

HOUSE DISTRICT 23: REPRESENTATIVE-ELECT SHAUN MENA

HUNGER BY THE NUMBERS



This District is Considered: Moderate, Critical, **Severe**



Population:
44,547



Number of households:
18,002

100% Urban 0% Rural

4,525 Households Are Experiencing Food Insecurity

FOOD ASSISTANCE



Total Households Eligible

7,875



Households receiving SNAP*

4,654



The SNAP Gap

3,221

*The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps) provides food assistance benefits to people and families with low incomes.



POVERTY

23.5%

Persons below poverty line

\$31,688

Per capita income

\$47,278

Median household income

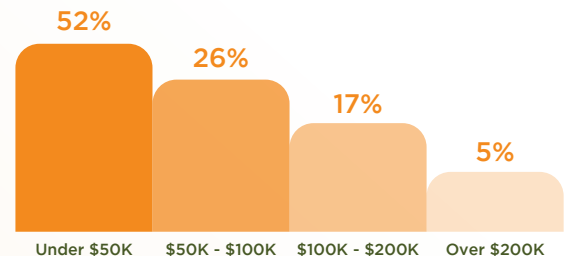
Children (Under 18)



Seniors (65 and over)



Household income



Your Feeding Network



5

Food Pantries



District Serviced by
Food Bank of Central Louisiana

Understanding Food Insecurity in District 23

Feeding Louisiana's three-level indicator of food insecurity is based on economic factors, access to food assistance programs, and the overall poverty rate. By incorporating specific data such as the number of households with food insecurity, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) eligibility and enrollment rates, and comparisons to the parish poverty line, this model offers targeted insights for intervention. Below is a description of District 23's level defined as **Severe**.



Severe Definition: Households experiencing significant and severe disruptions in food access, leading to skipped meals and health risks due to inadequate nutrition. This level includes households well below the parish poverty line, with little to no access to food assistance programs or those whose benefits do not meet their needs.

Data Indicators:

- Households reporting days without food and instances of hunger without the means to buy food.
- High rates of malnutrition or undernutrition in children and adults, as reported by local health clinics and schools.
- The gap between SNAP benefits received and the actual cost of a nutritionally adequate diet in the parish, especially for households with special dietary needs or larger families.

Nourishing More, Together

Support Feeding Louisiana's \$5 million appropriation request to end hunger.

By tailoring the three-level food insecurity indicator to the specific data and needs of a Louisiana Parish, Feeding Louisiana, with your help, can more effectively identify vulnerable populations and deploy targeted interventions. This approach ensures that resources are directed where they are most needed and can have the greatest impact on reducing food insecurity.

These dollars would be used solely to purchase food for the five food banks in Louisiana to distribute to those in our communities who need it the most.



About Feeding Louisiana

Our mission is to be a unified voice for Louisiana's hungry by providing short-term food relief while seeking long-term solutions to hunger through advocacy, education, and leadership.



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Our Member Food Banks

