

Hunger Survey Report



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Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc., Food Security Survey Report

Funded by the Children's Services Council of Broward County



The Coordinating Council of Broward
The CCB: Working Together

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Background

Five years ago Marti Forman of the Cooperative Feeding Program and Steve Sampier of the Memorial Healthcare System made a presentation to The Coordinating Council of Broward (CCB). The two community activists wanted the Council to be aware of the ever-increasing issue of hunger in our Broward community. Up until then, no one on the Council had realized that people in Broward were going without food on a regular basis. Since that time, the problem has only increased. The Council made a commitment that day to work toward eradicating hunger in Broward County. From that resolution came the formation of the CCB/CSC Million Meals Committee.

The Committee began to hold meetings of community leaders and activists. The Committee grew to over sixty-five member agencies throughout the community. Through the insightful benevolence of the Children's Services Council of Broward County (CSC), the CCB/CSC Million Meals Committee was granted funding to provide for a full time staff person to be located at the CSC and for expenses related to the work of the Committee. Arnold Jean-Baptiste was hired to fill that role.

From that point forward, the Committee began its assault on hunger in Broward County. The first order of business was to create a program of monthly food drives sponsored by various agencies and businesses throughout Broward to try to address the immediate needs of Broward's food pantries and banks. The Committee has consistently collected over one million pounds of food each year towards that end. The food is distributed to member food pantries and food banks for provision to their clients.

The Committee also developed its Strategic Plan so that it could identify what needed to be done, both short-term, and long-term to eradicate hunger in Broward County. One of the most important tasks included in the Plan was the commissioning of a study of hunger in Broward County. While anecdotal evidence of hunger and food insecurity were reported, there was no accurate data verifying hunger and food insecurity in Broward that would support strategic planning for food supply systems to address the need.

In March of 2007, thanks to another grant from the Children's Services Council, the Broward Regional Health Planning Council was engaged to conduct a hunger study. The study was patterned after a study done several years ago by the Palm Beach County Food Security Team. The idea was that there would then be two studies of South Florida communities accomplished with the same ground rules, so that "apples-to-apples" comparisons could be made. The Broward Study used the same survey format as that used in Palm Beach County, the USDA's Household Food Security Survey (HFSS). Several additional questions regarding demographics were added to the base HFSS.

Members of the CCB/CSC Million Meals Steering Committee include Chair, Mary Macomber, Coordinating Council of Broward; Steve Sampier, Memorial Healthcare System; Marti Forman, Cooperative Feeding Program; Father Bob Tywoniak, St. George Catholic Church; Ismael Martinez, Florida Department of Children and Families; Mary Lynn Lovejoy, United Way of

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Broward County; Don Adams, Cross Road Food Bank; Helen Shinner, HOPE Outreach Center of Davie; Kim Saiswick, Holy Cross Hospital; Tammy Morton, Jubilee Center of Hollywood; and Ginny Jordan, U.S. Social Security Administration. In addition, the Committee is most ably supported by the following staff members from the Children's Services Council of Broward County: Sandra Bernard Bastien, Director of Public Affairs and Organizational Development, and Arnold Jean-Baptiste, Special Projects Coordinator and René Pravda, Director of Operations for The Coordinating Council of Broward.

Introduction

The presence of hunger in American households due to insufficient resources to obtain food has been a long-standing challenge to U.S. health, nutrition, and social policy. The success of the nation's nutrition-assistance safety net, beginning with the National School Lunch Program in 1946 and later under-girded by the Food Stamp Program and special programs for unusually vulnerable groups, has meant that extreme forms of hunger, common in Third World countries, have been virtually eliminated in the United States. However, less severe forms of food insecurity and hunger--deprivation in basic need for food--are still found within the U.S. and remain a cause for concern.

While anecdotal evidence of hunger and improper child nutrition is prevalent throughout Broward County, recent and accurate data regarding hunger and food insecurity is minimal. The anecdotal evidence points to a growing problem which is having a significant impact upon children. We do know that almost one-third (31%) of all households that are eligible for food stamps actually receive them, 44% of all students enrolled in Broward County elementary schools qualify for free and reduced lunches and that 15% of 56,873 of Broward's children live in poverty. Food pantries have confirmed that they now serve 100 percent more clientele than they did two years ago. Lack of income, low paying jobs, high utility bills, transportation problems, and disabilities were named as the top reasons.

Food insecurity is a complex, multidimensional phenomenon which varies through a continuum of successive stages as the condition becomes more severe. Each stage consists of characteristic conditions and experiences of food insufficiency to fully meet the basic needs of household members, and of the behavioral responses of household members to these conditions. A variety of indicators is needed to capture the various combinations of food conditions, experiences, and behaviors that, as a group, characterize each such stage.

In order to determine the level of food insecurity in Broward County, the Broward Regional Health Planning Council conducted a hunger survey, refer to Appendix 1. This survey collects current data regarding the true status of food insecurity in Broward County. The survey was based on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) U.S. Household Food Security Survey (HFSS).

The HFSS was developed by a Federal interagency working group which formed the Food Security Measurement Project in 1992. Throughout this development of the survey, one objective held firmly in view was to make the final measure appropriate and feasible for use in locally designed and conducted food security surveys. This objective was achieved with the

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food security core survey module. The key strength of the measure is that its multiple indicator questions capture and distinguish the *various levels of severity* throughout *the full range of severity* with which the phenomenon of food insecurity/ hunger is experienced in U.S. conditions. This feature is critical for accurately assessing the *prevalence* of food insecurity because the greater the severity, the less the prevalence and each separate indicator captures a *different degree* of severity. The frequency of the multiple indicators varies widely depending upon *exactly which* level of severity each one reflects. The survey measures a household's financial ability or constraints in obtaining enough food for the entire year.

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Methodology

The Broward Regional Health Planning Council contracted with Surveyors to conduct 900 hunger surveys which targeted persons with a median household income of \$35,000 or less. Surveyors conducted these activities at venues such as North Broward Hospital District, Memorial Health Care System, Social Security Administration and Broward Community and Family Health Center Sites; see Appendix 2 for a list of sites. Survey participants were provided a \$10.00 gift certificate to Publix, upon successful completion of the survey.

Overview

Broward County's survey consisted of the 18 item "core module" set of indicators that is used in the USDA Food Security Survey. For the main purpose of assessing the prevalence of food insecurity/hunger at each of its several measurable levels of severity among U.S. households, the 18 item core module has been shown to be a stable, robust, and reliable measurement tool. The standard 6 item subset of the core module indicator questions also has been designed to reliably capture the first two thresholds identified in the full continuum measured by the food security/hunger scale, i.e., the threshold of identifiable household food insecurity and the threshold of identifiable hunger among household members. Testing has shown this standard subset to be significantly more reliable in classifying households accurately to the appropriate food security status level than alternative small, idiosyncratic sets of food security indicators selected on impressionistic or "face validity" grounds alone.

This survey provides local survey findings that can be compared directly with national and state level standard benchmark statistics published annually by USDA, and with many national or regional level tabulations of population subgroups available in the USDA reports.

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The Core Module has been designed, not only for use in national surveys, but also for local groups wanting to determine the extent and severity of food insecurity and hunger within their own communities, using a technically well grounded and tested method to produce local prevalence estimates comparable with national and state level standard benchmark figures. According to the USDA, local studies using either the Core Module or the standard 6-item subset can play a key role in documenting the presence of hunger in the community as measured under standard national practice, in providing a sound base for broader community needs assessment, and in helping focus attention on unmet food security needs within the community.

What is Household Food Security?

Extensive research in the late 1980s focused on understanding household food security, food insecurity, and hunger. This work led to the development by an expert working group of the American Institute of Nutrition of the following conceptual definitions, which were published in 1990 by the Life Sciences Research Office (LSRO) of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology:

- **Food security** — “Access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food security includes at a minimum: (1) the ready availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, and (2) an assured ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways (e.g., without resorting to emergency food supplies, scavenging, stealing, or other coping strategies).”
- **Food insecurity** — “Limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.”
- **Hunger** — “The uneasy or painful sensation caused by a lack of food. The recurrent and involuntary lack of access to food. Hunger may produce malnutrition over time.... Hunger ... is a potential, although not necessary, consequence of food insecurity.”

Food insecurity and hunger, as used above, are conditions resulting from *financial resource constraint*. Hunger, for example, can occur in many situations, including dieting and being too busy to eat. The measurement procedure however, is concerned only with food insecurity and hunger that occur because the household does not have enough food or money to buy food. Hunger, in this perspective, may be seen as a severe stage or level of food insecurity, rather than as a distinct or separate condition from the more general experience of food insecurity. Moreover, while this condition is usually associated with poverty, it is not the same thing as general income inadequacy. Rather, it is the condition of deprivation in this one area of basic need; its measurement captures the severity of deprivation due to resource constraint in this one specific area of need, as directly experienced and described by respondents

Why Measure Food Security?

One of the continuing aims of U.S. public policy in the latter half of the 20th century has been to assure that all Americans have enough to eat. Current USDA policy is to achieve this goal for the United States by the year 2010. Food security is an essential, universal dimension of household

and personal well-being. The deprivation of basic need represented by food insecurity and hunger are undesirable in their own right and also are possible precursors to nutritional, health, and developmental problems. Monitoring food security can help to identify and understand this basic aspect of well-being of the population and to identify population subgroups or regions with unusually severe conditions. Accurate measurement and monitoring of these conditions can help public officials, policy makers, service providers, and the public at large to assess the changing needs for assistance and the effectiveness of existing programs. Determining the food security status of the households in Broward County can provide an indispensable tool for assessment and planning. Traditional income and poverty measures do not provide clear information about food security, even though food insecurity and hunger stem from constrained financial resources. National analysis of food security data shows that many low-income households appear to be food secure, whereas a small percentage of non-poor households appear insecure. The reasons for these differences are not yet well understood, although they probably include unexpected changes in circumstances, variations in household decisions about how to handle competing demands for limited resources, and geographic patterns of relative costs and availability of food and other basic necessities, such as housing.

How Is Food Security Measured?

The full range of food insecurity and hunger cannot be captured by any single indicator. Instead, a household's level of food insecurity or hunger must be determined by obtaining information on a variety of specific conditions, experiences, and behaviors that serve as indicators of the varying degrees of severity of the condition. The "core module" of food security questions asks about the following kinds of household conditions, events, behaviors, and subjective reactions:

- Anxiety that the household food budget or food supply may be insufficient to meet basic needs;
- The experience of running out of food, without money to obtain more;
- Perceptions by the respondent that the food eaten by household members was inadequate in quality or quantity;
- Adjustments to normal food use, substituting fewer and cheaper foods than usual;
- Instances of reduced food intake by adults in the household, or consequences of reduced intake such as the physical sensation of hunger or loss of weight; and
- Instances of reduced food intake or consequences of reduced intake, for children in the household.

All of the core module food security questions have two characteristics in common. Each question aims to assure that the reported behavior or condition occurred because of household financial limitations by including phrases such as "because we couldn't afford that" or "because there wasn't enough money for food." Also, each question asks explicitly about circumstances that occurred during the past 12 months.

The topics covered by the food security questions reflect the findings of previous research, which show that households go through different experiential and behavioral stages as food insecurity becomes more severe. In the first stage, households experience inadequacy in food supplies and food budgets, feel anxiety about the sufficiency of their food to meet basic needs, and make adjustments to their food budgets and types of food served. As the situation becomes more

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severe, the food intake of adults is reduced and adults experience hunger, but they spare the children this experience. In the third stage, children also suffer reduced food intake and hunger and adults' reductions in food intake are more dramatic. Not all households fits this pattern in exactly the same way, but U.S. households generally show a high degree of commonality in their patterns of perception and response to experienced food inadequacy across these several levels or ranges of severity.

Although the core module questions cover the key central dimensions of household food insecurity, they do not represent all aspects of the phenomenon. The questions focus on whether the household has *enough* food or money to meet its basic food needs and on the normal behavioral and subjective responses to that condition, as these have been observed. Other elements of the broad, conceptual definition of food security, such as food safety, nutritional quality of diets, and "social acceptability" of food sources, including the unusual and sometimes ingenious coping behaviors that food insecure households may undertake to augment their food supply, are not measured by the food security scale. Similarly, other possible sources of household food insecurity apart from financial constraint, such as reduced mobility or function for isolated elderly or ill persons, are not captured by the measure.

What Is the Household Food Security Scale?

The set of food security questions included in the core survey module can be combined into a single overall measure called the food security scale. This is a continuous, linear scale which measures the degree of severity of food insecurity/hunger experienced by a household in terms of a single numerical value. These scale values vary across a wide range that expresses the full range of severity of food insecurity/hunger as observed in U.S. households. The unit of measure used for the scale has been chosen such that the full range of severity measured by the standard U.S. food security scale is expressed by numerical values ranging from 0 to 10.

The statistical procedure that determines a household's scale value is rather complicated, but fundamentally it depends on the *number* of increasingly severe indications of food insecurity that the household has experienced, as indicated by affirmative responses to the increasingly severe *sequence* of survey questions. A household with a scale value of 6, for example, has responded affirmatively to *more*, and typically to *more severe*, indicators of food insecurity than a household with a scale value of three (3). A household that has not experienced any of the conditions of food insecurity covered by the core module questions will be assigned a scale value of 0, while a household that has experienced all of them will have a scale value close to 10.

In general, the set of core module questions works systematically together to provide a measurement tool for identifying, with considerable sensitivity, the level of severity of food insecurity/hunger experienced in a household.

In interpreting the scale, it is important to remember that what it measures is the sufficiency of household food as directly experienced by household members and not necessarily the nutritional adequacy of diets as a nutritionist would measure it. It is reasonable to expect that households with higher scale values have nutritionally less adequate diets than households with lower scale values, but one cannot draw that conclusion from the scale values alone. Note also that the scale represents the condition of *household members as a group*, not necessarily the condition of any

particular person in the household. Some questions apply to the household as a whole, such as “the food we bought just didn’t last, and we didn’t have money to get more.” Others ask about the experience of adults in the household as a group, or children as a group. If the household includes more than one adult or more than one child, the core module questions do not indicate how many or which of the adults or children experienced the condition.

In the national data, the large majority of households have scale values of 0, indicating that within the past year they did not experience any of the conditions of food insecurity covered in the core module questions. Only a tiny fraction of households have values close to the most severe level of food insecurity measured by the questions. Surveys measuring food insecurity for special populations, particularly low-income populations, usually show higher average scale values, but it is still likely that in current U.S. population surveys most household scale values will be concentrated at the lower end of the range.

How Is the Household's Food Security Status Determined?

The food security scale can be simplified into a small set of categories, each one representing a meaningful *range of severity* on the underlying scale, enabling one to discuss the percentage of the population in each of these categories. Four categories have been defined for this purpose:

- ***Food secure*** — Households show no or minimal evidence of food insecurity.
- ***Food insecure without hunger*** — Food insecurity is evident in household members’ concerns about adequacy of the household food supply and in adjustments to household food management, including reduced quality of food and increased unusual coping patterns. Little or no reduction in members’ food intake is reported.
- ***Food insecure with hunger (moderate)*** — Food intake for adults in the household has been reduced to an extent that implies that adults have repeatedly experienced the physical sensation of hunger. In most (but not all) food insecure households with children, such reductions are not observed at this stage for children.
- ***Food insecure with hunger (severe)*** — At this level, all households with children have reduced the children’s food intake to an extent indicating that the children have experienced hunger. For some other households with children, this already has occurred at an earlier stage of severity. Adults in households with and without children have repeatedly experienced more extensive reductions in food intake.

Sometimes it is preferable to combine the third and fourth groups into a single broader category and to use the term ***food insecure with hunger*** for the combined categories.

A household is classified into one of the food security status level categories on the basis of its score on the food security scale, while the household's scale score is determined by its overall pattern of response to the set of indicator questions. Households with very low scale scores are those that report no, or very limited, food insecurity or hunger experiences. These households are classified as food secure. At the other extreme, households with very high scale scores are those

that have reported a large number of the conditions and are classified as food insecure with hunger (severe), i.e., with hunger at the most severe level measured in the U.S.

The more meaningful separations are those that fall in the middle ranges of the scale. Here, households that affirm at least three of the indicator conditions are classified as food insecure. Most of these are classified "*food insecure without hunger*," as the presence of enough indicators, of sufficient severity level to establish confidently the presence of hunger among household members, is lacking. A smaller number of the food insecure households show measured severity levels higher up the scale, and have affirmed at least three of the (usually adult) hunger indicators. These households are deemed to be reporting enough indications of food insecurity and reduced food intake to establish a high probability of hunger among household members, and accordingly are classified "*food insecure with hunger*".

How Does the Household Measure Relate to the Food Security of Individual Household Members?

The food security scale represents the condition of *household members as a group*, and not necessarily the condition of any particular household member. In general, conditions of food insecurity are believed to affect all household members, although not necessarily in the same way. By contrast, hunger is a uniquely individual phenomenon--some members of the household may be hungry while others are not. Consequently, when the scale measure classifies a household into the more severe range, food insecure with hunger, what it tells us is that at least some member, or members, of the household are experiencing hunger due to insufficiency of household resources, but not necessarily all members. The resultant prevalence figures for the estimated number and percent of households that are food insecure with hunger thus need to be interpreted carefully. These are households with evidence to indicate that some member(s) has/have been hungry due to lack of resources at least sometime during the prior 12 months, but not necessarily all members and not necessarily in all, or even most, months.

Similarly, the estimated numbers of all persons--adults and children--in households that are food insecure with hunger need to be interpreted carefully. Not all such individuals necessarily have experienced hunger within the survey period, based on strict interpretation of what the data tell us. For adults in such households this distinction may not be very important. That is, when the household is impacted by food insecurity due to inadequate resources for food, at the level of seriousness such that any adult members are experiencing hunger, preliminary evidence suggests that most, if not all, adults in the household are likely to be similarly hungry.

However, the situation for children in the household appears to be quite different. That is, when the household is reporting conditions of food insecurity severe enough to provide clear evidence of hunger for adults, this in itself does not indicate that children in the household are hungry, especially if they are young children. The common pattern of behavior in most U.S. households with children, and especially in those with younger children, is for adults to undergo comparatively severe levels of hunger for themselves before the first indications of hunger appear among the children. Thus, in households with children that are classified "food insecure with hunger (moderate)," the food security measure shows clear evidence of adults' hunger but does not *necessarily* show evidence of children's hunger. Consequently, the only inferences

about children's hunger that can be made confidently from the unidimensional household level food security measure is that children in food insecure households are at *significantly higher risk* of hunger than other children, and that this risk rises sharply as the severity level of the food insecurity experienced in the household rises.

The most severe category specified in the original design of the household measure, the category designated "food insecure with hunger (severe)," was intended to provide a proxy estimate of children's hunger when applied to households with children. At this level of severity (0.8 percent of all households in 1995) households with children do indeed all show clear evidence of children's hunger, while adults in the same households (as well as in households without children at the same severity level) are reporting going whole days without eating due to lack of resources. However, using this categorical measure based on the unidimensional household scale as a proxy for children's hunger is problematic because it *misses* substantial numbers of households that also show clear evidence of children's hunger, even though, as households, they do not reach the overall level of severity that defines the food insecure with hunger (severe) category. In other words, some households do not fit the common behavioral pattern. Instead, their response patterns indicate that children in these households, and especially if they are older children, are hungry at nearly the same severity level of overall household food insecurity at which adult hunger indicators appear.

Limitations of the Food Security Measure

The food security survey has limitations which are noted below:

- The food security scale does not capture all possible dimensions of food insecurity. It does not measure food safety, nutritional status, or the availability of food through “socially acceptable” channels, nor does it measure community level factors such as the nature and sources of the available food supply.
- The U.S. standard food security measure reflects the household’s situation over the 12 months before the interview. A household that experienced food insecurity at some time during the past year (or other period), and therefore is considered food insecure, may in fact be food secure at the time of the interview.
- Each of the specific boundaries used to identify categories of the food security status variable could be debated, with some people arguing that the boundary understates the number of households that are “truly” in a category, and others arguing that the boundary exaggerates the number. The status categories are therefore most useful in making comparisons. As long as the boundary is defined and measured consistently, one can be reasonably sure that an increase or decrease in the percent of households classified in a category represents a true increase or decrease in the number of households experiencing that general level of food insecurity or hunger.
- The food security scale has been found reliable for describing the status of a population. It has not yet been proven reliable for assessing the status of an individual household, as in a clinical screening context.

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THE FOOD SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE CORE MODULE

A measure was sought for the *severity* of household food insecurity, as the condition of deprivation in basic need for food had come to be understood from the existing research findings. Measuring the severity of food insecurity at the *various* levels at which households experience it is a necessary step in estimating the *prevalence* of food insecurity at any *specified* level of severity in a population. The 18 questions provide the indicator variables that underlie the standard measurement scale for severity of U.S. food insecurity and hunger. This question set, termed the "core module" for U.S. food security measurement, covers the full range of severity observed under current U.S. conditions for households both with and without children. Each household's overall pattern of response to these questions determines its score on the food security scale and its classification by food security status level.

Assigning Scale Values to Households with Complete Responses and Classifying Households by Food Security Status Level

Two measures of households' food security can be computed from the core module data. Both of these measures capture the underlying phenomenon of food insecurity/hunger throughout the several identifiable levels or ranges of severity as these are experienced and reported by U.S. households. Each measure locates the position of the household with respect to the ordered series of indicator items comprising the core module, based on the household's overall pattern of response to the complete set of indicators.

The relationship between the two forms of the food security measure, and the respective ways in which they represent the underlying phenomenon being measured, may be thought of as a *continuum* of increasingly severe conditions and experiences, and of the household's behavioral responses to these. The level of food security for each household can be visualized as falling at some point on this continuum, which extends from fully secure at one limit to a severe level of food insecurity, with experiences of hunger due to lack of resources to obtain food for both adults and children, at the other.

In principle, the continuous food security *scale* measure is the more fundamental of the two forms. Since the scale actually measures the severity of food *insecurity*, the condition of fully secure, which represents the *absence* of the measured condition, is assigned a scale value of zero. The most severe condition, represented by presence of all the available indicators, is assigned a scale value approaching ten. Thus, the full range of the continuum captured by the measure is indicated by scale scores ranging from zero to ten.

The food security status level measure reflects meaningful *ranges of severity* that are *defined on* the underlying scale. The categorical form of the measure is appropriate for comparing prevalence's of food insecurity and hunger across subpopulations or regions, and is often the more convenient form for reporting food security monitoring data and for preliminary or exploratory research into the nature, causes, and consequences of food insecurity and hunger. It also is more readily understandable in that it captures the most important thresholds of experience and behavior that appear in the underlying continuous phenomenon--the transitions

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for the household from "food secure" to "food insecure" and from "food insecure without hunger" to "food insecure with hunger."

The food security scale values and status level classifications are both determined by reference to a table of the standard values estimated for the U.S. population from the CPS food security data. Both the scale value and the status level classification of each survey household depend on (1) the number of affirmative answers the respondent has given and (2) whether the household has children, i.e., members less than 18 years old.

Broward County Hunger Survey Results

In Broward County, 909 persons were surveyed with regard to their food security. Of these, 837 surveys were determined valid. The remaining 72 surveys are not included in this report as either the persons surveyed were above the household income level of \$35,000 or resided out of county zip codes.

Overall Summary

All interviewed households were classified into one of four categories: food secure, food insecure without hunger, and food insecure with hunger either severe or moderate. The findings of the survey indicated the following:

- 358 persons did not have children
- 479 have children
- The majority of those surveyed (34.2%) without children were food insecure with moderate hunger
- The majority of those surveyed (35%) with children were food insecure without hunger.
- In total, only 117 persons surveyed, or 14%, were food secure.

**Table 1
Summary of Food Security**

| Children | Food Insecure with Severe Hunger | % Food Insecure with Severe Hunger | Food Insecure with Moderate Hunger | % Food Insecure with Moderate Hunger | Food Insecure Without Hunger | % Food Insecure Without Hunger | Food Secure | % Food Secure | Total |
|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| Yes | 80 | 16.7% | 159 | 33.2% | 186 | 38.8% | 54 | 11.3% | 479 |
| No | 61 | 17.0% | 127 | 35.5% | 107 | 29.9% | 63 | 17.6% | 358 |
| Total | 141 | 16.8% | 286 | 34.2% | 293 | 35% | 117 | 14% | 837 |

Food security is defined as access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life and is one of several conditions necessary for a population to be healthy and well nourished.

Households that answer yes to 3 or more of the 18 core food security questions are classified as “food insecure.” The three least severe conditions that would classify a household as food insecure are:

- They worried whether their food would run out before they got money to buy more.
- The food they bought didn’t last, and they didn’t have money to get more.
- They couldn’t afford to eat balanced meals.

A household would also be food insecure if it reported any combination of three or more situations, including any more severe conditions.

Households classified as “food insecure with hunger” report, at a minimum, all of the above food insecurity items and also:

- Adults ate less than they felt they should/needed.
- Adults cut the size of meals or skipped meals and did so in 3 or more months.

Many households report additional, more severe experiences and behaviors as well. If there are children in the household, questions asking about their experiences and behaviors are also assessed, and an additional two affirmative responses are required for classification as food insecure with hunger.

Food secure - Households show no or minimal evidence of food insecurity.

Food insecure without hunger – Food insecurity is evident in household members’ concerns about adequacy of the household food supply and in adjustments to household food management, including reduced quality of food and increased unusual coping patterns. Little or no reduction in members’ food intake is reported.

Food insecure with hunger evident (moderate) - Food intake for adults in the household has been reduced to an extent that implies that adults have repeatedly experienced the physical sensation of hunger. In most (but not all) **food insecure households with children**, such reductions are not observed at this stage for children.

Food insecure with hunger evident (severe) - At this level, all households with children have reduced the children’s food intake to an extent indicating that the children have experienced hunger. For some other households with children, this already has occurred at an earlier stage of severity. Adults in households with and without children have repeatedly experienced more extensive reductions in food intake.

Demographic Profile

The demographic profile of those surveyed demonstrates the following:

- 19.8% of the persons surveyed resided in zip code 33311 and of those surveyed 63.3% had children (Table 2).
- 51.9% of the persons identified themselves as Black, Non-Hispanic followed by 18.5% identifying themselves as Hispanic (Table 3).
- 38.7% were high school graduates or had a GED, and 21.6% had some high school, but did not graduate (Table 4).
- English is the primary language for 85.9% of the population surveyed (Table 5).
- A disability was indicated by 31.8% or 234 of those surveyed. Of the 234, over half or 52.1% had children.

**Table 2
Top Zip Codes of Respondents
With and Without Children**

| | 33311 | 33313 | 33312 | 33023 | 33060 | 33064 | 33024 | 33068 | 33065 | 33069 | 33063 | 33319 | 33020 | Total | % of All Zips |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Children | 105 | 39 | 28 | 25 | 24 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 357 | 75% |
| No Children | 61 | 22 | 13 | 29 | 17 | 9 | 12 | 6 | 4 | 14 | 9 | 8 | 28 | 232 | 65% |

**Table 3
Race/Ethnicity of Respondents
With and Without Children**

| | White, Non Hispanic | Black, Non-Hispanic | Haitian | Hispanic | American Indian/Alaskan Native | Asian Pacific Islander | Mixed Race/Ethnicity | Other |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------|----------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Children | 39 | 275 | 37 | 91 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 19 |
| No Children | 83 | 159 | 16 | 64 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 20 |

**Table 4
Education of Respondents
With and Without Children**

| | Eighth Grade or Less | Some High School Did not Graduate | High School Grad or GED | Some College/Tech School | Tech/Trade School or Apprentice | College Degree | Graduate Work | Other |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Children | 25 | 107 | 196 | 92 | 0 | 53 | 5 | 1 |
| No Children | 37 | 74 | 128 | 76 | 1 | 38 | 4 | 0 |

**Table 5
Language Most Often Spoken In Home of Respondents
With and Without Children**

| | English | Spanish | Creole | Portuguese | French | Other |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Children | 379 | 73 | 18 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| No Children | 284 | 57 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 4 |

U.S. Household Food Security Survey Results for Broward County

When respondents were asked the statement that best describes the food eaten in their household in the last twelve (12) months, the respondents answered as follows:

| | | Food Insecure with Severe Hunger | Food Insecure with Moderate Hunger | Food Insecure Without Hunger | Food Secure | Total | % Of Total |
|--|--------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Enough of the Kinds of Food We Want to Eat | Children | 5 | 22 | 31 | 32 | 90 | 19.1% |
| | No Children | 4 | 8 | 28 | 29 | 69 | 19.0% |
| Enough but Not Always the Kinds of Food We Want | Children | 17 | 81 | 85 | 20 | 203 | 43.2% |
| | No Children | 25 | 82 | 60 | 24 | 191 | 52.6% |
| Sometimes not Enough to Eat | Children | 37 | 42 | 21 | 1 | 101 | 21.5% |
| | No Children | 25 | 24 | 15 | 6 | 70 | 19.3% |
| Often Not Enough | Children | 13 | 14 | 48 | 0 | 75 | 16.0% |
| | No Children | 15 | 13 | 4 | 1 | 33 | 9.1% |
| Don't Know or Refused | Children | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.2% |
| | No Children | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |

When comparing the totals overall to that of Palm Beach County’s Food Security Survey, it can be seen that more people in Broward County felt that they had enough but not always the kinds of food they wanted, as opposed to Palm Beach who had enough of the kinds of foods.

| | Broward | % of Broward | Palm Beach | % of Palm Beach |
|--|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Enough of the Kinds of Food We Want to Eat | 159 | 19.1% | 137 | 55.5% |
| Enough but Not Always the Kinds of Food We Want | 394 | 47.3% | 60 | 24.3% |
| Sometimes not Enough to Eat | 171 | 20.5% | 37 | 15.0% |
| Often Not Enough | 108 | 13.0% | 11 | 4.5% |
| Don't Know or Refused | 1 | 0.1% | 2 | 0.8% |

Those respondents who answered above that they “Sometimes not enough to eat” or “Often not enough” were then asked reasons why. Below are their responses:

| | With Children | | Without Children | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Not Enough Money for Food | 172 | 2 | 100 | 2 |
| Not Enough Time for Shopping or Cooking | 64 | 110 | 46 | 56 |
| Too Hard to Get to the Store | 67 | 105 | 44 | 55 |
| On A Diet | 23 | 150 | 31 | 67 |
| No Working Stove Available | 28 | 146 | 28 | 70 |
| Not Able to Cook or Eat Because of Health Problems | 10 | 151 | 22 | 73 |

As can be seen those with and without children answered most often that they did not have enough money for food. This was consistent with the Palm Beach survey, who recorded “Not Enough Money for Food” most often.

Core Module Stage 1 Questions

Stage 1 Questions were asked to all households regarding their food situation. For each statement they answered either “often true”, “sometimes true” or “never true”.

| In the last 12 months I worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Often True | Sometimes True | Never True | DK/ Refused |
| With Children | 106 | 303 | 62 | 8 |

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|----|---|
| Without Children | 81 | 216 | 59 | 2 |
|------------------|----|-----|----|---|

| In the last 12 months the food that we bought just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more | | | | |
|---|------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| | Often True | Sometimes True | Never True | DK/Refused |
| With Children | 81 | 304 | 82 | 13 |
| Without Children | 72 | 220 | 61 | 5 |

| In the last 12 months we couldn't afford to eat balanced meals | | | | |
|--|------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| | Often True | Sometimes True | Never True | DK/Refused |
| With Children | 75 | 289 | 109 | 6 |
| Without Children | 77 | 200 | 77 | 4 |

Of those who answered “often true” or “sometimes true” to the questions above, their level of food security was as follows:

In the last 12 months I worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more: Food insecure with Hunger Severe, 141, Food Insecure with Hunger Moderate, 278 or a total of 419 or 50.7% of the respondents.

In the last 12 months the food that we bought just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more: Food insecure with Hunger Severe, 139 Food Insecure with Hunger Moderate, 276 or a total of 415 or 50.6% of the respondents.

In the last 12 months we couldn't afford to eat balanced meals: Food insecure with Hunger Severe, 136 Food Insecure with Hunger Moderate, 263 or a total of 399 or 48.2% of the respondents.

Respondents who answered **all** of the above questions “never true” or “don't know” or “refused” the survey was complete. Otherwise the following, Stage 2, questions were asked. For households who had children, in addition to the following questions, questions pertaining to the children were also asked.

Core Module Stage 2 Questions

| In the last 12 months did you or other adults ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food? | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------------|
| | Yes | No | DK/Refused |
| With Children | 269 | 180 | 30 |

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| | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Without Children | 216 | 118 | 24 |
|------------------|-----|-----|----|

If respondents answered yes to the above they were then asked:

| How often did this happen? | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | Almost every month | Some months but not every month | Only 1 or 2 months |
| With Children | 43 | 134 | 84 |
| Without Children | 52 | 100 | 61 |

When comparing these answers to those of Palm Beach County Food Security Survey, 61.9% of the respondents answered “yes” they cut the size of their meals as compared to 38.9% of Palm Beach Respondents, and in both counties this occurred in “some month but not every month”.

All respondents were then asked the following:

| In the last 12 months did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money to buy food? | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| With Children | 269 | 160 | 50 |
| Without Children | 223 | 105 | 30 |

| In the last 12 months did you ever hungry but didn't eat because you couldn't afford enough food? | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| With Children | 194 | 233 | 52 |
| Without Children | 189 | 141 | 28 |

| In the last 12 months did you lose weight because you didn't have enough money for food? | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| With Children | 116 | 316 | 47 |
| Without Children | 116 | 213 | 29 |

| In the last 12 months did you or other adults in your household ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food? | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| With Children | 127 | 266 | 86 |
| Without Children | 113 | 171 | 74 |

If respondents answered yes to above they were then asked:

| How often did this happen? | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | Almost every month | Some months but not every month | Only 1 or 2 months |
| With Children | 19 | 57 | 43 |
| Without Children | 21 | 46 | 36 |

Questions pertaining to children

The following questions were asked to those households who had children 18 and under:

| In the last 12 months we relied on only a few kinds of low-cost food to feed the children because we were running out of money to buy food | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Often True | Sometimes True | Never True | DK/ Refused |
| 92 | 279 | 46 | 62 |

| We couldn't feed our children a balanced meal because we couldn't afford that | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Often True | Sometimes True | Never True | DK/ Refused |
| 54 | 258 | 118 | 49 |

| The children were not eating enough because we just couldn't afford enough food | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Often True | Sometimes True | Never True | DK/ Refused |
| 49 | 228 | 159 | 43 |

Broward County’s respondents answered “Sometimes True” most often in the above questions, while Palm Beach respondents answered “Never” most frequently.

If respondents answered yes to the above question, they were then asked:

| How often did this happen? | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | Almost every month | Some months but not every month | Only 1 or 2 months |
| With Children | 11 | 36 | 23 |

Respondents were then asked:

| In the last 12 months did you ever cut the size of your child's meals because there wasn't enough money for food? | | |
|--|-----------|--------------------|
| Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| 149 | 250 | 80 |

| In the last 12 months did your children ever skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food? | | |
|--|-----------|--------------------|
| Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| 80 | 307 | 92 |

If respondents answered yes to the above question, they were then asked:

| How often did this happen? | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Almost every month | Some months but not every month | Only 1 or 2 months |
| 11 | 36 | 23 |

The final two questions to those respondents with children were:

| In the last 12 months were your children ever hungry but you just couldn't afford more food? | | |
|---|-----------|--------------------|
| Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| 123 | 266 | 90 |

| In the last 12 months did your children ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food? | | |
|---|-----------|--------------------|
| Yes | No | DK/ Refused |
| 25 | 364 | 90 |

Comparison to 2004 USDA Food Security Survey

Broward County responses were compared to the 2004 USDA Food Security Survey (USDA FSS). The USDA FSS reported that, on average, between 2002-2004, 11.4% of the US households were food insecure and that 10.8% of Florida households were food insecure.

While the USDA does report individual data for both adults and children at the national level each year, the USDA refers to these individuals as “living in food insecure or hungry households.” When describing household data, the USDA describes them as households in which “one or more members were hungry at times during the year because there was not enough money for food.” However, when the Census Bureau interviews households about food security, they ask about experiences and behaviors of the household as a whole, not each person individually. The questions in the USDA FSS assess general household conditions, or about the household’s adults (collectively), or about the household’s children (collectively), but not about each adult’s or child’s food security individually. Research has shown that in households with children, the children are often protected from hunger even when adults are cutting and skipping

meals and, sometimes, even going whole days without eating. Only when food deprivation reaches severe levels among adults do children begin to go hungry. Younger children, especially, are protected from hunger except in very severe conditions or unusual circumstances. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that every person in a food insecure or hungry household is affected in the same way.

This factor makes it very difficult to properly determine the number of food insecure or hungry individuals in each household or each state.

Intuitively, it makes sense that many families who are considered poor by Census standards are also food insecure or hungry, and in many cases this is correct. However, this relationship is not a consistent one. A household can be below the poverty line in terms of income but be considered to be food secure as measured by the USDA FSS. On the other hand, a household can have an income above the poverty line but be considered food insecure.

Data from the USDA's annual publication Household Food Security in United States, 2002 shows that more than 5% of those households with incomes above 185% of the poverty line were considered food insecure. However, more than 60% of those households with incomes below 100% of the poverty line were considered to be food secure. Even though food insecurity and hunger stem from constrained financial resources, traditional income and poverty measures do not provide a clear enough picture about food security. The food security measure provides more detailed information about why a household may or may not be food secure.

Food security is the measure of a household condition, not that of each individual in the household. Therefore, not all individuals in a food insecure or hungry household are food insecure or hungry. This issue is especially important for young children, who are often shielded from even the most severe forms of food insecurity and hunger. The relationship between poverty and food insecurity is not a consistent one. A household can have an income below the poverty line and be considered food secure, and vice versa. Therefore, it is incorrect to assume that a state, county, region, or municipality's poverty prevalence rate is the same as their food insecurity or hunger prevalence rate.

Results for individual questions are listed below. It is important to note that the data presented for the USDS FSS is for all households regardless of income while for Broward County surveying was conducted to those with household incomes \$35,000 and below. The questions are divided into responses that are household, adult and child-based.

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| | US | | Broward | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| | Often True | Sometimes True | Often True | Sometimes True |
| Household Items: | | | | |
| Worried food would run out before we got money to buy more | 3.8% | 12.9% | 9.8% | 62.8% |
| Food bought didn't last and we didn't have money to get more | 2.5% | 10.6% | 18.7% | 63.9% |
| Couldn't Afford to eat balanced meals | 2.8% | 8.9% | 18.4% | 59.1% |
| Adult Items: | | | | |
| | Ever during the year | | Yes | No |
| Adult(s) cut size of meals or skipped meals | 6.6% | | 61.9% | 38.1% |
| Respondent ate less than felt he/she should | 6.3% | | 65.0% | 35.0% |
| Respondent hungry but didn't eat because couldn't afford | 3.1% | | 50.6% | 49.4% |
| Respondent lost weight | 2.0% | | 30.5% | 69.5% |
| Adult(s) did not eat for whole day | 1.3% | | 35.5% | 64.5% |
| Child Items: | | | | |
| | Often True | Sometimes True | Often True | Sometimes True |
| Relied on few kinds of low cost food to feed children | 4.0% | 13.1% | 22.1% | 66.9% |
| Couldn't feed children balanced meals | 1.8% | 8.0% | 12.6% | 60.0% |
| Children were not eating enough | 70.0% | 3.9% | 11.2% | 52.3% |
| | Ever during the year | | Yes | No |
| Cut size of children's meals | 1.2% | | 37.3% | 62.7% |
| Children were hungry | 1.0% | | 20.1% | 79.3% |
| Children skipped meals | 0.6% | | 31.6% | 68.4% |
| Children did not eat for whole day | 0.1% | | 6.4% | 93.4% |

The USDA FSS also looked at food security by race/ethnicity for all households and those with children. Broward County's results are compared to the 2004 USDA FSS below. Again it is important to note that income was not a factor in the USDA FSS survey but was in the Broward County survey.

| Race/ethnicity of households | Food Secure | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | All Households | | With Children | |
| | US | Broward | US | Broward |
| White, non-Hispanic | 91.4% | 22.1% | 87.3% | 23.1% |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 76.3% | 13.6% | 70.8% | 12.0% |
| Hispanic * | 78.3% | 7.7% | 73.2% | 4.4% |
| Other** | 88.9% | 15.1% | 84.7% | 10.8% |

* Hispanic can be of any race

**Other in Broward County includes Haitian, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian Pacific Islander, Mixed raced/ethnicity or other

Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc., Food Security Survey Report

| Race/ethnicity of households | Food Insecure without Hunger | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | All Households | | With Children | |
| | US | Broward | US | Broward |
| White, non-Hispanic | 5.7% | 29.5% | 12.3% | 28.2% |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 15.6% | 33.9% | 28.1% | 37.8% |
| Hispanic * | 15.8% | 42.6% | 25.8% | 44.0% |
| Other** | 6.7% | 34.9% | 14.0% | 41.9% |

* Hispanic can be of any race

**Other in Broward County includes Haitian, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian Pacific Islander, Mixed raced/ethnicity or other

| Race/ethnicity of households | Food Insecure with Hunger | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | All Households | | With Children | |
| | US | Broward | US | Broward |
| White, non-Hispanic | 2.9% | 48.4% | 0.4% | 48.7% |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 8.1% | 52.5% | 1.1% | 50.2% |
| Hispanic * | 5.9% | 49.6% | 1.0% | 51.6% |
| Other** | 4.5% | 50.0% | 1.3% | 47.3% |

* Hispanic can be of any race

**Other in Broward County includes Haitian, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian Pacific Islander, Mixed raced/ethnicity or other

If the USDA FSS survey was reviewed for those persons with income under 185% of poverty and compared to Broward County results, the following comparison can be made.

| | US* | | Broward** | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| | All Households | With Children | All Households | With Children |
| Food Secure | 67.3% | 58.8% | 14.0% | 11.3% |
| Food Insecure without Hunger | 21.0% | 39.2% | 35.0% | 38.8% |
| Food Insecure with Hunger | 11.7% | 2.1% | 51.0% | 49.9% |

* US is up to 185% of poverty level

** Broward is income \$35,000 and below

Finally, comparisons were made in household compositions as to the level of food security. As can be seen for those households that are “Food Secure”, the greatest level of “Food Secure” in Broward County came from those who are elderly living alone followed by men living alone. This differs from the US statistics in the greatest composition was with households with elderly followed by households with more than one adult. However in both surveys, female heads with no spouses had the lowest “Food Secure” percentage.

| Household Composition | Food Secure | |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------|
| | All Households | |
| | US | Broward |
| With children <18 | 82.4% | 11.3% |
| With children < 6 | 81.5% | 10.1% |
| Married-couple families | 88.4% | 16.0% |
| Female head, no spouse | 67.0% | 6.1% |
| Male head, no Spouse | 77.8% | 16.7% |
| With no children<18 | 91.1% | 17.6% |
| More than one adult | 93.3% | 14.8% |
| Women living alone | 88.2% | 15.2% |
| Men living alone | 87.7% | 22.8% |
| Households with elderly | 93.5% | 17.6% |
| Elderly living alone | 92.7% | 27.3% |

Those households that were “Food Insecure without Hunger”, depicted below, in the US the largest group was female head, no spouse while in Broward County it was households with elderly.

| Household Composition | Food Insecure without Hunger | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| | All Households | |
| | US | Broward |
| With children <18 | 13.3% | 38.8% |
| With children < 6 | 14.4% | 38.1% |
| Married-couple families | 6.3% | 35.1% |
| Female head, no spouse | 23.8% | 31.7% |
| Male head, no Spouse | 15.9% | 27.8% |
| With no children<18 | 5.1% | 29.9% |
| More than one adult | 4.2% | 33.5% |
| Women living alone | 6.4% | 28.3% |
| Men living alone | 6.4% | 25.3% |
| Households with elderly | 4.7% | 40.7% |
| Elderly living alone | 4.8% | 36.4% |

Finally, for those households that are “Food Insecure with Hunger”, the largest percentage for both the US and Broward County are female heads with no spouse. This is followed in Broward County by women living alone and in the US by men living alone. It is important to note however that in those households with children under six (6) years of age, over half of the households surveyed were “Food Insecure with Hunger”.

| Household Composition | Food Insecure with Hunger | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| | All Households | |
| | US | Broward |
| With children <18 | 4.3% | 49.9% |
| With children < 6 | 4.1% | 51.4% |
| Married-couple families | 2.3% | 48.9% |
| Female head, no spouse | 9.2% | 62.2% |
| Male head, no Spouse | 6.3% | 55.6% |
| With no children<18 | 3.8% | 52.5% |
| More than one adult | 2.5% | 51.7% |
| Women living alone | 5.4% | 56.6% |
| Men living alone | 5.9% | 51.9% |
| Households with elderly | 1.8% | 41.7% |
| Elderly living alone | 2.5% | 36.4% |

Recommendations

The USDA conducts surveying activity yearly and prefers the utilization of three years data prior to making assumptions about food security. It is the recommendation that the USDA FSS Core Module continue to be used on an annual basis to collect data on the status of food security in Broward County. Conducting these surveying activities can also assist in providing systematic monitoring of the community's progress in addressing hunger and other food security needs.

APPENDIX 1
Survey

Surveyor Name _____

Gift Card # _____

HOUSEHOLD AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. What zip code do you live in? _____

2. Including yourself, what are the ages and genders of the people in your household who share your food resources? Please indicate marital status and head of household.

| Person | Age if Child | Age range if adult | | | | Marital Status | Gender | Check if Head of Household |
|--------|--------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-----|----------------|--------|----------------------------|
| | | 19-24 | 25-34 | 35-64 | 65+ | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | |

3. What language is most often spoken in your home?

English Spanish Creole
 Portuguese French Other (Specify)

4. What is the second language most often spoken in your home?

English Spanish Creole
 Portuguese French Other (Specify)

5. What is the highest year in school that you have completed?

- Eighth grade or less
- Some High School, but did not graduate
- High School graduate or GED
- Some College/Technical School
- Technical/Trade or Apprentices Program
- College Degree
- Graduate Work or Degree
- Other (Specify) _____

6. For everyone who lives here and shares in the household food resources, what is the gross (before taxes) yearly income? Your best guess is fine.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Less than \$4,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$5,000 to \$9,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$15,000 to \$19,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$20,000 to \$24,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25,000 to \$35,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | |
| \$35,001 to \$44,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$45,000 to \$54,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$55,000 to \$64,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$65,000 to \$74,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$75,000 to \$84,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$85,000 to \$94,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$95,000 or more | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Refused | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Weekly _____ x 52 = _____

Monthly _____ x 12 = _____

CONTINUE ONLY IF ANNUAL INCOME IS \$35,000 OR BELOW

7. How do you identify your race/ethnicity? (Check only 1)

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| White, non Hispanic | <input type="checkbox"/> | American Indian / Alaskan Native | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Black, non Hispanic | <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Haitian | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mixed race/ethnicity | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hispanic | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- Pease indicate what Country _____

8. Do you, or does anyone in your household have a disability?

- Yes Type _____
- No Refused

U.S. HOUSEHOLD FOOD-SECURITY/HUNGER SURVEY MODULE

1. Which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household in the last 12 months?

- Enough of the kinds of food we want to eat [**Go to Q2**]
- Enough but not always the kinds of food we want [**Go to Q1b**]
- Sometimes not enough to eat [**Go to Q1a**]
- Often not enough [**Go to Q1a**]
- Don't Know or Refused (**Go to Q2**)

1a Here are some reasons why people don't always have enough to eat. For each one, please tell me if that is a reason why YOU don't always have enough to eat. [READ LIST. MARK ALL THAT APPLY.]

| | YES | NO | Don't Know |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Not enough money for food | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Not enough time for shopping or cooking | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Too hard to get to the store | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. On a diet | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. No working stove available | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Not able to cook or eat because of health problems | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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1b. Here are some reasons why people don't always have the quality or variety of food they want. For each one, please tell me if that is a reason why YOU don't always have the kinds of food you want to eat. [READ LIST. MARK ALL THAT APPLY.]

| | YES | NO | Don't Know |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Not enough money for food | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Kinds of food (I/we) want not available | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Not enough time for shopping or cooking | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Too hard to get to the store | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. On a special diet | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

GO TO QUESTION 2, PAGE 5

Stage 1: Questions 2-6 –Ask All Households

Now I'm going to read you several statements that people have made about their food situation. For these statements, please tell me whether the statement was often true, sometimes true, or never true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months, that is, since last (name of current month).

2. "In the last 12 months, I worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more." Was this:

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Often true** | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes true** | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never true* | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't Know or Refused* | <input type="checkbox"/> |

3. "In the last 12 months, the food that we bought just didn't last, and we didn't have money to get more." Was this:

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Often true** | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes true** | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never true* | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't Know or Refused* | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4. "In the last 12 months, we couldn't afford to eat balanced meals." Was this:

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Often true** | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes true** | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never true** | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't Know or Refused* | <input type="checkbox"/> |

*If answered Never True or Don't Know or Refused to all **survey is complete**

** If answered Often True or Sometimes True to at least one **CONTINUE SURVEY**

IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD,
GO TO Questions 5 – 7, Page 6

OTHERWISE GO TO Question 8, Page 7

**IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK Q5 – 7
IF NOT, GO TO Q8, Page 7**

5. "In the last 12 months, we relied on only a few kinds of low-cost food to feed the children because we were running out of money to buy food."
Was that:

| | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Often true | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes true | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never true | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't Know or Refused | <input type="checkbox"/> |

6. "(I/We) couldn't feed (my/our) child/the children) a balanced meal, because (I/we) couldn't afford that." Was that often, sometimes, or never true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months?

| | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Often true | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes true | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never true | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't Know or Refused | <input type="checkbox"/> |

7. "(My/Our child was/The children were) not eating enough because (I/we) just couldn't afford enough food." Was that often, sometimes, or never true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months?

| | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Often true | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes true | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never true | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't Know or Refused | <input type="checkbox"/> |

8. In the last 12 months, since last (name of current month), did (you/you or other adults in your household) ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

*Yes (Go to 8a) No (Go to 9)
Don't Know or Refused (Go to 9)

8a. **[IF YES ABOVE, ASK]** How often did this happen---almost every month, some months but not every month, or in only 1 or 2 months?

Almost every month Some months but not every month
Only 1 or 2 months Don't Know or Refused

9. In the last 12 months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money to buy food?

*Yes No Don't Know or Refused

10. In the last 12 months, were you ever hungry but didn't eat because you couldn't afford enough food?

*Yes No Don't Know or Refused

11. In the last 12 months, did you lose weight because you didn't have enough money for food?

*Yes No Don't Know or Refused

*** If yes to any of these questions go to question 12 otherwise the survey is complete.**

12. In the last 12 months, did (you/you or other adults in your household) ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?

*Yes No (SKIP 12a)
Don't Know or Refused (SKIP 12a)

12a. **[IF YES ABOVE, ASK]** How often did this happen---almost every month, some months but not every month, or in only 1 or 2 months?

Almost every month Some months but not every month
Only 1 or 2 months Don't Know or Refused

[If Children under 18 In Household, Ask 13-16; Otherwise Survey is completed.]

IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK Q 13 – 16
If not, Survey is complete

The next questions are about children living in the household who are under 18 years old.

13. In the last 12 months, since (current month) of last year, did you ever cut the size of (your child's/any of the children's) meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes No Don't Know or Refused

14. In the last 12 months, did (CHILD'S NAME/any of the children) ever skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes (Go to Q14a) No (Go to Q15)
Don't Know or Refused (Go to 15)

14a. **[IF YES ABOVE ASK]** How often did this happen---almost every month, some months but not every month, or in only 1 or 2 months?

Almost every month Some months but not every month
Only 1 or 2 months Don't Know or Refused

15. In the last 12 months, (was your child/ were the children) ever hungry but you just couldn't afford more food?

Yes No Don't Know or Refused

16. In the last 12 months, did (your child/any of the children) ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?

Yes No Don't Know or Refused

END OF FOOD-SECURITY/HUNGER CORE MODULE

APPENDIX 2

Survey Sites

Broward Community and Family Health Centers

- 1) 2518 N. State Road 7
Hollywood, FL 33021
- 2) 168 N. Powerline Road
Pompano Beach, FL 33069

Broward County Health Department

- 3) 205 NW 66th Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33060
- 4) 2421 SW 6th Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315
- 5) 4105 Pembroke Road
Hollywood, FL 33020

Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center

- 6) 1401 S. Federal Highway
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

Cooperative Feeding Program

- 7) 1 NW 33rd Terrace
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

Family Success Center

- 8) North Region
2011 NW 3rd Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33060
- 9) Central Region
3508 N. State Road 7
Lauderdale Lakes FL 33319

Family Success Center Continued

- 10) Northwest Region
10077 NW 29th Street
Coral Springs, FL 33065
- 11) South Region
4733 SW 18th Street
Hollywood, FL 33023
- 12) Refugee Services
2995 Dixie Hwy
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334
- 13) Homeless Services
4200 NW 16th Street, Suite 502
Lauderhill, FL 33313

Memorial Healthcare System

- 14) 140A S. Federal Hwy
Dania Beach, FL 33004
- 15) 6201 Johnson Street
Hollywood, FL
- 16) 4105 Pembroke Road
Hollywood, FL 33020

North Broward Hospital District

- 17) Primary Care
200 NW 7th Ave.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
- 18) Specialty Care
1111 W. Broward Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
- 19) Pompano Adult Primary Care Center
2011 NW 3rd Ave.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33060

Survey Sites Continued

20) Lauderhill Middle School Center
1901 NW 49th Ave.
Lauderhill, FL 33313

21) William Dandy Middle School Center
2400 NW 26th St.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

Social Security Administration

22) 2301 W. Sample Road
Pompano Beach, FL

23) 2276 Wilton Manor Drive
Wilton Manor, FL

24) 3511 N. Pine Island Road.
Sunrise, FL

25) 500 N. Hiatus Road
Pembroke Pines, FL

26) 1000 W. Hallandale Beach Blvd.
Hallandale Beach, FL