

# Technical Notes and Sources

## Population, Income and Poverty Data

### Population

*Total Population and Child Population.* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates Program. Downloaded from: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html>.

### Income

*Median Household Income.* Table DP03, U.S. Bureau of the Census, ACS. Downloaded from: <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?hidePreview=true&table=DP03&tid=ACSDP1Y2018.DP03&lastDisplayedRow=144&q=DP03%3A%20SELECTED%20ECONOMIC%20CHARACTERISTICS&q=0100000US..04000.001>.

### Poverty and Low-Income Status

Table B17024, U.S. Bureau of the Census, ACS, via <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?hidePreview=true&table=B17024&tid=ACSDT1Y2018.B17024&lastDisplayedRow=11&q=B17024%3A%20AGE%20BY%20RATIO%20OF%20INCOME%20TO%20POVERTY%20LEVEL%20IN%20THE%20PAST%2012%20MONTHS&q=0100000US..04000.001>.

## Food Insecurity

### Food Insecure and Very Low Food Secure Households

Alisha Coleman-Jensen, Matthew P. Rabbitt, Christian A. Gregory, and Anita Singh. 2019. Household Food Security in the United States in 2018, ERR-270, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service. At the state level, to compensate for smaller sample sizes and higher standard errors, we use USDA's three-year averages from 2016 to 2018 for the state estimates. View the full report here: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/pub-details/?pubid=94848>.

### Food Insecure and Very Low Food Secure Households, by Race/Ethnicity

FRAC analysis of 2016-2018 Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement (CPS-FSS) data. Read more about the data and find links for downloading datasets here: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-security-in-the-united-states/>.

### Definitions of Food Insecurity

USDA measures food insecurity only as related to financial constraints. Food-secure households have access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food insecure households do not have access to enough food to fully meet basic needs at all times. Food-insecure households are further classified into categories of low and very low food security based on the severity of their circumstances.

Adults in households with low food security are so limited in resources to buy food that they are running out of food, reducing the quality of food their family eats, feeding their children unbalanced diets, skipping meals so their children can eat, or taking other steps that impair the adequacy of the family's diet.

Households with very low food security are those in which adults have decreased the quality and quantity of food they consume because of a lack of financial resources to the point where they are likely to go hungry at times, or in which children's intake has been reduced due to a lack of family financial resources, to the point that children are likely to go hungry at times.

## Federal Food Program Data

Data obtained from the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). Unless otherwise noted, the published data can be found at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/data-and-statistics>. The rest of the data are from USDA, Office of Budget and Program Analysis, or are unpublished data obtained by FRAC from USDA.

### School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Numbers of participating students are reported for the 2018-2019 school year (September 2018 to May 2019) and are estimates generated by the USDA from states' reports of meals served. Numbers of participating schools were reported by states to USDA in October 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year. Federal funding levels are preliminary data for the 2018-2019 school year. Federal funding amounts for the breakfast and lunch programs consist of reimbursements to states for meals. These numbers do not include commodities given to states for use in school meals or any state funding provided for these programs.

The estimated participation ratios are based on the number of children receiving a free or reduced-price breakfast on an average day divided by the number receiving free or reduced-price lunch on an average day. We estimated how many additional children would be served free or reduced-price school breakfast if each state achieved a ratio of 70 children receiving a free or reduced-price breakfast for every 100 receiving a free or reduced-price lunch, and how much in additional federal reimbursements the state would receive as a result. The information on school breakfast legislative mandates comes from a survey conducted by FRAC in 2019 of state school food officials. All of this information can be found in FRAC's report School Breakfast Scorecard: School Year 2018-2019 at: <https://frac.org/research/resource-library/school-breakfast-scorecard-2018-2019-school-year-february-2020>.

### Afterschool Nutrition Programs

Afterschool nutrition program data are collected from USDA/FNS and from a survey of state child nutrition officials conducted by FRAC. The data do not include the Afterschool Nutrition Programs in Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, or Department of Defense

schools. They also do not include Outside School Hours Care Centers (OSHCC), due to data limitations. The data are based on meals and snacks served in October of each year. For additional information on afterschool nutrition programs, see FRAC's report, *Afterschool Suppers: A Snapshot of Participation (October 2019)* <https://frac.org/research/resource-library/afterschool-suppers-a-snapshot-of-participation-october-2019>.

### **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)**

Participation numbers are reported for July 2018. "Summer Nutrition" participation refers to the combination of child participation in the Summer Food Service Program in July and student participation in free and reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch (NSLP) Program in July. This combination gives a fuller picture of how effectively children are being fed in the summer months.

FRAC estimated the participation rate by dividing the number of children participating in summer nutrition programs on an average day in July 2018 by the number of children receiving a free or reduced-price school lunch during the previous school year. We then estimated how many additional children would be served in the summer—and how much additional federal reimbursement the state would receive—if each state reached 40 children with the summer nutrition programs for every 100 participating in free or reduced-price school lunch during the year. This is a goal that several states have achieved in recent years. For additional information on summer nutrition programs, see FRAC's report, *Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Summer Nutrition Status Report 2018* <https://frac.org/research/resource-library/hunger-doesnt-take-a-vacation-summer-nutrition-status-report-2019>.

### **SNAP/Food Stamp Program**

*Average Monthly Participation; Average Benefit Per Person; Federal Funding.* Participation numbers for SNAP/food stamps are preliminary average monthly participation numbers for fiscal year 2019. Administrative costs represent only the federal share, not state funds, and also do not include federal money for education and training programs sometimes included in the administrative cost category by USDA. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>.

*SNAP Participation Rates.* *Reaching Those In Need: Estimates of State Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation Rates in 2016*, by Karen E. Cunnyngham, Mathematica Policy Research, for USDA/FNS, March 2019. Report and data can be accessed at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/reaching-those-need-estimates-state-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-participation-rates-fy>.

*SNAP Program Access Index (PAI).* *Calculating the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Program Access Index: A Step-By-Step Guide.* <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/calculating-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap-program-access-index-step-step-guide>.

*SNAP Participation by Race/Ethnicity.* FRAC analysis of 2018 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Area (ACS PUMS) data. Read more about the data here: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/pums/documentation.html>.

### **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)**

*WIC Participation.* Average monthly participation in FY 2019 obtained from USDA/FNS WIC program data website: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>. Data for FY 2014 (for 5-year change) obtained by FRAC from USDA/FNS.

*WIC Federal Funding.* Total federal funding in FY 2019 obtained from USDA/FNS website: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-funding-and-program-data>.

*WIC Coverage Rates.* Data from [National- and State-Level Estimates of WIC Eligibility and WIC Program Reach in 2017](#), USDA/FNS, December 2019.

### **Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)**

FRAC obtained FY 2019 data from USDA/FNS. Data do not include adult participation. The number of childcare centers and average daily attendance for centers include Head Start programs. Unlike participation data in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, average daily attendance is not adjusted for absenteeism.

## **State Economic Security Policies**

### **State Minimum Wage**

The state minimum wage values are from the U.S. Department of Labor (effective January 1, 2020): <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/minimum-wage/state>.

### **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)**

The EITC information comes from "States Can Adopt or Expand Earned Income Tax Credits to Build a Stronger Future Economy," Erica Williams, Samantha Waxman, and Juliette Legendre, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, updated March 9, 2020:

<https://www.cbpp.org/research/state-budget-and-tax/states-can-adopt-or-expand-earned-income-tax-credits-to-build-a>.

### **White-Minority Wage Equity**

White-minority wage equity is the percent difference in earnings between white workers and workers of color of similar age, level of education, and occupation.

<http://www.loyno.edu/jsri/news/study-loyola-university-new-orleans-jesuit-social-research-institute-issues-2018-justsouth-inde>

### **White-Minority Employment Equity**

White-minority employment equity is the gap in unemployment rates between white and minority workers.

<http://www.loyno.edu/jsri/news/study-loyola-university-new-orleans-jesuit-social-research-institute-issues-2018-justsouth-inde>

## **Health Determinants and Outcomes**

### **Low-Birthweight Births**

Low birthweight is birthweight of less than 2,500 grams. Data from Births: Final Data for 2018, Supplemental tables, National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 68, No. 13, November 27, 2019:

[https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr68/nvsr68\\_13\\_tables-508.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr68/nvsr68_13_tables-508.pdf).

### **Breastfeeding Rates**

Percent of infants born in 2015 that were ever breastfed. Data from Breastfeeding Report Card, United States, 2018, Centers for Disease Control.

<https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/data/reportcard.htm>

### **Severely Housing-Cost Burdened**

The share of households (renters and owners) that spend 50 percent or more of their incomes on housing and utility costs (2016 or 2012–16 ACS data). Data from Disrupting Food Insecurity, Urban Institute.

<https://apps.urban.org/features/disrupting-food-insecurity/>

### **Limited Access to Healthy Food**

The share of low-income people (less than or equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold) that do not live within 10 miles of a grocery store in rural areas or within 1 mile in nonrural areas (2015 USDA Food Environment Atlas data). Data accessed 2020 via Disrupting Food Insecurity, Urban Institute.

<https://apps.urban.org/features/disrupting-food-insecurity/>

### **Percent of Public Schools Segregated by Race**

Percent of public schools where more than 90 percent of students attending the school were the same race, and the racial composition of the school's student population was significantly different (5 percentage points) from that of the overall student population in the county. Data from JustSouth Index 2018, Jesuit Social Research Institute, Loyola University New Orleans.

<http://www.loyno.edu/jsri/news/study-loyola-university-new-orleans-jesuit-social-research-institute-issues-2018-justsouth-inde>

### **Percent of Schools with Salad Bars**

Percent of secondary schools that offered a self-serve salad bar to students. Data from School Health Profiles 2018: Characteristics of Health Programs Among Secondary Schools, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/profiles/pdf/2018/CDC-Profiles-2018.pdf>

### **Percent Uninsured**

Percentage of population that does not have health insurance privately, through an employer or through the government (2-year estimate). Data from America's Health Rankings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, Health Insurance Coverage in the United States, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, accessed 2020.

<https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/HealthInsurance/state/ALL>

### **Adverse Childhood Experiences**

Percentage of children ages 0-17 who experienced two or more of the following: economic hardship; parental divorce or separation; living with someone who had an alcohol or drug problem; neighborhood violence victim or witness; living with someone who was mentally ill, suicidal or severely depressed; domestic violence witness; parent served jail time; being treated or judged unfairly due to race/ethnicity; or death of parent (2-year estimate). Data from America's Health Rankings analysis of U.S. HHS, HRSA, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (CAHMI), National Survey of Children's Health Indicator Data Set, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, accessed 2020.

<https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/ACEs/state/ALL>

### **Diabetes**

Percentage of adults who reported being told by a health professional that they have diabetes (excluding prediabetes and gestational diabetes). Data from America's Health Rankings analysis of CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, accessed 2020.

<https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/Diabetes/state/ALL>

### **Obesity**

*Obesity among WIC children ages 2-4.* Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: State-Specific Prevalence of Obesity Among Children Aged 2–4 Years Enrolled in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children — United States, 2010–2016, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/pdfs/mm6846a3-H.pdf>

*Obesity among children ages 10-17.* Data from State of Childhood Obesity website.  
<https://stateofchildhoodobesity.org/children1017/>

#### *Adult obesity rate*

Percentage of adults with a body mass index of 30.0 or higher based on reported height and weight. Data from America's Health Rankings analysis of CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, accessed 2020.

<https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/Obesity/state/ALL>

*Projected U.S. State-Level Prevalence of Adult Obesity and Severe Obesity.* Data from Choices Project.

<https://choicesproject.org/publications/projected-us-state-level-prevalence-adult-obesity-severe-obesity/>

#### **Able-Bodied Adults**

Percentage of adults ages 65 and older with no cognitive, visual, auditory, ambulatory, self-care and/or independent-living difficulty disabilities. Data provided to FRAC by America's Health Rankings ([www.AmericasHealthRankings.org](http://www.AmericasHealthRankings.org)).

#### **Disparity in health status**

Difference between the percentage of adults ages 25 and older with at least a high school education compared with those without who reported their health is very good or excellent. Data from America's Health Rankings analysis of CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, accessed 2020.

[https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/healthstatus\\_disparity/state/ALL](https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/healthstatus_disparity/state/ALL)

#### **Premature deaths per 100,000 people**

Number of years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population. Data from America's Health Rankings analysis of CDC WONDER Online Database, Underlying Cause of Death, Multiple Cause of Death files, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, accessed 2020.

<https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/YPLL/state/ALL>