



## **10 Facts Every Candidate Should Know About Hunger**

1. More than 37 million Americans live in households that struggle against hunger, and nearly 1 in 7 households with children cannot afford to buy enough food for their families.
2. In 2018, 38.1 million people (11.8 percent), including more than 11.9 million children (16 percent), lived in poverty.
3. Households in rural areas experience considerably deeper struggles with hunger compared to those in metro areas, with higher rates of food insecurity overall (12.7 percent compared to 10.8 percent) and higher rates of very low food security (4.8 percent compared to 4.2 percent).
4. Hunger hurts us all. Eliminating hunger would save the nation billions of dollars in health care costs and lost economic productivity.
5. The Child Nutrition Programs are profoundly important for the well-documented benefits they provide that increase the health and well-being of children and families.
6. Close to 80 percent of people who participate in SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) are either working or cannot work because they are children, older adults (60+), or have disabilities.
7. SNAP boosts local economies. Estimates, issued by Moody's Analytics and others, of the economic growth impact of SNAP during a recession range from \$1.50 to \$1.80 per \$1 of SNAP benefits.
8. Hunger is an economic condition. Policies that promote a full employment economy with adequate wages and incomes can take the country a long way toward ending hunger.
9. Ending hunger is a goal that the American people fully support. Polls have consistently found that voters do not think the government is doing enough to solve hunger.
10. The private sector — business, labor, and charitable efforts — can bolster the government's leadership in alleviating hunger, but it cannot take the place of government's steadfast commitment, strong policies, and adequate investments to end it. For example, for every meal provided by the Feeding America network, SNAP provides nine.