

# THE UNKINDEST CUTS

## 2014 HUNGER REPORT

Federal SNAP Cuts Overwhelm Feeding Charities As NYC Hunger Remains High Despite Wall Street Boom



# **Table of Contents**

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Message from the Executive Director</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Report Methodology</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Federal Food Insecurity Data for New York City</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Federal Food Insecurity Data for New York State</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>2014 Citywide Emergency Food Provider Survey Results</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Year-to-Year Comparisons</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Bronx Results</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Brooklyn Results</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Manhattan Results</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Queens Results</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Staten Island Results</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Appendix 1 – Selected Quotes from Emergency Food Providers</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Appendix 2 - 2014 Survey Questionnaire</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>45</b>

## **Executive Summary**

Cuts in federal nutrition assistance are overwhelming New York City's food pantries and soup kitchens as food insecurity in the city remains high, despite the soaring stock market.

Congress and the President enacted a series of cuts that reduced the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP (formerly called the Food Stamp Program), by \$14 billion dollars, with many reductions going into effect November 1, 2013. While New York Governor Andrew Cuomo was able to take administrative action to prevent some of the cuts from being implemented in the state, federal mandates still reduced the average household SNAP benefit in New York City by \$19 a month, equaling a \$228 reduction in groceries per year.

The amount of SNAP benefits per meal in New York City was reduced from the paltry level of \$1.70 per meal in August 2013 to an even smaller \$1.60 per meal in August 2014. Partially because the benefits were less adequate, few New Yorkers applied or re-applied for SNAP; the rolls declined by 125,487 people in the city during that year. As a result of both the reduction in average benefit amount and the drop in the overall caseload, low-income New York City residents will receive an estimated \$426 million *less in federal SNAP funding in 2014 than in 2013*.

As a direct result, 92.9 percent of New York City food pantries and soup kitchens reported that the cuts had "increased the number of our clients and/or increased the food needs of our existing clients." 44.4 percent said the demand had been increased "significantly" and 48.4 percent said their demand had increased "somewhat." Only 7.1 percent said the cuts had no impact. Also as a result of SNAP cuts, nearly half of pantries and kitchens reported that they had to turn away clients, reduce the amount of food distributed per person, and/or limit their hours of operation.

Food insecurity and hunger remain at high recession levels, with one in six New York City residents – over 1.4 million – living in food insecure households in the 2011-2013 timeframe, about the same rate as in the 2008-2010 time period.

New York City's pantries and kitchens faced an increased demand of 7 percent in 2014, on top of an increased demand of 10 percent in 2013, 5 percent in 2012, 12 percent in 2011, 7 percent in 2010, and 20 percent in 2009. Coupled with city data indicating record levels of homelessness, this hunger data demonstrates that the city's overall economic recovery has yet to significantly benefit the lowest income residents.

## **Federal Food Insecurity Data for New York City**

### **One in Six New York City Residents – 1.4 million – Are Food Insecure**

In 2011-2013, an estimated average of over 1.4 million (1,415,588) New York City residents, or approximately 16.98 percent of New Yorkers, were food insecure, meaning they were unable to afford an adequate supply of food consistently throughout the year. That number, which represents one in six New Yorkers, also includes children and seniors over the age of 60. It also represents, at minimum, a 300,000 person increase from 2006-2008 when there were approximately 1.12 million food insecure New Yorkers.

In comparison, over 1.7 million New Yorkers, or one in five, lived below the federal poverty line (\$19,790 for a family a three) in 2013, compared to 1.6 million in 2010 – an increase of 100,000 New

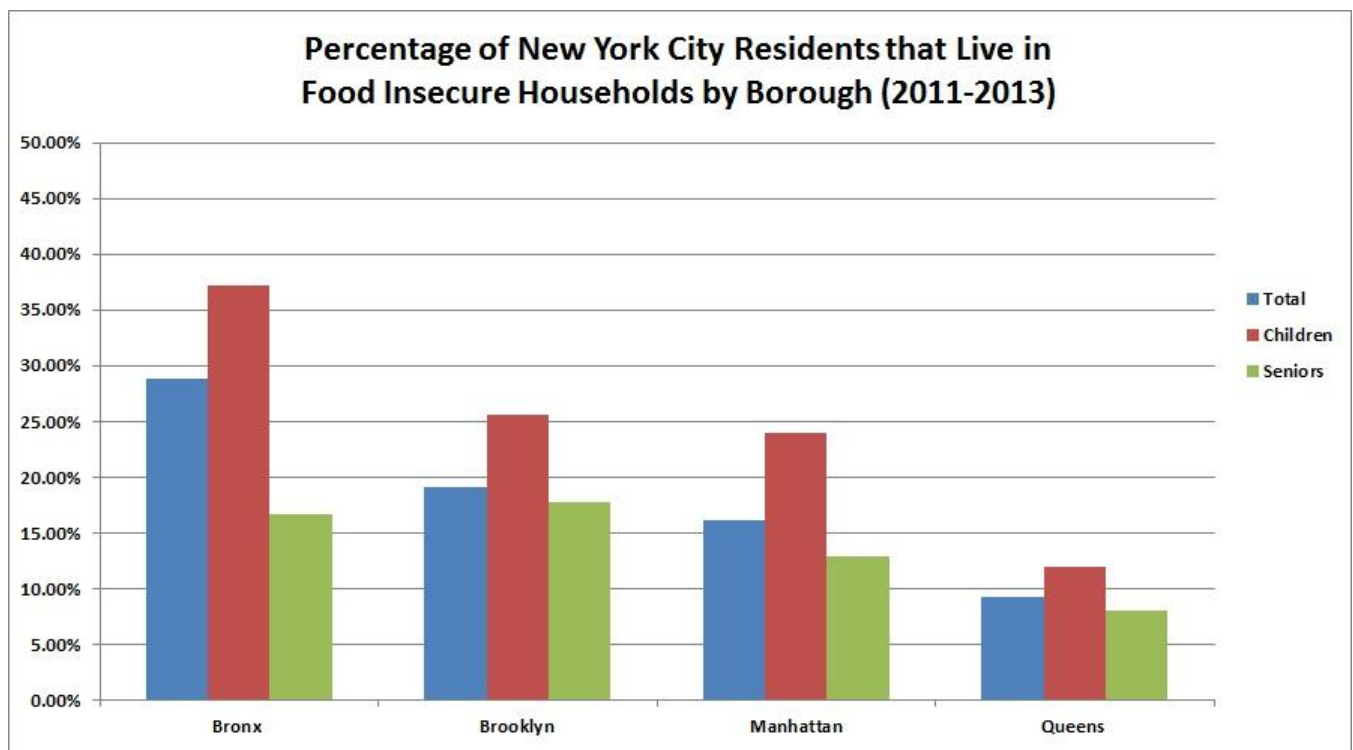
Yorkers. It is important to note that the official federal poverty measure does not take into account most living costs, so, in high cost cities like New York, it underestimates the number of people living in impoverished conditions.

Brooklyn contained the highest number of food insecure residents, but the Bronx (the urban country with the highest poverty in the U.S.) has the highest percentage of food insecure residents, with more than one quarter of Bronx residents struggling against hunger.

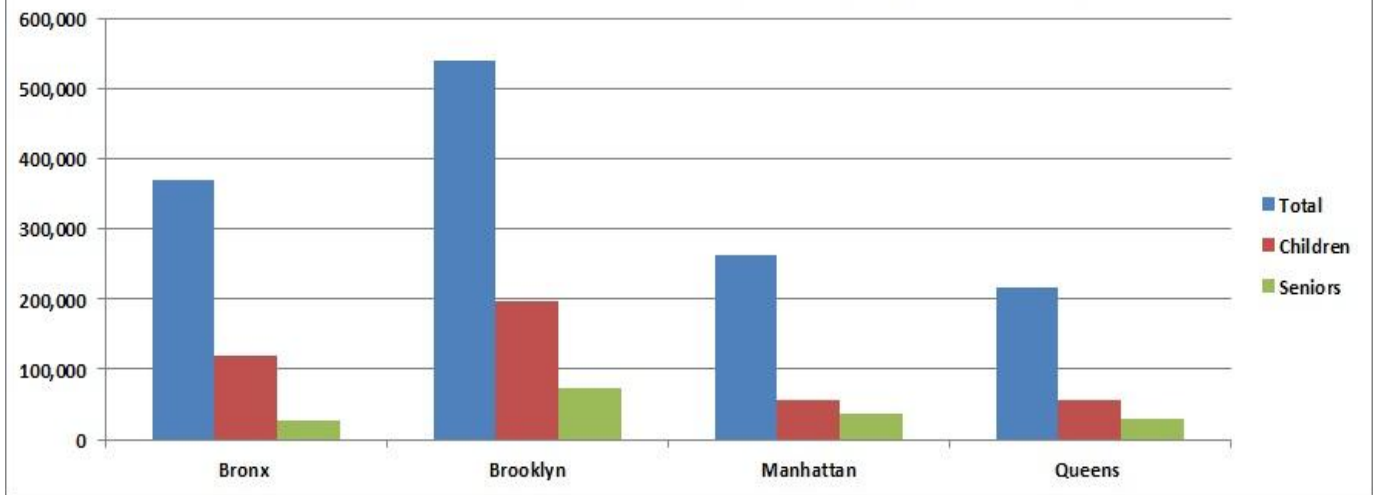
<b>Borough*</b>	Number of Food Insecure (2011-2013)
Bronx	369,420
Brooklyn	540,700
Manhattan	262,984
Queens	216,328

<b>Borough*</b>	Percent Food Insecure (2011-2013)
Bronx	28.79%
Brooklyn	19.07%
Manhattan	16.19%
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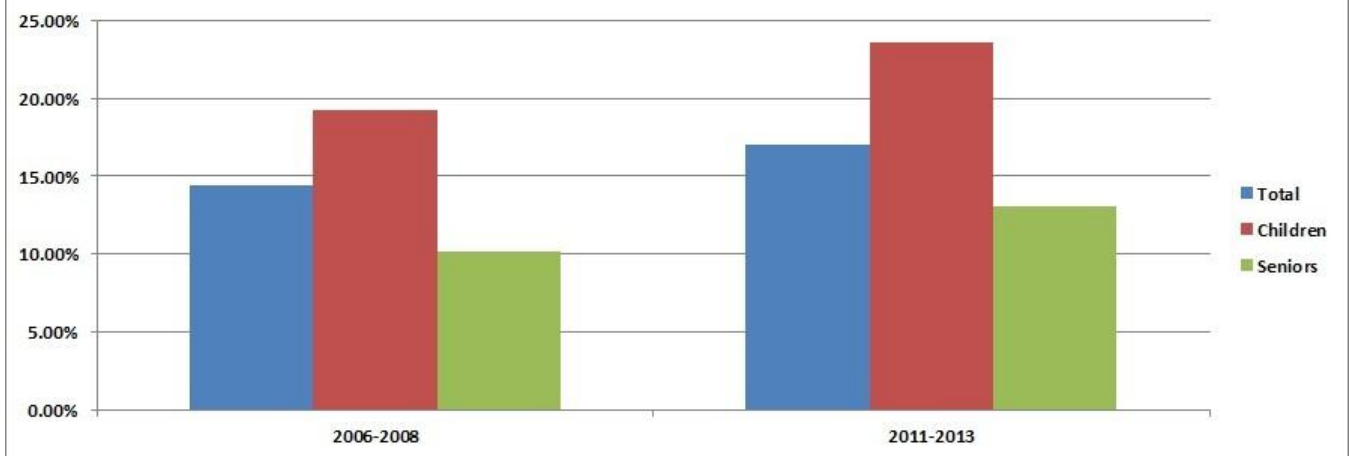
\* In general, due to sampling issues, the data for percent of people is more accurate than the data for the total number of people food insecure. Citywide numbers and percentages for food insecurity include Staten Island, but there is not enough federal food insecurity data for that borough to adequately calculate a borough- specific food insecurity rate for Staten Island. According to U.S. Census data, Staten Island had a poverty rate of 12.8 percent for 2013; the food insecurity rate is likely similar.



### Total Number of New York City Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households by Borough (2011-2013)



### Percentage of New York City Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households



### **One in Four New York City Children – Nearly Half a Million – Are Food Insecure**

In 2011-2013, an estimated 435,899 children in New York City lived in food insecure households that did not have an adequate food supply throughout the year. This number represents 23.60 percent, or nearly one in four of the city’s youth population. It also represents an 18.2 percent increase from 2006-2008, when 369,415 of New York City children lived in food insecure homes.

Brooklyn had the highest number of children in food insecure households, but the Bronx had the highest percentage.

<b>Borough*</b>	<b>Number of Food Insecure Children (2011-2013)</b>
Bronx	120,251
Brooklyn	196,033

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Queens	55,368

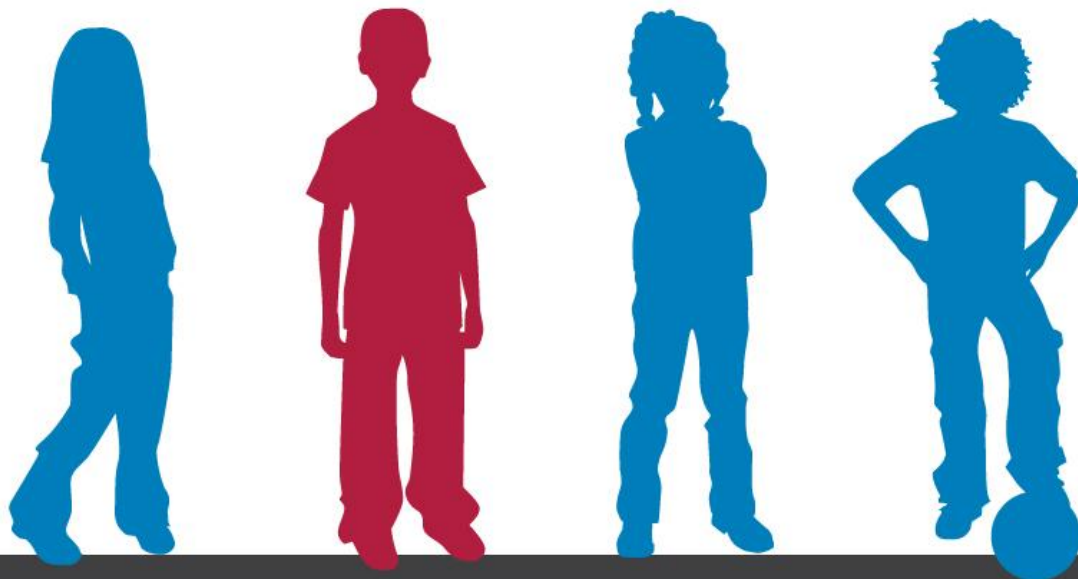
<b>Borough*</b>	<b>Percent of Children in Food Insecure Homes (2011-2013)</b>
Bronx	37.17%
Brooklyn	25.54%
Manhattan	24.02%
Queens	11.98%

\*In general, due to sampling issues, the data for percent of people is more accurate than the data for the total number of people food insecure. Note that, given smaller sub-samples for these boroughs and sub-populations, margins of error are higher. Citywide numbers and percentages for child food insecurity include Staten Island, but there is not enough federal food insecurity data for that borough to adequately calculate a borough- specific child food insecurity rate for Staten Island. In 2013, according to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 18.7 percent of Staten Island children lived in poverty; the food insecurity rate is likely similar.

# CHILD HUNGER STILL SOARING

## NUMBER OF NEW YORK CITY CHILDREN LIVING IN FOOD INSECURE HOMES

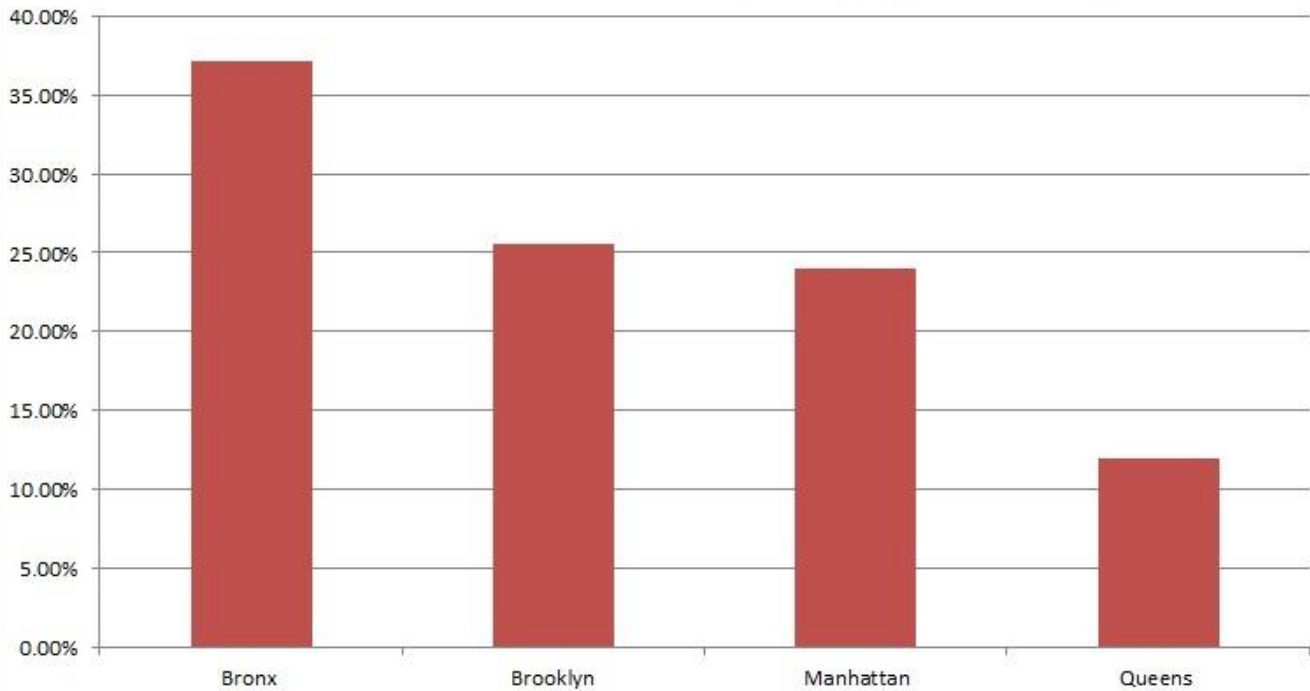
In 2006-2008, 19% of NYC kids lived in food insecure homes. By 2010-2012, 22% of NYC kids faced food insecurity.



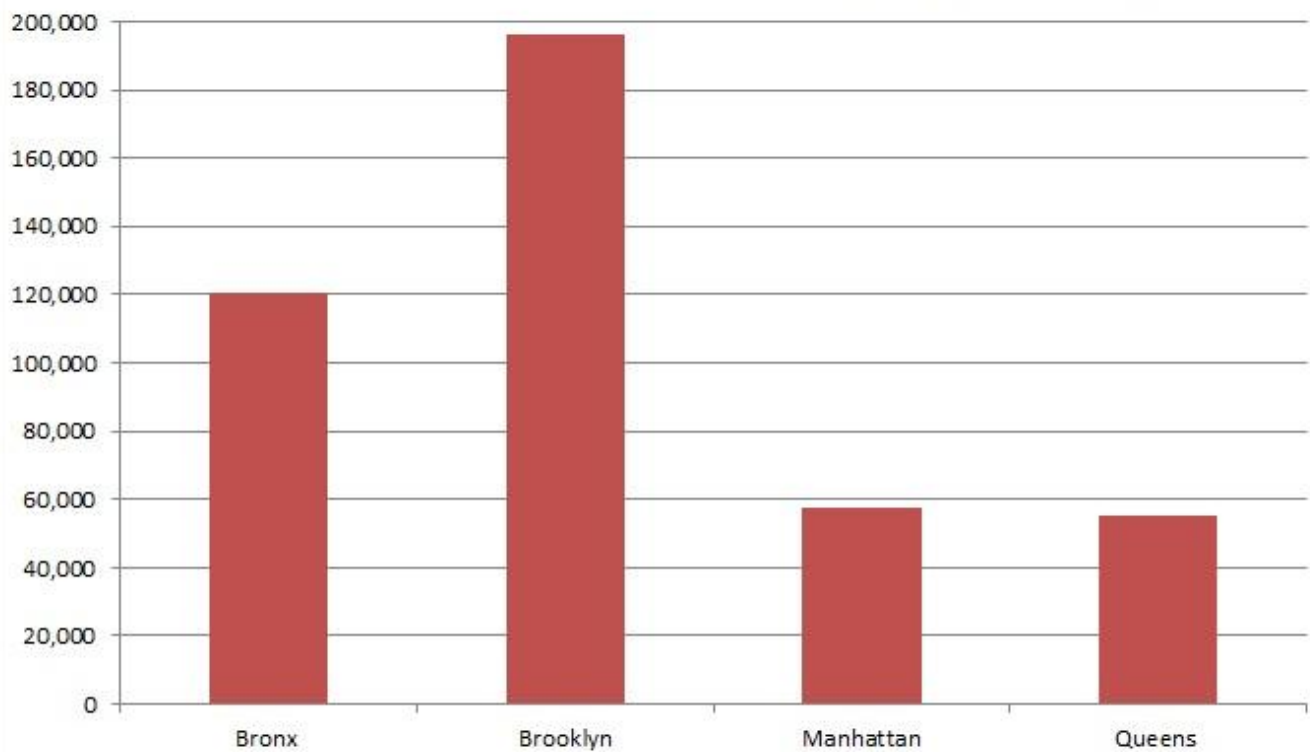
**FROM 2011-2013, 1 IN 4 NYC CHILDREN LIVED IN FOOD INSECURE HOMES.**

USDA DATA ANALYZED BY THE NEW YORK CITY COALITION AGAINST HUNGER ©NOVEMBER 2014

**Percentage of Children that Live in Food Insecure Households by Borough (2011-2013)**



**Total Number of Children that Live in Food Insecure Households by Borough (2011-2013)**



**Over One in 10 New York Seniors (Over the age of 60) Are Food Insecure**

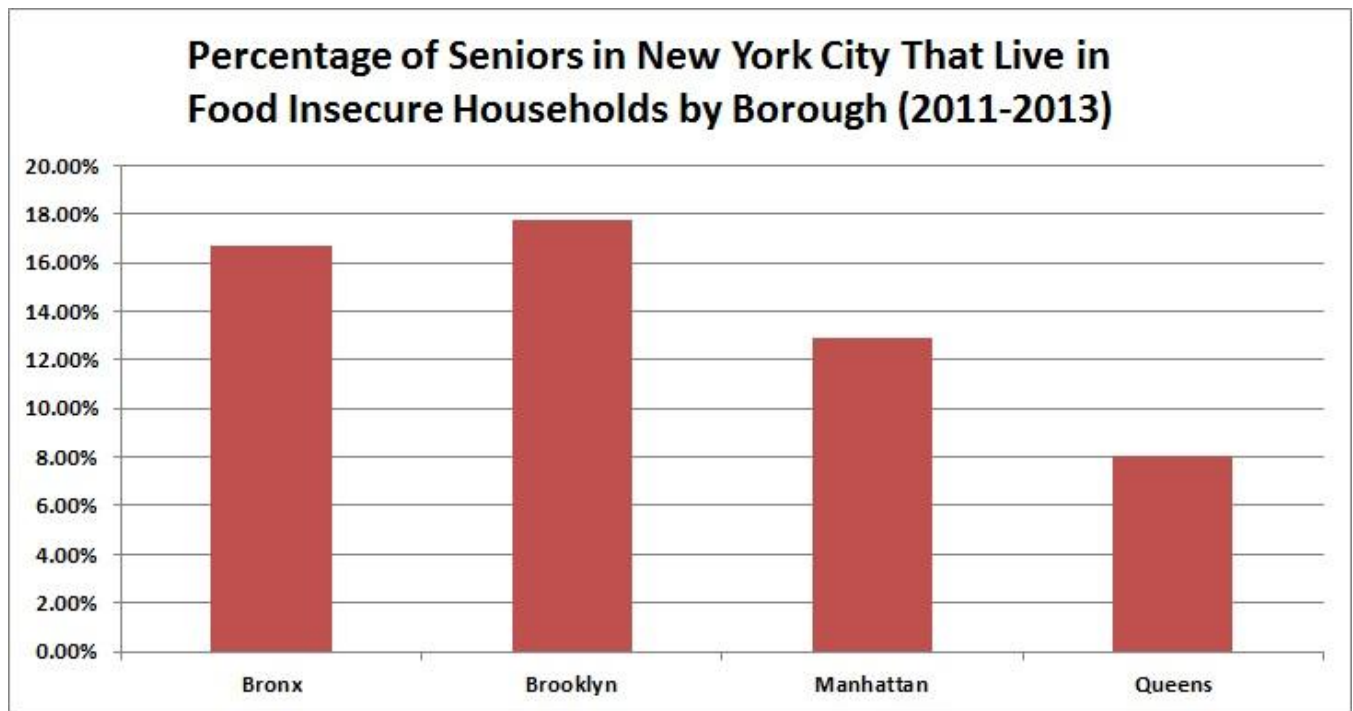
In 2011-2013, there were an estimated 167,329 food insecure seniors over the age of 60. This number represents 13.07 percent, or one in 10 of the city’s senior population. It also represents a 22 percent increase from 2006-2008, when 132,133 New York City seniors lived in food insecure homes.

Brooklyn had both the highest number and the greatest percentage of food insecure seniors.

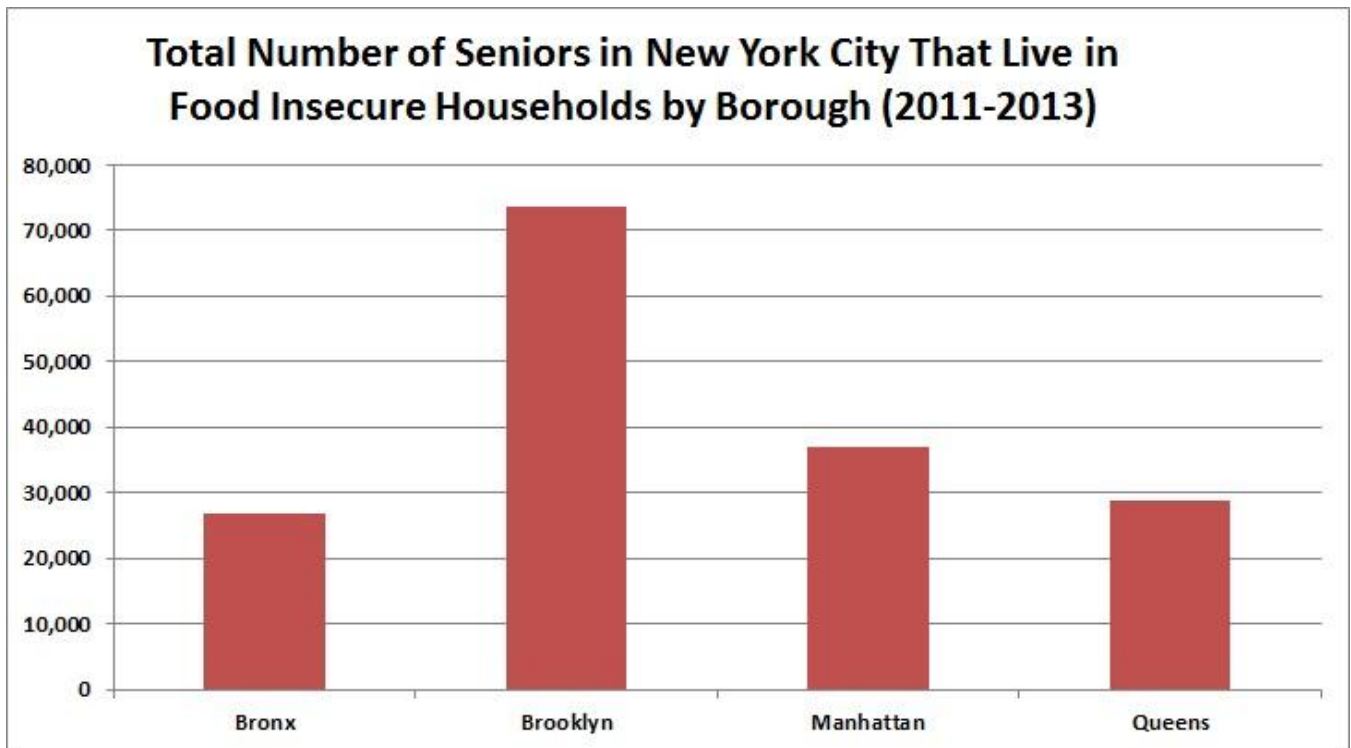
<b>Borough*</b>	<b>Number of Food Insecure Seniors (2011-2013)</b>
Bronx	80,028
Brooklyn	220,571
Manhattan	111,053
Queens	86,788

<b>Borough*</b>	<b>Percent of Food Insecure Seniors (2011-2013)</b>
Bronx	16.72%
Brooklyn	17.78%
Manhattan	12.89%
Queens	8.02%

\*In general, due to sampling issues, the data for percent of people is more accurate than the data for the total number of people food insecure. Note that, given smaller sub-samples for these boroughs and sub-populations, margins of error are higher. Citywide numbers and percentages for food insecurity include Staten Island, but there is not enough federal food insecurity data for that borough to adequately calculate food security rates. According to U.S. Census data, Staten Island had a senior poverty rate of 9.1 percent for the years of 2011-2013; the food insecurity rate is likely similar.







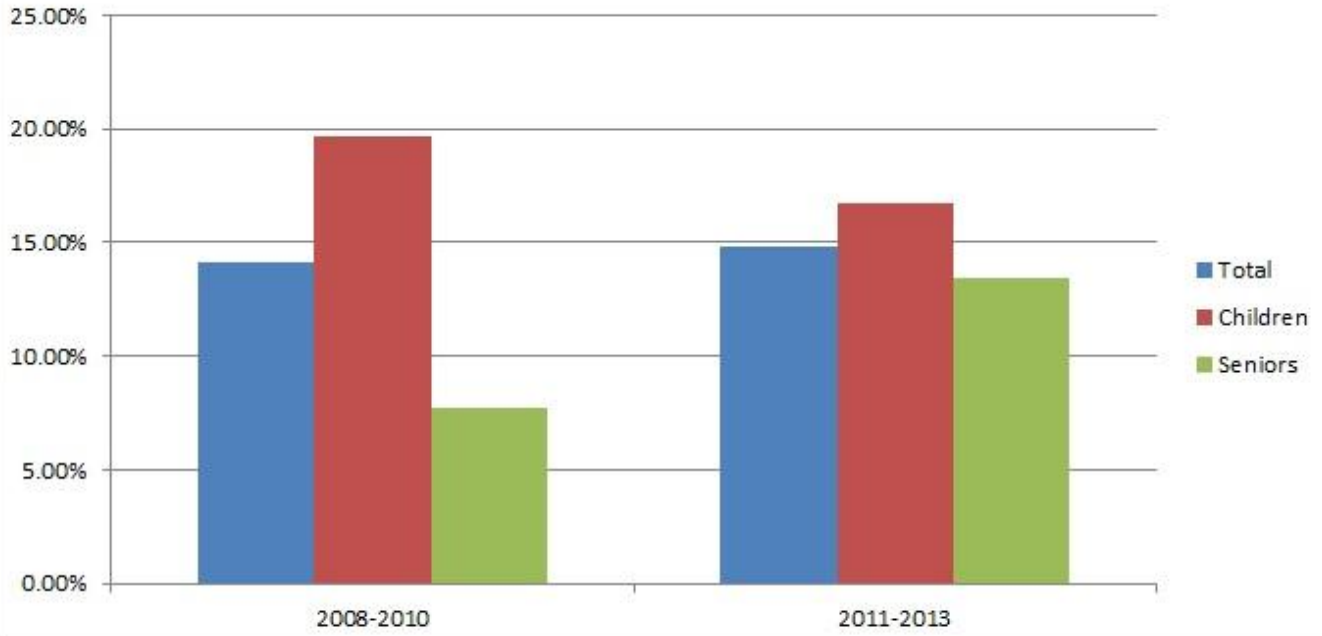
## **Federal Food Insecurity Data for New York State**

In 2011-2013 there were 2,871,903 food insecure individuals in New York State. This number represents 14 percent of the population, or over one in 10 New Yorkers. It represents a 5 percent increase from 2008-2010, when 2,716,619, or 14.2 percent, of New Yorkers were food insecure. Overall, this represents a 33 percent jump from the 2000-2002 time period, when 9.4 percent of state residents lived in food insecure homes.

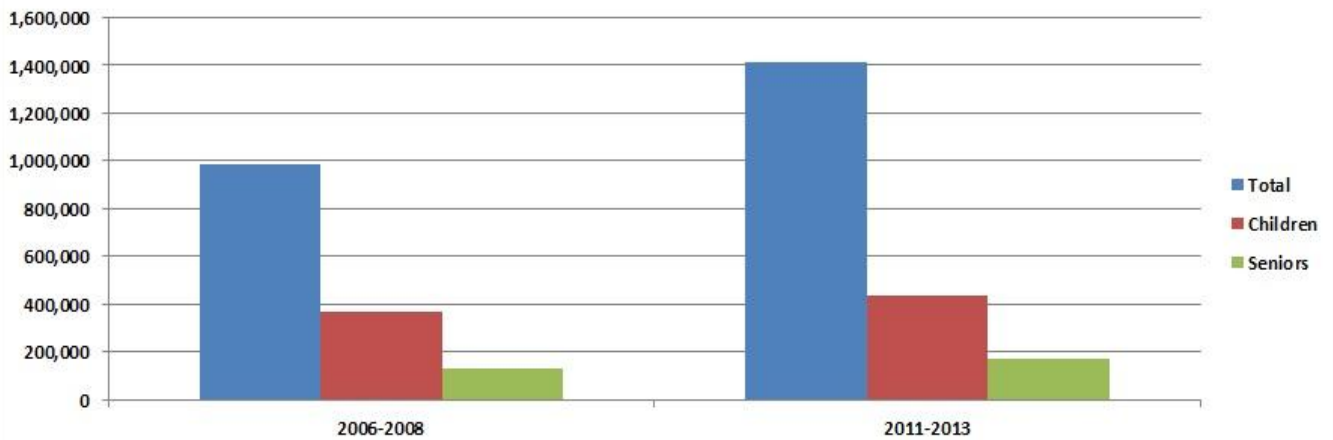
In 2011-2013, 697,815 children in New York State (17 percent) lived in food insecure homes. This is a 17 percent decrease from 2008-2010 when 864,284 children lived in food insecure homes, or 20 percent.

In 2011-2013, 543,034 seniors in New York State (13 percent) lived in food insecure homes. This is a 42 percent increase from 2008-2010 when 284,725 seniors lived in food insecure homes, or 8 percent.

## Percentage of New York State Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households



## Total Number of New York State Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households



## **A Message from the Coalition's Executive Director**

Hungry New Yorkers and Americans faced challenge after challenge this year, proving that our work is more important than ever.

First, they were demonized by the right-wing media, told that their hunger – caused by high unemployment rates coupled with low wages – was somehow their own fault. Then, they saw the stock market climb to record highs even as lines at soup kitchens and food pantries lengthened. Finally, they watched Washington massively cut food programs.

Heartless. Counter-productive. Unthinkable.

Those are the words that come to mind when we consider recent cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, benefits. While our advocacy, and that of our colleagues nationwide, was unable to prevent deep cuts, we were able to make the final cuts smaller than the atrocious reductions originally pushed by House conservatives.

Even before the cuts, hunger and food insecurity ravaged 49 million Americans – including nearly 16 million American children. In 2011-2013, an estimated average of over 1.4 million (1,415,588) New York City residents, or approximately 16.98 percent of New Yorkers, were food insecure, meaning they were unable to afford an adequate supply of food consistently throughout the year. That number, which represents one in six New Yorkers, also includes children and seniors over the age of 60. It also represents, at minimum, a 300,000 person increase from 2006-2008 when there were approximately 1.12 million food insecure New Yorkers.

But instead of reducing that pain and suffering, Congress and the President took nearly \$14 billion in groceries away from the 47 million Americans (including 1.8 million NYC residents) who rely on SNAP. As a result, families in each corner of our nation have significantly less to eat. The situation is only worse in New York City, which has among the highest cost of living in the nation. With the current minimum wage at \$8.00 an hour – equaling \$16,640 for a year of full-time work – it's not difficult to see why so many Americans simply can't make ends meet, no matter how hard they work.

While Governor Cuomo was able to prevent some of the cuts from being implemented in New York, as a result of federal mandates, the average household SNAP benefit in New York City was reduced by \$19 per month, equaling a \$228 reduction in groceries per year.

For many, the reality is even worse than the averages. One mother of two in New York, putting herself through college, recently lost \$45 in SNAP benefits per month. The average SNAP benefit per meal was reduced from \$1.70 per meal in August 2013 to \$1.60 per meal in August 2014.

In part because benefits are now reduced, fewer New Yorkers applied or re-applied for SNAP; the amount of people on SNAP in the city declined by 125,487 between August of 2013 and 2014. As a result of both the reduction in average benefits amount and the drop in overall caseload, low-income New York City residents will receive an estimated \$426 million less in federal SNAP funding in 2014 than in 2013.

As a direct result, 92.9 percent of New York City food pantries and soup kitchens – many of which are run by unpaid volunteers – reported that the cuts had “increased the number of our clients and/or increased the food needs of our existing clients.” 44.4 percent said the demand had been increased “significantly” and 48.4 percent said their demand had increased “somewhat.” Just 7.1 percent said the

cuts had no impact. Also as a result of SNAP cuts, nearly half of pantries and kitchens reported that they had to turn away clients, reduce the amount of food distributed per person, and/or limit their hours of operation. There was a seven percent increase in people coming through the doors of these hard pressed agencies.

Meanwhile, the wealthiest continue to prosper, boasting a full economic recovery since the great recession of 2008-2009. According to *Forbes* data, over the last two years, the collective net worth of New York's 53 billionaires rose from \$210 to \$277 billion – a 31 percent jump. In contrast, the city's entire municipal budget is now about \$70 billion, meaning that the 53 wealthiest New Yorkers have about four times the city's combined annual spending on police, roads, schools, parks, social services, transportation, sanitation, and firefighters.

Median household income in New York City is now \$51,865. That means that those 53 billionaires now have more money than five million average families and 17 million minimum wage workers. Opportunity capitalism – which allows families to succeed with hard work – has been replaced by crony capitalism.

As a result of the recent and devastating SNAP cuts, and the stagnant economy, it's clear that hungry New Yorkers are hurting more than any time in decades ... and our work is urgently needed.

Our data proves that charitable pantries and kitchens across the nation and New York simply can't meet this increased demand. The lines are longer, the need is greater, and emergency food providers are now forced to turn people away at an alarming rate. The resulting hunger harms health, hampers education, traps families in poverty, fuels obesity, and eviscerates hope.

**These new numbers provide still more evidence to bolster our long-held contention that charity cannot be a substitute for living wage jobs and an adequate social safety net. That's why we will keep fighting for both.**

Sincerely,

Joel Berg  
Executive Director

## **Report Methodology**

This report is based on two entirely different sets of data. The first set of data is federal food insecurity/hunger statistics collected by the U.S. Census Bureau on behalf of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and analyzed by the Coalition, and is based on three-year averages, with the most recent year being 2013. The second set of data was collected by the Coalition in the fall of 2014 from a survey of the city's more than 1,100 soup kitchens and food pantries, of which a large sample size of 237 responded, providing data for all of 2014.

### **Federal Food Insecurity Data Methodology**

Data for this section of the report is from an annual survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau as a supplement to the monthly Current Population Survey. The USDA sponsors the annual survey and the USDA's Economic Research Service compiles and analyzes the responses. The 2013 food security survey covered 53,410 households nationwide, comprising a representative sample of the U.S. civilian population of 116,291,033 million households. The food security survey asked one adult respondent in each household a series of questions about experiences and behaviors that indicate food insecurity, such as being unable to afford balanced meals, cutting the size of meals because of too little money for food, or being hungry because of too little money for food. The food security status of the household was assigned based on the number of food insecure conditions reported. The raw data was collected from thousands of households in New York City, and the weighted responses were calculated by NYCCAH.

According to the USDA, the number of food insecure conditions and behaviors that the household reports determines the food insecurity status of each interviewed household. Households are classified as being food secure if they report no food insecure conditions or if they report only one or two food insecure conditions. USDA defines "food insecure" as the condition under which: "At least some time during the year, the food intake of one or more household members was reduced and their eating patterns were disrupted at times during the year because the household lacked money and other resources for food."

Food insecure households are further classified as having either low food security or very low food security. The very low food security category identifies households in which food intake of one or more members was reduced and eating patterns disrupted because of insufficient money and other resources for food. Low and very low food security differ in the extent and character of the adjustments the household makes to its eating patterns and food intake. Households classified as having low food security have reported multiple indications of food access problems, but typically have reported few, if any, indications of reduced food intake.

Those classified as having very low food security have reported multiple indications of reduced food intake and disrupted eating patterns due to inadequate resources for food. In most, but not all households with very low food security, the survey respondents reported that he or she was hungry at some time during the year, but did not eat because there was not enough money for food.

### **Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Year-Long Survey Data Methodology**

The 2014 questionnaire was originally mailed and e-mailed to a list of 1,100 agencies in New York City that were believed to operate food pantries, soup kitchens, and/or some variety of emergency food program (EFP). The Coalition attempted to ensure that the list of EFPs we used for our survey mailing reflected soup kitchens or food pantries no longer in operation, if possible. It is not uncommon for emergency food providers to operate without a connection to the local food bank or without assistance

from a government resource stream. To that end, this year’s list of survey recipients was updated after making hundreds of phone calls to our current list of pantries and kitchens to determine which were still in operation.

Following our original request for information, Coalition staff and volunteers made follow-up emails, phone calls, and faxes to the list of survey recipients in order to solicit responses and guarantee a viable sample size on which to base our findings. Agencies were encouraged to either mail or fax the completed survey questionnaire to the Coalition, or to complete it online using Survey Monkey, a web-based data collection service.

All mailed, faxed, and hand-delivered surveys were entered into the Survey Monkey database by Coalition staff. In total, 261 agencies returned surveys. Agencies that responded to the survey that indicated they did not offer food to the general public, e.g. serving only residents of a transitional housing program, were removed from subsequent analysis, leaving 237 usable surveys. Not all percentages total 100 percent due to rounding and respondents answering “unsure” to various questions, or checking multiple answers. The overall analyzed response rate for this survey was 237 responses out of a list of 1,100 or 22 percent.

Because it is impossible to determine how many people served by pantries and kitchens are duplicated by other pantries and kitchens, this report does not determine the total number of people served by the agencies citywide in any given year. Rather, it determines the *rate of change* between years.

It is also important to note that the soup kitchen and food pantry response is not entirely random. We mail and e-mail the survey to every food pantry and soup kitchen we can find in the city, and then we use every response we get. However, soup kitchens and food pantries vary dramatically in size and scope, but most are very small so a handful of the larger ones serve a very high proportion of the charitable meals served in the city. The larger agencies tend to be more likely to respond to this annual survey year after year, and since we report on rate of change not raw numbers of people served, we do think that our focus on the larger agencies actually gives a better picture of the numerical trends than if we used a random sample.

Breakdown of Respondent Agency Type:	
Type	Percent
Soup Kitchens	11.4 %
Food Pantries	63.1 %
Both Soup Kitchens and Food Pantries	20.8%
Other	4.7%

Ratio of Respondents to Total Agencies by Borough		
Borough	Respondents/ Total Agencies	Percent Response
Brooklyn	66/256	25 %
Bronx	48/202	24%
Manhattan	66/230	29%
Queens	60/212	28%
Staten Island	18/43	42%

# **Federal Food Insecurity Data for New York City**

## **One in Six New York City Residents – 1.4 million – Are Food Insecure**

In 2011-2013, an estimated average of over 1.4 million (1,415,588) New York City residents, or approximately 16.98 percent of New Yorkers, were food insecure, meaning they were unable to afford an adequate supply of food consistently throughout the year. That number, which represents one in six New Yorkers, also includes children and seniors over the age of 60. It also represents, at minimum, a 300,000 person increase from 2006-2008 when there were approximately 1.12 million food insecure New Yorkers.

In comparison, over 1.7 million New Yorkers, or one in five, lived below the federal poverty line (\$19,790 for a family a three) in 2013, compared to 1.6 million in 2010 – an increase of 100,000 New Yorkers. It is important to note that the official federal poverty measure does not take into account most living costs, so, in high cost cities like New York, it underestimates the number of people living in impoverished conditions.

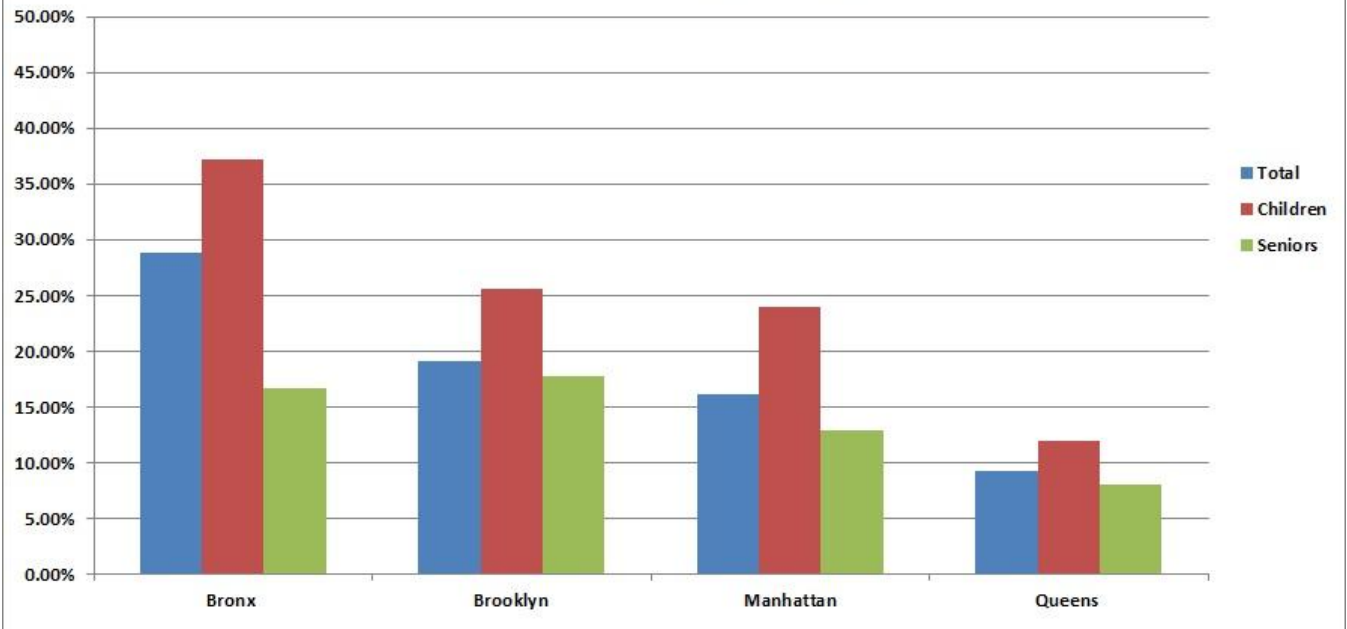
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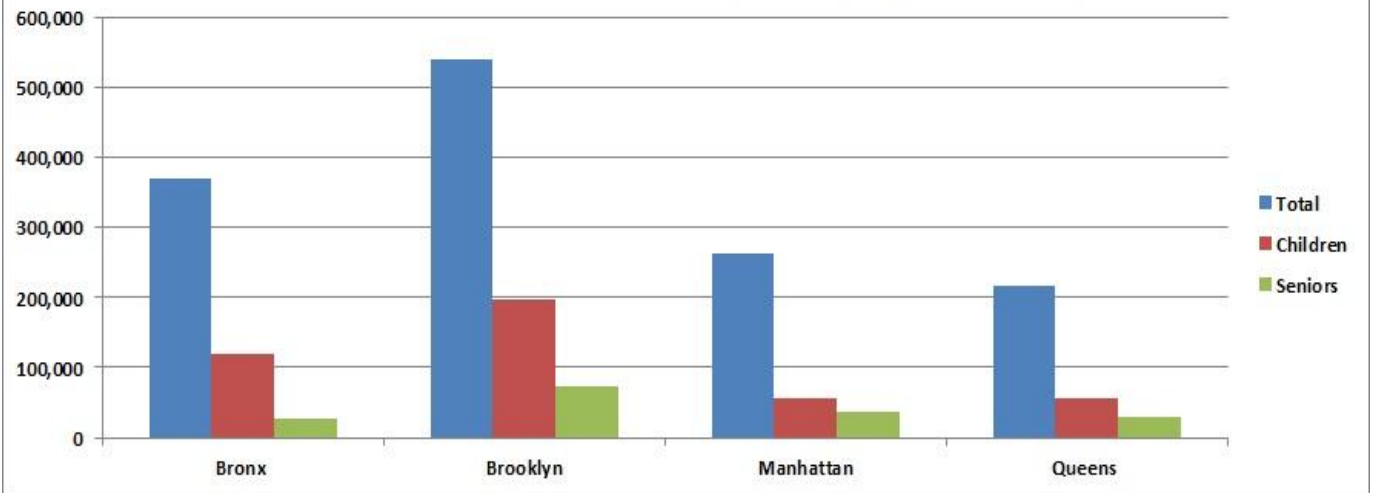
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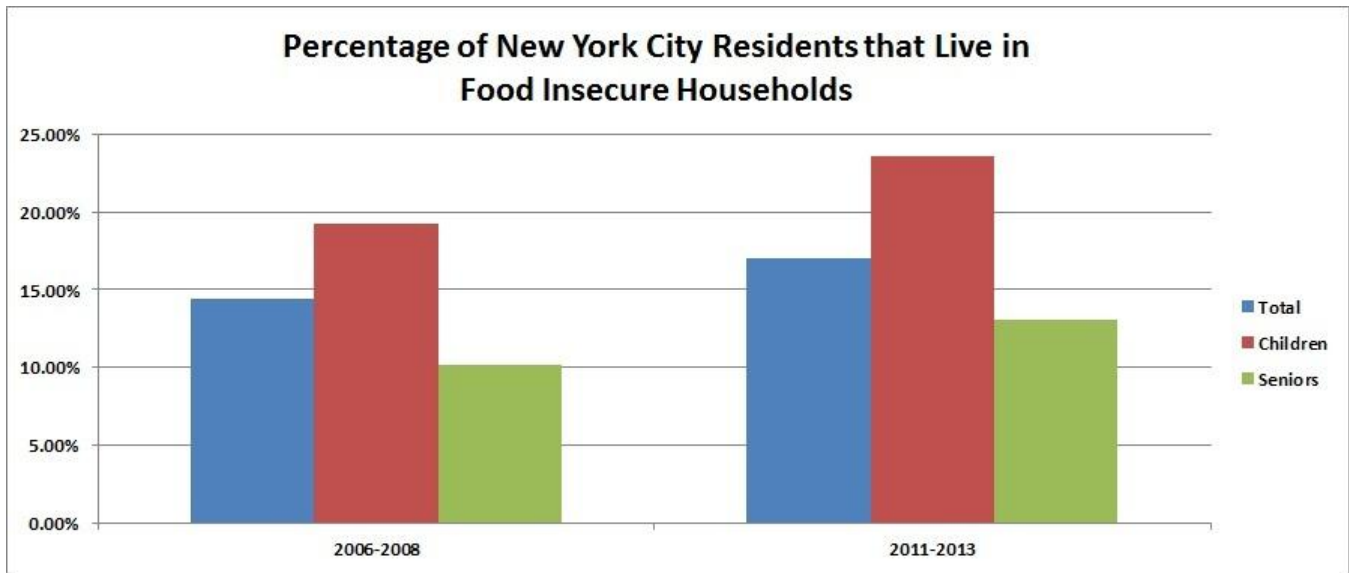
**Percentage of New York City Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households by Borough (2011-2013)**



**Total Number of New York City Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households by Borough (2011-2013)**







**One in Four New York City Children – Nearly Half a Million – Are Food Insecure**

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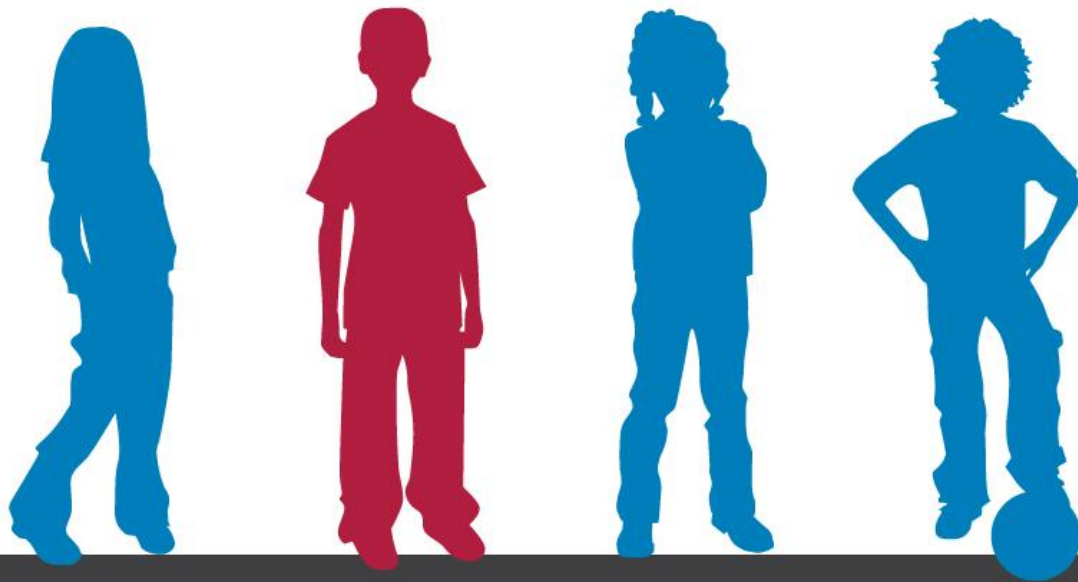
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# CHILD HUNGER STILL SOARING

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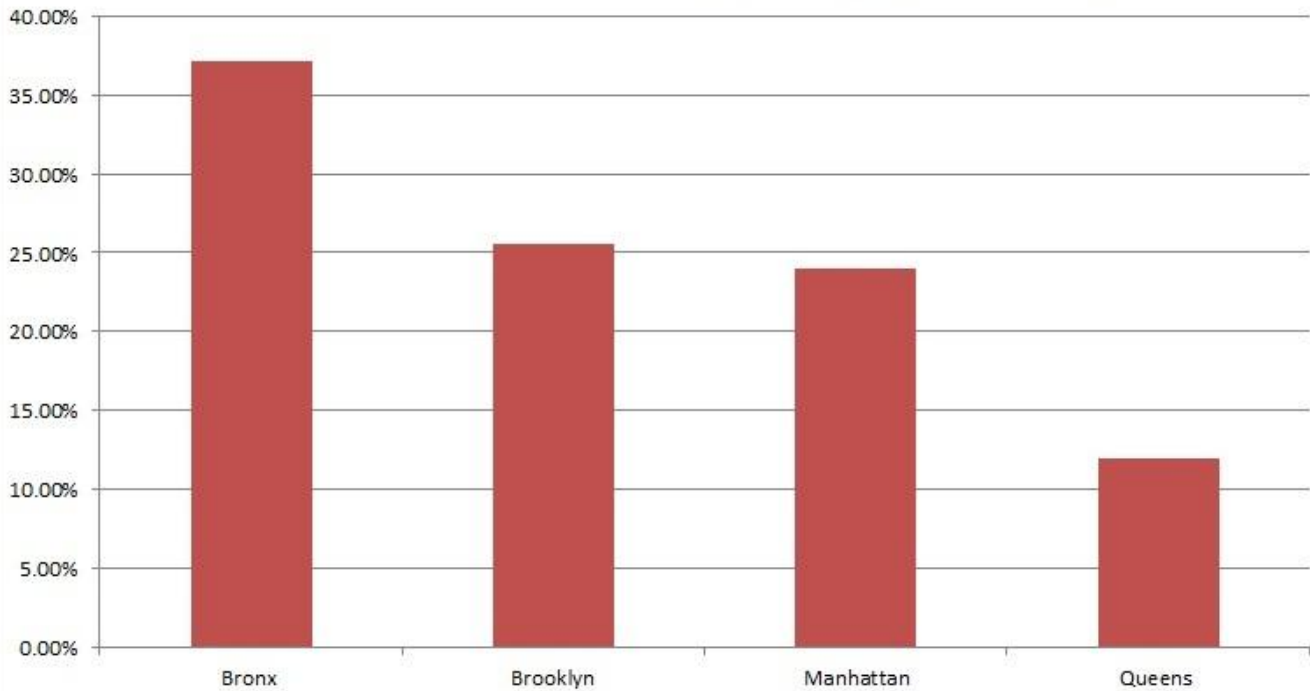
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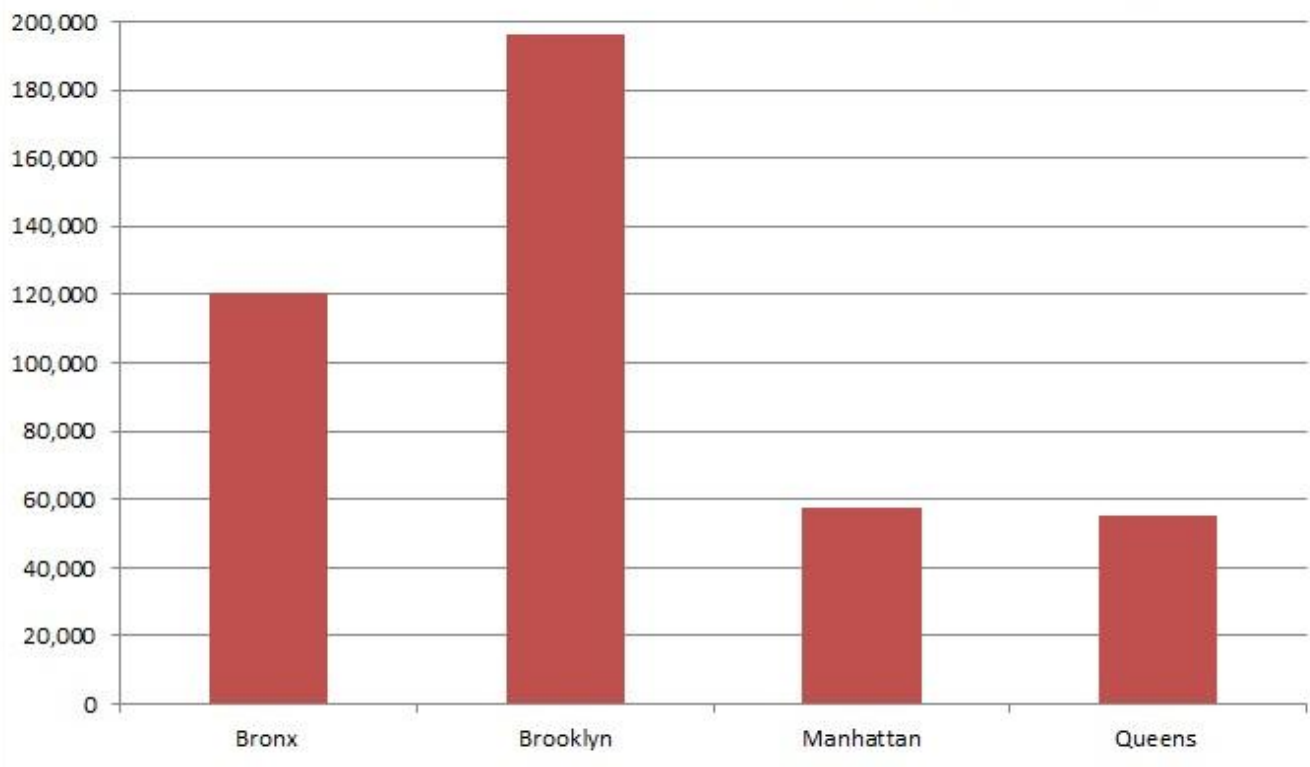
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### Percentage of Children that Live in Food Insecure Households by Borough (2011-2013)



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## **Over One in 10 New York Seniors (Over the age of 60) Are Food Insecure**

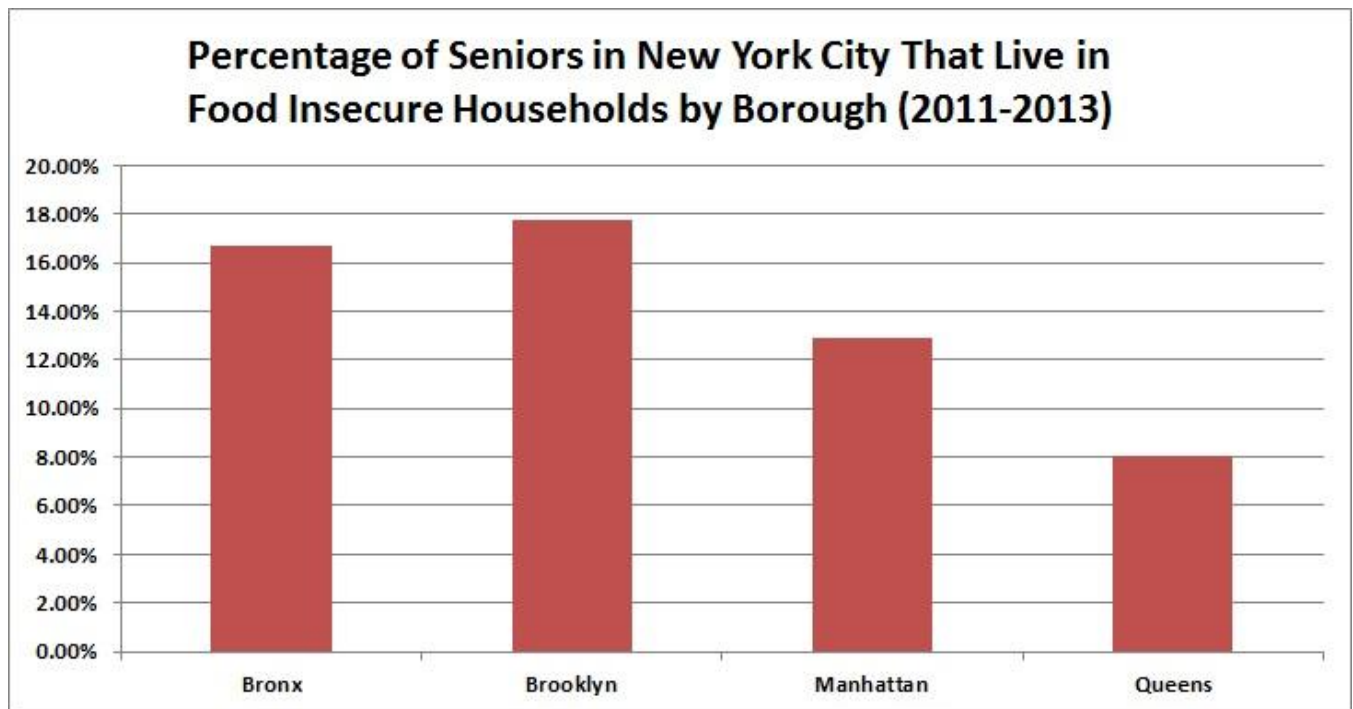
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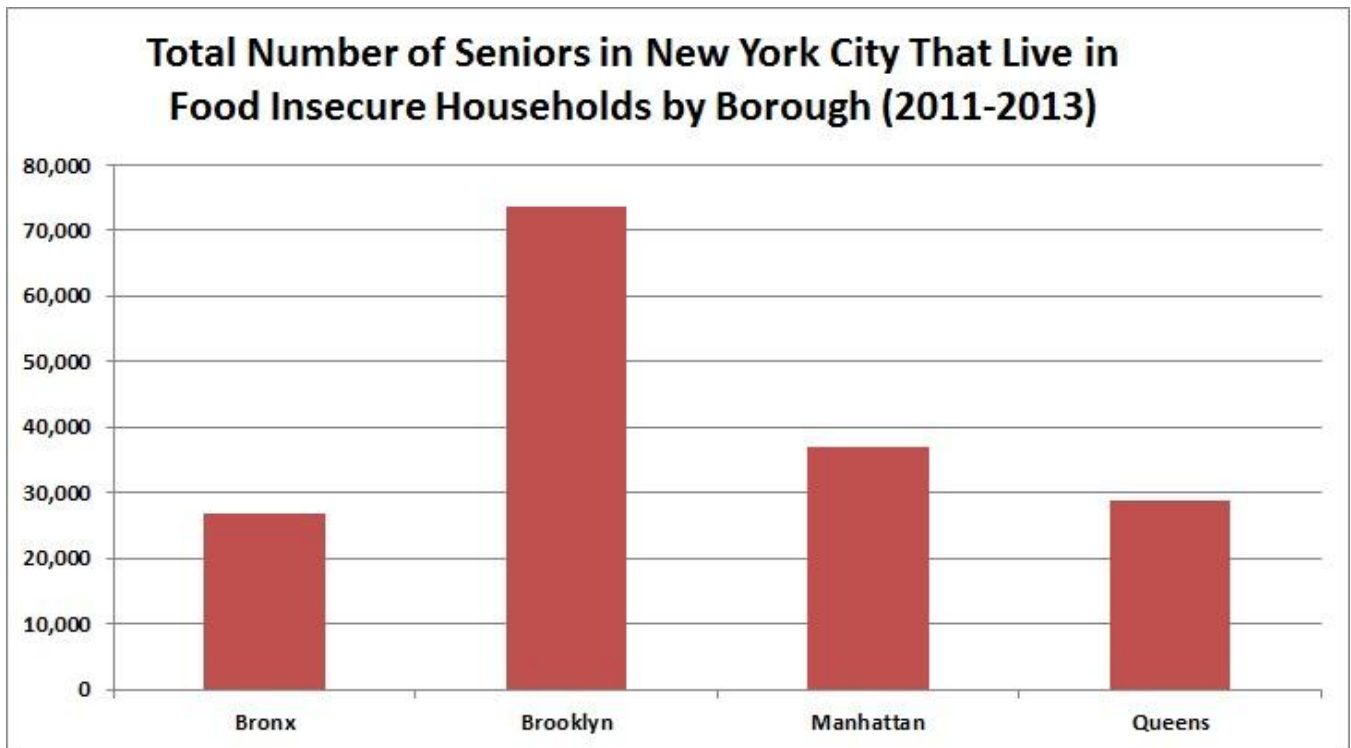
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Manhattan	12.89%
Queens	8.02%

\*In general, due to sampling issues, the data for percent of people is more accurate than the data for the total number of people food insecure. Note that, given smaller sub-samples for these boroughs and sub-populations, margins of error are higher. Citywide numbers and percentages for food insecurity include Staten Island, but there is not enough federal food insecurity data for that borough to adequately calculate food security rates. According to U.S. Census data, Staten Island had a senior poverty rate of 9.1 percent for the years of 2011-2013; the food insecurity rate is likely similar.





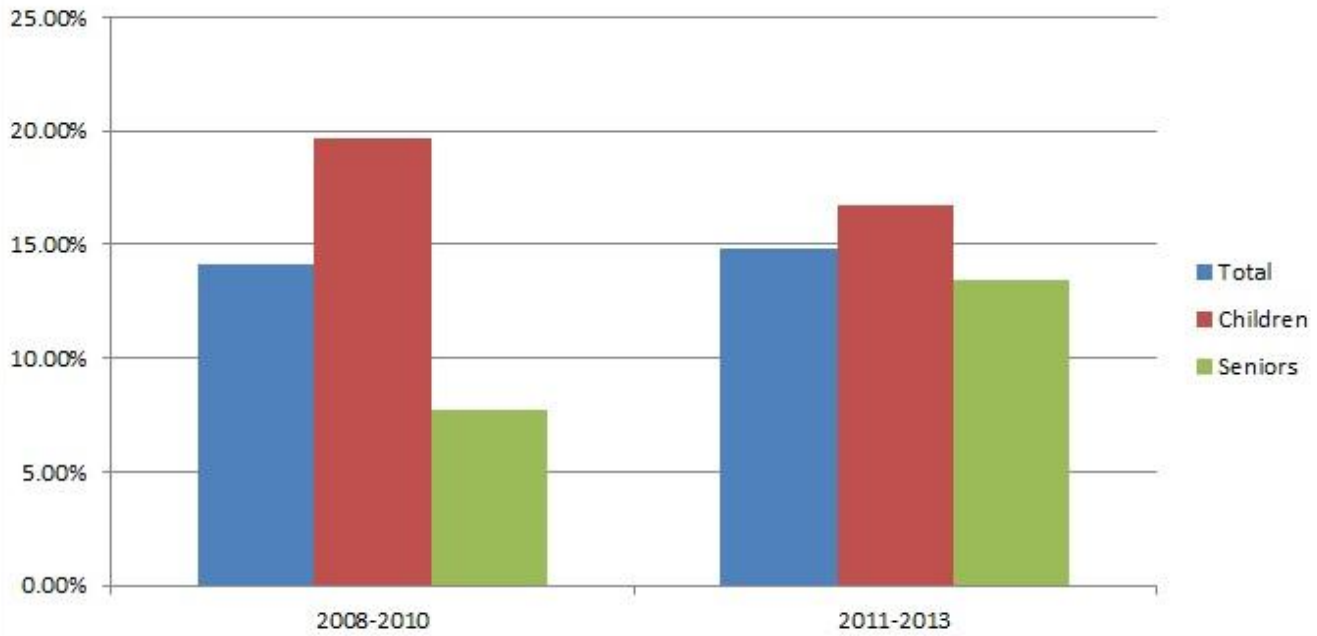
## **Federal Food Insecurity Data for New York State**

In 2011-2013 there were 2,871,903 food insecure individuals in New York State. This number represents 14 percent of the population, or over one in 10 New Yorkers. It represents a 5 percent increase from 2008-2010, when 2,716,619, or 14.2 percent, of New Yorkers were food insecure. Overall, this represents a 33 percent jump from the 2000-2002 time period, when 9.4 percent of state residents lived in food insecure homes.

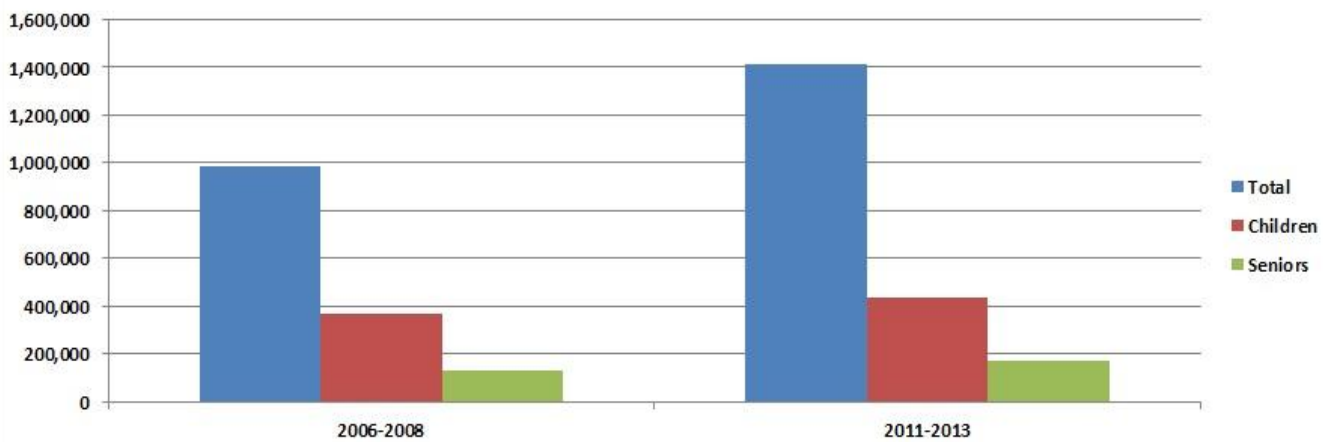
In 2011-2013, 697,815 children in New York State (17 percent) lived in food insecure homes. This is a 17 percent decrease from 2008-2010 when 864,284 children lived in food insecure homes, or 20 percent.

In 2011-2013, 543,034 seniors in New York State (13 percent) lived in food insecure homes. This is a 42 percent increase from 2008-2010 when 284,725 seniors lived in food insecure homes, or 8 percent.

## Percentage of New York State Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households



## Total Number of New York State Residents that Live in Food Insecure Households



## **Background on Cuts to the Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the Food Stamp Program**

In 2010, a Democrat-controlled Congress passed, and President Obama signed into law, the so-called Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HFKA) which slightly improved school meals, but cut \$5 billion from SNAP, by rolling back cost-of-living increases in the SNAP program that were included in the 2009 recovery bill, thereby reducing benefits for every single person that depends on the program.

In 2014, a Democrat-controlled Senate and a Republican-controlled House passed, and President Obama signed into law, a Farm Bill that cut an additional \$8.6 billion in SNAP, by denying states the ability to utilize home energy assistance benefits to trigger an increase in SNAP benefits, which is colloquially called the “heat or eat” provision.

Taken together, the HFKA and Farm Bill cuts reduced SNAP by nearly \$14 billion dollars, with many reductions going into effect as of November 1, 2013.

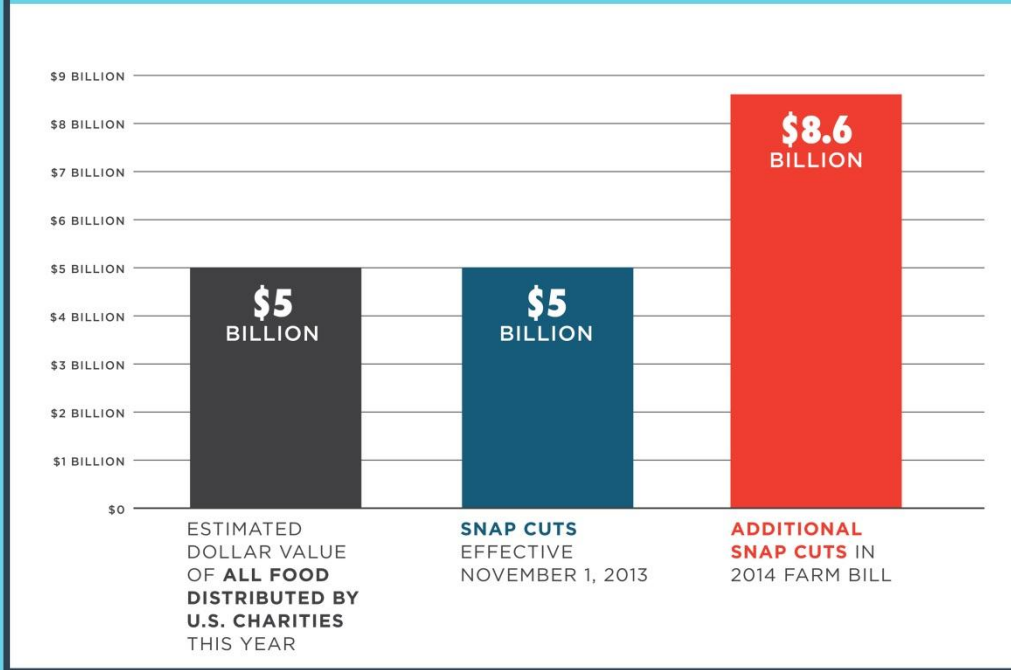
New York Governor Andrew Cuomo was able to take administrative action to prevent the heat or eat cuts from being implemented in New York, thereby saving \$457 million for the first year in SNAP benefits that would otherwise be cut. The action prevented cuts averaging \$127 per month for 300,000 affected households statewide.

However, states were powerless to prevent the HFKA cuts from being implemented, and all 3.1 million SNAP recipients in the state suffered a cut. In New York City, the average household SNAP benefit was cut by \$19 per month, equaling a \$228 reduction in groceries per year.

The amount of SNAP benefits per meal in New York City was reduced from the paltry level of \$1.70 per meal in August, 2013 to an even smaller \$1.60 per meal in August, 2014. Partially because the benefits were less adequate, few New Yorkers applied or re-applied for SNAP; the rolls declined by 125,487 people in the city during that year. As a result of both the reduction in average benefits amount and the drop in the overall caseload, low-income New York City residents will receive an estimated \$426 million less in federal SNAP funding in 2014 than in 2013.

The New York City Coalition Against Hunger estimates that all the food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks, and food rescue groups in the U.S provide, at most, \$5 billion worth of food each year. Thus, as the chart below demonstrates, the SNAP cuts dwarf all the nation’s charitable donations.

# SNAP CUTS DWARF FOOD CHARITY



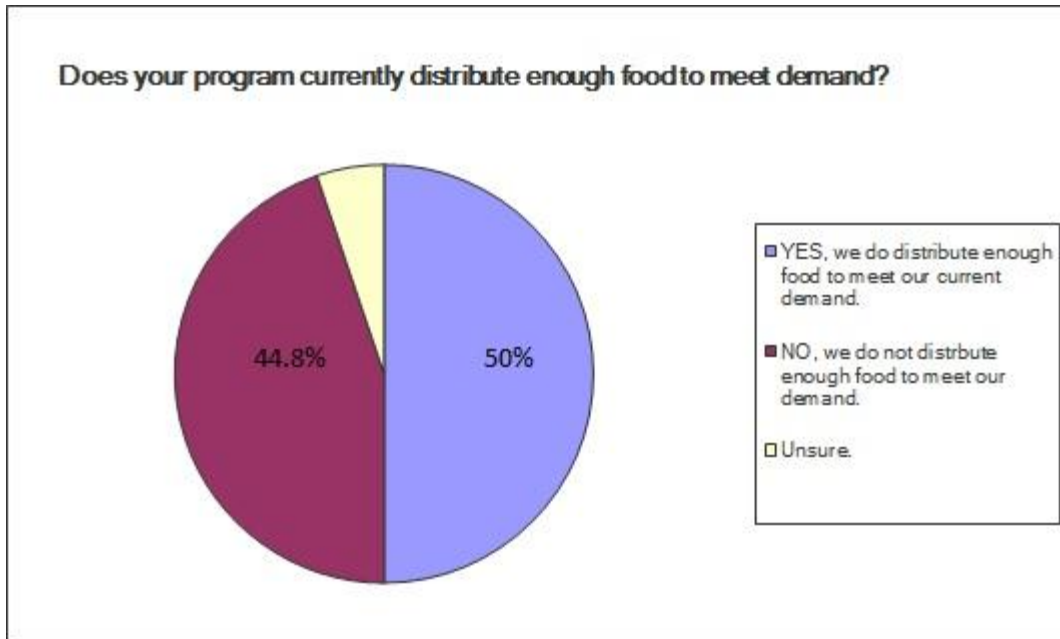
SOURCE: NEW YORK CITY COALITION AGAINST HUNGER, 2014

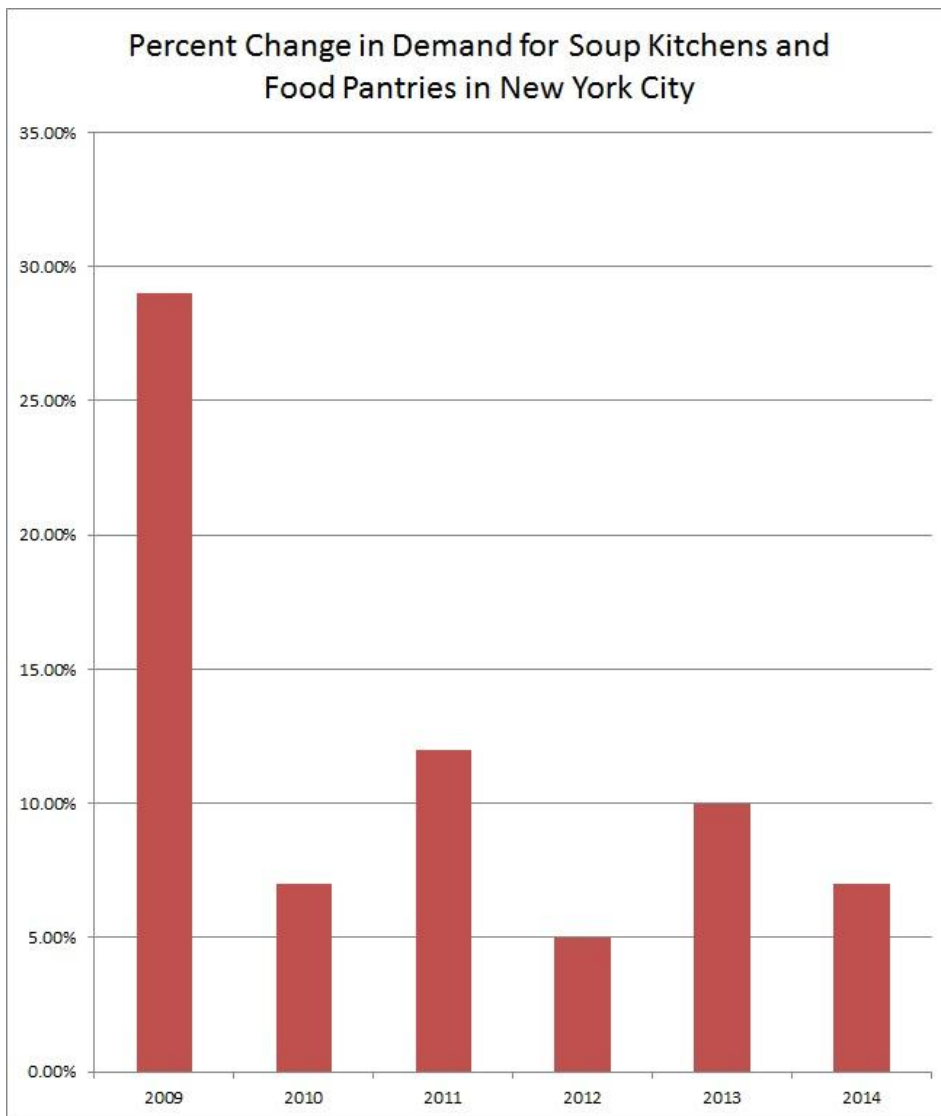


# Citywide Results of the Coalition's Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Survey

## Growing Demand Coupled With SNAP Cuts Forces Food Rationing

The city's food pantries and soup kitchens faced an increased demand of 7 percent in 2014 and 10 percent in 2013, on top of increases of 5 percent 2012, 12 percent in 2011, 7 percent in 2010, and 29 percent in 2009.



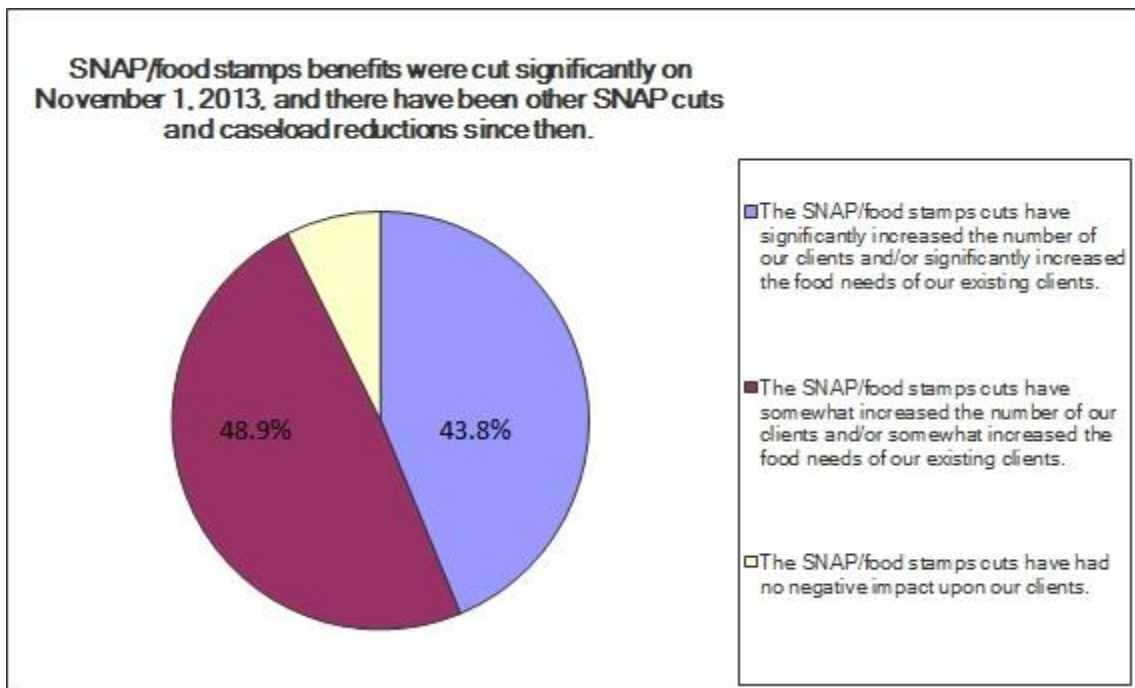


### **Snap Cuts Exacerbate Already Scarce Resources**

In 2013 and 2014 the SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps) program was deeply cut by nearly \$14 billion, forcing the 47 million Americans – and 1.8 million New Yorkers – who depend on SNAP to rely more heavily on charities and emergency feeding programs to feed their families.

92.7 percent of responding agencies report being impacted by the SNAP cuts. 43.8 percent of respondents reported that the SNAP cuts have *significantly* increased the number of clients and/or significantly increased the food needs of existing clients, and 48.9 percent of respondents reported that the SNAP cuts have *somewhat* increased the number of clients and/or significantly increased the food needs of existing clients.

Overall, 82 percent of responding agencies reported an increased demand in people needing food, with 43 percent reporting that demand has greatly increased.



**Agencies Struggle to Meet Heightened Demand**

37 percent of respondents reported being forced to turn people away, reduce the amount of food distributed per person, or limit hours of operation because they lacked enough resources with only 50 percent of agencies reporting that they currently distribute enough food to meet demand.

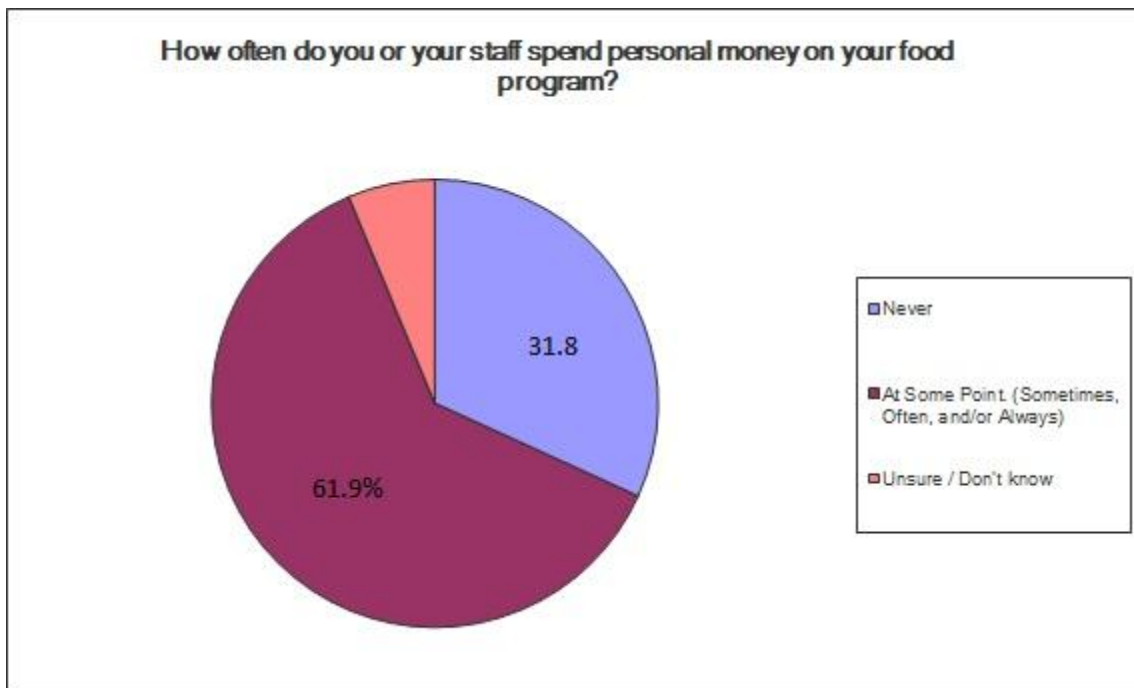
46 percent of respondents reported that they were not as equipped to meet demand due to the SNAP cuts. 19 percent of respondents reported having to turn away significantly more people, reduce the amount of food distributed per person greatly, and/or significantly limited hours of operation, while 27 percent of respondents reported having to turn away slightly more people, reduce the amount of food distributed per person somewhat, and/or slightly limit hours of operation.

**Funding Cut As Demand Skyrockets**

47 percent of respondents reported a decrease in total funding with 34 percent reporting a decrease in government/public funding, 24 percent reporting a decrease in private funding, 12 percent reporting a decrease in paid staff, and 14 percent reporting a decrease in unpaid staff/ volunteers.

6.4 percent of the respondents said they knew of a food pantry, soup kitchen, or brown bag program that had shut down or closed for business in the past year. While some programs may have closed because of staffing or other administrative reasons, program directors repeatedly have told the New York City Coalition Against Hunger in conversations that decreases in funding for feeding programs were the main cause of the closings.

Even though we know from conversations the New York City Coalition Against Hunger has with food pantry and soup kitchen directors on a daily basis that many of the staff and volunteers at EFPs have limited incomes themselves, 44 percent of EFPs reported their staff or volunteers at least sometimes use their own personal money to fund their feeding programs. 18 percent reported that staff often or always use their own personal money.



**Increase Among Various Populations Being Served by EFPs**

The survey questionnaire asked food pantries and soup kitchens if they noticed a change in the types of clients/customers they served over the past year. 48 percent of responding EFPs saw an increase in people with paid work; 74 percent saw more families with children; while 52 percent reported serving more immigrants over the past year. There was also a significant increase in the number of seniors being served, over 61 percent. Finally, 80 percent of EFPs reported an increase in homeless clients. It should be noted, however, that only a few of the responding agencies conduct comprehensive client intake that records socio-economic data of their clients, so most agencies provided an educated guess about their clients populations based on a mix of records and conversations with clients.

**Findings on Agency Volunteer Needs**

Every year between October and December, people think of volunteering at food pantries and soup kitchens during the holidays. This year’s survey of emergency food providers reinforced the Coalition’s emphasis that while volunteers are necessary to provide direct food service, most agencies do not need additional unskilled volunteers. What pantries and kitchens really need are skilled volunteers to help with such tasks as website design, grant writing, and computer assistance throughout the year.

Just 11.2 percent of responding programs need only unskilled volunteers to do things such as serve soup, pack cans, or work in the pantry at some time during the year. On the other hand, 26.6 percent of responding agencies reported needing long-term skilled volunteers, while 21.3 percent reported the need for both skilled and unskilled volunteers.

Thus, if New Yorkers gave their time and skills to pantries and kitchens year-round – and/or aided policy advocacy efforts – emergency food providers would be better able to assist hungry families. Tellingly, 41 percent of the agencies said they did not need any more volunteers at all, thereby bolstering the Coalition’s long-held belief that while increasing volunteerism can marginally aid the fight against hunger (and should surely be encouraged), such efforts are wholly inadequate and cannot substitute for volunteer efforts to help people enroll in safety net programs and advocate for national policies that ensure living wage jobs and an adequate government social safety net.

In response to this reality, the New York City Coalition Against Hunger, in partnership with ConAgra Foods, has launched a nationwide Ending Hunger Through Citizen Service Initiative to give volunteers better tools to fight the problem year-round. The public can access these tools at [www.hungervolunteer.org](http://www.hungervolunteer.org).

In particular, given that nearly \$14 billion was just cut from the federal SNAP program, the New York City Coalition Against Hunger encourages the public to make policy advocacy its top volunteer activity.

## Year-to-Year Comparison of NYC Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Data

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
percent of responding programs that are soup kitchens only	11.40%	14.30%	12.00%	14.00%	13.00%	11.00%	11.00%	9.00%	10.00%
percent of responding programs that are food pantries only	63.10%	58.30%	65.80%	66.00%	64.00%	66.00%	70.00%	65.00%	65.00%
percent of responding programs that are both soup kitchens and food pantries	20.80%	21.40%	22.60%	23.00%	21.00%	20.00%	17.00%	21.00%	18.00%
percent of responding agencies that don't have enough food to meet the current demand	44.80%	45.30%	63.20%	62.00%	51.00%	55.00%	67.00%	59.00%	47.00%
percent of responding agencies at which government money and food decreased in the past year	34.30%	50.50%	68.50%	79.00%	63.00%	50.00%	72.30%	51.00%	40.00%
percent of agencies at which overall money and food decreased in the past year	31.70%	56.70%	68.20%	74.00%	58.00%	52.00%	71.80%	50.00%	41.00%

## Borough Comparisons in Pantry and Kitchen Response to Demand

	Agencies who saw overall increase of people in need	Agencies unable to meet demand due to lack of resources	Agencies who reported not having enough food to meet growing demand	Agencies who reported decrease in total funding and food sources
Brooklyn	80.50%	50.70%	46.00%	49.20%
Bronx	81.50%	57.90%	40.50%	52.60%
Manhattan	83.90%	25.00%	46.00%	49.20%
Queens	81.20%	39.60%	50.00%	52.00%
Staten Island	71.40%	28.6	23.00%	14.20%

## **Bronx-Specific Results**

“The Snap Benefit cuts have increased our demand in people needing food assistance greatly, we need more donations and have more food to meet demand.” - Griset Medina, Operations Manager, Davidson Community Center

### **Food Security Data**

28.79 percent – one in four – of Bronx residents lived in food insecure households in 2011-2013.

37.17 percent – one in three – of Bronx children lived in food insecure households in 2011-2013.

16.72 percent – one in six – of Bronx seniors lived in food insecure homes in 2011-2013.

### **Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Data**

57.9 percent of responding agencies reported not having enough food to meet current demand.

94.4 percent reported being impacted by the SNAP cuts, with 50 percent reporting a significant increase in the number of clients and/or a significant increase in the food needs of existing clients.

80 percent of responding agencies reported that if they received more food, they would have enough capacity (storage space, refrigeration, staff, and/or volunteers) to increase the amount of food they distribute; just 8 percent of responding agencies believed that they would not have the capacity to accommodate an increase in the amount of food they distribute.

79 percent of responding agencies reported an increase in the number of people they served over the past year. 47 percent reported a “big” increase.

The following increases were reported:

- 47 percent: People with paid work
- 68 percent: Families with children
- 60 percent: Immigrants
- 84 percent: Seniors (age 60 and older)
- 53 percent: Homeless

24 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in government/public funding for food in the last 12 months; 3 percent reported a “big” decrease.

24 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in private funding for food in the last 12 months; 11 percent reported a “big” decrease.

39 percent of responding agencies reported having to turn away clients, have reduced the amount of food distributed to each person, or have limited hours of operation because of a lack of resources in 2014.

50 percent of responding agencies reported using personal money always/often/sometimes to support their feeding programs.

27 percent of responding agencies reported the need for more long-term skilled volunteers (accounting, fundraising, web design, legal assistance, etc.); 24.3 percent of responding agencies reported a need for both skilled and unskilled volunteers (serving meals or packing pantry bags).

## **Brooklyn-Specific Results**

“We are operating at a significant deficit. If this continues we will be forced to discontinue our emergency food services in the near future.” Samatha Churak, Director of Outreach, Bay Ridge Center

### **Food Security Data**

19.07 percent – one in five – of Brooklyn residents lived in food insecure households in 2011-2013.

25.54 percent – one in four – of Brooklyn children lived in food insecure homes in 2011-2013.

17.78 percent – nearly one in five – of Brooklyn seniors lived in food insecure homes in 2011-2013.

### **Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Data**

50.7 percent of responding agencies reported not having enough food to meet current demand.

93.3 percent reported being impacted by the SNAP cuts, with 45 percent reporting a significant increase in the number of clients and/or a significant increase in the food needs of existing clients.

91.4 percent of responding agencies reported that if they received more food, they would have enough capacity (storage space, refrigeration, staff, and/or volunteers) to increase the amount of food they distribute; just 2.9 percent of responding agencies believed that they would not have the capacity to accommodate an increase in the amount of food they distribute.

81 percent of responding agencies reported an increase in the number of people they served over the past year. 48 percent reported a “big” increase.

The following increases were reported:

- 39 percent: People with paid work
- 73 percent: Families with children
- 42 percent: Immigrants
- 67 percent: Seniors (age 60 and older)
- 45 percent: Homeless

28 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in government/public funding for food in the last 12 months; 13 percent reported a “big” increase.

20 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in private funding for food in the last 12 months; 11 percent reported a “big” decrease.

40 percent of responding agencies reported having to turn away clients, have reduced the amount of food distributed to each person, or have limited hours of operation because of a lack of resources in 2014.

47.7 percent of responding agencies reported using personal money always/often/sometimes to support their feeding programs.

29.7 percent of responding agencies reported the need for more long-term skilled volunteers (accounting, fundraising, web design, legal assistance, etc.); 15.6 percent of responding agencies reported a need for both skilled and unskilled volunteers (serving meals or packing pantry bags).



## **Manhattan-Specific Results**

“We’ve seen a 12 percent increase since last year in the number of people served at our food pantry. This speaks to the effects of last November’s SNAP cuts, and to the increasing need in our poorest communities. Immigrants, working families, the disabled, seniors – all are coming to us in ever greater numbers. What a shame that this is what it takes to survive in the city!” - Lucia Russett, Director of Advocacy and Food Pantry, Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service

### **Food Security Data**

16.19 percent – one in six – of Manhattan residents lived in food insecure households in 2011-2013.

24.02 percent – one in four – of Manhattan children lived in food insecure homes in 2011-2013.

12.89 percent – one in ten – of Manhattan seniors lived in food insecure homes in 2011-2013.

### **Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Data**

25 percent of responding agencies reported not having enough food to meet current demand.

92.6 percent reported being impacted by the SNAP cuts, with 40.7 percent reporting a significant increase in the number of clients and/or a significant increase in the food needs of existing clients.

72.7 percent of responding agencies reported that if they received more food, they would have enough capacity (storage space, refrigeration, staff, and/or volunteers) to increase the amount of food they distribute; 13.6 percent of responding agencies believed that they would not have the capacity to accommodate an increase in the amount of food they distribute.

82 percent of responding agencies reported an increase in the number of people they served over the past year. 29 percent reported a “big” increase.

The following increases were reported:

- 39 percent: People with paid work
- 63 percent: Families with children
- 41 percent: Immigrants
- 70 percent: Seniors (age 60 and older)
- 46 percent: Homeless

30 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in government/public funding for food in the last 12 months; four percent reported a “big” decrease.

16 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in private funding for food in the last 12 months; four percent reported a “big” decrease.

25 percent of responding agencies reported having to turn away clients, have reduced the amount of food distributed to each person, or have limited hours of operation because of a lack of resources in 2014.

28.6 percent of responding agencies reported using personal money always/often/sometimes to support their feeding programs.

20 percent of responding agencies reported the need for more long-term skilled volunteers (accounting, fundraising, web design, legal assistance, etc.); 32.7 percent of responding agencies reported a need for both skilled and unskilled volunteers (serving meals or packing pantry bags).

## **Queens-Specific Results**

“We are still facing increased lines year after year. There seems to be no change, just more mouths to feed.” Abigail Burke, Food Pantry Coordinator, Hour Children Food Pantry

### **Food Security Data**

9.3 percent – one in ten – of Queens residents lived in food insecure households in 2011-2013.

11.98 percent – one in 10 – of Queens children lived in food insecure homes in 2011-2013.

8.02 percent – one in 11 – of Queens seniors lived in food insecure homes in 2011-2013.

### **Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen Data**

39.6 percent of responding agencies reported not having enough food to meet current demand.

88.4 percent reported being impacted by the SNAP cuts, with 37.2 percent reporting a significant increase in the number of clients and/or a significant increase in the food needs of existing clients.

84 percent of responding agencies reported that if they received more food, they would have enough capacity (storage space, refrigeration, staff, and/or volunteers) to increase the amount of food they distribute; 12 percent of responding agencies believed that they would not have the capacity to accommodate an increase in the amount of food they distribute.

81 percent of responding agencies reported an increase in the number of people they served over the past year. 46 percent reported a “big” increase.

The following increases were reported:

- 52 percent: People with paid work
- 81 percent: Families with children
- 52 percent: Immigrants
- 71 percent: Seniors (age 60 and older)
- 10.13 percent: Homeless

33 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in government/public funding for food in the last 12 months; 13 percent reported a “big” decrease.

25 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in private funding for food in the last 12 months; 10 percent reported a “big” decrease.

35 percent of responding agencies reported having to turn away clients, have reduced the amount of food distributed to each person, or have limited hours of operation because of a lack of resources in 2014.

41.7 percent of responding agencies reported using personal money always/often/sometimes to support their feeding programs.

25 percent of responding agencies reported the need for more long-term skilled volunteers (accounting, fundraising, web design, legal assistance, etc.); 16.7 percent of responding agencies reported a need for both skilled and unskilled volunteers (serving meals or packing pantry bags).

## **Staten Island-Specific Results**

“Ever since the economy has taken a turn for the worse too many hardworking middle-class people have found it difficult in providing for their families. As a result, our food pantry at the Council of Jewish Organizations of Staten Island (COJO-SI) has seen a great increase of clients coming to us for assistance. This additional challenge is even greater, especially, considering how we continue to provide for all those in need. However as a food pantry our obligations are to the community and we are here to help all those in need.” Stuart Cohen, Program Manager, COJO of Staten Island Kosher Food Pantry

While there is not enough food insecurity data for Staten Island to calculate borough-specific food security numbers, the poverty rate, according to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, was 12.8 percent in 2013, up from 11 percent in 2012 and 8.9 percent in 2008. This 3.9 percent increase equals a whopping XX percent increase in poverty in just five years. One in 10 Staten Island residents now live in poverty. In 2013, 18.7 percent of Staten Island children lived in poverty.

However, we are able to report on significant other food pantry and soup kitchen data from Staten Island.

28.6 percent of responding agencies reported not having enough food to meet current demand.

81.8 percent reported being impacted by the SNAP cuts, with 63.6 percent reporting a significant increase in the number of clients and/or a significant increase in the food needs of existing clients.

100 percent of responding agencies reported that if they received more food, they would have enough capacity (storage space, refrigeration, staff, and/or volunteers) to increase the amount of food they distribute.

71 percent of responding agencies reported an increase in the number of people they served over the past year. 50 percent reported a “big” increase.

The following increases were reported:

- 43 percent: People with paid work
- 57 percent: Families with children
- 50 percent: Immigrants
- 79 percent: Seniors (age 60 and older)
- 43 percent: Homeless

36 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in government/public funding for food in the last 12 months.

21 percent of responding agencies reported a decrease in private funding for food in the last 12 months.

25 percent of responding agencies reported having to turn away clients, have reduced the amount of food distributed to each person, or have limited hours of operation because of a lack of resources in 2014.

49.9 percent of responding agencies reported using personal money always/often/sometimes to support their feeding programs.

30.8 percent of responding agencies reported the need for more long-term skilled volunteers (accounting, fundraising, web design, legal assistance, etc.); 38.5 percent of responding agencies reported a need for both skilled and unskilled volunteers (serving meals or packing pantry bags).

## **Appendix 1: Selected Quotes From Survey Respondents**

### Bronx

“We would love to get some capacity expansion assistance, primarily with equipment and technology. This would help us increase capacity, document client and service statistics, and better serve our clients overall.” - Alane Celeste-Villavir, Director, Food & Nutrition Services, BOOM! Health

“The Snap Benefit cuts have increased our demand in people needing food assistance greatly, we need more donations and have more food to meet demand.” - Griset Medina, Operations Manager, Davidson Community Center

### Brooklyn

“We were very lucky to get funding from NYCT to make up for SNAP cuts, but the funding ended 6/14. That funding was a huge boost to our program and amount of food we could distribute. We are now struggling terribly with the demand and few resources.” - Robin Sirota Bassin, Director of Social Services, Southside United HDFC - Los Sures

“We are operating at a significant deficit. If this continues we will be forced to discontinue our emergency food services in the near future.” Samatha Churak, Director of Outreach, Bay Ridge Center

### Queens

“Clients were able to come to our food pantry 1 time per month up until September 2013. Do to the volume of clients, they are now allowed to receive food once every other month.” - Jennifer Smith, Food pantry administrator, CCBQ Queens Community Center

“We are still facing increased lines year after year. There seems to be no change, just more mouths to feed. Thanks to a grant from City Harvest, we have now open a third day on Fridays to accommodate our participants. The November 1st SNAP cuts in 2013 had a drastic effect on our participants, many can no longer purchase needed items like fresh produce. As Food Pantry Coordinator I have had to find ways to strategize and make food last longer. Building partnerships has been key. Luckily this year we are not only getting produce leftovers from the LIC CSA but now the Hellsgate CSA is Astoria. Forming the Queens Action Council in late 2013 with City Harvest, Flux Factory, NYCCAH and other community groups has been instrumental in helping increase awareness around issues of hunger, food access and poverty. We meet every few weeks and recently held the second annual North West Queens Food Day at Socrates Sculpture Park. Volunteers are always needed, stipends and salaries for staff are also almost non-existent and crucial.” - Abigail Burke, Food Pantry Coordinator, Hour Children Food Pantry

### Manhattan

“We are always searching for and in need of additional funding. We recently lost major funding to our program without notification. Please let us know any additional funding resources that we can utilize to serve our community.” - Julie Girard, Program Coordinator, Beth-Hark Christian Counseling Center, Inc.

“We've seen a 12% increase since last year in the number of people served at our food pantry. This speaks to the effects of last November's SNAP cuts, and to the increasing need in our poorest communities. Immigrants, working families, the disabled, seniors - all are coming to us in ever greater numbers. What a shame that this is what it takes to survive in the city!” - Lucia Russett, Director of Advocacy and Food Pantry, Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service

### Staten Island

“Ever since the economy has taken a turn for the worse too many hardworking middle-class people have found it difficult in providing for their families. As a result, our food pantry at the Council of Jewish Organizations of Staten Island (COJO-SI) has seen a great increase of clients coming to us for assistance. This additional challenge is even greater, especially, considering how we continue to provide for all those in need. However as a food pantry our obligations are to the community and we are here to help all those in needs.” Stuart Cohen, Program Manager, COJO of Staten Island Kosher Food Pantry

## Appendix 2:

# 2014 Survey of NYC Food Pantries and Soup Kitchens

Please consider completing this survey ONLINE [www.nyccah.org/survey](http://www.nyccah.org/survey).

It's quicker, easier, and takes less time than filling out paper forms.

***If you do not know the answer to any question or part of a question, please check "unsure" or leave blank.*** Otherwise, return this completed survey to us by October 17, 2014, by mail to NYCCAH, 50 Broad St, Suite 1520, New York, NY 10004, or fax to 646-699-3685 or 646-649-9156. Questions? Call Joshua Rivera at 212-825-0028 ext.205 or Rasna Sethi at 212-825-0028, ext. 202.

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### Section 1: Preferred Contact Information

1.) What type of food program do you run? (Check ONE)

- Soup kitchen  
 Food pantry  
 Both soup kitchen & food pantry  
 Other type of emergency food program (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
 We have never run a feeding program (if you check this box, we'll take you off our list)  
 We previously ran a feeding program and it closed on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

2.) Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

3.) Your title / role: \_\_\_\_\_

4.) Your food program / agency formal name: \_\_\_\_\_

5.) Where do you serve or distribute food? (if different from your mailing address)

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

6.) Phone number of agency / program:    -    -

7.) Fax Number of agency / program:    -    -

8.) Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

9.) Website Address: \_\_\_\_\_

10.) In what borough do you serve or distribute food?

- Manhattan  Queens  
 Brooklyn  Staten Island  
 Bronx

11.) Is your agency/program mailing address the same or different from where you serve food?

Same

Different

12.) If you answered DIFFERENTLY, what is your agency / program's **mailing** address?

Address:

---

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

13. What are your days and hours of operation?

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14.) Is your food program faith-based, religiously affiliated, or physically located in a religious institution (*like a church, mosque, or synagogue*)?

Yes

No

15.) Is your food program open to the public (*either by walk-in or referral*)?

Yes

No

16.) Do you know of any food pantries, soup kitchens, or brown bag programs that have shut down or closed their doors in the last year?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide any information on name(s), location(s), and any other contact information on the program(s) if available:

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## **Section 2: Program Demand**

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17.) Does your program currently distribute enough food to meet demand? (*Check ONE*)

YES, we distribute enough food to meet our current demand.

NO, we don't distribute enough food to meet our current demand.

Unsure



18.) **If you answered “No” above**, which of the following statements best describes your current situation? (*Check ONE*):

- If we received more food, we would have enough capacity (*storage space, refrigeration, staff, and/or volunteers*) to increase the amount of food we distribute.
- Even if we received more food, we would not have enough capacity to increase the amount of food we distribute.
- I do not know if we have the capacity to distribute more food.

19.) Please indicate if the number of people you serve has changed in the last year. For each line, *check the box* that is closest to the correct answer.

<b>In the last year... (Oct 2013 through Sept 2014)</b>	<i>Greatly decreased</i>	<i>Somewhat decreased</i>	<i>No change</i>	<i>Somewhat increased</i>	<i>Greatly increased</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Overall number of people needing food						
Homeless people						
People with paid employment						
Families with children						
Senior citizens (age 65+)						
Immigrants						
People currently receiving SNAP (food stamps) benefits who suffered from a cut in benefits in the last year						
People who lost SNAP (food stamps) benefits entirely						

20.) **ALL PROGRAMS:** How many **people** did you serve?

<i>Time period</i>	<i>Total</i>
September 2013	
All of 2013	
September 2014	
Expected estimate for ALL of 2014, including months that have not yet occurred	

21.) **Soup Kitchens ONLY:** How many **meals** did you provide?

<i>Time period</i>	<i>Total</i>
September 2013	
All of 2013	
September 2014	
Expected estimate for ALL of 2014, including months that have not yet occurred	

22.) SNAP/food stamps benefits were cut significantly on November 1, 2013, and there have been other SNAP cuts and caseload reductions since then. *Please check one of the following:*

- The SNAP/food stamps cuts have significantly increased the number of our clients and/or significantly increased the food needs of our existing clients.
- The SNAP/food stamps cuts have somewhat increased the number of our clients and/or somewhat increased the food needs of our existing clients.
- The SNAP/food stamps have had no negative impact upon our clients.

23.) Were you forced to turn people away, reduce the amount of food distributed per person, or limit your hours of operation because you lacked enough resources?

At any time in 2013:

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

At any time in 2014:

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

24) How have the SNAP/food stamps cuts impacted your ability to serve your clients:

- We have either turned away significantly more people, reduced the amount of food distributed per person greatly, and/or significantly limited our hours of operation.
- We have either turned away slightly more people, reduced the amount of food distributed per person somewhat, and/or slightly limited our hours of operation.
- We were able to increase our food and funding enough to make up for your clients' lost SNAP/food stamps funding.
- We saw no impact of the SNAP/food stamps cuts on our ability to service our clients.

**Section 3: Program Resources**

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25.) How have your resources changed in the LAST YEAR (October 2013 through September 2014)?

*Check the box that is closest to the correct answer for every type of funding source:*

	<i>Greatly decreased</i>	<i>Somewhat decreased</i>	<i>No change</i>	<i>Somewhat increased</i>	<i>Greatly increased</i>	<i>Unsure / Don't know</i>
Government/ Public Funding for Food						
Private Funding for Food						
TOTAL Funding for Food						
Paid staff						
Unpaid staff / volunteers						

26.) Does your program currently receive food or funding from any of the following sources?

<p><b>EFAP (NYC)</b> If so, did this funding increase or decrease in the last year?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure <input type="checkbox"/> Increase    <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease    <input type="checkbox"/> Stay Same</p>
<p><b>HPNAP (NY State)</b> awarded through Food Bank, United Way, Catholic Charities, or other sources. If so, did this funding increase or decrease in the last year?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure <input type="checkbox"/> Increase    <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease    <input type="checkbox"/> Stay Same</p>
<p><b>TEFAP (Federal)</b> administered by Food Bank. If so, did this funding increase or decrease in the last year?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure <input type="checkbox"/> Increase    <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease    <input type="checkbox"/> Stay Same</p>
<p><b>FEMA Emergency Food &amp; Shelter Program (EFSP)</b> - If so, did this funding increase or decrease in the last year?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure <input type="checkbox"/> Increase    <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease    <input type="checkbox"/> Stay Same</p>

27.) Which best describes your need for volunteers? *Check one box:*

- We already have enough volunteers for unskilled tasks (serving meals or packing pantry bags) but need more long-term, skilled volunteers for tasks such as accounting, fundraising, web design, legal assistance, SNAP outreach, policy advocacy, etc.
- We need BOTH long-term skilled volunteers (accounting, fundraising, web design, legal assistance, etc.) AND help serving meals/packing pantry bags.
- We need volunteers for unskilled tasks like serving meals or packing pantry bags and have no need for any long-term skilled volunteers.
- We don't need any more volunteers at this time.



## **Acknowledgments**

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