

Older Adult Food Security During COVID-19

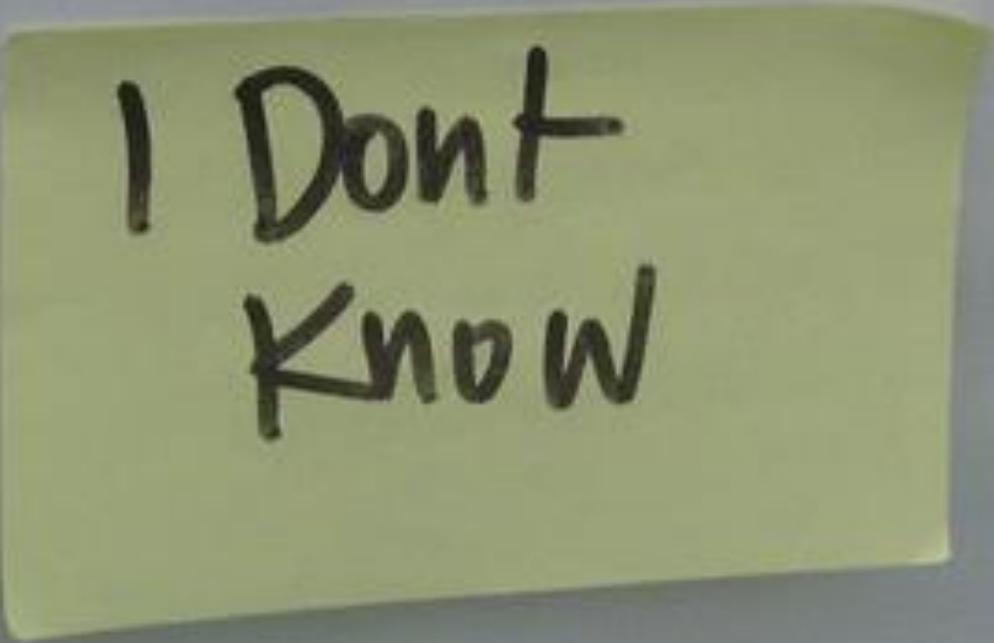
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Food Security Before Pandemic

- 14.1% (7.2 million) adults, age 65+, lived at 100% FPL (\$11,756/year)
- 42% (21.4 million) adults, age 65+, lived at 200% FPL (\$23,512/year)
- 8.3% (2.9 million households) that had one senior member were food insecure
- 10 million households with one senior member spent more than 30% of their income on housing
- 60% of Black and Latinx/Hispanic women over age 65 lived at 200% below poverty in 2017, compared to 41.4% of white women (Supplemental Poverty Measure)



I Dont
Know

Food Security During the Pandemic

- No new data is available yet.
- UW/WSU WA Food Survey: 2/3 of respondents were employed before the spring shutdown. Research leads may look into demographics more.



Food Insecurity Challenges for Seniors

- Fixed incomes
- Mobility and transportation
- Special dietary needs
- SNAP- minimum benefit
- Kinship care placement of children

Changes and Challenges

- Target investments and new community partnerships
- Increased investments from Congress in OAA programs
- Increased home delivery- food banks and senior centers
- Drive thru service at food banks
- Emergency SNAP allotments
- Sustainability plan
- Continued stalemate in Congress over a new relief package
- Often dependent on unstable resources such as underused paratransit and volunteers
- Need car or someone to pick up
- Safety concerns about shopping; limited online purchasing options

A pair of hands is shown from the bottom, holding a large yellow-orange fruit (possibly a grapefruit or orange) on the left and a large red apple on the right. The background is dark, and the text is overlaid on the image.

Options to Maximize Access

- COVID relief priorities: rental assistance, state and local government funding, boost SNAP
- Promote online SNAP shopping offered in WA: Amazon, Walmart, Safeway click and collect
- SNAP match programs
- Apply for food and other assistance programs for children living in the home: WIC, school meals (P-EBT), TANF
- Community partnerships to shop or pick up food/meals