

South Carolina Food and Nutrition Security State Profile

Overview

According to the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service \(USDA ERS\)](#), 11.2% of households in South Carolina (SC) experienced food insecurity between 2018-2020. The prevalence of obesity among adults living in South Carolina was 36.2% in 2020 as reported by the [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#).

Demographic Overview

[2019 U.S. Census](#) data reports South Carolina has an estimated population of 5.14 million. They identify as White (68.6%), Black (27%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.5%), Asian (1.8%), Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (0.1%) only. According to the 2019 Census report, 6% identify as Hispanic or Latino. 13.8% of South Carolina residents experienced poverty in 2019.

Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) - SC BRIC Communities

The following counties will be prioritized by the SC BRIC project: Dillon County, Lee County, Marlboro County, and Williamsburg County.

Food Banks, Pantries and Feeding Programs

There are four food banks that serve South Carolina. [Feeding the Carolinas](#) is the state association serving both North and South Carolina food banks.

- [Golden Harvest Food Bank](#)
 - Operates backpack programs, school pantries, a senior food box program, mobile markets, and conducts SNAP outreach.
 - Find a [partner agency](#).
- [Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina](#)
 - Operates Kids Cafe, school pantries, mobile distributions, backpack programs, and senior food boxes.
 - Find a [partner agency](#).
- [Lowcountry Food Bank](#)
 - Serves Charleston County.
 - Operates backpack programs, school pantries, Kids Cafe, summer meals, and a senior food box program.
 - Provides nutrition and cooking education and provides Fresh Produce for All food distributions.
 - Find a [partner agency](#).
- [Harvest Hope Food Bank](#)
 - Serves Dillon, Lee, and Marlboro Counties.
 - Operates a backpack program, CSFP, mobile food pantries, and TEFAP.
 - Find a [partner agency](#).

Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

Healthy Food Incentive Programs

- [Healthy Bucks](#) led by South Carolina Department of Social Services

Community Nutrition Education Programs

- Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)
 - [Clemson University Extension](#)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-ED)
 - The South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) is the state agency responsible SC SNAP-Ed. SNAP-Ed implementing agencies include:
 - Clemson University, Youth Learning Institute
 - Lowcountry Food Bank
 - South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)
 - University of South Carolina Center for Research in Health Disparities
 - View more [information](#).

COVID Response

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

Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- View a [list of food policy councils](#) in South Carolina.

Other Collaborators to Consider

- [Wholespire](#) is a nonprofit organization working to advance community-led change to reduce obesity.
- [FoodShare South Carolina](#) ensures access to fresh produce for all South Carolinian communities.
- [Loaves and Fishes](#) reduces hunger in Greenville County by delivering surplus food to partner agencies for distribution to those in need.
- [South Carolina Alliance of YMCAs](#)
- [South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center](#) “fights for low-income South Carolinians to overcome social, economic, and legal injustice.
- [South Carolina State University Extension](#) offers programs aimed to help rural and urban limited-resource clients improve their quality of living.

Data Sources and Resources

- [SC 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.