

Food Insecurity

The Office of Concern Food Pantry has been fighting food insecurity since 1980.

According to Feeding America:

Food insecurity is when people can't access the food they need to live their fullest lives. There are many causes of food insecurity. But one thing is clear: financial security for everyone is the most effective way to end hunger.

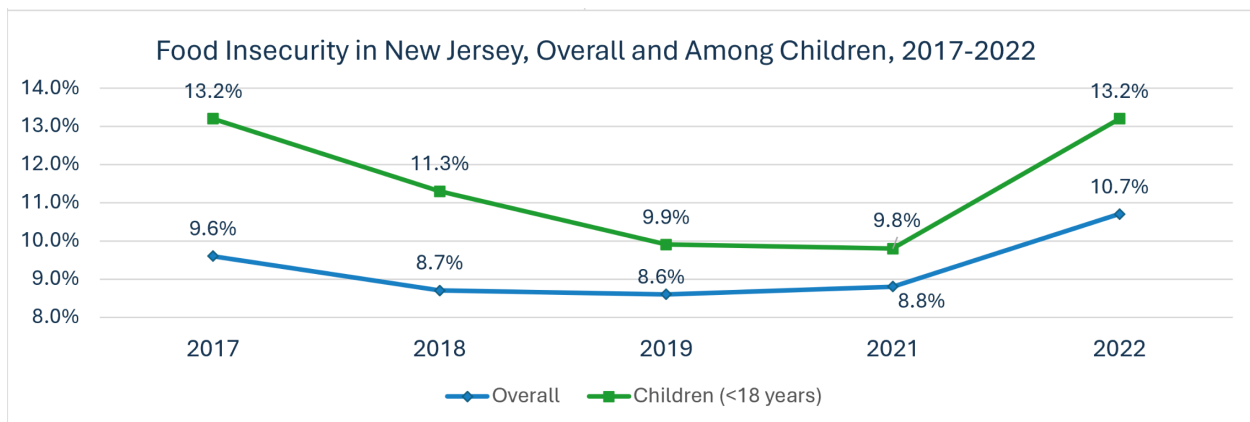
Food insecurity is an official term from the USDA. It's when people don't have enough to eat and don't know where their next meal will come from. It's a big problem in the United States, where over 44 million people, including 13 million children, experience food insecurity annually. However, many more people, including millions who do not meet the definition of food insecure—turn to the charitable food sector for support. Learn more about how Feeding America measures hunger in America.

Food insecurity is a systemic issue that can happen to anyone, not a personal failure. According to our [Elevating Voices Report](#), people facing hunger struggle with high living costs, expensive housing, unemployment, and low-wage jobs.

In 2022, over 994,000 individuals experienced food insecurity in the State of New Jersey or 10.7% of the population.

Blacks (21%) and Latino (Hispanic) (20%) experience food insecurity at higher rates than Whites (6%) in New Jersey.

Since 2018, food insecurity in New Jersey has increased from 8.7% to 10.7% and in children from 11.3% to 13.2%.



The rate of food insecurity is higher among children under the age of 18 with over 263,000 experiencing food insecurity in New Jersey. Children are vulnerable to the