

Agenda Item Number:

**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: August 25, 2021

Agenda Item Subject: Food Insecurity – Global, National, Local

Attachment(s): Powerpoint presentation

Staff or Board Member Reporting: Mariamu Amadi

Purpose: ___ Action
 X Information only
 ___ Information with possible action

Summary Information:

Ending hunger is one of the greatest challenges of our time! There's evidence that the world produces enough food to feed everyone. Then why does food insecurity still exist?

Recommended Action: ___ Approve
 ___ Approve & forward to Board of Commissioners for action
 ___ Approve & forward to _____
 X Accept as information
 ___ Revise & schedule for future action
 ___ Other (detail):

FOOD INSECURITY

Global, National, Local



Florence Mariamu Amadi, MPH

Presented to the Board of Health, Orange County, NC

FOOD INSECURITY : HUNGER : NUTRITION

World Food Summit: Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

USAID: Food security means having, at all times, both physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet dietary needs for a productive and healthy life.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines three main aspects of food security.

1. Availability – sufficient and consistent supply
2. Access – sufficient and appropriate resources
3. Utilization – appropriate use



The State of Food Insecurity in the World

- Ending global food insecurity and hunger is one of the greatest challenges of our times!
- In 2020, between 720 and 811 million people faced hunger
- Prevalence of undernourishment (PoU) climbed to around 9.9 percent from 8.4 a year earlier
- More than half (418 million) of the those affected by hunger were in Asia and more than one-third (282 million) in Africa
- Little gains made were set back by the COVID-19 pandemic

Different Levels of Food Insecurity



Funded by the
European Union



Food insecurity severity levels...





Biggest Drivers

- Conflict
 - Out of 690 million people facing hunger around the world, 60% live in countries affected by violence and conflict.
- Extreme weather
 - Over 80% of the world's hungry people live in disaster-prone countries.
- Food waste
 - There's enough food to feed all of us. The problem is nearly 30% of it is lost or wasted.
- Gender inequality
 - In nearly two-thirds of countries around the world, women are more likely than men to suffer from hunger and malnourishment

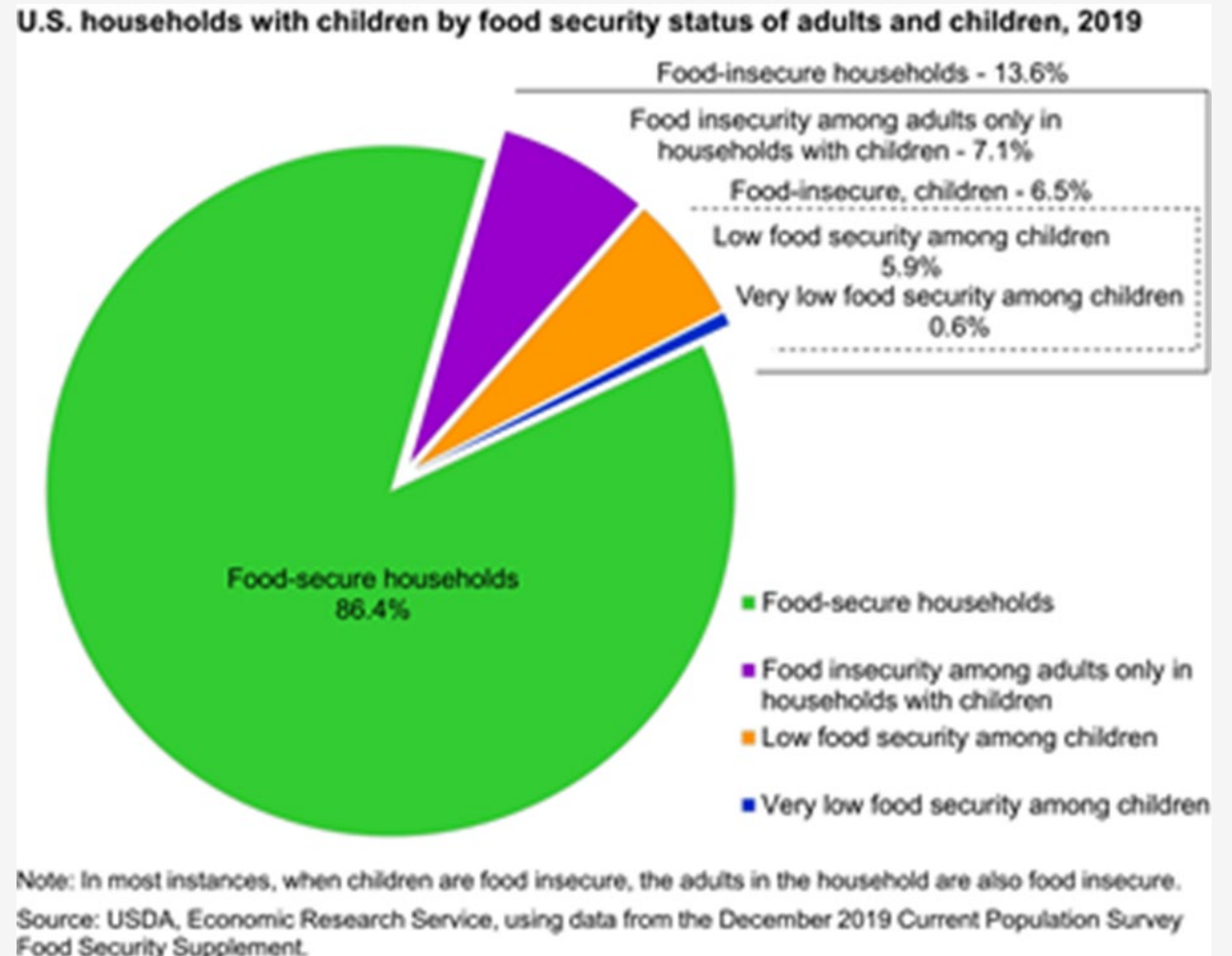


Are People Really Food Insecure in America?

- Millions of children and families living in America face hunger and food insecurity every day
- More than 35 million people experienced hunger in 2019 (USDA)
 - More than 10 million children
- Households with children are more likely to experience food insecurity
- Many households that experience food insecurity do not qualify for help from the government
- Even those living above the poverty line can experience food insecurity
- On the other hand, obesity is the on the rise

Food Security Status of U.S. Households with Children in 2019

- 86.4 percent of households food secure
- 13.6 percent of households food **insecure**
- In some food-insecure households, only adults were food insecure, others also affected children
- 7.1 percent of households, only adults were food insecure.
- Both children and adults were food insecure in 6.5 percent of households (2.4 million households).
- In about 0.6 percent of households (213,000 households), one or more children also experienced reduced food intake and disrupted eating patterns at some time during the year.



Food Insecurity in North Carolina

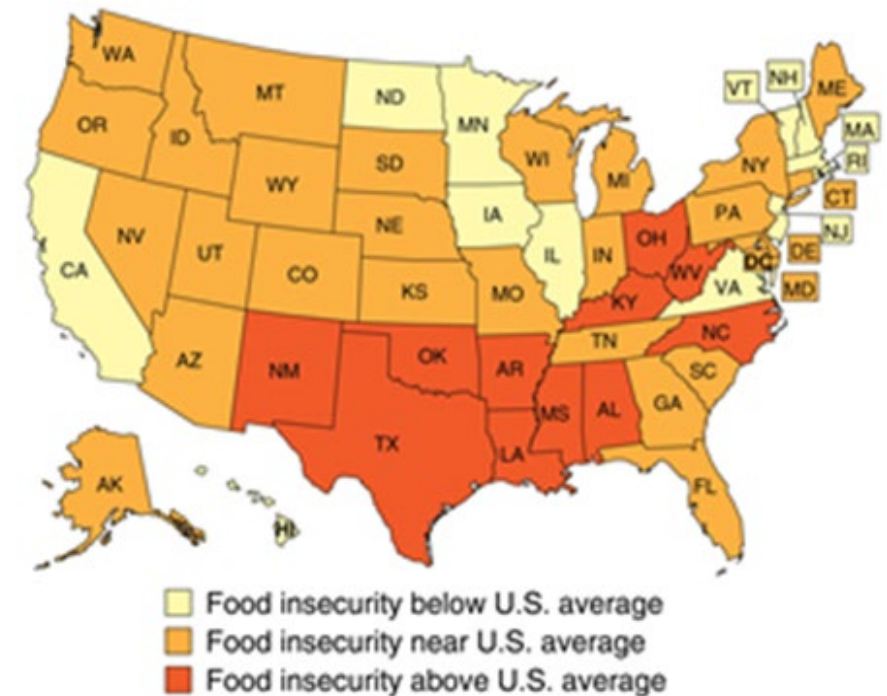
According to the North Carolina Justice Center, NC has the 10th highest rate of food insecurity in the nation

Hunger exists in every corner of the United States, but a Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap study shows that food insecurity looks different from one state to another and one county to the next.

In addition to providing data about the prevalence of food insecurity at the local level, Map the Meal Gap estimates the share of food insecure individuals who are income-eligible for federal anti-hunger programs and provides local variations in food costs.

The study also shows that many food insecure individuals do not qualify for federal nutrition programs and must rely on charitable food assistance – such as food banks and churches

Prevalence of food insecurity, average 2017-19



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the December 2017, 2018, and 2019 Current Population Survey Food Security Supplements.

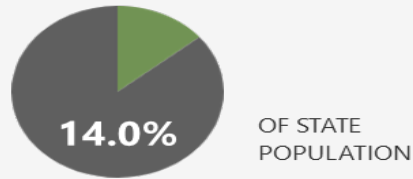
Food Insecurity in North Carolina



2018 OVERALL FOOD INSECURITY & FOOD COST IN THE US

STATE FOOD INSECURITY RATE

FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE: 1,456,200

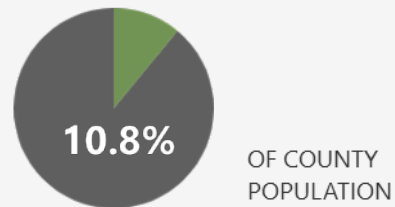


11.5% NATIONAL FOOD INSECURITY RATE

Orange County, North Carolina

COUNTY FOOD INSECURITY RATE

FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE: 15,470



ESTIMATED PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AMONG FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE



28% Above SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty
72% Below SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty

Average Meal Cost	State	National
	\$2.92	\$3.09

ESTIMATED PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AMONG FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE



36% Above SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty
64% Below SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs

	County	National
Average Meal Cost	\$4.02	\$3.09

Food Insecurity and the Impact on Health

According to the study *Hunger in America 2014*, which surveyed 60,000 Feeding America clients and 32,000 partner agencies:



More than
48 million Americans
lived in food insecure
households in 2014.



24% of households had at least one member in poor health.



66% of households had to choose between food and medical care.



33% had a household member with diabetes.



58% had a household member with high blood pressure.



Working Together to End Food Insecurity

Although ending hunger is the greatest challenge of our time, **it's solvable**. A key factor in addressing the world's food security challenges is improving the **availability, access, and utilization** of food across global communities.

- Address complex and interrelated/overlapping issues
- Improve coordination and policy cohesion between stakeholders
- Ensure that declarations to end hunger are converted to concrete actions
- Improved agricultural practices and resources
- Disease prevention and management



Thank You!

Sources:

World Health Organization (WHO)

UN World Food Program (WFP)

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)