Household Food Security in the US, 2016
USDA ERS Report

Indiana Food-insecure households: 15.2%
Indiana Very low food security households: 6.8%

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Food Insecurity by Household Characteristics

The prevalence of food insecurity varied considerably among household types. Rates of food insecurity were higher than the national average (12.3 percent) for the following groups:

- All households with children (16.5 percent),
- Households with children under age 6 (16.6 percent),
- Households with children headed by a single woman (31.6 percent),
- Households with children headed by a single man (21.7 percent),
- Women living alone (13.9 percent),
- Men living alone (14.3 percent),
- Black, non-Hispanic households (22.5 percent),
- Hispanic households (18.5 percent), and
- Low-income households with incomes below 185 percent of the poverty threshold (31.6 percent; the Federal poverty line was $24,339 for a family of four in 2016).
Prevalence of food insecurity, 2016

Food Insecurity Among African Americans

- The food insecurity rate among African-American households is more than double that of white, non-Hispanic households.

- An estimated 1 in 5 (22.5%) African-American households is food insecure as compared to 1 in 11 (9%) White, non Hispanic households and 1 in 8 (12%) households overall.

- An estimated 1 in 4 (26%) African-American children live in food-insecure households as compared to 1 in 8 (13%) White, non-Hispanic children.

- While the 105 counties in 2015 with a majority African-American population represent only 3% of all U.S. counties, 92% of African-American majority counties fall into the top 10% of counties with the highest rates of food insecurity. Majority African-American counties, however, have an average unemployment rate (9%) and poverty rate (29%) that, while substantially higher than the national average (6% and 17%, respectively) are roughly the same as other high food insecurity rate counties (8% and 27%, respectively).
Food Insecurity Among African Americans

- Of the 10 counties with the highest food-insecurity rates in the nation, they are all at least 65% African American. Seven of the 10 counties are located in Mississippi.
- Four out of the 97 majority African-American counties that fall into the top 10% of counties with the highest rates of food insecurity also fall into the top 10% of counties with the highest food costs; the average cost per meal in these counties is $3.37, as compared with the national average of $2.94.
Charitable Food Assistance Among African Americans

- African American households are disproportionately represented within the charitable food assistance client population.

- More than 1 in 4 (31%) African Americans in the U.S. are served by the Feeding America network each year, totaling 12 million African American adults, seniors and children. 6 7

- Ten percent of the white non-Hispanic population in the U.S. are people Feeding America serves, meaning African Americans are three times as likely to receive assistance through the Feeding America network as compared to their white, non-Hispanic peers.
Food Insecurity Among Latinos

- 1 in 5 (20%) Latinos are food insecure as compared to just 1 in 10 (9.5%) white, non-Hispanics and 1 in 8 (13%) Americans overall.
- 1 in 4 Latino children (24%) live in a food-insecure household as compared to 1 in 8 (13%) white, non-Hispanic children.
- The 94 counties in 2015 with a majority Hispanic population compose 3% of all U.S. counties. Twenty-one percent of these majority-Hispanic counties fall into the top 10% of counties with the highest rates of childhood food insecurity.
- Of the top 20 counties in the nation with the highest food-insecurity rates for children, three have a population that is majority Hispanic.
- Median income for Hispanic households ($47,675) is significantly lower than their white, non Hispanic counterparts ($65,041).
- Poverty rates for Hispanics (19%) were more than double that of non-Hispanic whites (9%).
- Eight percent of Latinos live in deep poverty (with incomes below 50% of the federal poverty threshold), compared to 6% of all people in the United States.
Food Assistance Among Latinos

- Latino households are disproportionately represented among people who receive food assistance. Latinos are nearly two times as likely to receive charitable food assistance as their white, non-Hispanic peers.

- More than 1 in 6 (17%) Latinos in the U.S. are served by the Feeding America network each year, totaling 9 million Latino adults, seniors and children. In contrast, 10% of the white non-Hispanic population in the U.S. are people Feeding America serves, meaning Latinos are almost two times as likely to receive assistance through the Feeding America network as their white, non-Hispanic peers.

- Among households Feeding America serves, Latino households with children are more likely to have one or more members working (81%) than are all households with children (73%).

- Despite the fact that they are more likely to be working, Latino households with children that Feeding America serves may struggle more because they have greater food budget needs. Among Latino households with children that are served by the Feeding America network, 82% have four or more members. For comparison, among all households with children that Feeding America serves, 70% have four or more members. Additionally, among Latino households with children that are served by the Feeding America network, 32% have six or more members, compared to 23% of all households with children that Feeding America serves.
Food Assistance Among Latinos

- Latino households with children served by Feeding America are more likely to have incomes below the federal poverty threshold (82%) than are all households with children that Feeding America serves (77%).

- Among households Feeding America serves, Latino households with children are less likely to have ever applied for SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) (77%) than are all households with children (84%). Latino households we serve with children are also less likely to be receiving SNAP benefits currently (55%) than are all households with children that we serve (59%).

- Among heads of SNAP-receiving households, 11% were Hispanic compared to 39% who identified as white, non Hispanic.
Nutrition and Obesity Among Latinos

- Latinos are at greater risk of obesity and diabetes than their white, non-Hispanic peers. Diabetes and other chronic health conditions can further complicate the issue of food insecurity.

- Hispanics are at greater risk of obesity than other racial and ethnic groups. In 2015, Hispanic Americans were 1.1 times more likely to be obese than non-Hispanic whites (32% versus 29%).

- Prevalence of diagnosed diabetes is higher for Hispanics overall (12%) than for whites (7%). Hispanic males are not only at greater risk of diabetes than white males (13% versus 8%), but also Hispanic females (12%) and white females (7%).
Food Assistance Resources

- SNAP
- WIC
- School meals
- Summer meals
- Charitable food
What can I do to help?

Anti-Hunger Action Team
www.feedingindianashungry.org

www.facebook.com/SNAPWorksforHoosiers/
@SNAPWorks4IN
Sources

How to find us

Www.feedingindianashungry.org
www.facebook.com/Feedingindianashungry
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