

Maine 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

The following food bank is a member of Feeding America's [network](#).

- [Good Shepherd Food Bank](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves the entire state of Maine.
 - View the [partner agencies](#).

Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

Food Is Medicine Programs

- Find the [Double Up Food Bucks](#) program in your state.

Community Nutrition Education Programs

- [Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program](#) (EFNEP)
 - The implementation agency is the University of Maine.
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education](#) (SNAP-Ed)
 - The Maine Department of Health and Human Services is the state agency responsible for SNAP-Ed. The SNAP-Ed implementing organization is the University of New England.
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP)
 - [Maine SNAP Directory](#)

Senior Nutrition Programs

- [Elderly Nutrition Program](#) led by the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services.



- [Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program](#) led by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

Child Nutrition Programs

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

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

Emergency Food Response

- USDA Food and Nutrition Service [State COVID-19 Waivers and Flexibilities](#)
- [Maine Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Contact](#) – Region 1
- [Emergency Food Assistance Program \(TEFAP\) Contacts](#)

Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- View the [Maine Network of Community Food Councils](#).
- View [list of food policy councils](#) in each state through the John Hopkins Center for Livable Future's 2021 Food Policy Network Map.

Other Food and Nutrition Security Organizations

- [Cultivating Community](#) aims to grow sustainable communities by expanding access to healthy, local food; empowering children, youth, and adults to play diverse roles in restoring the local, sustainable food systems.
- [Maine Equal Justice](#) prioritizes issues related to improving access to adequate health care, housing, transportation, and childcare.
- [National Farm to School Network - Maine](#) increases access to local food and nutrition education to improve children's health, strengthen family farms, and cultivate vibrant communities.
- [Preble Street Maine Hunger Initiative](#) aims to provide accessible barrier-free services to empower people experiencing problems with homelessness, housing, hunger, and poverty.
- [Full Plates Full Potential](#) a nonprofit working to strengthen child nutrition programs.
- [MaineHealth](#) is a not-for-profit integrated health system that convenes the statewide Food is Medicine Workgroup, a sub-set of the Ending Hunger 2030 Advisory Committee.
- [USDA Local Food Directories](#)



Data Sources and Resources

- [Maine Profile of Hunger, Poverty and Federal Nutrition Programs](#) – Food Research and Action Center
- [Maine Food Atlas](#) – Maine Network of Community Food Councils
- [Food Security in the U.S.](#) – USDA
- [Child Nutrition Programs Dashboard](#) – USDA
- [Food Environment Atlas](#) – USDA
- [Map the Meal Gap](#) – Feeding America

Public Health Contacts for Food and Nutrition Security

[Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

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

The Improving Food Security, Access to Safe Physical Activity, and Social Connectedness project, commonly known as Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC), was a national project of the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors that was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Cooperative Agreement #OT18-1802, Strengthening Public Health Systems and Services through National Partnerships to Improve and Protect the Nation's Health, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The contents of the profile are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

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.