

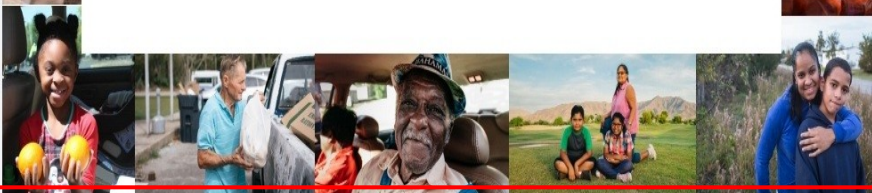
# COVID 19 THE IMPACT

## The Impact of the Coronavirus on Food Insecurity in 2020 & 2021



In early 2020, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) began to spread across the United States, and one of the results was an economic recession that ended years of declining rates of food insecurity – the lack of access to sufficient food because of limited financial resources. This brief provides a snapshot of food insecurity at the national level leading up to the COVID-19 pandemic, what transpired in the first year of the pandemic, and what may happen in the next year and beyond.<sup>1</sup>

1. Feeding America projects that 42 million people (1 in 8), including 13 million children (1 in 6), may experience food insecurity in 2021.
2. This is a slight improvement from our updated 2020 projections (45 million people and 15 million children).
3. Many people who have been most impacted by the pandemic were food insecure or at risk of food insecurity before COVID-19 and are facing greater hardship since COVID-19.
4. Significant racial disparities in food insecurity which existed before COVID-19 remain in the wake of the pandemic. Feeding America projects that 21% of Black individuals (1 in 5) may experience food insecurity in 2021, compared to 11% of white individuals (1 in 9).
5. It will likely take time for food insecurity levels to recover.



Feeding America.org



In 2018, 14.3 million people were affected by food insecurity. Because of covid – 19 the problem is even worse, in particular for senior citizens.

Forbes.com



“ Childhood food insufficiency rates skyrocketed during the pandemic to 19.9% by mid-July 2020, compared to 7.7% in 2018.

- Marcus, M.

globalhealth.duke.edu



Because of COVID, millions of people are visiting food banks and many of them are getting help for the first time.

- Morello, P.  
feedingamerica.org