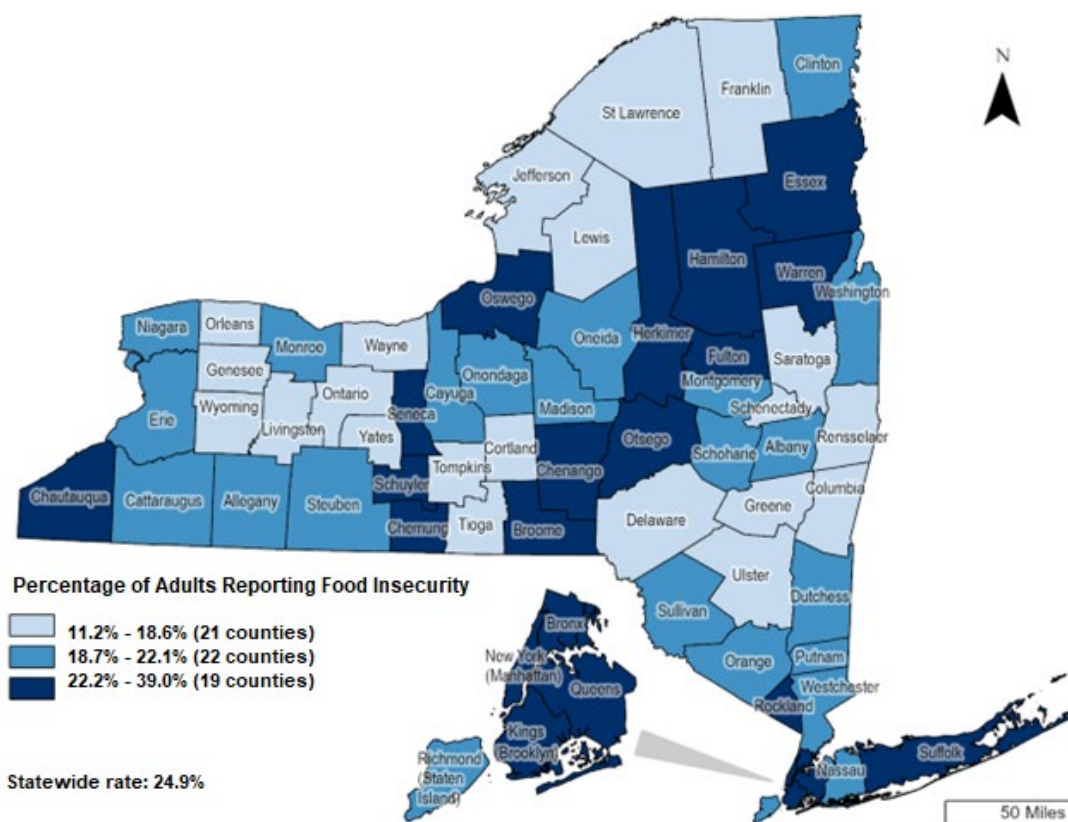


Self-Reported Food Insecurity Among New York State Adults by County, BRFSS 2021

Food insecurity is characterized by limited or uncertain access to adequate food due to limited economic resources.¹ In this report, food insecurity is estimated by the percentage of adults who report that they were always, usually, or sometimes worried or stressed about having enough money to buy nutritious meals in the past 12 months. Adults experiencing food insecurity have a higher probability of several chronic diseases, including hypertension, coronary heart disease, diabetes, stroke, cancer, asthma, arthritis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and kidney disease.² Approximately one in four adults (24.9%) in New York State (NYS) experience food insecurity. Within NYS, the percentage of adults who report that they are food insecure varies by county and ranges from 11.2% to 39.0%.

- Counties outside of New York City with the highest percentage of adults who experience food insecurity are Herkimer (28.8%), Oswego (26.2%), and Rockland (25.8%).
- Counties outside of New York City with the lowest percentage of adults who experience food insecurity are Wyoming (11.2%), Columbia (12.3%), and Lewis (12.5%).
- Among New York City boroughs, the percentage of adults who experience food insecurity is highest in Bronx (39.0%) and lowest in Richmond County (22.1%).



Public Health Opportunity

The New York State Prevention Agenda focuses on promoting and supporting healthy eating and food security. Relevant goals include reducing obesity, increasing access to healthy and affordable foods and beverages, increasing skills and knowledge to support healthy food and beverage choices, and increasing food security. County-level estimates of adults who consume no fruits or vegetables daily can be used to identify priority areas, inform program planning, and evaluate the effectiveness of programs and policies. Local nutrition programs can also use this information to educate local decision-makers and increase community engagement.

Self-Reported Food Insecurity Among New York State Adults, by County

County	Food Insecurity among New York State Adults (%)	[95% CI] *	County	Food Insecurity among New York State Adults (%)	[95% CI] *
Albany	21.3	[16.7 - 26.0]	Niagara	18.7	[12.9 - 24.5]
Allegany	22.0	[10.7 - 33.4]	Oneida	22.1	[16.6 - 27.5]
Bronx	39.0	[34.6 - 43.3]	Onondaga	21.9	[16.8 - 27.0]
Broome	23.5	[17.2 - 29.9]	Ontario	13.6	[8.5 - 18.7]
Cattaraugus	21.6	[14.2 - 29.0]	Orange	21.6	[14.9 - 28.2]
Cayuga	19.6	[13.8 - 25.5]	Orleans	18.4	[11.2 - 25.5]
Chautauqua	24.8	[16.4 - 33.2]	Oswego	26.2	[17.3 - 35.0]
Chemung	23.4	[16.1 - 30.7]	Otsego	24.2	[11.2 - 37.2]
Chenango	22.2	[13.9 - 30.5]	Putnam	21.6	[13.0 - 30.2]
Clinton	19.9	[11.6 - 28.1]	Queens	30.9	[27.5 - 34.3]
Columbia	12.3	[7.2 - 17.5]	Rensselaer	17.3	[9.7 - 24.9]
Cortland	17.0	[10.6 - 23.4]	Richmond	22.1	[16.1 - 28.0]
Delaware	18.6	[12.1 - 25.2]	Rockland	25.8	[18.3 - 33.4]
Dutchess	20.5	[12.7 - 28.2]	Saratoga	16.3	[8.1 - 24.4]
Erie	22.0	[18.2 - 25.7]	Schenectady	16.6	[9.1 - 24.1]
Essex	22.3	[13.3 - 31.2]	Schoharie	21.5	[13.5 - 29.5]
Franklin	18.1	[12.1 - 24.2]	Schuyler	23.6	[13.6 - 33.6]
Fulton	25.0	[18.8 - 31.3]	Seneca	22.3	[14.6 - 30.0]
Genesee	15.7	[9.8 - 21.5]	St Lawrence	14.1	[7.7 - 20.5]
Greene	16.6	[8.4 - 24.9]	Steuben	22.1	[14.4 - 29.8]
Hamilton	25.8	[9.9 - 41.7]	Suffolk	23.1	[19.5 - 26.6]
Herkimer	28.8	[20.5 - 37.1]	Sullivan	19.6	[13.5 - 25.7]
Jefferson	17.8	[13.3 - 22.2]	Tioga	18.6	[11.2 - 26.0]
Kings	30.1	[26.8 - 33.4]	Tompkins	14.3	[6.9 - 21.7]
Lewis	12.5	[6.7 - 18.3]	Ulster	13.4	[7.5 - 19.3]
Livingston	14.2	[8.2 - 20.3]	Warren	23.0	[16.0 - 29.9]
Madison	21.7	[12.4 - 31.0]	Washington	21.9	[13.8 - 30.0]
Monroe	18.7	[15.3 - 22.1]	Wayne	15.5	[11.4 - 19.5]
Montgomery	21.7	[14.5 - 28.9]	Westchester	19.0	[15.1 - 22.8]
Nassau	21.1	[17.5 - 24.7]	Wyoming	11.2	[5.9 - 16.6]
New York	25.1	[21.4 - 28.8]	Yates	13.5	[6.1 - 20.9]

*When comparing rates, the 95% confidence interval (95% CI) provides the statistical range containing the true population rate with a 95% probability. Estimates are deemed unstable when a confidence interval has a half-width greater than 10, use caution when interpreting.

1. United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. (2021, September). Food Security in the U.S.: Key Statistics & Graphics. Retrieved from: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/key-statistics-graphics/>. Accessed 12/28/2022.
2. Christian A. Gregory, Alisha Coleman-Jensen. Food Insecurity, Chronic Disease, and Health Among Working-Age Adults, ERR-235, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, July 2017.

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