

# Focus On... **Hunger** Hendry County

In 2020 approximately **2,252,050** people in Florida were experiencing food scarcity according to the US Census Household Pulse Survey.

"Since the pandemic, we have experienced up to an **80%** increase in the demand for food." - *Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida, July 24, 2020*

**22%** of Children in Hendry County are food insecure. Food insecurity is the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. **95%** of children are income-eligible for nutrition programs.<sup>1</sup>



The average meal cost per person is **\$2.95**.<sup>1</sup> On average, SNAP participants received an estimated about **\$4.16** a day per person in regular SNAP benefits in fiscal year 2021.<sup>4</sup>

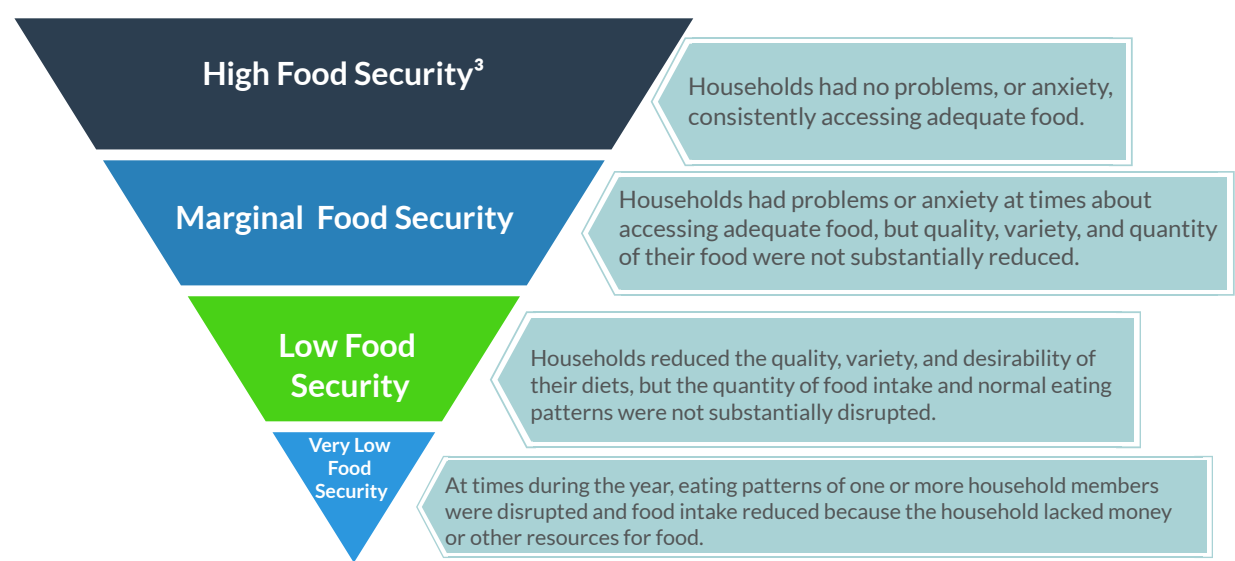
The food environment index in Hendry County is **7.1**. The index ranges from a scale of 0 (worst) to 10 (best).<sup>2</sup>



**7%** percent of the population are considered low-income and do not live near a grocery store in Hendry County.<sup>2</sup>



**15%** of people living in Hendry County are food insecure. **81%** of the county residents are below SNAP and other nutrition programs threshold of 200% poverty line, this significantly higher than Florida, **73%**.<sup>1</sup>



For more information please visit our website [Hpcswf.com/health-planning/fact-sheet/](https://hpcswf.com/health-planning/fact-sheet/)

Throughout the entire document when referring to food insecurity, this means that they are either low food or very low food secure.

1 Map the Meal Gap, Feeding America, 2020 2 County Health Rankings, 2022 3 Adapted from the USDA Economic Research Service 4 Center on Budget & Policy Priorities 2022

HPC encourages you to think about next steps to improve hunger in Southwest Florida. You may want to get involved, get help, get assistance, get informed, and/or get more data.

## Get Help

### Florida Food Assistance Program

- [Myflfamilies.com](http://Myflfamilies.com)
- The Food Assistance Program helps people with low-income buy healthy food.

### Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

- [Floridahealth.gov](http://Floridahealth.gov)
- WIC provides the following at no cost: healthy foods, nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and referrals for health care and community services.

### Collier County Homeless and Hunger Coalition

- [collierhomelesscoalition.org](http://collierhomelesscoalition.org)
- To facilitate solutions to prevent and end hunger and homelessness by coordinating services in Collier County.

Find resources at [swflresourcelink.com](http://swflresourcelink.com)

## Get Informed

### United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

- [Ers.usda.gov](http://Ers.usda.gov)
- The mission of USDA's Economic Research Service is to anticipate trends and emerging issues in agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America and to conduct high-quality economic research to inform and enhance decision making.

### Centers of Disease Control and Prevention

- [Cdc.gov](http://Cdc.gov)
- CDC works 24/7 to protect America from health, safety and security threats.

### Feeding America

- [Feedingamerica.org](http://Feedingamerica.org)
- to feed America's hungry through a nationwide network of member food banks and engage our country in the fight to end hunger.

## Get Involved

### Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida

- [Harrychapinfoodbank.org](http://Harrychapinfoodbank.org)
- The largest hunger-relief network in Southwest Florida, serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties.

### Community Cooperative

- [Communitycooperative.com](http://Communitycooperative.com)
- Eliminate hunger and homelessness in Lee County while simultaneously inspiring and supporting sustained positive change in its clients.

### All Faiths Food Bank

- [Allfaithsfoodbank.org](http://Allfaithsfoodbank.org)
- The only food bank and largest hunger relief organization in Sarasota and DeSoto counties.

### Feeding Florida

- [Feedingflorida.org/](http://Feedingflorida.org/)
- Is the state's network of food banks working to solve hunger.

## Get Data

- [Map the Meal Gap, Feeding America](#)
- [County Health Ranking](#)
- [Florida Health Charts](#)
- [Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida](#)
- [US Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey](#)
- [Department of Children and Families](#)



## Get More

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