



**86,690**  
**PEOPLE**

**ON THE TREASURE COAST DO NOT KNOW  
WHERE THEIR NEXT MEAL IS COMING FROM.**

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, providing an updated look at:

**72%**

Qualify based on income for SNAP (Food Stamps)

**28%**

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

**\$3.26**

Average price per meal on the Treasure Coast.

Compared to **\$3.02 national average** cost spent on a meal by food secure persons.

**\$18.36**

Food budget shortfall per person per week.

A total **SHORTFALL**  
of **\$48,284,000**  
or **14,793,700 meals.**



**TREASURE COAST FOOD INSECURITY  
MAY 1, 2019**

## **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 15 million 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 Bank is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization.



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Do not know where their next meal is coming from.

Qualify based on income for SNAP (Food Stamps)

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

**13.1%**

19,370

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

**72%**

**28%**

**11.3%**

17,650

MARTIN COUNTY

**61%**

**39%**

**14.8%**

44,190

ST. LUCIE COUNTY

**75%**

**25%**

**13.6%**

5,480

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

**84%**

**16%**

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY**

Average meal price: **\$3.67**

Budget shortfall: **\$20.63**

**TOTAL: \$12,123,000**

**or 3,305,500 meals**

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY**

Average meal price: **\$3.18**

Budget shortfall: **\$17.86**

**TOTAL: \$23,944,000**

**or 7,541,000 meals**

**MARTIN COUNTY:**

Highest percentage of food insecure people on the Treasure Coast who do not qualify for federal nutrition programs **39%**.

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY:** Highest number of food insecure individuals on the Treasure Coast - **(44,190)**

**MARTIN COUNTY**

Average meal price: **\$3.53**

Budget shortfall: **\$19.86**

**TOTAL: \$10,634,000**

**or 3,012,000 meals**

**OKEECHOBEE COUNTY**

Average meal price: **\$2.77**

Budget shortfall: **\$15.56**

**TOTAL: \$2,586,000**

**or 935,200 meals**

**OKEECHOBEE COUNTY:**

Highest percentage that qualify for SNAP and other federal nutrition programs **84%**.

After 9 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 72% in 2017**).



stop hunger.org

**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 can solve hunger.