

Handout #3 » Who is Hungry in Wisconsin? — Discussion

Part 1: Definitions

- » Have you heard “food security” or “food insecurity” used in this way before? How do the definitions help you to imagine what it would be like to live in a household that is “food insecure”? How does it make you feel to think of yourself as either “food secure” or “food insecure”?
- » How are “hunger” and “food insecurity” different but related?

Part 2: How many households are food insecure? How many households experience very low food security?

- » What surprises you about these statistics?
- » How would you compare food security in your own community to these statistics? Give reasons or examples to support your understanding of the food security situation in your community.

Part 3: Who is at risk of very low food security?

- » What surprises you about the groups at risk or the related statistics?
- » Note that, while low-income households are especially at risk of hunger, not all food insecure households are poor, and not all poor households are food insecure. What reasons can you think of for this? Does that change your image of who the “hungry people” are?

Part 4: How have food insecurity rates changed?

- » What do you notice about changes in the rates of food insecurity and very low food security since 2000? What do you think explains these, especially around 2007?
- » What do you think this means about the problem of food insecurity in our country and in your community - about what the causes are, how serious it is, and what needs to be done about it?