



HUNGER & POVERTY AMONG CHILDREN

CHILDREN: HUNGER & POVERTY FACTS

INCLUDES MOST RECENT DATA AVAILABLE AS OF JUNE 2025

FOOD INSECURITY

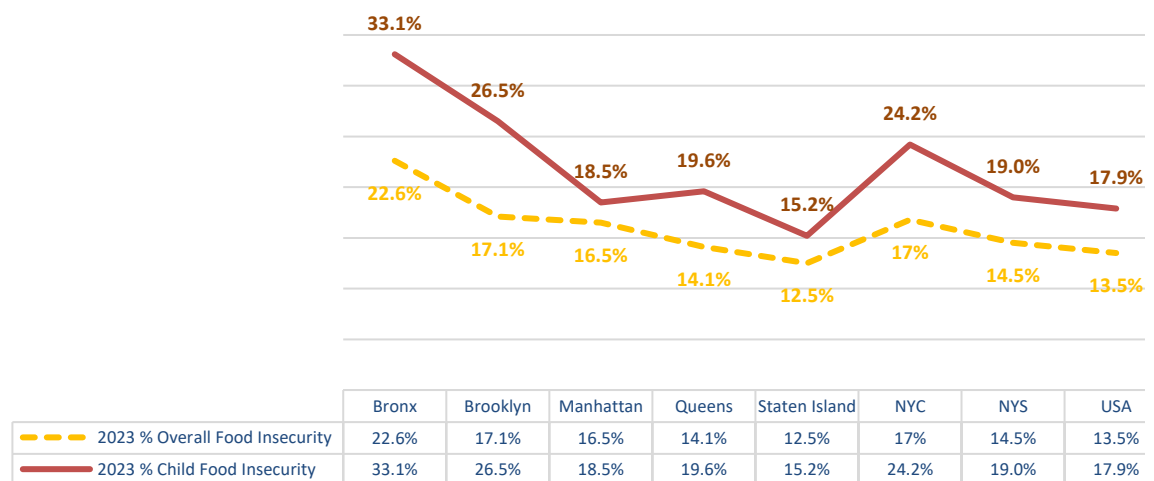
Food security means access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.

Source (US):
Map the Meals Gap
(2023) Feeding America
2025.

(Note that this data is released one year after it is collected.)

Child hunger is a significant concern, with rates of food insecurity among children consistently exceeding those of the general population. Data consistently show that food insecurity rates among children are higher than overall food insecurity rates across all geographic areas as depicted in the following chart:

Child Food Insecurity Rate vs. Overall Food Insecurity Rate



U.S.

- **Nearly 1 in 5 (17.9 percent), or more than 13.8 million** children under 18 in the United States live in households that are food insecure. This is a decrease of 0.6 percentage points in comparison to the previous year (18.5 percent).

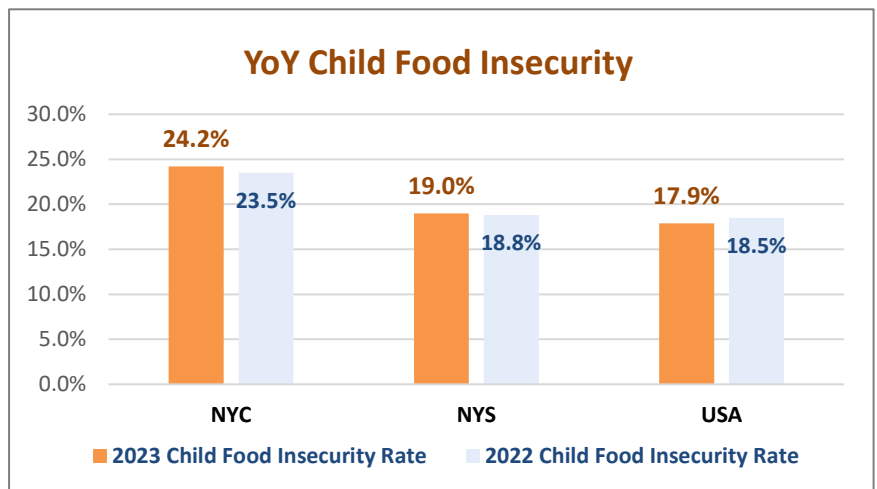
NYS

- **Nearly 1 in 5 (19.0 percent), or more than 750,000** children under 18 in New York live in households that are food insecure. This is an increase of 0.02 percentage point in comparison to the previous year (18.8 percent).

NYC

- **Nearly 1 in 4 (24.2 percent), or nearly 422 thousand (421,850)** children under 18 in New York City live in households that are food insecure. This is an increase

Of 0.7 percentage points in comparison to the previous year (23.5 percent). Child hunger is 44 percent higher than the citywide food insecurity rate of 17 percent.



BRONX

- **More than 1 in 3 (33.1 percent), or nearly 115 thousand (114,940)** children under 18 in the Bronx live in households that are food insecure. This is comparable to the previous year's rate of 33.2 percent.

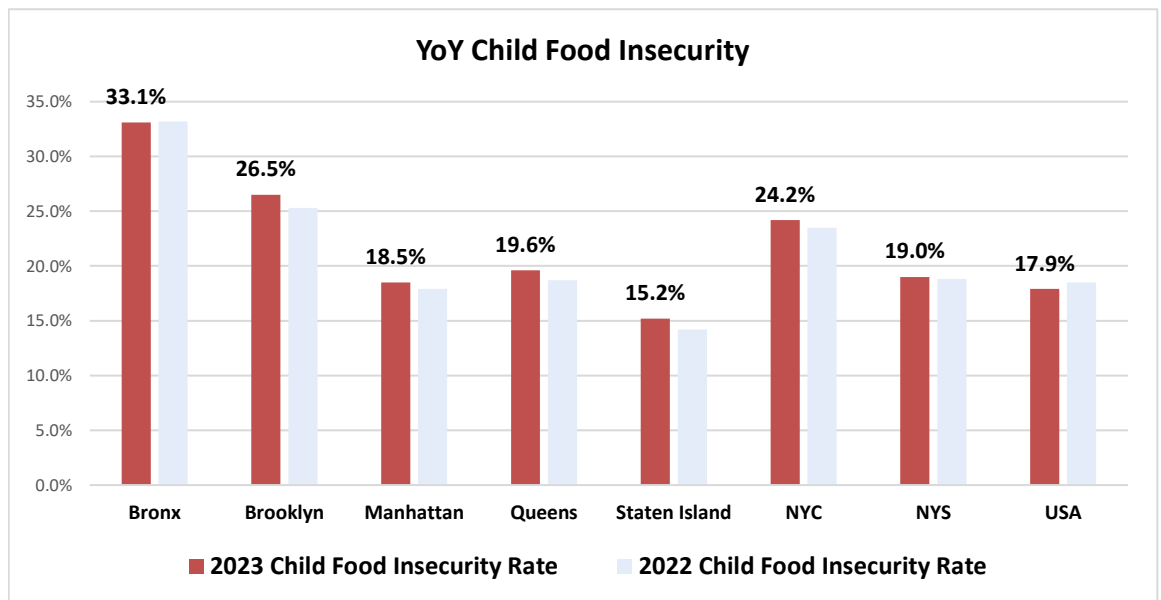
BROOKLYN

- **More than 1 in 4 (26.5 percent), or nearly 158 thousand (157,750)** children under 18 in Brooklyn live in households that are food insecure.
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This is an increase of 1.2 percentage points in comparison to the previous year (25.3 percent).

MANHATTAN

- **Nearly 1 in 5 (18.5 percent), or more than 42 thousand (42,380)** children under 18 in Manhattan live in households that are food insecure. This is an increase of 0.6 percentage points in comparison to the previous year (17.9 percent).



QUEENS

- **Nearly 1 in 5 (19.6 percent), or more than 90 thousand (90,430)** children under 18 in Queens live in households that are food insecure. This is an increase of 0.9 percentage points in comparison to the previous year (18.7 percent).

STATEN ISLAND

- **More than 1 in 7 (15.2 percent), or more than 16 thousand (16,350)** children under 18 in Staten Island live in households that are food insecure. This is an increase of 1 percentage point in comparison to the previous year (14.2 percent).
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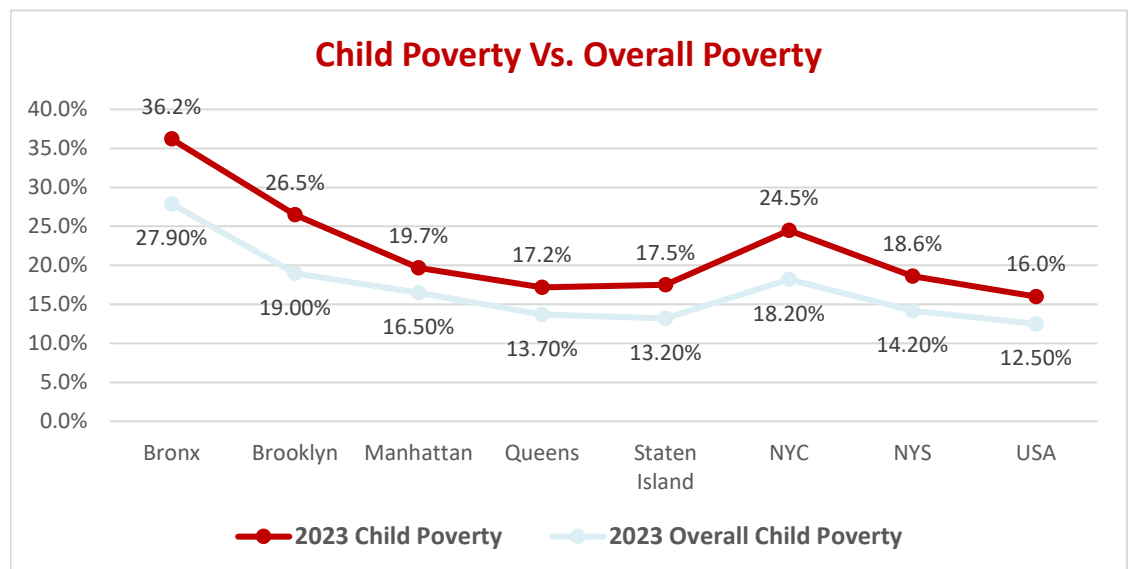
POVERTY

Source: 2023 American Community Survey. U.S. Census Bureau. 2024.

(Note that this data is released one year after it is collected.)

The U.S. poverty threshold is \$21,960 annually for a household of three.

As illustrated in the chart below, child poverty is significantly more severe than overall poverty. This disparity underscores the unique vulnerabilities faced by children, who are more likely to live in low-income households and experience the long-term consequences of poverty—such as limited access to nutrition, healthcare, and educational opportunities. Addressing child poverty is critical, not only for the well-being of children today but also for breaking the cycle of poverty for future generations



U.S.

- An estimated **16.0 percent**, or **more than 11.4 million (11,445,264)** children under 18 in the United States are considered living below the federal poverty level.
- The national child poverty rate is **32 percent higher** than the total national poverty rate of 12.5 percent.

NYS

- An estimated **18.6 percent**, or **nearly 718 thousand (717,831)** children under 18 in New York State are considered living below the federal poverty level.
- New York State's child poverty rate is **31 percent higher** than New York State's poverty rate of 14.20 percent.

NYC

- An estimated **24.5 percent**, or **more than 391 thousand (391,134)** children under 18 in New York City are living below the federal poverty level.
- New York City's child poverty rate is **35 percent higher** than New York City's poverty rate of 18.2 percent.

BRONX

- An estimated **36.2 percent**, or **nearly 114 thousand (113,435)** children under 18 in the Bronx are considered living below the federal poverty level.
- Bronx' child poverty rate is **30 percent higher** than Bronx' poverty rate of 27.90 percent.

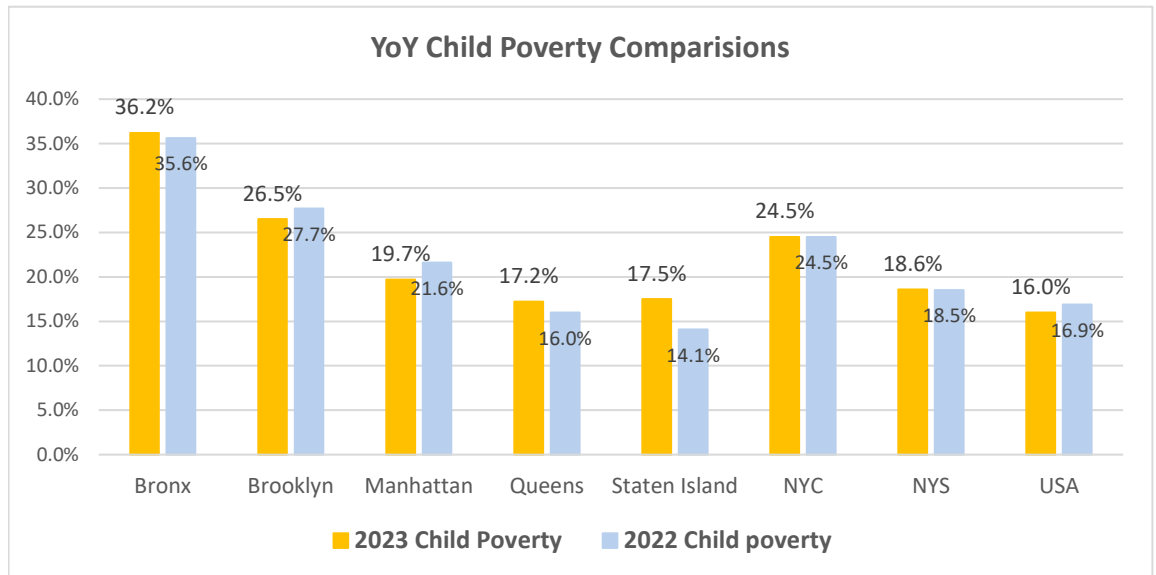
BROOKLYN

- An estimated **26.5 percent**, or **more than 145 thousand (145,502)** children under 18 in Brooklyn are considered living below the federal poverty level.
- Brooklyn's child poverty rate is **40 percent higher** than Brooklyn's poverty rate of 19.0 percent.

MANHATTAN

- An estimated **19.70 percent**, or **nearly 42 thousand (41,655)** children under 18 in Manhattan are considered living below the federal poverty level.
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- Manhattan's child poverty rate is **19 percent higher** than Manhattan's poverty rate of 16.5 percent.



QUEENS

- An estimated **17.2 percent**, or **more than 72 thousand (72,346)** children under 18 in Queens are considered living below the federal poverty level.
- Queens' child poverty rate is **26 percent higher** than Queens' poverty rate of 13.70 percent.

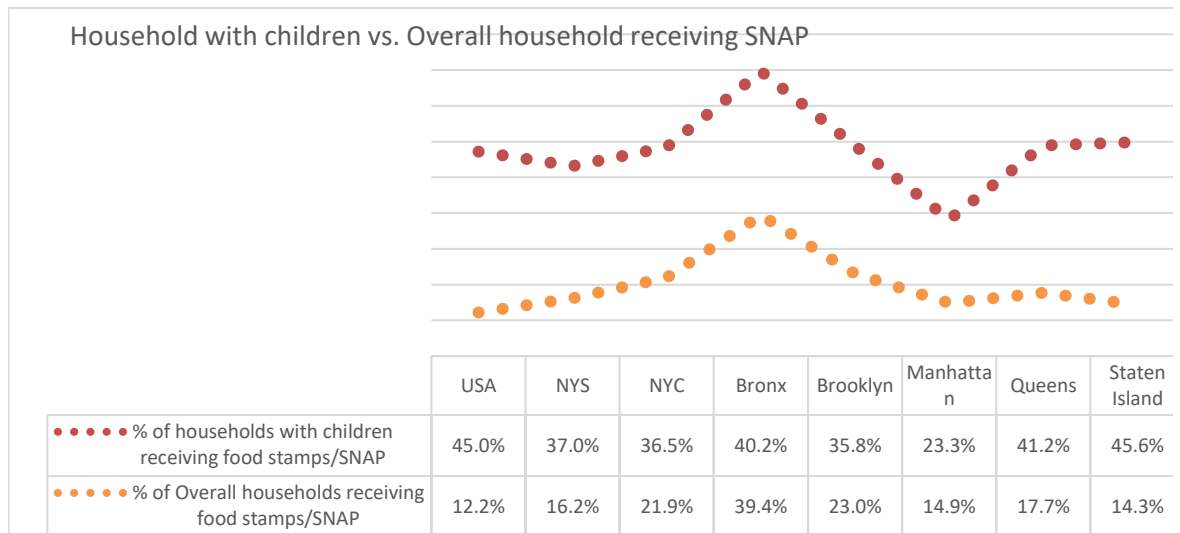
STATEN ISLAND

- An estimated **17.5 percent**, or **nearly 18.2 thousand (18,196)** children under 18 in Staten Island are considered living below the federal poverty level.
 - Staten Island's child poverty rate is **32 percent higher** than Staten Island's poverty rate of 13.20 percent.
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SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

Source: 2023 American Community Survey. U.S. Census Bureau. 2024.

Households with children are significantly more likely to depend on SNAP benefits for meals than households without children, reflecting the heightened food insecurity among families with children. The chart below illustrates this trend, showing that households with children are more likely to rely on SNAP benefits for meals than those without children.



U.S.

- **45.0 percent**, or more than **7.2 million (7,224,344)** United States households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.

NYS

- **37.0 percent**, or approximately **half a million (468,431)** New York State households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.

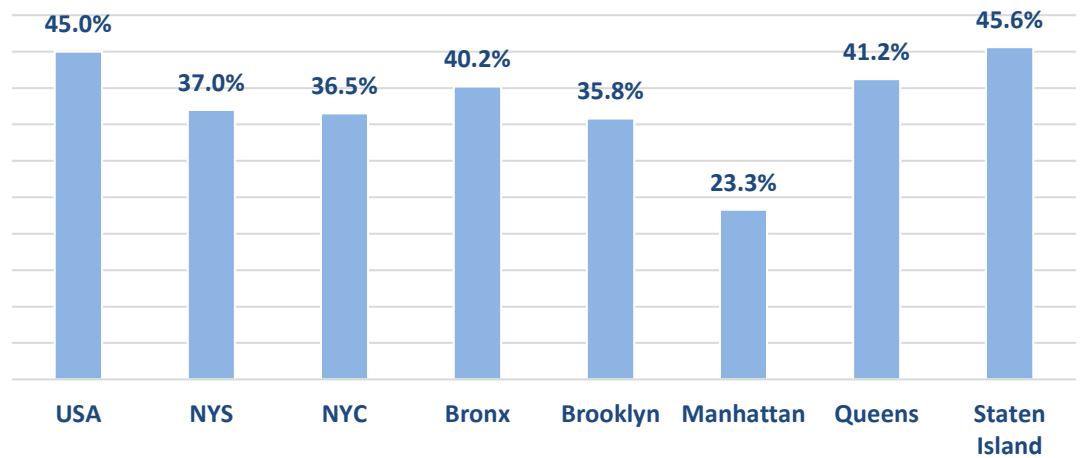
NYC

- **36.5 percent**, or nearly **272 thousand (271,926)** New York City households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.

BRONX

- **40.2 percent**, or more than **85 thousand (85,102)** Bronx households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.

% of Households with Children receiving SNAP (Food Stamps)



BROOKLYN

- **35.8 percent**, or nearly **86 thousand (85,527)** Brooklyn households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.

MANHATTAN

- **23.3 percent**, or nearly **27,000 thousand (27,250)** Manhattan households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.

QUEENS

- **41.2 percent**, or nearly **63 thousand (62,991)** Queens' households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.

STATEN ISLAND

- **45.6 percent**, or more than **11 thousand (11,056)** Staten Island households with children under 18 rely on SNAP.
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NUTRITION THROUGH FOOD BANK FOR NYC

Source: Food Bank For
New York City, Fiscal
Year 2024.

- Food Bank For New York City's nutrition education programs and services empower over **10,000** children and families to sustain a healthy diet on a limited budget.
 - Food Bank For New York City's Campus Pantry program provided more than **725 thousand** free meals to nearly **11,400** New York City school children.
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