

Hawai'i Food and Nutrition Security State Profile

Overview

According to the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service \(USDA ERS\)](#), 8.9% of households in Hawai'i (HI) experienced food insecurity between 2018-2020. The prevalence of obesity among adults living in HI was 24.5% in 2020 as reported by the [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#).

Demographic Overview

[2019 U.S. Census](#) data reports HI has an estimated population of 1.41 million. They identify as White (25.5%), Black (2.2%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.4%), Asian (37.6%), Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (10.1%) only. According to the 2019 Census report, 10.7% identify as Hispanic or Latino. 9.3% of HI residents experienced poverty in 2019.

Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) – Hawai'i BRIC Communities

The following counties will be prioritized by the HI BRIC project: Hawaii, Honolulu, Kauai and Maui Counties.

Food Banks, Pantries and Feeding Programs

There are five (5) food banks serving Hawaii.

[Hawai'i Food Bank](#)

- Operates school pantry programs, the Summer Food Service Program, mobile food distributions, the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, and Commodity Supplemental Food Box (CSFP).
- View list of partner agencies [here](#).

[Kauai Food Bank](#)

- Serves as warehouse/storage as part of Hawai'i Food Bank.
- Operates mobile food pantry (Ohana Produce Plus program)
- View list of partner agencies [here](#).

[Kauai Independent Food Bank](#)

- Operates Keiki café, Kupuna program, garden program, job training and other supports.
- View list of partner agencies [here](#).

[Maui Food Bank](#)

- Operates backpack program, summer meal program, Senior Mobile Pantry, CSFP and training and education.
- View list of partner agencies [here](#).

Hawai'i Island Food Basket

- Operates kupuna pantry, keiki backpack program and DA BOX program.
- View list of partner agencies [here](#).

Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

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Healthy Food Incentive Programs

- Double Up Food Bucks known as DA BUX led by [DA BUX](#).
- Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP)
 - *Current Funding:*
 - Same Canoe Veggie Rx (2020-2023) led by [Heritage Ranch, Inc.](#)
 - Produce Prescription Pilot Program (2020-2023) led by [Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services](#).
 - Waianae Ohana Produce Prescription Program (2020-2023) led by [Waianae District Comprehensive Health](#) and Hospital Board, Inc.

Community Nutrition Education Programs

- Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)
 - [The University of Hawai'i at Manoa](#)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-ED)
 - The Hawaii Department of Human Services is the state agency responsible for the HI state SNAP-Ed program. SNAP-Ed implementing agencies include:
 - [Chronic Disease Prevention Health Promotion Division](#)
 - [University of Hawai'i at Manoa](#)
 - For more information, [click here](#).

COVID Response

- Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) Program resources are available at the [HI Department of Human Services](#).

Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- [Hawai'i Good Food Alliance](#)
- [Hawai'i Island Food Alliance](#)
- [Maui Nui Food Alliance](#)
- Kauai Food Access, operated by [Malama Kauai](#)
- [Transforming Hawai'i's Food System Together](#)

Other Collaborators to Consider

- [Aloha Harvest](#) collects and re-distributes food to Hawai'i's hungry.
- [Food Security Hawai'i](#) collaborates with others to remove the obstacles to food security for the Hawai'i islands.

- [Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice](#) seeks opportunities to achieve economic security for everyone.
- [Hawai'i Public Seed Initiative](#) works with communities, farmers, and gardeners statewide to select, grow, harvest, store, and improve seed varieties that thrive in Hawai'i.
- [Malama Kauai](#) aims to increase local food production and food access.
- [Hawai'i Public Health Institute](#) has a Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Coalitions on Maui, Kauai, and Hawai'i Island. The HEAL coalitions are working for a Hawai'i where all residents live in healthy communities, have access to healthy foods, and have safe streets and pathways for physical activity.

Data Sources and Resources

- [Food Security in Hawai'i](#)
- [Good Food for All: Advancing Health Equity Through Hawai'i's Food System](#) - State of Hawai'i, Department of Health
- [Hawai'i SNAP Matters for Seniors](#) - Food Research and Action Center
- [HI Profile of Hunger, Poverty and Federal Nutrition Programs](#) - Food Research and Action Center
- [Hunger and Food Insecurity in Hawai'i Baseline Estimates, Hawai'i Health Survey 1999-2000](#)

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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.