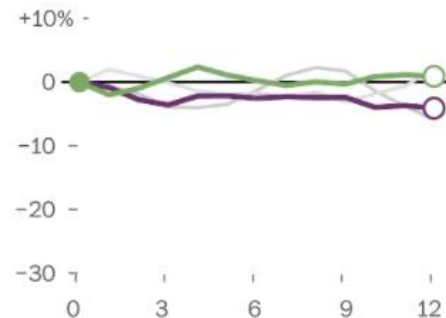
1990 recession



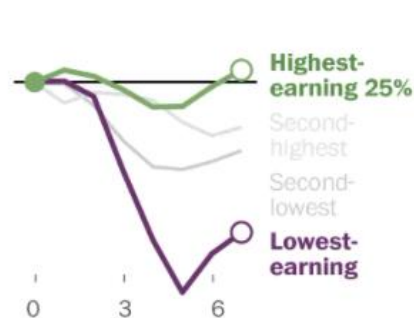
2001 recession



2008 recession



Coronavirus crisis



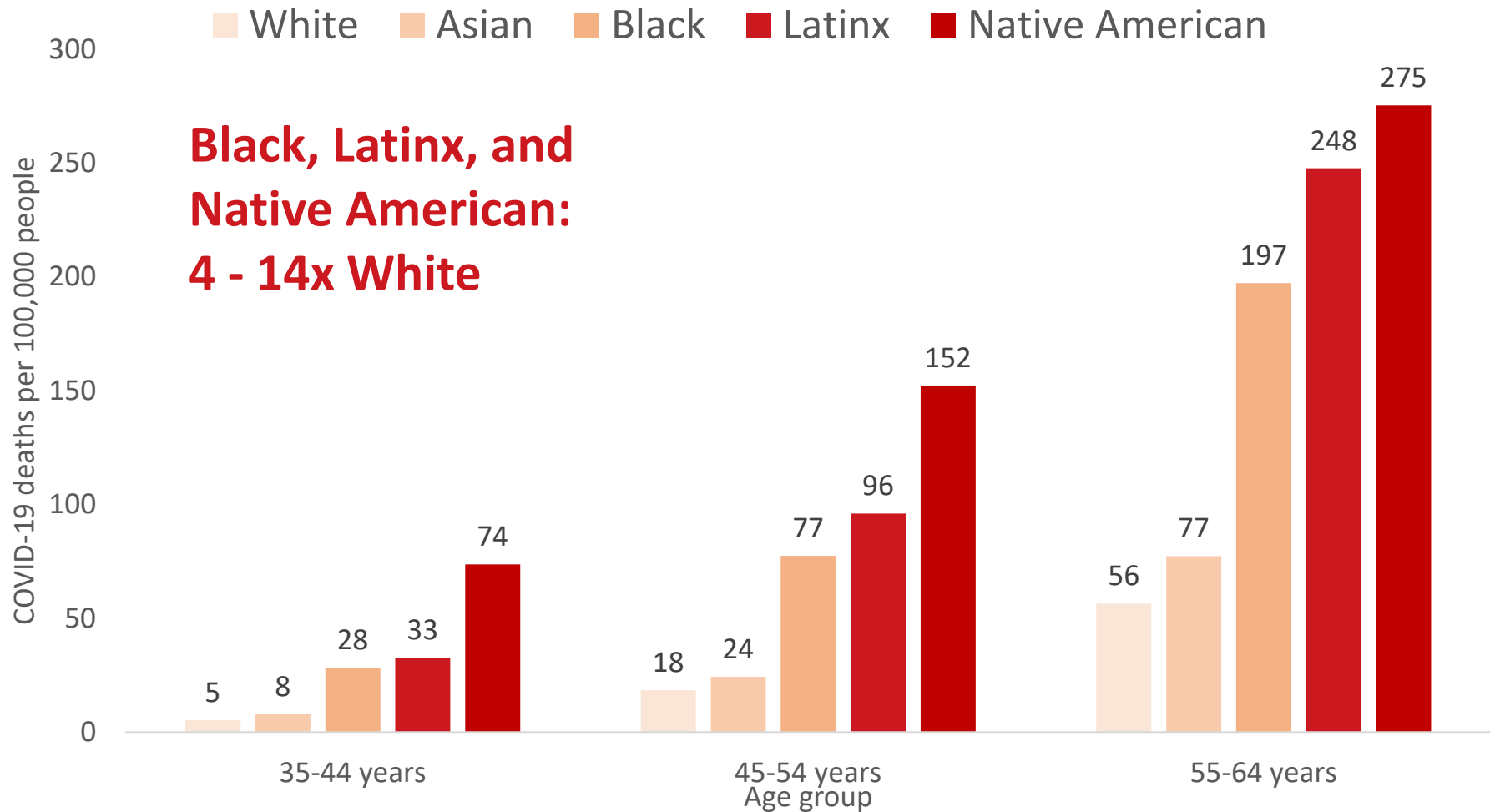
Notes: Based on a three-month average to show the trend in volatile data.

Source: Labor Department via IPUMS, with methodology assistance from Ernie Tedeschi of Evercore ISI

THE WASHINGTON POST

In context of structural inequities, disasters make disparities worse: COVID deaths

Age-specific deaths by race & ethnicity, US (Jan. 23, 2021)



Original: Bassett MT, Chen JT, Krieger N (2020) *PLoS Medicine*.

Update: Understanding COVID-19's Outcomes and Possible Trajectory: Implications for Social Insurance Programs. *National Academy of Social Insurance*

Age-group specific deaths



COVID-19 Weekly Deaths per 100,000 Population by Race/Ethnicity & Age Group, United States



March 01, 2020 - September 24, 2022*

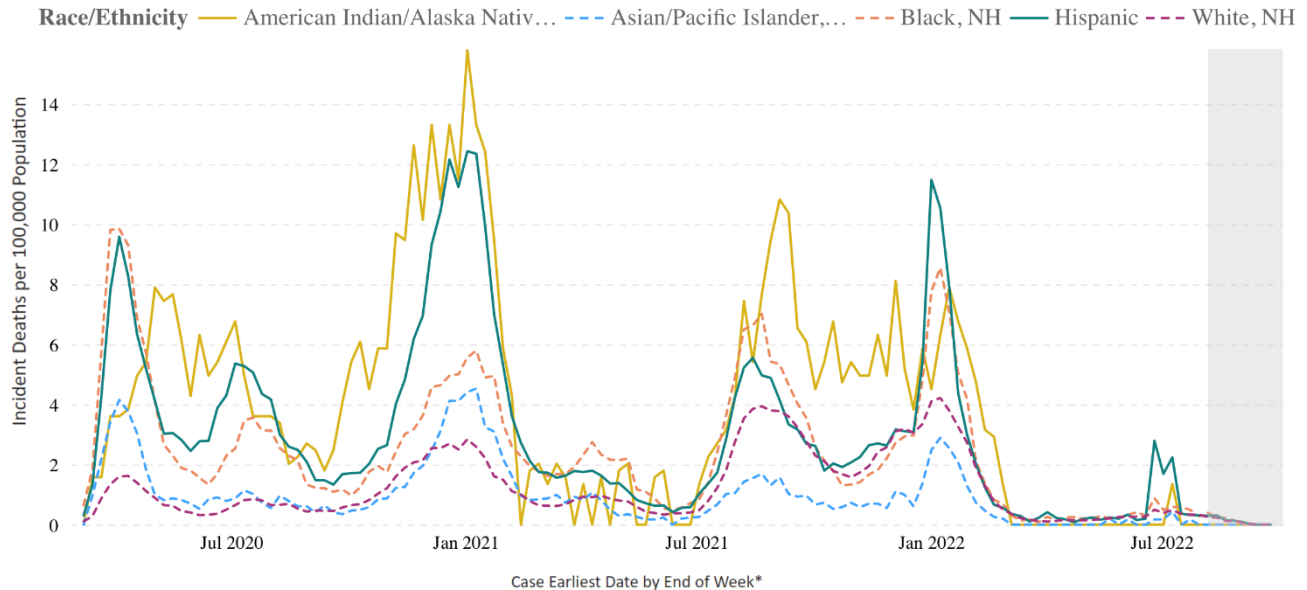
Age Group
 50 - 64 Years ▾
 All Age Groups
 Single Age Group

Jurisdiction
 US ▾

3/7/2020 9/24/2022
 ○————○

- Cases**
- Sex
 - Age - All Groups
 - Age by Race/Ethnicity
 - Pediatric Case Proportions
 - Race/Ethnicity
 - Race/Ethnicity by Age

- Deaths**
- Sex
 - Age - All Groups
 - Age by Race/Ethnicity
 - Race/Ethnicity
 - Race/Ethnicity by Age**



US: The most recent case record was reported during the week ending on Sep 24, 2022. Percentage of deaths among reported cases - 1.03%. Percentage of deaths reporting race and age by date - 83.32%. US territories are included in case and death counts but not in population counts. Potential six-week delay in case reporting to CDC denoted by gray bars. Weekly data with five or less deaths have been suppressed. *Case Earliest Date is the earliest of the clinical date (related to illness or specimen collection and chosen by a defined hierarchy) and the Date Received by CDC. The date for the current week extends through Saturday. ^The death rate for Texas during the week ending Jun 25, 2022, are reflective of a data reporting artifact.

Last Updated: Sep 20, 2022

Source: CDC COVID-19 Case Line-Level Data, 2019 US Census, HHS Protect; Visualization: Data, Analytics & Visualization Task Force and CDC CPR DEO Situational Awareness Public

Rapid response: Statepolicies.com



COVID Prevention

Health & Equity

Vaccine Distribution Phases [GRAPH](#) [TABLE](#) [DOWNLOAD CSV](#)



[Policy Data](#) [Policies by Topic](#) [Policies by State](#) [About](#) [Q](#)

Face Mask Mandates post-June 2021

Date of last comprehensive review: 8/27/2021

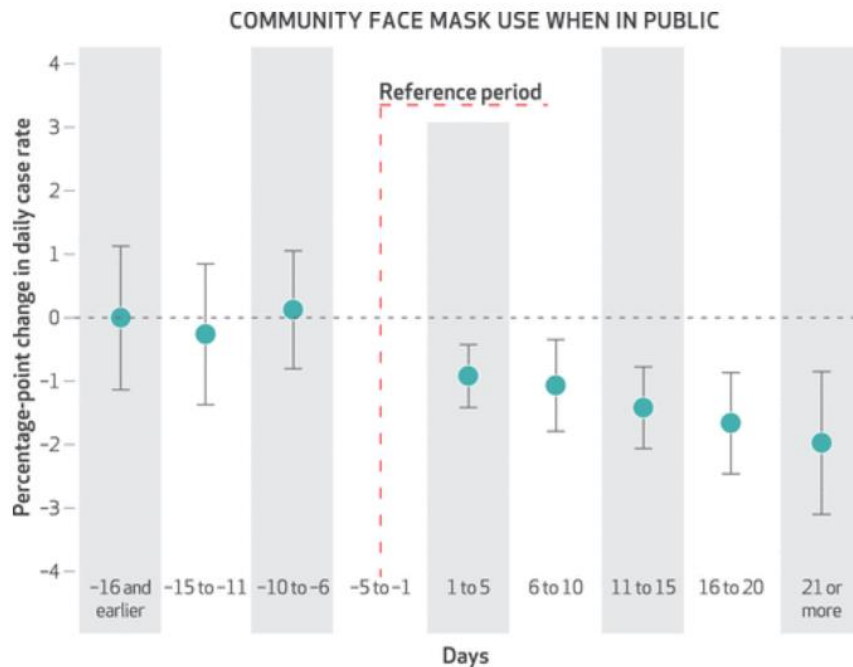
[DOWNLOAD CSV](#)

State	Face mask mandate end for vaccinated and/or unvaccinated	Face mask mandate resumed after June 2021	Face mask mandate currently in place for everyone	Face mask mandate in schools for 2021-22 school year	Banned school face mask mandates	Banned other local face mask mandates	Judicial decision blocked state from enforcing bans on mask mandates in schools	Notes
Alabama	Apr 9, 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Alaska	May 22, 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Arizona	Mar 25, 2021	-	-	-	Jun 30, 2021	Mar 25, 2021	Sep 26, 2021	
Arkansas	Mar 30, 2021	-	-	-	Apr 28, 2021	Apr 28, 2021	Aug 7, 2021	
California	Jun 15, 2021	-	-	Aug 2, 2021	-	-	-	
Colorado	May 15, 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Connecticut	May 19, 2021	-	-	Aug 7, 2021	-	-	-	
Delaware	May 21, 2021	-	-	Aug 16, 2021	-	-	-	
District of Columbia	May 17, 2021	Jul 31, 2021	■	Jul 31, 2021	-	-	-	
Florida	May 4, 2021	-	-	-	Jul 30, 2021	Jul 1, 2021	Sep 8, 2021	

Facilitating rapid response research on mask policies and reduced case growth

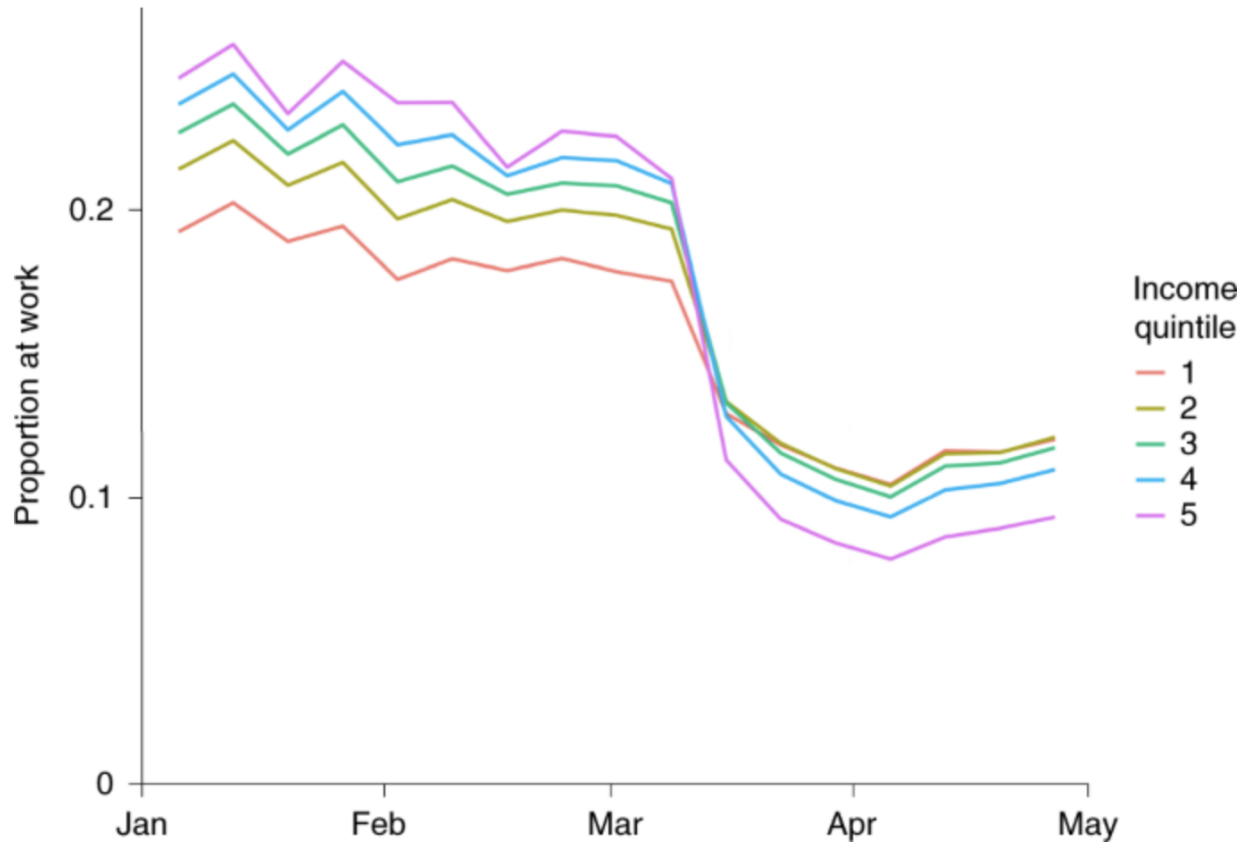
Lyu & Wehby, *Health Affairs*

State community face mask mandates and percentage point change in daily, county-level growth rate of COVID-19 cases, March 31 to May 22, 2020



Physical distancing policies

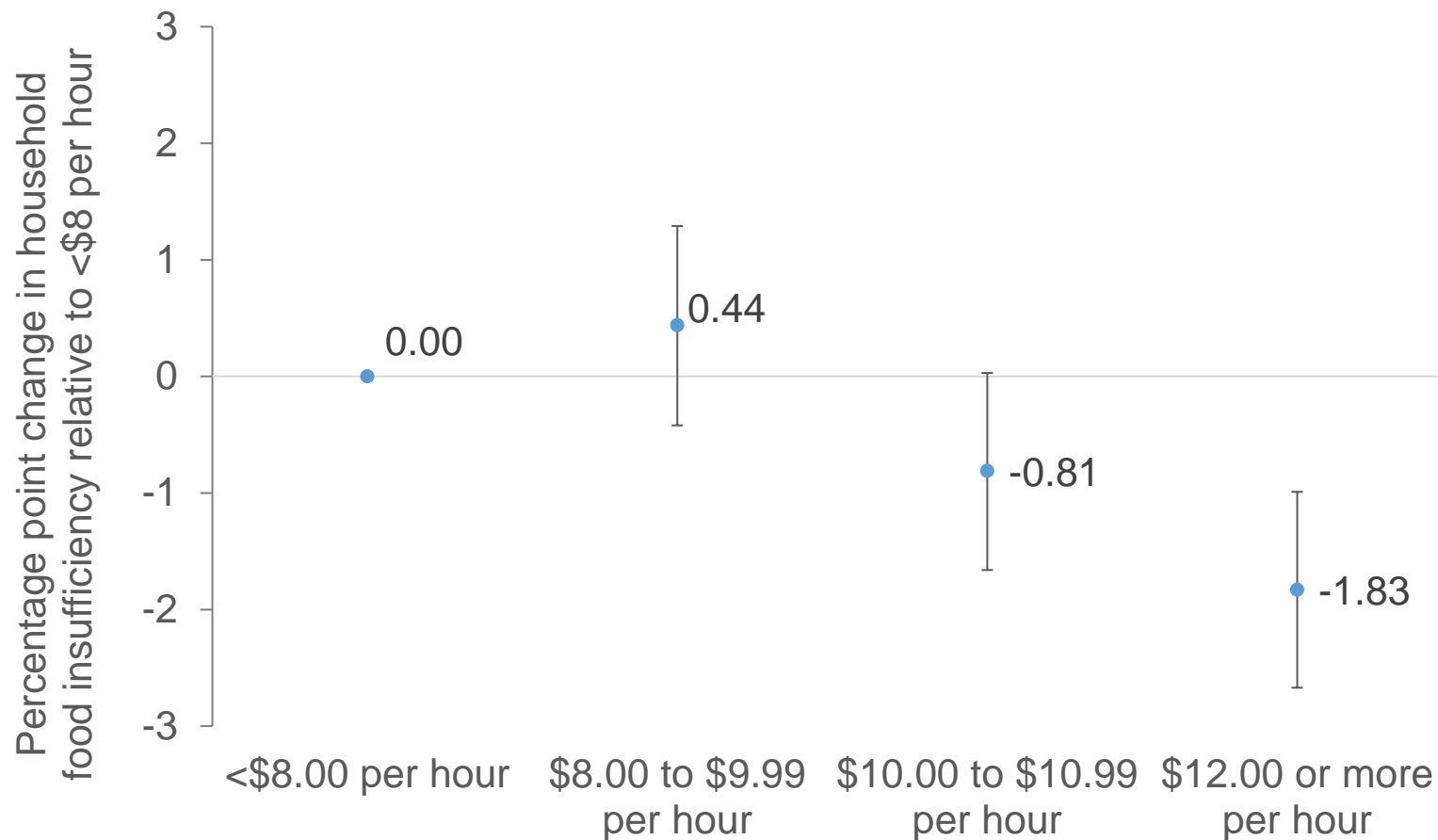
Fig. 2: Proportion of smartphone users working outside the home.



Income Q1 represents the lowest income group. Outcomes are presented as weekly averages. Period covered is 6 January to 3 May 2020. Sample comprises 210,288 census BGs with a mean of 89 active devices per BG per day.

Minimum wage and food insufficiency

State minimum wage and household food insufficiency



Two studies on policies

1. Unemployment insurance
2. Evictions

Study 1

Unemployment insurance and food insufficiency among people who lost work during the COVID-19 pandemic

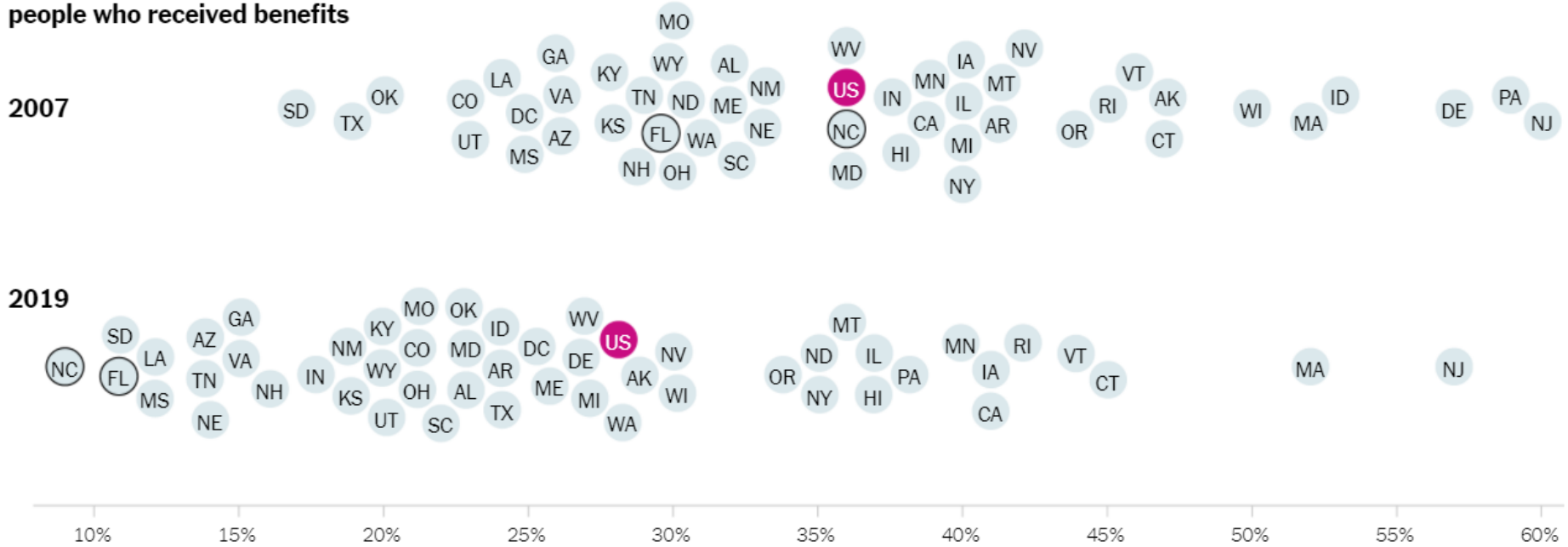
States Made It Harder to Get Jobless Benefits. Now That's Hard to Undo.



By Emily Badger and Alicia Parlapiano

April 30, 2020

Percentage of unemployed people who received benefits



Unemployment insurance

- Low coverage
- Low amount
- Short duration
- Federalized administration

Los Angeles Times

Op-Ed: There are racial disparities in American unemployment benefits. That's by design



Restaurant worker Glen Pile, left, waits in line to obtain an unemployment form at a Miami-Dade County library on April 8. (Lynne Sladky / Associated Press)

By KATHRYN A. EDWARDS

OCT. 3, 2020 3:06 AM PT

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USA

US House Passes \$2T Coronavirus Rescue Package, Rushes It to Trump

By Katherine Cypson

Updated March 27, 2020 02:20 PM



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif. accompanied by other legislators, signs the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. after it passed in the House on Capitol Hill, March 27, 2020, in Washington.

End of \$600 unemployment boost pushes more households to the edge

PUBLISHED TUE, NOV 3 2020-8:00 AM EST | UPDATED TUE, NOV 3 2020-4:49 PM EST



Greg Iacurci
@GREGIACURCI



People wait in line at a food bank in Brooklyn, New York, on April 28, 2020.

Spencer Platt | Getty Images News | Getty Images

Aims

1. Evaluate the relationship between unemployment insurance and food insecurity among people who lost work during the COVID-19 pandemic
2. Evaluate the relationship between amount of unemployment insurance and food insecurity
 - CARES \$600/week supplement
 - Reported UI amount

Data

UNDERSTANDING AMERICA STUDY

UNDERSTANDING CORONAVIRUS IN AMERICA

[NATIONAL SAMPLE](#)

[CALIFORNIA](#)

[LOS ANGELES COUNTY](#)

[STATE TRACKER](#)

[SURVEY METHODS](#)

[DETAILED DATA](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

- Nationally representative, longitudinal
- Waves 2 through 16 (April 1 – November 11, 2020)
- Inclusion criteria:
 - Live in household earning less than \$75,000 in the past 12 months
 - Reported being employed in February 2020
 - Lost employment during study period
 - Participated in at least 2 survey waves

Exposures

Primary

“Have you received unemployment insurance benefits in the past fourteen days?”

Secondary

- Receipt of unemployment insurance before 7/31 expiration of \$600/week CARES Act Supplement
- Amount of unemployment insurance in \$300 increments

Outcomes

Food insufficiency

“In the past seven days, were you worried you would run out of food because of a lack of money or other resources?”

Eating less

“In the past seven days, did you eat less than you thought you should because of a lack of money or other resources?”

Difference-in-differences analysis

$$FI_{it} = UI_{it} + S_{it} + SNAP_{it} + CurrentJob_{it} + I_i + t_t + \varepsilon_{ist}$$

- Linear model
- FI_{it} = food insecurity, binary
- UI_{it} = unemployment insurance, binary, 0 if employed
 - Event study: Waves relative to unemployment insurance
 - Secondary analyses: Before/after CARES, amount in \$300 increments
- S_{it} = stimulus payment
- $SNAP_{it}$ = SNAP
- $CurrentJob_{it}$ = current job
- I_i = Individual fixed effects to adjust for time-invariant individual characteristics
- t_t = Survey wave fixed effects to adjust for national secular trends in exposure to UI benefits and outcomes of interest

Sensitivity analyses

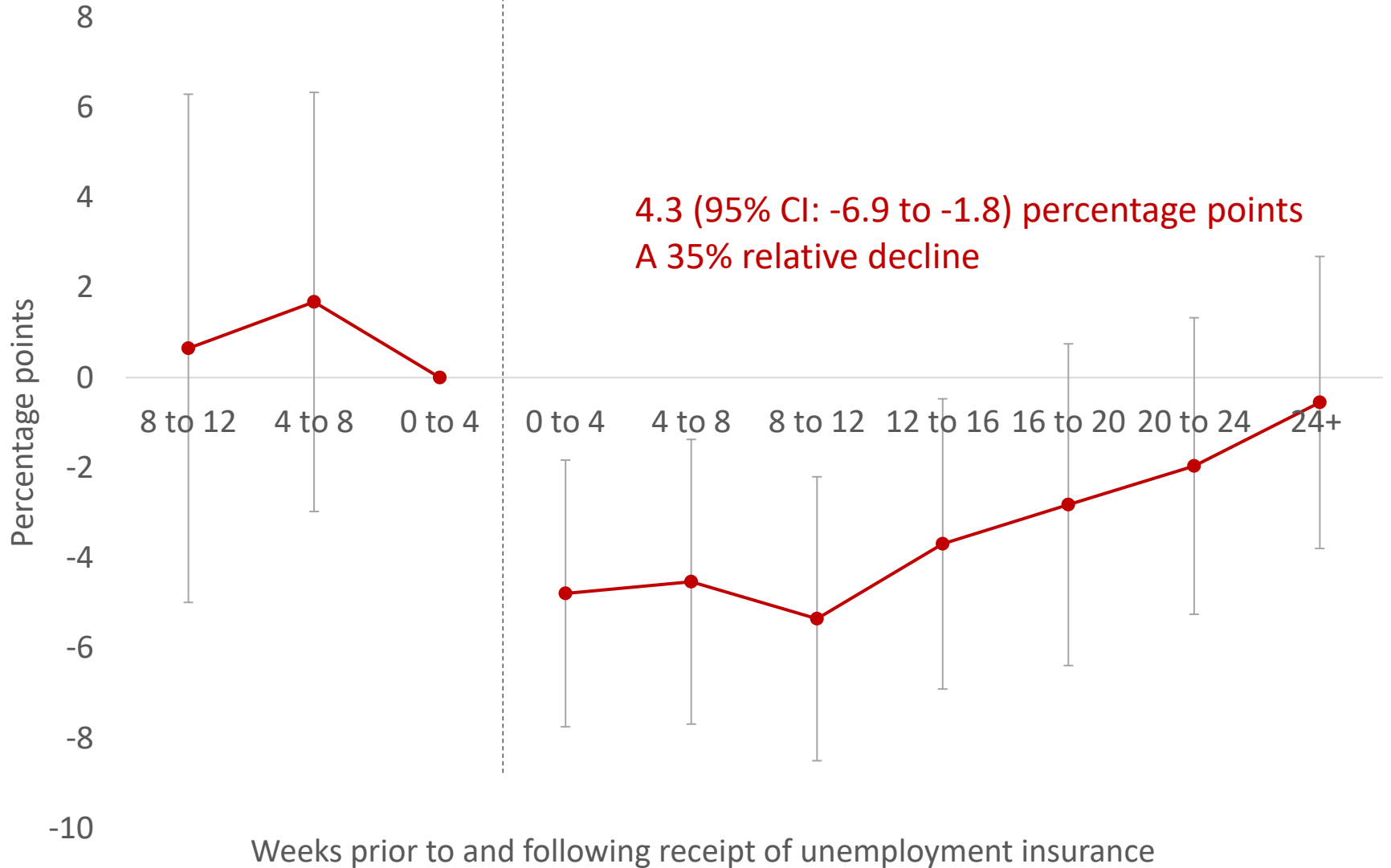
- Including survey weights
- Restricted to participants who contributed to UAS in each month
- Restricted to period when participants were unemployed
- Logistic regression analysis

Results

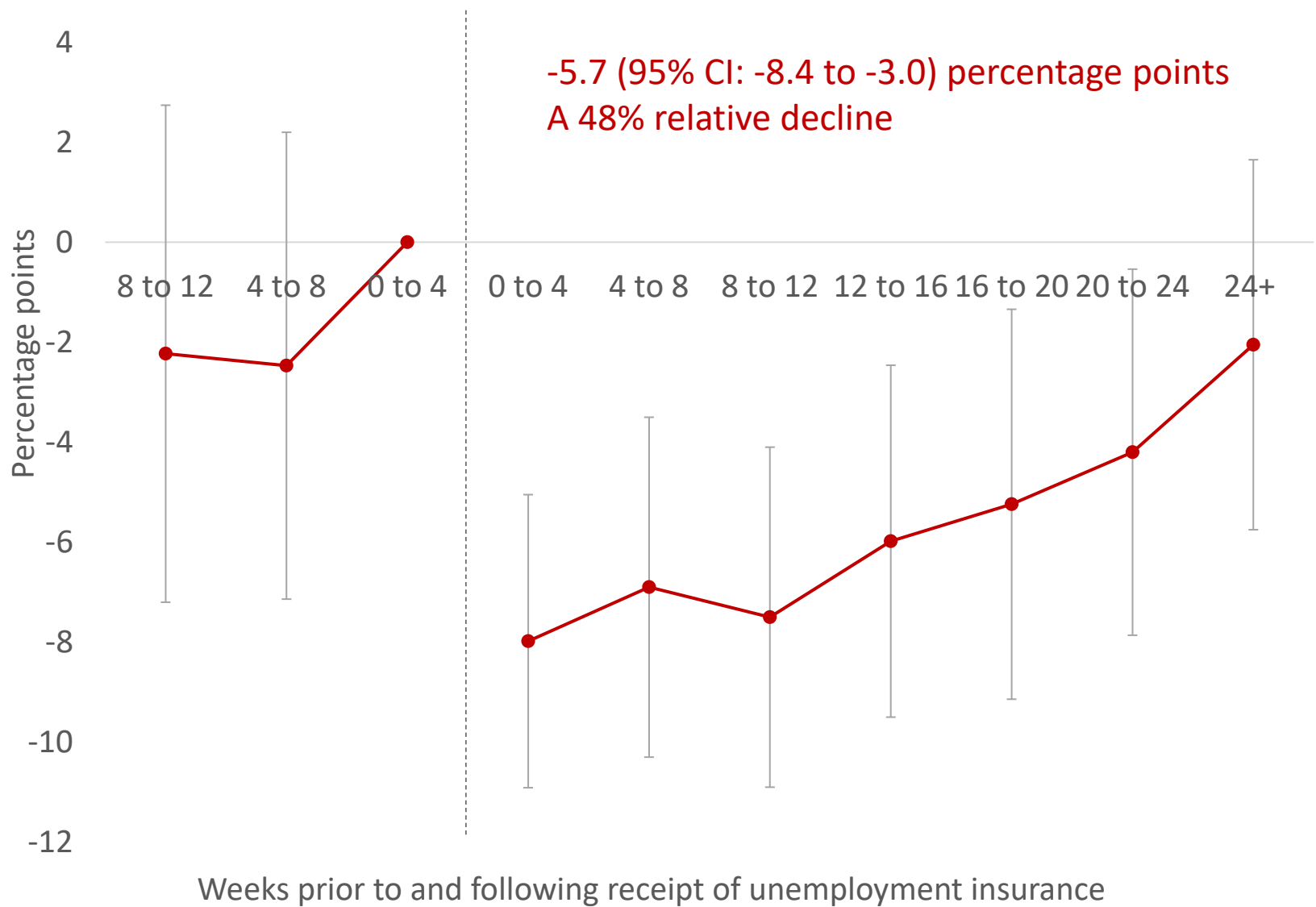
Unemployment

Characteristic	N with household income <\$75,000	% unemployed at any point
Total	2,319	48.3
Race and ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	1,327	44.3
Non-Hispanic Black	243	55.6
Non-Hispanic American Indian	30	43.3
Non-Hispanic Asian	125	49.6
Non-Hispanic Hawaiian/PI	8	25.0
Non- Hispanic Mixed Race	97	55.7
Hispanic	488	54.3
Not reported	1	0.0
Sex		
Female	1466	49.9
Male	853	45.4
Income group		
<\$20,000	368	76.6
\$20,000 to \$29,999	306	57.5
\$30,000 to \$39,999	388	47.9
\$40,000 to \$59,999	743	39.4
\$60,000 to \$74,999	514	35.4
Age group		
18 to 29 years	399	55.9
30 to 39 years	577	43.5
40 to 49 years	459	40.7
50 to 59 years	470	48.7
≥60 years	414	55.3
Adult households	1549	49.0
Households with children	770	46.8

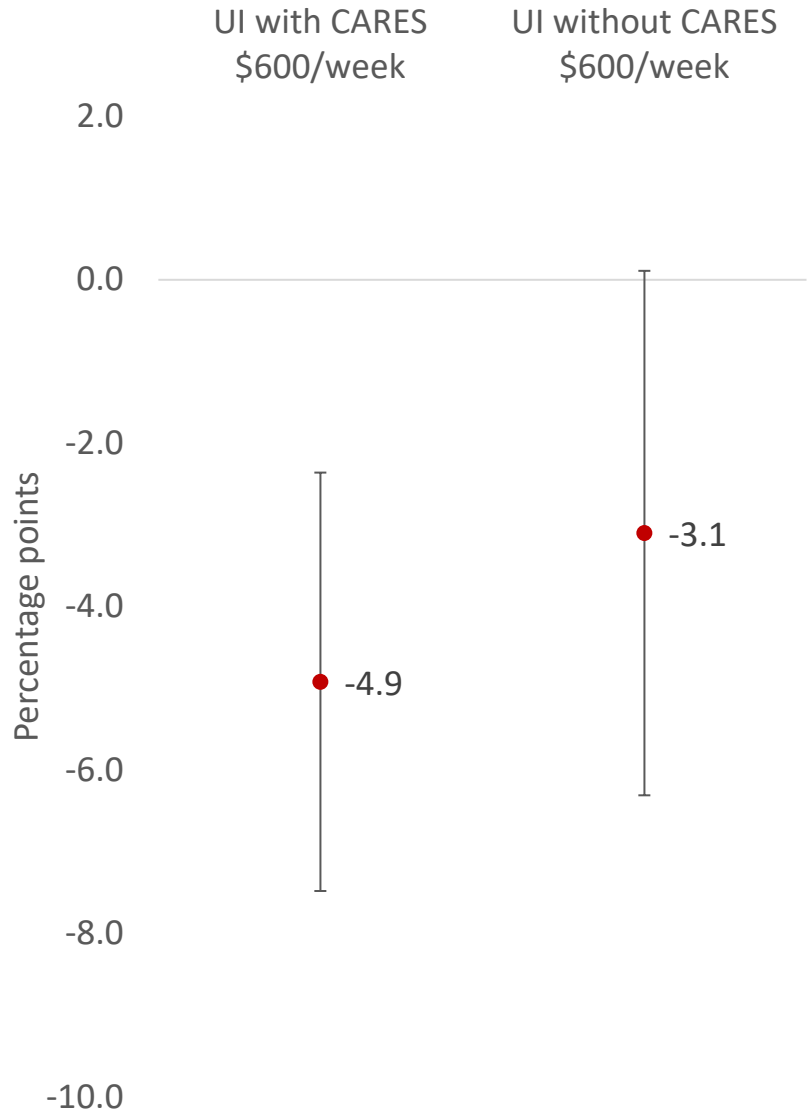
Event Study: Food insufficiency by weeks relative to receipt of unemployment insurance



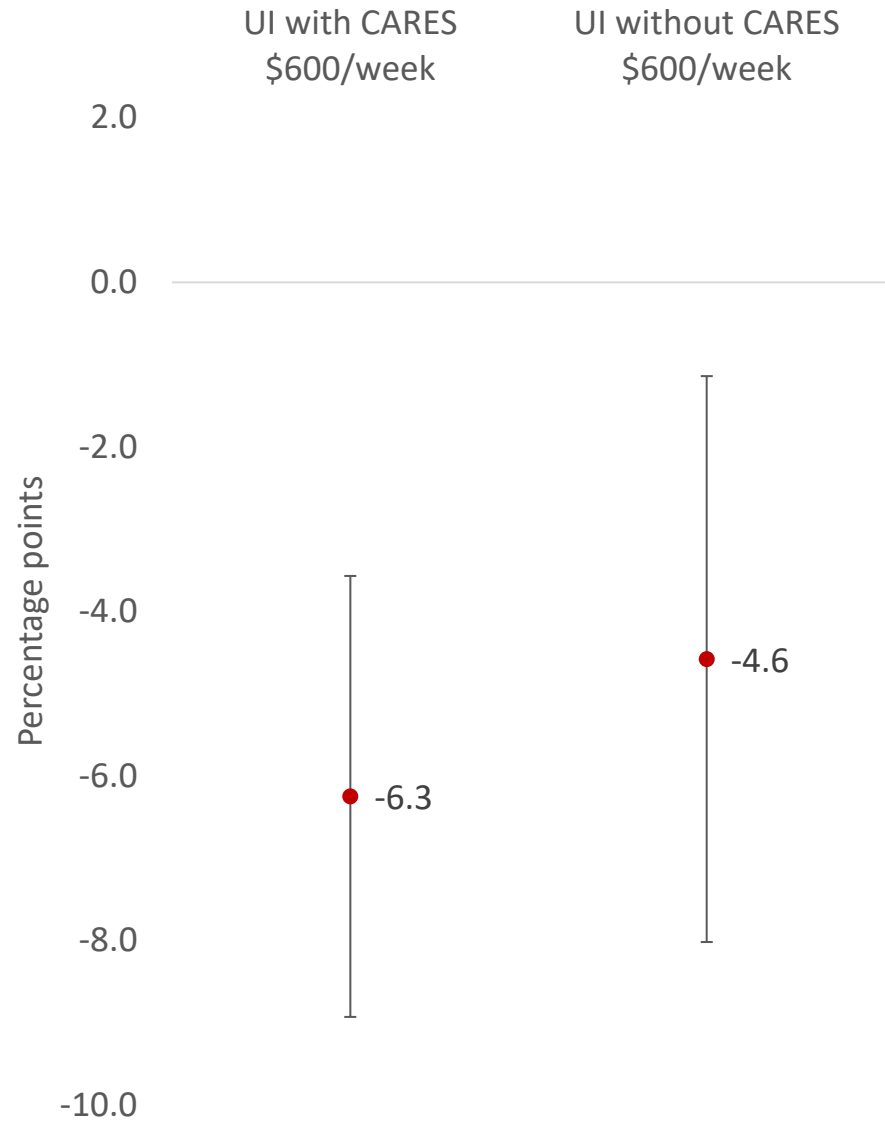
Event Study: Eating less due to financial constraints by weeks relative to receipt of unemployment insurance



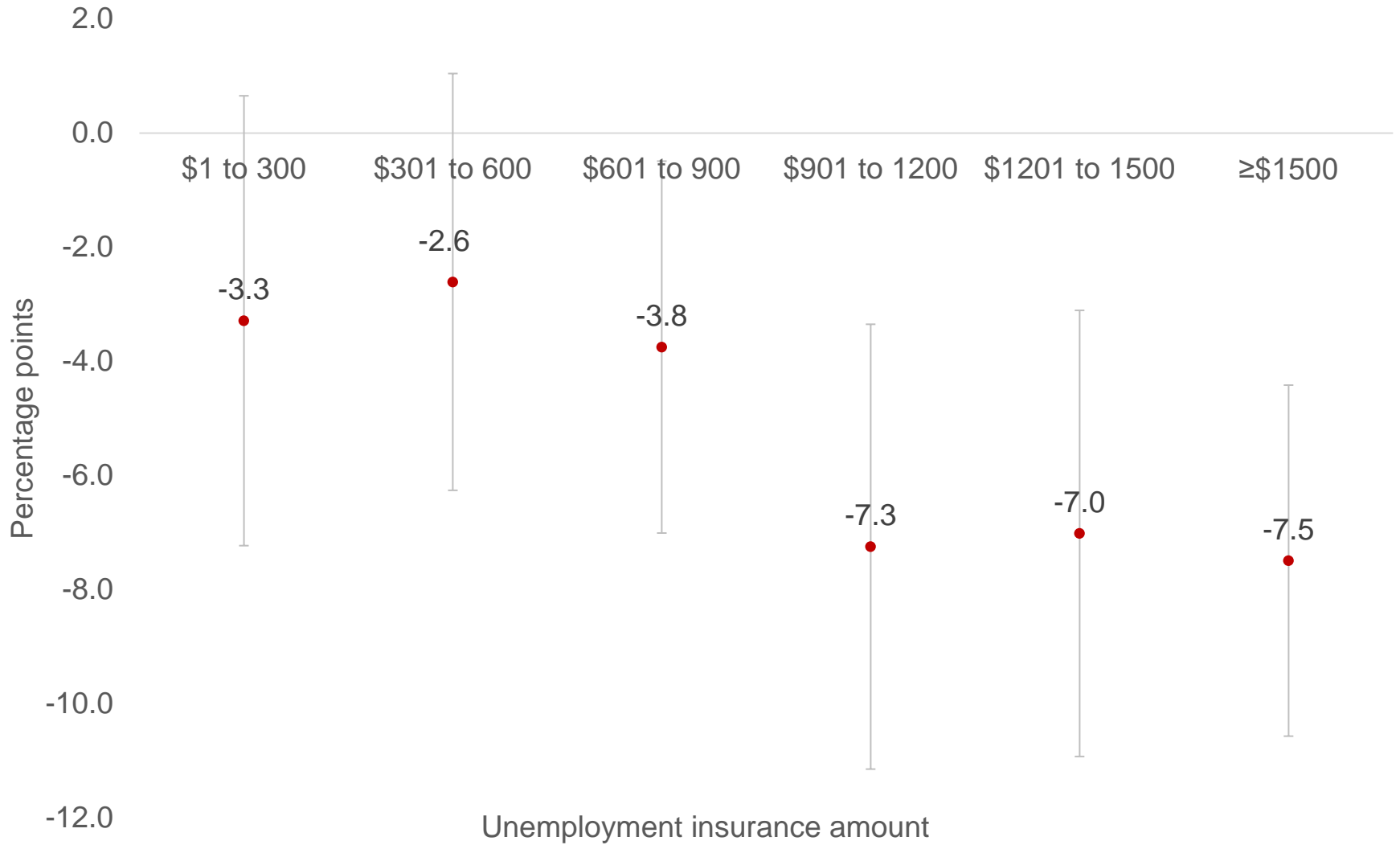
Unemployment insurance, CARES \$600/week, and food insufficiency



Unemployment insurance, CARES \$600/week, and eating less due to financial constraints



Amount of unemployment insurance and food insufficiency



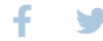
Main conclusions

- Unemployment insurance was associated with a **35% reduction in reporting any food insufficiency** and a **48% decline in eating less**
- \$600/week CARES supplement nearly doubled reduction in food insufficiency
- Policymakers may wish to consider continued expansion of unemployment insurance eligibility, amount, and duration as an approach to reducing food insecurity during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

Study 2

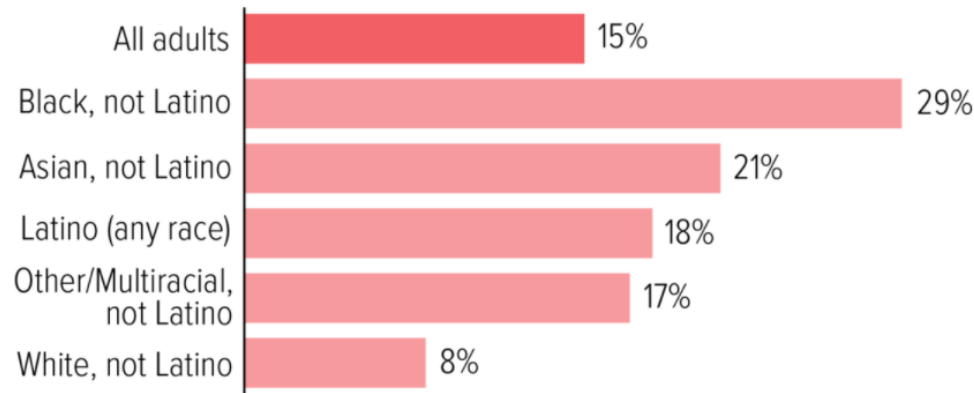
Eviction moratoriums and COVID

FIGURE 3



Over 1 in 7 Renters Not Caught Up on Rent During Pandemic, With Renters of Color Facing Greatest Hardship

Share of adult renters saying their household is not caught up on rent



Note: Other/Multiracial, not Latino = people identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or more than one race. Chart excludes renters who did not respond to the question.

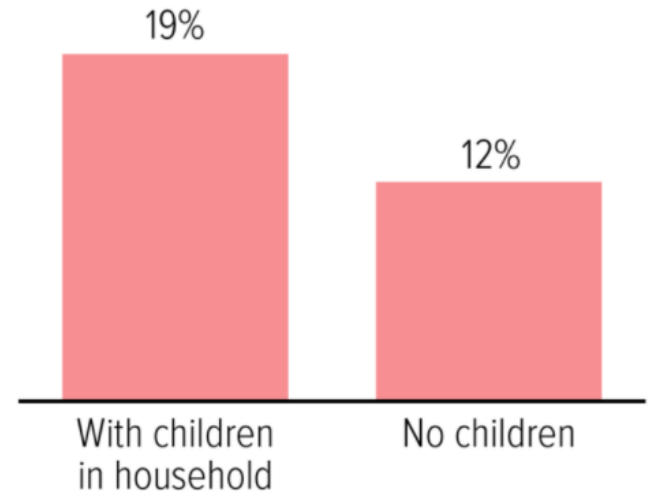
Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey tables for April 28 - May 10, 2021

FIGURE 4



1 in 5 Renters Living With Children Are Not Caught Up on Rent

Share of adult renters saying household is not caught up on last month's rent



Note: Chart excludes renters who did not respond to question.

Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey tables for April 28 - May 10, 2021

Are eviction freezes associated with COVID-19 cases and deaths?

Coauthors:

Kate Leifheit, PhD (UCLA)

Sabriya Linton, PhD MPH (JHU)

Gabriel Schwartz, PhD (UCSF)

Emily Benfer, JD LLM (WFU)

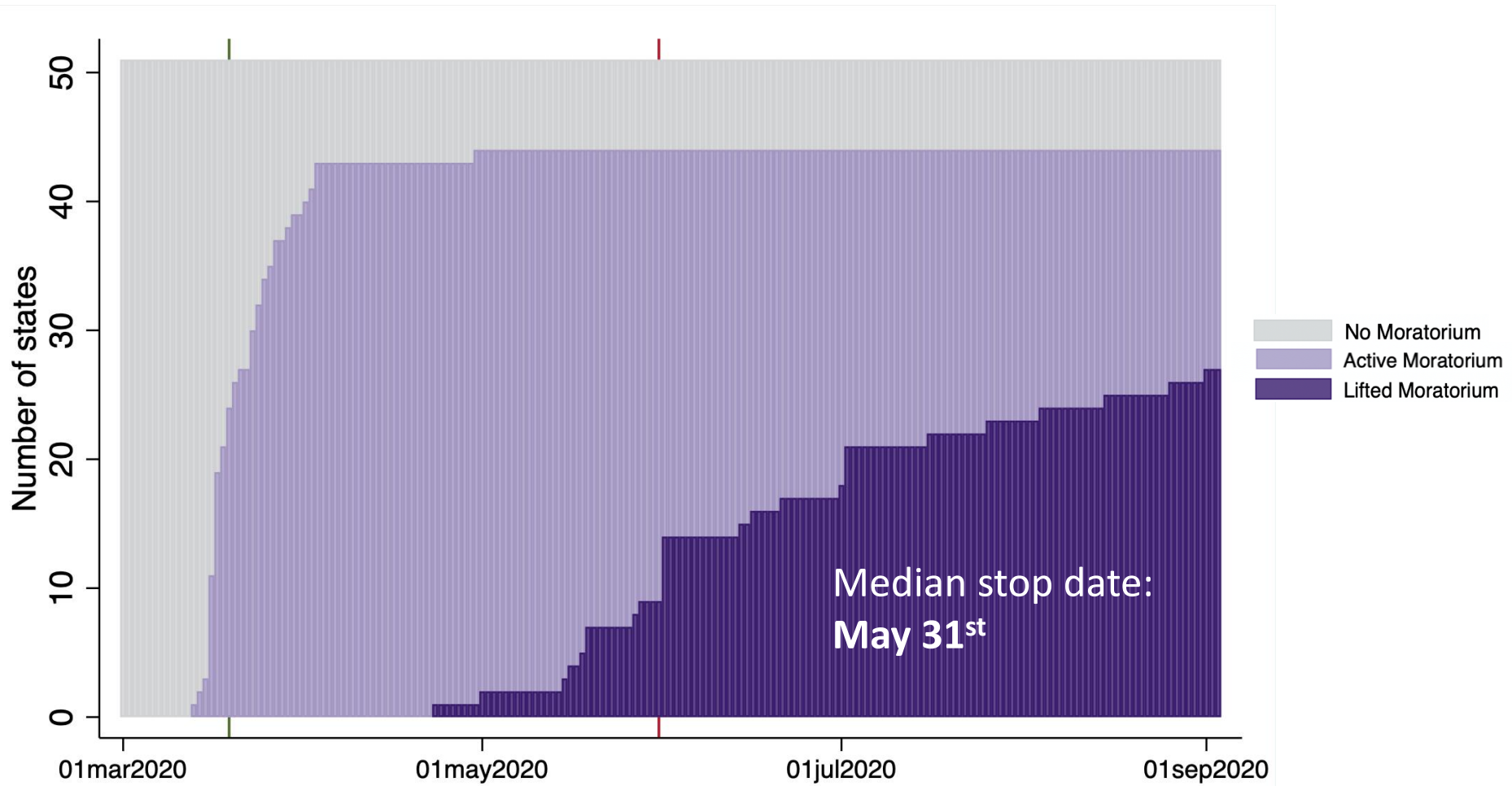
Frederick Zimmerman, PhD (UCLA)

Craig Pollack, MD MHS (JHU)

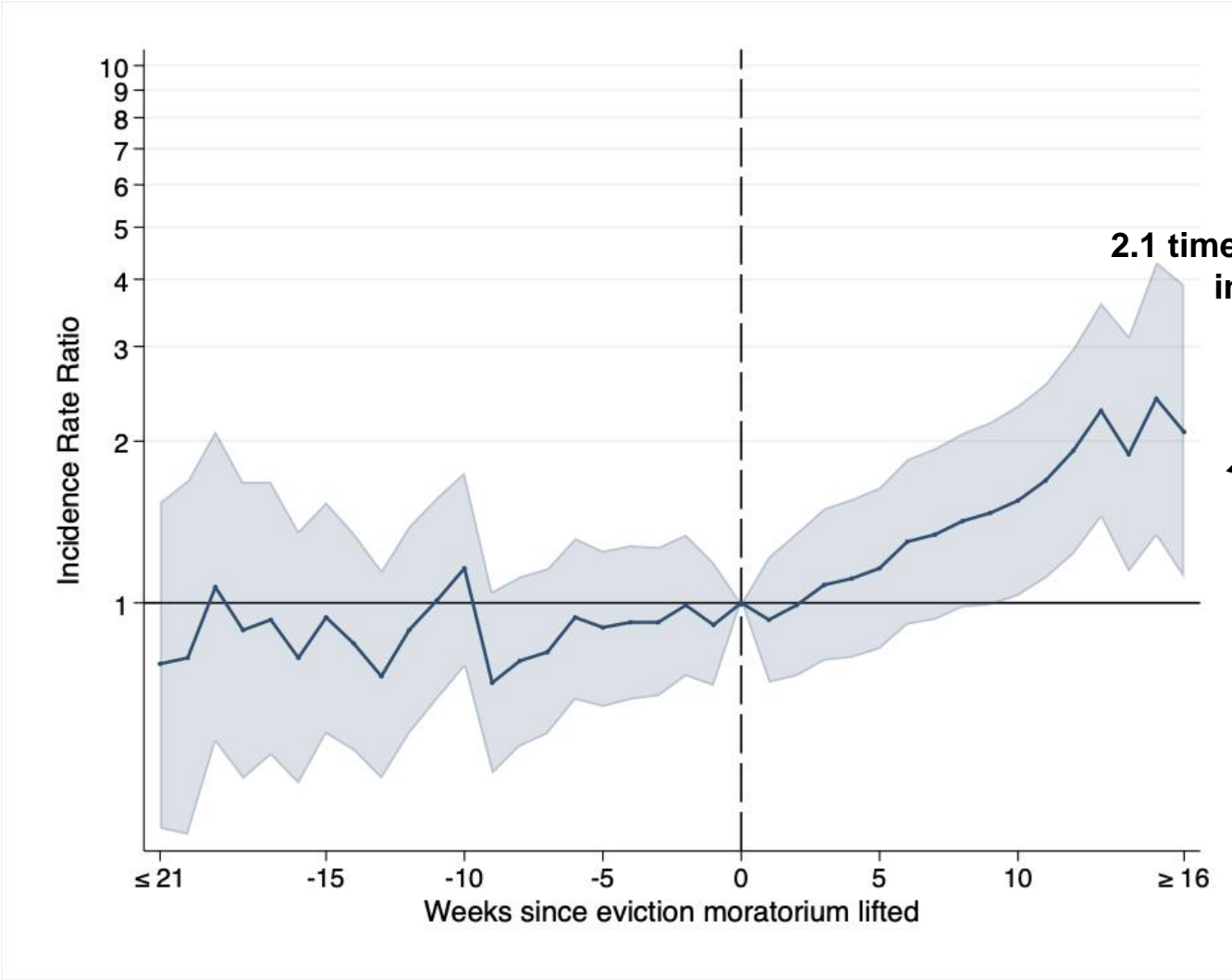
Study design

- Study population: U.S. states that ever instituted a moratorium
 - Study entry: Moratorium first effective
 - Study exit: CDC moratorium (9/4) or 2nd moratorium
- Event study
 - Exposure: time since moratorium was lifted
 - Outcomes: confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths
 - Covariates:
 - Testing rates
 - Public health interventions (stay-at-home orders, school closures, mask mandates)
 - Fixed effects for time and state

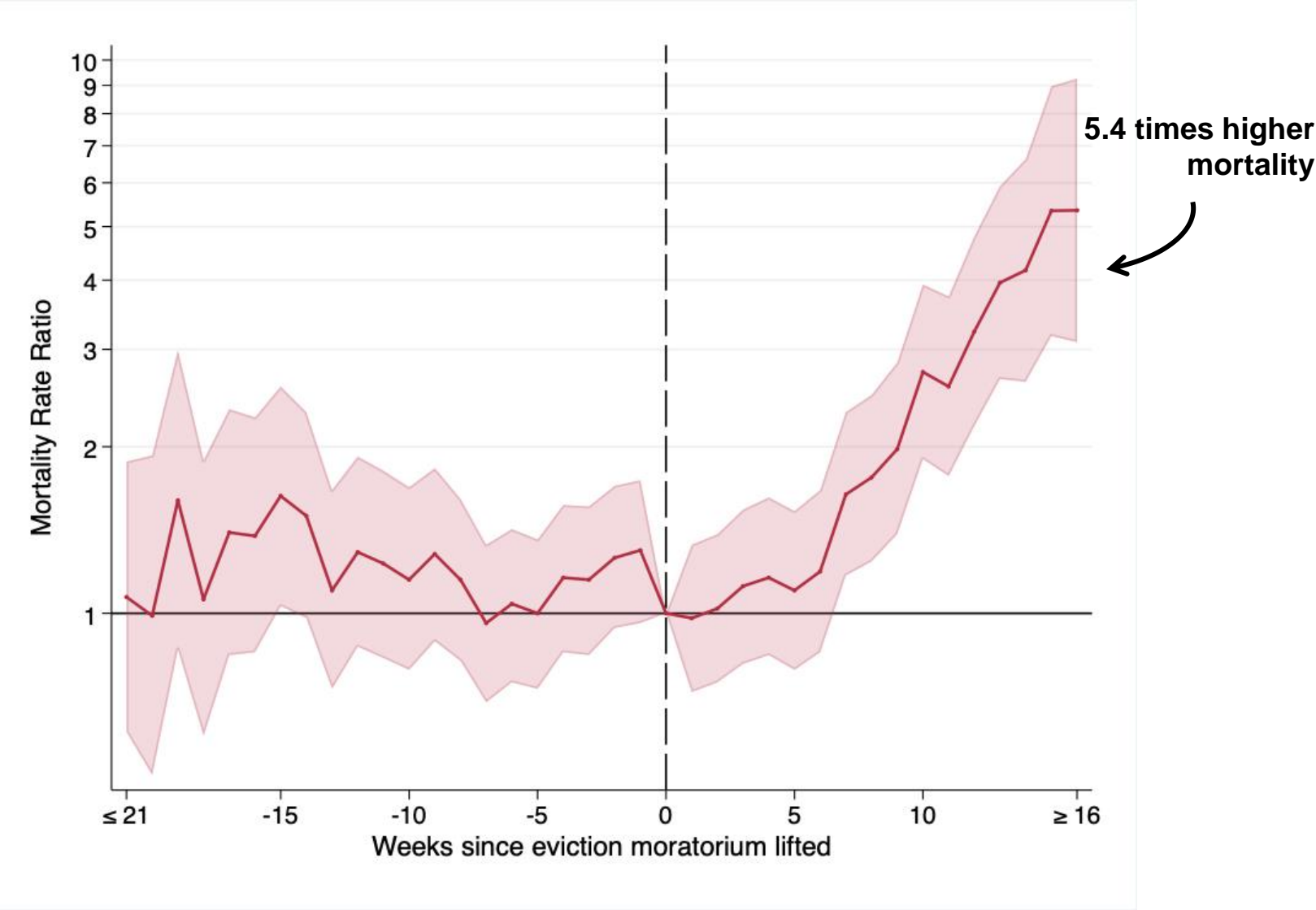
Eviction Moratorium Status Over Time



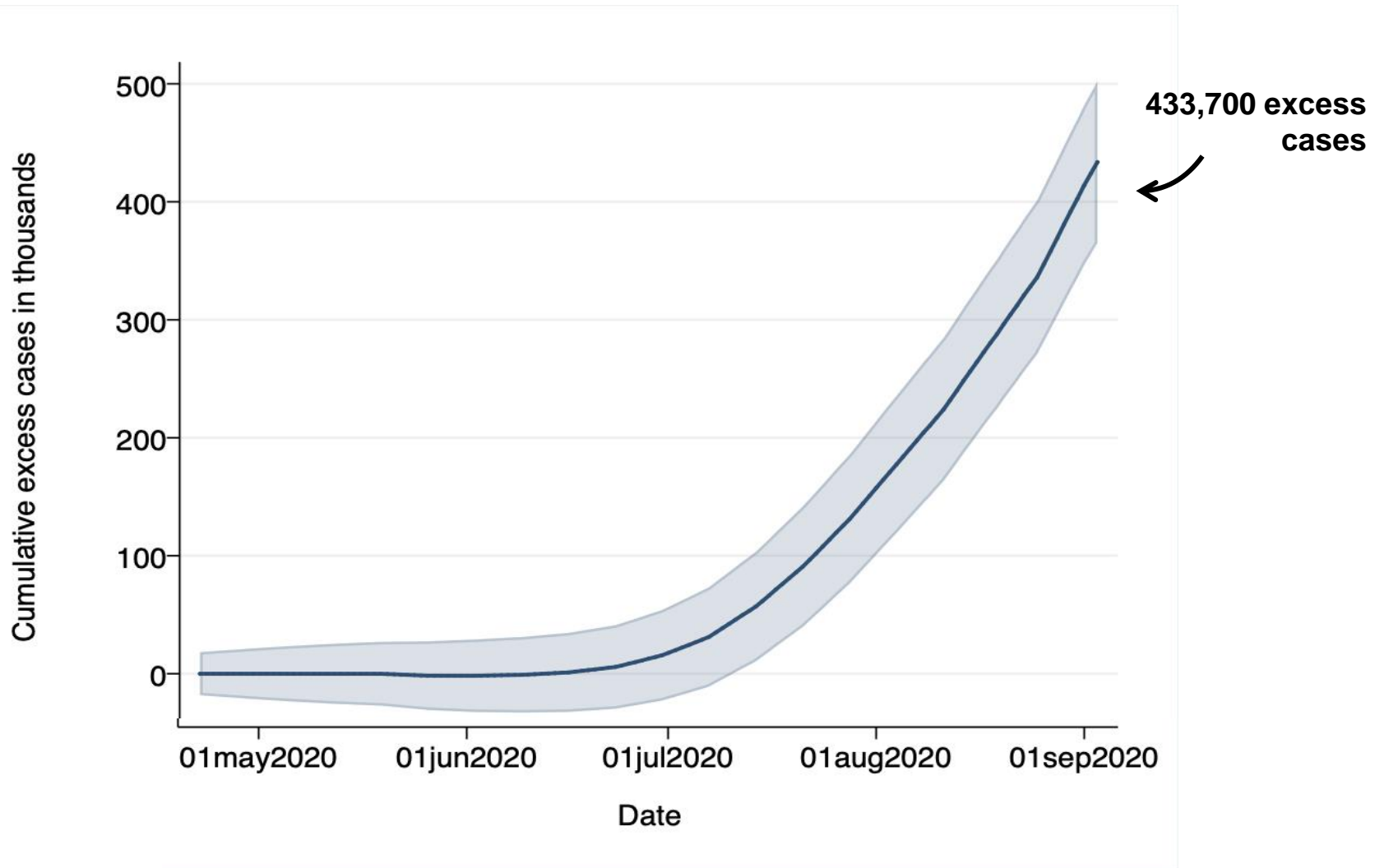
Lifting Moratoriums and COVID-19 Incidence



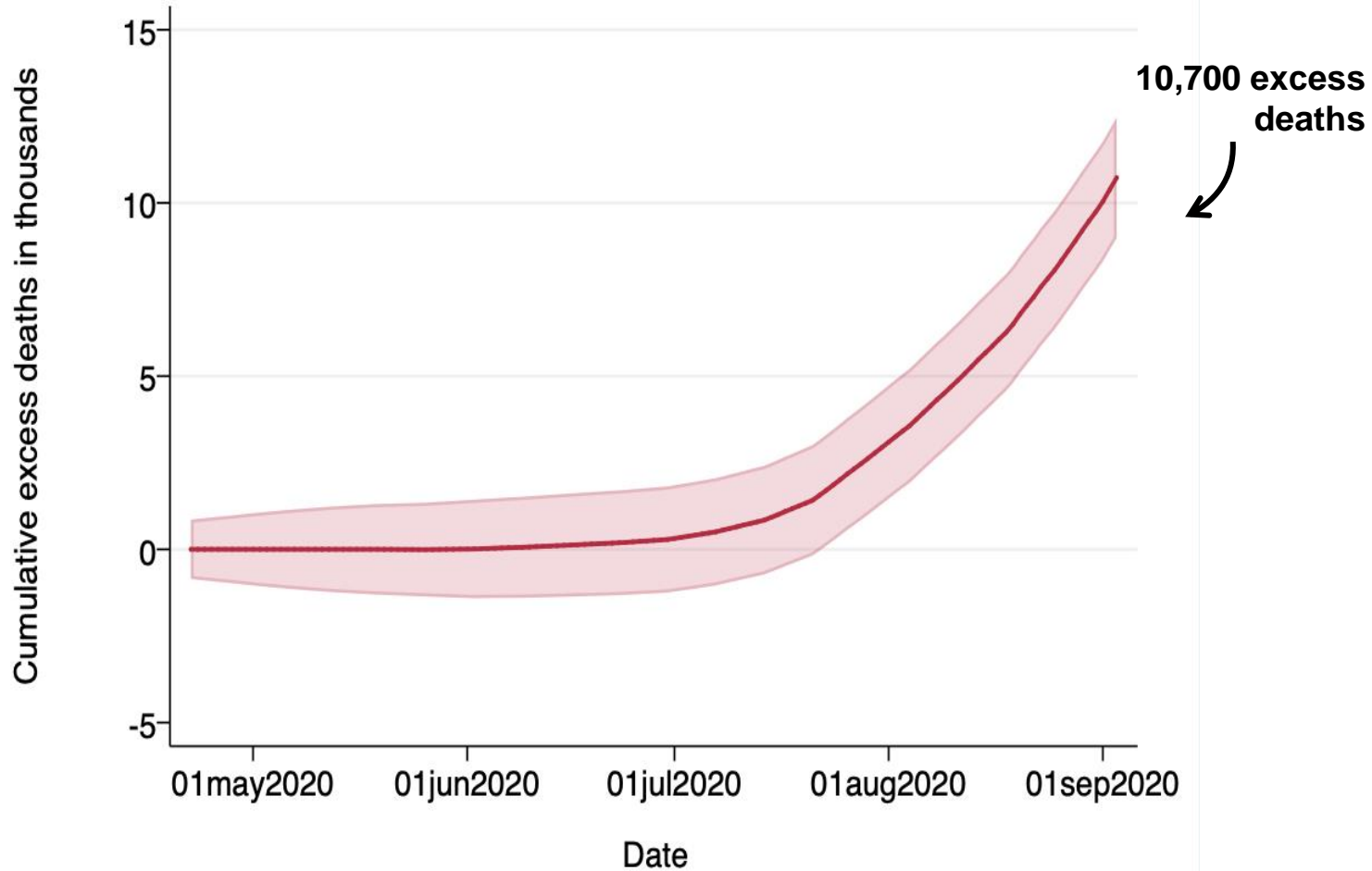
Lifting Moratoriums and COVID-19 Mortality



Excess COVID-19 cases associated with lifting eviction moratoriums (national)



Excess COVID-19 deaths associated with lifting eviction moratoriums (national)



Study informed several court cases, supporting rationale for CDC Eviction Moratorium

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF
REALTORS, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, *et al.*,

Defendants.

No. 20-cv-3377 (DLF)

DEFENDANTS' EMERGENCY MOTION FOR STAY PENDING APPEAL AND IMMEDIATE ADMINISTRATIVE STAY

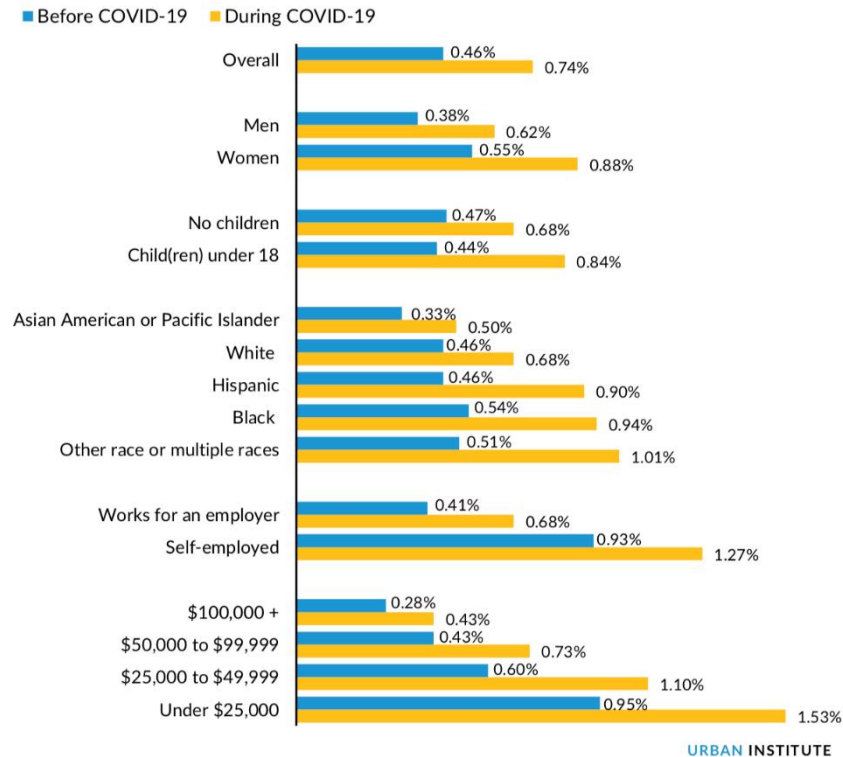
Defendants respectfully seek an emergency stay pending appeal of the Court's order of May 5, 2021, which entered a nationwide vacatur of a temporary moratorium on certain residential evictions that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) extended through June 30, 2021, as a critical component of the country's ongoing fight against COVID-19. *See* ECF No. 53 (Order), ECF No. 54 (Mem. Op.). Defendants request that the Court enter an immediate administrative stay to avoid evictions while the government's stay motion is under consideration.

As explained below, the balance of equities overwhelmingly favors a stay. Every court to consider the question has held that landlords suffer no irreparable injury as a result of the moratorium. Indeed, Plaintiffs in this case have never attempted to claim irreparable injury stemming from the CDC Order, and Congress has appropriated \$46 billion in emergency rental assistance that benefits landlords such as Plaintiffs. By contrast, undisputed scientific evidence shows that evictions exacerbate the spread of COVID-19, which has already killed more than half a million Americans, and the harm to the public that would result from unchecked evictions cannot be undone. The balance of the harms and the public interest thus overwhelmingly favor the government. Finally, although

Further research: Paid leave

FIGURE 6

Percent of Reported Employed Adults Absent without Pay in the Prior Week
Before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, by selected characteristics



Source: Authors' calculations from the Current Population Survey, March 2020 through February 2022.

Notes: This figure shows the percentage of workers absent from work without pay because of illness, child care, or other family or personal obligation. Workers with multiple jobs are assigned self-employed status based on the job at which they work the most hours.

Some good news

Pandemic Aid Cut U.S. Poverty to New Low in 2021, Census Bureau Reports

A measure that accounts for all federal subsidies also showed a reduction of almost half in the number of children below the poverty level.

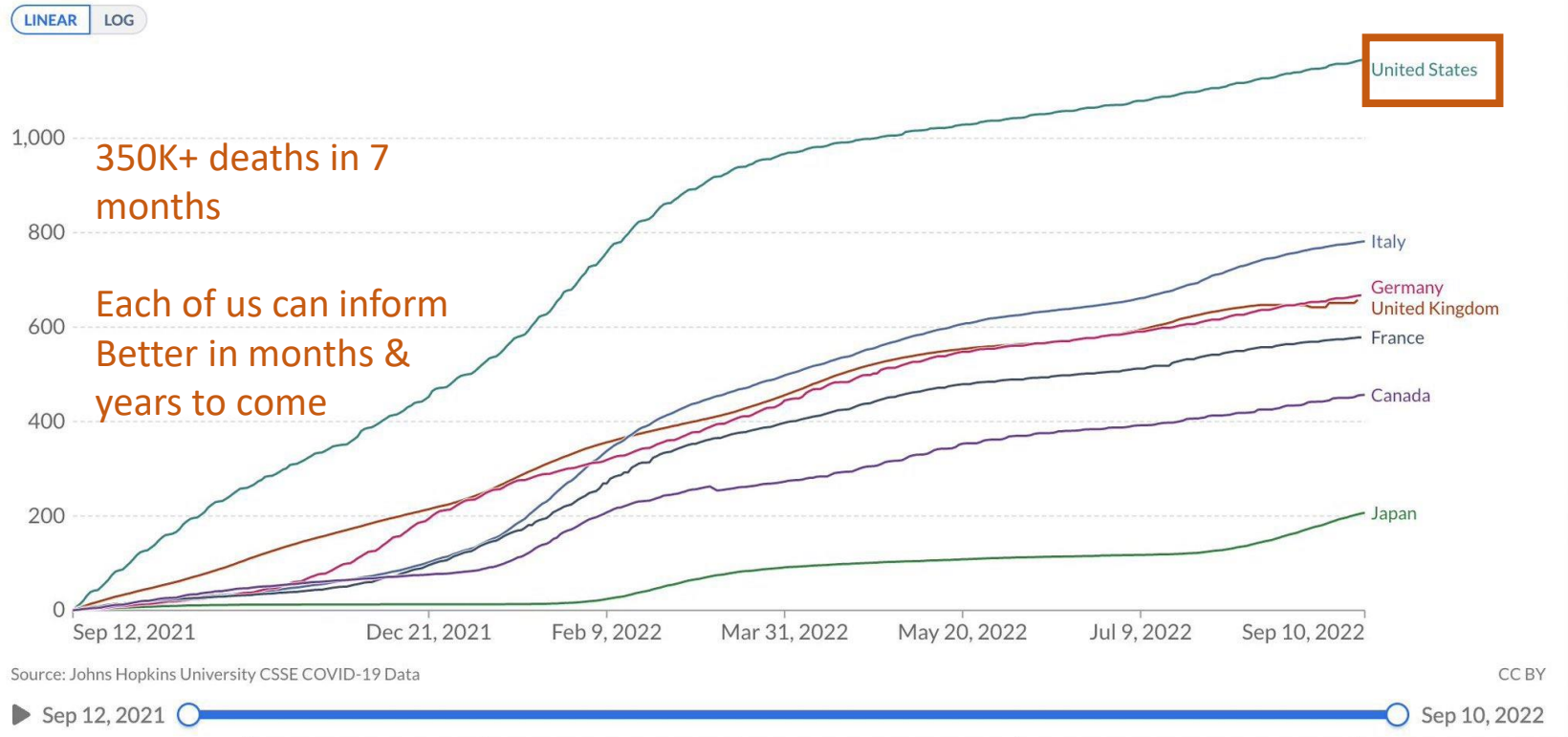
→ But a need to sustain the most impactful policies

Bad news

Cumulative confirmed COVID-19 deaths per million people in the last 12 months

Due to varying protocols and challenges in the attribution of the cause of death, the number of confirmed deaths may not accurately represent the true number of deaths caused by COVID-19.

Our World
in Data



Discussion

- The evidence on vaccines, masks, tests + isolation, ventilation, and treatments is clear
 - The implementation is in a context of inequitable power and politics that we affect
- Each of us has the power to contribute to a healthier, more equitable society
 - Research informing the immediate and longer-term policy response
 - Speaking to the evidence
 - Prioritize society and equity knowing this benefits ourselves and our communities more so than a focus on ourselves alone

Premise of our work

1. COVID brings joint health and economic disasters. In a context of structural racism and inequities, disasters make disparities worse.

Policies are not a zero sum game. Policies can jointly protect health and support the economy.

2. Policy actions during disasters can reduce or exacerbate disparities: Federal leadership is key

The federal government does not always have capacity to lead. Need to strengthen state, local, and institutional capacity to lead based on carefully considered values.

3. Disasters can be an opportunity change structural inequities or inform them in the future: Unemployment insurance, minimum wage, paid sick leave

This work continues.

Thanks to our team



Alexandra Skinner, MPH



Will Raderman, MSc



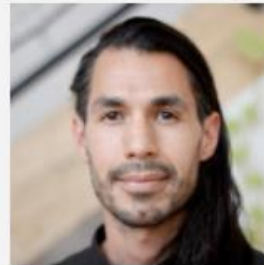
Julia Raifman, ScD, SM



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David K. Jones, PhD



Sarah Ketchen Lipson, PhD, EdM



Megan Cole Brahim, PhD

**Funders:
RWJF E4A
BU CTSI**

Thank you