

# FOOD INSECURITY IN THE STATE OF NEVADA

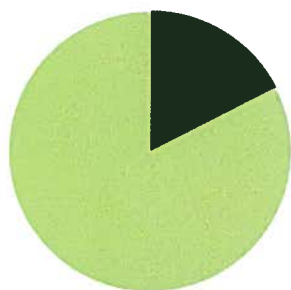


## NEVADA



2,759,193 (2012 Census Pop. Est.)

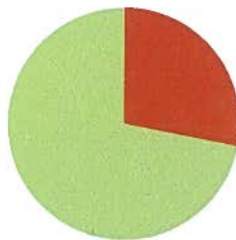
### FOOD INSECURITY RATE (2011)



**17.4%**  
of state  
population

**472,660**  
food-insecure  
people

### CHILD FOOD INSECURITY RATE (2011)



**28%**  
of children in  
state, or  
**183,360**  
food-insecure  
children

Subsidized  
School  
Meal-Eligible  
Children  
(SY 2012-2013)

**54%**  
=  
**227,761**  
children

66% below

34% above

Prog. Eligible

### FOOD-INSECURE WHO CANNOT APPLY FOR FEDERAL FOOD AID



**61%**  
can apply for food  
stamps (SNAP)

**39%**  
cannot apply for  
food stamps (SNAP)

Children in Poverty (2009-11): **21.3%**

CDC Adult Diabetes Rate (2009): **8.2%**

CDC Adult Obesity Rate (2009): **22.4%**

Unemployment (August 2013):

**129,894** unemployed residents  
**9.5%** of population

MEAL GAP  
(number of meals)

AVERAGE COST  
OF A MEAL

MEAL GAP  
(\$ per year)

**77,056,563**  
meals

**X**

**\$ 2.56**

**=**

**\$197,264,800**

FOOD BUDGET SHORTFALL  
(per person, per week)

**\$13.76**

\*Data derived from Current Population Survey (CPS)  
questions asking respondents about their food expenditures and food budget shortfalls (rounded)

PERCENTAGE OF LOW-INCOME PEOPLE  
WITHOUT ACCESS TO GROCERY STORE: **12%**

PERCENTAGE OF ALL RESTAURANTS THAT ARE  
FAST-FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS: **46%**

See: [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

NEVADA COST OF  
FOOD INDEX (CFI): **0.959**

The Nielsen Company-developed  
relative price index to allow for  
comparison of local food prices to the  
national average.

## Food Insecurity County Data Sheet

### Definitions

#### **Food Insecurity**

A household is food secure if all members have access to enough food for an active, healthy life.

#### **Subsidized School Meals**

Subsidized school lunch (and breakfast, when offered) are available to children, depending on household income. Children in households at 130% or below of the federal poverty threshold are eligible to receive free school meals. Children between 130 and 185% of poverty are eligible for reduced-price school meals.

#### **Program-Eligible Children**

This two-toned green bar indicates the percentage of food insecure children that are eligible to receive subsidized school meals, WIC and other benefits. The shocking reality is that a high percentage of those struggling with food insecurity are not eligible for federal nutrition assistance.

#### **Food Insecure Who Cannot Apply for Federal Food Aid**

The darker-toned area of the green bar shows the percentage of food-insecure residents that are ineligible to even apply for food stamps (SNAP). Amongst those who can apply, there will be an additional percentage that are ineligible.

#### **Children in Poverty**

This is the percentage of children in the state living in a household with income below the poverty threshold, which, for a family of four, is \$22,350/year, or \$1,863/month.

#### **CDC Diabetes and Obesity Rates**

Diabetes and Obesity are positively correlated to food insecurity. According to the Food Research and Action Center, "Households without money to buy enough food often have to rely on cheaper, high-calorie foods to cope with limited money for food and stave off hunger. Families try to maximize caloric intake for each dollar spent, which can lead to overconsumption of calories and a less healthful diet." Refined grains, sugar, and fat cost less per calorie than produce.

#### **Meal Gap (# of Meals)**

The calculated number of meals/year that corresponds to the food budget shortfall reported by food-insecure individuals in the state. In other words, this is the number of meals the food insecure in Nevada could not afford to purchase in 2009.

#### **Average Cost of a Meal**

The calculated cost of a meal for one food secure person in the state, based on a USDA definition of a meal plan and typical grocery expenditures in Nevada.

#### **Meal Gap (\$ per Year)**

The dollars needed to fill the meal gap.

#### **Food Budget Shortfall**

The weekly budget shortfall for food experienced by food insecure individuals in Nevada. This question is asked of the food-insecure by the Census Bureau.

#### **Cost of Food Index**

The relative cost of food in the state compared to the national average. Less than one indicates food is slightly less expensive than the national average. More than one means food is more expensive here. (Based on a USDA-defined meal plan and Nielson Company cash-register data.)