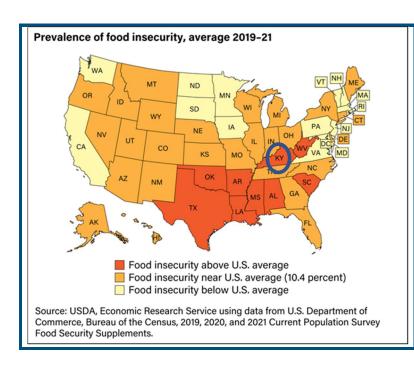


Kentucky

A Hunger and Poverty Snapshot

Between 2019-2021:

- Food insecurity in Kentucky averaged 12.3%.¹
- That makes Kentucky the 9th hungriest state with a food insecurity rate 15% higher 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 14.6%.³
- But using the Supplemental Poverty Measure (which does include safety-net and tax-support income), the
 poverty rate falls to 9.9%.⁴ In other words, these programs reduced the poverty rate in Kentucky by 32%
 and the number of people living in poverty by 208,000.⁵
- SNAP, alone, lifted 137,000 people above the poverty line in Kentucky, including 58,000 children, per year between 2013 and 2017, on average.⁶



Nutrition and Health

Diabetes and other diet-related health costs in Kentucky were estimated to be \$5.2 billion⁷ in 2017.

13% of the adult population in Kentucky has been diagnosed with diabetes in 2020.8 This includes:

- 24.3% of seniors.
- 15.8% of Black adults.
- 20.8% of adults with incomes of less than \$25,000.

Every year an estimated 26,605⁹ adults in Kentucky are diagnosed with diabetes.

Only 8.8% of adults in the state are meeting recommended fruit intake and 5.6% 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 Kentucky has a lot to gain from a farm bill legislated with these priorities in mind.

Nutrition Equity Sustainability

Bread for the World supports strengthening SNAP in Kentucky.

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

In 2021, 13% of Kentucky residents were helped by SNAP.¹¹

- Roughly 187,400 workers in Kentucky live in households that participated in SNAP in 2021.¹²
- SNAP helps 1 in 10 workers in Kentucky put food on the table.¹³
- 71% of SNAP participants were in families with children, and 36% in families with members who are older adults or are disabled.¹⁴
- 75% of all SNAP-eligible people in Kentucky participate in the program.¹⁵

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

The Kentucky population is 83.5% white. According to the most recent Census of Agriculture, 98% of farmers and ranchers (producers) in Kentucky 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.

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

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

In 2019, 893,000 tons¹⁷ of surplus food in Kentucky went to waste instead of reaching those who needed it, an amount equal to:

- 1.43 billion meals unsold or uneaten.¹⁸
- \$5.27 billion in lost sales. 19
- Annual CO2 emissions produced by 868,341 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

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

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

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

⁹ https://diabetes.org/about-us/statistics/by-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#Kentucky

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

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

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

¹⁵ https://www.fns.usda.gov/usamap

¹⁶ https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Full Report/Census by State/Kentucky/

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