Feeding Florida: Responses to Hunger in the Sunshine State

A Report from Florida Impact

in partnership with Florida School Food Service Foundation

2003
Introduction

In a period of economic decline, like the one currently underway in the United States, federal nutrition programs become increasingly important. Everyday, families are making choices between food and other necessities such as rent, electricity, or medical care. Utilization of federal programs can ensure that all Floridians, especially children, have access to nutritious foods. According to the Urban Institute, if every eligible family in the U.S. participated fully in existing federal safety net programs, nearly 4 million people could escape poverty.1

Food insecurity is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or the inability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways. Food insecure households do not have access to enough food to fully meet basic needs at all times. Adults in food insecure households are so limited in resources to buy food that they develop coping mechanisms when they run out. These include reducing the quality of food their family eats, feeding their children unbalanced diets, or skipping meals so their children can eat. There are estimated to be over 660,000 food insecure households in Florida.2 Using the state’s average of 2.46 individuals per household (Census 2000), it may be determined that there are potentially over 1.5 million Floridians facing food insecurity at some point during the year.

With food insecurity increasing in Florida households from 10.5 percent in 1999 to 12.2 percent in 2001, there comes a new urgency to the question of self-sufficiency. There are a growing number of families who are unable to stretch their incomes to meet the costs of basic necessities. Though many of these families are above the poverty line, their wages are inadequate. The national (and Florida’s) minimum wage standard of $5.15 an hour falls below the $5.96 an hour needed to reach the federal poverty threshold for a family of two.3 In an economy that is not providing enough year-round, full-time, living-wage jobs, a set of effective public supports for both unemployed and low-income working people and their families is essential.

An important opportunity for increasing participation in nutrition programs is immediately before us in the 2003 U.S. Congress: the reauthorization of child nutrition programs. Improvements to these programs can generate dramatic increases in participation, access, and food quality. For example, one streamlining proposal supports the use of comprehensive, uniform applications, so that one set of forms for program sponsors and one for applying families are designed to determine eligibility across multiple programs.

This report aims to assist Florida’s communities in addressing the risks of hunger. An overview of the programs included in the reauthorization bill – School Breakfast, School Lunch, Summer Food, Child and Adult Care Food, and WIC – and of the state’s Food Stamp Program are provided along with various proposed strategies for ensuring greater nutritional access. The report also provides estimates of household food insecurity and statistics on how well the federal nutrition programs address hunger in each of Florida’s 67 counties.

Hunger and food insecurity can have irreversible consequences; and those consequences, directly or indirectly, impact everyone who lives and works in the State of Florida. It is, however, a problem not without resources. We entrust this report to you as a first resource in the efforts to secure the necessary response to hunger in your community.
Florida Impact appreciates the support of the following funders:

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- Presbyterian Hunger Program
- Public Welfare Foundation
- Publix Super Markets Charities
- Share Our Strength
- Singing for Change (The Jimmy Buffet Foundation)
- United Church of Christ Hunger Action
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service
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Food Insecurity in Florida Households

Since 1995, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has collected information on food spending, food access and adequacy, and sources of food assistance for the U.S. population. To measure the prevalence of food insecurity and hunger in U.S. households, information is collected on a yearly basis in food security surveys, conducted as a supplement to the nationally representative Current Population Survey. USDA reports in the series, *Measuring Food Security in the United States*, have summarized the findings of this research for each year from 1995 to 2001.

The Community Childhood Hunger Identification Project (CCHIP), one of the pioneer studies on hunger in America and forerunner to the USDA food security measure, used race, number of children, family income, and urban/rural residence as predictors of childhood hunger. Of the four, family income measured as a percentage of the poverty level was found to be the single most useful characteristic for predicting whether a family would be hungry or not. Likewise, this report uses poverty as a basis for measuring food insecurity. Using 1999 county poverty levels, we extrapolated county food insecurity rates in proportion to the ratio of the state poverty level to state food insecurity rate.4

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<td>Washington</td>
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* A rank of 1 indicates the highest percentage of food insecure households
The Food Stamp Program

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is one of the most important national defenses against hunger. Food stamps provide benefits that can be used to buy food at authorized grocery stores and allow low-income households to obtain a nutritious diet. In addition, the benefits help hard-working people stretch their monthly income by freeing-up resources, so families do not have to make choices between buying food or paying rent and utilities, or between feeding their children and getting access to medical care.

While helping to combat food insecurity, food stamps can also bring in federal dollars to boost local and state economies. Data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) show that each $5 in federally funded food stamp benefits generates approximately $10 in economic activity.\(^5\) In 2002 alone, $912,802,741 was issued to Florida food stamp recipients. Like so many other states, Florida is facing severe revenue shortfalls; increasing participation in food stamps could provide an important economic stimulus to the state’s economy.

In 1999 there were over 1 million people in Florida living under the federal poverty line who were not receiving food stamps.\(^6\) This is actually a conservative estimate of non-participation given that individuals with gross incomes up to 130 percent of poverty are also eligible.\(^7\) If 1 million more individuals were to begin receiving food stamps (using the average monthly per-person benefit in Florida of $75 as the multiplier), an additional $900 million in food stamp benefits would be introduced into the Florida economy over one year.

Strategies to Ensure Greater Participation

State Responses:

- **Providing transitional food stamp benefits for TANF-leavers.**
  Regulatory changes generating from the 2002 FSP Reauthorization Bill provide states the option to allow families leaving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) (for reasons other than sanctions) to continue receiving food stamps for up to five months, freezing the family’s FSP benefit at the level the household was receiving before leaving TANF. Under this option, the state is not required to collect any information from the client to automatically extend FSP benefits, so there is no possibility for error on the state’s part or loss of potentially eligible families from FSP roles. Food stamps are especially vital in this time of transition and provide families an important job support while making the shift from welfare to work. And yet in Florida, only 36 percent of TANF recipients who left the program between 1996 and 1998, remained on food stamps.\(^8\)

- **Establishing semi-annual reporting.**
  Congressional reauthorization of the FSP also gave states the option to conduct semi-annual reporting for most categories of participants. Currently Florida employs a federal waiver that requires households to report changes in earned income if there is a change in a) source; b) hourly rate or salary; or c) employment status, i.e., part-time/full-time. Comparatively the semi-annual reporting option requires food stamp participants to only report if their gross income goes above 130 percent of poverty – nothing else. Under the semi-annual reporting option benefits are frozen for six months. Over half of the states (with more planning to implement) have picked up the semi-annual option, which is seen as a way to deal with FSP staff cutbacks because of reduced paperwork. This federal option is also one approach to reducing a state’s error rate, which can result in federal penalties. Florida would only be required to act on one rather than three income reporting conditions, thereby reducing the potential for error. Additionally, with fewer reporting requirements food stamp households are more likely to remain on the program.
• **Expanding outreach strategies.**
Statistics on food insecurity and poverty in Florida demonstrate the need for food stamps, yet not all of those that are eligible are participating. Reasons for non-participation include lack of information on the program, concerns about the process being too time-consuming, expectations that benefits will be too low, and issues of stigma. That is why the expansion of food stamp outreach activities to increase participation is vital. For example, automated food stamp prescreening software has been used effectively to bring into the program eligible households that were not formerly participating. Strategies for in-person as well as over-the-phone bi-lingual prescreening services have been piloted at Florida Impact with federal funding since 2000; the follow-up rate of those applying for food stamps was 1 in 3 with in-person prescreenings; and 1 in 4 with the toll-free helpline. The accuracy rate of the prescreening software was 97 percent, i.e., 97 percent of those with projected eligibility from the prescreening were certified eligible when they applied. Continued USDA funding for outreach could be used by the State of Florida to expand prescreening, bi-lingual services by piloting innovative strategies, like the electronic submission of Request for Assistance forms after callers have been prescreened through the statewide helpline and/or at local community-based organizations frequented by target populations. Effectively this strategy could reduce the number of client visits to the food stamp office required to complete the application process and alleviate pressure on food stamp workers.

**Federal Responses:**

• **Increasing the $10 minimum benefit allowance and $3,000 asset limit for seniors.**
Florida’s senior population represents the nation’s largest concentration of the per capita over-60 age group among the 50 states; and they face unique challenges in applying for food stamps. In two outreach strategies targeted to seniors, common issues around seniors’ general resistance to the FSP were discovered. Many seniors, though income eligible, exceeded the $3,000 asset limit due to a small savings, a modest IRA, or an account set up to cover their burial costs. Additionally, many were not interested because the $10 minimum benefit, which equates to only 30 cents per day, was perceived by seniors as too low for the barriers they encounter when applying. Lack of transportation is a key example; many elders without their own vehicles must rely on others to transport them to the food stamp office. In rural areas, where public transportation is not available, this is particularly common. Either way, it can entail a cost to fixed incomes. For example, one roundtrip taxicab fare from within one mile of a food stamp office in Miami-Dade County would cost a senior $7. An additional hardship often comes when more than one trip to the food stamp office is required. Even though seniors may only qualify for the $10 monthly minimum, they are still grappling with issues of food insecurity and poverty. Rather than fill out FSP paperwork, many turn to meals on wheels, private food pantries, or soup kitchens. During the 2002 congressional reauthorization of the FSP, a proposal for a $25 hike to the minimum benefit level was proposed but failed to pass.
National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) provide cash reimbursements, as an entitlement, to schools that offer nutritious meals to children. Public and private schools as well as residential childcare agencies can participate in each of these programs, which together provide over half of a child’s recommended daily allowance of nutrients. Children from low-income families are provided meals at a free or reduced rate depending on their income. To receive a reduced-price meal, household income must be below 185 percent of the federal poverty level [for a family of two: $22,940 (2002)]. For free meals, household income must fall below 130 percent of poverty [$16,120].

The National School Lunch Program, which began in 1946, is the oldest and largest of the child nutrition programs. According to the Food Research Action Center (FRAC), the NSLP serves lunch every day to more than half of America’s school children, the majority of whom are low-income. In the 2001-2002 school year, over 1 million children in Florida received free or reduced-price lunches daily through the program.

Most schools have recognized for a long time the benefits of serving lunch to students but have been slower to realize the importance of serving breakfast. Created as a pilot in 1966 and first permanently authorized in 1975, the School Breakfast Program offers essential support to students. Today’s long commuting patterns and varied work schedules mean that many children or parents leave home hours before school starts. A good breakfast is vital for these children to be alert and ready to learn. Anti-hunger groups, educators, nutritionists, and child advocates have worked hard to expand the reach of school breakfast, and Florida is above the national average in terms of schools participating in the SBP. Despite this, of the 744,706 schoolchildren who participated in free or reduced-price lunch during the 2001-2002 school year, only 313,591 (less than half) also participated in school breakfast.

In addition to children losing access to an essential nutritional resource, local communities lose an opportunity to bring federal dollars into their economies. If every child qualifying for free or reduced-price school meals during the 2002-2003 school year participated in the SBP, the state would bring in an additional $800,000 per day, which would come to a minimum of $144 million for the 2002-2003 school year alone.9

Every child deserves an equal opportunity to succeed in school. Numerous studies document the positive effect school breakfast has on hunger, nutrition, classroom behavior, test scores, grades and school attendance.10 This kind of dramatic evidence demonstrates the need for increased participation in the School Breakfast Program.
Strategies to Ensure Greater Participation

State Responses:

- **Participating in Provision 2 of the National School Lunch Act, allowing schools with high numbers of low-income children to provide meals free of charge to every child.**
  When Provision 2 kicks in, schools collect and process applications for free and reduced-price school meals as they would normally. The percentages for reimbursement to the free, reduced, and paid categories collected in the first year establish the set rate of reimbursement for the subsequent three years. Participating schools pay the difference between the cost of serving meals at no charge and the federal reimbursement with non-federal dollars, generally from the significant administrative savings afforded by the program. The reduction of paperwork frees up employee hours to focus on nutritional meal preparation and service. Under this provision, all students are allowed to eat free without distinction or meal tickets, creating faster serving lines and decreasing the stigma of participation in what is perceived as a “poverty program.” Consequently, schools experience an increase in meal participation, particularly with breakfast, and a resulting decrease in food service costs per meal.

Federal Responses:

- **Retaining current system of certification.**
  A USDA overcertification estimate is being cited in some quarters to justify sweeping income verification proposals for children in the free and reduced-price categories of the National School Lunch Program. One proposal to combat overcertification would require that 16 million U.S. school children submit proof of family income before being allowed to eat free or reduced-price school lunches. Income verification demonstration projects carried out by USDA found that far more eligible low-income children were diverted from free or reduced-price lunch than ineligible children were deterred; for every student found ineligible, as many as six abandoned the program. A follow-up study in 1990 showed that, of the children who left the program because their parents had not provided proof of income, 81 percent actually qualified. Lost paperwork, language problems, and all the other complications of broad income verification make such an effort a very imprecise tool in school lunch, a generator of unnecessary paperwork and bureaucracy, and an impediment to the historical goals of the program.

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**We are offering Provision 2 breakfast in all 80 of our schools in Brevard. We feel that if offering breakfast every day during FCAT improves test scores, offering it every day of the school year will have a positive impact on overall student performance. The comments we have gotten back from students and parents have been overwhelmingly positive. We are also getting positive comments from teachers regarding improvements in student behavior. One of the school nurses told a cafeteria manager she has seen a decline in the number of students visiting the nurse's office since we started the free breakfast program.**

Dawn Houser
School Food Service Director
Brevard County Schools
• **Implementing universal meal policies.**
For American children to derive the benefits proven to come with nutritious school meals, we must remove barriers to their participation. The experience of the last several years has shown that offering breakfast free of charge to all children in a school pulls more hungry, low-income children into the program. Creating the federal budget authority to underwrite all NSLP and SBP meals would eliminate the need for school meal categories, thereby disposing of unnecessary paperwork, destigmatizing the subsidy-eligible children, and making the provision of nutritious meals on par with and as undiscriminating as the bus ride to school. Here are several proposals that begin to address this strategy:

- Eliminating the reduced-price category, thus allowing all children from families with incomes up to 185 percent of poverty [$22,940 for a family of 2 (2002)] to eat free and for schools to be reimbursed for these meals at the “free” rate;
- Implementing a broad universal breakfast initiative for children in pre-K through grade 3;
- Providing grants to states with the lowest SBP participation among low-income children for universal breakfast pilot programs;
- Creating a competitive grants program for schools that want to provide breakfast through Provision 2 to offset the cost difference for the reduced-price and paid meals;
- Instituting universal breakfast in those schools with a high percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch.

• **Making it easier for schools in low-income areas to get the higher “severe need” reimbursement.**
Federal law defines “severe need” schools as those where 40 percent or more of the lunches served two years prior were served at free or reduced price, and where the costs of the breakfast program exceed the standard federal per meal reimbursement rate. Removal of the cumbersome cost accounting requirement that schools with large numbers of low-income students must follow to obtain the “severe need” reimbursement would take a lot of the paperwork out of running a school breakfast program. The extra resources provided by the increased reimbursement and the reduction in paperwork costs could draw more schools into the program and allow schools to provide better breakfasts and enhanced services.

• **Providing facility grants that give schools the resources they need to start new breakfast programs.**
Schools with limited resources may want to start up a breakfast program, expand its reach among the student body, or operate breakfast-in-the-classroom to overcome logistical problems in getting children to school in time for breakfast, but may not have the resources they need to accomplish these goals. Facility grants could make the critical difference for many schools.

• **Implementing the process of direct certification.**
Direct certification is a strategy that allows children from households participating in the Food Stamp Program or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families to be certified for free school meals without filling out a separate application for the school. This greatly simplifies the process for both families and school officials and helps increase participation of low-income children.
Summer Food Service Program

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) provides meals to low-income children during school vacations when they do not have access to school meals. Programs can be located at schools, parks, playgrounds, churches, community centers, or anywhere that children gather. A recent USDA study evaluating the SFSP shows that 95 percent of summer food sites provide educational or physical activities as well as nutritious meals. The meals often act as a “magnet” to draw children into these summer activities and, when coupled with the important nutritional component, ensure that children are as ready to learn during the summer as they are during the school year. For years, researchers have been documenting setbacks in educational achievement experienced during summer vacation, pointing to an ever-increasing need for this program. Good nutrition is essential for effective learning every day, all year long.

Despite the fact that schools, public agencies, and private nonprofit organizations may serve as sponsors or site hosts, the program only reaches one out of the seven children in Florida for whom it is intended. In 2002, over 900,000 low-income children who qualified for free or reduced-price meals during the school year did not participate in a summer feeding program. In addition to children losing access to an important nutritional resource, local communities lose an opportunity to infuse their economies with federal dollars. If every child qualifying for free or reduced-price school meals during the 2002-2003 school year was fed one lunch a day for 40 days during the summer (using the 2003 reimbursement rate of $2.55 per lunch for both the meal and administrative costs), an additional $94 million in federal funds would enter the Florida economy during one summer. This is actually a conservative estimate because sponsors are allowed to feed two meals a day, thereby increasing their reimbursements. The Summer Food Service Program feeds children, provides healthy activities, generates summer employment, and stimulates local economies.

Strategies to Ensure Greater Participation

State Responses:

• **Creating more feeding sites.**
  One proposal requires that each elementary school with over 50 percent of children qualifying for free or reduced-price school meals ensure that the SFSP is available for at least 40 days in the summer. This would guarantee that Florida’s eligible children, particularly in areas of concentrated need, have access.

• **Providing a full-time position to administer a comprehensive SFSP outreach plan.**
  Low participation rates of both sponsors and children demonstrate the need for additional outreach. In the summer of 2002, the program was not offered in 14 Florida counties (Baker, Bradford, Calhoun, Clay, Colombia, Gulf, Hardee, Holmes, Jefferson, Lafayette, Liberty, Union, Wakulla, and Washington). In those counties alone, nearly 30,000 low-income, school children could benefit from this much-needed nutritional resource. This position could assist these and many other counties in recruiting sponsors, advertising site locations, and conducting public education year-round.

Source: Florida Department of Education

Dramatic cuts in the state's education budget and subsequent closings of summer schools in many school districts may have some bearing on the drops in 2002.
Federal Responses:

- **Extending the “Lugar” SFSP pilot nationwide.**
  In a recent FRAC survey, state officials reported burdensome paperwork as the number one obstacle to SFSP participation.\(^\text{17}\) Current unnecessary paperwork and cost-accounting requirements keep potential sponsors, schools, and children from participating fully in the program. A SFSP pilot sponsored by Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN) in 2000 eases paperwork and provides the maximum reimbursement for all meals. The 13 states currently participating in the pilot showed an 8.9 percent increase in participation between July 2000 and July 2001 while the rest of the nation decreased by about 3.3 percent during the same time period.\(^\text{18}\)

- **Changing the “seamless waiver” into law.**
  Another option to reduce paperwork is the seamless waiver program, which is available only to school districts. The program was piloted in 2001 in three Florida counties and expanded nationwide in 2002. Under the seamless program, school districts operate the SFSP as an extension of the National School Lunch Program and are allowed to keep the reimbursement rates and paperwork from the school year. The advantage for schools is that they do not have to apply for and operate two different programs. Converting the waiver into law would make establish rules and authorize payment of rate reimbursements.

- **Reducing the area eligibility threshold from 50 to 40 percent.**
  Currently, if 50 percent of children in an area qualify for free or reduced-price school meals, sponsors can operate open summer food sites at which all children under 18 can eat free. Operating an open site reduces paperwork and barriers for sponsors. Reducing the qualification to 40 percent would potentially generate more eligible sites around the state.

- **Increasing reimbursement rates and including start-up grants.**
  A recent FRAC survey found that the low reimbursement rates, in relation to the costs of running the program, often act as barriers to operating the program. Since the 1996 welfare law cut reimbursement rates and ended SFSP start-up grants, program expansion has essentially stopped.\(^\text{19}\)

- **Providing additional resources for underserved areas.**
  Of the 14 Florida counties not offering the SFSP in the summer of 2002, all are rural and face difficult transportation issues for low-income children who are dispersed across the county. Additional funds could help pay for transportation as well as start-up and outreach costs some programs, especially those in rural areas, need to be successful.

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> If you want to get a good grasp of the program, to see the real impact, go to a feeding site on a Monday and you will know that the children haven’t had a nutritious meal since Friday ... just go and you will see.

Charles Mulvaney, Supervisor
Summer Food Service Program
Florida Department of Education
The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) plays a vital role in improving the quality of day care and making it more affordable for many low-income families. Each day, over 2 million children across the country receive nutritious meals and snacks through child care centers, Head Start programs, family child care homes, homeless and domestic violence shelters, and afterschool programs. The CACFP also provides meals and snacks to 74,000 adults who receive care in nonresidential adult day care centers. Independent centers and sponsoring organizations receive cash reimbursements for serving meals that meet federal nutritional guidelines to enrolled children and adults. In Florida, the Child Care Food Program is administered by the Department of Health while the Department of Elder Affairs handles the Adult Care Food Program.

In Florida during 2002:
- the Adult Care Food Program served over 1.7 million meals,
- the Child Care Food Program served over 78 million meals and
- over 129,000 children were fed per day.

Good nutrition and quality child care are essential for the healthy development of preschool children. The Child and Adult Care Food Program promotes both – allowing children to develop fully, preparing children to enter school ready to learn, and helping working families work. While Florida has seen participation in these programs rise steadily over the past few years, there are key changes that could greatly enhance the program’s success.

Strategies to Ensure Greater Participation

Federal Responses:
- **Continuing the extension of CACFP eligibility to children in for-profit child care centers serving 25 percent or more low-income children.**
  Starting as a pilot in Kentucky and Iowa in 1994, USDA allowed for-profit child care centers serving at least 25 percent low-income children to participate in the CACFP and receive cash reimbursements for meals served. In 2000, this option was temporarily extended to all states and was authorized through fiscal year 2002. Prior to 1994, for-profit child care centers could not participate. If made permanent, this option would help the CACFP continue to reach even more low-income children.

- **Lowering area eligibility guidelines from 50 to 40 percent.**
  Area eligibility, currently at 50 percent, is used to qualify CACFP homes for Tier 1 status, which provides higher reimbursement rates for meals. A reduction in this guideline would allow homes located in school zones having 40 percent of children eligible for free or reduced-price meals to qualify for Tier 1 status, providing an incentive for more homes to participate.

- **Raising reimbursement rates for family child care homes in rural and low-income areas.**
  Some areas require additional time and resources to better serve the target communities. Rural areas need more resources for transportation; certain low-income areas require two-person monitoring teams; other areas need additional assistance to help low-income families and providers overcome language and literacy barriers in order to participate.
Establishing an incentive grant program to encourage the use of the CACFP to improve children’s nutrition and child care quality.

Sponsors need the resources that let them focus on important nutrition education and support services – services that have been pushed aside since paperwork increased in 1996. The incentive grant program could be designed to:

- Enhance CACFP nutrition education, including obesity prevention, focusing on food and activity, anemia prevention, and food safety;

- Produce models and materials addressing language and cultural issues for serving special populations, including immigrant communities;

- Create outreach partnerships; and

- Make innovative use of technology to improve program access and nutrition education.

Source: Florida Department of Health
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a federally funded preventive nutrition program that provides supplemental foods, nutrition counseling and education, and health care access to low-income pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and children under five at nutritional risk.

WIC provides vouchers to buy foods that are rich in protein, iron, calcium, vitamins A and C, and folic acid. These are all key nutrients for the health of women and children that are often lacking in the diets of low-income people. Along with providing the means to obtain these foods, WIC educates mothers about the relationship between nutrition and health. Research continually shows that good nutrition during pregnancy and early childhood, which WIC promotes and supports, has a positive impact on health and development. WIC children enter school ready to learn and have better cognitive performance. In addition WIC increases birth weight and decreases neonatal deaths and premature infants. In Florida, every dollar spent on prenatal care saved the state $1.77 in Medicaid costs in the first 60 days after birth. In fact, for every dollar spent on the prenatal component of the WIC program, there is a savings of $3.50 over the next 18 years in other costs (hospitalization, outpatient care, and special education).

Despite these dramatic results, WIC currently operates with a limited amount of funding, which consequently makes the program unavailable to many who are eligible. Unlike all of the other programs in this report, WIC does not enjoy “entitlement” status; therefore funding levels are rarely enough to meet the needs of all who qualify for benefits.

Strategies to Ensure Greater Participation

Federal Response:

- **Restructuring WIC such that all women, infants, and children who are eligible can participate.** Since WIC is not an entitlement program, funds have not been appropriated by Congress to assist every eligible individual. The Florida Department of Health, which administers the program, estimates that it will only serve 61 percent of the potentially eligible population in the federal fiscal year 2003. An additional 200,000 eligible women and children in Florida could be served if federal funds were available.

![WIC Participation Chart](chart.png)

Source: Florida Department of Health
The following pages present data on the extent of hunger and the use of nutrition programs in the State of Florida as well as in each of the 67 counties. Through these data, a snapshot is provided of how well each county uses these available tools to meet the needs of hungry people and improve the health of low-income families. For detailed information about the following data, please refer to the Sources. Under the county rankings, a rank of ‘1’ indicates the county with the highest percentage of eligibles participating in each program; a ‘t’ indicates a tied ranking.
Florida

FOOD INSECURITY (2001)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 12.20%

DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
Per capita income $21,557
Poverty rate 12.5%
Number of persons in poverty 1,952,629
Number of children under 18 in poverty 627,997
Poverty rate for children under 18 17.6%
Number of persons unemployed 412,411
Unemployment rate 5.6%

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
Average monthly participation 1,010,222
Average monthly number of households 484,561
Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $912,802,741
Average monthly benefit per person $75
Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 48.3%

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 313,591
Paid 53,521
Total 367,112
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 28.4%

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 744,705
Paid 369,726
Total 1,114,430
Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 52.3%

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
Number of Summer Food Service sites 2,680
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 137
How many school boards served as a sponsor in 2002? 37
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 143,849
Change since 1999 -27,504
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 156,185
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 14.2%

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
Average monthly participation 334,228
Percent change since 1999 -7.1%
Potentially eligible persons 550,426
Percent of potentially eligible persons served 60.7%

CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM (2002)
Total meals served 78,427,205
Average daily participation 129,469
Percent change since 1999 23.1%

ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (2002)
Total meals served 1,733,842
Percent change since 1999 37.1%

Alachua County

FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 20.80%

DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
Per capita income $18,465
Poverty rate 22.8%
Number of persons in poverty 46,939
Number of children under 18 in poverty 8,522
Poverty rate for children under 18 19.9%
Number of persons unemployed 7,902
Unemployment rate 7.0%

LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.99 per adult

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
Average monthly participation 17,434
Average monthly number of households 7,771
Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $16,113,894
Average monthly benefit per person $77
Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 35.0%
County ranking 57

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 4,956
Paid 365
Total 5,321
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 38.1%
County ranking 15t

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 8,697
Paid 2,762
Total 11,460
Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 56.2%

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
Number of Summer Food Service sites 57
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 6
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 1,763
Change since 1999 -1,107
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 1,813
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 13.9%
County ranking 15

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
Average monthly participation 4,493
Percent change since 1999 -7.1%
Potentially eligible persons 7,582
Percent of potentially eligible persons served 59.3%
### Baker County

**Food Insecurity (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 12.48%

**Demographics (2000)**
- Per capita income: $15,164
- Poverty rate: 14.7%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 2961
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,399
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 23.2%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 437
  - Unemployment rate: 4.5%

**Living Wage (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.40 per adult

**Food Stamp Program (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 2,115
- Average monthly number of households: 858
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $1,866,293
- Average monthly benefit per person: $74
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 58.5%
  - County ranking: 18

**School Breakfast Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 703
  - Paid: 206
  - Total: 909
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 38.1%
  - County ranking: 15t

**National School Lunch Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,456
  - Paid: 1,125
  - Total: 2,581
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 53.4%

**Summer Nutrition Programs (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 0
  - Change since 1999: 0
  - Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 0%
  - County ranking: 0

**Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 765
  - Percent change since 1999: -2.2%
- Potentially eligible persons: 1,156
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 66.2%

### Bay County

**Food Insecurity (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 11.37%

**Demographics (2000)**
- Per capita income: $18,700
- Poverty rate: 13.0%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 18,882
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 6,606
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 18.8%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 3,360
  - Unemployment rate: 4.9%

**Living Wage (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.42 per adult

**Food Stamp Program (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 12,189
- Average monthly number of households: 5,459
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $10,627,314
- Average monthly benefit per person: $73
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 63.8%
  - County ranking: 13

**School Breakfast Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 3,288
  - Paid: 477
  - Total: 3,765
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 28.4%
  - County ranking: 46

**National School Lunch Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 7,871
  - Paid: 4,885
  - Total: 12,756
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 56.2%

**Summer Nutrition Programs (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 34
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 1,092
  - Change since 1999: -633
  - Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 1,122
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 9.7%
    - County ranking: 33

**Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 4,305
  - Percent change since 1999: -8.4%
- Potentially eligible persons: 6,127
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 70.3%
### Bradford County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 13.63%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $14,226
- Poverty rate: 14.6%
- Number of persons in poverty: 3,183
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,058
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 19.3%
- Number of persons unemployed: 485
- Unemployment rate: 4.8%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.67 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 2,744
- Average monthly number of households: 1,172
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $2,467,649
- Average monthly benefit per person: $75
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 81.9%
- County ranking: 3

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 636
  - Paid: 121
  - Total: 757
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 30.0%
- County ranking: 39

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,412
  - Paid: 723
  - Total: 2,135
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 63.0%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 0
- Change since 1999: -65
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 0%
- County ranking: 0

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 650
- Percent change since 1999: 5.5%
- Potentially eligible persons: 1,047
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 62.1%

### Brevard County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 8.15%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $21,484
- Poverty rate: 9.5%
- Number of persons in poverty: 44,218
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 13,753
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 13.5%
- Number of persons unemployed: 10,729
- Unemployment rate: 4.9%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $9.19 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 21,825
- Average monthly number of households: 10,037
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $18,961,015
- Average monthly benefit per person: $72
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 49.3%
- County ranking: 34

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 3,649
  - Paid: 1,613
  - Total: 5,262
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 16.4%
- County ranking: 67

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 12,950
  - Paid: 12,240
  - Total: 25,190
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 33.7%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 10
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 2
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 461
- Change since 1999: 4
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 950
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 4.3%
- County ranking: 45

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 6,977
- Percent change since 1999: 0.1%
- Potentially eligible persons: 10,441
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 66.8%
### Broward County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 9.67%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $23,170
- Poverty rate: 11.5%
- Number of persons in poverty: 184,589
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 58,815
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 15.7%
- Number of persons unemployed: 42,833
- Unemployment rate: 5.3%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $11.14 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 66,733
- Average monthly number of households: 32,603
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $62,701,679
- Average monthly benefit per person: $78
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 31.6%
- County ranking: 63

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 26,999
  - Paid: 8,306
  - Total: 35,305
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 27.5%
- County ranking: 48

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 60,763
  - Paid: 44,642
  - Total: 105,406
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 44.7%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 175
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 9,088
- Change since 1999: -12,943
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 9,984
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 10.2%
- County ranking: 29

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 21,099
- Percent change since 1999: 2.9%
- Potentially eligible persons: 43,564
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 48.4%

### Calhoun County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 18.80%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $12,379
- Poverty rate: 20.0%
- Number of persons in poverty: 2252
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 693
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 23.6%
- Number of persons unemployed: 321
- Unemployment rate: 6.5%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.19 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 1,460
- Average monthly number of households: 694
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $1,158,089
- Average monthly benefit per person: $66
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 70.5%
- County ranking: 9

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 520
  - Paid: 81
  - Total: 601
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 48.5%
- County ranking: 3

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 822
  - Paid: 427
  - Total: 1,249
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 60.4%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 0
- Change since 1999: 0
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 0%
- County ranking: 0

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 552
- Percent change since 1999: 8.7%
- Potentially eligible persons: 758
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 72.8%
### Charlotte County

**Food Insecurity (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 7.28%

**Demographics (2000)**
- Per capita income: $21,806
- Poverty rate: 8.2%
- Number of persons in poverty: 11,419
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 2,883
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 13.3%
- Number of persons unemployed: 1,822
- Unemployment rate: 3.5%

**Living Wage (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $9.37 per adult

**Food Stamp Program (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 4,577
- Average monthly number of households: 2,192
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $3,930,866
- Average monthly benefit per person: $72
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 33.1%
- County ranking: 60

**School Breakfast Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 2,334
  - Paid: 530
  - Total: 2,864
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 32.5%
- County ranking: 33t

**National School Lunch Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 5,861
  - Paid: 5,276
  - Total: 11,137
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 48.6%

**Summer Nutrition Programs (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 10
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 968
- Change since 1999: -334
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 968
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 13.5%
- County ranking: 16

**Special SupPLEMENTAL Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 2,093
- Percent change since 1999: -10.9%
- Potentially eligible persons: 2,948
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 71.0%

### Citrus County

**Food Insecurity (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 10.13%

**Demographics (2000)**
- Per capita income: $18,585
- Poverty rate: 11.7%
- Number of persons in poverty: 13,541
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 3,674
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 18.7%
- Number of persons unemployed: 2,775
- Unemployment rate: 6.7%

**Living Wage (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.22 per adult

**Food Stamp Program (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 6,821
- Average monthly number of households: 2,975
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $5,722,021
- Average monthly benefit per person: $70
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 48.8%
- County ranking: 35t

**School Breakfast Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,230
  - Paid: 278
  - Total: 1,508
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 19.5%
- County ranking: 63

**National School Lunch Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 4,161
  - Paid: 2,615
  - Total: 6,776
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 49.9%

**Summer Nutrition Programs (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 4
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 147
- Change since 1999: 147
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 175
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 2.8%
- County ranking: 50

**Special SupPLEMENTAL Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,924
- Percent change since 1999: -7.5%
- Potentially eligible persons: 3,235
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 59.5%
### Clay County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 5.51%

- Per capita income $20,868
- Poverty rate 6.8%
- Number of persons in poverty 9,437
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 3,588
- Poverty rate for children under 18 9.3%
- Number of persons unemployed 3,227
- Unemployment rate 4.6%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.53 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 3,781
- Average monthly number of households 1,696
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $3,223,633
- Average monthly benefit per person $71
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 26.4%
- County ranking 66

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 1,635
  Paid 775
  Total 2,410
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 24.9%
- County ranking 55

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 5,371
  Paid 10,354
  Total 15,725
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 27.5%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 0
  Change since 1999 0
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 0%
- County ranking 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 2,159
  Percent change since 1999 -24.1%
  Potentially eligible persons 4,077
  Percent of potentially eligible persons served 53.0%

### Collier County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 7.03%

- Per capita income $31,195
- Poverty rate 10.3%
- Number of persons in poverty 25,449
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 8,260
- Poverty rate for children under 18 17.0%
- Number of persons unemployed 4,004
- Unemployment rate 3.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $10.14 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 6,558
- Average monthly number of households 3,169
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $5,907,300
- Average monthly benefit per person $75
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 27.2%
- County ranking 65

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 5,176
  Paid 941
  Total 6,117
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 32.5%
- County ranking 33t

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 11,726
  Paid 6,659
  Total 18,384
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 50.2%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 27
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 3,056
  Change since 1999 458
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 3,056
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 19.2%
- County ranking 10

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 6,904
  Percent change since 1999 11.9%
  Potentially eligible persons 9,774
  Percent of potentially eligible persons served 70.6%
### Columbia County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 13.71%

- Per capita income: $14,598
- Poverty rate: 15.0%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 8,027
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 2,468
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 17.6%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 1,464
  - Unemployment rate: 6.0%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.34 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 6,734
- Average monthly number of households: 2,745
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $5,685,815
- Average monthly benefit per person: $70
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 74.8%
- County ranking: 7

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,310
  - Paid: 155
  - Total: 1,465
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 26.2%
- County ranking: 53

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 3,589
  - Paid: 1,383
  - Total: 4,972
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 61.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 0
- Change since 1999: -510
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 49
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 1.0%
- County ranking: 52

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,594
- Percent change since 1999: -1.9%
- Potentially eligible persons: 3,028
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 52.6%

### DeSoto County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 14.56%

- Per capita income: $14,000
- Poverty rate: 23.6%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 7,030
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 2,236
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 32.6%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 708
  - Unemployment rate: 5.3%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.52 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 2,495
- Average monthly number of households: 1,037
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $2,022,276
- Average monthly benefit per person: $68
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 32.7%
- County ranking: 61

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 831
  - Paid: 62
  - Total: 893
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 28.8%
- County ranking: 42

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 2,377
  - Paid: 762
  - Total: 3,139
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 71.1%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 2
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 0
- Change since 1999: 0
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 0%
- County ranking: 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,487
- Percent change since 1999: 3.8%
- Potentially eligible persons: 2,277
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 65.3%

---

* Neither DeSoto County sponsor operated in the month of July.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Dixie County</th>
<th>Duval County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOOD INSECURITY (1999)</strong></td>
<td>Percent of all households potentially food insecure</td>
<td>17.94%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Per capita income</td>
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<td>$13,559</td>
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<td>Poverty rate</td>
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<td>19.1%</td>
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<td>Number of persons in poverty</td>
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<td>Number of children under 18 in poverty</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Poverty rate for children under 18</td>
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<td>Number of persons unemployed</td>
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<td>7.4%</td>
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<td><strong>LIVING WAGE (2002)</strong></td>
<td>Hourly wage to maintain a family of four</td>
<td><strong>LIVING WAGE (2002)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(assuming two full-time adults)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$8.11 per adult</td>
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<td><strong>FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)</strong></td>
<td>Average monthly participation</td>
<td><strong>FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Average monthly number of households</td>
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<td>Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002)</td>
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<td>Average monthly benefit per person</td>
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<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)</td>
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<td>Free and reduced-price</td>
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<td>Paid</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating</td>
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<td>Free and reduced-price</td>
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<td>Paid</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
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<td>County ranking</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)</strong></td>
<td>Number of Summer Food Service sites</td>
<td><strong>SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of Summer Food Service sponsors</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Average daily Summer Food Service attendance</td>
</tr>
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<td>Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?</td>
<td>541</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food</td>
<td>Change since 1999</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Service and summer School Lunch Program</td>
<td>Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food</td>
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<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>County ranking</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)</strong></td>
<td>Average monthly participation</td>
<td><strong>SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>347</td>
<td>Percent change since 1999</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Potentially eligible persons</td>
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<td>Percent of potentially eligible persons served</td>
<td>700</td>
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<td>49.6%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Escambia County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 13.05%

- Per capita income: $18,641
- Poverty rate: 15.4%
- Number of persons in poverty: 41,978
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 16,340
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 24.1%
- Number of persons unemployed: 8,528
- Unemployment rate: 6.6%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.87 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 24,532
- Average monthly number of households: 9,684
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $21,021,747
- Average monthly benefit per person: $71
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 57.8%
- County ranking: 19

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation:
- Free and reduced-price: 8,155
- Paid: 537
- Total: 8,692
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 32.9%
- County ranking: 32

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation:
- Free and reduced-price: 18,424
- Paid: 5,262
- Total: 23,686
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 65.6%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
Number of Summer Food Service sites: 48
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 1,214
Change since 1999: -69
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 1,214
Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 4.9%
County ranking: 42

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
Average monthly participation: 7,479
Percent change since 1999: -7.9%
Potentially eligible persons: 13,342
Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 56.1%

### Flagler County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 6.93%

- Per capita income: $21,879
- Poverty rate: 8.7%
- Number of persons in poverty: 4,287
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,426
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 16.2%
- Number of persons unemployed: 836
- Unemployment rate: 4.3%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $9.50 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,956
- Average monthly number of households: 888
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $1,685,407
- Average monthly benefit per person: $72
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 44.3%
- County ranking: 40

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation:
- Free and reduced-price: 879
- Paid: 530
- Total: 1,409
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 38.0%
- County ranking: 18

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation:
- Free and reduced-price: 1,799
- Paid: 1,091
- Total: 2,890
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 34.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
Number of Summer Food Service sites: 4
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 104
Change since 1999: -13
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 104
Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 4.5%
County ranking: 44

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
Average monthly participation: 805
Percent change since 1999: 12.3%
Potentially eligible persons: 1,102
Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 73.0%
Franklin County

FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 16.24%

DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
Per capita income $16,140
Poverty rate 17.7%
Number of persons in poverty 1654
Number of children under 18 in poverty 456
Poverty rate for children under 18 23.1%
Number of persons unemployed 147
Unemployment rate 3.6%

LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.51 per adult

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
Average monthly participation 502
Average monthly number of households 225
Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $437,345
Average monthly benefit per person $73
Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 36.3%
County ranking 55

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 210
Paid 18
Total 228
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 23.5%
County ranking 58

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 638
Paid 212
Total 849
Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 67.2%

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
Number of Summer Food Service sites 4
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 155
Change since 1999 -155
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 155
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 17.4%
County ranking 12

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
Average monthly participation 226
Percent change since 1999 -52.2%
Potentially eligible persons 459
Percent of potentially eligible persons served 49.2%

Gadsden County

FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 17.06%

DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
Per capita income $14,499
Poverty rate 19.9%
Number of persons in poverty 8,509
Number of children under 18 in poverty 3,358
Poverty rate for children under 18 28.4%
Number of persons unemployed 1,476
Unemployment rate 7.6%

LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.43 per adult

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
Average monthly participation 5,765
Average monthly number of households 2,473
Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $4,768,828
Average monthly benefit per person $69
Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 78.1%
County ranking 6

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 2,265
Paid 153
Total 2,418
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 39.8%
County ranking 11

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 4,410
Paid 589
Total 4,999
Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 83.5%

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
Number of Summer Food Service sites 35
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 1,167
Change since 1999 508
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 1,167
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 20.5%
County ranking 6t

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
Average monthly participation 2,158
Percent change since 1999 -5.3%
Potentially eligible persons 2,738
Percent of potentially eligible persons served 78.8%
**Gilchrist County**

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 13.57%

- Per capita income: $13,985
- Poverty rate: 14.1%
- Number of persons in poverty: 1844
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 627
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 18.0%
- Number of persons unemployed: 267
- Unemployment rate: 4.4%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.14 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,181
- Average monthly number of households: 484
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $957,754
- Average monthly benefit per person: $68
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 54.5%
- County ranking: 24

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 423
  - Paid: 55
  - Total: 478
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 28.7%
- County ranking: 43

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,064
  - Paid: 474
  - Total: 1,538
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 62.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 2
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 96
- Change since 1999: 96
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 96
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 6.5%
- County ranking: 37

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 427
- Percent change since 1999: 2.8%
- Potentially eligible persons: 868
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 49.2%

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**Glades County**

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 12.73%

- Per capita income: $15,338
- Poverty rate: 15.2%
- Number of persons in poverty: 1487
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 445
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 19.6%
- Number of persons unemployed: 357
- Unemployment rate: 8.8%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.63 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: N/A
- Average monthly number of households: N/A
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): N/A
- Average monthly benefit per person: N/A
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): N/A
- County ranking: N/A

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 195
  - Paid: 18
  - Total: 213
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 28.5%
- County ranking: 44t

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 537
  - Paid: 130
  - Total: 667
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 76.1%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 2
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 109
- Change since 1999: -68
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 109
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 15.9%
- County ranking: 13

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 44
- Percent change since 1999: -138.6%
- Potentially eligible persons: 546
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 8.1%

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*Glades County is served by the Hendry County Food Stamp Offices*
**Gulf County**

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 16.05%

- Per capita income  $14,449
- Poverty rate 16.7%
- Number of persons in poverty 1988
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 601
- Poverty rate for children under 18 21.3%
- Number of persons unemployed 297
- Unemployment rate 6.0%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.45 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 1,161
- Average monthly number of households 555
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $949,776
- Average monthly benefit per person $68
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 69.5%
- County ranking 10

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
- Free and reduced-price 221
- Paid 8
- Total 229
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 19.3%
- County ranking 64

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
- Free and reduced-price 764
- Paid 313
- Total 1,078
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 59.6%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
Number of Summer Food Service sites 0
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 0
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 0
- Change since 1999 0
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 0%
- County ranking 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
Average monthly participation 311
- Percent change since 1999 -47.3%
Potentially eligible persons 449
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 69.2%

**Hamilton County**

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 23.04%

- Per capita income  $10,562
- Poverty rate 26.0%
- Number of persons in poverty 2799
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 1,069
- Poverty rate for children under 18 36.0%
- Number of persons unemployed 314
- Unemployment rate 7.1%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.03 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 1,417
- Average monthly number of households 560
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $1,235,076
- Average monthly benefit per person $73
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 56.0%
- County ranking 22t

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
- Free and reduced-price 575
- Paid 43
- Total 618
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 37.0%
- County ranking 20

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
- Free and reduced-price 1,155
- Paid 254
- Total 1,410
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 79.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
Number of Summer Food Service sites 5
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 173
- Change since 1999 -20
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 173
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 11.1%
- County ranking 25

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
Average monthly participation 318
- Percent change since 1999 -14.5%
Potentially eligible persons 773
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 41.1%
Hardee County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 18.14%

- Per capita income $12,445
- Poverty rate 24.6%
  - Number of persons in poverty 6,232
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty 2,248
  - Poverty rate for children under 18 31.1%
  - Number of persons unemployed 1,068
  - Unemployment rate 9.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.72 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 3,484
- Average monthly number of households 1,368
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $3,046,235
- Average monthly benefit per person $73
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 52.4%
- County ranking 28

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 967
  - Paid 105
  - Total 1,072
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 27.2%
- County ranking 50

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 2,857
  - Paid 891
  - Total 3,748
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 76.8%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 0
- Change since 1999 -345
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 0%
- County ranking 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 1,688
- Percent change since 1999 -0.2%
- Potentially eligible persons 2,231
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 75.7%

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Hendry County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 17.28%

- Per capita income $13,663
- Poverty rate 24.1%
  - Number of persons in poverty 8,373
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty 3,251
  - Poverty rate for children under 18 31.0%
  - Number of persons unemployed 1,235
  - Unemployment rate 7.8%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.89 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 3,968
- Average monthly number of households 1,614
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $3,561,484
- Average monthly benefit per person $75
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 39.1%
- County ranking 51

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 1,993
  - Paid 363
  - Total 2,356
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 40.2%
- County ranking 10

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 4,105
  - Paid 1,079
  - Total 5,185
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 73.4%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 21
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 494
- Change since 1999 -162
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 494
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 10.0%
- County ranking 32

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 1,875
- Percent change since 1999 -16.2%
- Potentially eligible persons 4,094
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 45.8%

* The Hendry County Food Stamp Office also serves Glades County; food stamp totals include data for both counties.
**Hernando County**

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 8.76%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income $18,321
- Poverty rate 10.3%
- Number of persons in poverty 13,307
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 3,961
- Poverty rate for children under 18 16.4%
- Number of persons unemployed 2,425
- Unemployment rate 5.2%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.35 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation 6,825
- Average monthly number of households 2,910
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $5,942,721
- Average monthly benefit per person $73
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 50.4%
- County ranking 30t

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 1,842
- Paid 389
- Total 2,231
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 25.6%
- County ranking 54

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 5,013
- Paid 2,943
- Total 7,956
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 46.6%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 9
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 402
- Change since 1999 -713
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 402
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 5.6%
- County ranking 40t

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation 2,779
- Percent change since 1999 1.5%
- Potentially eligible persons 3,855
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 72.1%

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**Highlands County**

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 12.11%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income $17,222
- Poverty rate 15.2%
- Number of persons in poverty 13,065
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 4,345
- Poverty rate for children under 18 26.3%
- Number of persons unemployed 1,386
- Unemployment rate 4.4%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.68 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation 6,018
- Average monthly number of households 2,644
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $4,800,978
- Average monthly benefit per person $66
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 43.5%
- County ranking 43t

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 2,348
- Paid 239
- Total 2,587
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 36.9%
- County ranking 21

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 5,452
- Paid 2,323
- Total 7,776
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 63.0%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 30
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 644
- Change since 1999 -289
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 644
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 10.1%
- County ranking 30t

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation 2,602
- Percent change since 1999 -0.3%
- Potentially eligible persons 3,759
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 69.2%
### Hillsborough County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 10.30%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $21,812
- Poverty rate: 12.5%
- Number of persons in poverty: 122,872
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 43,604
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 17.6%
- Number of persons unemployed: 28,546
- Unemployment rate: 5.7%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $10.28 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 73,019
- Average monthly number of households: 32,703
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $67,597,536
- Average monthly benefit per person: $77
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 53.3%
- County ranking: 25

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 24,886
  - Paid: 6,121
  - Total: 31,007
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 31.1%
- County ranking: 36

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 47,455
  - Paid: 20,139
  - Total: 67,594
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 52.9%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 199
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 6
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 9,703
- Change since 1999: -5,703
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 9,849
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 12.3%
- County ranking: 20

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 22,244
  - Percent change since 1999: -5.9%
- Potentially eligible persons: 40,056
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 55.5%

### Holmes County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 18.52%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $14,135
- Poverty rate: 19.1%
- Number of persons in poverty: 3,209
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,087
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 25.9%
- Number of persons unemployed: 460
- Unemployment rate: 6.2%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.01 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 2,569
- Average monthly number of households: 1,088
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $1,942,431
- Average monthly benefit per person: $63
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 87.6%
- County ranking: 2

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 733
  - Paid: 113
  - Total: 846
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 36.1%
- County ranking: 24

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,636
  - Paid: 891
  - Total: 2,527
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 64.7%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 0
- Change since 1999: 0
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 0%
- County ranking: 0

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 635
  - Percent change since 1999: 4.7%
- Potentially eligible persons: 955
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 66.5%
### Indian River County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 7.60%

- Per capita income: $27,227
- Poverty rate: 9.3%
- Number of persons in poverty: 10,325
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 2,999
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 14.3%
- Number of persons unemployed: 2,133
- Unemployment rate: 4.5%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $9.30 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 4,149
- Average monthly number of households: 2,078
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $3,516,951
- Average monthly benefit per person: $71
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 40.6%
- County ranking: 49t

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 6,045
  - Paid: 1,358
  - Total: 7,403
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 101.9%
- County ranking: 1

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 5,269
  - Paid: 2,930
  - Total: 8,199
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 45.6%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 9
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 1,105
- Change since 1999: -41
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 1,105
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 18.6%
- County ranking: 11

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,902
- Percent change since 1999: -21.3%
- Potentially eligible persons: 2,956
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 64.3%

### Jackson County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 15.91%

- Per capita income: $13,905
- Poverty rate: 17.2%
- Number of persons in poverty: 6,998
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 2,403
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 23.8%
- Number of persons unemployed: 1,048
- Unemployment rate: 5.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.43 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 3,588
- Average monthly number of households: 1,569
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $2,832,299
- Average monthly benefit per person: $66
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 56.9%
- County ranking: 21

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,579
  - Paid: 190
  - Total: 1,769
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 40.9%
- County ranking: 9

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price: 2,995
  - Paid: 1,058
  - Total: 4,053
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 61.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 4
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 217
- Change since 1999: 217
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 217
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 5.6%
- County ranking: 40t

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,437
- Percent change since 1999: 4.5%
- Potentially eligible persons: 2,138
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 67.2%
### Jefferson County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 16.17%

- **Per capita income**: $17,006
- **Poverty rate**: 17.1%
- **Number of persons in poverty**: 2040
- **Number of children under 18 in poverty**: 635
- **Poverty rate for children under 18**: 22.1%
- **Number of persons unemployed**: 279
- **Unemployment rate**: 4.8%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $7.48 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- **Average monthly participation**: 1,683
- **Average monthly number of households**: 791
- **Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002)**: $1,406,532
- **Average monthly benefit per person**: $70
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)**: 88.0%
- **County ranking**: 1

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price: 509
  - Paid: 54
  - Total: 563
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating**: 41.8%
- **County ranking**: 6

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price: 946
  - Paid: 211
  - Total: 1,157
- **Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch**: 81.6%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- **Number of Summer Food Service sites**: 1
- **Number of Summer Food Service sponsors**: 0
- **Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?**: No
- **Average daily Summer Food Service attendance**: 0
- **Change since 1999**: 0
- **Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program**: 0
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating**: 0%
- **County ranking**: 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- **Average monthly participation**: 515
- **Percent change since 1999**: 15.3%
- **Potentially eligible persons**: 813
- **Percent of potentially eligible persons served**: 63.4%

*Leon County sponsors a site.*

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### Lafayette County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 13.32%

- **Per capita income**: $13,087
- **Poverty rate**: 17.5%
- **Number of persons in poverty**: 999
- **Number of children under 18 in poverty**: 379
- **Poverty rate for children under 18**: 25.3%
- **Number of persons unemployed**: 120
- **Unemployment rate**: 4.5%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.06 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- **Average monthly participation**: 814
- **Average monthly number of households**: 323
- **Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002)**: $670,231
- **Average monthly benefit per person**: $69
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)**: 64.2%
- **County ranking**: 12

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price: 99
  - Paid: 10
  - Total: 109
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating**: 18.8%
- **County ranking**: 65

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price: 414
  - Paid: 196
  - Total: 610
- **Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch**: 60.7%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- **Number of Summer Food Service sites**: 0
- **Number of Summer Food Service sponsors**: 0
- **Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?**: No
- **Average daily Summer Food Service attendance**: 0
- **Change since 1999**: 0
- **Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program**: 0
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating**: 0%
- **County ranking**: 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- **Average monthly participation**: 200
- **Percent change since 1999**: 25.0%
- **Potentially eligible persons**: 384
- **Percent of potentially eligible persons served**: 52.0%
Lake County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 8.19%

Per capita income $20,199
Poverty rate 9.6%
Number of persons in poverty 19,907
Number of children under 18 in poverty 6,820
Poverty rate for children under 18 16.3%
Number of persons unemployed 3,359
Unemployment rate 3.9%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.74 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
Average monthly participation 11,112
Average monthly number of households 4,978
Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $9,397,588
Average monthly benefit per person $70
Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 52.9%
County ranking 27

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 2,556
Paid 407
Total 2,963
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 21.1%
County ranking 60

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 8,431
Paid 6,206
Total 14,637
Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 49.7%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
Number of Summer Food Service sites 23
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 864
Change since 1999 127
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 896
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 7.4%
County ranking 36

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
Average monthly participation 3,600
Percent change since 1999 -2.2%
Potentially eligible persons 7,809
Percent of potentially eligible persons served 46.1%

Lee County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 7.73%

Per capita income $24,542
Poverty rate 9.7%
Number of persons in poverty 42,316
Number of children under 18 in poverty 13,356
Poverty rate for children under 18 15.7%
Number of persons unemployed 7,234
Unemployment rate 3.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.78 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
Average monthly participation 13,697
Average monthly number of households 6,334
Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $11,845,775
Average monthly benefit per person $72
Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 33.8%
County ranking 59

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 7,443
Paid 1,482
Total 8,925
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 28.5%
County ranking 44t

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
Average daily participation
Free and reduced-price 21,006
Paid 11,061
Total 32,067
Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 52.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
Number of Summer Food Service sites 40
Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 2
Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 1,626
Change since 1999 1,075
Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 1,626
Estimated percent of eligibles participating 6.2%
County ranking 38

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
Average monthly participation 7,800
Percent change since 1999 -2.9%
Potentially eligible persons 12,625
Percent of potentially eligible persons served 61.8%
### Leon County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 16.82%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income $21,024
- Poverty rate 18.2%
- Number of persons in poverty 41,078
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 8,405
- Poverty rate for children under 18 16.8%
- Number of persons unemployed 11,133
- Unemployment rate 8.3%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.38 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation 14,295
- Average monthly number of households 6,367
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $13,555,416
- Average monthly benefit per person $79
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 32.5%
- County ranking 62

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 3,764
- Paid 1,152
- Total 4,916
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 39.6%
- County ranking 12

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 6,031
- Paid 4,492
- Total 10,523
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 41.2%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 40
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 4
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 1,644
- Change since 1999 -71
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 1,949
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 20.5%
- County ranking 6t

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation 4,409
- Percent change since 1999 -10.3%
- Potentially eligible persons 6,291
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 70.1%

### Levy County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 16.14%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income $14,746
- Poverty rate 18.6%
- Number of persons in poverty 6,263
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 2,130
- Poverty rate for children under 18 26.9%
- Number of persons unemployed 843
- Unemployment rate 6.1%

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $7.97 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation 3,453
- Average monthly number of households 1,516
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $2,832,259
- Average monthly benefit per person $68
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 50.4%
- County ranking 30t

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 1,215
- Paid 119
- Total 1,334
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 34.7%
- County ranking 28

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 2,770
- Paid 902
- Total 3,672
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 62.9%

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 23
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 386
- Change since 1999 -13
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 386
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 11.0%
- County ranking 26

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation 943
- Percent change since 1999 3.9%
- Potentially eligible persons 1,750
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 53.9%
Liberty County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 17.13%

- Per capita income $17,225
- Poverty rate 19.9%
- Number of persons in poverty 1114
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 383
- Poverty rate for children under 18 25.9%
- Number of persons unemployed 124
- Unemployment rate 5.0%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.47 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 669
- Average monthly number of households 313
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $543,203
- Average monthly benefit per person $68
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 39.0%
- County ranking 20

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 233
- Paid 47
- Total 280
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 39.0%
- County ranking 13

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 419
- Paid 181
- Total 600
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 55.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 0
- Change since 1999 -127
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 0%
- County ranking 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 47
- Percent change since 1999 -308.5%
- Potentially eligible persons 232
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 20.3%

Madison County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 22.32%

- Per capita income $12,511
- Poverty rate 23.1%
- Number of persons in poverty 3919
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 1,376
- Poverty rate for children under 18 30.2%
- Number of persons unemployed 399
- Unemployment rate 5.4%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.19 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 1,901
- Average monthly number of households 889
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $1,520,545
- Average monthly benefit per person $67
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 47.6%
- County ranking 39

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 794
- Paid 51
- Total 845
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 34.4%
- County ranking 30

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 1,634
- Paid 364
- Total 1,998
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 79.2%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 1
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 9
- Change since 1999 9
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 9
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 0.4%
- County ranking 53

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 715
- Percent change since 1999 -6.9%
- Potentially eligible persons 988
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 72.4%
### Manatee County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**

Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 8.18%


- Per capita income: $22,388
- Poverty rate: 10.1%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 26,104
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 8,389
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 15.9%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 4,128
  - Unemployment rate: 3.6%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**

Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $9.98 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**

- Average monthly participation: 12,518
- Average monthly number of households: 5,643
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $11,195,557
  - Average monthly benefit per person: $75
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 42.6%
  - County ranking: 47

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**

- Average daily participation: 4,475
  - Free and reduced-price: 4,475
  - Paid: 813
  - Total: 5,288
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 32.1%
  - County ranking: 35

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**

- Average daily participation: 11,878
  - Free and reduced-price: 11,878
  - Paid: 7,771
  - Total: 19,648
  - Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 43.4%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**

- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 34
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 1,223
  - Change since 1999: 87
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 1,223
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 8.8%
  - County ranking: 34

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**

- Average monthly participation: 5,152
  - Percent change since 1999: -6.4%
  - Potentially eligible persons: 9,613
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 53.6%

### Marion County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**

Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 10.95%


- Per capita income: $17,848
- Poverty rate: 13.1%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 32,918
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 11,103
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 20.7%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 6,061
  - Unemployment rate: 5.8%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**

Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.48 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**

- Average monthly participation: 19,141
- Average monthly number of households: 8,335
  - Average monthly benefit per person: $70
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 56.0%
  - County ranking: 22t

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**

- Average daily participation: 7,030
  - Free and reduced-price: 7,030
  - Paid: 988
  - Total: 8,018
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 34.8%
  - County ranking: 27

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**

- Average daily participation: 15,326
  - Free and reduced-price: 15,326
  - Paid: 5,428
  - Total: 20,754
  - Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 63.0%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**

- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 45
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 2
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 664
  - Change since 1999: -1,098
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 664
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 3.3%
  - County ranking: 48

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**

- Average monthly participation: 7,415
  - Percent change since 1999: 4.0%
  - Potentially eligible persons: 10,259
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 72.3%
### Martin County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 6.77%

- Per capita income $29,584
- Poverty rate 8.8%
- Number of persons in poverty 10,844
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 3,287
- Poverty rate for children under 18 14.3%
- Number of persons unemployed 2,247
- Unemployment rate 4.2%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $10.11 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 3,742
- Average monthly number of households 1,820
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $3,319,019
- Average monthly benefit per person $74
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 42.9%
- County ranking 46

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 1,830
  - Paid 281
  - Total 2,111
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 35.2%
- County ranking 26

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 3,829
  - Paid 2,836
  - Total 6,665
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 39.7%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 10
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 447
- Change since 1999 140
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 606
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 11.6%
- County ranking 23

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 2,532
- Percent change since 1999 -3.1%
- Potentially eligible persons 2,806
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 90.2%

### Miami-Dade County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 16.19%

- Per capita income $18,497
- Poverty rate 18.0%
- Number of persons in poverty 396,995
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 127,435
- Poverty rate for children under 18 23.2%
- Number of persons unemployed 88,248
- Unemployment rate 8.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $10.67 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 263,949
- Average monthly number of households 148,615
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $246,912,506
- Average monthly benefit per person $78
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 63.5%
- County ranking 14

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 47,530
  - Paid 3,993
  - Total 51,523
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 21.3%
- County ranking 59

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 132,824
  - Paid 28,227
  - Total 161,050
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 69.7%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 459
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 8
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 45,369
- Change since 1999 -4,829
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 51,722
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 23.2%
- County ranking 3

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 61,272
- Percent change since 1999 -1.6%
- Potentially eligible persons 94,674
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 64.7%
### Monroe County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 9.03%

- Per capita income: $26,102
- Poverty rate: 10.2%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 7,977
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,619
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 12.2%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 1,364
  - Unemployment rate: 3.2%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $11.04 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 3,207
- Average monthly number of households: 1,990
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $2,881,003
- Average monthly benefit per person: $75
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 35.5%
  - County ranking: 56

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 989
  - Paid: 132
  - Total: 1,121
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 31.1%
  - County ranking: 36

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 2,211
  - Paid: 1,599
  - Total: 3,810
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 38.2%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 13
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 2
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 701
  - Change since 1999: -498
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 744
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 23.4%
  - County ranking: 2

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,003
  - Percent change since 1999: -24.6%
- Potentially eligible persons: 1,783
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 56.3%

### Nassau County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 8.26%

- Per capita income: $22,836
- Poverty rate: 9.1%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 5,192
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,622
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 11.5%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 1,363
  - Unemployment rate: 4.8%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $9.39 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 2,133
- Average monthly number of households: 1,016
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $1,798,446
- Average monthly benefit per person: $70
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 34.9%
  - County ranking: 58

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,221
  - Paid: 520
  - Total: 1,741
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 34.5%
  - County ranking: 29

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 2,596
  - Paid: 2,951
  - Total: 5,547
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 44.2%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 2
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 103
  - Change since 1999: -51
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 103
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 2.9%
  - County ranking: 49

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,135
  - Percent change since 1999: -2.5%
- Potentially eligible persons: 2,028
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 56.0%
### Okaloosa County

**Food Insecurity (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 7.58%

**Demographics (2000)**
- Per capita income: $20,918
- Poverty rate: 8.8%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 14,562
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 5,350
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 13.0%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 3,565
  - Unemployment rate: 4.7%

**Living Wage (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.99 per adult

**Food Stamp Program (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 8,005
- Average monthly number of households: 3,254
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $6,582,293
  - Average monthly benefit per person: $69
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 48.2%
  - County ranking: 38

**School Breakfast Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 2,319
  - Paid: 835
  - Total: 3,154
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 27.3%
  - County ranking: 49

**National School Lunch Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 6,370
  - Paid: 6,432
  - Total: 12,802
  - Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 38.6%

**Summer Nutrition Programs (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 31
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 929
  - Change since 1999: 533
  - Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 929
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 10.9%
  - County ranking: 27

**Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 3,772
  - Percent change since 1999: -20.1%
  - Potentially eligible persons: 7,503
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 50.3%

### Okeechobee County

**Food Insecurity (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 13.53%

**Demographics (2000)**
- Per capita income: $14,553
- Poverty rate: 16.0%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 5,391
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,834
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 21.3%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 694
  - Unemployment rate: 4.7%

**Living Wage (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.50 per adult

**Food Stamp Program (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 2,135
- Average monthly number of households: 903
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $1,843,634
  - Average monthly benefit per person: $72
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 36.6%
  - County ranking: 54

**School Breakfast Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,397
  - Paid: 280
  - Total: 1,677
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 38.1%
  - County ranking: 15

**National School Lunch Program (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 3,011
  - Paid: 1,205
  - Total: 4,216
  - Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 64.7%

**Summer Nutrition Programs (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 6
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 2
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 144
  - Change since 1999: -10
  - Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 144
  - Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 3.9%
  - County ranking: 46

**Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 1,585
  - Percent change since 1999: -3.0%
  - Potentially eligible persons: 2,023
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 78.4%
Orange County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 9.77%

- Per capita income $20,916
- Poverty rate 12.1%
  - Number of persons in poverty 106,233
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty 37,144
  - Poverty rate for children under 18 16.8%
  - Number of persons unemployed 23,700
  - Unemployment rate 5.0%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $10.20 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 56,972
- Average monthly number of households 24,333
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $50,907,575
- Average monthly benefit per person $74
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 40.6%
- County ranking 49th

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 12,371
  - Paid 2,019
  - Total 14,390
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 18.1%
- County ranking 66

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 40,245
  - Paid 18,338
  - Total 58,584
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 45.8%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 214
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 8
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 7,992
- Change since 1999 3,405
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 8,681
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 12.7%
- County ranking 18th

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 21,137
- Percent change since 1999 10.2%
- Potentially eligible persons 35,245
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 60.0%

Osceola County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 9.48%

- Per capita income $17,022
- Poverty rate 11.5%
  - Number of persons in poverty 19,532
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty 6,906
  - Poverty rate for children under 18 15.3%
  - Number of persons unemployed 4,207
  - Unemployment rate 5.0%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.86 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 14,611
- Average monthly number of households 6,040
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $13,596,997
- Average monthly benefit per person $78
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 50.3%
- County ranking 32

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 4,247
  - Paid 842
  - Total 5,089
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 24.1%
- County ranking 57

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 12,421
  - Paid 4,739
  - Total 17,161
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 53.2%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 54
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 2,011
- Change since 1999 1,181
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 2,011
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 11.4%
- County ranking 24

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 6,560
- Percent change since 1999 13.8%
- Potentially eligible persons 6,588
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 99.6%
### Palm Beach County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**  
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 8.02%

- Per capita income: $28,801
- Poverty rate: 9.9%
- Number of persons in poverty: 110,430
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 34,513
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 14.6%
- Number of persons unemployed: 25,286
- Unemployment rate: 5.0%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**  
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $11.32 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**  
- Average monthly participation: 41,547
- Average monthly number of households: 19,542
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $37,991,567
- Average monthly benefit per person: $76
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 37.3%
- County ranking: 53

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**  
- Average daily participation: 15,536
  - Free and reduced-price: 15,536
  - Paid: 1,377
  - Total: 16,913
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 24.2%
- County ranking: 56

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**  
- Average daily participation: 39,551
  - Free and reduced-price: 39,551
  - Paid: 16,287
  - Total: 55,838
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 50.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**  
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 146
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 10
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 11,984
  - Change since 1999: 1,104
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 12,647
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 19.7%
- County ranking: 8

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**  
- Average monthly participation: 30,521
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 59.6%

### Pasco County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**  
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 9.28%

- Per capita income: $18,439
- Poverty rate: 10.7%
- Number of persons in poverty: 36,201
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 10,766
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 15.9%
- Number of persons unemployed: 6,548
- Unemployment rate: 4.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**  
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $10.08 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**  
- Average monthly participation: 20,747
- Average monthly number of households: 9,189
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $18,275,169
- Average monthly benefit per person: $73
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 48.8%
- County ranking: 35t

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**  
- Average daily participation: 6,498
  - Free and reduced-price: 6,498
  - Paid: 1,085
  - Total: 7,583
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 27.8%
- County ranking: 47

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**  
- Average daily participation: 16,077
  - Free and reduced-price: 16,077
  - Paid: 9,101
  - Total: 25,179
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 51.6%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**  
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 19
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 3
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 385
  - Change since 1999: -3,390
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 431
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 1.8%
- County ranking: 51

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**  
- Average monthly participation: 7,892
  - Percent change since 1999: -10.0%
- Potentially eligible persons: 11,488
  - Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 68.7%
### Pinellas County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 8.49%

- Per capita income: $23,497
- Poverty rate: 10.0%
- Number of persons in poverty: 90,059
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 24,939
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 14.4%
- Number of persons unemployed: 18,941
- Unemployment rate: 4.3%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $10.48 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 44,012
- Average monthly number of households: 22,400
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $40,806,610
- Average monthly benefit per person: $77
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 44.0%
- County ranking: 42

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 10,483
  - Paid: 2,074
  - Total: 12,557
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 26.5%
- County ranking: 52

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 27,651
  - Paid: 20,508
  - Total: 48,159
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 44.8%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 96
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 5
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 8,478
- Change since 1999: 178
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 8,757
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 22.1%
- County ranking: 5

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 12,461
- Percent change since 1999: -11.3%
- Potentially eligible persons: 21,420
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 58.2%

### Polk County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
- Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 10.65%

- Per capita income: $18,302
- Poverty rate: 12.9%
- Number of persons in poverty: 60,953
- Number of children under 18 in poverty: 22,606
- Poverty rate for children under 18: 19.6%
- Number of persons unemployed: 12,544
- Unemployment rate: 5.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.59 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 38,822
- Average monthly number of households: 16,732
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $33,740,099
- Average monthly benefit per person: $72
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 61.8%
- County ranking: 15

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 13,019
  - Paid: 1,637
  - Total: 14,656
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 30.6%
- County ranking: 38

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 28,140
  - Paid: 11,545
  - Total: 39,685
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 64.1%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 105
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors: 4
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 3,613
- Change since 1999: 436
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 5,391
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 12.7%
- County ranking: 18t

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation: 15,763
- Percent change since 1999: 1.3%
- Potentially eligible persons: 20,792
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 75.8%
## Putnam County

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 17.27%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income $15,603
- Poverty rate 20.9%
  - Number of persons in poverty 14,449
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty 5,237
  - Poverty rate for children under 18 30.8%
- Number of persons unemployed 1,595
- Unemployment rate 5.7%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.02 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation 8,450
- Average monthly number of households 3,540
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $7,107,380
- Average monthly benefit per person $70
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 61.1%
- County ranking 16

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 2,984
  - Paid 301
  - Total 3,285
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 38.5%
- County ranking 14

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 6,127
  - Paid 1,778
  - Total 7,905
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 70.4%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 53
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 992
- Change since 1999 -2,388
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 992
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 12.8%
- County ranking 17

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation 2,357
- Percent change since 1999 -1.8%
- Potentially eligible persons 3,291
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 71.6%

## Saint Johns County

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 7.33%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income $28,674
- Poverty rate 8.0%
  - Number of persons in poverty 9,698
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty 2,747
  - Poverty rate for children under 18 9.8%
- Number of persons unemployed 2,013
- Unemployment rate 3.3%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.55 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation 4,179
- Average monthly number of households 1,989
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $3,794,049
- Average monthly benefit per person $76
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 37.8%
- County ranking 52

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 1,543
  - Paid 314
  - Total 1,857
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 35.6%
- County ranking 25

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation
  - Free and reduced-price 3,245
  - Paid 3,578
  - Total 6,823
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 27.3%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 13
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 357
- Change since 1999 -320
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 357
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 8.2%
- County ranking 35

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation 1,826
- Percent change since 1999 -11.8%
- Potentially eligible persons 3,399
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 53.7%
### Saint Lucie County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 10.27%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per capita income</td>
<td>$18,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of persons in poverty</td>
<td>25,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children under 18 in poverty</td>
<td>8,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate for children under 18</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of persons unemployed</td>
<td>4,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.62 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly participation</td>
<td>13,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly number of households</td>
<td>5,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002)</td>
<td>$11,433,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly benefit per person</td>
<td>$72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)</td>
<td>53.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average daily participation Free and reduced-price</td>
<td>6,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid</td>
<td>844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)</td>
<td>41.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average daily participation Free and reduced-price</td>
<td>13,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid</td>
<td>5,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch</td>
<td>60.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Summer Food Service sites</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Summer Food Service sponsors</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average daily Summer Food Service attendance</td>
<td>1,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change since 1999</td>
<td>-646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program</td>
<td>1,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly participation</td>
<td>5,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent change since 1999</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potentially eligible persons</td>
<td>6,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of potentially eligible persons served</td>
<td>85.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Santa Rosa County

#### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 8.99%

#### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per capita income</td>
<td>$20,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of persons in poverty</td>
<td>11,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children under 18 in poverty</td>
<td>4,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate for children under 18</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of persons unemployed</td>
<td>2,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.91 per adult

#### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly participation</td>
<td>6,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly number of households</td>
<td>2,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002)</td>
<td>$6,038,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly benefit per person</td>
<td>$74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average daily participation Free and reduced-price</td>
<td>2,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid</td>
<td>1,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average daily participation Free and reduced-price</td>
<td>5,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid</td>
<td>4,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Summer Food Service sites</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Summer Food Service sponsors</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average daily Summer Food Service attendance</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change since 1999</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average monthly participation</td>
<td>2,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent change since 1999</td>
<td>-7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potentially eligible persons</td>
<td>4,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of potentially eligible persons served</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sarasota County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 6.38%

- Per capita income $28,326
- Poverty rate 7.8%
- Number of persons in poverty 24,817
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 6,811
- Poverty rate for children under 18 13.1%
- Number of persons unemployed 5,203
- Unemployment rate 3.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $10.04 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 7,311
- Average monthly number of households 3,795
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $6,464,199
- Average monthly benefit per person $74
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 28.2%
- County ranking 64

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 2,502
  Paid 589
  Total 3,091
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 19.7%
- County ranking 62

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 7,514
  Paid 6,546
  Total 14,060
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 39.5%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 23
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 1,060
  Change since 1999 115
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 1,361
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 10.7%
- County ranking 28

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 3,386
  Percent change since 1999 -13.9%
- Potentially eligible persons 5,423
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 62.4%

### Seminole County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 6.36%

- Per capita income $24,591
- Poverty rate 7.4%
- Number of persons in poverty 26,804
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 8,207
- Poverty rate for children under 18 9.0%
- Number of persons unemployed 7,293
- Unemployment rate 3.7%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
- Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $10.26 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 8,613
- Average monthly number of households 3,733
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $7,828,544
- Average monthly benefit per person $76
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 41.7%
- County ranking 48

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 3,407
  Paid 715
  Total 4,122
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 20.7%
- County ranking 61

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 11,577
  Paid 11,209
  Total 22,786
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 32.4%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 34
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 2
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 637
  Change since 1999 593
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 637
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 3.9%
- County ranking 46t

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 5,241
  Percent change since 1999 11.2%
- Potentially eligible persons 8,720
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 60.1%
## Sumter County

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 11.24%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $16,830
- Poverty rate: 13.7%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 6,448
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 2,244
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 26.3%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 760
  - Unemployment rate: 4.8%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.20 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 3,554
- Average monthly number of households: 1,570
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $2,912,274
- Average monthly benefit per person: $68
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 60.1%

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 1,557
  - Paid: 219
  - Total: 1,776
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 41.9%

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 3,036
  - Paid: 1,354
  - Total: 4,391
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 64.3%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 17
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 210
- Change since 1999: 210
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 210
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 5.7%

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 1,218
- Percent change since 1999: 9.8%
- Potentially eligible persons: 2,220
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 54.9%

## Suwannee County

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure: 16.69%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- Per capita income: $14,678
- Poverty rate: 18.5%
  - Number of persons in poverty: 6,325
  - Number of children under 18 in poverty: 1,859
  - Poverty rate for children under 18: 22.4%
  - Number of persons unemployed: 1,098
  - Unemployment rate: 7.3%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults): $8.22 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 3,213
- Average monthly number of households: 1,452
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002): $2,514,810
- Average monthly benefit per person: $65
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999): 43.5%

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 961
  - Paid: 108
  - Total: 1,069
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 33.8%

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- Average daily participation:
  - Free and reduced-price: 2,177
  - Paid: 909
  - Total: 3,085
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch: 64.0%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- Number of Summer Food Service sites: 7
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?: Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance: 346
- Change since 1999: 346
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program: 346
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating: 12.2%

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- Average monthly participation: 901
- Percent change since 1999: -5.5%
- Potentially eligible persons: 1,876
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served: 48.0%
## Taylor County

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 17.14%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- **Per capita income** $15,281
- **Poverty rate** 18.0%
- **Number of persons in poverty** 3,229
- **Number of children under 18 in poverty** 1,047
- **Poverty rate for children under 18** 22.6%
- **Number of persons unemployed** 431
- **Unemployment rate** 5.5%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.36 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- **Average monthly participation** 2,288
- **Average monthly number of households** 1,021
- **Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002)** $1,961,261
- **Average monthly benefit per person** $71
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)** 78.3%

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price 752
  - Paid 65
  - Total 817
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating** 56.9%

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price 1,342
  - Paid 408
  - Total 1,750
- **Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch** 57.8%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- **Number of Summer Food Service sites** 4
- **Number of Summer Food Service sponsors** 2
- **Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?** No
- **Average daily Summer Food Service attendance** 259
- **Change since 1999** 1
- **Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program** 259
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating** 19.6%

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- **Average monthly participation** 736
- **Percent change since 1999** -1.9%
- **Potentially eligible persons** 951
- **Percent of potentially eligible persons served** 77.4%

## Union County

### FOOD INSECURITY (1999)
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 13.65%

### DEMOGRAPHICS (2000)
- **Per capita income** $12,333
- **Poverty rate** 14.0%
- **Number of persons in poverty** 1,298
- **Number of children under 18 in poverty** 435
- **Poverty rate for children under 18** 15.2%
- **Number of persons unemployed** 169
- **Unemployment rate** 4.0%

### LIVING WAGE (2002)
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.06 per adult

### FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)
- **Average monthly participation** 1,243
- **Average monthly number of households** 494
- **Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002)** $1,110,468
- **Average monthly benefit per person** $74
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999)** 80.6%

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price 332
  - Paid 53
  - Total 385
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating** 36.6%

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)
- **Average daily participation**
  - Free and reduced-price 613
  - Paid 255
  - Total 868
- **Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch** 49.6%

### SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)
- **Number of Summer Food Service sites** 0
- **Number of Summer Food Service sponsors** 0
- **Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002?** No
- **Average daily Summer Food Service attendance** 0
- **Change since 1999** 0
- **Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program** 0
- **Estimated percent of eligibles participating** 0%

### SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)
- **Average monthly participation** 221
- **Percent change since 1999** -23.1%
- **Potentially eligible persons** 473
- **Percent of potentially eligible persons served** 46.7%
Volusia County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 9.86%

- Per capita income $19,664
- Poverty rate 11.6%
- Number of persons in poverty 49,907
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 14,642
- Poverty rate for children under 18 16.8%
- Number of persons unemployed 12,623
- Unemployment rate 6.3%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $9.01 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 24,214
- Average monthly number of households 11,371
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $21,829,070
- Average monthly benefit per person $75
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 48.8%
- County ranking 35t

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 6,865
- Paid 997
- Total 7,862
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 29.4%
- County ranking 41

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 18,180
- Paid 9,693
- Total 27,873
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 50.9%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 100
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 5
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 3,273
- Change since 1999 160
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 3,273
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 14.0%
- County ranking 14

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 6,960
- Percent change since 1999 0.8%
- Potentially eligible persons 11,954
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 58.2%

Wakulla County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 10.73%

- Per capita income $17,678
- Poverty rate 11.3%
- Number of persons in poverty 2437
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 888
- Poverty rate for children under 18 15.4%
- Number of persons unemployed 427
- Unemployment rate 3.9%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.55 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 1,291
- Average monthly number of households 570
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $1,091,808
- Average monthly benefit per person $70
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 49.5%
- County ranking 33

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 404
- Paid 123
- Total 527
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 27.0%
- County ranking 51

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation Free and reduced-price 1,010
- Paid 841
- Total 1,851
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 39.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 0
- Change since 1999 0
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 0%
- County ranking 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 399
- Percent change since 1999 -5.8%
- Potentially eligible persons 1,029
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 38.8%
Walton County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 12.59%

- Per capita income $18,198
- Poverty rate 14.4%
- Number of persons in poverty 5,577
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 1,832
- Poverty rate for children under 18 21.1%
- Number of persons unemployed 787
- Unemployment rate 4.4%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.99 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 3,041
- Average monthly number of households 1,300
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $2,423,670
- Average monthly benefit per person $66
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 44.3%
- County ranking 40

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation (assuming two full-time adults)
  - Free and reduced-price 1,333
  - Paid 295
  - Total 1,628
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 42.9%
- County ranking 4

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation (assuming two full-time adults)
  - Free and reduced-price 2,398
  - Paid 1,379
  - Total 3,777
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 58.3%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 9
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 1
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? Yes
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 376
- Change since 1999 -159
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 376
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 12.1%
- County ranking 22

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 1,113
- Percent change since 1999 -0.1%
- Potentially eligible persons 1,724
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 64.6%

Washington County

**FOOD INSECURITY (1999)**
Percent of all households potentially food insecure 17.59%

- Per capita income $14,980
- Poverty rate 19.2%
- Number of persons in poverty 3,757
- Number of children under 18 in poverty 1,320
- Poverty rate for children under 18 27.2%
- Number of persons unemployed 473
- Unemployment rate 5.5%

**LIVING WAGE (2002)**
Hourly wage to maintain a family of four (assuming two full-time adults) $8.29 per adult

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 2,129
- Average monthly number of households 963
- Issuance (value of benefits issued in 2002) $1,590,155
- Average monthly benefit per person $62
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating (1999) 65.4%
- County ranking 11

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation (assuming two full-time adults)
  - Free and reduced-price 652
  - Paid 79
  - Total 731
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 36.2%
- County ranking 23

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (2001-2002)**
- Average daily participation (assuming two full-time adults)
  - Free and reduced-price 1,484
  - Paid 563
  - Total 2,047
- Percent elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch 65.1%

**SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Lunch, July 2002)**
- Number of Summer Food Service sites 0
- Number of Summer Food Service sponsors 0
- Did the school board serve as a sponsor in 2002? No
- Average daily Summer Food Service attendance 0
- Change since 1999 -132
- Average combined daily attendance in Summer Food Service and summer School Lunch Program 0
- Estimated percent of eligibles participating 0%
- County ranking 0

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) (2002)**
- Average monthly participation 452
- Percent change since 1999 -39.4%
- Potentially eligible persons 1,049
- Percent of potentially eligible persons served 43.1%
Endnotes


2 This calculation is based on a three-year average (1997, 1998, 1999) of data reported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in its series, Measuring Food Security in the United States. This average provides a sample large enough to determine state-by-state household food security and hunger estimates with reasonable margins of error. This estimate found that 10.5% of Florida households suffer from food insecurity. According to the 2000 Census, there were 6,341,121 households in Florida.

3 Based on the U.S. Census Bureau 2002 poverty threshold of $12,400 for a two-person family containing one child.

4 For more information on how the county estimates were calculated, refer to the Food Insecurity section of the Sources.

5 Kate Coler, USDA Deputy Administrator for the Food Stamp Program at a presentation at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. October 2002.

6 According to the 2000 Census, in 1999 1,952,629 individuals were below 100% of poverty. Average monthly participation in the food stamp program for the calendar year 1999 was 942,651.

7 Eligibility is also dependent upon an applicant’s meeting certain asset limits.


9 Data was obtained from the Florida Department of Education. As of January 2003, data documented the number of children qualifying for free (907,633) or reduced-price (211,635) school meals. Using the 2002-2003 USDA non-severe need reimbursement rates for the School Breakfast Program [free= $1.17; reduced= $0.87], a conservative estimate given Florida’s high percentage of low-income children, if all children participated the state would bring in over $1.2 million per day. During the 2001-2002 school year, 313,591 children ate free or reduced-price breakfast daily; taking into account their participation in both severe-need and non-severe need SBP, the state brought in over $390,000 per day. The state could bring in $800,000 more per day. With an average of 180 school days per year, this would potentially translate into $144 million in additional funds for the 2002-2003 school year.


14 According to the Florida Department of Education the number of children qualifying to free or reduced-price school meals in the 2001-2002 school year was 1,103,469. In July 2002, the average combined daily attendance in both SFSP and NSLP was 156,185.

15 Data obtained from the Florida Department of Education. Federal reimbursement for the summer of 2002 was close to $20 million. The reimbursement rate for the summer of 2003 is $2.35 per lunch plus $.2050 for administrative costs per meal. The number of children qualifying for free or reduced-price school lunch in the 2002-2003 school year is 1,119,268 (as of January 2003).

16 This number is based on free and reduced-price school meal membership obtained from the Department of Education for the 2001-2002 school year.


18 Ibid

19 Ibid

20 In 1996 Congress enacted substantial changes in the CACFP program for family child care homes. The most dramatic change was the institution of a means test which cut in half the federal reimbursement for meals and snacks if the provider’s and the child’s family incomes exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level and the
home is not in a low-income area. These changes led to a steep increase in administrative paperwork and sharp
decrease in the number of homes and children participating. Home sites went from 196,550 in 1996 to 171,607
in 2000; participating children dropped in number from 1,007,098 in 1996 to 976,055 in 2000.

For a summary of research on WIC please refer to: Oliveira, Victor, Elizabeth Racine, Jennifer Olmsted, and
Linda M. Ghelfi. The WIC Program: Background, Trends, and Issue. Economic Research Service (ERS) Food
Assistance and Nutrition Research Report No. FANRR27. October 2002

U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service. The Savings in Medicaid Costs for Newborns and
Their Mothers from Prenatal Participation in the WIC Program, October 1990.

United States General Accounting Office. Early Intervention: Federal Investments Like WIC Produce Savings.

Sources

Food Insecurity Data: Data obtained from State-by-State Rates of Household Hunger and Food Insecurity, 1997-
1995 the U.S. Census Bureau has conducted an annual survey of food security as part of its Current Population
Survey (CPS). However, the CPS’s national sample of 40,000 households is too small to provide a good measure
of food security and hunger for each state for a single year. To surpass this barrier, the Food Research and Action
Center calculated an average of three years of USDA survey data for the years spanning 1997-1999. This provided
a sample large enough to determine state-by-state household food security and hunger estimates with reasonable
margins of error. County estimates are based on 1999 data because the most current poverty data is for that same
year (from Census 2000).

The Florida food insecurity data shown was obtained from Household Food Security in the United States, 2001,
the most recent USDA food security publication, which found 12.2% of Florida households to be food insecure.

Demographic Data: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Data were obtained from the
2000 Census, www.census.gov. Note that in determining number of persons in poverty, the census excludes
institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals
under 15 years old. These groups also were excluded when calculating poverty rates.

Living Wage Data: Data obtained from The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Florida by Diana Pearce, PhD with
Jennifer Brooks, a publication prepared for the Human Services Coalition of Miami-Dade County by Six
Strategies for Family Economic Self-Sufficiency, a project of Wider Opportunities for Women, available at
adult needs to meet their basic needs without subsidies of any kind. Unlike the federal poverty standard, the Self-
Sufficiency Standard accounts for the costs of living and working as they vary by family size and composition
and by geographic location. The family of four chosen includes two adults, one infant (0-23 months), and one
preschooler (24-59 months).

Food Stamps: Florida Department of Children and Families, Economic Self-Sufficiency Technology Unit. Average
monthly participation, number of households, issuance, and benefit per person was calculated for the 2002 calendar
year. The estimated percent of eligibles participating is based on 2000 Census data of individuals below 100% of
poverty. This is actually a conservative estimate of persons eligible because individuals with gross incomes up to
130% of poverty (as long as they meet certain asset limitations) are potentially eligible.

School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program: Florida Department of Education, Food and
Nutrition Management. All data is reported for fiscal year 2002 (July 2001 – June 2002) and includes only data
gathered during the school year, not including NSLP run in the summer months. County meal counts (Average
Daily Participation) are based on data collected only from public schools; state totals include all sponsors, public and
private. Additional information about school meals can be found in FRAC’s report, School Breakfast Scorecard:
The data showing the percent of elementary students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunch is often used in Florida to determine area eligibility for sites participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Currently, if 50 percent of children in an area qualify for free or reduced-price school meals, sponsors can operate open summer food sites, in which all children who come can eat free. Percentages are available at http://info.doe.state.fl.us/fsir/.

**Summer Nutrition Programs:** Florida Department of Education, Food and Nutrition Management, Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Participation numbers are reported for lunch in July 2002. The Department of Education calculates average daily attendance by dividing the number of meals served by the number of days the program operates. This is reported only for the month of July when the majority of sponsors operate the program. It should be noted, however, that this number does not include children who were fed at sites in June or August. Additionally, federal guidelines changed in 2002 to allow sponsors to not always offer lunch; so additional children who may have been fed a breakfast, snack, or supper are not captured in this data.

Average combined daily attendance of child participation in SFSP and in the National School Lunch during July gives a fuller picture of the number of children being fed in the summer. To calculate the number of eligibles served, we compared this combined average daily attendance to the number of children who qualified for free and reduced-price meals in the 2001-2002 school year.

**Special Supplemental Nutrition Programs For Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):** Florida Department of Health, WIC and Nutrition Services. Participation data reflects the number of women, infants, children, and migrants who were participating in the program (cashed a food voucher) in March 2002. This number was compared to the participation for the same period in 1999. The Department of Health calculates the number of potentially eligible WIC participants by reviewing live birth statistics and population projections for women, infants, children, and migrants per county and applying a county poverty factor to determine how many persons within each category in each county are eligible for WIC.

**Child Care Food Program:** Florida Department of Health, Child Nutrition Programs. Data is for the fiscal year 2002 (October 1, 2001 – September 30, 2002).

**Adult Care Food Program:** Florida Department of Elder Affairs, Adult Care Food Program. Meal counts are for the 2002 calendar year.
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Co-Authors:
Robert Campbell and Jenna Churchman, Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows, Florida Impact
Florida Impact offers two resources for those in need of food:

The Florida Food Resource Directory
www.flimpact.org
This is a searchable database, which contains information about public and private food resources in each of the state’s 67 counties.

The Food Stamp Helpline
1-800-224-3470.
This is a statewide toll-free line, through which callers can be prescreened for food stamp eligibility and projected benefit levels in English, Spanish, or (with prior arrangement) Creole.