

Food Security in Oakland County

Oakland County Health and Human Services Division engaged Public Sector Consultants (PSC) to explore food insecurity in Oakland County. PSC collected and analyzed publicly available data, findings from a community survey and one-on-one interviews, and feedback from the Oakland County Food Landscape Community Coalition and community discussion groups to paint a picture of what food access looks like in Oakland County.

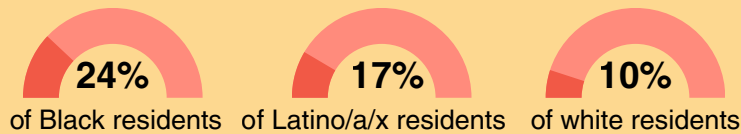
What is food security?

Being food secure means that a household has access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods for their household members without resorting to unsafe or unlawful methods to get it.

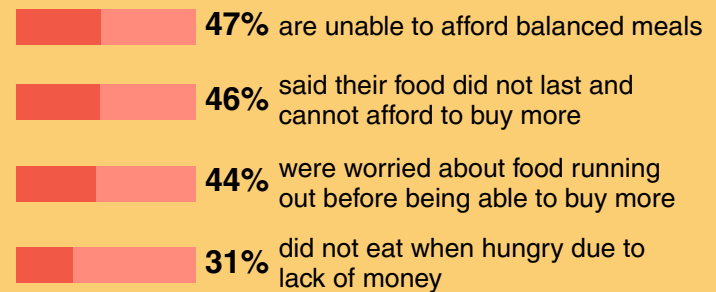
Feeding America reports that for 2022, **11% of Oakland County residents faced food insecurity.**

These rates have likely increased with the recent increase in food costs.

Overall, Black and Latino/a/x Oakland County residents have higher rates of food insecurity than white residents.



What do food insecure residents face?



My wages stay the same, but the price of food keeps going up. I like to buy natural and organic, but it is too expensive. I don't always have the option to buy healthy produce.

– Community member



Building a Stronger Food System Together

The Oakland Food Landscape Study Community Coalition and the Oakland County Health and Human Services Division are taking action to tackle food insecurity with a community-driven plan focused on three key areas:



Expanding access to nutritious food – Removing barriers, supporting culturally relevant food programs, increasing food literacy, and reducing stigma around assistance.



Reducing food waste and strengthening local food businesses – Cutting waste so more nutritious food is available and affordable, while building a stronger, more sustainable food system that benefits everyone.



Fostering collaboration – Bringing together food system partners and community members to align efforts and create lasting solutions.

Oakland County Health and Human Services Division is committed to turning this plan into action, prioritizing proven strategies, innovation, and community input every step of the way.



Learn more about the Oakland Health and Human Services
www.oakgov.com/community/health