

2020 U.S. Online & In-Store Grocery Shopping Study

Food Shopping During the COVID-19 Pandemic

June 2020



About the Study

Understand online grocery shopping and in-store supermarket shopping during the COVID-19 pandemic

1000

Online Grocery
Shoppers Across All
Stores/Providers

Census

Match U.S. Population on Age and Region

2000

Total Respondents

Shopped In A Traditional Supermarket or Online With Any Store or Online Provider for Food/Groceries At Least Once In Last 30 Days

Data Collected

Late April / Early May 2020

1000

In-Store Supermarket
Shoppers

65%/35%

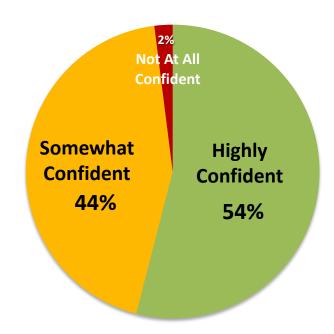
Female Male



Confidence in Safety of Food

"How confident are you that the food you purchase, whether in a supermarket or online, is safe to eat?"

Slightly more than half of the shoppers indicated they were highly confident that the food they purchased during the pandemic was safe to eat, with most of the balance indicating they were somewhat confident. This shows that many shoppers need reassurance that the food supply is safe.





Frequency of Shopping and Amount Spent Now Versus Pre-Pandemic

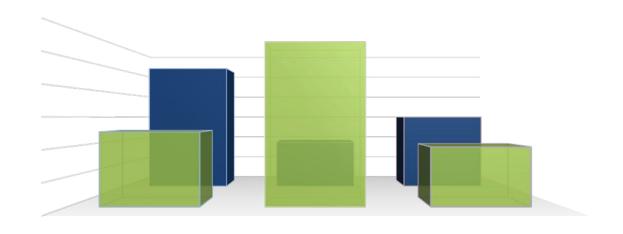


"How frequently, in terms of NUMBER of shopping trips or online orders, are you shopping NOW for food and grocery items as compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic began?"

Spending Now

"How MUCH are you SPENDING NOW, in total, for food and grocery items, either in a supermarket or online, compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic began?"

Compared to pre-pandemic, just over half the shoppers are shopping less frequently and about the same percent are spending more per trip.



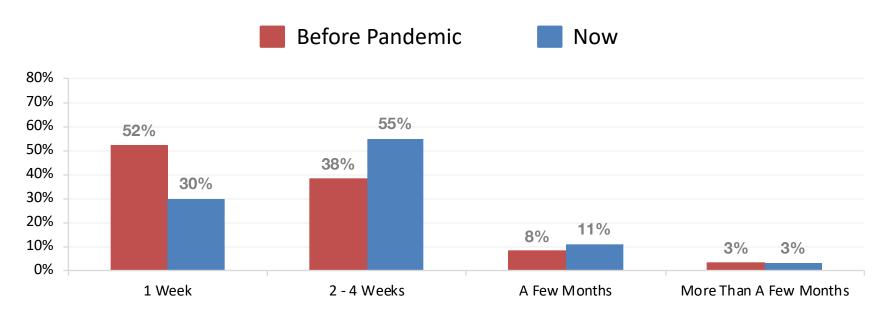
	More	Less	About The Same	
Frequency	25%	55%	20%	
■ Spending	51%	19%	30%	





Products Kept On Hand Now versus Pre-Pandemic: MEAT/SEAFOOD

"Thinking back to BEFORE the COVID-19 pandemic, for items or products you use often, how much did you typically keep on hand? How much do you NOW prefer to keep on hand?"



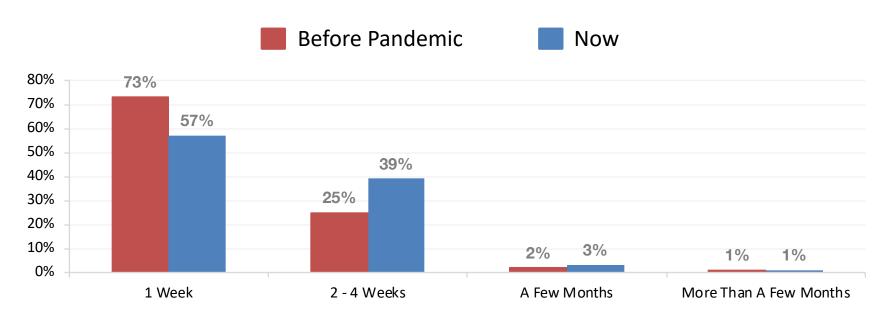
Now, more shoppers (55%) are keeping meat and seafood on hand for 2 to 4 weeks versus pre-pandemic where the highest percentage of shoppers kept one week on hand (52%).





Products Kept On Hand Now versus Pre-Pandemic: PRODUCE

"Thinking back to BEFORE the COVID-19 pandemic, for items or products you use often, how much did you typically keep on hand? How much do you NOW prefer to keep on hand?"



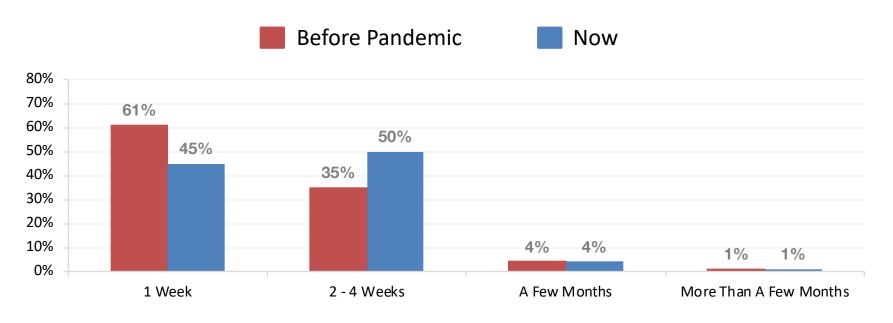
While the majority of shoppers still keep one week of produce on hand now (57%) versus pre-pandemic (73%), some shoppers have moved to keep more on hand for 2 to 4 weeks now (up to 39% versus 25% pre-pandemic).

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Products Kept On Hand Now versus Pre-Pandemic: REFRIGERATED/FRESH

"Thinking back to BEFORE the COVID-19 pandemic, for items or products you use often, how much did you typically keep on hand? How much do you NOW prefer to keep on hand?"



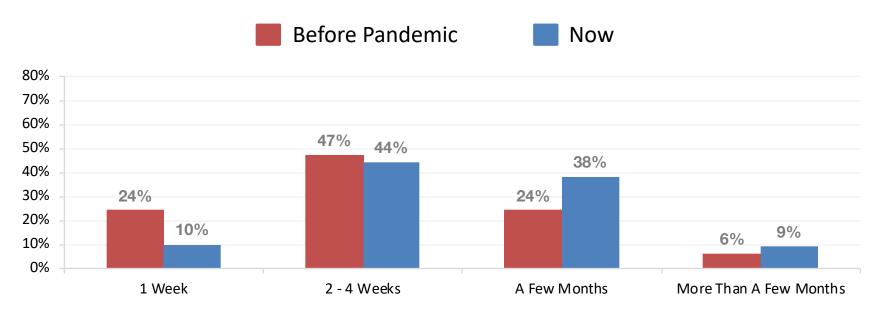
Before the pandemic 61% of shoppers indicated they kept one week of refrigerated and fresh items on hand and 35% kept 2 - 4 weeks on hand. Post-pandemic, more shoppers (50%) now keep 2 - 4 weeks on hand.





Products Kept On Hand Now versus Pre-Pandemic: FROZEN

"Thinking back to BEFORE the COVID-19 pandemic, for items or products you use often, how much did you typically keep on hand? How much do you NOW prefer to keep on hand?"



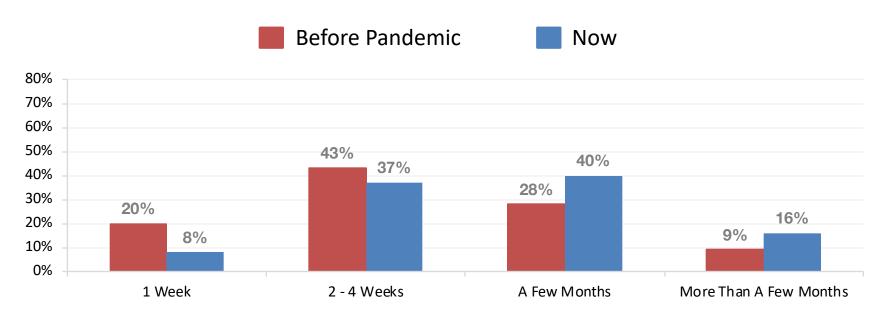
Pre-pandemic nearly half (47%) of shoppers kept 2 - 4 weeks of frozen items on hand and another 24% kept a few months, while 24% kept a week. Now, a higher percentage is stockpiling a few months (38%) and a similar number are keeping 2 - 4 weeks on hand (44%) while fewer (10%) just have a week's worth.





Products Kept On Hand Now versus Pre-Pandemic: CANNED/BOXED

"Thinking back to BEFORE the COVID-19 pandemic, for items or products you use often, how much did you typically keep on hand? How much do you NOW prefer to keep on hand?"



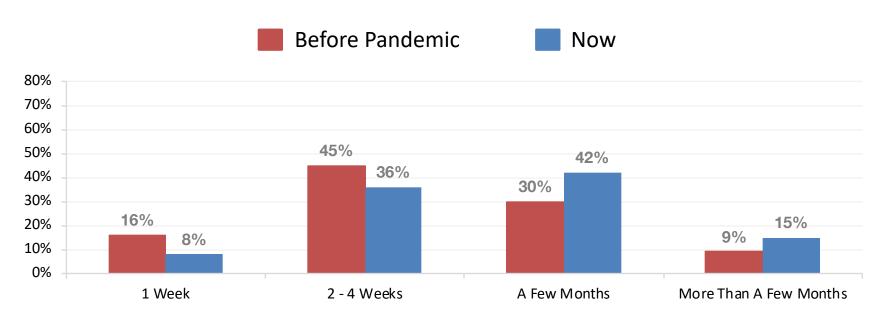
With canned/boxed items, about half as many now (8%) keep only a week on hand versus pre-pandemic (20%). Slightly more (43%) keep 2 - 4 weeks on hand now versus before (37%). But higher percentages of shoppers are keeping a few months (40% now versus 28% before) and more than a few months (16% now versus 9% before).

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Products Kept On Hand Now versus Pre-Pandemic: PERSONAL CARE/PAPER/HOUSEHOLD

"Thinking back to BEFORE the COVID-19 pandemic, for items or products you use often, how much did you typically keep on hand? How much do you NOW prefer to keep on hand?"



Pre-pandemic, 39% kept a few months/more than a few months of these products on hand and now 57% do so.



Top Products Kept On Hand

"What kinds of supermarket items are you stocking up on more now than you typically kept on hand in the past? List as many items as you would like."



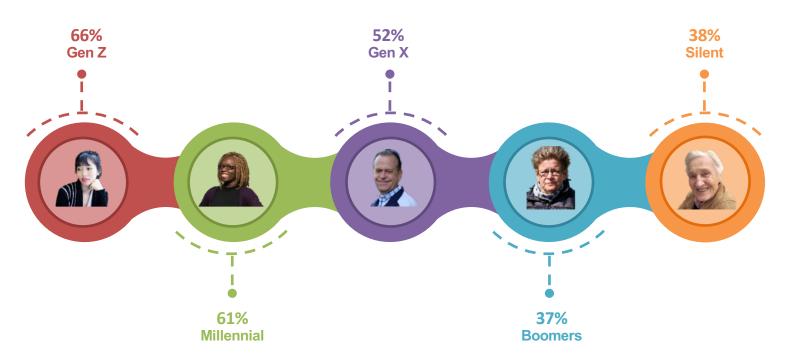
Supermarket shoppers now keep more paper products, canned, dried, or boxed foods, fresh meat, pasta / grains, and frozen items on hand than before the pandemic.



Shopping Both Online & In-Store

Overall, 50% of In-Store Supermarket Shoppers In Last 30 Days Also Ordered Groceries Online

Comfort with dual-channel food shopping is highest among the supermarket customers of the future





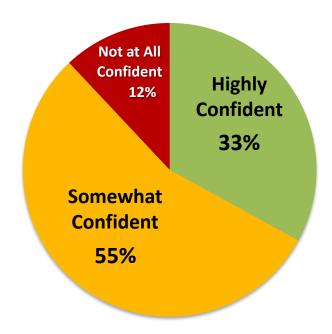




Confidence in Safety of Shopping in a Supermarket

"Apart from the food itself, how confident are you that it is safe to shop in the supermarket?"

Based on the finding that 67% of shoppers are somewhat or not at all confident that it is safe to shop in the supermarket, stores will need to gain back and maintain shopper confidence in the physical store environment.



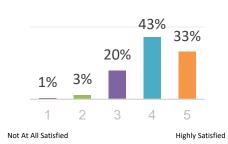


Primary Supermarket Satisfaction Serving Customers & Impression of Employee Treatment

"Overall, how satisfied are you with how the supermarket you shop most often has done in serving its customers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic?"



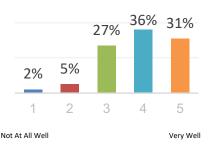
SATISFACTION SERVING CUSTOMERS



"Overall, how well does it seem the supermarket you shop most often has done in treating its employees throughout the COVID-19 pandemic?"



HOW WELL TREATED EMPLOYEES



Average = 4.04

Average = 3.90

Despite retailers' best efforts, U.S. consumers had reservations about how well their primary store treated its customers and employees.



Primary Supermarket - What Done Well During Pandemic?

"What is one thing that stands out to you, that the supermarket you shop most often has DONE WELL during the COVID-19 pandemic?"



Top Responses

Implementing Social Distancing Measures
Providing PPE to Employees and Customers
Cleaning & Sanitizing
Installing Checkout Sneeze Guards
Keeping Carts/Baskets Clean
Limiting Number of People In Store





Primary Supermarket - What Not Done Well During Pandemic?

"What is one thing that stands out to you, that the supermarket you shop most often DID NOT DO WELL during the COVID-19 pandemic?"



Top Responses

Product Not Available/Empty Shelves Not Providing/Requiring/Continuing Use of Masks Not Practicing Social Distancing Measures



Primary Supermarket - Advice

"What one piece of advice would you have for this supermarket, to be better prepared in the event of a future crisis or emergency?"



Top Suggestions

- 1. Have Enough Product
- 2. Provide/Require Masks
- 3. Limit Purchases Immediately



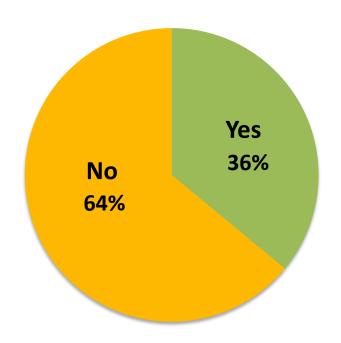


Above & Beyond Service From Supermarket Employees

"During the COVID-19 pandemic, did you experience service from a supermarket employee that went above and beyond your expectations?"



Nearly four out of ten supermarket shoppers indicated they received "above and beyond" service during the pandemic, showing strong efforts by employees these shoppers encountered despite the difficult conditions.



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Effectiveness of Supermarket Safety Measures - % Highly Effective

"Please indicate how effective you think each of the following is, as it relates to improving supermarket safety during the COVID-19 pandemic."

75% 76% **Having disinfectant** wipes available for carts

Encouraging employees to stay home if they felt ill

69% **Having hand** sanitizer available throughout the store

68% **Providing gloves** and/or masks for employees

64% Removing selfserve food stations

64% **Reducing open** hours in order sanitize and clean the store

62% **Installing** plexiglass barriers at checkout lanes

Many safety measures stores took were viewed as highly effective with the top measures including disinfectant wipes available for carts, encouraging ill employees to stay home and having hand sanitizer throughout the store, as well as providing gloves and masks for employees.

59% **Discontinuing** product demonstrations

56% **Limiting number** of people in the store

54% **Taking employees** temp before starting work shifts

49%

Not allowing merchandise to be returned

43%

Adding lines on floor or posting signs encourage six feet of distancing

39%

Not allowing customers to bring in reusable bags

35%

Using intercom/audio announcements to remind shoppers of social distancing guidelines



Supermarket Shopping Frequency Next 12 Months

"In the next 12 months, how much do you expect to shop for food and groceries AT A TRADITIONAL SUPERMARKET?"

- 19% More than now63% About the same as now
- **18%** Less than now

At the time of this study, the majority of shoppers anticipate shopping about the same as now at a traditional supermarket in the next twelve months (which may mean less frequency but a higher dollar spend).



OSAT and Net Promoter Score®

Overall trip satisfaction of most recent trip (5-point scale)

(Net Promoter Score)

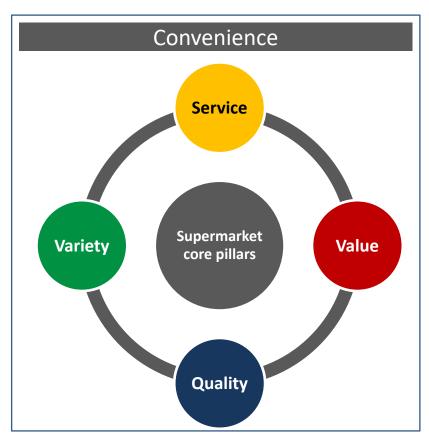
Supermarkets 2020 4.08 USUPERMARKETS 2019 4.31

Supermarkets 2020 36.1 () Supermarkets 2019 40.7

Both overall satisfaction and likelihood to recommend the supermarket shopped on the most recent trip dropped during the pandemic.

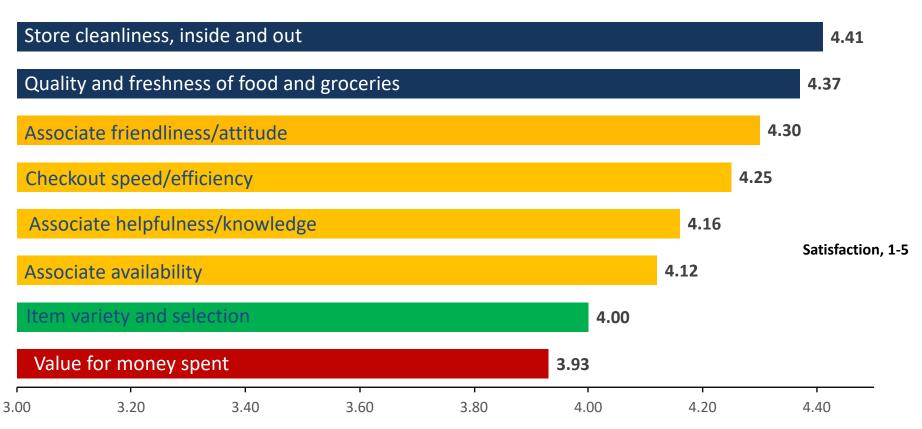


Core Experience Factors



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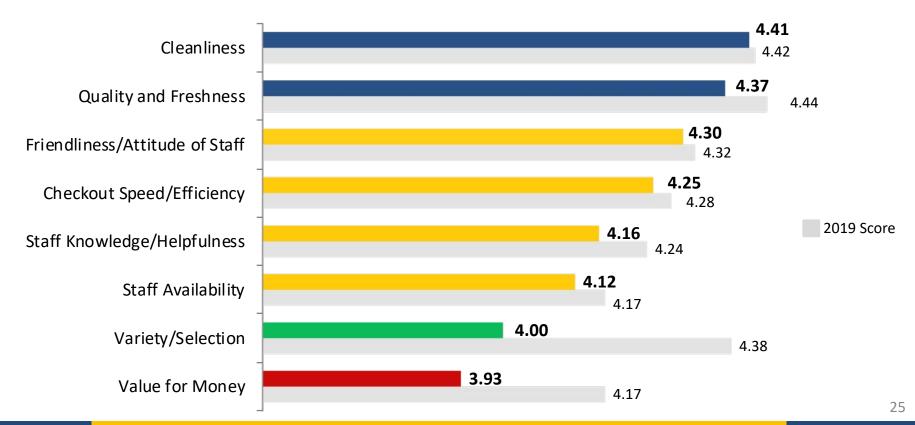
The Supermarket Pandemic Report Card: Core Experience Factors





Core Experience Factors: Year-Over-Year Change – **Supermarkets**

Declines In All Areas During Pandemic, Especially Variety/Selection & Value for Money Spent





Generational Differences

Older Generations Rate In-Store Experience Highest; Value For Money Spent Low Rated Factor

Satisfaction, 1-5

	Overall	Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X	Boomers	Silent
Overall trip experience (OSAT)	4.08	4.02	4.06	4.06	4.08	4.30
Store cleanliness, inside and out	4.41	4.23	4.30	4.37	4.49	4.77
Quality and freshness of food	4.37	4.34	4.25	4.33	4.42	4.69
Associate friendliness/attitude	4.30	4.04	4.19	4.28	4.40	4.61
Checkout speed/efficiency	4.25	3.83	4.18	4.22	4.38	4.51
Associate knowledge/helpfulness	4.16	4.03	4.01	4.16	4.27	4.54
Associate availability	4.12	4.04	4.02	4.10	4.17	4.44
Item variety/selection	4.00	4.00	3.91	4.00	4.01	4.25
Value for money spent	3.93	4.00	3.93	3.81	3.93	4.16



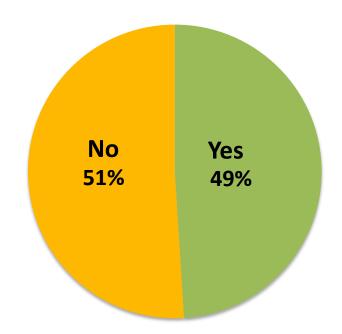
In-Stock Conditions - Items You Wanted To Purchase

"On this visit, for items that the store carries, were they in stock on everything you wanted to purchase?"

Positive In-Stock Conditions Leads To Higher Satisfaction

Yes 4.24 | 41% Highly satisfied

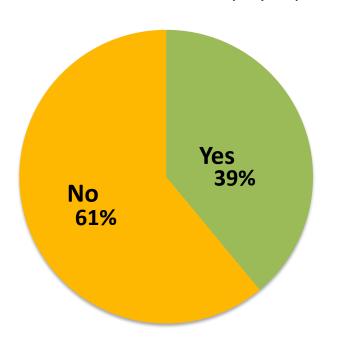
No 3.93 | 26% Highly satisfied





Employee Impact on Shopping Experience

"Did a store employee positively impact your shopping experience on this visit"



Positive Employee Interactions
Lead To Stronger Likelihood To Recommend (NPS)

Yes 54.9 Net Promoter Score

No. 24.3 Net Promoter Score



Deals Searched By Shoppers Across Traditional, Social, Mobile & Digital Media

Refer to 1+ advertising/sales vehicle before or during the visit

2020 | 55% 2019 | 73%

The biggest drop was in reviewing the circular in-store and in-store promotions. This isn't surprising given the reduced focus on sales versus having product in stock during the pandemic and the then current guidelines that indicated touching items could spread COVID-19.

48% 2020 34% 2020 28% 2020 33% 2019 30% 2019 51% 2019 Circular at Digital **Digital** Circular Coupons Home 24% 2020 17% 2020 17% 2020 29% 2019 23% 2019 15% 2019 Clipped Loyalty Smartphone Offers Research Coupons **15% 2020** 14% 2020 6% 2020 23% 2019 33% 2019 7% 2019 In-Store Circular Social Media Specials **Promotions** In-Store

Multiple

Responses

Allowed





Boomers Heavier Users of Circulars, Clipped Coupons, and In-Store Promotions

Advertising/Sales Vehicles	Overall		Millennials		Gen X		Boomers	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
Printed Circular At Home	48%	51%	36%	40%	46%	45%	74%	62%
Digital Coupons	34%	33%	35%	35%	40%	35%	34%	30%
Digital Circular	28%	30%	29%	32%	22%	36%	38%	28%
Clipped Coupons	24%	29%	16%	23%	20%	29%	33%	30%
Loyalty Program Offers	17%	23%	16%	25%	22%	24%	16%	20%
Smartphone Research	17%	15%	20%	21%	21%	19%	12%	8%
In-Store Promotions	15%	23%	12%	19%	14%	27%	21%	22%
Printed Circular In-Store	14%	33%	11%	35%	14%	34%	21%	31%
Social Media Specials	6%	7%	14%	12%	3%	6%	2%	3%

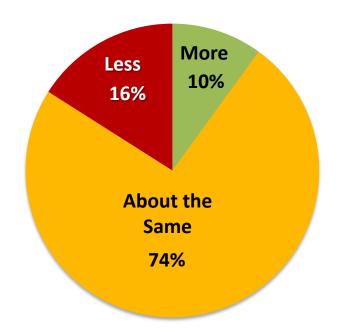
Multiple Responses Allowed 30



Use of Paper Circulars in Next 12 Months

"In the next 12 months, how much do you expect to use paper circulars to review a store's advertised specials?"

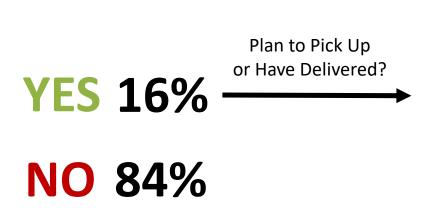
The vast majority of shoppers expect to use paper circulars to review a store's advertised specials "about the same" in the the next 12 months.



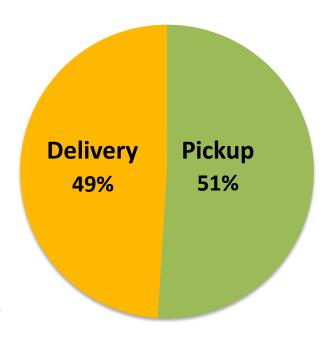


In-Store Shoppers: Plan To Try Online Shopping In Next 30 Days

"You indicated earlier that you have NOT tried shopping online for food or groceries in the last 30 days. Do you plan to try shopping online for food and groceries in the next 30 days?"



In-store shoppers who have not already tried online shopping during the pandemic mostly don't plan to do so. Among those who do plan to try it, about half plan to try pickup and the other half delivery.





ONLINE SHOPPER RESULTS



First Time Online Shopping?

"Was this the first time you had shopped ONLINE, with any store/provider, for food and grocery items?"

YES 36%

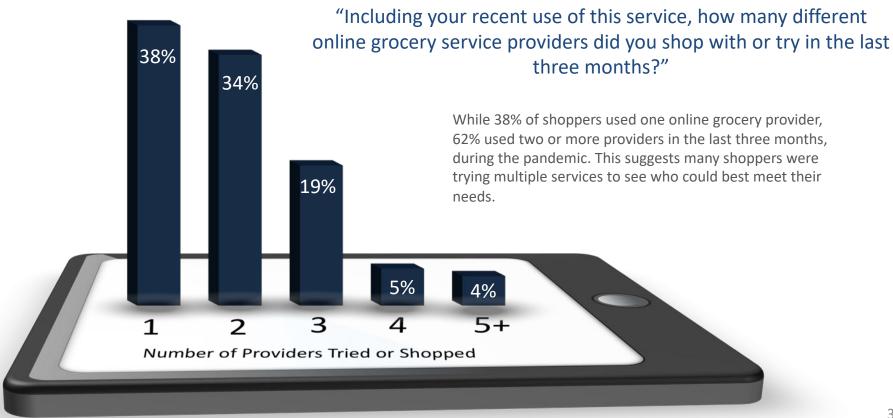


NO 64%

About a third of shoppers who indicated their most recent shopping experience was online also said it was their first time shopping online for food and grocery items.



Use of Different Online Grocery Service Providers - Last Three Months







Expect To Purchase Groceries Online In Next Twelve Months

"In the next 12 months, how much do you expect to purchase grocery items online?"



49% 41% 46%

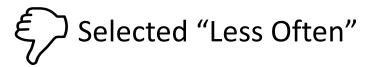
48% 54% 37%

3% 4% (17%)



Indicated "More Often"

Indicated "About the Same"



Some shoppers who may have been purchasing online during the pandemic don't expect to continue, based on the high percentage (17%) indicating "less often" in 2020 when looking out over the next twelve months.



Pickup Orders Continue to Rise, As Does Instacart Fulfillment

"How was your online order fulfilled?"

Pickup

Delivery



2020 36%

% of Orders/Deliveries

Handled by Instacart

2019 27%

49% •

"Was your online order or delivery handled by Instacart?"

51% •• 2020

47%

53%

57%

2019

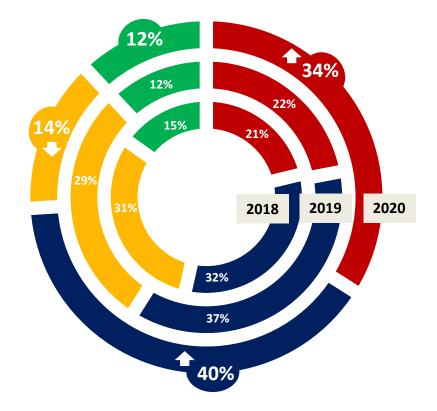
43% 2018



Online Grocery Shopping Services: Share of Survey Respondents 2018-2020

"Which online grocery store/service did you most recently use [in the last 30 days]?"

- Supermarkets
- Walmart
- Amazon
- All Others



During the pandemic, supermarkets surged in online shopping use (+12%), while Amazon dropped (-15%) and Walmart increased slightly (+3%).



Planning To Purchase Online in the Next 12 Months By Major Segment

"In the coming year, how often do you expect to purchase grocery items online?"

	More		About t	he Same	Less	
					É	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Amazon Shoppers	37%	52%	59%	35%	5%	13%
Walmart Shoppers	47%	46%	50%	38%	3%	16%
Supermarket Shoppers	41%	44%	54%	36%	5%	20%

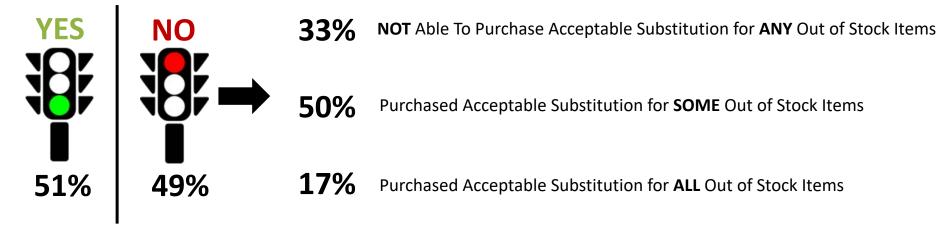




In-Stock Conditions Items You Wanted To Purchase/Substitutions

"On this visit, for items that the service carries, were they in stock on everything you wanted to purchase?"

"How were substitutions handled for out of stock items?"



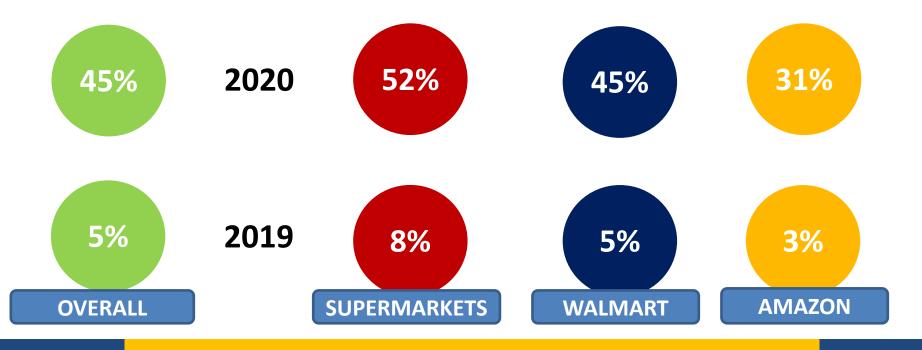
Half of shoppers indicated the online service was not in stock on everything that they wanted to purchase. Further, only 17% were able to purchase an acceptable substitution for ALL out of stock items.



Received All Items Ordered - Percent Indicating "NO" During Pandemic

"Did you wind up receiving all the items you ordered (or an acceptable substitute)?"

Nearly half (45%) of all shoppers indicated they did not receive all items ordered, or an acceptable substitution. Supermarkets recorded the highest percentage at 52%, while Walmart was at 45% and Amazon at 31%. Note that these numbers were massively higher given the pandemic as compared to last year's numbers.

















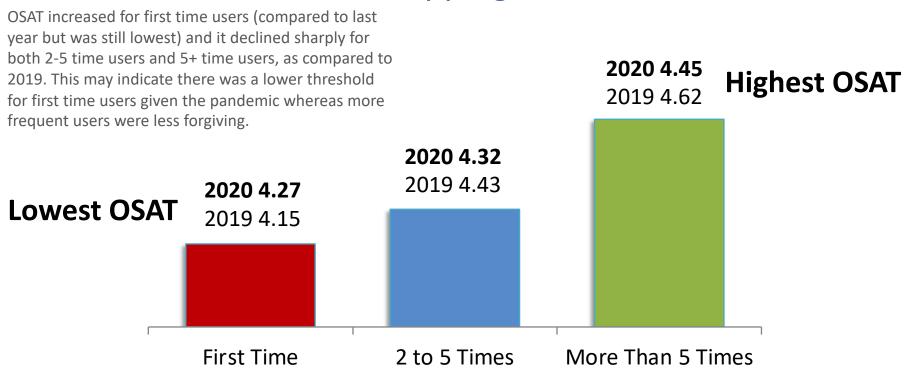








Overall Satisfaction & Frequency Of Use of Online Shopping Service



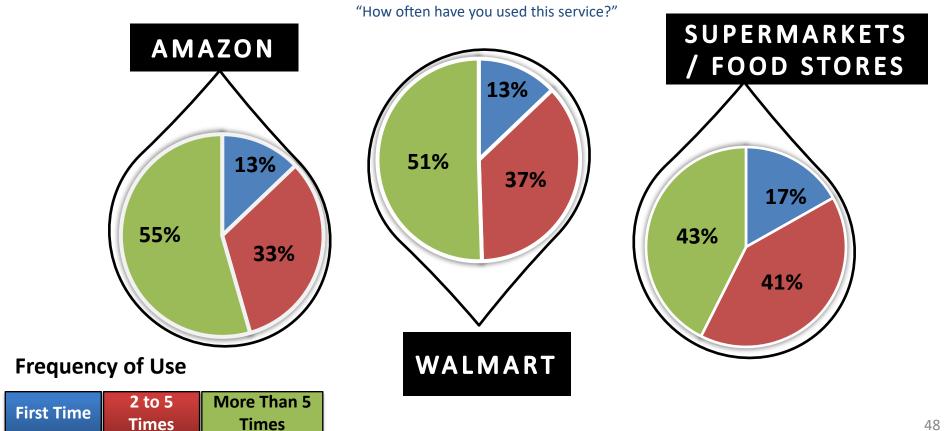
"How often have you used this service?"







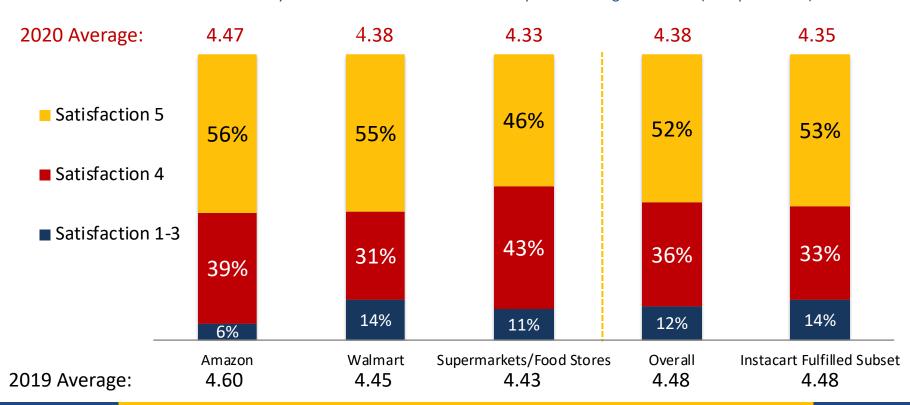
Supermarkets Show Highest Percentage of First Time Users





Overall Satisfaction Drops Across All Retailers Measured And Among Instacart Fulfilled Subset

"Please rate your OVERALL satisfaction with this experience using this service (on 5-point scale)"



Elements of Online Shopping Experience Ordering Factors – % Strongly Agree – by Provider

"Please rate each of the following statements as it relates to your most recent use of this service."

	Overall	Amazon	Walmart	Supermarkets / Food Stores	Instacart Fulfilled Subset
The online checkout process worked well and without problems.	60%	64%	58%	60%	57%
The website/app worked smoothly during the whole order process.	51%	60%	49%	50%	49%
It was easy to navigate through the site/app to locate the items I wanted.	47%	57%	48%	43%	41%
The items I wanted to buy were instock on the shopping website.	26%	39%	26%	21%	29%
It was easy to identify sale or special prices and have those discounts applied during checkout.	42%	49%	38%	42%	40%

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Elements of Online Shopping Experience Fulfillment Factors – % Strongly Agree – by Provider

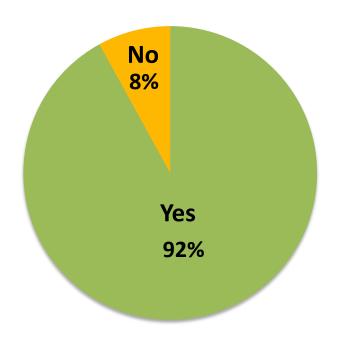
"Please rate each of the following statements as it relates to your most recent use of this service."

	Overall	Amazon	Walmart	Supermarkets / Food Stores	Instacart Fulfilled Subset
The order pickup or delivery process was prompt and efficient.	55%	59%	55%	52%	48%
There was an available pickup or delivery time that was convenient for me.	51%	57%	51%	47%	52%
The items I received were packaged well.	55%	62%	51%	55%	48%
The items I received met my standards for quality and freshness.	52%	55%	51%	49%	48%
Overall I received good value for the money I paid for this order.	45%	44%	50%	40%	45%



Order Delivered In Time Window Selected?

"Was your order delivered in the time window you selected? (among shoppers fulfilled by delivery)"



Once shoppers were able to obtain a delivery window, the vast majority indicated that their order was delivered in that window.



Interaction With Staff

"Did you have any interaction with any of the following staff during the course of your most recent online shopping experience? If yes, rate the following."

	Average (5-point agreement scale)
PERSONAL SHOPPER	
The personal shopper was friendly.	4.50
The personal shopper was helpful/knowledgeable.	4.43
STORE STAFF	
The store staff was friendly.	4.44
The store staff was helpful/knowledgeable.	4.37
DELIVERY DRIVER	
The delivery driver was friendly.	4.63
The delivery driver was helpful/knowledgeable.	4.47

Perceived service was reasonably strong, with higher marks given for friendliness than helpfulness.





Primary Online Store Or Service - What Done Well During Pandemic?

"Now thinking about the online shopping site or service you use most often, what is one thing that stands out to you, that they have DONE WELL during the COVID-19 pandemic?"



Top Responses

Product Availability
Good Customer Service
Contactless Delivery/Pick-Up
Efficient/Fast





Primary Online Store Or Service - What Not Done Well During Pandemic?

"What is one thing that stands out to you, that the online shopping site/service you use most often DID NOT DO WELL during the COVID-19 pandemic?"



Top Responses

Limited Product Availability / Out of Stocks Delivery/Pick-Up Slots Difficult To Get



Primary Online Store Or Service - Advice

"What one piece of advice would you have for this online shopping site/service, to be better prepared in the event of a future crisis or emergency?"



Top Suggestions

- 1. Better Product Availability
- 2. Need More Delivery/Pick-Up Slots
- 3. Need More Staff

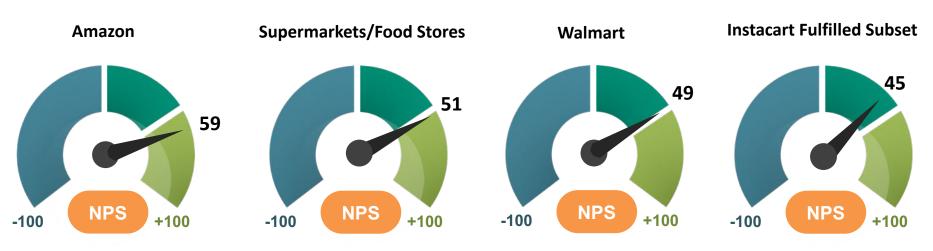




Net Promoter Scores For All Major Providers

"On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest), how likely are you to recommend this service as a place to shop for food and groceries?"

Overall 2020 Net Promoter Score = 51 (compared to 55 in 2019)



Net Promoter Score was highest for Amazon at 59 (up from 54 last year), followed by Supermarkets at 51 (down from 57 in 2019) and Walmart at 49 (down from 54 last year). Shoppers with Instacart fulfilled orders gave the lowest Net Promoter Scores of 45 (a significant decline from the NPS of 64 in 2019).

57

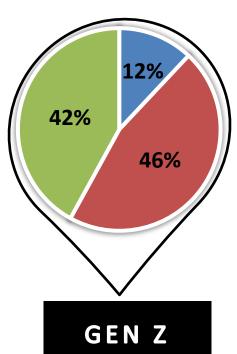


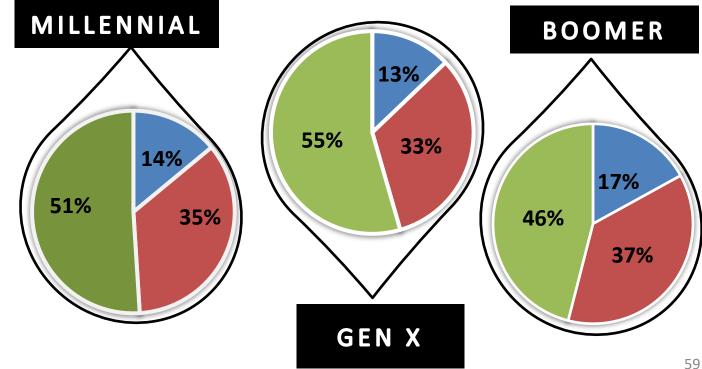


Frequency of Use of Online Shopping By Generation

"How often have you used this service?"



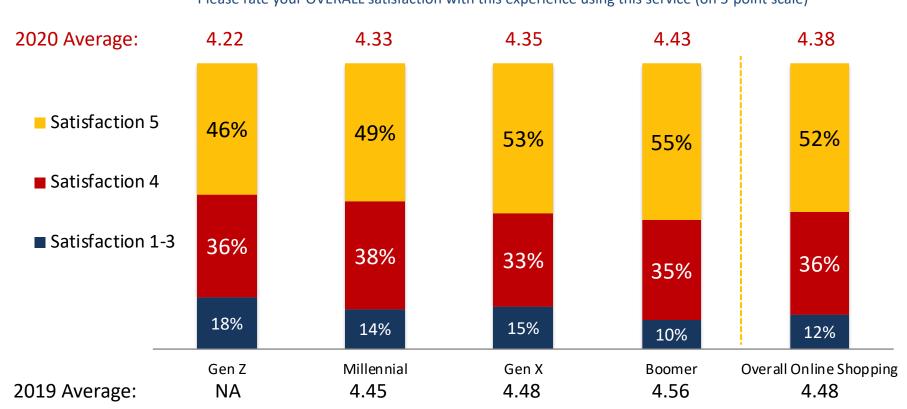






Overall Satisfaction With Online Food Shopping Drops; Satisfaction Increases With Age

"Please rate your OVERALL satisfaction with this experience using this service (on 5-point scale)"



60





Elements of Online Shopping Experience Ordering Factors – % Strongly Agree – by Generation

"Please rate each of the following statements as it relates to your most recent use of this service."

	Overall	Gen Z	Millennial	Gen X	Boomer
The online checkout process worked well and without problems.	60%	48%	55%	56%	69%
The website/app worked smoothly during the whole order process.	51%	41%	47%	51%	57%
It was easy to navigate through the site/app to locate the items I wanted.	47%	41%	42%	47%	51%
The items I wanted to buy were available on the shopping website.	26%	24%	26%	31%	22%
It was easy to identify sale or special prices and have those discounts applied during checkout.	42%	37%	40%	42%	44%



Elements of Online Shopping Experience Fulfillment Factors – % Strongly Agree – by Generation

"Please rate each of the following statements as it relates to your most recent use of this service."

	Overall	Gen Z	Millennial	Gen X	Boomer
The order pickup or delivery process was prompt and efficient.	55%	52%	46%	50%	68%
There was an available pickup or delivery time that was convenient for me.	51%	49%	42%	55%	57%
The items I received were packaged well.	55%	48%	49%	49%	64%
The items I received met my standards for quality and freshness.	52%	48%	44%	47%	63%
Overall I received good value for the money I paid for this order.	45%	41%	46%	41%	46%



Some Shoppers Looking At Purchasing More Often In Coming Year While Others Planning To Shift To Less Online Shopping Post-Pandemic

"In the coming year, how often do you expect to purchase grocery items online?"

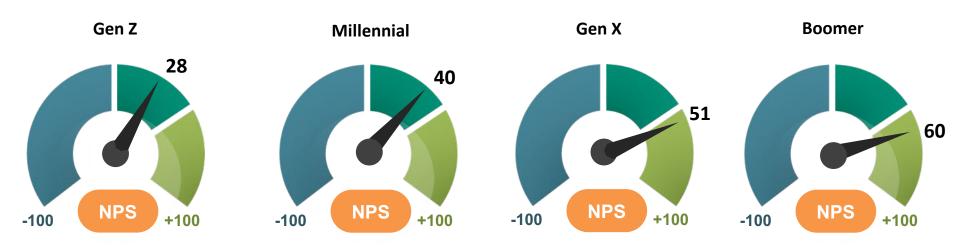
0 7	•	•		9 ,		
	More		About the Same		Less	
Gen Z Shoppers	2019 NA	2020 35%	2019 NA	2020 38%	2019 NA	2020 27%
Millennial Shoppers	48%	54%	48%	33% 🕕	4%	13%
Gen X Shoppers	43%	53%	54%	36% 🔱	3%	12%
Boomer Shoppers	38%	41%	59%	42% 🔱	3%	17% 1



Net Promoter Scores For Major Generations

"On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest), how likely are you to recommend this service as a place to shop for food and groceries?"

Overall 2020 Net Promoter Score = 51 (compared to 55 in 2019)



Net Promoter Score was highest for Boomers at 60 (down from 65 last year), followed by Gen X at 51 (similar to 52 in 2019) and Millennials at 40 (down from 51 last year). Gen Z shoppers, included this year for the first time, registered the lowest NPS of 28.

64



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