

# Louisiana Food and Nutrition Security State Profile

## Overview

According to the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service \(USDA ERS\)](#), 14.8% of households in Louisiana (LA) experienced food insecurity between 2018-2020. The prevalence of obesity among adults living in Louisiana was 38.1% in 2020 as reported by the [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#).

## Demographic Overview

[2019 U.S. Census](#) data reports Louisiana has an estimated population of 4.64 million. They identify as White (62.8%), Black (32.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.8%), Asian (1.8%), Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (0.1%) only. According to the 2019 Census report, 5.3% identify as Hispanic or Latino. 19% of Louisiana residents experienced poverty in 2019.

## Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) - LA BRIC Communities

The following counties (parishes) will be prioritized by the LA BRIC project: Avoyelles (Bunkie), East Carroll (City of Providence), Madison (City of Tallulah), Tensas (City of St. Joseph), and Terrebonne Parishes.

## Food Banks, Pantries and Feeding Programs

There are five food banks serving Louisiana. The state association, [Feeding Louisiana](#), works with the food banks in the state.

- [Food Bank of Northeast Louisiana](#)
  - Serves Madison, Tensas, and East Carroll Parishes
  - Operates a senior food box program, backpack programs, school pantries, SNAP outreach, and disaster relief assistance.
  - Find a [partner agency](#).
- [Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana](#)
  - Serves Terrebonne Parish.
  - Operates school pantries, mobile pantries, summer meal programs, Kids Cafe, senior cafes, backpack program, and SNAP outreach.
  - Find a [partner agency](#).
- [Food Bank of Central Louisiana](#)
  - Operates the Good Food Project, a nutrition education program.
  - Runs backpack programs, Kids Cafe, disaster relief agencies, and a senior food box program.
  - Find a local [partner agency](#).

- [Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank](#)
  - Provides food to 115 partner agencies.
  - Operates a backpack program, a senior grocery program, mobile pantry programs, and SNAP outreach.
  - Runs Cooking Matters at the Store, nutrition education, and the Farm Fresh Healthy Food Initiative to get produce to partner agencies.
  - Find a local [partner agency](#).
  
- [Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana](#)
  - Serves Caddo, Bossier, Webster, Claiborne, Bienville, Red River, and Desoto Parishes
  - Operates a backpack program, afterschool meal program, summer meals, senior food box program, mobile pantry, and SNAP assistance.

## Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

### Healthy Food Incentive Programs

- [Market Match](#) led by Market Umbrella
  
- Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP)
  - *Current Funding:* New Orleans Market Match (2020-2024) led by [Marketumbrella.org](#)

### Community Nutrition Education Programs

- Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)
  - [Louisiana State University Ag Center](#)
  
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-ED)
  - The Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services is the state agency responsible for the LA SNAP-Ed. SNAP-Ed implementing agencies include:
    - [Feeding Louisiana](#)
    - [Louisiana State University Agricultural Center](#)
    - [Southern University Agricultural Center](#)
  - For more information, [click here](#).

### COVID Response

- Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) Program resources are available at the [LA Department of Children and Family Services](#)

## Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- [Central Louisiana Food Policy Council](#)
- [Central Louisiana Local Foods Initiative](#)
- [Louisiana Healthy Communities Coalition](#)
- [New Orleans Food Policy Advisory Committee](#)

## Other Collaborators to Consider

- [Healthy Baton Rouge](#) aims to “promote a better and healthier life for all people in the great city of Baton Rouge.”
- [Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans](#) aims “to meet immediate needs and resolve long-term challenges.”
- [Community Kitchen Collective](#) is “a volunteer-run food share in New Orleans that brings together folks who love to grow, gather, cook, and serve food in order to reduce food waste and hunger.”
- [Kingsley House](#) aims to “strengthen families and build communities that are healthy and economically stable.”
- [Louisiana Appleseed](#) aims to “solve the state’s toughest problems at the root cause by creating access to justice, opportunity, and education.”
- [Louisiana Public Health Institute](#) “champions health for people, within systems, and throughout communities.”
- [The Renaissance Project](#) “works to improve the quality of life in low-income communities of color by increasing access to fresh, healthy food; improving education opportunities; catalyzing economic development; and celebrating arts and culture.”

## Data Sources and Resources

- [LA Profile of Hunger, Poverty and Federal Food Programs](#) - Food Research and Action Center

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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](http://chronicdisease.org).