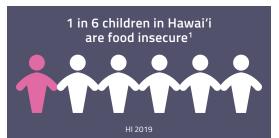
Food insecurity can harm individuals of any age, but it can be especially devastating to children



IMPACTS

more likely to experience birth

Food insecurity in early childhood

socio-emotional development of a child, ultimately impairing his or her productivity and potential.

Children who enter school without

proper nourishment and support

are at an early disadvantage and

struggle to keep up with their

Data from the Early Childhood

Longitudinal Study showed that by the third grade, children who had been food insecure in

kindergarten had lower reading

and mathematics scores than

their peers. These children are

also more likely to have social,

including anxiety, psychological

distress and substance use.7

emotional and behavioral problems,

more advantaged peers.7

can have a long-term negative impact on the cognitive and

• Food-insecure women are

complications give birth to

low birthweight babies⁶

Food insecurity means limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

The child food insecurity rate in Hawai'i is above the US Average (15.2%)

Children in Hawai'i experiencing food insecurity

18.4%

55,710

HI 2019, Feeding America²

The food insecurity rate among Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander (NHOPI) adults is twice as high as the rate among the general US population.³ Rural counties are much more likely to have high rates of food insecurity⁴

HI communities with food insecurity levels exceeding thirty percent⁵

Waimānalo

Wai'anae Coast

Puna

Kaʻaʻawa Wailua

Molokaʻi

2020

Households in HI experiencing food insecurity in the last 7 days

8.8%

HI, US Census Household Pulse Survey, Oct 12, 2020⁸ Households in HI finding it difficul to pay for usual household expenses

37.8%

HI, US Census Household Pulse Survey, Oct 12, 2020⁸

The coronavirus is leading to a rise in unemployment, poverty, and more

food insecure households.

programs are not

families in Hawai'i.

reaching eligible

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

SNAP reaches 77% of the eligible* population⁹



Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children

WIC reaches 52% of the eligible* population9



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

TANF reaches 11% of the eligible* population⁹

Donate for Today, Advocate for Tomorrow

www.moveforhunger.org/take-action/advocate

Support a food resource in your community

www.feedingamerica.org/find your-local-foodbank www.covid19.hawaii-can.org www.ainapono.org/grabandgo

- Find out if the program is in need of donations
- Share program info widely
- Help eligible families to sign up

Support legislation

*Statewide estimate

based solely on income

- Update the amount of Hawai'i's refundable food/excise tax credit and raise the income threshold
- Support state funding for the continuation of the DA BUX Double Up Food Bucks program
- Support a sugary sweetened beverage tax
- Support access to SNAP, WIC, and TANF
- Support the local agriculture industry to help increase the availability and affordability of local food sources
- Support farm to pre/school initiatives and the CACFP to ensure keiki of all ages have access to nutritious meals

Endnotes

- 1 www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/Map%20 the%20Meal%20Gap%202020%20Child%20Food%20Insecurity%20 Module.pdf
- 2 www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/Map%20 the%20Meal%20Gap%202020%20Child%20Food%20Insecurity%20 Module.pdf
- 3 Long et al., 2020
- 4 www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/Map%20 the%20Meal%20Gap%202020%20Child%20Food%20Insecurity%20 Module.pdf
- 5 Baker, K.K., Derrickson, J.P., Derrickson, S.A.K., Reyes-Salvali, F., Onaka, A.T., Horiuchi, B., Yu, M.Q., & Dannemiller, J. (2001). Hunger and food insecurity in Hawaii: baseline estimates 1999-2000, Hawaii Health Survey. Hawaii Department of Health. https://health.hawaii.gov/hhs/files/2013/04/specfood.pdf
 6 www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/Map%20
- 6 www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/Map%20 the%20Meal%20Gap%202020%20Child%20Food%20Insecurity%20 Module.pdf
- 7 www.nokidhungry.org/sites/default/files/child-economy-study.pdf 8 www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/hhp/#/?measures=FIR&mapPeriodSelector=16&barChartPeriodSelector=16
- 9 HI Preschool Development Grant, Birth Through Five Early Childhood Comprehensive Needs Assessment (Final Report 2020)

