

# FEEDING

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# AMERICA

As the United States participates in an active role in the 17 strategic development stages in caring for its own country along with caring for other countries, the United States is not resistant to its own food insecurity. In the United Nations in the 17 strategic development stages, the number two goal for world hunger states the goal as “*Zero Hunger End Hunger, to achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture*” (2019).

Since May 23, 2024 Feeding America’s article by Paul Morello says it all in the title “*3 key takeaways from Feeding America’s new Map the Meal Gap study*”. The United States recognizes its own food insecurity as “*100 percent of counties in the United States experience food insecurity*” (2024, Morello). In the lowest economic states of the 48 continental United States, out of the ten highest in the lowest food insecurity counties in the United States, eight counties are in the Southern States. Moreover, in the United States some counties in food insecurity contain nearly 50 percent children.

In Paul Morello’s article, he claims that the *national food budget shortfall* is the need for those that are in food insecurity measure for extra money. The shortfall for this year is up to \$33 billion with an increase of 43 percent from the year 2023. To sum it up, for every person that is facing food insecurity, they

are on average are in the need of \$25.00 extra money a week in need to afford food. Moreover, the cost of a meal increases to just under \$4.00, the highest point in the last twenty years.

Unlike other countries, in the United States there is food waste from agricultural farms, bakeries, commercial and industrial businesses that throw out food. The amount of high-quality food waste thrown out each year in the United States is 119 billion pounds of food, the equivalent of 130 billion meals and more than \$408 billion in food that is thrown away (food waste). *“Food is wasted for several reasons, including uneaten food thrown out at home and at restaurants, crops left in fields, food not meeting manufacturer standards, and more”* (2024, Morello). Some examples of food waste are foods being thrown out can have slight imperfections of either a shape difference, a few sun spots from direct sunlight, and when it comes to commercial packaging the wrong information or information missing on the labels, all that do not meet the guidelines for grocery store selling; the food waste is perfectly good for consumption.

In obtaining the second goal of zero hunger in the 17 strategic development goals of the United Nations in the United States, Feeding American is a food bank that finds its ways to the goal to become a reality to stomp out hunger so that it becomes a sustainable goal for all people to have nutritious food at every meal. The difference between a food bank and a food pantry is a food bank is where extra food waste, high-quality food, is sent by contributors and temporarily stays until volunteers divide up the food, then the high-quality food waste is sent out to the food pantry's where people with food insecurity can pick up the high-quality food.

In a separate article by Paul Morello “*What is MealConnect? Learn about Feeding America's food rescue platform*”. Morello informs the public that Feeding America’s organization food bank establishment, since 2014, achievements from accepting food donations and food drives in total savings is, with their assistance, six billion pounds of food in just a little over 10-years.

Those that qualify for food insecurity food are those that need extra assistance in getting nutritious food that includes anybody in any day circumstances to those that are victims of natural disasters. At some food pantries or food programs the only requirement is living in the area of the food pantry. Feeding America’s website offers an option on its website for those individuals seeking food insecurity food to find the nearest location of a food pantry near them; those individuals can put in their zip code and retrieve the location of the nearest food pantry. As long as there are food banks like Feeding America that can distribute to food pantries; the United States achieves for those individuals experiencing food insecurity, food insecurity then becomes food security, strategic development goal two accomplishes sustainable *Zero Hunger End Hunger* for those individuals in the USA.



## RESEARCH

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