

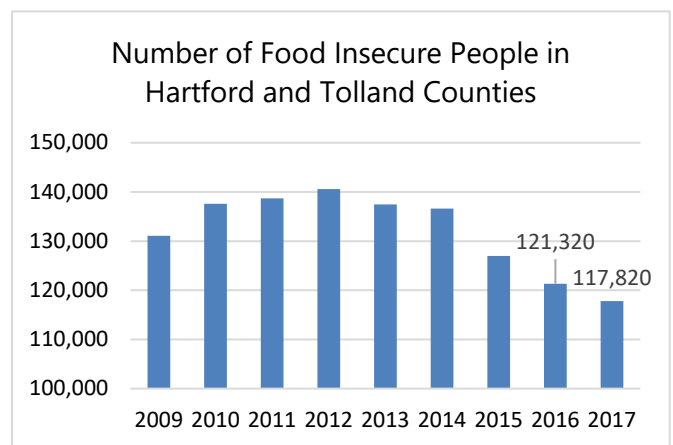
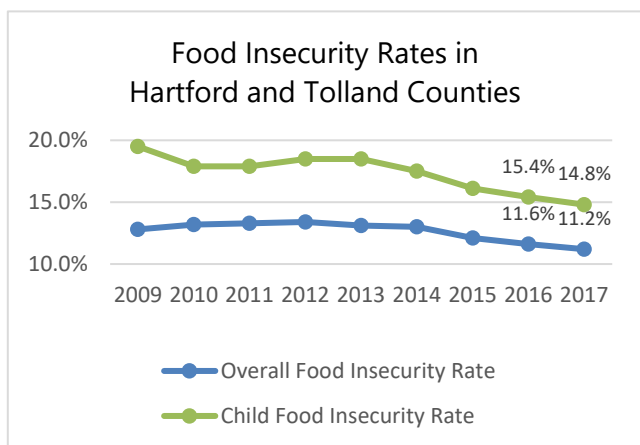


2017 Food Insecurity Data

Foodshare Summary of Feeding America's
Map the Map Gap 2019 study released May 1, 2019

Food Insecurity in Hartford & Tolland Counties

- **118,000 people (1 in 9 people) in Hartford and Tolland Counties are food insecure, including 33,000 children (1 in 7 children).** This means they lack consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.
- **Children are at greater risk of hunger than the general population.** In Hartford and Tolland Counties, about 15% of children are food insecure, compared to 11% among the general population. Although food insecurity is harmful to any individual, it can be particularly devastating to children due to their increased vulnerability and the potential for long-term consequences.
- **Not everyone who is food insecure qualifies for federal nutrition assistance programs.** An estimated 42% of the 118,000 food insecure people in Foodshare's service area live in households with incomes too high to qualify for most federal nutrition assistance programs, including SNAP.
- **A person who is food insecure in Hartford and Tolland counties is estimated to need, on average, \$18.37 more per week to buy just enough food to meet their needs.**
- **Even though the number of food insecure people has fallen and that gives us hope, there are still 118,000 people in Greater Hartford who struggle with hunger, and that's 118,000 too many.** Foodshare is committed to our community – providing food for today and building food security for the future – until every person has access to enough healthy food.





2017 Food Insecurity Data

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Food Insecurity in Connecticut

- **407,000 people (1 in 9 people) in Connecticut are food insecure, including 115,000 children (1 in 6 kids). This means they lack consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.**
- **Children are at greater risk of hunger than the general population.** In Connecticut, 15.5% of children are food insecure, compared to 11.3% among the general population. Although food insecurity is harmful to any individual, it can be particularly devastating to children due to their increased vulnerability and the potential for long-term consequences.
- **Not everyone who is food insecure qualifies for federal nutrition assistance programs.** An estimated 44% of the 407,000 food insecure people in Connecticut live in households with incomes too high to qualify for most federal nutrition assistance programs, including SNAP.
- **A person who is food insecure in Connecticut is estimated to need, on average, \$18.42 more per week to buy just enough food to meet their needs.**

About Food Insecurity

- The USDA defines food insecurity as limited or uncertain access to enough food for all members of a household to live an active, healthy life.
- Food insecure households are not necessarily food insecure all the time. Food insecurity may reflect a household's need to make trade-offs between important basic needs, such as housing or medical bills, and purchasing nutritionally adequate foods.

About the Map the Meal Gap Study

- This annual study estimates the number of people who are likely food insecure using publicly available state and local data from the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics on factors that research has shown to contribute to food insecurity. These factors include unemployment and poverty, as well as other demographic and household characteristics.
- *Map the Meal Gap 2019* is based on 2017 data.

Food Insecurity Trends

- Map the Meal Gap 2019 (2017 data) shows an overall decline in food insecurity in the United States, Connecticut, and Foodshare's service area.
- Although the economy is improving, millions of Americans continue to struggle. The prevalence of food insecurity has decreased slightly from 2016, but rates remain higher than before the Greater Recession in 2007.



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Additional Food Insecurity Trends

Connecticut and Foodshare's service area have lower food insecurity rates than the national average.

| | General Food Insecurity Rate - 2017 | Child Food Insecurity Rate - 2017 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| National | 12.5% | 17.0% |
| Connecticut | 11.3% | 15.5% |
| Foodshare Service Area | 11.2% | 14.8% |
| Hartford County Only | 11.5% | 15.1% |
| Tolland County Only | 9.6% | 12.7% |

A considerable portion of food insecure individuals in Connecticut and Foodshare's service area have incomes too high to qualify for most federal nutrition assistance programs, including SNAP.

| | Estimated number of food insecure individuals - 2017 | Above 185% of poverty - 2017 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Connecticut | 406,810 | 44% |
| Foodshare Service Area | 117,820 | 42% |
| Hartford County Only | 103,340 | 40% |
| Tolland County Only | 14,480 | 57% |

Food insecure individuals face a budget shortfall which limits their ability to buy enough food to meet their basic needs and become food secure.

| | Weekly food-budget shortfall per food insecure person |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Connecticut | \$18.42 |
| Foodshare Service Area | \$18.37 |
| Hartford County Only | \$18.75 |
| Tolland County Only | \$19.73 |

The average cost per meal is higher in Connecticut and Foodshare's service area than the national average (what a person who is food secure is likely to spend on a meal).

| | Average Cost Per Meal |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| National | \$3.02 |
| Connecticut | \$3.27 |
| Foodshare Service Area | \$3.27 |
| Hartford County Only | \$3.33 |
| Tolland County Only | \$3.51 |