

Puerto Rico Food and Nutrition Security 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

- [Banco de Alimentos de Puerto Rico](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves all of Puerto Rico.
 - View the [partner agencies](#).
- [Comedores Sociales de Puerto Rico](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves the Caguas municipality.
- [El Comedor de la Kennedy](#)
 - View the [programs offered](#).
 - Serves the San Juan municipality.
- [Tenedor Social Inc.](#)
 - Serves Ceiba, Río Grande, Naguabo, Canóvanas, and Fajardo municipalities.

Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

Food Is Medicine Programs

- Locate the [Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program](#) (GusNIP) grantees in your state/territory:
 - *Current Nutrition Incentive Funding:*
 - [Banco de Alimentos Puerto Rico](#) (2023-2024)
 - [Fundacion MMM](#) (2023-2025)



Community Nutrition Education Programs

- [Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program \(EFNEP\)](#)
 - The implementing agency is the University of Puerto Rico.
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#)
 - [Puerto Rico SNAP Directory](#)

Senior Nutrition Programs

- [Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program](#) led by the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture.

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
- School Breakfast Program
- Special Milk Program
- Summer Food Service Program (SUN Meals)
- USDA Foods in Schools

Emergency Food Response

- USDA Food and Nutrition Service [State COVID-19 Waivers and Flexibilities](#)
- [Territory Emergency Preparedness/All Hazards Plan](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Contact](#) – Region 2
- [Emergency Food Assistance Program \(TEFAP\) Contacts](#)

Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils

- [Comision de Alimentacion y Nutricion de Puerto Rico](#)

Other Food and Nutrition Security Organizations

- [Acomer Puerto Rico](#) works to empower communities by facilitating access to quality food, encouraging local economic and agricultural development, and promoting food security throughout Puerto Rico.
- [Caritas Puerto Rico](#) offers various programs, including food programs, emergency/disaster assistance support and employment training programs, for children and adults in need.
- The [Salvation Army Division of Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands](#) brings immediate aid, psychological support, and spiritual counseling to individuals and families whose lives have been impacted by circumstances beyond their control.
- The [American Red Cross Puerto Rico Chapter](#) provides disaster assistance and recovery services including the distribution of food supplies.
- [USDA Local Food Directories](#)



Data Sources and Resources

- [Puerto Rico Food Security and Nutrition Indicators](#) – The World Health Organization
- [Child Nutrition Programs Dashboard](#) – USDA

Public Health Contacts for Food and Nutrition Security

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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 this 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.