Hunger During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Profile of Tennessee

336,000 households experienced food insecurity in Tennessee (2016-2018)

Food insecurity is increasing dramatically during COVID-19, disproportionately affecting Black and Hispanic households that already experienced higher rates of food insecurity in Tennessee.

Food Insecurity by County, 2017

12.4% of households experienced food insecurity in Tennessee (2016-2018), a larger proportion than the U.S. average of 11.7%. Food insecurity rates vary from 6-21% by county (2017).

Food insecurity has increased to 31% for individuals with children in Tennessee during COVID-19. The burden is higher for Hispanic and Black individuals with children.

8.5% of people in Tennessee have low access to a grocery store, compared to 5.9% in the U.S. (2015)

Tennessee Food Insecurity Rates² (Avg May 5 - July 21, 2020)

- All: 24.1%
- Hispanic: 35.0%
- Black: 32.4%
- White: 18.6%