

West Virginia Food and Nutrition Security State Profile

Overview

According to the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service \(USDA ERS\)](#), 15.1% of households in West Virginia (WV) experienced food insecurity between 2018-2020. The prevalence of obesity among adults living in West Virginia was 39.1% in 2020 as reported by the [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#).

Demographic Overview

2019 U.S. Census data reports West Virginia has an estimated population of 1.79 million. They identify as White (93.5%), Black (3.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.3%), Asian (0.8%), Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (N/A%) only. According to the 2019 Census report, 1.7% identify as Hispanic or Latino. 16% of West Virginia residents experienced poverty in 2019.

Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) – WV BRIC Communities

The following counties will be prioritized by the WV BRIC project: Boone, Clay, McDowell, Mingo, Raleigh and Wyoming Counties.

Food Banks, Pantries and Feeding Programs

There are two food banks that serve West Virginia.

- [Mountaineer Food Bank](#)
 - Serves Raleigh, Clay, and Wyoming Counties.
 - Operates a mobile food pantry, veteran food boxes, summer meal program, CSFP, a backpack program, and a Fresh Initiative Kids Market.
 - Find [partner agencies](#).
- [Facing Hunger Foodbank](#)
 - Serves Mingo, McDowell, Boone, and Wyoming Counties.
 - Operates a mobile food pantry, the summer food service program, CSFP, TEFAP, and a backpack program.
 - [Click here](#) to find partner agencies.

Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

Healthy Food Incentive Programs

- [SNAP Stretch](#) led by the WV Food and Farm Coalition.
 - Learn more about the [match incentives](#) for Farmers Markets and Local Retailers.
- Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP)
 - *Current Funding:* Turnip the Beet on SNAP Stretch. A 2020-2024 program led by the [West Virginia Food and Farm Coalition, Inc.](#)

Community Nutrition Education Programs

- Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)
 - [West Virginia University Extension](#)

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-ED)
 - The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources is the state agency responsible for the WV SNAP-Ed program called WV Family Nutrition Program. SNAP-Ed implementing agencies include:
 - [West Virginia University Extension Service](#)
 - View more [information](#).

COVID Response

- Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) Program resources are available at the [WV Department of Health and Human Resources](#).

Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- [West Virginia Food and Farm Coalition](#)

Other Collaborators to Consider

- [ABLE Families, Inc](#) is a nonprofit, faith-based organization that aims “to confront the systemic causes of poverty by supporting low-income families as they make positive changes in their lives.”
- [WV Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#) is a professional, not-for-profit voluntary organization of Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN), Dietetic Technicians Registered (DTR), and dietetic students who offer expert food and nutrition advice and information for the promotion of optimal health and well-being.
- [West Virginia University Extension - Family Nutrition Program](#) their Family Nutrition Program oversees numerous food and nutrition projects “designed to help limited resource families, youths, and adults improve their health.”

Data Sources and Resources

- [Nourishing Networks: WV Community Food Security Assessment 2016](#) - WV Food Link
- [WV Food Link: Data and Food Access Resources for the Mountain State](#) - West Virginia University, Center for Resilient Communities
- [WV 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.