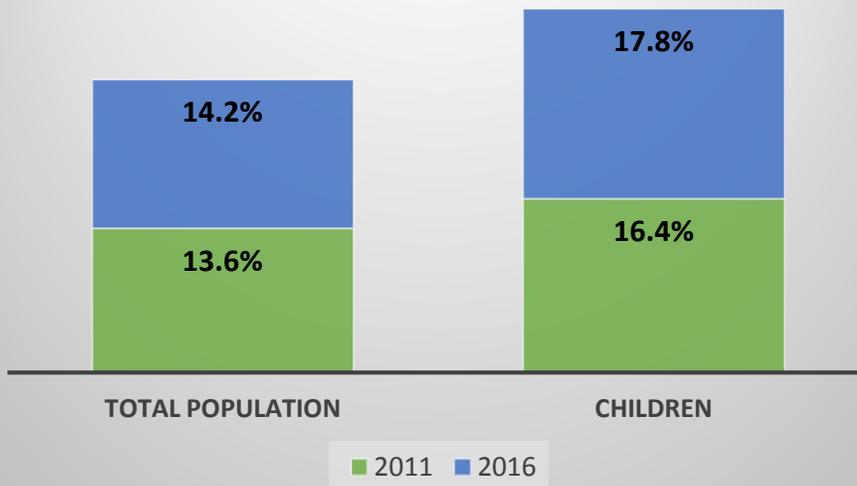


Hunger in Allegheny County

Food Insecurity¹



FOOD INSECURITY:

People who are food insecure at times lack access to enough food for an active, healthy life.

As of 2016, there were over **1.2 million people** living in Allegheny County.²

- Nearly **1 in 7** (174,000 people) are facing food insecurity.¹
- Of these, **42,000** are children.¹

Implications of Hunger

Child Wellbeing³

Hungry children cannot focus in school and are:

- ❖ 3x more likely to be **suspended** from school;
- ❖ 2x as likely to **repeat** a grade & need **special education**.



Hunger & Health³

Proper nutrition is essential to good health. Hunger:

- ❖ triples one's chances of suffering from **poor health**;
- ❖ more than triples the likelihood of **obesity among women**;
- ❖ doubles one's chances of developing **diabetes**.



Economic Costs⁴

Hunger hurts our economy by causing increased healthcare spending, increased costs to charities, lost productivity, and poor education outcomes that hurt not just the lifetime earnings of those who are hungry but society as a whole.

- ❖ Hunger costs in PA have risen to nearly **\$3.25 billion a year**.

Federal Nutrition Programs

Just Harvest helps people in Allegheny County access the public benefits that can help them keep food on the table. Unfortunately, many people who are eligible for these programs are not participating in them.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP or “food stamps”)

Provides monthly benefits to eligible households to purchase food.

- ❖ There are more than **1.8 million** participants in **PA** alone.⁴
- ❖ There are **161,202** participants in **Allegheny County** as of March 2016.⁴
- ❖ Food stamps help **1 in 3 children** get enough to eat in the U.S.⁴
- ❖ Food stamps help lift **families** out of poverty.
- ❖ Food stamps help the local **economy**: every **\$1** in food stamps distributed generates as much as **\$2** in economic activity.⁵

WIC (Women, Infants and Children)

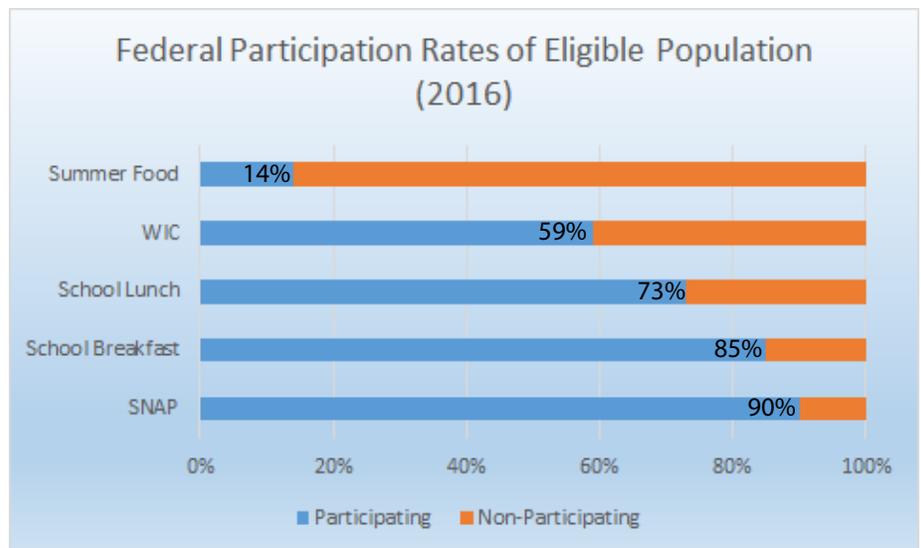
Provides vouchers for healthy foods, nutrition education and health care.

- ❖ There are about **16,000** participants in Allegheny County.⁶

School Meals Program

Provides free meals to low-income school children.

- ❖ **12.1 million** low-income students participated in the **School Breakfast Program** in a typical day during the 2015-16 school year.⁷
- ❖ **22.1 million** students received **free or reduced-price lunch** through the **School Lunch Program** in the 2015-16 school year.⁵



Summer Nutrition Program

Provides meals to low-income school age children during the summer months.

- ❖ On average, **154.4 million meals** were served to Pennsylvania children in 2016.⁵

Be a part of our efforts to end hunger in Allegheny County!



ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

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