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2-19-2020

## Is Food a Right or a Privilege? A Discussion on Hunger and Food Insecurity

Pheed Philadelphia

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#### Is Food a Right or a Privilege? A Discussion on Hunger and Food Insecurity

**Pheed Philadelphia** 

## What *is* Food Insecurity?

- "...a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life." -USDA
- Though related, food insecurity is NOT hunger
- Hunger is a physical feeling
- Food Insecurity is a lack of financial resources to provide food for households

#### What does Food Insecurity look like?

- USDA breaks food insecurity into two categories: low and very low
  - Low: "Reports of reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet. Little or no indication of reduced food intake."
  - Very Low: "Reports of multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake."
- What food insecurity can sound like:
  - "I have to wait for my next check before I go shopping."
  - "Since the dining halls closed earlier last night and I didn't know, I haven't eaten since lunch yesterday."
  - "It's hard to eat healthy, I can't afford to buy organic foods"

1 in 8 people



struggles with hunger.



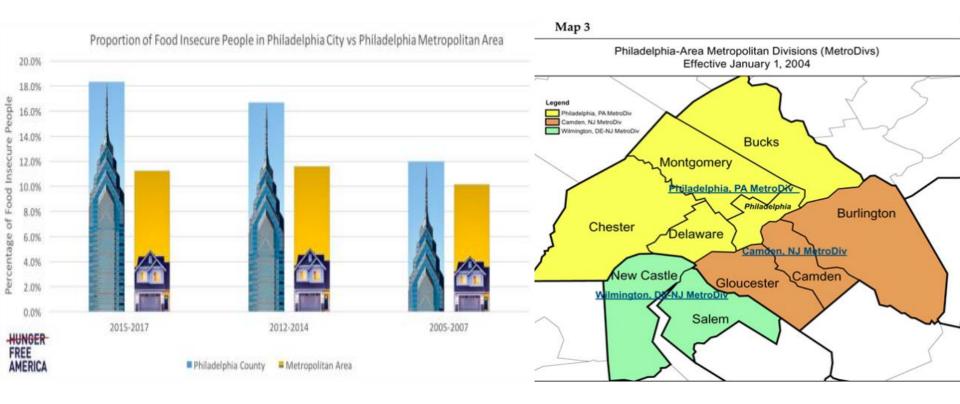
struggles with hunger.

People facing hunger in Pennsylvania are estimated to report needing



more per year to meet their food needs.

Food Insecurity in Pennsylvania



#### Food Insecurity in Philadelphia

#### It Happens Here.

In a survey run by the USDA...

- 42% of community college students reported they were at the lowest levels of food security
- 36% of university students indicated they were at these levels

In a study of nearly 4,000 students in 12 states...

- 48% accounted food insecurity in the past 30 days
- 22% had low levels of food insecurity that categorized them as hungry

## 37% of surveyed students at La Salle reported being food insecure

# Is food a right or a privilege?

## The Basket

#### Basement of Benilde M-Th 12:30-2:00 M&W 4:45-6:15

<u>Chapel Lounge</u> (College Hall) M-F 9:00-5:00

#### References

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"Pennsylvania." Feeding America, www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/pennsylvania.

"Philadelphia Falling Behind in Freedom to Eat." *Great Philadelphia Hunger Report | Hunger Free America* https://www.hungerfreeamerica.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/Philadelphia%20Hunger%20Report%202018\_0.pdf

"Community Development." *OMB Statistical Definitions: Their Impact on CRA and HDMA Reporting - Cascade: No.* 54, Spring 2004 - Philadelphia Fed, <u>www.philadelphiafed.org/community-</u> development/publications/cascade/54/01\_omb-statistical-definitions.

Food Insecurity, Dr. Laura Frank