**FOOD BANK FOR NEW YORK CITY**

Source: Food Bank for New York City, Fiscal Year 2016.

- Food Bank For New York City’s food distribution program provides approximately 62.5 million free meals per year for New Yorkers in need.
- Since 1983, Food Bank For New York City has provided more than 1 billion meals to New Yorkers in need.
- Food Bank For New York City’s income support services, including food stamps (also known as SNAP) and free tax assistance, put more than $172 million each year into the pockets of low-income New Yorkers.
- Food Bank For New York City’s nutrition education programs and services empower more than 45,000 children, teens and adults to sustain a healthy diet on a low budget.
- A donation of $1 to Food Bank For New York City helps provide 5 meals.
- Food Bank For New York City distributes approximately 5.7 million kosher meals per year.

**EMERGENCY FOOD**


- An estimated 1.4 million New York City residents rely on emergency food programs, including soup kitchens and food pantries, each year.
- Approximately 339,000 New York City children, or approximately one out of every five (19 percent), rely on soup kitchens and food pantries.
- Approximately 604,770 New York City adult women, or approximately one out of every six (17 percent), rely on soup kitchens and food pantries.
- Approximately 204,000 New York City seniors, or approximately one out of every five (20 percent), rely on soup kitchens and food pantries.
- Approximately 70,000 New York City veterans, or approximately three out of every ten (30 percent), rely on soup kitchens and food pantries.

**FOOD INSECURITY**

Food security means access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.

**US**

- Nearly 48.1 million United States residents, or 15.4 percent, are food insecure.

**NYS**

- Over 2.6 million New York State residents, or 13.5 percent, are food insecure.
- New York State’s food insecurity rate is 12 percent lower than the national rate.

*Note that this data is released one year after it is collected.*

(Note that this data is released two years after it is collected.)

NYC
- More than **1.3 million** New York City residents, or **16.4 percent**, are food insecure.
- New York City residents make up over half (**51 percent**) of all food insecure people living in New York State.
- New York City’s food insecurity rate is **6 percent** higher than the national rate, and **21.5 percent** higher than the New York State rate.

MEAL GAP


(Note that this data is released two years after it is collected.)

The Meal Gap represents the meals missing from the homes of those struggling to put food on the table.

US
- The meal gap for the United States is **8.49 billion**: that is, US residents who experience food insecurity fall short of an adequate diet by 8.49 billion meals in a single year.

NYS
- The meal gap for New York State is approximately **472 million** (471,801,700); that is, New York State residents who experience food insecurity fall short of an adequate diet by 472 million meals in a single year.

NYC
- The meal gap for New York City is nearly **242 million** (241,956,200); that is, New York City residents who experience food insecurity fall short of an adequate diet by 242 million meals in a single year. New York City’s meal gap makes up over half of New York State’s meal gap.

AVERAGE COST PER MEAL


(Note that this data is released two years after it is collected.)

US
- The average cost per meal in the United States is **$2.89**.

NYS
- The average cost per meal in New York State is **$2.97**, 2.8 percent higher than the national average.

NYC
- The average cost per meal in New York City is **$3.38**, 17 percent higher than the national average, and 14 percent higher than the New York State average.

POVERTY


(Note that this data is released one year after it is collected.)

The federal poverty level is **$20,160** annually for a household of three.

US
- **15.5 percent**, or **48.2 million** United States residents, are living below the federal poverty level.

NYS
- **15.9 percent**, or **3.1 million** New York State residents, are living below the federal poverty level. New York State’s poverty rate is 2.6 percent above the
national poverty rate.

NYC
- **20.9 percent**, or **1.75 million** New York City residents, are living below the federal poverty level. New York City’s poverty rate is 35 percent above the federal poverty rate, and 31 percent above the New York State poverty rate.
- New York City residents make up more than half (56 percent) of all New Yorkers in poverty.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

**Source:** United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

(Note that this data is released one or two months after it is collected.)

**US**
- As of July 2016, the national unemployment rate is **4.9 percent**. Approximately 8 million (7,770,000) people are currently unemployed.

**NYS**
- As of June 2016, the unemployment rate in New York State is **4.7 percent**, or approximately 451,560 New York State residents are currently unemployed.

**NYC**
- As of June 2016, the unemployment rate in New York City is **5.0 percent**, or approximately 210,164 New York City residents are currently unemployed.

### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

**Sources:**
- US: USDA.
- NYS: Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA).
- NYC: Human Resources Administration (HRA).

(Note that this data is released 2-4 months after it is collected.)

**US**
- As of May 2016, approximately **43.5 million** (43,478,196) United States residents participate in SNAP.
- The average monthly household SNAP benefit amount in the United States is **$254.82**.

**NYS**
- As of May 2016, nearly **3 million** (2,965,167) New York State residents participate in SNAP.
- The average monthly household SNAP benefit amount in New York State is **$269.07**.

**NYC**
- As of May 2016, nearly **1.7 million** (1,694,747) New York City residents participate in SNAP.
- New York City residents make up more than half (57 percent) of all New Yorkers participating in SNAP.
- The average monthly household SNAP benefit amount in New York City is **$291.26**.

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (GROCERIES)

**Source:** Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

(Note that this data is released one month after it is collected.)

**US**
- From July 2015 to July 2016, the cost of groceries decreased by **1.6 percent**.
- Since the start of the Great Recession (December 2007), the cost of groceries in United States has increased by approximately **16 percent**.
- Since SNAP benefits were reduced in November 2013, the cost of groceries in the United States has increased by approximately **2 percent**.
New York Metro Statistical Area
- From July 2015 to July 2016, the cost of groceries decreased by **1.6 percent**.
- Since the start of the Great Recession (December 2007), the cost of groceries in the New York Metropolitan area has increased by approximately **17.4 percent**.
- Since SNAP benefits were reduced in November 2013, the cost of groceries in the New York Metropolitan area has increased by approximately **1.1 percent**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POPULATION</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>NYS</th>
<th>NYC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> 2014 American Community Survey. U.S. Census Bureau. 2015.</td>
<td><strong>As of 2014, more than 318.9 million (318,857,056) people are living in the U.S.</strong></td>
<td><strong>As of 2014, approximately 19.7 million (19,746,227) people are living in New York State.</strong></td>
<td><strong>As of 2014, more than 8.5 million (8,491,079) people are living in New York City.</strong></td>
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(Note that this data is released one year after it is collected.)