

Colorado Food and Nutrition Security State Profile

Purpose

The purpose of the Food and Nutrition Security Profile (Profile) is to provide an overview of state and regional efforts and infrastructure to advance food and nutrition security. Although not exhaustive, the Profile serves as a resource to support greater collaboration across disciplines and sectors to improve equitable access to food. The intended audience includes public health practitioners, food policy councils, community-based organizations, food banks and pantries, school district wellness councils, food sovereignty organizations including Indigenous groups and coalitions, and others with a mission to improve food and nutrition security.

The Profile serves as a companion to the [National Food and Nutrition Security Profile](#) and will be reviewed and updated biennially. If you have any questions or comments about your Profile, please contact the Center for Advancing Healthy Communities at CAHCinfo@chronicdisease.org.

Food Banks, Pantries and Feeding Programs

There are five food banks serving Colorado that are part of Feeding America's [network](#). The state association, [Feeding Colorado](#), supports the food banks in the state.

- [Care and Share Food Bank](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves [29 counties](#) across Southern Colorado.
 - View the [partner agencies](#).
- [Community Food Share](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves Boulder and Broomfield Counties.
 - View the [partner agencies](#).
- [Food Bank for Larimer County](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves Larimer County.
 - View the [partner agencies](#).
- [Food Bank of the Rockies](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - View the [counties](#) served.
 - View [partner agencies](#).
- [Weld Food Bank](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves Weld County.
 - View the [partner agencies](#).

Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

Food Is Medicine Programs

- Find the [Double Up Food Bucks](#) program in your state.
- Locate the [Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program](#) (GusNIP) grantees in your state:
 - *Current Produce Prescription Funding:*
 - [Catholic Health Initiatives Colorado](#) (2021-2024 and 2022-2025)
 - *Current Nutrition Incentive Funding:*
 - [Nourish Colorado](#) (2020-2024 and 2023-2025)
- [Project Angel Heart](#) prepares and delivers medically tailored meals to people living with severe illness.

Community Nutrition Education Programs

- [Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program](#) (EFNEP)
 - The implementing agency is the Colorado State University Extension.
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education \(SNAP-ED\)](#)
 - The Colorado Department of Human Services is the state agency responsible for the CO state SNAP-Ed program. SNAP-Ed Implementing agencies include Nourish Colorado and University of Colorado at Denver (School of Public Health)
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP)
 - [Colorado SNAP Directory](#)

Senior Nutrition Programs

- [Elderly Nutrition Program](#) led by the Colorado Department of Human Services.

Child Nutrition Programs

[United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) Child Nutrition Programs](#) contacts for implementing agencies of programs listed below:

- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- National School Lunch Program (Universal School Lunch, optional)
- School Breakfast Program (Universal School Breakfast, optional)
- Special Milk Program
- Summer Food Service Program (SUN Meals)
- The Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program
- USDA Foods in Schools

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

The [Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation](#) program provides USDA Foods to income-eligible households living on Indian reservations and to Native American households residing in designated areas near reservations. [State program contacts](#)

Emergency Food Response

- USDA Food and Nutrition Service State [COVID-19 Waivers and Flexibilities](#)
- [Colorado State Emergency Operations Plan](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Contact](#) – Region 8
- [Emergency Food Assistance Program \(TEFAP\) Contacts](#)



Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- View [list of food policy councils](#) in each state through the John Hopkins Center for Livable Future's 2021 Food Policy Network Map.
- Colorado Department of Agriculture - [Food Security Task Force](#)
- [The Colorado Food Systems Coalition](#)
- [El Paso County Food Policy Advisory Board](#)
- [Community Agriculture Alliance](#)
- [Northwest Colorado Food Coalition](#)
- [Roaring Fork Food Alliance](#)
- [Valley Food Partnership](#)
- [San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition](#)

Other Key Food and Nutrition Security Organizations

- [Colorado Blueprint To End Hunger](#) is a state-wide advocacy organization that provides opportunities for more community-centered efforts for communities to define and control their own local food systems from production to consumption.
- [Colorado Feeding Kids](#) is a nonprofit organization that provides nutritious food to impoverished people in Colorado.
- [Hunger Free Colorado](#) is a statewide nonprofit organization that drives policy, systems, and social change to end hunger.
- [Colorado State University](#) Food Systems Department focuses on training, influencing, and communicating opportunities to connect food-related roles in achieving healthy communities, economies, and individuals.
- [The Colorado Farmers Market Association](#) supports and promotes Colorado farmers markets and direct marketing of Colorado agricultural products.
- [National Farm to School Network - Colorado](#) provides K-12 schools and producers the tools to navigate food safety, geographic preference, and group purchasing to increase sustainable, profitable relationships between schools and farmers of all sizes.
- [USDA Local Food Directories](#)

Data Sources and Resources

- [CO Profile of Hunger, Poverty, and Federal Nutrition Programs](#) – Food Research and Action Center
- [Data Dashboard](#) – Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger
- [Food Security in the U.S.](#) – USDA
- [Child Nutrition Programs Dashboard](#) – USDA
- [Food Environment Atlas](#) – USDA
- [Map the Meal Gap](#) – Feeding America



State Public Health – Food and Nutrition Security Contacts

Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

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Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

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For additional information or questions about this Profile, please contact the Center for Advancing Healthy Communities at CAHCinfo@chronicdisease.org.

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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.