

GLOBAL FOOD INSECURITY

It is currently estimated that between 691 million to 783 million people were hungry globally in 2022. In addition, food insecurity rose from 25.3% in 2019 to 29.6% in 2022, with severe food insecurity affecting 11.3% of the global population. (The World Bank, Food Insecurity Update, October 2023)



FOOD INSECURITY AMONG CUNY STUDENTS

According to a 2022 Healthy CUNY Survey:

- 40% of CUNY students - about 110,000 people - across 25 campuses citywide, live with "low" or "very low" food security, - 2022 Healthy CUNY Survey report
- Food Insecurity can lead to malnutrition, an increase of feelings of stress and anxiety, and other serious health problems.
- Additionally, food insecurity may adversely affect academic performance, attendance, student retention, and rates of graduation.
- On-campus food pantries and resource centers are an effective way to ensure that students have consistent access to healthy food and can obtain other needed services.

(Hunter College Food Policy Center, Food Insecurity Among College Students Report, Feb. 2019)

FOOD INSECURITY IN THE USA

In 2021:

- 33.8 million people lived in food-insecure households, including 5 million children
- According to numerous studies, 20% to 50% of college students in the U.S. experience food insecurity, which is consistently higher than that of the general population.

(US Dept of Agriculture, Economic Research Service Report, 2021)

FOOD INSECURITY IN NEW YORK

According to the Mayor's Office of Food Policy 2002 Annual Report:

- An estimated 1.2 million (14.6%) New York City residents were food insecure.
- Areas where residents cannot access affordable and nutritious food contribute to hunger and food insecurity.
- Hunger and food insecurity are prevalent among children, college students, the elderly, minority groups and undocumented immigrants.
- New York City's residents make up 50% of all food insecure people living in New York State

BMCC ARC FOOD AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS

BMCC's Advocacy & Resource Center offers free services to students to ensure that they have the support they need to focus on their studies and succeed in college.

Panther Pantry:

Carries a diverse assortment of healthy foods: fresh vegetables and fruits, fresh beef, chicken (Halal, organic & conventional), fresh fish, and plant-based vegan items, as well as dry goods that contain low sodium & low/no sugar.

Food Insecurity is a household-level economic and social condition reflecting an inability to provide enough food for every person to live an active, healthy life.

Students visit the ARC Program & meet with a Student Life Specialist to access the numerous services ARC provides to address food shortages, financial hardship, emergency needs, and referrals to more in depth services.

Advocacy and Resource Center, BMCC main campus, 199 Chambers Street, Room S-230, 212-220-8195 arc@bmcc.cuny.edu