

**Steering Committee of the Academic Senate
Special Subcommittee on Food Insecurity
Report and Recommendations, March 2016**

Members of the Subcommittee:

Emily S. Tai (History), Vice-Chair, Steering Committee of the Academic Senate

Leah Anderst (English)

Dorith Brodbar (Counselling)

Joanne Chang (Music)

Sharon Ellerton (Biological and Geological Sciences)

Olga Filkouris (NYPIRG Coordinator)

Amawati Gonesh (Program Director, Single Stop)

Susan Jacobowitz (English)

Adam Ludtke (English; on behalf of the Committee on Student Activities)

Amos Z. Orlofsky (Biological and Geological Sciences)

Ricky Panayoty (President of the Student Association, Queensborough Community College, CUNY)

Amy Traver (Social Sciences)

Father Anthony Rosado (Newman Center)

Background

At its December 9, 2015 meeting, the Academic Senate of Queensborough Community College adopted the following:

Resolution adopted by the Academic Senate, December 9, 2015:

Resolution to address hunger issues within the College community

WHEREAS, There are many members of the College community concerned about hunger on campus who want to establish a food pantry or program at the College; and

WHEREAS, There is support for moving forward with action on the part of the Academic Senate Steering Committee, Faculty Executive Committee, and Student Government Association, to address the possible need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Steering Committee of the Academic Senate create a subcommittee with members from the various constituencies to examine the need for a program to address hunger issues within the college community and, if needed, prepare a plan for how to implement and sustain a program and submit it to the Academic Senate for the March, 2016 meeting.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate acknowledges the willingness of the Newman Center to establish a food center, encourages it, and that members of the community should direct people in need to it as soon as it is up and running.

The Subcommittee on Food Insecurity has, as of this writing, met twice: first, on Wednesday, December 23, 2015; and again on Monday, February 8, 2016.

At the first meeting, members of the Sub-Committee were tasked with a variety of assignments in order to fulfill the following charges, as per the above resolution:

- To establish a working relationship with the Newman Center that would promote the efforts of its Director, Father Anthony Rosado, to distribute food to students with food insecurity issues at Queensborough;
- To establish the level of Food Insecurity among students at Queensborough Community College;
- To inquire into “best practices” regarding the establishment of campus Food Pantries, by reaching out to other colleges where this has been done, in order to ascertain the feasibility of establishing a food pantry at Queensborough.

As the recording secretary (and Sub-Committee coordinator), I wish to acknowledge that this report could not have been assembled without the tireless effort, initiative, and support of my

above-named fellow committee members, each of whom spent hours on research and outreach in order to assemble the information presented below.

I would also like to thank Queensborough's Institutional Research Office, particularly Drs. Victor Fichera and Elizabeth Lackner, both of whom were generous with their time and response to queries; fellow members of the CUNY Board of Trustees Committee on Student Affairs, and members of the City University Faculty Senate Committee on Student Affairs, particularly my fellow UFS Executive Committee member Professor Hugo Fernandez (Art and Photography, La Guardia Community College); University Student Senate Executive Director Fernando Araujo; and CUNY Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs Frank Sanchez.

Our committee would also like to thank various individuals on other campuses who shared information with us: Professor Sharon Masroor (Nassau Community College); Maribel Cordero-Garcia (Brooklyn College); Madeline Cruz (Hostos Community College); Hattie Elmore (Kingsborough Community College); and Kenji Hoffman, Zachary Williams, and Matthew Francis (who is, incidentally, a Queensborough Community College graduate, class of 2008), of the Food Bank of New York.

Charge I:

- *To establish a working relationship with the Newman Center that would promote the efforts of its Director, Father Anthony Rosado, to distribute food to students with food insecurity issues on campus;*

As of this writing, Father Anthony Rosado has been kind enough to meet with President Call, and with Professor Tai, and to take each of us on a tour of Queensborough's Newman Catholic Center, which is located across the street from Queensborough's campus, at 50-47 Cloverdale Boulevard, Bayside, NY 11364. As of Father Anthony's meeting with Professor Tai last December, the Newman Center has agreed to expand its current partnership with Queensborough's Lambda Sigma Phi Theta Kappa chapter (which already supports a number of service events on campus) to sponsor a series of "Soup and Study" afternoons, in which Queensborough students would be invited to have soup distributed from the Newman Center's Food Pantry during Club Hours, and to take some dry food supplies home if desired.

As of this writing, the first of these events took place on Wednesday, February 24, 2016, from noon to 2 PM, with co-sponsorship from the Asian Society; the Affiliates of the American Chemical Society and the Chemistry Club; the Environmental Sustainability Club; the ASAP Club and the Student Health Club. The main aim of this event was to raise awareness that this resource is available to students as one means to address food insecurity needs. During the event, members of the Newman Club worked with Father Anthony Rosado on the language of a flyer which will be produced shortly, and which will be extracted on electronic signage around the campus. The event was well attended by students from various co-sponsoring clubs, as well as members of faculty (Drs. Tai and Regina Rochford), and USS President Ricky Panayoty. Hot,

homemade minestrone soup was donated by members of Father Anthony’s College Point parish; there were bagels and cream cheese; and water was donated by the Student Health Club.

Before this event, flyers, an example of which has been appended to this report, were distributed to students through the Counseling Department, the ASAP Club, and by several Queensborough faculty and staff. The Sub-committee would particularly like to acknowledge Professors Gina Cappazzoli (Counseling); Liz DiGiorgio (Art and Photography); Kevin Kolack (Chemistry); Peggy McConnell (English); and Ms. Victoria O’Shea (ASAP) for their efforts in this regard.

While the event itself took place during Club Hours, the Newman Center is open every Monday through Thursday, from 1-4 P.M. Depending upon the level of interest, there might be arrangements to extend these hours. As of this writing, NYPIRG and PTK are also planning to co-sponsor a can drive on March 10 to benefit the Newman Center food pantry. Contributors are particularly invited to donate canned or dry packaged soup.

It should finally be noted that last fall’s Food Drive, on behalf of Food Bank of New York, established Queensborough as a member of Food Bank’s “Students Against Hunger,” alliance, administered by Mr. Kenji Hoffman, a Food Bank staff member.

Charge 2:

- ***To establish the level of Food Insecurity among students at Queensborough Community College;***

In 2011, a group of professors affiliated with CUNY’s School of Public Health—Nicholas Freudenberg; Luis Manzo, Hollie Jones, Amy Kwan, Emma Tsui, and Monica Gagnon—conducted a series of studies to evaluate food and housing insecurity among CUNY students, as well as the level of mental health care needs. The findings of this study were that approximately 39% of CUNY’s student population experienced conditions of food insecurity. (A link to the report is given in Appendix II, *Bibliography and Relevant Links*, below.)

While the conditions traced in the 2011 survey might have modified over the last five years, we would hypothesize that it is likely that they have not substantially improved. We moreover believe that conditions on Queensborough’s campus are roughly reflective of a CUNY norm, despite the relative prosperity of Queens County, where, according to our research, only approximately 15% of the population is considered food insecure. (See Appendix I, Report by Dr. Amos Orlosfsky, *Studies of Food Insecurity at CUNY and in Queens*)

Our rationale for drawing these conclusions are based upon the following data, very graciously furnished by Queensborough’s Office of Institutional Research:

- According to the 2014-2015 Queensborough Fact Book (page 54) 68% among the first-time full-time freshmen of the 2013-2014 academic year, had Pell grants. During that same academic year, 53% of all QCC undergraduate students had Pell, although this may be attributable to first-time freshman also being likelier to be unemployed.

- Of the 15,325 students enrolled at QCC in spring 2015, 7,515 (49%) had a Pell flag, indicating that they are eligible for Pell. Another 47% had the “low income” flag. There is also the “economic disadvantage” flag, which is used for Perkins reporting. 55% of all enrolled in spring 2015 had the economic disadvantage flag.

While one cannot conclusively assume that every student who is eligible for an economic disadvantage flag would be food insecure, these figures, showing that approximately half our students are in some condition of financial need, would appear to support a rough hypothesis that approximately one third of our students may be food insecure—which would be a large enough proportion to generate the anecdotal evidence that faculty have reported to support the claim that many of our students are contending with food insecurity issues.

Were the committee to explore this further, we could utilize and/or adapt survey instruments developed by the USDA, links to which have been appended to this report. However, we would like to respectfully suggest that any further survey might merely replicate data already collected, as these same instruments were adapted by the researchers who investigated this problem at the School of Public Health in 2011. If we were to do a survey, Ms. Olga Filakouris, the director of Queensborough’s NYPIRG chapter, has indicated that NYPIRG interns could probably be utilized to administer it. We could also request information from Queensborough’s Single Stop office, although it may well be that this data is protected in order to preserve student privacy.

Charge 3:

- *To inquire into “best practices” regarding the establishment of campus Food Pantries, by reaching out to other colleges where this has been done, in order to ascertain the feasibility of establishing a food pantry at Queensborough;*

Two recent developments provide immediate models for the development of on-campus food pantries: the establishment of a food pantry at Nassau Community College, which is part of the SUNY system; and the recently-established partnership between the City University of New York’s Central Office and Food Bank of New York.

I. Nassau Community College

Nassau Community College’s Food Pantry, “The Nest,” offers an excellent example of the challenges involved in establishing a food pantry on a college campus, as well as how they might be addressed. During the January break, Committee member Dr. Dorith Brodbar met with “the Nest’s” founder and Director, Sharon Masroor, who was kind enough to offer guidance from her experience:

Liability Issues: The Director spoke about the difficulty concerning NCC assuming liability for the Pantry. Because the governance structure of SUNY community colleges establishes each college with an independent Board of Trustees, subject to the State University of New York, the State of New York would be liable for any lawsuits in the event of any mishaps that might occur in the course of food distribution (food allergies, spoilage, etc.). Accordingly, the Food Pantry

incorporated as an independent “non-profit” 501(c) 3. (The waiver that establishes this is also attached to this report, with thanks to Professor Masroor and Dr. Brodbar.) The Food Pantry is required to carry its own insurance, which costs about \$800 a year.

Oversight: Nassau Community College’s Food Pantry is staffed by volunteers, who attend an Orientation where they learn the logistics of running a pantry and the basics of treating the customers with respect. They keep records of the inventory and help with stocking and maintaining the pantry. Island Harvest Food Bank makes regular deliveries of food. There are also private donations of food from Nassau Community College’s faculty and staff. There are grocery lists that are presented to shoppers, suggesting foods and quantity depending on the size of their household. However, these suggestions are not strictly enforced. They created a very thorough intake that each person completes when they first come to the pantry, that might be useful to review as a template for any form our campus might distribute. The hours of operation are for 2 or 3 hours on three different days in the morning, evening and during Nassau Community College’s Club Hours.

Fiscal Supports: Nassau Community College’s Board of Trustees agreed to provide the space used by the pantry on campus for free. The room, which is about 8x12 in size with a window, is maintained as any classroom would be. The College also occasionally allows the pantry to host events on the campus, print materials, assemble things like shelving, and so on. They also have multiple donors and fundraising events.

Availability: The pantry is open to the entire NCC community: students, faculty, and staff.

How was need established? Professor Masroor relied on an abundance of research to ascertain the need for a food pantry. She is willing to share her references. It took two years since her proposal to finally open the pantry for the first time this last semester, Fall 2015. The facility is constantly modifying and expanding. Two faculty volunteers who were at the Food Pantry on the day Dr. Brodbar made her site visit also reported it was evident in their classes that there was a need for a food pantry for their students.

The Director of the Food Pantry at Nassau Community College recommended that campuses interested in starting food pantries join The College and University Food Bank Alliance (CUFBA). It was also suggested that food pantries might have a positive impact upon retention. When Dr. Brodbar visited, this was a possibility that she and Professor Masroor discussed with a student.

II. Partnership between City University of New York and Food Bank of New York

Some of the complications of liability for possible difficulties regarding food distribution, insurance costs, and other requirements (such as being a non-profit) have potentially been resolved at the City University of New York by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was finalized between CUNY and the Food Bank of New York last November, 2015, as reported by Frank Sanchez, CUNY’s Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs, in a meeting of the CUNY

Board of Trustees Committee on Student Affairs in January, 2016, as well as a subsequent meeting with the University Faculty Senate Committee on Student Affairs in February, 2016.

The memorandum of understanding grew from the role that Kingsborough Community College's Food Pantry, under the direction of Ms. Heidi Lopez, played in the distribution of food to New Yorkers in the Rockaway area during and after Hurricane Sandy. This development promoted the idea that Food Bank of New York could collaborate with the City University of New York without making campus food pantries subject to the requirements to which most Food Bank partners are held.

Ordinarily, Food Bank of New York specifies that any Food Pantry seeking a partnership with Food Bank needs to:

- Be a Non-Profit 501C3 (This is to insure that the Food Pantry **is not using any tax-levy funds for food purchase, which is illegal.**)
- Show three or more months of autonomous operation;
- Conform to Health and Safety regulations (food stays off the floor; pest control; sanitary conditions for non-perishables; food safety certification and proper refrigeration specifications if perishable foods, like milk or meat, are being distributed, or if cooked food is being distributed).

Once an organization meets these specifications, Food Bank of New York establishes a Memorandum of Understanding with the food pantry, and thereafter allows the pantry to purchase food at wholesale and bulk rates from Food Bank's catalogue website to supplement whatever local collection mechanisms they've been relying on. In addition, Food Bank of New York supports Pantry staff in offering training in Food safety for coordinators; access to counselling in Nutrition/Health and Household Management

Food Bank's arrangements with CUNY are customized to CUNY needs, waiving requirements that any food distribution facility be accessible 24/7 to compliance inspectors, as well as the usual requirements that food be distributed as widely as possible, given that most campuses limit distribution to students, or, at most, the campus community. The three-month independent operation requirement has also been waived. Such counseling as is usually provided by Food Bank Staff is, meanwhile, handled by on-campus agencies, such as Single Stop. The point person for this collaborative arrangement at CUNY Central is Patty Lamberson, who is also the Coordinator for the Healthy CUNY initiative: plambers@hunter.cuny.edu

This Member Agreement has allowed CUNY's Office of Student Affairs, under the leadership of Vice-Chancellor Frank Sanchez, to offer support to any ten CUNY campuses that will start food pantries: Each participating campus receives approximately

\$1,000.00 for shelving and supplies. Finding non-tax-levy funds for the purpose of stocking the food pantry, which can draw upon Food Bank of New York's wholesale supplies, is nevertheless each campus's responsibility, and at the discretion of campus administration.

At various CUNY campuses that have established Food pantries Funds of between \$5,000-\$10K have been allocated as spend down allowances for the year. Food Bank has a spread sheet that helps coordinators estimate how far their money will go. Sources for the money have varied. Some campuses are using their Petrie Foundation allocation; Single Stop will receive an allocation of an additional \$40 million, which, as Single Stop is funded by the Robin Hood Foundation, might also be eligible money to draw upon. Charitable donations from corporate donations can also become a source for needed funds. At La Guardia Community College, for example, an agreement was reached with the campus's food distribution company, which carries their own insurance, as well as the Single Stop office.

With this general information in mind, members of the Sub-Committee met with the administrators of food pantries that had been established on several CUNY campuses, although the full complement of ten campuses has not yet been realized, as of this writing:

A. Brooklyn College

Maribel Cordero-Garcia, Student Life Coordinator at Brooklyn College's Department of Civic Engagement & Responsibility, administers Brooklyn College's Food Pantry, which opened shortly after CUNY's memorandum of understanding with the Food Bank of New York was finalized, on November 24th 2015. Professor Cordero-Garcia was kind enough to speak at great length with Dr. Susan Jacobowitz. Collection for the Food Pantry was inaugurated with a food drive on campus. Student clubs, the circulation desk at the library, together with campus sororities and fraternities all participated. There was a list of preferred items, and people gave what was on the list. Once the memorandum was signed, the Pantry was allocated a budget of \$9,000 for the year to order wholesale from Food Bank of New York using funds from the Petrie Foundation.

At Brooklyn College, the food pantry built on a tradition the Office of Student Affairs had established of giving out food vouchers that could be used at the Target across the street and vouchers that could be used in the cafeteria, with cooperation from Metropolitan Food Services, where conditions of Food Insecurity had been established for the student. The pantry is located in a room at the Student Center that was always committed to Community Service. It was transformed into the food pantry. Ms. Cordero-Garcia has two college assistants part-time; she's the only full-time person. The food pantry operates Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-3, and on

Wednesday nights for students who are doing internships and projects off campus and are only on campus Wednesday nights.

Students make appointments, to respect confidentiality. They are scheduled every 15 minutes, and apparently prefer recourse to the pantry to other local soup kitchens and distribution points.

Anyone with a valid student ID can access the food. If they get more funding, they would like to make it available to faculty and staff as well. As it is, students sometimes bring in their children or their parents. Students can access the food pantry twice a month.

So far, they have helped over 27 individuals and families. They do not have refrigerators, so the focus is on dry food. You can either use a client list (the client checks off items and the bag is packed) or prepare a bag with all items. Maribel uses the client list, which was recommended by the woman who is running the food bank at LaGuardia.

A bag can contain 11 items, representing all of the food groups. There are canned fruits and vegetables. There is a large offering of kosher items since there is a large community of people who keep kosher at Brooklyn. Ms. Cordero-Garcia has been keeping in touch with other Single-Stop directors to see how the effort is proceeding on other campuses. Apparently CUNY Law is using donations from food drives, and has established a pantry at the Student Center.

B. Hostos Community College

Hostos's Food Pantry is administered by Madelaine Cruz, who is in charge of Hostos's Single Stop Office. As at Brooklyn College and LaGuardia Community College, the establishment of a Food Pantry followed from the Memorandum of Understanding between CUNY and the Food Bank of New York.

This collaboration enabled Professor Cruz to receive training in food safety and food pantry administration from Food Bank, which she indicated was fairly straightforward. The food comes from Food Bank of New York, as well as Food Drives across campus.

At Hostos, the Single Stop office utilizes a "closet" for a pantry. It is not a room. All foods are wrapped non-perishables. Twice a month a student may take food. They fill out a form and are given a dark bag to carry the food away. The convenience of organizing the pantry out of Single Stop is that in this way, food distribution can be combined with counseling regarding other services the student may need. The Single Stop administrators, faculty and student volunteers, and work-study students (who are expected to devote some proportion of their time to community service) stock the pantry, maintain it, and bring students to take from the pantry, which is open. It is open 5 days a week from 9-5.

Liability issues, as shown above, are shouldered by CUNY Central, protecting individual campuses from these concerns.

C. Kingsborough Community College

Dr. Leah Anderst wrote to Ms. Hattie Elmore, who is the current administrator of the Food Pantry at Kingsborough Community College.

Kingsborough Community College had already established “donation boxes,” which were distributed across the campus to receive food donations from faculty and staff for students. After Hurricane Sandy, Food Bank of New York donated a massive amount to Kingsborough Community College (which was also designated as a Red Cross Distribution site). There was also a financial need among the students who attended Kingsborough, which became greater after Sandy occurred, and these needs were always prioritized.

Funding for the Food Pantry has been sustained through private donations, which enable Kingsborough to take full advantage of CUNY’s partnership with Food Bank. Ms. Elmore indicated that she does a certain amount of fund-raising: “I have to apply for grants,” Ms. Elmore wrote in an email to Dr. Anderst, “and at times sell private donors on the need of the campus and what Single Stop does to make up for the hunger need on campus. There are tons of grants out there. However, you may come across grants you’re not eligible for or the campus can not apply for for legal reasons.”

Liability Concerns To address the possibility of food allergies, and the liabilities they might impose, Kingsborough’s Food Pantry has a "customer choice," system. Students take what they want off the shelves and they would not take anything they may be allergic to. Only non-perishable items are accepted for the pantry. All items have to be stamped with the date they arrived. “We normally shut down for the day to make sure items are stamped, shelved appropriately and accounted for,” Ms. Elmore indicated in her email. “We do not advertise to the outside public. However, Food Bank requires that we offer our services to the public so we are on their pantry website. Out of the 3 years I have been here I had about 2 seniors calling about the pantry who are not associated with Kingsborough Community College.”

Oversight Kingsborough’s Single Stop office is administered by Ms. Elmore, who is also responsible for the data reporting to Food Bank, ordering the food, making sure the Food Pantry is in compliance with all regulations and that all staff are trained in food safety. The pantry is located in the COPE area. They staff the pantry with Work Study students, College Assistants, and Student Aides as needed. They are responsible for maintaining the inventory, signing students in, covering the pantry during business hours (Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm)

The Single Stop Office at Kingsborough also offers *Cookshop*, a course which promotes healthy living on a low budget, Kingsborough offers a six week cooking course for students and a family member (adult or child). The course offers lessons in preparing six different meals (1 each week). Students leave with the ingredients to be able to prepare the meal at home. The

meals normally take 10 - 20 minutes to cook, no stove top is needed and children can make these meals as well. Keyfood supplies us with all the items and fresh produce is provided from Kingsborough's Urban Farm on campus. The classes are conducted by one of the culinary students or Kingsborough alumni.

Conclusion: Recommendations:

Based upon our review of these circumstances, the Sub-Committee on Food Insecurity would like to make the following recommendations:

Based upon our review of these circumstances, the Sub-Committee on Food Insecurity would like to make the following recommendations:

- Partnerships between the Newman Center and various campus student groups should continue to be promoted that can (a) raise awareness concerning the availability of a dry food distribution point proximate to campus and (b) help to augment the supplies of the Newman Center Pantry through can and food drives, as needed. Here, it is possible that Queensborough could leverage its own recently-established partnership with Food Bank of New York's "Students Against Hunger" initiative to scale up collections.
- Members of the Sub-Committee also recommend that Queensborough's administration explore the fiscal feasibility of taking advantage of CUNY's Memorandum of Understanding with Food Bank of New York to establish an on-campus food distribution point along the lines of the Food Pantry at Hostos or Brooklyn Community College--- that is, a limited space facility (no more than a closet or a small room, located, possibly, in the Single Stop Office), holding food that could be available to members of the student community (and, perhaps, eventually, to all members of the campus community), on a monthly, or bi-monthly basis, with, perhaps, additional limitations.
- It is also recommended that the Queensborough Auxillary Enterprise Association, Incorporated, when it negotiates contracts with food vendors should, if possible, include a provision that would require such vendors to include some relatively inexpensive food items with nutritional value on their list of offerings.
- As per the correlation that Nassau Community College suggested might exist between food distribution services and student retention, it is finally recommended that, should food distribution at Queensborough continue at the Newman Center and/or be established at our campus, the college explore the possibility of collecting data that might test this hypothesis. If it could be shown that food distribution had a statistically significant impact upon retention, this data might be used to seek external, non tax-levy funding to sustain any food distribution effort at Queensborough.

Appendix I:

Studies of food insecurity in CUNY and Queens

Amos Orlofsky, Dept. of Biology

1. “Food Insecurity at CUNY” (CUNY School of Public Health, 2011)(Slide 1)

The major arm of the study was an internet/phone survey of a weighted representative sample of 1086 CUNY students (across all campuses). The four questions asked (Slide 2; boxed #'s = positive responses) were a simplified version of the USDA questionnaire (Slide 3; boxed questions resemble the CUNY questions). The USDA survey generates two levels of insecurity: “low” (3 affirmative responses) and “very low” (6 affirmative). “Very low” essentially focuses on disruption of eating (hunger)(slide 4 elaborates the differences) and used to be called “insecurity with hunger” until a review determined there was insufficiently established linkage to hunger. The CUNY study does not address this distinction, but their threshold (two affirmative responses) seems closer to the broader “low” level. The study found 39% insecurity, and this was validated by the second arm, which was a face-to-face survey (1114 students) focusing primarily on the six CC campuses (“CC-targeted sample”: 45% insecure). The study also has data on food pantry and SNAP use (slide 5).

2. Food insecurity in Queens.

a) This is relevant because ~90% of QCC students are from Queens, [as of 2013](#).

b) Queens public school students: [71% economically disadvantaged](#).

c) Poverty rate in Queens = 15.4% (Slide 6)

c) While food insecurity was not directly surveyed at the county level (at least in the USDA public database), Feeding America (Slide 7) has produced estimates, by using USDA state-level insecurity data (Slides 8, 9) to generate coefficients for effects of poverty rate and unemployment (and other lesser factors), then applying these coefficients to the economic data available for counties. The Queens estimate is 13.3% insecure (Slide 10; other NYC counties also shown). The study also used the USDA budget-question data to estimate the average per capita food budget shortfall for the food insecure (Slide 11).

(d) The Food Research and Action Center used Gallup responses to determine a food hardship rate of 19% for the NYC metro area (vs. 17.2% nationally; Slide 13).

(e) The NYC Coalition Against Hunger used USDA data to generate food insecure data for NYC counties (Slide 14). The study also found that nearly half of NYC food pantries/soup kitchens (37% in Queens) reduced services in 2012-2014 due to insufficient resources (Slide 15).

(f) Free/reduced-price school lunch usage in NYC is more than double the rate in the rest of the state, and Queens usage rate is comparable to that of the rest of the city (Slide 16). A similar relationship of NYC to the rest of the state is seen for SNAP benefits (Slide 17).

Appendix II:

References and Links:

Sarah Cunningham and Dana M. Johnson, *So You Want to Start a Campus Food Pantry? A How-To Manual* (Oregon State University, 2011), available at:

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&ved=0ahUKEwjvv9inwILLAhUL2xoKHQ2GA1wQFggoMAI&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.oregonfoodbank.org%2FOur-Work%2FPartner-With-Us%2FNew-Agency-Kit%2F~%2Fmedia%2FFiles%2FSo%2520You%2520Want%2520to%2520Start%2520a%2520Campus%2520Food%2520Pantry.pdf&usg=AFQjCNFamWEHZd-8KEq5dYZAieN3PmCGDw&bvm=bv.114733917,d.dmo>

Paul Fain, “Single Stop Before Graduation,” *Inside Higher Ed*, June 11, 2013, at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2013/06/11/nonprofit-group-single-stop-helps-low-income-students-avoid-financial-barriers>

Candice Ferrette, “Food Pantry for Needy Students Opens at Nassau Community College,” *Newsday*, November 7, 2015, at <http://www.newsday.com/long-island/food-pantry-for-needy-students-opens-at-nassau-community-college-1.11070535>

Kingsborough Community College, Grants Newsletter, June, 2010:

<http://www.kingsborough.edu/sub-administration/collAdvancement/ApplyingforGrants/Documents/Grantsnewsletters/June2010GrantsNewsletter.pdf>

(description of Ms. Lopez’s grantsmanship around the Single Stop Pantry at Kingsborough)

Nicholas Freudenberg, Luis Manzo, et al. “Food Insecurity at CUNY: Results from a Survey of CUNY Undergraduates,” (2011), available at http://www.gc.cuny.edu/CUNY_GC/media/CUNY-Graduate-Center/PDF/Centers/Center%20for%20Human%20Environments/cunyfoodinsecurity.pdf

Joe Maniscalco, “Kingsborough Community College Opens Food Pantry to Help Feed Cash-Strapped Students,” *Courier Life’s Brooklyn Daily*, June 24, 2009, at http://www.brooklyndaily.com/stories/2009/26/bay_news_newsxjgybwa06242009.html

Queensborough Fact Book (2014-2015)

<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/oira/factbook.html>

Tina Rosenberg, “For Striving Students, a Connection to Money,” *New York Times*, March 26, 2014, at http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/03/26/the-system-when-it-works/?_r=2

Emily Tai, “Students in Need: Reducing Food Insecurity at CUNY,” *UFS Blog*, December 2, 2015, at <https://sites.google.com/site/universityfacultysenatecuny/UFS-blog/studentsinneedreducingfoodinsecurityatcuny>

Melanie Grayce West, “Food Pantries Grow on New York Campuses,” *Wall Street Journal*, October 9, 2014, at <http://www.wsj.com/articles/food-pantries-grow-on-new-york-campuses-1412878544>

Eligibility for Pell Grants:

<http://pellgranteligibility.org/>

Website of Island Harvest Food Bank:

<http://www.islandharvest.org/>

The College and University Food Bank Alliance:

<http://www.cufba.org/>

Links concerning Nassau Community College’s Food Pantry:

<http://www.ediblelongisland.com/2015/11/30/nest-food-pantry-nurtures-nassau-community-college/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieSbddpULVA>

<http://www.fox5ny.com/news/56276076-story>

Food Bank of New York “Starter Kit:”

http://www.nyccah.org/files/Starter_Kit.pdf

Website for Hostos Community College Food Pantry:

<http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Programs/Single-Stop-USA-Resource-Center/Hostos-Supplemental-Resources>

CUNY Central Link describing Brooklyn College’s Food Pantry:

<http://www1.cuny.edu/mu/forum/2015/12/07/brooklyn-college-student-support-programs-now-include-a-food-pantry/>

Article on Brooklyn College Food Pantry (December 3, 2015)

http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/news/bcnews/bcnews_151203.php

Kingsborough Community College Single Stop website:

<http://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/singlestop/Pages/default.aspx>

Modules used for conducting surveys regarding food insecurity by the USDA:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/survey-tools.aspx#six>

Website of Wisconsin HOPE Lab:

<http://www.wihopelab.com/>

Links regarding Single Stop:

<http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/sa/specialprograms/SingleStopCCI.html>

<http://singlestopusa.org/new-study-shines-light-on-student-hunger-homelessness/>

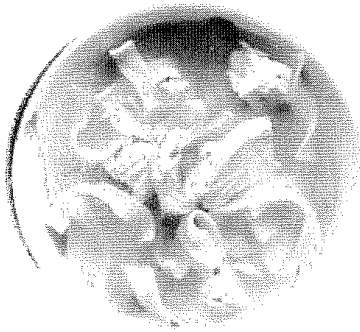
<http://www.singlestopusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Single-Stop-Testimony-to-the-National-Commission-on-Hunger.pdf>

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

City University of New York

THE NEWMAN CLUB & THE LAMBDA SIGMA CHAPTER OF PHI
THETA KAPPA

**WOULD LIKE TO INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN US
FOR
SOUP & STUDY!**



**COME HAVE A BOWL OF SOUP, AND HELP THE NEWMAN CLUB
COMPILE SERVICE FLYERS!
TAKE SOME FOOD HOME FROM THE NEWMAN CENTER'S FOOD
PANTRY!**

**NEWMAN CENTER, CLUB HOURS (NOON-2 PM)
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2016**

**CO-SPONSORED BY THE ASAP CLUB, THE CHEMISTRY CLUB,
THE QUEENSBOROUGH AFFILIATES OF THE AMERICAN
CHEMICAL SOCIETY, NYPIRG, THE ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY CLUB, THE ASIAN SOCIETY & THE STUDENT
HEALTH CLUB.**

Queensborough Community College
Office of Student Activities
Date 2/11/16

NS

**The NEST at NCC
Food Pantry Waiver**

Please read and sign below so that we may provide you with food.

I understand that food distributed by the Food Pantry **THE NEST at NCC** (Nassau Community College) is provided through food drives, donations, and local food banks.

I voluntarily accept the food "as is." By my signature below, I release the Food Pantry **THE NEST at NCC**, and all donors from any liability for harm (including injury or death) or losses in connection with the food or supplies I have received. I assume any risks and agree not to sue the released parties with respect to such harm or losses.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The NEST at NCC
Food Pantry Waiver

Por favor, lea y firme este document para que le podamos proveer de alimentos.

Entiendo que los alimentos distribuidos por la despensa de alimentos The NEST at NCC (Nassau Community College) son suministrados mediante campañas de alimentos, donaciones, y suministradores locales de alimentos.

Libre y voluntariamente acepto los alimentos tal y como están. Al firmar abajo, libero a la despensa de alimentos The NEST at NCC, y a todos los donantes, de cualquier responsabilidad por daños (incluyendo heridas o muerte) o pérdidas relacionados a los alimentos u otros suministros que yo haya recibido. Acepto cualesquier riesgos y me comprometo a no hacer ninguna demanda judicial contra las partes en relación con dichos daños o pérdidas.

Firma: _____ Fecha: _____

Food Insecurity at CUNY: Results from a Survey of CUNY Undergraduate Students



April 2011

A Report from:
The Campaign for a Healthy CUNY

by

Nicholas Freudenberg¹, Luis Manzo², Hollie Jones³, Amy Kwan¹, Emma Tsui¹ and Monica Gagnon¹

¹ City University of New York School of Public Health at Hunter College, ² CUNY Mental Health and Wellness Services, ³ Medgar Evers College

Defining Food Insecurity

Food insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as having “limited or uncertain access to nutritious, safe foods necessary to lead a healthy lifestyle.” The USDA notes that “households that experience food insecurity have reduced quality or variety of meals and may have irregular food intake.” To assess food insecurity, we asked four questions about food experiences in the past 12 months. These were:

1. How often did you worry that you would not have enough money for food? **45.1%**
2. How often did you cut or skip a meal because you didn't have enough money to buy food?
3. How often were you unable to eat balanced or nutritious meals because of a lack of money?
4. How often did you go hungry because of a lack of money? **22.7%**

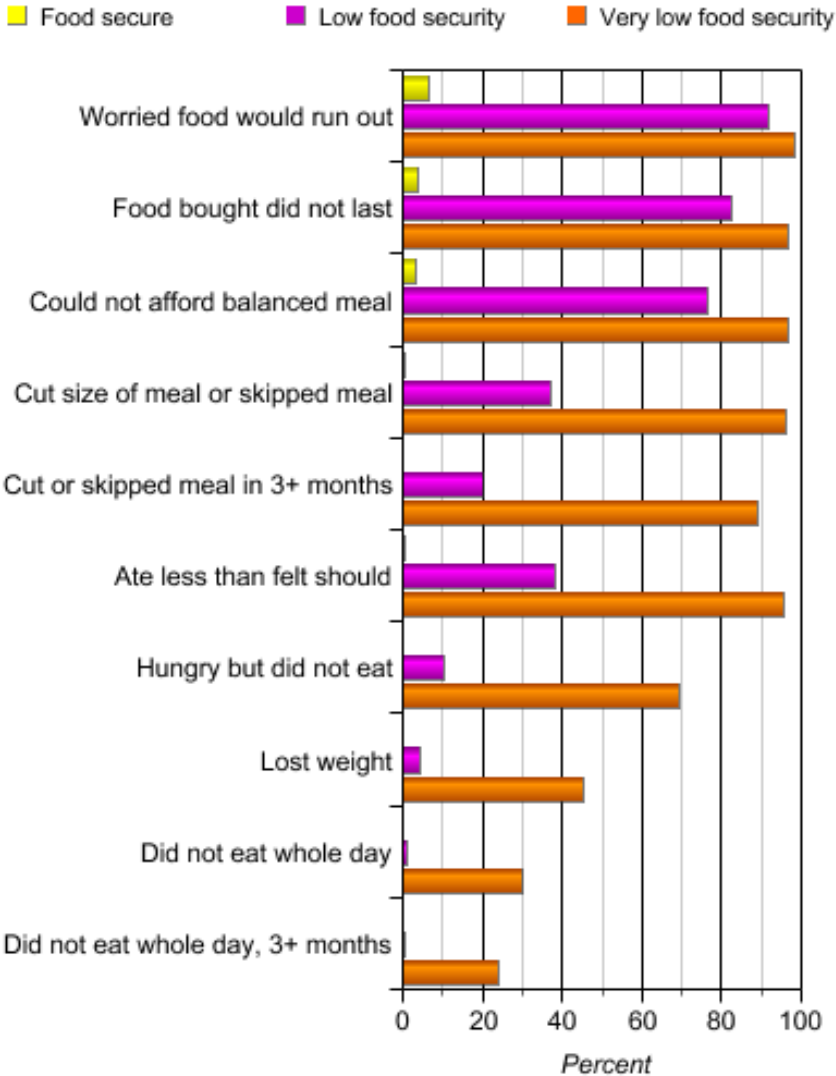
We defined a student as “food insecure” if they answered “often” or “sometimes” to **two or more** of these four questions.

- **39.2%** of students reported food insecurity. (**45.4%** in CC-targeted sample).
- Students with household income < \$20K (26% of students) more than twice as likely to report food insecurity as those with income >\$50K.

Table 1: Food Insecurity Questions in the Core Food Security Module (administered in the Current Population Survey)

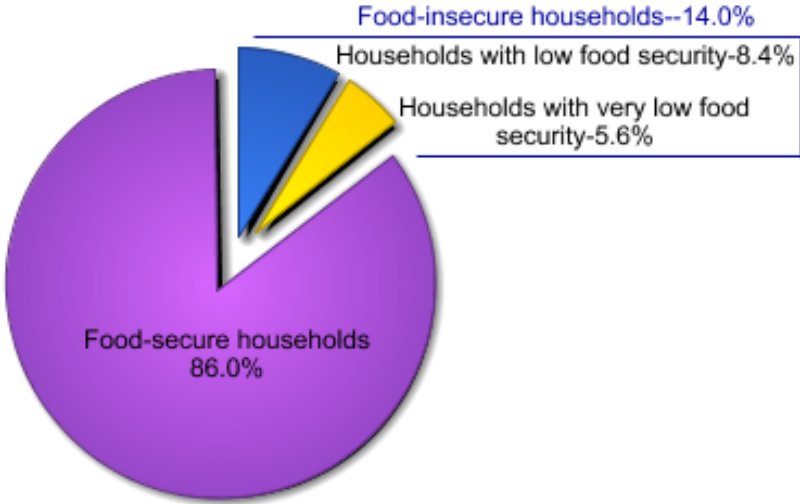
1. “We worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more.” Was that often, sometimes, or never true for you in the last 12 months?
2. “The food that we bought just didn’t last and we didn’t have money to get more.” Was that often, sometimes, or never true for you in the last 12 months?
3. “We couldn’t afford to eat balanced meals.” Was that often, sometimes, or never true for you in the last 12 months?
4. In the last 12 months, did you or other adults in the household ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn’t enough money for food? (Yes/No)
5. In the last 12 months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn’t enough money for food? (Yes/No)
6. (If yes to Question 4) How often did this happen—almost every month, some months but not every month, or in only 1 or 2 months?
7. In the last 12 months, were you ever hungry, but didn’t eat, because you couldn’t afford enough food? (Yes/No)
8. In the last 12 months, did you lose weight because you didn’t have enough money for food? (Yes/No)
9. In the last 12 months did you or other adults in your household ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn’t enough money for food? (Yes/No)
10. (If yes to Question 9) How often did this happen—almost every month, some months but not every month, or in only 1 or 2 months?

Percentage of households reporting indicators of adult food insecurity, by food security status, 2014



Source: Calculated by ERS using data from the December 2014 Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement.

U.S. households by food security status, 2014

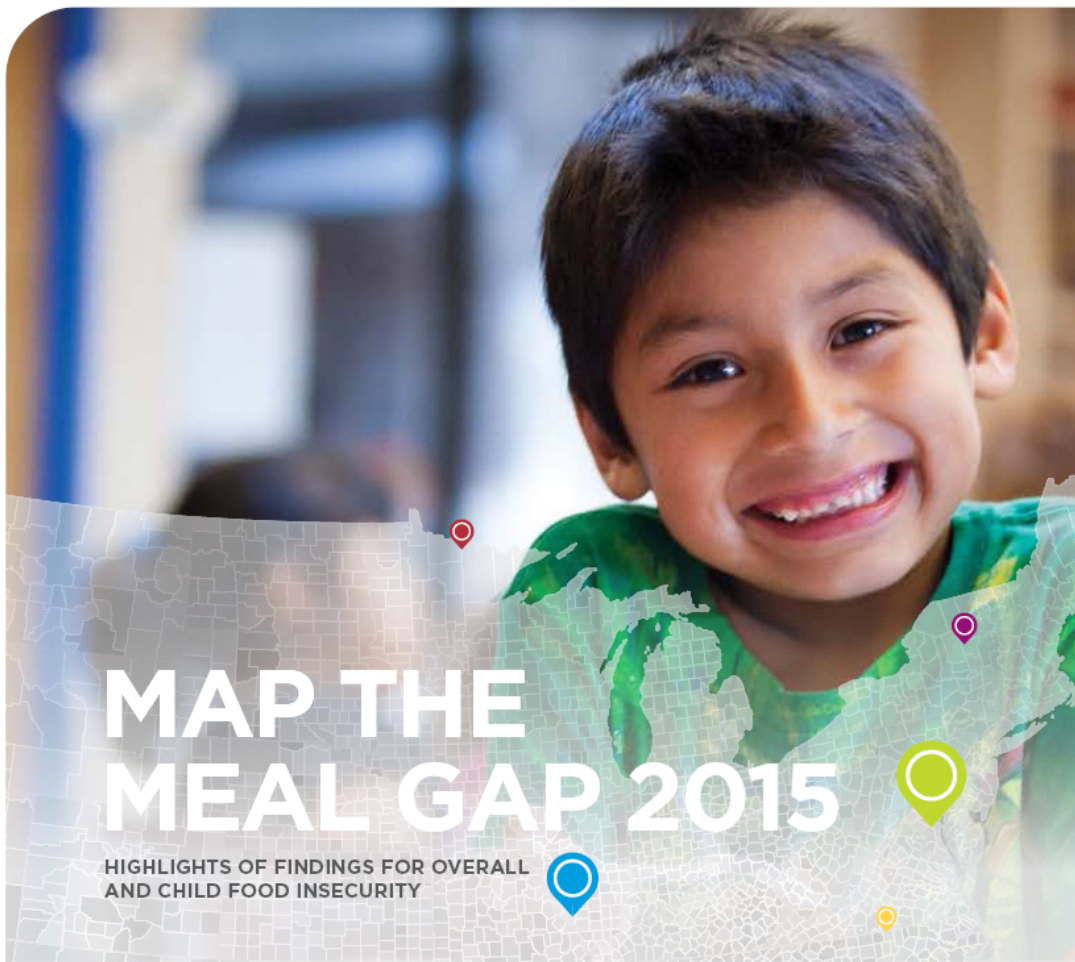


Source: Calculated by ERS using data from the December 2014 Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement.

- Only 7.2% of students reported using the services of a food pantry or other food assistance program in the last 12 months.
- Only 6.4% of students reported currently receiving food stamps (i.e., SNAP benefits) even though 18% thought they were eligible and 16.6% had previously applied for this benefit.
- Among students currently receiving food stamps, 63% reported food insecurity, suggesting that for almost two-thirds of the recipients, food stamps were not sufficient to provide food security.

Year	Region	Poverty Universe	Number in Poverty	Percent in Poverty
2014	United States	310,899,910	48,208,387	15.5
2014	New York	19,228,484	3,082,613	16.0
2014	Queens County	2,295,508	352,481	15.4

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (U.S. Census Bureau)



MAP THE MEAL GAP 2015

HIGHLIGHTS OF FINDINGS FOR OVERALL
AND CHILD FOOD INSECURITY



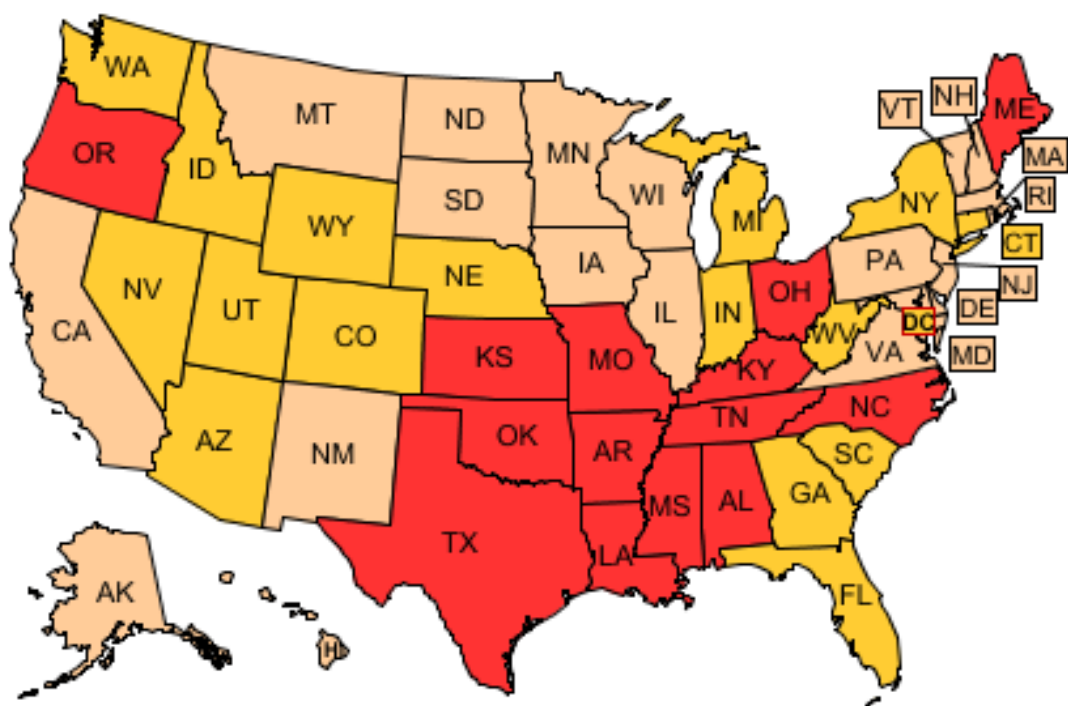
A Report on County and Congressional District Level Food Insecurity and County Food Cost in the United States in 2013



Made possible by the generous support of
The Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Founding Sponsor
of the *Map the Meal Gap* research series.



Prevalence of food insecurity, average 2012-14



- Food insecurity below U.S. average
- Food insecurity near U.S. average
- Food insecurity above U.S. average

Source: Calculated by ERS based on Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement data.

Prevalence of household-level food insecurity and very low food security, average 2012-14

State	Number of households		Food insecurity (low or very low food security)		Very low food security	
	Average 2012-2014 ¹	Interviewed	Prevalence (%)	Margin of error ²	Prevalence (%)	Margin of error ²
U.S.	122,723,000	128,957	14.3	0.20	5.6	0.14
NY	7,669,000	5,002	14.4	0.94	4.9*	0.53

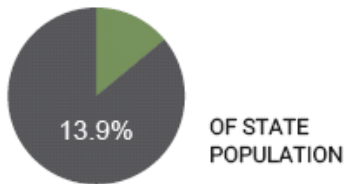
New York



2013 FOOD INSECURITY & FOOD COST IN THE US

STATE FOOD INSECURITY RATE

FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE: 2,739,920



15.8%

NATIONAL FOOD INSECURITY RATE

ESTIMATED PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AMONG FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE



27%

Above SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty

73%

Below SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold 200% poverty

Average cost of a meal

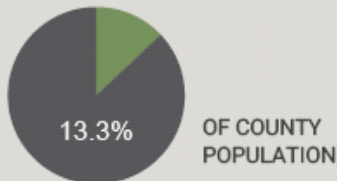
State
\$2.86

National
\$2.79

Queens County, New York

COUNTY FOOD INSECURITY RATE

FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE: 300,190



Brooklyn: 19.8%
Bronx: 18.8%
Manhattan: 15.3%
Staten Is.: 10.6%

ESTIMATED PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AMONG FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE



22%

Above SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold of 200% poverty

78%

Below SNAP, Other Nutrition Programs threshold 200% poverty

Average cost of a meal

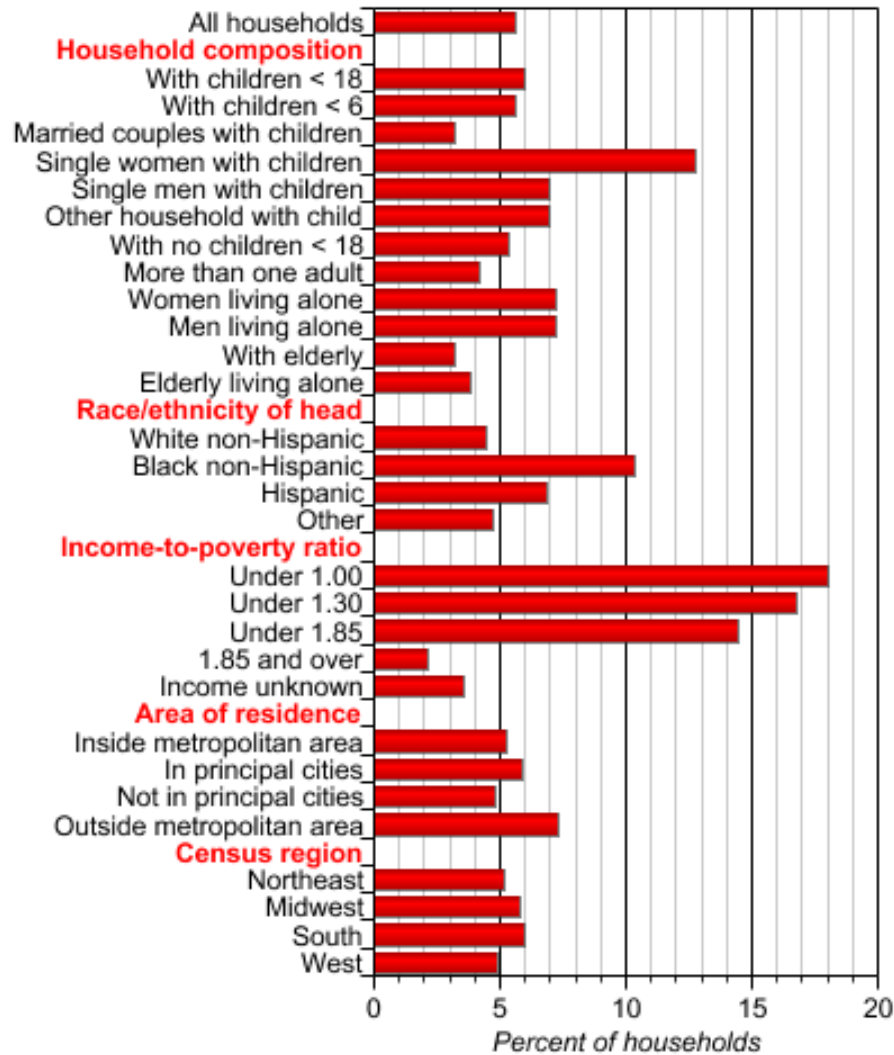
County
\$3.06

National
\$2.79

About how much MORE would you need to spend each week to buy just enough food to meet the needs of your household?

\$16.28 per person per week

Prevalence of very low food security, 2014



Source: Calculated by ERS using data from the December 2014 Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement.

FRAC How Hungry is America?

Food Research and Action Center

FRAC's National, State and Local Index of Food Hardship

April 2015

“Have there been times in the past 12 months when you did not have enough money to buy food that you or your family needed?”

In the nation as a whole in 2014, 17.2 percent of respondents reported food hardship.

Food Hardship in 2013-2014 by Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), by Rank

MSA	Food Hardship Rate	Rank
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	19.2	42
New Haven-Milford, CT	19.0	45
New York-North New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA	19.0	45
Jacksonville, FL	18.9	47



New York City Hunger Report, 2015

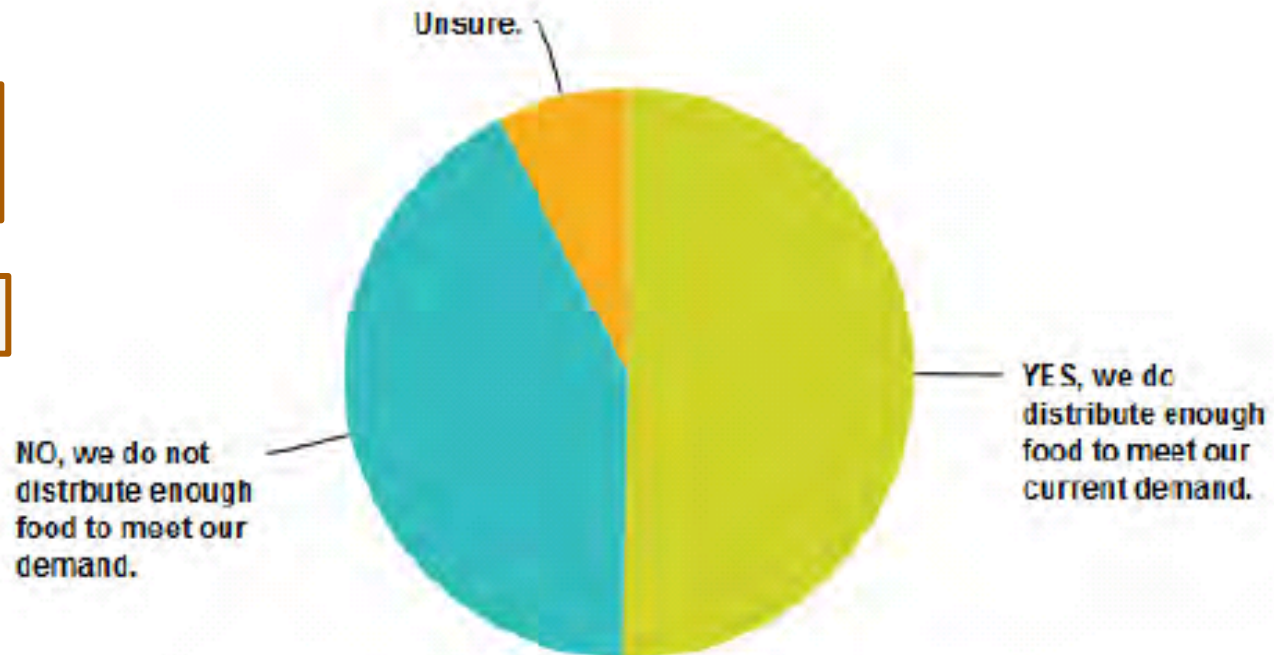
Borough*	Percent Food Insecure (2012-2014)
Bronx	29.07%
Brooklyn	19.25%
Manhattan	13.24%
Queens	8.62%

Citywide Results of the Coalition's Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Survey

- Only half of the agencies reported that they currently distribute enough food to meet demand.
- 46 percent of respondents reported that they were not as equipped to meet demand due to the SNAP cuts. 19 percent reported having to turn away significantly more people, reduce the amount of food distributed per person greatly, and/or significantly limited hours of operation
- While 27 percent of respondents reported having to turn away slightly more people, reduce the amount of food distributed per person somewhat, and/or slightly limit hours of operation.

46% reduced services in NYC

37% in Queens



Children Receiving Free or Reduced-price School Lunch - Public Schools
 number and percent children in grades K-6 (2011)

Region	Number	Percent
New York State	734,413	52.4
New York City	422,601	77.9
Bronx County	103,729	86.8
Kings County	135,516	80.9
New York County	50,499	68.8
Queens County	113,945	76.2
Richmond County	18,912	57.7
Rest Of State	311,812	36.3

Source: KWIC: (Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse)

Children and Youth Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits
number and percent children/youth ages birth-17 years (2014)

Region	Number	Percent
<u>New York State</u>	1,133,082	26.8
<u>New York City</u>	628,618	35.0
<u>Rest Of State</u>	504,464	20.7

Source: KWIC: (Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse)