



September is Hunger Action Month

Did you know...

- United Way of Palm Beach County has a Hunger Relief Initiative dedicated to alleviating hunger in Palm Beach County.
- United Way of Palm Beach County and the Board of County Commissioners created the Hunger Relief Plan in 2015.
- Over 173,000 Palm Beach County residents are food-insecure, 50,890 of which are children.
- ALICE, an acronym that stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, represents the growing number of individuals and families who are working but are unable to afford the necessities of housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and technology.
- According to the 2024 ALICE report, 46% of Palm Beach County households struggled to make ends meet.
- 12% of Palm Beach County households live below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), and another 35% – nearly three times as many – are ALICE households.
- The poverty rate for children more than doubled from a historic low of 5.2% in 2021 to 12.4% in 2022, erasing all record gains made against child poverty over the previous two years.
- The Glades is a vast and verdant agricultural area along the southeastern rim of Lake Okeechobee in western Palm Beach County. In its cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay, the westernmost communities in Palm Beach County, poverty affects an average of 31% of the roughly 34,000 residents. This is more than double the poverty rate in Palm Beach County, which is 11.4%.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) 2024 Food Price Outlook anticipates that at-home food prices will rise between 2-3% in 2024, on top of a +24% increase in food prices at the grocery store from 2020-2023.
- The Farm Bill is a comprehensive package of legislation passed once every five years that has a direct impact on agriculture, food systems, and consumers. It covers programs ranging from crop insurance for farmers to healthy food access for low-income families.
- 84% of Farm Bill funding is intended for Federal Nutrition Programs (i.e., SNAP, TEFAP, etc.)



**PALM BEACH COUNTY
FOOD FINDER MAP**



United Way
of Palm Beach County



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Did you know...

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) feeds nearly one-quarter of all children in the U.S.
- SNAP reduces hunger by as much as 30%.
- SNAP helps nearly 4 million non-elderly adults who either receive disability benefits or have work-limiting health conditions.
- SNAP is linked to improved outcomes for education, economic security, and self-sufficiency.
- For every meal that food banks can provide, SNAP provides nine.
- In 2023, nearly 13% of U.S. residents were receiving SNAP benefits in an average month.
- Among households receiving SNAP benefits, 81% include a child, senior, or person living with disabilities.
- Households usually spend their monthly benefits within weeks, so SNAP provides quick support to local economies.
- SNAP is designed to respond quickly and effectively to support families with low incomes and communities during times of increased need. It expands when the economy weakens and contracts as the economy recovers.
- SNAP provides critical support while people search for new jobs. Receiving SNAP benefits has been found to increase long-run rates of employment for people who worked steadily prior to application. Most non-elderly adult SNAP recipients without disabilities work in the year before or the year after receiving SNAP benefits.
- SNAP promotes long-term health and well-being. Adult SNAP participants save an average of \$1,400 per year in health care costs compared to non-participants.
- The average SNAP household received a monthly benefit of \$297.
- Most SNAP households (75%) lived at or below the poverty level.
- When added to households' gross incomes, SNAP benefits and emergency allotments raised 30 percent of SNAP households above the poverty level.
- Social Security benefits were the most common source of income among SNAP households.
- The average number of SNAP customers in Florida for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 was 3,033,908 (a 5.4% increase from the previous year).
- The average number of SNAP customers in Palm Beach County for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 was 166,207 (a 9% increase from the previous year).



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Did you know...

Sources

- [SNAP Is and Remains Our Most Effective Tool to Combat Hunger](#)
- [Why lawmakers must improve SNAP](#)
- [Funding for federal food assistance fell while participation increased, report says](#)
- [Feeding America Action – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#)
- [USDA FNS - Characteristics of SNAP Households - FY 22](#)
- [ESS Standard Reports – Department of Children and Families \(DCF\)](#)
- [United Way of Palm Beach County - ALICE](#)
- [Map the Meal Gap – Feeding America: Palm Beach County](#)
- [Poverty in the United States: 2022](#)
- [Record Rise in Poverty Highlights Importance of Child Tax Credit](#)
- [FRAC – Road to the Farm Bill](#)
- [USDA – 2024 Food Price Outlook](#)



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