

# MEASURING HUNGER

**1980s**

Recession and budget cuts in federal safety net programs mean that communities start to see a higher demand for emergency food, especially among women and families with young children. Some government officials deny there is hunger.

**1985 - 1987**

FRAC and allied state advocates begin to test the survey, starting in Connecticut and Washington.

**1983**

FRAC releases *How to Document Hunger in Your Community*.

**1984**

FRAC convenes academics, researchers, and advocates for a day-long conference to develop a uniform and science-based hunger survey focused on child hunger.

**1989 - 1990**

FRAC carries out the survey in seven more states, releasing the results with local groups. The study and its methodology are named the Community Childhood Hunger Identification Project (CCHIP).

**1990**

FRAC leads a successful national advocacy campaign to include the development of a national measure of food insufficiency in the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act

**1992 - 1994**

FRAC conducts CCHIP surveys in nine more states.

**1995**

For the first time, the Census Bureau includes food insecurity survey questions in its Current Population Survey, establishing a national measure of hunger.

**1997**

USDA and the Census Bureau release the first-ever government study of the number of hungry Americans, using methodology adapted from FRAC's CCHIP surveys. The study continues to be conducted annually.

**1991**

FRAC develops and releases through CCHIP the most comprehensive study of childhood hunger ever conducted, estimating that one in eight children under the age of 12 is hungry.

**1994**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Consumer Service (now known as the Food and Nutrition Service) sponsors a conference for researchers, government officials, and others to review and discuss creating a hunger measurement survey.

**2025**

FRAC sounds the alarm saying that USDA's decision to terminate future Economic Research Service Household Food Security reports is shortsighted and dismisses the need for clarity on the extent of food insecurity for families and struggling communities across the country.