Economic, Social and Overall Health Impacts: What changes follow community mitigation policies in King County?

www.kingcounty.gov/covid/impacts

Eva Wong, MS (DEOHS), PhD (Epidemiology)
Senior Epidemiologist, Public Health-Seattle & King County
Clinical Assistant Professor, UW Epidemiology
eva.wong@kingcounty.gov
UW School of Public Health July 1, 2020
Overall project description

Purpose

• Monitor unintended social, economic, and health impacts of non-pharmaceutical COVID-19 mitigation efforts over a two-year period

Rapid cycle Information sharing

• Brief reports to share findings
• Dashboards with more details and regular updates of new data

Primary audience

• Leadership and community to help inform planning

Briefs and infographic answer key questions

• What changes are communities experiencing during the pandemic?
• How do experiences differ by race, place, age and other population groups?

A joint project of WA DOH, PHSKC and the CDC Community Intervention & At Risk Task Force Monitoring and Evaluation Team
Key Economic, Social, and Overall Health Impacts in King County

**Economic**
- **Unemployment**: 398,900+ new unemployment claims filed by King County residents from March 1 to June 13, 2020

**Social**
- **Food Insecurity**: 14,800 more King County households received Basic Food assistance in May than January 2020, a 15.1% increase
- **Food Insecurity**: 7% more women and children were enrolled in PHSKC's WIC nutrition program in April than January 2020
- **Domestic Violence**: 16% increase in domestic violence calls to Seattle Police from Jan-April 2020 compared to 2019

**Health**
- **Healthcare**: 10,000 more King County residents were enrolled in Medicaid in May than in January 2020
- **Mental Health and Suicide**: 16% of middle and high school youth made a plan to attempt suicide in the past year before COVID-19
- **Behavioral Health**: In development

**Traffic**
- 24% decrease in local highway traffic on June 21, 2020 compared to 2019

**Internet Access**
- 67,000 King County households (7.5%) have no internet access

**Key Dates**
- March 15, 2020: Schools, entertainment, bars, restaurants closed
- March 23, 2020: Stay Home, Stay Healthy order; businesses closed
- May 5, 2020: Phase 1 of Safe Start plan to reopen WA State
- June 5, 2020: King County enters Modified Phase 1 of Safe Start Plan
- June 19, 2020: King County enters Phase 2 of Safe Start Plan
Black, Latinx, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native populations are disproportionately affected.
King County residents filed 398,853 new unemployment claims from March 1 - June 13, 2020

Initial unemployment claims filed in King County by week

Policy Timeline

Federal
- CARES Act: Economic Impact Payments [5/15]

State
- Dept of Revenue Business Relief
  - 4/30
- Statewide Residential Eviction Moratorium
  - “Stay Home - Stay Healthy” Order
  - 4/27
- Individual Unemployment Claims Suspension
  - 4/27
- Statewide Business Eviction Moratorium
  - 4/24
- DHS Disaster Cash Assistance for Individuals [5/15]
- Transition from “Stay Home - Stay Healthy” to “Safe Start - Stay Healthy” Phased Reopening [6/1]

Local
- Individual Eviction Moratorium/Late Fee Suspension (8)
  - 5/15
- Business Eviction Moratorium/Late Fee Suspensions (8)
  - 5/17
- Individual Food Assistance
  - 4/27
- Business Tax Due Date Extension (1)
  - 4/27
- Individual Financial Assistance Program (1)
  - 5/22
- Individual Property Tax Due Date Extension (1)
  - 5/22

Phase 1: “Safe Start - Stay Healthy” King County
- 5/4
- Phase 1, Modified: “Safe Start - Stay Healthy” King County
- 5/5

NOTE: Washington’s unemployment system is investigating the extent of fraudulent claims submitted. Thus the number of unemployment claims reported here may change in the future. Even after excluding thousands of fraudulent claims, a dramatic increase in claims followed the start of community mitigation efforts: https://www.seattletimes.com/business/economy/wash.
King County residents filed 398,853 new unemployment claims from March 1 - June 13, 2020.
King County workers filing initial claims per capita by age, sex, race/ethnicity, and education, March 1 - June 13, 2020

### Age

- **<18**: 26.5% (31.9% claims per capita)
- **18-24**: 22.7% (20.9% claims per capita)
- **25-34**: 25.0% (24.9% claims per capita)
- **35-44**: 22.1% (20.3% claims per capita)
- **45-54**: 24.9% (20.3% claims per capita)
- **55-64**: 22.3% (20.3% claims per capita)
- **65+**: 32.2% (31.2% claims per capita)

### Race/Ethnicity

- **American Indian/Alaska Native**: 32.2% (42.1% claims per capita)
- **Asian**: 22.9% (21.6% claims per capita)
- **Black/African American**: 24.4% (21.6% claims per capita)
- **Hispanic/Latinx**: 21.6% (21.6% claims per capita)
- **Multiple Race**: 20.3% (20.3% claims per capita)
- **Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander**: 20.3% (20.3% claims per capita)
- **White**: 23.6% (23.9% claims per capita)

### Sex

- **Female**: 23.6% (23.9% claims per capita)
- **Male**: 23.9% (23.9% claims per capita)
- **Nonbinary/Other**: 20.3% (20.3% claims per capita)

### Education

- **Less than high school**: 12.0% (19.8% claims per capita)
- **High school or equivalent**: 26.2% (19.8% claims per capita)
- **Some college or Associate degree**: 17.9% (19.8% claims per capita)
- **Bachelor’s degree or higher**: 0.0% (0.0% claims per capita)
112,810 households received Basic Food Assistance in King County in May 2020*

*NOTE: Basic Food assistance includes the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, previously known as food stamps) and the state Food Assistance Program (FAP).

**See Notes and Data Sources for analysis details and limitations.
Additional Resources Available at CommunitiesCount.org

COVID-19 Vulnerable Communities Data Tool

Older Adults in King County

Older adults age 60+ are considered high risk overall. Among them, the risk continues to increase with age.

Some cities/neighborhoods of King County either have a higher percentage of older adults or have a large number of them. For example, 33.5% of the population on Vashon Island is age 60+ (the highest percentage among the 48 Health Reporting Areas or HRAs) and about 13,500 older adults age 60+ live in West Seattle (the hip...
• Economic, Social and Overall Health Impacts: www.kingcounty.gov/covid/impacts

• Communities Count www.communitiescount.org

• This work is funded by Public Health — Seattle & King County, the Washington State Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) Cooperative Agreement (CK19-1904)

• Our team: Amy Laurent, Shuva Dawadi, Carolina Johnson, Kris Johnson, Abigail Schachter, Lin Song, Myduc Ta