

HIGHLIGHTS OF FINDINGS

This report presents information on the clients and agencies served by The Food Bank of Lincoln, Inc. The information is drawn from a national study, Hunger in America 2010, conducted in 2009 for Feeding America (FA) (formerly America's Second Harvest), the nation's largest organization of emergency food providers. The national study is based on completed in-person interviews with more than 62,000 clients served by the FA national network, as well as on completed questionnaires from more than 37,000 FA agencies. The study summarized below focuses on emergency food providers and their clients who are supplied with food by food banks in the FA network. Emergency food programs are defined to include food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency shelters serving short-term residents. It should be recognized that many other types of providers served by food banks are, for the most part, *not* described in this study, including such programs as Congregate Meals for seniors, day care facilities, and after school programs.

HOW MANY CLIENTS RECEIVE EMERGENCY FOOD FROM THE FOOD BANK OF LINCOLN, INC?

The FA system served by The Food Bank of Lincoln, Inc provides emergency food for an estimated 33,800 different people annually.

About 8,100 different people receive emergency food assistance in any given week.

WHO RECEIVES EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE? FA agencies served by The Food Bank of Lincoln, Inc provide food for a broad cross-section of households. Key characteristics include:

36% of the members of households served by The Food Bank of Lincoln, Inc are children under 18 years old.

13% of the members of households are children age 0 to 5 years.

9% of the members of households are elderly.

About 62% of clients are non-Hispanic white, 17% are non-Hispanic black, 12% are Hispanic, and the rest are from other racial groups.

30% of households include at least one employed adult .

77% have incomes below the federal poverty level during the previous month.

22% are homeless.

MANY CLIENTS REPORT HAVING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN FOOD AND OTHER NECESSITIES

44% of clients served by The Food Bank of Lincoln, Inc report having to choose between paying for food and paying for utilities or heating fuel.

41% had to choose between paying for food and paying their rent or mortgage.

35% had to choose between paying for food and paying for medicine or medical care.

40% had to choose between paying for food and paying for transportation.

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