

2018 March Campaign Hunger Facts



One in ten Minnesotans experience food insecurity.¹

13.8% of children in Minnesota are food insecure.²

About 10% of Minnesotans (12.7% of children) were in poverty in 2016.³

Over 3,000,000 visits were made to Minnesota food shelves *each year*, 2011-2016, and visits in 2017 were on pace to likely meet or exceed this number.⁴

The number of food insecure seniors and seniors utilizing food shelves continues to increase.⁵

Minnesota's charitable food system (food shelves and food banks, meal programs, etc.) is running at capacity. Supporting government programs like SNAP ("food stamps") and creating a more just and equitable food system are integral parts of meeting the need of food insecure households and working toward ending hunger.

Definitions

Food security is "access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life."⁶

Food insecurity means access to adequate food is inconsistent and limited by a lack of money and other resources throughout the year. Food insecure households report their diets to be of reduced quality, variety, or desirability and/or experience disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake.⁷

Equitable access to food means all individuals have "a voice in and access to a nourishing food system," regardless of race, socioeconomic class, location, gender, and other social identities.⁸

Food justice is the concept that communities have the right to grow, sell, and eat healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate food whose production supports the well-being of the land, workers, and animals." Food justice is based on the idea that "access to nourishing food is a basic human right."⁹

¹ US Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States, 2016

² Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap, 2015

³ <http://www.hungersolutions.org/data-posts/u-s-minnesota-poverty-data-2016/>

⁴ <http://www.hungersolutions.org/data-posts/food-shelf-visits-pace-top-3-million-seventh-year/>

⁵ <http://www.hungersolutions.org/data-posts/food-shelf-visits-pace-top-3-million-seventh-year/>

⁶ US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, 2016

⁷ US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, 2016

⁸ <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/localfoods/resources-2/food-systems-equity/>

⁹ <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/localfoods/resources-2/food-systems-equity/>