

OKLAHOMA CITY — A federal study shows Oklahomans had the fifth highest percentage of residents who lack consistent access to nutritious and well-balanced meals during the past three years. The study released Monday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service shows 15.2 percent of Oklahoma households were "food insecure" from 2007 to 2009. The percentage is up from 14.6 percent for the three-year period from 2004 to 2006.

The study found that nationwide 14.7 percent of households were food insecure at some time — meaning they were uncertain of having — or unable to acquire — enough food for all family members. The highest percentage of food insecurity was in Arkansas at 17.7 percent. The lowest was North Dakota at 6.7 percent.