

National Food and Nutrition Security Profile

Intended Audience

CDC/National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) Program recipients and their state and local partners supporting food and nutrition efforts in their state; other CDC recipients, state health departments and their state and local partners.

About Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC)

The National Association for Chronic Disease Directors provides funding to 20 states to promote healthy living and reduce social isolation during the COVID pandemic through the Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) Program. The program is funded and implemented in collaboration with CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity and Division of Population Health as well as a team of nationally recognized experts. Each BRIC state strives for health equity and social justice in response to COVID-19 by working with local communities on improving safe access to physical activity, promoting access to healthy eating through improved food and nutrition security, and reducing social isolation using policy, systems and environmental change strategies. For more information, visit <https://chronicdisease.org/bric>

Impact of COVID-19 on Food and Nutrition Security

COVID-19 brought with it record levels of job loss and unemployment, significantly impacting many low-income communities the hardest. To meet the needs of communities within states, food banks, non-profits, and state agencies adjusted how they operated federal nutrition programs and distributed food to those affected most by the pandemic.

- USDA provided waivers to modify operations of federal nutrition programs such as SNAP, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) in order to make it safer and more efficient to get these needed resources to families faster. State eligibility waivers can be found [here](#).
- Food banks used alternative modes of distribution such as home delivery, placing food in trunks of cars, and providing call-ahead numbers for families in order to get them through distribution lines faster.

Purpose

Purpose of this National Resource: To serve as a companion guide to the State Food and Nutrition Security Profiles. This resource can be used to identify national data sources, services and programs to strengthen food and nutrition security expansion and infrastructure within a state through collaboration with existing food banks and pantries that comprise the state/local charitable food system (CFS) and other food and nutrition security programs.

Purpose of the Food and Nutrition Security State Profiles: To highlight collaborative opportunities within each state to strengthen food and nutrition security expansion and infrastructure. The state profile will serve as a guide for how stakeholders across disciplines can support the state CFS to improve access to healthy foods.

Key Definitions and Resources

Food and nutrition security: Food and nutrition security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to food which is safe and consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences, and is supported by an environment of adequate sanitation, health services and care, allowing for a healthy and active life.

- To review the latest USDA data on food security, [click here](#).

Charitable food system (CFS): The charitable food system is a network of food banks, food pantries, and meal programs within a state or region that provide supplemental food and services to populations seeking food and nutrition security.

- To learn how to improve the quality of foods offered in a state CFS, [click here](#) for *Healthy Eating Research Nutrition Guidelines for the Charitable Food System*.
- To learn how CFS can partner with healthcare settings to increase food insecurity screenings and improve referral to food and nutrition security services, [click here](#).
- To learn how CFS can work with community members and stakeholders to (1) examine and provide solutions to addressing inequities that the served population may face, and (2) understand and offer healthy foods that are preferred by clients related to culture and heritage, [click here](#) for Feeding America's *Nutrition in Food Banking Toolkit*.
- To learn how to [build healthy food pantries and food distributions](#).

USDA Food and Nutrition Programs

[Pandemic EBT \(P-EBT\) Program](#) provides assistance to families with children who temporarily lost access to free or reduced-price school meals.

[Supplemental Food Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#) a benefits program that provides financial assistance to eligible individuals to supplement their food budget as a means of establishing food and nutrition security.

[Supplemental Food Assistance Program Education \(SNAP-ED\)](#) a supplemental program of SNAP that educates and connects eligible individuals to resources that will allow them to stretch their SNAP dollars.

[Expanded Food and Nutrition Education](#) (EFNEP) is a Federal Extension (community outreach) program, funded by USDA, that currently operates through the 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Universities (LGUs) in every state, the District of Columbia, and the six U.S. territories. EFNEP uses education to support participants' efforts toward self-sufficiency, nutritional health, and well-being.

[The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children \(WIC\)](#)

[The Emergency Food Assistance Program \(TEFAP\)](#) provides supplemental, emergency food assistance to individuals with limited income. USDA purchases the foods and disseminates them to state agencies such as the charitable food system for distribution.

USDA's Food and Nutrition Services [response to COVID-19 pandemic](#).

Senior Food and Nutrition Programs (for older Americans, 60+)

- U.S. Health & Human Services programs
 - Congregant meals & home-delivered meal programs administered by states under the Older Americans Act (OAA)
 - For more information on these programs from the Administration for Community Living - [click here](#).
 - [National Association of Area Agencies on Aging](#)
 - For aging resources in your area through Eldercare Locator, [click here](#).
 - [National Council on Aging](#)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) programs
 - [Commodity Supplemental Food Program](#) - program which works to improve the health of low-income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods
 - [Seniors' Farmers Market Nutrition Program](#) - program which provides low-income seniors with access to locally grown fruits, vegetables, honey and herbs. See [SFMNP Fact Sheet](#) for more information.
 - [Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations \(FDPIR\)](#) - program which provides USDA Foods to income-eligible households living on Indian reservations and to Native American households residing in designated areas near reservations or in Oklahoma.
 - [Child and Adult Care Food Program \(CACFP\): Adult Day Care Centers](#) - program which provides adults the nutrition they need as a routine part of their day care program
 - To find state agency implementing USDA FNS programs, [click here](#) and select:
 1. State
 2. By Program: 'Commodity Supplemental Food Program' or 'Seniors' Farmers Market Nutrition Program' or 'Child and Adult Care Food Program'
- [Meals on Wheels](#) - the leadership organization that supports more than 5,000 community-based programs across the country that are dedicated to addressing senior isolation and hunger. For specific state association information, [click here](#).

Child Food and Nutrition Programs

- [National School Lunch Program](#) - federally assisted meal program, administered by states, operating in schools and residential child care institutions providing nutritionally balanced, low-cost or no-cost lunches to children.
- [School Breakfast Program](#) - for fact sheet, [click here](#).

- [Child and Adult Care Food Program](#) - provides reimbursements for meals and snacks to eligible children and adults who are enrolled for care at participating child care centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers.
- [Summer Food Service Program](#) - for fact sheet, [click here](#).
- [Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children](#) (WIC) - program that provides federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children at nutritional risk.
- [National Farm to School](#) increases access to local food and nutrition education to improve children's health, strengthen family farms, and cultivate vibrant communities.

Data Sources and Additional Resources

- [State of the States: Profiles of Hunger, Poverty, and Federal Nutrition Programs](#) – Food Research and Action Center
- [Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program \(GusNIP\)](#) funds interventions providing nutrition incentives to increase fruit and vegetable access and consumption such as Produce Rx programs or Double Up Bucks programs. List of [current grantees](#).
- [Food Policy Councils](#) – National Map
- Feeding America's [State by State Resource: The Impact of Coronavirus on Food Insecurity](#)
- Feeding America's [TEFAP State Guide](#)
- Feeding America's [network of food banks](#)

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The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) and its more than 7,000 Members seek to strengthen state-based leadership and expertise for chronic disease prevention and control in states and nationally. For more information, visit chronicdisease.org.