

# NATIVE FOOD ACCESS SURVEY

## DISSEMINATION TOOLKIT



**FRAC**

Food Research & Action Center





# 1 IN 4 AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES EXPERIENCE VERY LOW FOOD SECURITY

## FOOD INSECURITY:

A lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life.

**FOOD INSECURITY RATE RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS**  
**FOOD INSECURITY BY HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION**

Food insecurity rates are statistically significantly higher for respondents with children under age 18 in their household ( $p < 0.001$ ), with 56 percent experiencing food insecurity and 31 percent experiencing very low food security during COVID-19. Similarly, 59 percent of respondents with children under age 5 in their household experienced food insecurity and 33 percent experienced very low food security (Figure 4).

Households with children experiencing greater levels of food insecurity is a pattern consistent across online surveys of food insecurity conducted during COVID-19 and with the latest 2020 USDA Economic Research Service's (ERS) annual food security estimates. A recent review of other online surveys during COVID-19<sup>10</sup> provides evidence that regardless of the data source, studies consistently find that food hardship has increased during COVID-19 and is higher among households with children. Congruent with this pattern, USDA ERS's annual report, Household Food Security in the United States in 2020 (most of which was characterized by COVID-19) for households with children (14.8 percent) was higher than for those without children (8.8 percent).<sup>11</sup>

The rate of food insecurity for respondents with children under age 18 in their household was 14.8 percent, compared to 8.8 percent for those without children under age 18 in their household. The rate of very low food security for respondents with children under age 5 in their household was 33 percent, compared to 14.8 percent for those without children under age 5 in their household.

One common finding across all of the studies was that food hardship increased during COVID-19. The rate of food insecurity for respondents with children under age 5 in their household was 59 percent, compared to 33 percent for those without children under age 5 in their household. The rate of very low food security for respondents with children under age 5 in their household was 33 percent, compared to 14.8 percent for those without children under age 5 in their household.

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**REIMAGINING HUNGER RESPONSES IN TIMES OF CRISIS**  
Insights from Case Examples and a Survey of Native Communities' Food Access During COVID-19

Photo by Juni Youth Employment Program

**SELECT CHARACTERISTICS OF NAAF FOOD ACCESS SURVEY RESPONDENTS**

<b>MARITAL STATUS</b> 17% Divorced/Widowed 26% Single 46% Married 9% Domestic Partnership	<b>HOUSEHOLD SIZE</b> 3.8 household members on average
<b>INCOME</b> \$30,000 - \$50,000 in median household income	<b>OLDER ADULTS</b> 30% live in a household with an adult age 65 years old or older
<b>GENDER</b> 24% Male 72% Female 4% Two-Spirit	<b>AGE</b> 49 Average age is 49 with a range of 19 to 80

Source: Native American Agriculture Fund Food Access Survey

Reimagining Hunger Responses in Times of Crisis | 15

Logos: Native American Agriculture Fund, University of Arkansas, FRAC Food Research & Action Center

In February 2021, the Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF) launched a survey on food access gaps within Native American communities during COVID-19. Results showed that 49% of American Indian and Alaska Natives experienced food insecurity during COVID-19 and one in four experienced very low food security. The report “Reimagining Hunger Responses in Times of Crisis” illuminates the challenges of food security in Indian Country and the Tribally-driven solutions needed to address those challenges.



# INCREASING FOOD ACCESS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

SHARE THE [#NATIVEFOODACCESS](#) SURVEY

NAAF and FRAC are launching a new survey for continued research about food access, food sovereignty, and food security for Native American people that can help determine resources needed to improve access to nutritious food for tribal communities.

**SURVEY IS OPEN UNTIL JUNE 30**

[ACCESS SURVEY HERE](#)



**OUR ASK: USE THIS TOOLKIT TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF NATIVE AMERICAN FOOD INSECURITY AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO TAKE THE FOOD ACCESS SURVEY. WE HAVE PROVIDED SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS, GRAPHICS, AND A NEWSLETTER/EMAIL FOR YOU TO CUSTOMIZE FOR YOUR NETWORKS AND SPREAD THE MESSAGE.**

## **SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA CAPTIONS:**

- Take the #NativeFoodAccess Survey today! It's confidential and takes less than 15 minutes. Your valuable answers shed light on food access for Native American people and can help determine community resource needs. Find it here: [bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey](https://bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey)
- How can we improve food access in Native American and rural communities? The @NativeAgFund and @fractweets are surveying to gain a better perspective on the issues of food insecurity and hunger in Tribal areas. Make your voice heard and take the #NativeFoodAccess Survey today: [bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey](https://bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey)
- 1 in 4 Native Americans and Alaska Natives experience food insecurity - a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. We need your feedback to determine the resources needed to increase consistent food access for all. Make your voice heard and act today by completing the #NativeFoodAccess Survey. Find it here: [bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey](https://bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey)
- Food Insecurity impacts too many Native American households. Help us understand this important issue by taking the #NativeFoodAccess Survey today: [bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey](https://bit.ly/NAAF-2023Survey)



# DOWNLOADABLE SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS (CLICK THE IMAGE TO DOWNLOAD):

**1 IN 4 AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES EXPERIENCE VERY LOW FOOD SECURITY**

**HELP US UNDERSTAND WHY**  
TAKE THE [#NATIVEFOODACCESS](#) SURVEY TODAY

FRAC Food Research & Action Center

**FOOD INSECURITY:**  
A lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life.

**49% OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES EXPERIENCE FOOD INSECURITY**

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**HOW CAN YOU HELP INCREASE ACCESS TO FOOD?**

**#NATIVEFOODACCESS**

FRAC Food Research & Action Center

The findings from the survey will be used to share the depth of the issues of hunger and food access in Native American households. Your feedback matters!

15 Minute Survey

**TAKE SURVEY TODAY** →

**EQUITABLE FOOD ACCESS FOR ALL**

**NATIVE FOOD ACCESS SURVEY**

The findings from the survey will be used to share the depth of the issues of hunger and food access in Native American households.

15 Minute Survey

**TAKE SURVEY TODAY** →

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## SLIDER IMAGES FOR INSTAGRAM POSTS:



# #NATIVEFOODACCESS

[WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/NAAF2023](http://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/NAAF2023)



## FOOD ACCESS DATA:

- At least 48% of AI/AN have low food access, living greater than 10 miles from the grocery store.
- Food insecurity is higher among AI/AN households with children, employment disruption during COVID-19, or self-reported poor or fair health status
- 54% AI/AN sometimes or often during COVID-19 couldn't afford to eat balanced meals
- 37% of AI/AN households cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food in at least one month during COVID-19
- 34% ate less than they felt they should during COVID-19 because there wasn't enough money for food



## **SAMPLE NEWSLETTER/EMAIL LANGUAGE:**

4.9% of American Indian and Alaska Natives experienced food insecurity during COVID-19, and one in four experienced very low food insecurity.

The Native American Agriculture Fund is asking you to make your voice heard on food access barriers, food sovereignty, and food security in your household and tribal community to better inform stakeholders on addressing those challenges and invest in solutions.

Complete the Food Access Survey by June 30, 2023:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/NAAF2023](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NAAF2023)

Contact [media@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org](mailto:media@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org) with questions.