

FOOD INSECURITY

Economic, Social and Overall Health Impacts:
Food insecurity

King County, WA
March - June, 2020

Food insecurity nearly doubled after implementing strategies to slow the spread of COVID-19



9% of adults reported in June that their households did not have enough food during the last 7 days

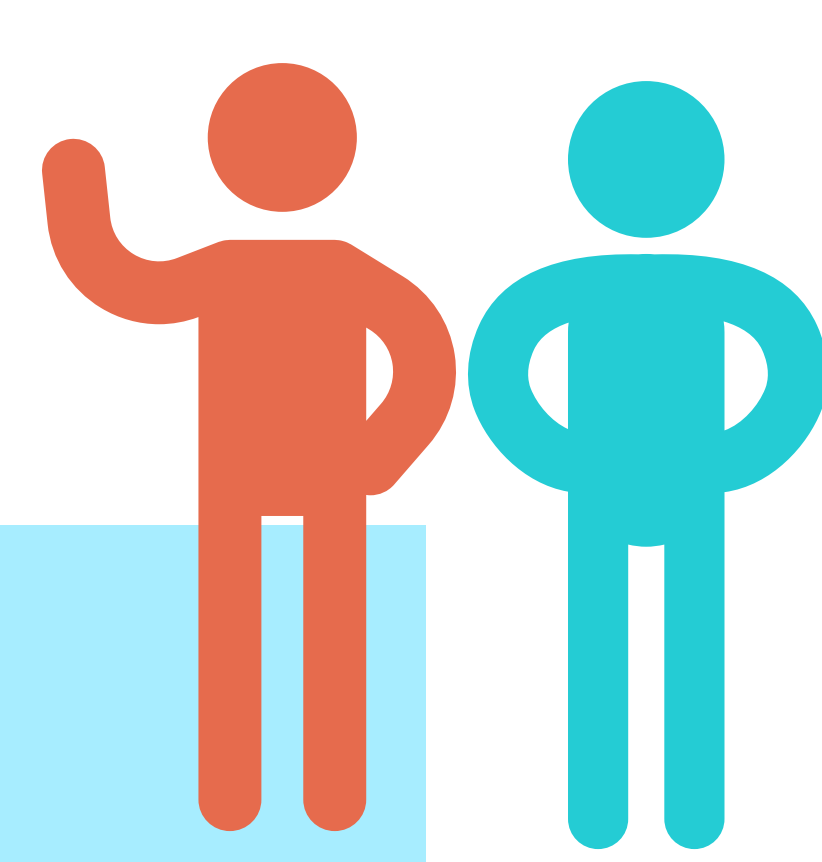


Food insecurity for adults in households with children peaked the week of June 4-9 at 13%



If the household didn't have enough food to eat, 30% also reported children were not eating enough because they couldn't afford food

Three most common reasons why adults didn't have enough food to eat

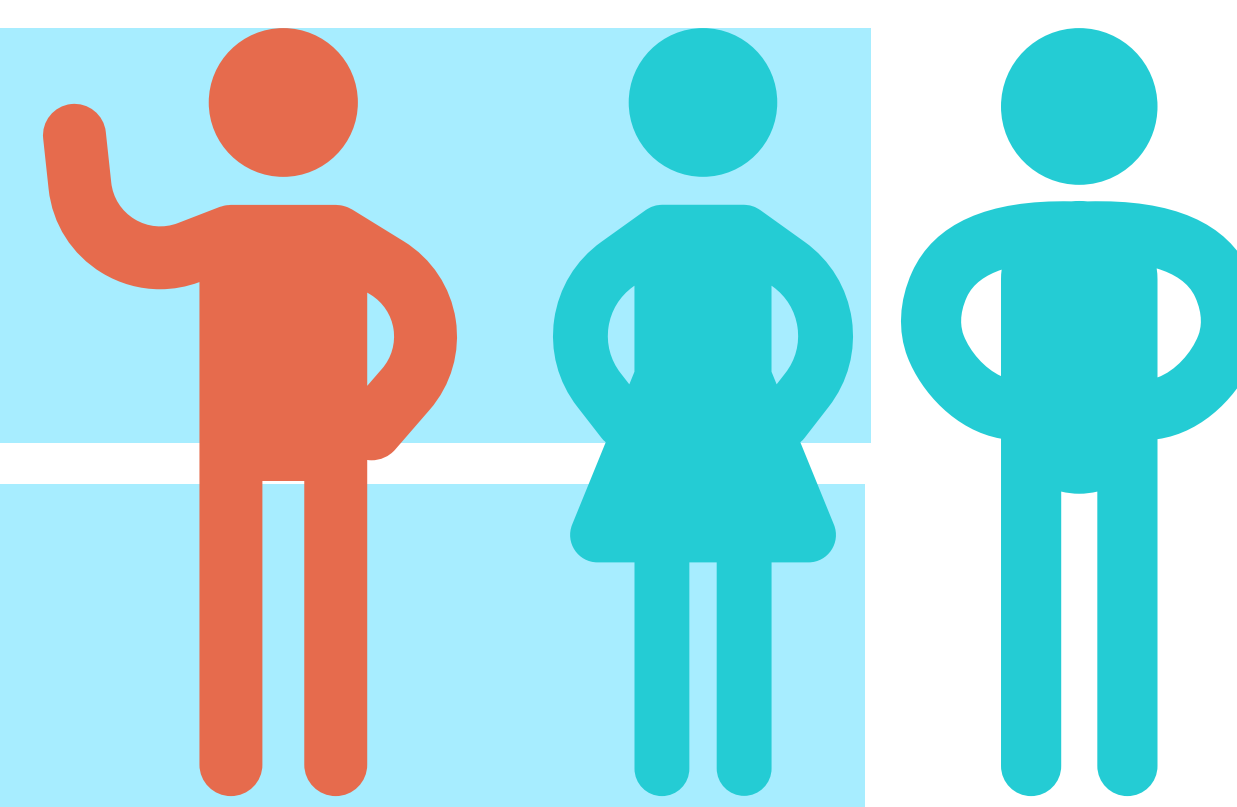


1 in 2

couldn't afford to buy more food

1 in 3

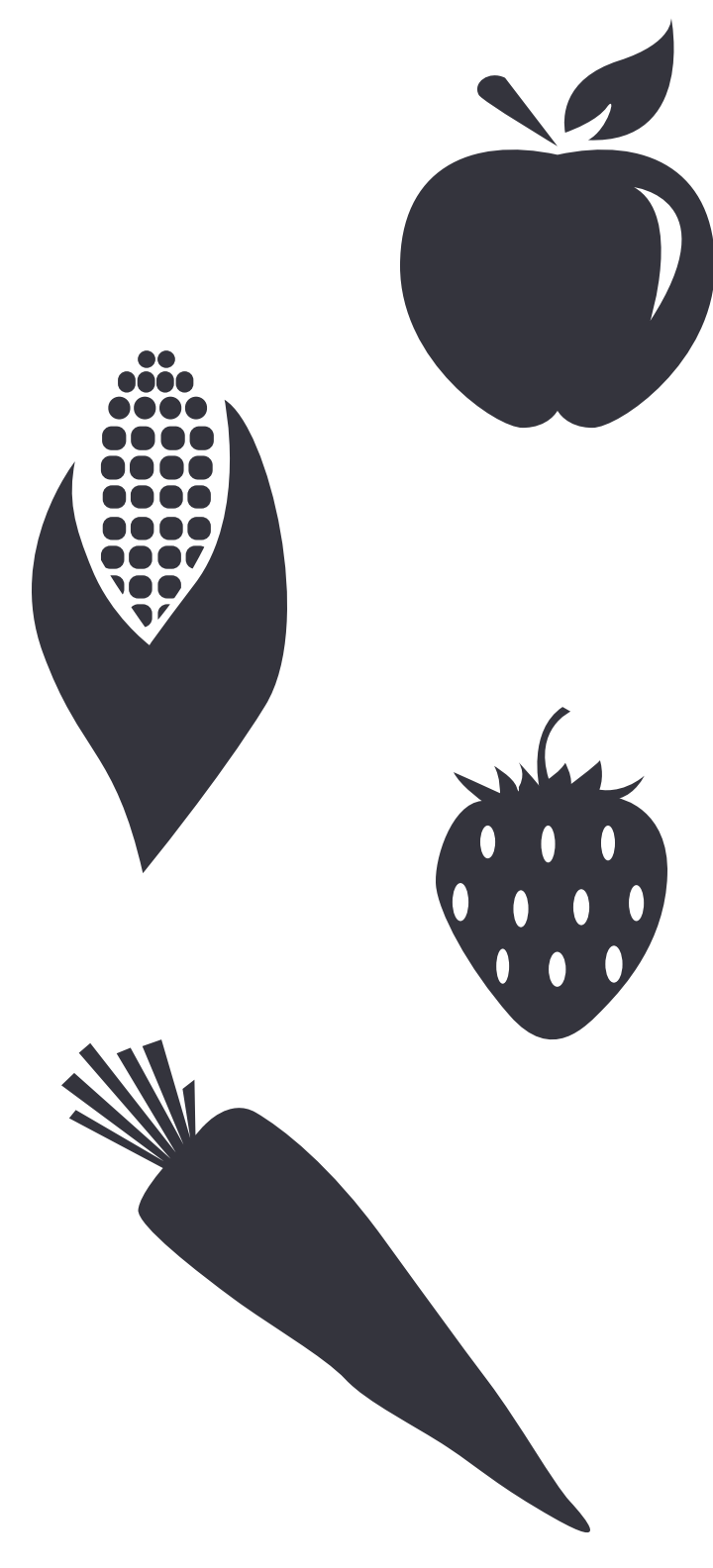
said the stores didn't have the food they wanted



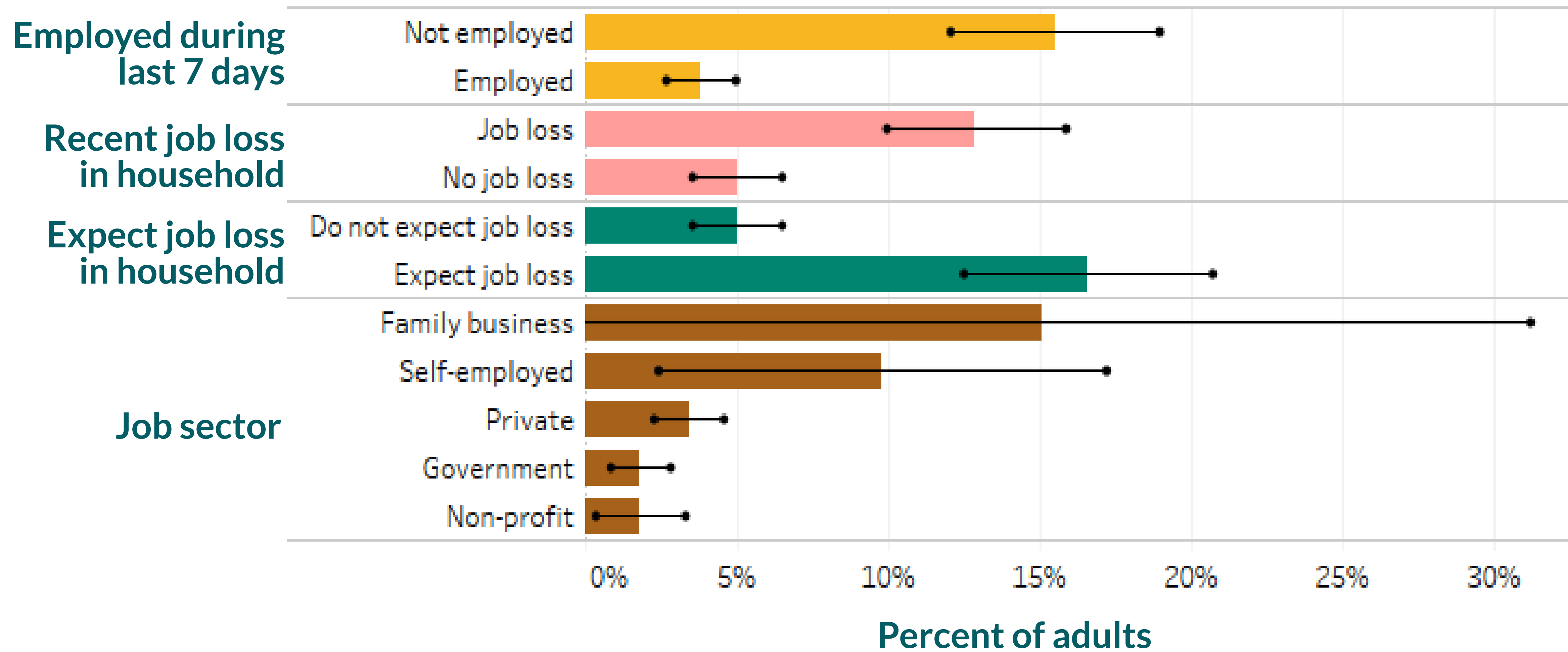
1 in 3

were afraid to go or didn't want to go out to buy food

These adults were most likely to report not having enough food to eat



- Low-income households <\$25,000
- American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Multiple race, Other
- Less than high school education
- Younger adults 18-44 years of age
- Unemployed, self-employed, or working in a family business



Food needs were the second most common reason for King County resident to seek assistance with social services in Spring 2020

7%

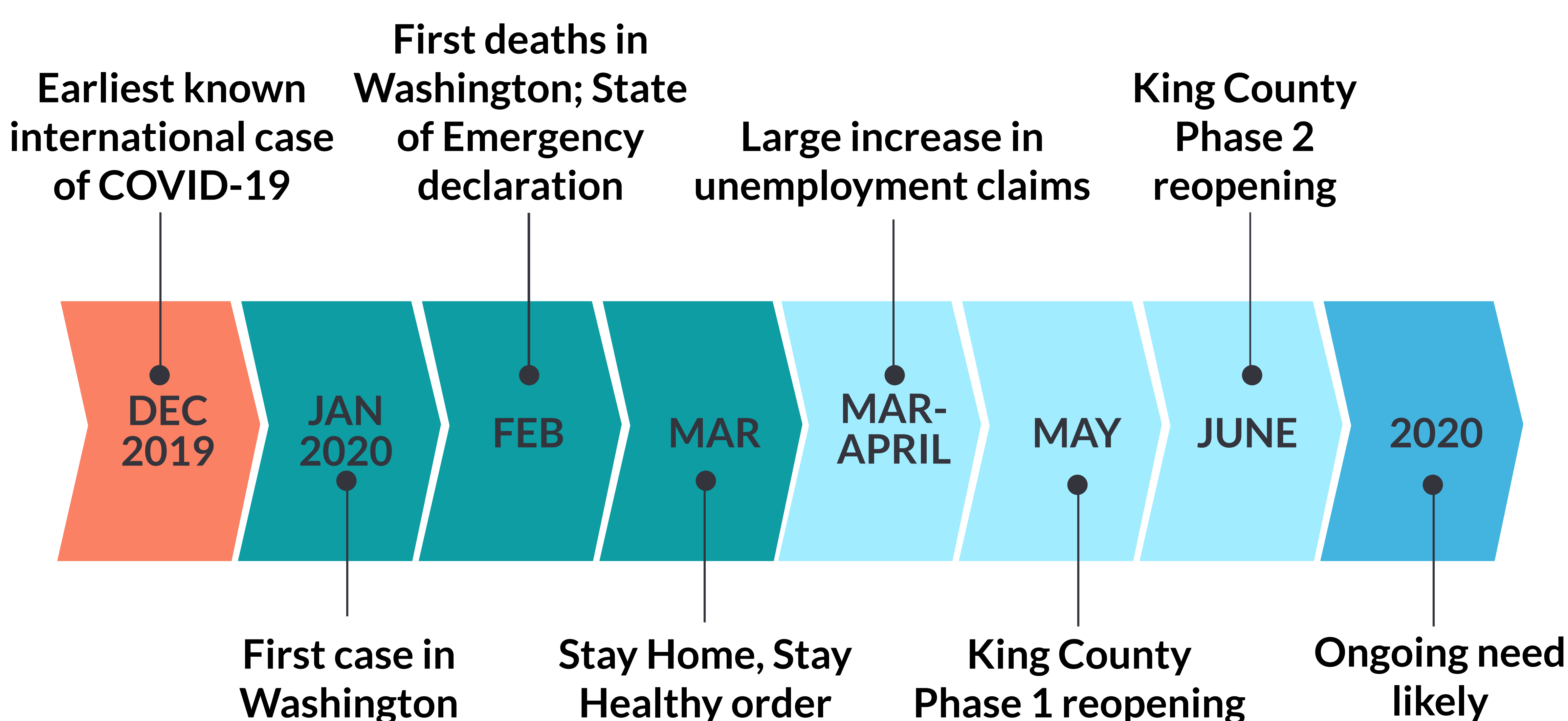
WIC's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program increased 7% in April compared to January, 2020

By June 2020, 18% more households in King County received Basic Food (SNAP) benefits compared to January 2020

18%

Policies have enabled new resources or expanded existing resources, but some are set to expire, and barriers to accessing food such as transportation or documentation status still exist

Pandemic timeline



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)

Public Health
Seattle & King County



Data Sources: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/covid/impacts/>

8/17/2020