

Community Assessment Analysis | Family Services & ERSEA | Nutrition | Employment & Wealth Disparity

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Food Insecurity

The Oxford Dictionary defines food insecurity as "the condition of not having access to sufficient food, or food of an adequate quality, to meet one's basic needs." In the United States, more than 44.1 million individuals are considered food insecure, of which more than 13.3 million are children.

Based on 2019 data from the USDA's Food Access Research Atlas, nationwide there are approximately 9,300 low-income census tracts where at least 500 people, or 33% of total residents in that census tract, live more than one mile away from a grocery store in an urban area, or more than 10 miles away from a grocery store in a rural area.

- How many food insecure people live in your community and how many of those are children?
- How many census tracts in your community are considered Low Income (LI) / Low Access (LA) at 1 mile (urban) or 10 miles (rural)?
- What percent of families, who participated in the family needs survey indicated they needed food but couldn't afford to buy it and/or indicated they or someone in their family had gone hungry in the last year?

Please see the [Nutrition page](#) of this dashboard for a comprehensive definition of Low Income (LI) / Low Access (LA) census tracts.

Food Insecurity (2022)

Source: Feeding America

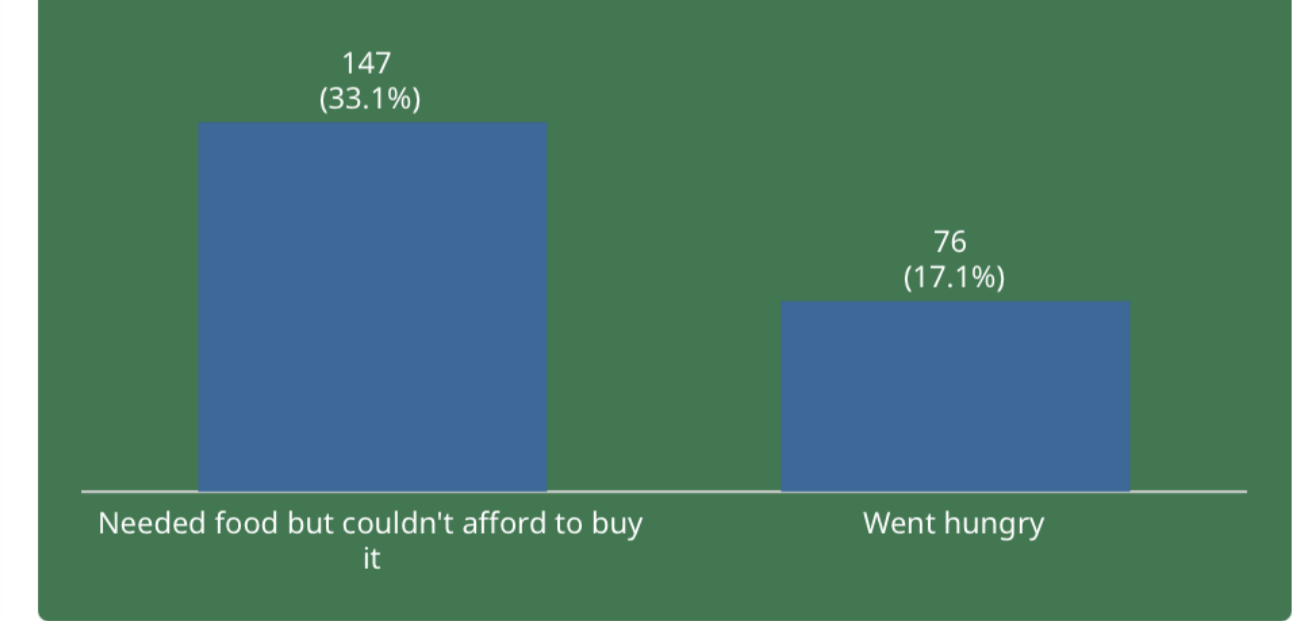
	# of Food Insecure Persons Overall	Overall Food Insecurity Rate	# of Food Insecure Children	Child Food Insecurity Rate
United States	44,151,000	13.5%	13,394,000	18.5%
Florida	2,935,330	13.2%	819,940	19.1%
Miami-Dade County	369,180	13.7%	98,990	18.3%

of Census Tracts = LI / LA at 1 & 10 Miles (2019)

USDA ERS: Food Access Research Atlas

	Yes	No	TOTAL
Miami-Dade County	16	499	515

Families Indicating Needs in the Last Year



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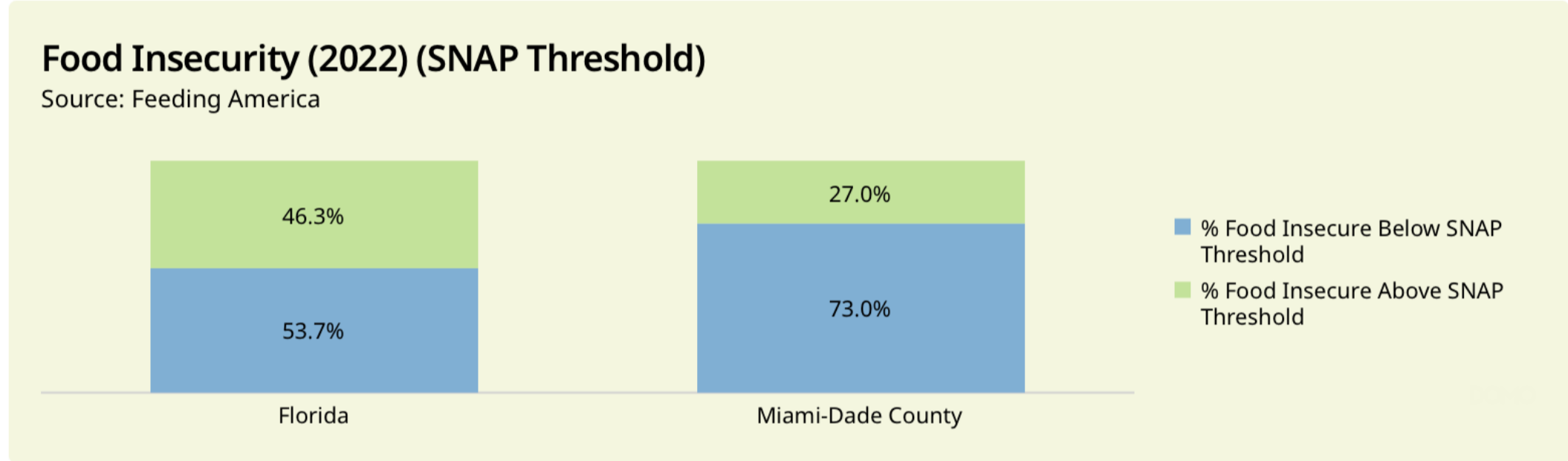
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Receipt of Federal Assistance Benefits

Income limits for SNAP differ from state to state, the threshold ranges from 130 to 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Not all food insecure people live below the SNAP threshold and are therefore many who need assistance are not eligible to receive benefits.

- What is the SNAP threshold in your state and how many food insecure people live above that income limit?



SNAP Threshold

200%

According to U.S. Census data (2022 ACS 5-year estimates), in the United States, between 53.1 and 93.1 million people survive on incomes between 125 and 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

Based on a July 2023 report from the USDA Food and Nutrition Service, approximately 41.1 million individuals received SNAP benefits nationwide.

- How many people received SNAP benefits in your community?
- Did the receipt of SNAP benefits increase or decrease for your families throughout the 2023-24 program year?
- What percent of families indicated they receive Food Stamps/EBT/SNAP or used Food Banks/Food Pantries?

Poverty Income Levels

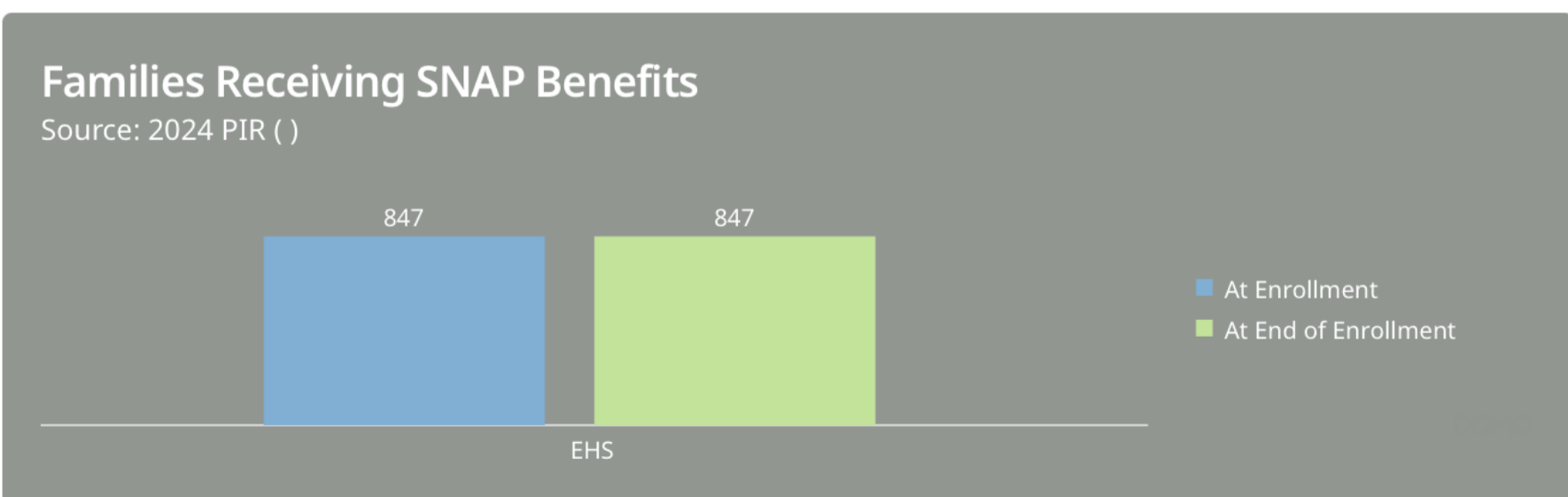
Source: 2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates

	125% of FPG	185% of FPG	200% of FPG
United States	53,120,911	84,842,073	93,118,710
Florida	3,645,415	6,024,891	6,651,704
Miami-Dade County	548,725	895,568	980,337

SNAP Recipients (July 2023)

Source: USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

	Households	Persons
United States	21,849,172	41,105,872
Florida	1,595,894	2,889,222
Miami-Dade County	373,418	570,976



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Cost of Food Relative to Federal Poverty Guidelines

According to the USDA'S Economic Research Service, in 2023 consumers in the United States spent an average of 11.2 percent of their disposable income (income after taxes) on food.

USDA-ERS, <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/chart-gallery/gallery/chart-detail/?chartId=76967>

- According to the Family Budget Calculator, how much is the annual food cost in your community for a family of three or four?
- If a family lives under the Federal Poverty Guidelines and does not receive federal assistance, how much of their income must they spend on food?

2024 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia	
Persons in Family/Household	Poverty guideline
1	\$15,060
2	\$20,440
3	\$25,820
4	\$31,200
5	\$36,580
6	\$41,960
7	\$47,340

Cost of Food for a Family of Three (2024)
Source: Economic Policy Institute (EPI): Family Budget Calculator

1 Parent & 2 Children	Cost of Food	Food as Percent of FPG
Miami-Dade County	\$10,248	39.7%

Cost of Food for a Family of Four (2024)
Source: Economic Policy Institute (EPI): Family Budget Calculator

2 Parents & 2 Children	Cost of Food	Food as Percent of FPG
Miami-Dade County	\$13,716	44.0%

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