

ICPSR Working Paper 4:

Baselining the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Social, Behavioral, and Economic Data Resources for High Quality Insights

ICPSR INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH
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Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic presents research challenges for how we measure governmental, community, and population responses to a crisis. One strategy is to examine and extrapolate from past natural or human-caused disasters such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, outbreaks of malaria or cholera, and population displacement. However, COVID-19 presents a unique challenge. Drawing parallels to earlier pandemics such as the 1918 Influenza Epidemic and even the Black Plague can provide insight, but transformative changes in medical care, social behaviors, global integration, and our ability to operate on a 24-hour news and communication cycle limit our ability to make direct comparisons (Barry, 2005; Schelden, 2022). More recent epidemics like the 2009 H1N1 pandemic, 2003 SARS-CoV, and the 2014 West African Ebola outbreak provide some useful insights, but such comparisons are similarly limited by key differences in severity, transmissibility, and the availability of effective treatments/preventives (May & Brown, 2022; Petersen et al., 2020). A second strategy compares the experience of COVID-19 itself to the immediate preceding period. Detailed and significant studies of the spread, containment, and treatment of COVID-19 are appearing, but our ability to interpret this data requires understanding of the immediate past. Unlike the understanding of the disease process itself, which continues to increase, behavioral and social science research techniques can examine social behaviors and life-course activities before the emergence of the virus and compare it to those same behaviors and activities after the onset, and over the course of, the COVID-19 pandemic. This understanding requires baseline measures and data sources to best interpret new behaviors and social outcomes after the crisis emerged, and how social behaviors have adapted and reasserted themselves during COVID-19.

The social and behavioral science community collects a wide range of data on quality of life, economic activity, social networks, criminal justice, family and child welfare, substance abuse, education, and other key measures of risk and resilience to crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic. In this paper, we identify and share high quality measures from the social and behavioral sciences that were collected prior to the onset and that will facilitate research on the COVID-19 pandemic. Awareness of these baseline measures is critical to well-designed research projects that make it possible to identify the impact of the pandemic on social, economic, and behavioral outcomes. We prioritize studies that use standardized measures, especially those that have been endorsed by the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) Common Data Elements (CDEs) (n.d.). CDEs are measures the National Institute of Health (NIH) encourages to be used in data collections, and thus will have been used in many other studies and allow comparison with other non-COVID-19 time periods.

This paper draws on the topical expertise of the staff and faculty at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) and others. ICPSR maintains resources to facilitate COVID-19 research via the NIH-sponsored Social, Behavioral, and Economic COVID Coordinating Center (SBE CCC) (n.d.). The SBE CCC provides a searchable repository of COVID-related data that permits comparison of variables across studies.[1] In this paper, we examine the breadth of information available in the ICPSR collections and beyond, focusing on the critical issues of timeliness, consistency, and periodicity to suggest baseline measures concerning social responses to the COVID-19 crisis. This survey of existing data resources and approaches highlights data that was collected close to the onset of the pandemic (within the previous five years) and which are routinely re-collected. We also highlight data that are longitudinal, collected for sufficient duration prior to the pandemic, and with the expectation that

[1] ICPSR also maintains an archive for self-published data from COVID-19 studies called the COVID-19 Repository (n.d.) and a 2020 Data Resource Page (n.d.) focused on COVID-19 data resources.

it will continue during and after the pandemic so that comparisons can be made. We focus on data that are high quality and representative of a population, generally for the U.S. as a whole, but also for other countries or for groups within the U.S. for whom COVID-19 researchers might want a baseline.

Quality of Life

Baseline psycho-social measures of mental health and the maintenance of positive social relationships are important for understanding how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected quality of life. While expectations vary from place to place, quality of life represents a desirable set of shared standards that individuals or communities have for experiencing a “good” life. These expectations are guided by the values, goals, and socio-cultural context in which an individual lives, so they are dynamic measures that can change rapidly in the face of crisis (Steptoe et al., 2015). There is no definitive agreement on how to measure this highly subjective, multidimensional concept (McNally, 2009). However, there are validated measures that capture distinct elements of daily living against which an individual or society can measure the different domains of life experiences (The Lancet, 2016).

We identify studies that ask questions about quality of life elements such as “quality of life,” “happiness,” “crisis management,” “general health,” and “mental health.” In terms of mental health, we focus on standardized scales such as the Kessler 6 to screen for serious mental health problems and the Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D) (Kessler et al., 2003; Radloff, 1977). Commonly used in research, both scales are easy to administer and well-validated across different countries and racial groups. The Kessler 6 is particularly useful as it is often taken as a proxy for community anxiety. Crisis management information is generally

collected to measure financial hardship, loss of a job, or difficulty in paying for bills for medical care, so we find considerable consistency in question text across studies.

Our review suggests that among the most useful studies to measure change before, during, and after the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States are the routinely collected national studies such as the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) (n.d.), National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) (n.d.), and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) (n.d.). These studies collect key measures of quality of life, mental health, and challenges due to economic or social conditions.

The NHIS is a particularly useful repeated-measure cross-sectional study; it is fielded annually and consistently asks a series of important questions regarding health, access, employment, and behaviors. The NHIS does not directly ask questions regarding the quality of life, though quality of life measures can be constructed using appropriate variables from the study. The NHIS fielded a focused module in 2010 that collected detailed measures of quality of life in the United States and offers a useful comparative baseline for other studies. While the NHIS does not administer the CES-D, it has collected Kessler 6 measures for many years, giving a valuable picture of shifts in generalized anxiety in the United States over time.

NHANES has a similar repeated cross-sectional design, with the added benefit of detailed health information and laboratory test results for a subset of its sample. The NHANES study lacks a question on overall quality of life, but as with the NHIS, a proxy measure can be constructed from available variables in the study. While fielded annually, NHANES recommends pooling multiple years of data for many analytical purposes. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) provides guidance on how to create a representative sample of NHANES pre-pandemic data due to suspended field operations during the 2019-2020 data collection.

BRFSS is collected continuously throughout the year and asks adults in the United

States about their general health and health-related risk behaviors. BRFSS consists of a core questionnaire with a variety of optional modules and state-added questions. BRFSS includes limited questions about key quality of life elements, but it does ask about mental health. The large sample size and robust collection of questions about chronic health conditions and general health make the BRFSS an invaluable resource for studying wellbeing.

Longitudinal studies, while fielded at longer and sometimes irregular time intervals (between every one to ten years, varying across study and over time), offer the advantage of allowing us to look at detailed behavior changes at the individual level. Because they follow the same individuals over time, longitudinal studies provide opportunities to establish time ordering and to test hypotheses about causes of behavior change or consequences of a specific event, like the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are many useful longitudinal studies that examine aspects of quality life for middle to late life adults in the United States. Midlife in the United States (MIDUS) (n.d.) studies middle-age adults and includes questions on all constructs of quality of life, including Kessler 6. The National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project (NSHAP) (n.d.) studies older adults and uses the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS). Notably, an NSHAP COVID-19 substudy was conducted in Fall 2020 and can offer preliminary data on pandemic impacts to the panel. Americans' Changing Lives (ACL) (n.d.) studies adults in middle to late life, and while it does not directly measure anxiety or loneliness, it does administer the CES-D as a standard measure of depression. Hispanic Established Population for Epidemiologic Study of the Elderly (Hispanic EPESE) (n.d.) interviews older Mexican Americans residing in Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas to measure the prevalence of physical and mental health conditions as well as functional impairments. Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN) (n.d.) studies the health of women in their middle years. The sixteenth phase of data

collection took place 2016-2018, with the seventeenth phase of data collection in 2021-2023. Lastly, the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) (n.d.) studies older Americans, with wellbeing sub-topics including lifestyle, psychosocial functioning, and social relationships. The HRS developed several areas of content in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for inclusion in the 2020 wave of core data collection both as a new stand-alone module in the core interview and with the addition of questions to the psychosocial SAQ.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, anxiety and depression had arguably reached crisis levels on college campuses (Wolverton, 2019). Mental health issues were subsequently exacerbated further by campus closures, financial pressures, and social isolation. To measure how the pandemic impacted the well-being of postsecondary students, researchers can consult the Healthy Minds Study (HMS) (n.d.). The HMS is an annual survey of students at colleges and universities that uses validated measures such as the Patient Health Questionnaire-9, the Generalized Anxiety Disorder-7, and the Counseling Center Assessment of Psychological Symptoms (CCAPS-34) to assess depression and anxiety. The study also contains data on counseling services utilization, health behaviors related to drinking and drug use and exercise, and academic outcomes. The survey was engaged in spring data collection when the pandemic began, and COVID-specific questions were added to the 2020 data collection effort with flags so that respondents who replied before and during the pandemic can be differentiated.

Quality of Life Data Resources
National Health Interview Survey Series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/40
National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) and followup series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/39
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). (n.d.). https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.html
Midlife in the United States (MIDUS) series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/203
National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project (NSHAP). (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/706
Americans' Changing Lives: Waves I, II, III, IV, and V, 1986, 1989, 1994, 2002, and 2011. (n.d.).

https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACDA/studies/4690/versions/V9
Hispanic Established Population for the Epidemiological Study of the Elderly (Hispanic EPESE) series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/546
Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN) series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/253
Health and Retirement Study. (n.d.). https://hrs.isr.umich.edu/
Healthy Minds Study - Healthy Minds Network. (n.d.). https://healthymindsnetwork.org/hms/

Social Networks and Social Isolation

Data that measure social networks and reports of social isolation allow researchers to better understand how social networks adapt to social-distancing requirements, the short and long-term impacts of social isolation on physical and mental health, socio-economic indicators of crisis, and hopefully, of recovery. There are many data sources about social networks and social isolation that can serve as a baseline for the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, Understanding How Personal Networks Change (UCNets) (n.d.), a three-wave panel fielded 2015-2018, studies how one's social network composition changes over time as a result of life course transitions and how these changes are related to health statuses and outcomes. The National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project (NSHAP) study, which has collected detailed information on the social networks and interactions of older adults since it was first fielded in 2006, offers opportunities to better understand how social distancing may affect the networks of elderly Americans in both the short and longer terms. The Midlife in the United States: Daily Diary Project (n.d), fielded during 2012-2014, also includes questions about social networks. Similarly, Stress in America (n.d.) asks how helpful creating a social support network was as a strategy for making positive lifestyle changes. The General Social Survey (GSS) (n.d.) is a widely used data source to study trends in the U.S. since 1972 and contains questions about feeling isolated,

social support networks, and social isolation. The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (AddHealth) (n.d.) covers topics such as peer networks, social isolation, social integration/disintegration, and more. The first wave of data was collected in 1994-1995 from adolescents in grades 7-12 in the U.S., and Wave V was collected in 2016-2018. The National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS) (n.d.) included questions on social networks among high schoolers in 1997 and fielded NLSY97 COVID-19 Supplement (n.d).

Social Networks and Social Isolation Data Resources
UC Berkeley Social Networks Study (UCNETS), San Francisco Bay Area, 2015-2018. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACDA/studies/36975
National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project (NSHAP). (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/706
Midlife in the United States (MIDUS Refresher 1): Daily Diary Project, 2012-2014. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACDA/studies/37083
Stress in America, United States, 2007-2018. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/studies/37288
GSS General Social Survey | NORC. (n.d.). https://gss.norc.org/
Add Health. (n.d.). https://addhealth.cpc.unc.edu/
National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS). (n.d.). https://www.bls.gov/nls/
NLSY97 COVID-19 Supplement | National Longitudinal Surveys. (n.d.). https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97/other-documentation/codebook-supplement/appendix-14-nlsy97-covid-19

Education and Child Development

Schools worldwide had to close and shift from student learning in the classroom to remote learning at home. This transition occurred at various time points and with differing durations. The repercussions of this drastic change in the everyday schooling experiences on

the learning and educational outcomes of students from early childhood to early adulthood can be investigated using a variety of existing data sources.

Child Care and Early Education

The National Survey of Early Care and Education (NSECE) (n.d.) is the most comprehensive and nationally representative study of child care supply and demand. The survey gathers information on a full spectrum of child care arrangements, including home-based care, center-based care, and pre-kindergarten. While it is not an annual data collection, the study collected data shortly before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019.

Researchers interested in examining questions about participation in the federal Head Start program pre- and post-COVID-19 can use data from the Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (FACES) (n.d.) and the American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (AI/AN FACES) (n.d.). In addition to information related to children's school readiness skills, social emotional skills, problem behaviors, and approaches to learning, FACES and AI/AN FACES include information on children's families (e.g., parents' employment statuses), Head Start teachers, family engagement, classroom activities, and characteristics of Head Start classrooms and programs. A round of data collection began in fall 2019. Limited data collection continued in 2020 and included questions to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on this population of children and families. Together, data from FACES 2019-2021 and AI/AN FACES 2019-2021 can give insight into how COVID-19 has impacted the early educational opportunities of the most vulnerable children in the U.S., those who come from families with limited incomes, limited resources, and many who live in rural areas.

K-12

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as the Nation's Report Card (n.d.), can examine how the knowledge of 4th, 8th, and 12th grade students in the U.S. varies across subjects, geography, and time. Importantly, NAEP includes questions about students' digital access and familiarity with computers, which provide insight into students' remote learning capabilities and the digital divide. Another relevant data source, Monitoring the Future (MTF) (n.d.), collects information on school grades, time spent on homework, use of computers for school, participation in extracurricular activities, time spent watching television, playing video games, using social media, feelings about school, and the educational attainment of the adolescents' parents. Additionally, researchers interested in making international comparisons can utilize data from many cross-country studies. The Evaluation of Educational Achievement's (IEA) Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) (n.d.) and Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) (n.d.) both collect background data on the student, home, teachers, instructional practices, and school organizational approaches. TIMSS assesses the math and science achievement of 4th and 8th grade students every four years in 56 different countries. PIRLS assesses the reading achievement of 4th graders every five years. IEA also has comparative data on 8th-grade students' knowledge, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of civics and citizenship in the International Civic and Citizenship Study (ICCS) (n.d.) and on 8th-grade students' computer and information literacy in the International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS) (n.d.). The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) (n.d.) administers reading, math, and science assessments every three years to students in over 90 countries who are 15 years old and therefore towards the end of their compulsory

education. The following table presents information about the year these studies were last administered before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and when they were administered after the onset.

International Study	Year of data collection before onset of COVID-19	Year of data collection after onset of COVID-19 pandemic
TIMSS	2019	2023
PIRLS	2016	2021
ICCS	2016	2022
ICILS	2018	2023
PISA	2018	2022

Longitudinal Data on Educational Outcomes

Researchers can use longitudinal datasets to investigate the association between COVID-19 and students' educational outcomes across time. The Panel Study for Income Dynamic's Child Development Supplement (PSID-CDS) (n.d.), contains extensive data on children and families collected through observations and child and parent surveys. In 2019, PSID started data collection on a new cohort of children (ages 0-17) in PSID families. Many of the same constructs measured in the first CDS cohort are measured in the 2019 CDS cohort to allow for comparisons. Importantly, PSID-CDS collects a range of information on the parent-child relationship, parent educational involvement activities, and features of the home learning environment, the child's and parents' health conditions and psychosocial well-being, and child time-use diaries that will allow researchers to examine how children spent their time during the stay-at-home order.

Comparable to the PSID, Understanding Society is the U.K.'s Household Longitudinal Panel Study (UKHLS) (n.d.). The UKHLS collects data on many of the same education-related constructs as the PSID-CDS, and researchers will also find information about parent educational involvement, parent-child relationships, parent educational aspirations for the child, as well as information from the child on feelings about school, educational aspirations for themselves, and time spent on schoolwork and extracurricular activities. Data on children participating in the UKHLS can be linked to administrative data such as the UK's National Pupil Database. Importantly, between April 2020 and September 2021, UKHLS asked additional COVID-19 related questions.

Higher Education

The transition to adulthood is a key time for individuals to make decisions about postsecondary education, which in turn has long-term impacts on earnings, partner selection, and a host of other life course developments (Ma et al., 2016; Mare, 2000). College enrollment has generally been countercyclical, with enrollments increasing as economic conditions worsen and decreasing as economic conditions improve. However, educational stakeholders remain uncertain if these trends will hold during the COVID-19 pandemic given the closure of many campuses, quick pivot to online learning, and students' concerns about health and safety.

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) (n.d.) is an annual study of four-year college students that measures student participation in high-impact educational practices and student development, and 2019-2021 data could be used to assess the pandemic's impact on students' college engagement activities. Data access is primarily limited to institutional researchers. Although the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) Transitions into Adulthood Supplement (TAS) (n.d.) contains less data about postsecondary education than

proprietary studies like NSSE, its data are widely available and can be used to assess how college accessibility is changing in response to the pandemic. TAS respondents are the age of traditional college students, and the study asks them questions about the level of education they would *like* to achieve (their aspirations) and *will* achieve (their expectations).

As unemployment reached high levels and college revenues plummeted, the economic impact of the pandemic is likely to affect students' ability and willingness to finance college. The National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) (n.d.), fielded every four years by the Department of Education, provides the most comprehensive data on how undergraduate and graduate students finance higher education in the United States. NPSAS 2020, fielded beginning in February 2020, provides survey and administrative data immediately before and during the pandemic and can be compared to the NPSAS 2016.

Faculty in some fields such as public health have likely seen a dramatic increase in demand for their expertise and a quick upturn in funding devoted to ameliorating the pandemic. Meanwhile, non-tenure-track faculty (e.g. adjuncts) have experienced great uncertainty about their employment status (Zahneis, 2020). Many instructional faculty have made quick pivots to online teaching while counseling students and dealing with their own personal and family crises. Anecdotal evidence suggests an immediate gendered impact of the pandemic on publications, as submissions by women drop precipitously (Flaherty, 2020).

The Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) Faculty Survey (n.d.) is an annual survey of faculty that asks about a range of topics, including time use, pedagogical practices, productivity, and well-being. Several questions can be used to assess whether there are gendered impacts on the publishing frequency and increased stress among non-tenure-track faculty about their job statuses following the rise of COVID-19. The utility of HERI's Faculty Survey for understanding the pandemic impact, however, is hampered by the 2-year embargo

and use fee for researchers outside their organization.

The Universities: Measuring the ImpacTs of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Science (UMETRICS) (n.d.) data can be used to assess research productivity, publishing, technology transfer, and expenditures across 31 research universities in the U.S. It contains detailed award, researcher, and publication-level data, particularly for awards by the NIH, NSF, and USDA. Transaction data is recorded monthly, making it easy to identify when research expenditures occur relative to the pandemic. A limitation of the UMETRICS data is that it does not fully capture the productivity of researchers outside of STEM fields, who are less reliant on sponsors to fund their work, as well as productivity related to teaching or service.

Comprehensive data on colleges and universities can be found in the Department of Education's Integrated Postsecondary Data System (IPEDS) (n.d.). IPEDS is an annual survey of all colleges that receive or distribute federal financial support. Aggregate college attendance data is captured annually in the Fall Enrollment module, which provides a census of students enrolled at the nation's postsecondary institutions disaggregated by gender, race, and full-time/part-time status. The Human Resources module provides aggregated data on faculty and staff employed by participating institutions as of November 1 of a given academic year by tenure and occupational status, contract type, race/ethnicity, gender, and medical school status. By comparing Enrollment and HR data from 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 data, researchers can assess the pandemic's impact on the accessibility of colleges to students from various backgrounds and institutional employment practices. Finally, the IPEDS Finance module collects detailed information about each institution's financial circumstances. This data, combined with IPEDS information on assets and liabilities, can be used to assess the fiscal impact of the pandemic on major social institutions such as colleges and academic medical centers.

Education Data Resources
Child Care and Early Education
National Survey of Early Care and Education (NSECE) series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/2060
Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (FACES). (n.d.). The Administration for Children and Families. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/project/head-start-family-and-child-experiences-survey-faces-1997-2022
American Indian and Alaska native Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (AIAN FACES). (n.d.). The Administration for Children and Families. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/project/american-indian-and-alaska-native-head-start-family-and-child-experiences-survey-ai-0
K-12
National Center for Education Statistics. (n.d.). *The Nation's Report Card* | *NAEP*. https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/
Monitoring the Future | *National Institute on Drug Abuse*. (n.d.). National Institute on Drug Abuse. https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/monitoring-future
Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study. (n.d.). https://www.iea.nl/data-tools/repository/timss
Progress in International Reading Literacy Study. (n.d.). https://www.iea.nl/data-tools/repository/pirls
International Civic and Citizenship Education Study. (n.d.). https://www.iea.nl/data-tools/repository/iccs
International Computer and Information Literacy Study. (n.d.). https://www.iea.nl/data-tools/repository/icils
PISA: Programme for International Student Assessment. (n.d.). OECD. https://www.oecd.org/en/about/programmes/pisa.html
Longitudinal Data on Educational Outcomes
PSID studies. (n.d.). https://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Studies.aspx
Understanding Society – the UK Household Longitudinal Study. (n.d.). Understanding Society. https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/
National Pupil Database. (n.d.). https://www.find-npd-data.education.gov.uk/
Higher Education
National Survey of Student Engagement. (n.d.). https://nsse.indiana.edu/nsse/
PSID studies. (n.d.). https://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Studies.aspx
National Center for Education Statistics. (n.d.). *National Postsecondary Student Aid Study*. https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/npsas/
HERI Faculty Survey – HERI. (n.d.). https://heri.ucla.edu/heri-faculty-survey/

Institute for Research on Innovation and Science (IRIS). (n.d.). *Universities: Measuring the ImpacTs of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Science (UMETRICS) 2019 Core Files*. https://iris.isr.umich.edu/research-data/2019datarelease-corefiles/
IPEDS: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. (n.d.). https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/

Crime and Victimization

The pandemic has had both direct and indirect effects on crime and people's experience of crime. Reported crimes fell in some areas during lockdowns, but there was increased concern about potential impact of lockdowns on domestic violence. In the summer of 2020, in response to the murder of George Floyd, policing policy became a central focus of widespread concern. Understanding the complex interactions between social and economic changes, crime and victimization, and the pandemic requires the integration of datasets that capture these different components of social life.

The National Incident-Based Resource Guide (NIBRS) (n.d.), covering 1991-2016, and the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) (n.d.), covering 1992-2020, data series are official, federal reports of crime data. Both data series contain granular data that describe criminal incidents and unreported cases of criminal victimization on an annual basis. These two series will provide insight into criminal activity leading up to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, including assault, domestic violence, and cybercrime. The NCVS series will likely contain more accurate data on domestic violence information because it is survey-based and does not require respondents to file a police report.

The combination of social isolation, economic stressors, and feelings of loss of control are risk factors for family violence and are exacerbated by the pandemic (Beland et al., 2021). The Center for Disease Control and Prevention oversees the National Intimate Partner and

Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) (n.d.) series which is a longitudinal study of all types of violence perpetrated between intimate partners. Children are also at risk. The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) (n.d.) annually collects case-level data on reports alleging child abuse and neglect, as well as the results of these reports, from state child protective service agencies. State-by-state summaries of these data are available in the annual *Child Maltreatment* report (n.d.), published by the Children's Bureau within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services since 1990. The data can also be accessed and analyzed through the National Data Archive of Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) (n.d.).

Another data series that may reflect the impact of COVID-19 on crime is the National Prisoner Statistics (NPS) series (n.d.). The NPS provides an enumeration of persons in state and federal prisons and collects data on key characteristics of the nation's prison population. The 2016 can serve as a baseline for the COVID-19 pandemic, and as future years of data become available, researchers will be able to evaluate the pandemic's impact on the prison population, including mortalities. The Mortality in Correctional Institutions (MCI) (n.d.) series (formerly Deaths in Custody series) will also be helpful in tracking COVID-19 deaths to incarcerated individuals. The Criminal Justice Administrative Record System (CJARS) (n.d.) has created a novel data resource based on tens of millions of records capturing arrest or booking, charges filed, the beginning of terms of probation, prison, and parole from over 20 states from 1975 to the present.

Crime and Victimization Data Resources
National Incident-Based Reporting System Resource Guide | NACJD. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/NACJD/NIBRS/index.html
National Crime Victimization Survey Resource Guide. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/NACJD/NCVS/index.html
National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/567

NCANDS. (n.d.). The Administration for Children and Families. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/research-data-technology/reporting-systems/ncands
Child maltreatment. (2024, June 30). The Administration for Children and Families. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment
National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN). (n.d.). https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/
National Prisoner Statistics (NPS) series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/series/886
Mortality in Correctional Institutions (MCI) series (Formerly Deaths in Custody Reporting Program (DCRP)). (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/series/250
Criminal Justice Administrative Records System. (n.d.). https://cjars.org/

Substance Use

Dr. Nora Volkow, the director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), called for attention to the vulnerabilities of drug-using populations during the COVID-19 pandemic, because existing respiratory and pulmonary problems are more common among those using tobacco and other drugs (NIDA, 2020). Research is needed on the impact on drug-using vulnerable populations, shelter-in-place orders that altered access to and use of certain substances while at the same time increasing the likelihood of self-medicating, and changes in substance use disorder treatments and their resulting effectiveness. Access to high quality data and measures that detect levels of use, changes in use, substance misuse, and dependencies will support public awareness and understanding and improve implementation of services and policies.

Alcohol Use

Alcohol, though legal for adults over the age of 21, is a substance whose use may increase or change, at least temporarily, as the population deals with uncertainty, stress, and disruptions of daily routines during COVID-19. Alcohol dependency is generally measured using the 10-item Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) (Bradley et al., 2003). Other standard measures include frequency of drinking, the number of drinks consumed, binge drinking behaviors, drinking when first waking, perceptions that use interferes with roles (e.g., work, marriage, parenting), and being told by a medical professional to stop or reduce consumption. Alcohol consumption measures such as these are widely available in national studies of health, including the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) (n.d.), described more below, and the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), described in the Quality of Life section of this paper.

Tobacco Use

Tobacco use and dependency are behavioral measures reflecting access to and use of nicotine and tobacco products. Because tobacco use may affect respiratory function, demographic subgroups using these substances at higher rates may have an elevated risk of severe outcomes if infected by COVID-19. Over the past decade, e-cigarettes have begun to eclipse other forms of tobacco use (e.g., cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos), rising in prevalence among adolescents and young adults in particular and running counter to long-term declines in tobacco use among those population subgroups. Measures include the number of cigarettes smoked per day and smoking when first waking. The Population Assessment of Tobacco Health

(PATH) (n.d.) is a national study of adults and youth, collected annually. The first wave of data collection began in 2013 and includes responses from over 32,000 adults and 13,000 youth about tobacco use behavior, attitudes and beliefs, and tobacco-related health outcomes.

Drug Use

Other drug use encompasses the use of illegal substances and misuse of legal substances, for example, prescription drugs such as opioids and attention deficit disorder medications. Many of these drugs affect respiratory and pulmonary function when misused, and drug-using populations may be more vulnerable to severe COVID-19 outcomes. Cannabis or marijuana-use remains illegal in some places (i.e., varying across states and even municipalities), for certain types of uses (i.e., medical versus recreational use), and among some population subgroups (e.g., under age 21). Standard measures of marijuana use range from assessing any use, frequency of use, and measures of dependency.

The Monitoring the Future (MTF) study offers trends in national prevalence estimates (measured annually) of alcohol use, marijuana use, and use of other drugs among highschoolers and youth. Each year, surveys are conducted with a total of approximately 50,000 8th, 10th, and 12th-graders (12th graders since 1975 and others since 1991). Also, annual follow-up questionnaires are mailed to a sample of each graduating class for several years after their initial participation. The measures in this study and the data itself are the basis for much of our understanding of teen substance use. The NSDUH study is a significant source of statistical information on the use of illicit drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

Finally, those who are homeless or incarcerated are facing higher rates of COVID-19 transmission and are disproportionately likely to have a substance use disorder. The Criminal Justice Drug Abuse Treatment Studies (CJ-DATS) (n.d.) and CJ-DATS 2 (a 2008 cohort)

together represent a multisite research program aimed at improving the treatment of offenders with drug use disorders and integrating criminal justice and public health responses to drug-involved offenders. CJ-DATS data offer a range of data and measures of substance use among incarcerated populations. Survey data from CJ-DATS is a good starting point to explore data and measures commonly used in incarcerated populations with substance use disorders as research turns its attention to understanding and affecting changes brought on by COVID-19 in our prisons.

Substance Use Data Resources
Alcohol Use
National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). (n.d.). https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/nsduh-national-survey-drug-use-and-health
National Health Interview Survey Series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/40
Tobacco Use
Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NAHDAP/series/606
Drug Use
*Monitoring the Future	National Institute on Drug Abuse*. (n.d.). National Institute on Drug Abuse. https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/monitoring-future
National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). (n.d.). https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/nsduh-national-survey-drug-use-and-health
Criminal Justice Drug Abuse Treatment Studies (CJ-DATS) series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NAHDAP/series/244

Political Behavior

The spread of COVID-19 required a response by politicians at every level of government of the United States and around the globe. COVID-19 has shifted political attitudes and

behaviors in ways that will affect the political landscape for many years to come. Political scientists, and the data they have long collected about political beliefs and behavior, can expand our understanding of both the immediate and long-term political and societal consequences of the global pandemic.

The American National Election Studies (ANES) (n.d.) and the General Social Survey (GSS) are two of the most well-known and widely used datasets to study political opinion and behavior in the U.S. The International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) (n.d.) collects similar data cross-nationally. Warmth or favorability toward particular politicians and other public figures; views on the role of government in various sectors of society, including healthcare and the economy; views on government responsiveness; trust and confidence in government; and individuals' ideological leanings are all topics ripe for pre-/post-pandemic comparisons.

The response to COVID-19 has also affected political behavior, including the use of social media to express and influence political outcomes. Attitudes toward COVID-19 and COVID-19 related policies have been expressed on and shaped by social media. Some data from social media platforms is available directly from the platforms, via APIs. The Social Media Archive (SOMAR) (n.d.) provides access to social media data for research purposes. Voting turnout and methods of voting, including absentee and early voting, were also affected by COVID-19. For example, some evidence from the Wisconsin primary election suggested that voter turnout and voting method of choice changed in significant ways compared to the 2016 election (Rakich 2020). Data on political participation in the U.S. is captured by the surveys referenced above, as well as resources such as the MIT Election Data and Science Lab (MEDSL) (n.d.) and AP Votecast (n.d.). The National Internet Observatory (NIO) (n.d.) is making available social media activity data from a sample of volunteers who permit their posts to be collected.

Voting behavior by elected officials is another entry point to understanding responses to the pandemic. In the United States, relevant data can be found through the analysis of roll call voting with data from Voteview (n.d.), and cross-nationally, other metrics like polity scores from PolityProject (n.d.) and V-Dem (n.d.) are also valuable. Data collection efforts such as the COVID-19 US State Policy Database (n.d.), Coronanet Research Project (n.d.), and United States COVID-19 County Policy Database (n.d.) measure the political responses to the pandemic, including the breadth of a policy, length of policy, time of implementation, or level of restrictiveness.

Political Behavior Data Resources
ANES American National Election Studies. (n.d.). https://electionstudies.org/
GSS General Social Survey | NORC. (n.d.). https://gss.norc.org/
The International Social Survey Programme. (n.d.). https://issp.org/
Social media archive at ICPSR - SOMAR. (n.d.). https://socialmediaarchive.org/?ln=en
MIT Election Lab. (n.d.). https://electionlab.mit.edu/data
How we survey the electorate with AP VoteCast. (n.d.). https://www.ap.org/elections/our-role/ap-votecast/
The National Internet Observatory. (n.d.). https://nationalinternetobservatory.org/
VoteView. (n.d.). https://voteview.com/data
PolityProject. (n.d.). https://www.systemicpeace.org/polityproject.html
V-Dem Dataset. (n.d.). https://www.v-dem.net/data/
COVID-19 US State Policy Database. (n.d.). https://doi.org/10.3886/E119446V143
CoronaNet Research Project. (n.d.). https://www.coronanet-project.org/
United States COVID-19 County Policy Database, 2020-2021. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/sbeccc/studies/39109

Income, Wealth, and Employment

For the United States, time series macroeconomics measures, such as the ones available from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (economic activity and trade) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (employment and prices), provide a baseline for understanding the economic impact of the pandemic on US households and businesses. The BEA and BLS data can be accessed from the agency websites, but they are also available in easily accessible formats through the Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED) (n.d.), maintained by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. The FRED database provides a wide variety of data on employment and income, including international sources, covering both the private and public sectors. Eurostat (n.d.), the World Bank (n.d.) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (n.d.) each provide easily accessible formats of comparable economic data available from national statistical agencies around the world. The CIA's *World Factbook* (n.d.) also provides downloadable and accessible data on a range of economic measures, including economic infrastructure, that are affected by and determine a country's ability to respond to the pandemic.

Nationally representative household data captures changes in the U.S. economy and allows for investigations that are not possible using aggregate data. The Current Population Survey (CPS) (n.d.), the American Community Survey (ACS) (n.d.), the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) (n.d.), and the Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior (n.d.) (also known as the Surveys of Consumers) are surveys that are fielded regularly, with monthly data supplied by the CPS and Surveys of Consumers, and annual data available from the ACS and SIPP. For data similar to the CPS and SIPP, but with longer duration panels, the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) have household and family level economic data that are useful baseline data sources. The Census Bureau initiated

the Household Pulse Survey (n.d.) after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the enormous impact of the pandemic on both labor supply and labor demand, detailed data on employment before and during the pandemic is critical. The Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) for 2002-2019 can be accessed through the OnTheMap (n.d.) interface and allow the study of employment flows across sectors and regions among different demographic groups..

Nationally representative data on businesses is available from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) (n.d.) and the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) (n.d.), both from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Additionally, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) collects data from every employer with over 100 employees, which is distributed in a collection called the EEO Data Collections (n.d.). The Census Bureau has innovative business data products including the Business Formation Statistics (BFS) (n.d.) and Business Dynamics Statistics (BDS) (n.d.) that provide information on new business formation and dissolution. The Census Bureau began a new data collection effort during the pandemic for businesses called the Small Business Pulse Survey (SBPS) (n.d.).

The Federal Reserve's Survey of Consumer Finance (SCF) (n.d.) is the largest nationally representative survey that measures wealth. Opportunity Insights (n.d.) has created estimates of income and income mobility for detailed geographic areas, and the Wealth and Mobility study (WAM) (n.d.), being created at the Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics (CID), will eventually provide data for wealth and wealth mobility for detailed geographic areas. The National Asset Scorecard for Communities of Color (NASCC) (n.d.) is producing estimates of wealth for different regions within the United States.

Occupation, particularly the disparate impact of COVID-19 on essential workers, is a critical determinant of exposure to infectious diseases such as COVID-19. Some of the large

surveys discussed above, such as the HRS, the PSID, the ACS, the CPS, and the SIPP have self-reported occupation measures. CenHRS (n.d.) links HRS respondent data to information on their employers and coworkers, so researchers have access to the detailed self-reports of occupation and less detailed, but universal descriptions of earnings for other employees. BLS data on occupation injuries and the EEOC data both have administrative data on occupations, but unfortunately most administrative data on income (e.g., from Census, IRS, and SSA) has very little information regarding occupation.

Income, Wealth, and Employment Data Resources
Federal Reserve Economic Data | FRED | St. Louis Fed. (n.d.). https://fred.stlouisfed.org/
Eurostat. (n.d.). https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat
World Bank Open Data. (n.d.). World Bank Open Data. https://data.worldbank.org/
IMF data. (n.d.). https://www.imf.org/en/Data
The World Factbook. (n.d.). https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/
Current Population Survey (CPS). (n.d.). https://www.bls.gov/cps/
American Community Survey (ACS). (n.d.). https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs
Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). (n.d.). https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp.html
Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior Series. (n.d.). https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/54
Health and Retirement Study. (n.d.). https://hrs.isr.umich.edu/
PSID studies. (n.d.). https://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Studies.aspx
Household Pulse Survey: Measuring Emergent social and economic matters facing U.S. households. (n.d.). https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey.html
OnTheMap. (n.d.). https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/
Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. (n.d.). https://www.bls.gov/sae/
Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII). (n.d.). https://www.bls.gov/iif/home.htm
EEO Data collections. (n.d.). https://www.eeoc.gov/data/eeo-data-collections
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Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF). (n.d.). https://www.federalreserve.gov/econres/scfindex.htm
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*WAM: Wealth and Mobility Study	Stone Center for Inequality Dyanmics*. (n.d.). https://inequality.umich.edu/project/wam-wealth-and-mobility-study/
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Conclusion

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is likely not to be the last global health emergency that we face. High quality research data is critical to a scientifically robust understanding of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on human society, including meaningful analysis of the policies to mitigate the pandemic and its effects, as well as individual and social behavioral responses.

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