

Pennsylvania Food and Nutrition Security State Profile

Overview

According to the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service \(USDA ERS\)](#), 9.9% of households in Pennsylvania (PA) experienced food insecurity between 2018-2020. The prevalence of obesity among adults living in Pennsylvania was 31.5% in 2020 as reported by the [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#).

Demographic Overview

[2019 U.S. Census](#) data reports Pennsylvania has an estimated population of 12.80 million. They identify as White (81.6%), Black (12%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.4%), Asian (3.8%), Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (0.1%) only. According to the 2019 Census report, 7.8% identify as Hispanic or Latino. 12% of Pennsylvania residents experienced poverty in 2019.

Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) - PA BRIC Communities

The following counties will be prioritized by the PA BRIC project: Philadelphia County

Food Banks, Pantries and Feeding Programs

There are nine Feeding America food banks that serve Pennsylvania. [Feeding Pennsylvania](#) is the state association supporting these food banks.

- [Philabundance](#)
 - Serves Philadelphia.
 - Operates a community kitchen, backpack programs, a senior food box program, and SNAP outreach.
 - View a list of [partner agencies](#).
- [Share Food Program](#)
 - Serves Philadelphia region and Montgomery County. (Not part of Feeding America network in Pennsylvania.)
 - Operates a senior program, home deliveries, Nice Roots Farm, and kids program
 - View a list of [partner agencies](#).

For more information on the other PA Feeding America food banks, click their names below:

- [Westmoreland County Food Bank](#)
- [Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank](#)
- [Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania](#)
- [Central Pennsylvania Food Bank](#)
- [Second Harvest Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania](#)
- [H&J Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank](#)
- [Helping Harvest](#)
- [Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County](#)

Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

Healthy Food Incentive Programs

- Buy Fresh Buy Local led by [Rodale Institute](#)
 - Customers purchasing [veggie shares](#) with SNAP/EBT benefits receive \$10 off/week for any size vegetable share.
- [Food Bucks, Food Bucks Rx](#)
 - [The Food Trust Food Bucks network](#)
 - [Food Buck Rx redemption sites](#)
- [Fresh2You Veggie Bucks](#) led by the Chester County Food Bank
- [Fruit and Vegetable Bucks](#) led by the Adams County Food Policy Council and partners
- [The Nurture Nature Center \(Buy Fresh Buy Local\)](#)
 - Click here to view [participating locations](#).
- Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP)
 - *Current Funding:*
 - Strengthening The Food Trust’s Food Bucks Network: Scaling Up Proven Incentive Models in Pennsylvania and New Jersey (2020-2023) led by [The Food Trust](#).
 - Expanding Food Bucks Rx with Multiple Healthcare Partners Across Pennsylvania and New Jersey (2019-2021) led by [The Food Trust](#).

Community Nutrition Education Programs

- Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)
 - [Pennsylvania State University Extension](#)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)
 - The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services is the state agency responsible for PA SNAP-Ed. SNAP-Ed implementing agencies include:
 - [Pennsylvania State University](#)
 - Other [Local Partners](#)
 - For more information, [click here](#).

COVID Response

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

Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- View the PA [Food Policy Council Directory](#).
- [Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger](#)
- [Governor’s Food Security Partnership](#)

Other Collaborators to Consider

- [Drexel University - Center for Hunger-Free Communities](#) is a “community-engaged research and advocacy center focused on developing innovative, empirically tested solutions to the challenges of hunger and economic insecurity.”

- [Family Health Council of Central Pennsylvania](#) is a “private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving health, preventing disease, and promoting wellness.”
- [Health Promotion Council](#) “connects underserved communities with the knowledge, services, and resources they need to live healthier lives.”
- [Just Harvest Action Against Hunger](#) “addresses hunger in Allegheny County at its root – economic injustice – through a focus on public policy, food access, and community power.”
- [Partnership for Better Health](#) “champions and invests in ideas, initiatives, and collaborations that improve the health of the people and communities in our region.”

Data Sources and Resources

- [PA Profile of Hunger, Poverty, and Federal Nutrition 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.