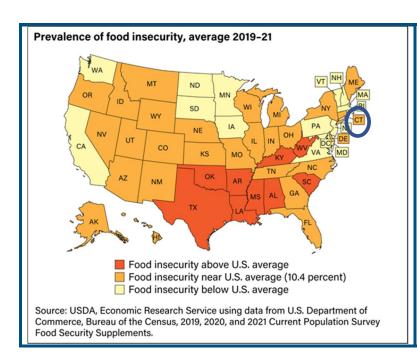


Connecticut

A Hunger and Poverty Snapshot

Between 2019-2021:

- Food insecurity in Connecticut averaged 9.60%.¹
- Connecticut's food insecurity rate was 9% lower than the national average of 10.4%.²
- The official poverty rate (which does not account for income from safety-net and tax-support programs such as SNAP, EITC, and others) in the state averaged 9.2%.³
- But using the Supplemental Poverty Measure (which does include safety-net and tax-support income), the poverty rate falls to 9.0%, 4 reducing the number of people living in poverty in Connecticut by 6,000.5
- SNAP, alone, lifted 77,000 people above the poverty line in Connecticut, including 31,000 children, per year between 2013 and 2017, on average. 6



Nutrition and Health

Diabetes and other diet-related health costs in Connecticut were estimated to be \$3.7 billion⁷ in 2017.

9.5% of the adult population in Connecticut has been diagnosed with diabetes in 2020.8 This includes:

- 23.9% of seniors.
- 14.3% of Asian adults.
- 19.4% of adults with incomes of less than \$25,000.

Every year an estimated 21,2739 adults in Connecticut are diagnosed with diabetes.

Only 16.1% of adults in the state are meeting recommended fruit intake and 14.1% recommended vegetable intake. 10

Why Bread for the World is Focused on the Farm Bill

The Farm bill is scheduled to be reauthorized in 2023. No legislation has more impact than a farm bill on the US food system and the nation's ability to provide healthy food at affordable prices to everyone.

Bread for the World's farm bill priorities include a focus on nutrition, equity, and sustainability. We believe Connecticut has a lot to gain from a farm bill legislated with these priorities in mind.

Nutrition

Bread for the World supports strengthening SNAP in Connecticut.

Not only is SNAP the flagship food security and nutrition program, it is indispensable to better health outcomes and economic prosperity.

In 2021, 10% of Connecticut residents were helped by SNAP. 11

- Roughly 142,200
 million workers in
 Connecticut live in
 households that participated
 in SNAP in 2021.¹²
- SNAP helps 1 in 13 workers in Connecticut put food on the table.¹³
- 55% of SNAP participants were in families with children, and 41% in families with members who are older adults or are disabled.¹⁴
- 93% of all SNAP-eligible people in Connecticut participate in the program.¹⁵

Equity

Bread for the World supports farm policies that promote a more equitable food system in Connecticut.

The Connecticut population is 65% white. According to the most recent Census of Agriculture, 99% of farmers and ranchers (producers) in Connecticut are white and occupy >99% of all farmland.¹⁶

- Black producers represent <1% and occupy <1% of farmland.
- Hispanic producers represent <1% and occupy
 <1% of farmland.
- Asian producers represent <1% and occupy <1% of farmland.
- Indigenous producers represent <1% and occupy <1% of farmland.

Sustainability

Bread for the World is committed to eradicating food insecurity by building a more sustainable food system in Connecticut.

Reducing unnecessary food waste is one way to build a more sustainable food system.

In 2019, 653,000 tons¹⁷ of surplus food in Connecticut went to waste instead of reaching those who needed it, an amount equal to:

- 1 billion meals unsold or uneaten.¹⁸
- \$4.31 billion in lost sales.¹⁹
- Annual CO2 emissions produced by 592,540 gasoline-powered cars.^{20,21}

Footnotes

¹ https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/104656/err-309.pdf?v=9924.5

² Bread for the World, based on USDA reporting, See Note 1.

³ https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2022/demo/p60-277.pdf

⁴ https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2022/demo/p60-277.pdf

⁵ https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2022/demo/p60-277.pdf

⁶ https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/a-closer-look-at-who-benefits-from-snap-state-by-state-fact-sheets#Connecticut

⁷ https://diabetes.org/about-us/statistics/by-state

⁸ https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/Diabetes/state/CT

⁹ https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/Diabetes/state

¹⁰ https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7101a1.htm?s_cid=mm7101a1_w#T1_down

¹¹ https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/a-closer-look-at-who-benefits-from-snap-state-by-state-fact-sheets#Connecticut

¹² https://www.cbpp.org/snap-helps-low-wage-workers-in-every-state#Connecticut

¹³ https://www.cbpp.org/snap-helps-low-wage-workers-in-every-state#Connecticut

¹⁴ https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/a-closer-look-at-who-benefits-from-snap-state-by-state-fact-sheets#Connecticut

¹⁵ https://www.fns.usda.gov/usamap

¹⁶ https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online Resources/County Profiles/Connecticut/index.php

¹⁷ https://insights-engine.refed.org/food-waste-monitor?break_by=food_type&indicator=tons-surplus&view=detail&year=2019

¹⁸ https://insights-engine.refed.org/food-waste-monitor?break by=food type&indicator=tons-surplus&view=detail&year=2019

¹⁹ https://insights-engine.refed.org/food-waste-monitor?break_by=food_type&indicator=tons-surplus&view=detail&year=2019

 $^{^{20} \} https://insights-engine.refed.org/food-waste-monitor? break_by=food_type\&indicator=tons-surplus\&view=detail\&year=2019$

²¹ https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator