Feeding America, in collaboration with the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Conagra Brands Foundation, and The Nielsen Company released an update to their landmark analysis of local food insecurity and food costs in the United States. The findings include:

75% Qualify based on income for SNAP (Food Stamps)

25% Do NOT qualify for federal child nutrition programs and often must rely on charitable food assistance programs.

$3.37 Average price per meal on the Treasure Coast. Compared to $3.02 national average cost spent on a meal by food secure persons.

$18.54 Food budget shortfall per person per week.

A total SHORTFALL of $48,020,000 or 14,124,600 meals.

Mission: Our mission is to alleviate hunger by obtaining and distributing food and other essentials in Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie, and Okeechobee Counties.

TREASURE COAST FOOD INSECURITY MAY 1, 2020

TREASURE COAST FOOD BANK is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization.

food-in·se·cure

adjective

A lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.

- Food insecurity rates by county and Congressional District.
- Percent of food insecure population likely ineligible for federal nutrition programs by county and Congressional District.
- Number of food insecure people by county and Congressional District.
- Food cost variation for every county across the nation.

The study takes a look at ‘meals’ in a whole new way, using county-level data on food costs from The Nielsen Company to break down the food budget shortfall of our residents into an approximation of the meals missing from the tables of people at risk of hunger on the Treasure Coast each year- an estimated $48 million or 14 million meals.
Do not know where their next meal is coming from. | Qualify based on income for SNAP (Food Stamps) | Do NOT qualify for federal nutrition programs and often must rely on charitable food assistance programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indian River County</strong></td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>19,020</td>
<td>74.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Martin County</strong></td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>17,620</td>
<td>62.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St. Lucie County</strong></td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>40,770</td>
<td>79.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Okeechobee County</strong></td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>6,050</td>
<td>85.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Indian River County**
- Average meal price: $3.78
- Budget shortfall: $21.07
- Total: $12,155,000 or 3,218,900 meals

**Martin County**
- Average meal price: $3.69
- Budget shortfall: $20.56
- Total: $10,991,000 or 2,982,000 meals

**St. Lucie County**
- Average meal price: $3.18
- Budget shortfall: $17.77
- Total: $21,972,000 or 6,899,800 meals

**Okeechobee County**
- Average meal price: $2.83
- Budget shortfall: $15.81
- Total: $2,902,000 or 1,023,900 meals

**Martin County:** Highest percentage of food insecure people on the Treasure Coast who do not qualify for federal nutrition programs 37.2%.

**St. Lucie County:** Highest number of food insecure individuals on the Treasure Coast - (40,770)

**Okeechobee County:** Highest percentage that qualify for SNAP and other federal nutrition programs 85.5%.

After 10 years, the most significant change has been the increase in people who qualify for SNAP and other federal nutrition programs, not the number of people overall who are food insecure (62% in 2009 to 74% in 2018).

**TREASURE COAST FOOD BANK**

is one of the 200 members of Feeding America, the nation’s largest hunger relief charity.

For more information, please contact Chief Strategy & Advocacy Officer Krista Garofalo at 772-489-3034 or kgarofalo@tcfoodbank.org.

Together, we are feeding the Treasure Coast.