

Household Food Insecurity in the School District of Philadelphia: An Analysis of District-Wide Survey Results, 2020-21

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Summary

The School District of Philadelphia District-Wide Survey for parents and guardians includes the USDA Six-Item Short Form questions that evaluate household food insecurity. The rate of food insecurity among responding SDP households in 2020-21 was 16.5%.

In 2020-21, the District-Wide Survey for principals asked whether food insecurity was a challenge to student learning. Nearly half of responding principals identified food insecurity as a “great” or “moderate” challenge.

Food insecurity directly impacts physical health and is associated with adverse developmental, behavioral, and social-emotional outcomes. Moreover, it can contribute to achievement gaps between low- and high-income children.¹ In 2019, the food insecurity rate in Philadelphia was 14.4%.² However, food insecurity in the US is projected to have increased as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially among children.³ In response, expansions of benefits during this time have contributed to lowering rates of food insecurity nationwide in comparison to the initial peak in December 2020.⁴

Data that are local and up-to-date for 2020-21 are not yet available from other sources. Therefore, results from the School District of Philadelphia’s (SDP) 2020-21 District-Wide Survey (DWS) are essential to understanding the extent to which food insecurity

could challenge student wellbeing and success in school.

The purpose of this brief is to describe the prevalence of food insecurity among SDP households that responded to the DWS in 2020-21 and to examine the differences in food insecurity rates across different student subgroups and schools. This brief also provides a year-over-year

¹ Brochier, Annelise, Arvin Garg, and Alon Peltz. “Clinical and Public Policy Interventions to Address Food Insecurity Among Children.” *Pediatrics*, 34, no 1. (2022): 2-7.

² For more information about 2019 food insecurity rates, see:

<https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2019/overall/pennsylvania/county/philadelphia>.

³ For more information on projected increases in food insecurity rates because of COVID-19 see:

https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/Local%20Projections%20Brief_3.31.2021.pdf.

⁴ For more information on how federal income support helps boost food security rates see:

https://www.whitehouse.gov/cea/written-materials/2021/07/01/federal-income-support-helps-boost-food-security-rates/#_ftn4.

comparison of food insecurity rates from 2019-20 and 2020-21 DWS results.⁵ Throughout this brief, we refer to the standard definition of food insecurity published by the USDA:

*Food insecurity is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.*⁶

Existing data sources to estimate food insecurity

SDP has three data sources that provide information about food insecurity in the District. First, SDP collects data on a student's Community Eligibility Provision status, or CEP status.⁷ CEP status is a measure of economic disadvantage that is based on whether or not students qualify for government assistance programs. This indicator does not directly address the issue of food insecurity or food access. Households with incomes above the federal poverty level can still be food insecure.⁸ Additionally, the District metric for economic disadvantage is based on participation in means-tested federal assistance programs, and not all households that qualify for such programs actually participate.

A second source for information about food insecurity comes from school principal responses to the District-Wide Survey. Principals are asked the extent to which they agree that food insecurity is a challenge to student learning at their school. The responses to this question do not measure food insecurity directly, but rather provide useful information about whether or not principals perceive food insecurity as a school-level challenge to learning. The principal response rate for 2020-21 was 48.8%.

⁵ Read ORE's brief on measuring food insecurity in 2019-20 here: https://www.philasd.org/research/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2021/09/Food-Insecurity-in-SDP-2019-20_20210817.pdf.

⁶ For more information about how the USDA evaluates food insecurity, see: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/measurement.aspx>.

⁷ The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) allows schools and school districts with high rates of poverty to offer breakfast and lunch at no cost to all students. For more information, see <https://www.fns.usda.gov/nsrp/community-eligibility-provision-resource-center>.

⁸ Council on Community Pediatrics, & Committee on Nutrition. "Promoting Food Security for All Children." *Pediatrics*, 136, no. 5 (2015): e1431-e1438.

Table 1. 2020-21 Principal District-Wide Survey questions about student food insecurity

Question Lead-In	Question Text	Response Options
To what extent do you consider each of the following factors a challenge to student learning in your school?	Student food insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a challenge • A slight challenge • A moderate challenge • A great challenge

The third source of information on food insecurity is the Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey (DWS), which includes the USDA Six-Item Short Form questions for measuring household food insecurity (Table 2). This validated measurement tool asks respondents a series of questions about their ability to afford enough food as well as whether members of their households skipped meals. Note that two of the six USDA items were combined into a single question on the DWS to reduce the length of the survey.

Table 2. 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey questions about household food insecurity

Question Lead-In	Question Text	Response Options
In the past 12 months, how often were the following statements true about your household?	The food that I/we bought just didn't last and I/we didn't have money to get more.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never • Sometimes • Often • Don't know/ Prefer not to answer
In the past 12 months, how often were the following statements true about your household?	I/we couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never • Sometimes • Often • Don't know/ Prefer not to answer
In the past 12 months...	did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • No • Don't know/ Prefer not to answer
In the past 12 months...	were you ever hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • No • Don't know/ Prefer not to answer
N/A	In the past 12 months, did you or other adults in your household ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No • Yes, only 1 of 2 months • Yes, some months but not every month • Yes, almost every month • Don't know/ Prefer not to answer

The responses to the questions shown in Table 2 were scored according to USDA guidance. The following response options were coded as affirmative (or yes):

- “often,”
- “sometimes,”
- “yes,”
- “almost every month,” and
- “some months but not every month.”

The sum of affirmative responses to these questions constitutes the household’s raw score. A raw score of 2-4 indicates “low food security” and a raw score of 5-6 indicates “very low food security.” For reporting purposes, the two categories “low food security” and “very low food security” in combination are referred to as “food insecure.”⁹

Limitations

In 2020-21, the District response rate for the Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey was 14.3%.¹⁰ Due to the limitations of the survey response rate, there are data quality concerns about representativeness and selection bias. All parents/guardians of students enrolled in District schools were provided with information about how to take the survey but chose whether or not to participate. Therefore, responses may not provide a reliable estimate for the District as a whole or for individual schools. In particular, Black/African American households and households with students in high school grades were underrepresented among survey respondents.¹¹ As described in this brief, these underrepresented groups reported food insecurity at rates higher than the average for the District as a whole. This suggests that our survey sample is likely to underestimate the extent of food insecurity in the District. Another challenge in determining representativeness of DWS responses is that SDP classifies economically disadvantaged status by whether or not a household receives certain types of government assistance (such as SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid). However, not all households that are eligible for government assistance programs choose to participate, and therefore are not identified as being economically disadvantaged. As a result, it is not possible to determine if DWS responses are representative of the socio-economic distribution that exists among households of District students.

⁹ Information on scoring The U.S. Household Food Security Module: Six-Item Short Form can be found here: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/media/8282/short2012.pdf>.

¹⁰ This response rate (14.3%) represents only District households. Households with students enrolled in non-District schools, such as charter schools, also participated in the District-Wide Survey but are not included in this analysis.

¹¹ For more information about the representativeness of the Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey, please refer to the Office of Research and Evaluation’s published brief on this topic: Reitano, Adrienne. *Representativeness of the 2019-20 District-Wide Student and Parent/Guardian Survey Results*. (School District of Philadelphia Office of Research and Evaluation, 2020). <https://www.philasd.org/research/2020/12/01/representativeness-of-the-2019-20-district-wide-student-and-parent-guardian-survey-results/>.

Findings

Parent/guardian responses to the food insecurity questions included on the 2020-21 District-Wide Survey suggest that food insecurity is a major concern for student households. The rate of food insecurity among responding households was 16.5%, higher than most recently available city, state, and national averages (see Appendix). Certain subgroups of student households had even higher rates, including Hispanic/Latinx and Black/African American households, households with students in high school grades, households with a student receiving special education services, and households with a student learning English. Economically disadvantaged households also had higher rates. The same patterns were also found in results from 2019-20.

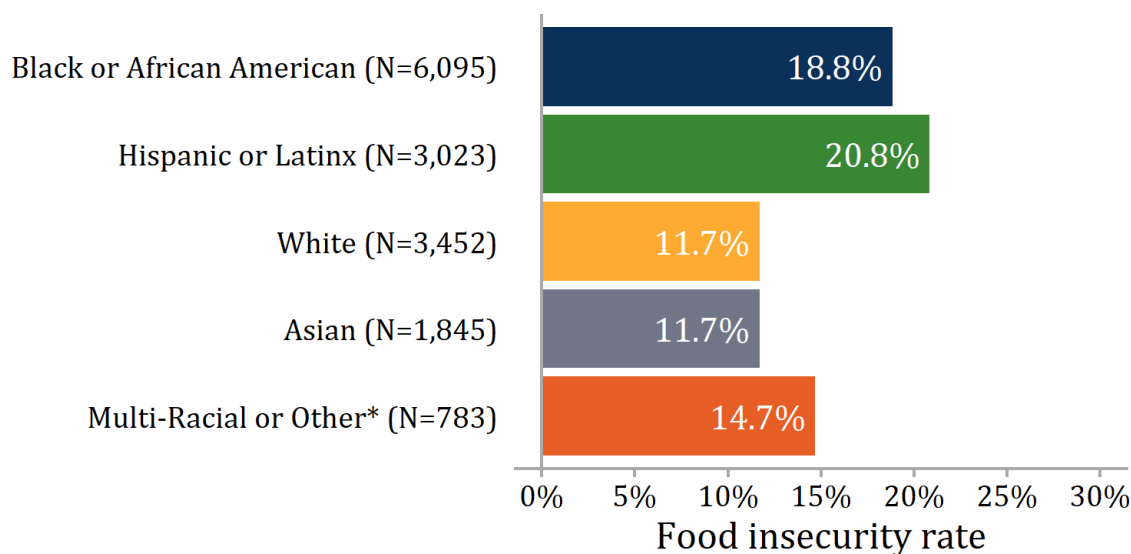
Household food insecurity rates varied by student demographics.

Household food insecurity rates varied by the characteristics of the students living in the household. Household food insecurity rates varied by race and ethnicity, grade-level, economic disadvantage, English learner status, and IEP status, which is explained in more depth in the sections below.

Households with Hispanic/Latinx and Black/African American students reported higher rates of food insecurity compared to other households.

The rate of food insecurity among District households varied widely by students' racial and ethnic identity. Households with Hispanic/Latinx students that responded to the DWS reported the highest rates of food insecurity (20.8%), followed by households with Black/African American students (18.8%; Figure 1). Households with white students and households with Asian students that responded to the DWS reported the lowest rates (11.7%).

Figure 1. Estimated rates of food insecurity for the School District of Philadelphia by race/ethnicity



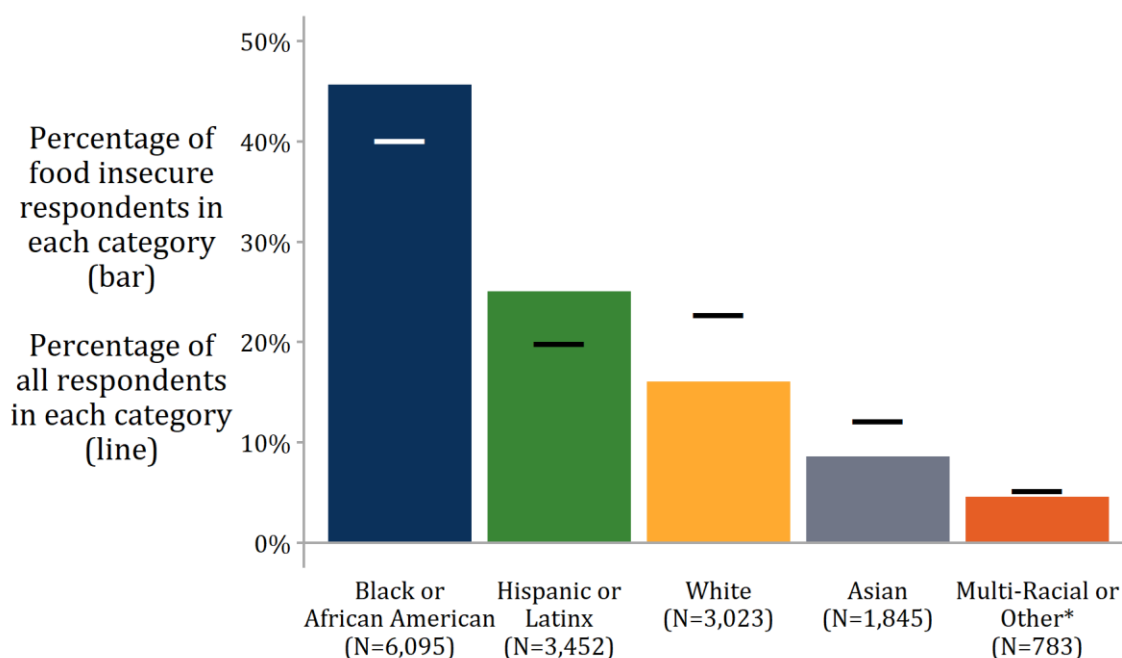
Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

Note: *The category “Multi-Racial or Other” includes “American Indian or Alaska Native” and “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.”

Hispanic/Latinx and Black/African American student households were overrepresented among the food insecure population compared to their share of the population of survey respondents as a whole (Figure 2). Hispanic/Latinx student households made up 20% of all respondents but 25% of respondents who were classified as food insecure. Black/African American student households made up 40% of all respondents but 46% of food insecure respondents.

White and Asian student households were underrepresented among the food insecure population compared to their share of the population as a whole. White student households made up 23% of all respondents but only 16% of food insecure respondents. Asian student households made up 12% of all respondents and 9% of food insecure households. Other racial/ethnic groups made up 5% of all respondents and approximately the same share of food insecure respondents.

Figure 2. Disproportionality of food insecurity status by race/ethnicity



Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

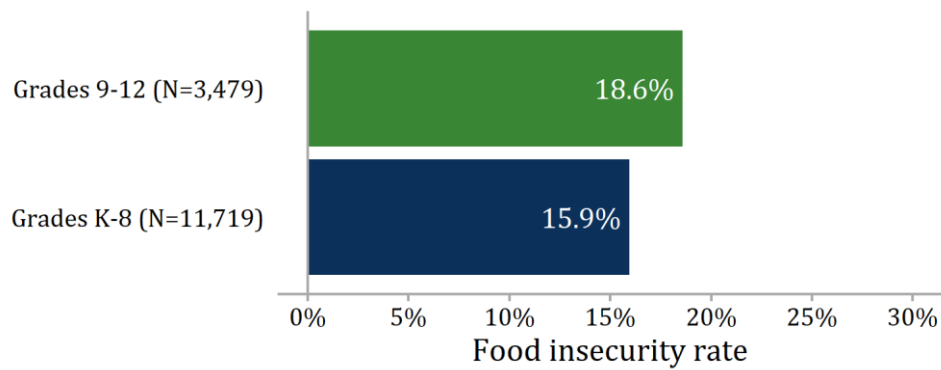
Note: *The category “Multi-Racial or Other” includes “American Indian or Alaska Native” and “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.”

How to read this chart: Vertical bars show the percentage of *food insecure respondents* who belonged to each group. Horizontal lines show the percentage of *all respondents* who belonged to each group. The difference between the vertical bars and horizontal lines shows the disproportionality in food insecurity for each group.

Households with students in high school reported slightly higher rates of food insecurity than those with students enrolled in lower grades.

The rate of food insecurity for households with students enrolled in high school grades (9-12) was slightly higher than the rate for households with students enrolled in lower grades (K-8). The rates were 19% and 16% respectively (Figure 3). Note that there were more responding households with students in grades K-8 (11,719) than in grades 9-12 (3,479).

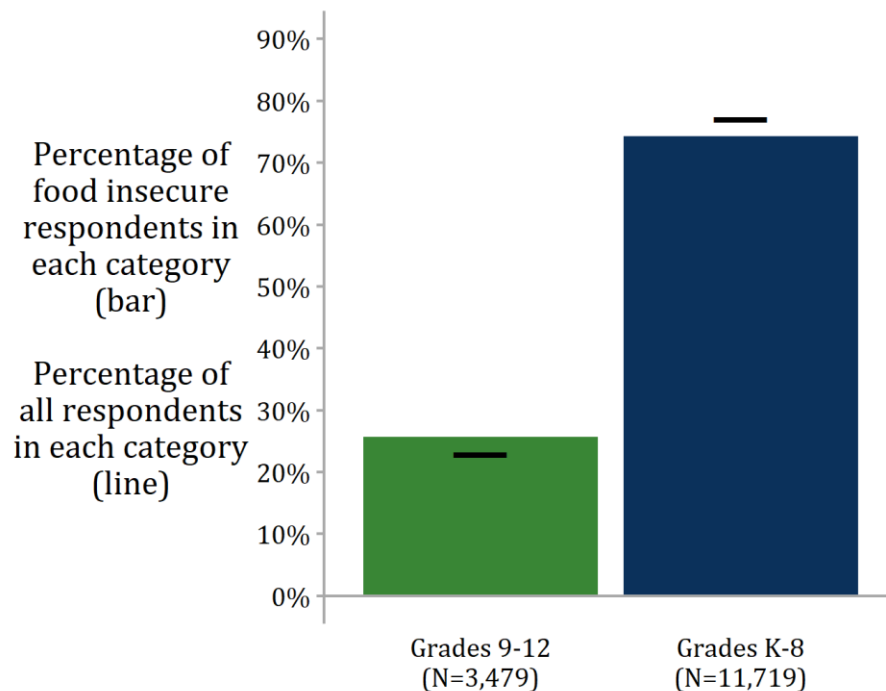
Figure 3. Estimated rates of food insecurity for the School District of Philadelphia by grade band



Source: 2019-20 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

Households with students in older grades (9-12) were slightly overrepresented among food insecure respondents (26%) compared to their share of all respondents (23%; Figure 4). Households with students in younger grades (K-8) were slightly underrepresented among food insecure respondents (74%) compared to their share of all respondents (77%). However, these differences were very small.

Figure 4. Disproportionality of food insecurity status by grade band



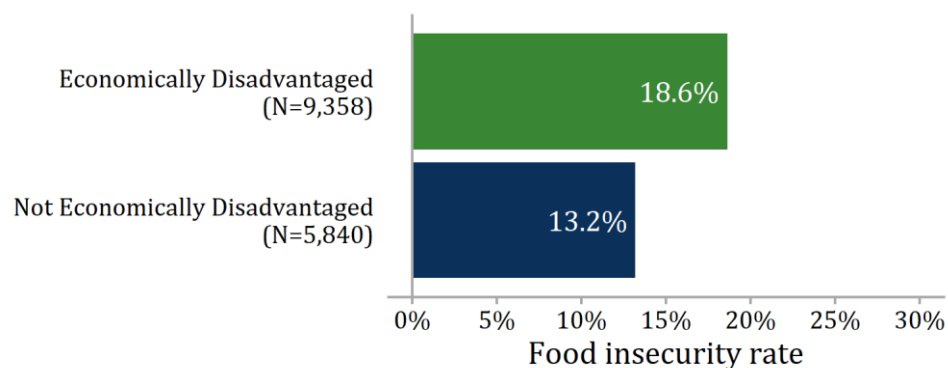
Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

How to read this chart: Vertical bars show the percentage of *food insecure respondents* who belonged to each group. Horizontal lines show the percentage of *all respondents* who belonged to each group. The difference between the vertical bars and horizontal lines shows the disproportionality in food insecurity for each group.

Economically disadvantaged households reported higher rates of food insecurity than non-economically disadvantaged households.

The School District of Philadelphia classifies students as economically disadvantaged if their household receives certain types of government assistance (such as SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid). The rate of food insecurity among households classified as economically disadvantaged was substantially higher than the rate for non-economically disadvantaged households (19% vs. 13%; Figure 5). Note that not all eligible families participate in government assistance programs. These families are classified as not economically disadvantaged.

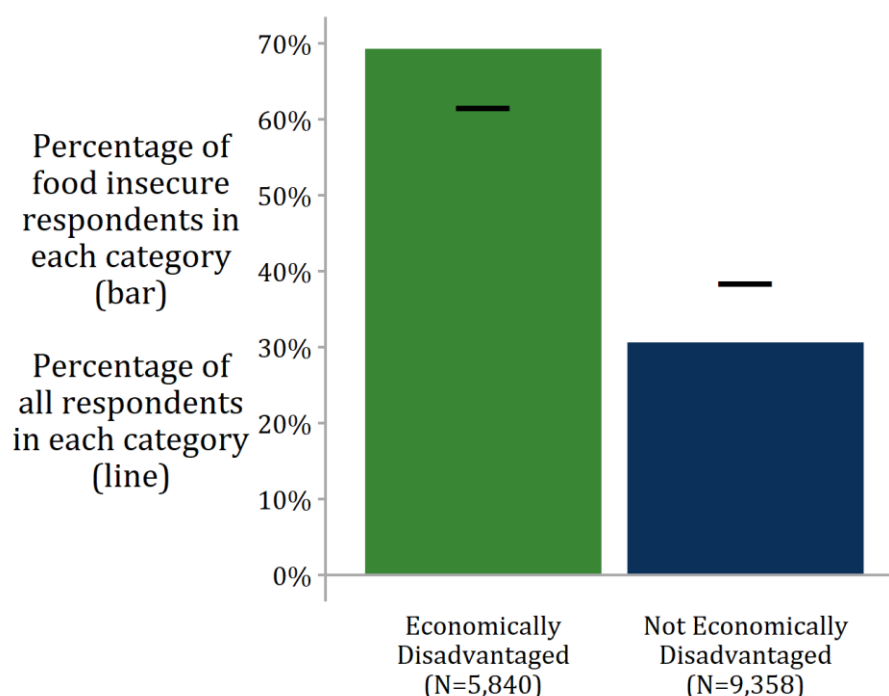
Figure 5. Estimated rates of food insecurity for the School District of Philadelphia, by economic disadvantage status



Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

Economically disadvantaged student households were overrepresented among food insecure respondents (69%) compared to their share of all respondents (62%; Figure 6). Non-economically disadvantaged households were underrepresented among food insecure respondents (31%) compared to their share of all respondents (38%).

Figure 6. Disproportionality of food insecurity status by economic disadvantage status



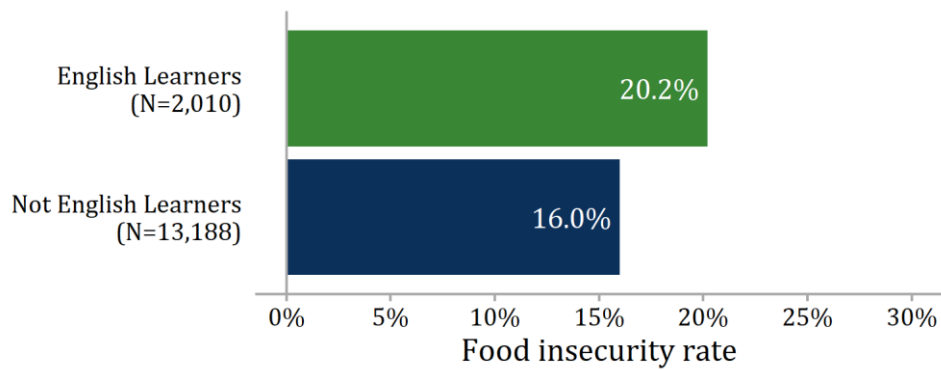
Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

How to read this chart: Vertical bars show the percentage of *food insecure respondents* who belonged to each group. Horizontal lines show the percentage of *all respondents* who belonged to each group. The difference between the vertical bars and horizontal lines shows the disproportionality in food insecurity for each group.

Households with English Learner students reported higher food insecurity rates than other households.

Households with students learning English had higher food insecurity rates than households whose students were not English learners (20%; figure 7). Note that there were more responding households with students who were not English Learners (13,188) than with students who were English Learners (2,010).

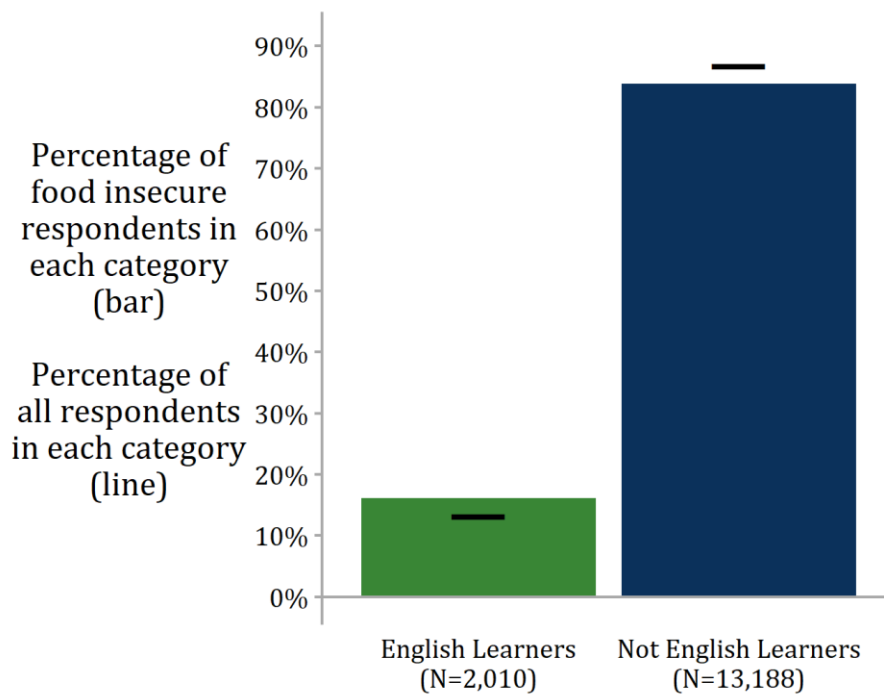
Figure 7. Estimated rates of food insecurity for the School District of Philadelphia, by English Learner status



Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

Households with students learning English were overrepresented among food insecure respondents (16%) compared to their share of all respondents (13%; Figure 8). Households without students learning English were underrepresented among food insecure respondents (84%) compared to their share of all respondents (87%).

Figure 8. Disproportionality of food insecurity status by English Learner status



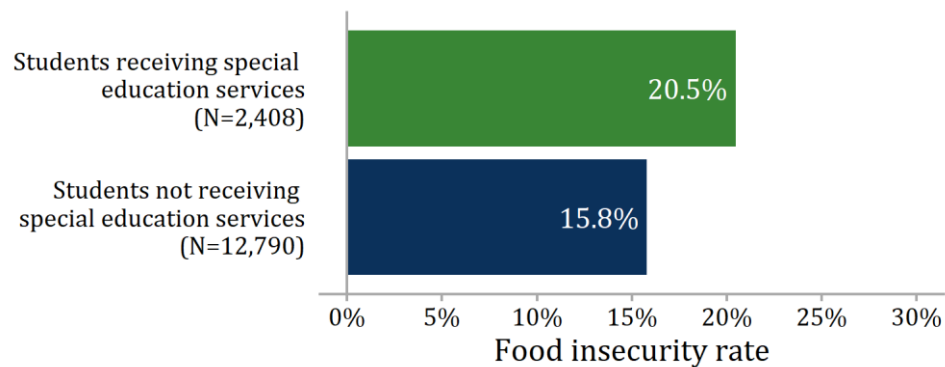
Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

How to read this chart: Vertical bars show the percentage of *food insecure respondents* who belonged to each group. Horizontal lines show the percentage of *all respondents* who belonged to each group. The difference between the vertical bars and horizontal lines shows the disproportionality in food insecurity for each group.

Households with students who received special education services reported higher rates of food insecurity than other households.

Households that had a student receiving special education services reported experiencing food insecurity at higher rates compared to households where students did not receive special education services (21% vs. 16%; Figure 9). Note that there were more responding households with students who did not receive special education services (12,790) than with students who did receive special education services (2,408).

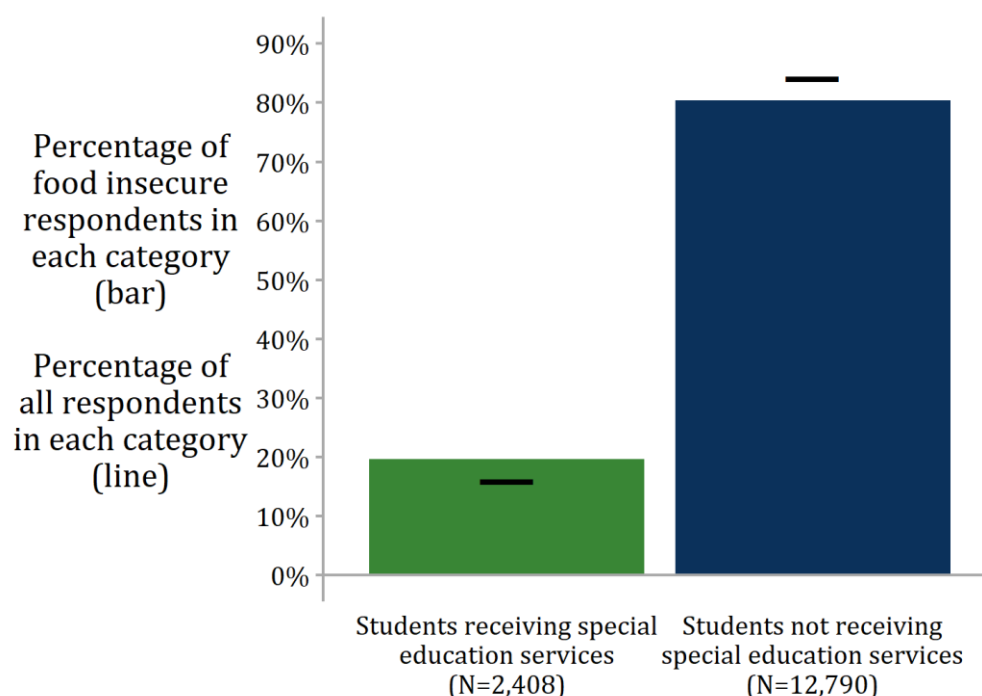
Figure 9. Estimated food insecurity rates for the School District of Philadelphia, by special education status



Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

Households with a student receiving special education services were overrepresented among food insecure respondents (20%) compared to their share of all respondents (16%; Figure 10). Households where students did not receive special education services were underrepresented among food insecure respondents (80%) compared to their share of all respondents (84%).

Figure 10. Disproportionality of food insecurity status by special education status



Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N = 14,473).

How to read this chart: Vertical bars show the percentage of *food insecure respondents* who belonged to each group. Horizontal lines show the percentage of *all respondents* who belonged to each group. The difference between the vertical bars and horizontal lines shows the disproportionality in food insecurity for each group.

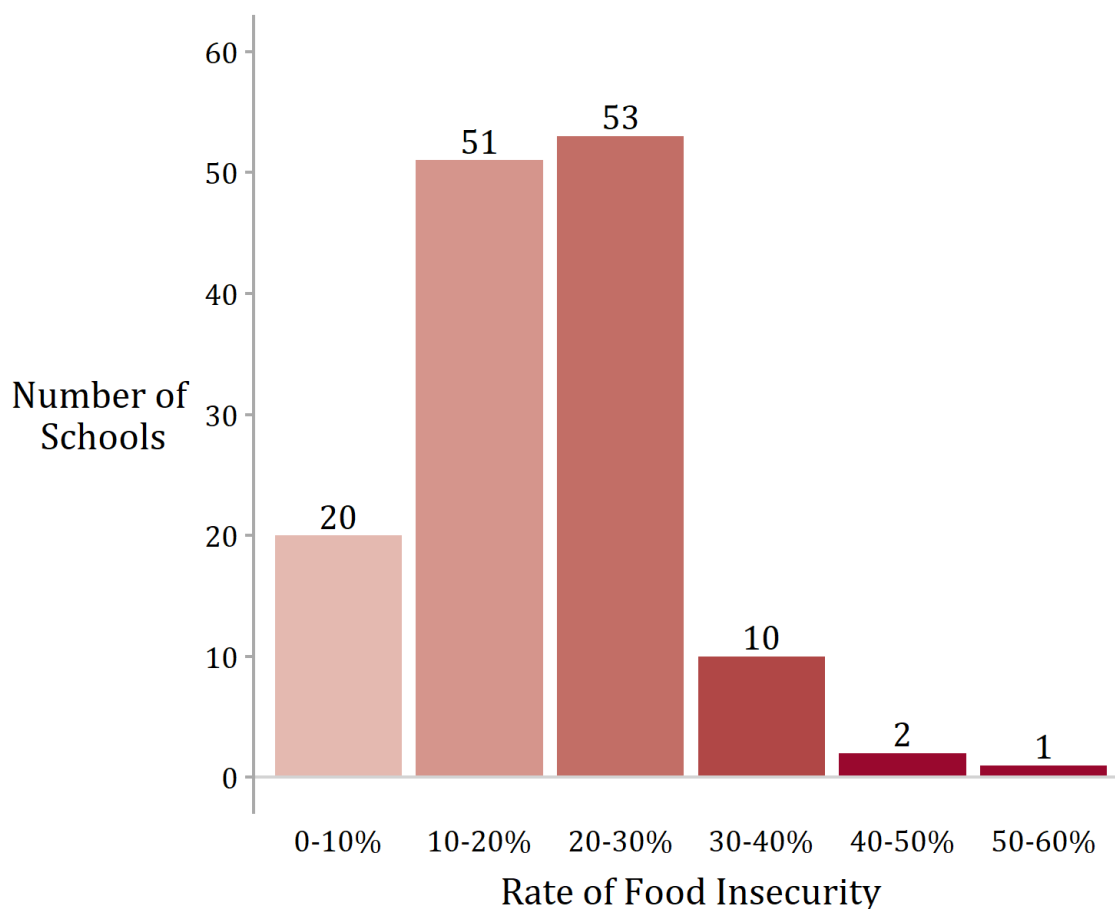
Rates of food insecurity varied widely across District schools

The average rate of food insecurity across all District schools was 16.5%. However, the rates at specific schools varied widely. Although most schools had rates near the average, a smaller number of schools had either very high or very low rates (Figure 11). There were 20 schools with rates below 10% and 13 schools with rates higher than 30%.¹²

¹² School-level District-Wide Survey information for 2020-21, including food insecurity responses, is available through the District's Open Data portal here: <https://www.philasd.org/performance/programsservices/open-data/school-information/#district-wide-surveys>.

District-Wide Survey information for 2020-21 can also be viewed interactively here: <https://www.philasd.org/research/programsservices/district-wide-surveys/>.

Figure 11. The distribution of the food insecurity rate across District schools with a high enough DWS response rate to be included (n=137)



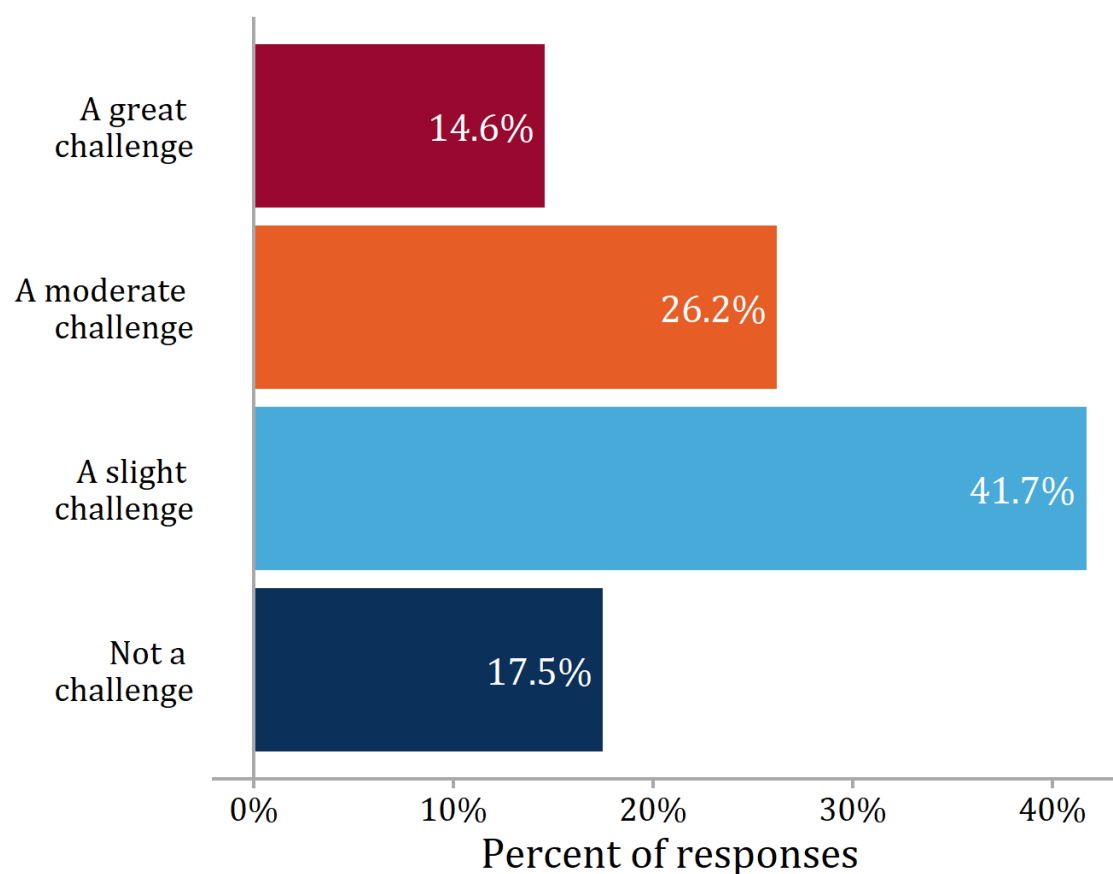
Source: 2020-21 Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (response N = 14,473).

Note: Data was aggregated, or grouped, at the school level and reported only for schools that met the minimum response rate of 10% (school N = 137).

Nearly half (40.8%) of District Principals identified student food insecurity as a great or moderate challenge.

The 2020-21 District-Wide Survey asked principals whether food insecurity was a challenge to student learning. Nearly half of responding principals of District schools identified food insecurity as a “great” or “moderate” challenge (40.8%; Figure 12). Only 17.5% of responding principals said that food insecurity was “not a challenge.”

Figure 12. Principal responses to the question, “To what extent is student food insecurity a challenge to student learning at your school?”



Source: 2020-21 Principal District-Wide Survey respondent-level data file (N =103).

Year-Over-Year Analysis of 2019-20 and 2020-21 DWS results

For the second consecutive year, questions regarding food insecurity were included on both the SDP Parent/Guardian and Principal District-Wide Surveys. Results of a year-over-year analysis show that food insecurity rates as measured by the Parent/Guardian DWS decreased slightly from 2019-20 to 2020-21 across all subgroups. A two-year comparison of results from the Principal DWS show a consistent percent of responding District Principals identifying student food insecurity as a moderate or great challenge to student learning in their school.

Rates of household food insecurity decreased from 2019-20 to 2020-21 for all subgroups.

For the second consecutive year, questions measuring food insecurity rates were included on the SDP Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey. A year-over-year comparison of food insecurity rates from 2019-20 to 2020-21 shows a slight decrease in the prevalence of food insecurity for District households both overall and for all demographic student groups. The rate of food insecurity for district households was 16.5% in 2020-21, a decrease of over 2 percentage points from the 19.1% food insecurity rate in 2019-20 (Table 3). The most notable measured year-over-year changes in

food insecurity are for the Asian and English Learners student groups. Both student groups saw a decrease in food insecurity of over 5 percentage points from 2019-20 to 2020-21.

Table 3. District rates of household food insecurity in 2019-20 and 2020-21

Group	Subgroup	2019-20 DWS Food Insecurity Rate (Previous Year)	2020-21 DWS Food Insecurity Rate (Current Report Year)	Year-over-Year Percentage Point Change
Overall	Overall	19.1%	16.5%	-2.6
Race/ethnicity	Black or African American	20.3%	18.8%	-1.5
	Hispanic or Latinx	23.4%	20.8%	-2.6
	White	13.8%	11.7%	-2.1
	Asian	17.0%	11.7%	-5.3
	Multi-Racial or Other**	17.6%	14.7%	-2.9
Grade band	Grades 9-12	20.8%	18.6%	-2.2
	Grades K-8	18.7%	15.9%	-2.8
Economic Disadvantage	Economically Disadvantaged	21.5%	18.6%	-2.9
	Not Economically Disadvantaged	15.4%	13.2%	-2.2
English Learner status	English Learners	26.8%	20.2%	-6.6
	Not English Learners	17.8%	16.0%	-1.8
Special Education status	Students receiving special education services	23.3%	20.5%	-2.8
	Students not receiving special education services	18.4%	15.8%	-2.6

Note: Data based on the 2019-20 (N = 14,163) and 2020-21 (N= 14,473) Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey.

*The category “Multi-Racial or Other” includes “American Indian or Alaska Native” and “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.”

Rates of Principals of District schools identifying student food insecurity as a great or moderate challenge increased slightly from 2019-20 to 2020-21.

The District-Wide Survey asks principals whether food insecurity was a challenge to student learning. Nearly half of responding principals of District schools identified food insecurity as a “great” or “moderate” challenge in both 2019-20 and 2020-21 (40% and 40.8%, respectively) (Table 4).

Table 4. Principal responses to the question, “To what extent is student food insecurity a challenge to student learning at your school?” in 2019-20 and 2020-21

Response	2019-20 DWS Percent of Responses (Previous Year)	2020-21 DWS Percent of Responses (Current Report Year)	Year-over-Year Percentage Point Change
A great challenge	13.1%	14.6%	+1.5
A moderate challenge	27.1%	26.2%	-0.9
A slight challenge	43.9%	41.7%	-2.2
Not a challenge	15.9%	17.5%	+1.6

Source: Principal District-Wide Survey 2019-20 (N=107) and 2020-21 (N=103) respondent-level data files.

Conclusions

Food insecurity among student households continues to be a pressing issue in the School District of Philadelphia. In 2020-21, SDP households who responded to the District-Wide Survey reported greater food insecurity compared to most recent city, state, and national averages. It is also important to note that household food insecurity rates varied by the characteristics of the students living in the household and across District schools. On average, the household groups with the highest food insecurity rates were Hispanic/Latinx and Black/African American households, households with high school students, economically disadvantaged households, households with students learning English, and households with students who received special education services.

The rate of food insecurity varied widely across schools. Thirteen schools had food insecurity rates greater than 30%. Additionally, 40.8% of responding District principals identified food insecurity as a “great” or “moderate” challenge to student learning.

Year-over-year results of the Parent/Guardian DWS suggest that food insecurity has improved slightly in 2020-21 compared to the previous year, decreasing from 19.1% in 2019-20 to 16.5%,

suggesting the possibility that the additional assistance offered by governments and the District may have helped to reduce the rate temporarily during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The School District of Philadelphia Board of Education's Goals and Guardrails plan calls for schools to be spaces with inclusive climates that provide students with access to robust social, emotional, and mental health supports.¹³ Coordinated by Eat Right Philly (ERP), a partnership between the District and six other organizations funded by USDA SNAP-Ed, SDP and other community partners are currently working to target resources to schools where a large proportion of students are affected by barriers to food access. ERP also provides nutrition education, food access, and other types of programming in District schools.¹⁴ These efforts contribute to students' physical, social, emotional, and mental health.

To directly address food insecurity for all SDP students, the Division of Food Services makes breakfast and lunch available each school day to all District students at no cost through the USDA's Community Eligibility Provision. Furthermore, many District schools have opted to serve breakfast after the start of school so that students do not need to arrive early in order to participate.¹⁵

Still, food insecurity continues to be a pervasive challenge affecting SDP households. Any severity of food insecurity has been shown to have a negative effect on students' academic outcomes, behavioral health, and emotional wellbeing. Furthermore, the challenges that arise from food insecurity are disproportionality concentrated among the subgroups of SDP households identified in this brief. Continued efforts to address food insecurity are critical to addressing not only health inequities but also disparities in academic outcomes and related challenges. Addressing food insecurity is a vital step in bolstering students' social, emotional, and mental health supports and towards meeting the academic indicators outlined by the SDP Board of Education to measure increases in students' math performance, reading performance, and college and career readiness. Moreover, SDP and its partners need to mitigate the effect that food insecurity has on the well-being of Hispanic/Latinx and Black/African American students, high school students, students living in economically disadvantaged households, students learning English, and students who received special education services who are experiencing food insecurity at disproportionate rates.

¹³ For more information on the School District of Philadelphia Goals and Guardrails plan see: <https://www.philasd.org/era/goals-and-guardrails/#1623441217856-be4af3db-6578>.

¹⁴ For more information about SNAP-Ed, see the USDA website: <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/supplemental-nutrition-education-program-education-snap-ed>.

¹⁵ For more information on breakfast service models that maximize breakfast participation in SDP see: <https://www.philasd.org/research/2020/10/07/maximizing-students-school-breakfast-participation/>.

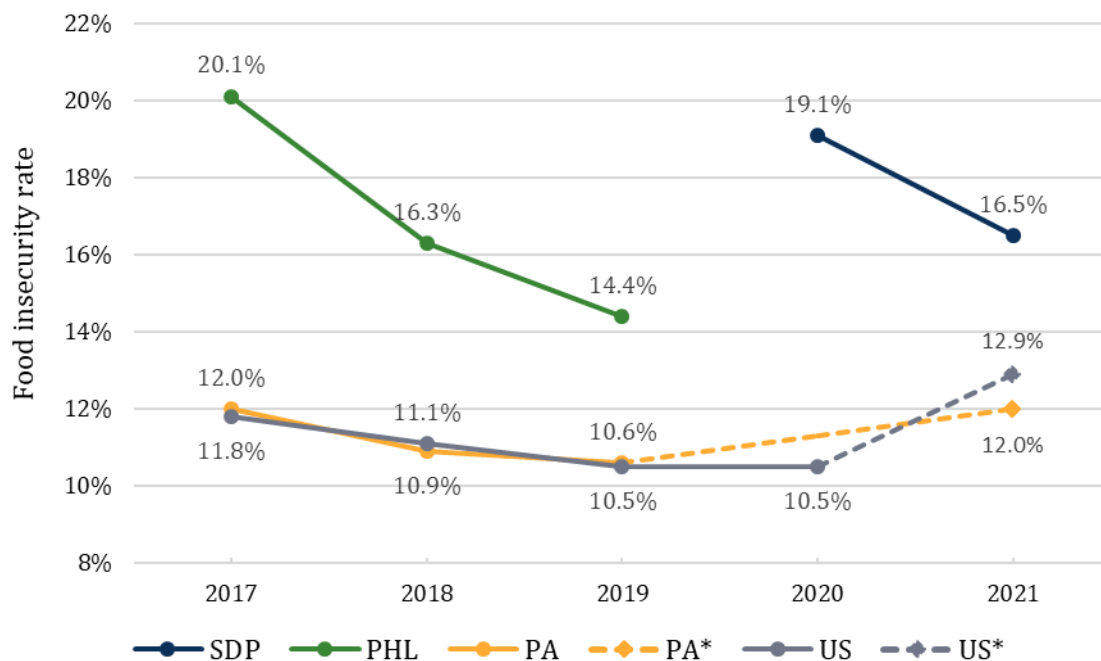
Appendix

SDP households reported greater food insecurity compared to city, state, and national averages.

In 2020-21, about one in six (16.5%) households that responded to the District-Wide Survey were classified as food insecure. This rate is higher than the most recently available city, state and national averages (14.4% in Philadelphia 2019, 10.6% in PA 2019, and 10.5% in US 2020), as well as state and national projections for 2021 (12.0% in PA and 12.9% in US) (Figure 13).^{16, 17, 18}

Within-year comparisons of District food insecurity to city, state, and national rates will become available in future reports when city, state, and national rates are available for 2020 and 2021.

Figure 13. Estimated rates of food insecurity for the School District of Philadelphia (SDP); Philadelphia (PHL), Pennsylvania (PA), and national (US) food insecurity rates; 2017-2021



Note: SDP data based on Parent/Guardian District-Wide Survey results from 2019-20 (N=14,163) and 2020-21 (N=14,473). Philadelphia and PA food insecurity rates data for 2017-2019 from Feeding America available at: <https://map.feedingamerica.org/>. US national food insecurity rates data for 2017-2021 from USDA ERS available at: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-u-s/key-statistics-graphics/#map>. *Projected PA and US food insecurity rates for 2021 available at: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/coronavirus-hunger-research>

¹⁶ Philadelphia and PA 2017-2019 data is sourced from Feeding America. *Map the Meal Gap*. (2019). <https://map.feedingamerica.org/>.

¹⁷ US 2017-2020 data is sourced from USDA ERS Current Population Survey Food Security Supplements, U.S. Census Bureau. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-security-in-the-united-states/>.

¹⁸ Projected PA and US food insecurity rates for 2021 sourced from Feeding America's report, *The Impact of Coronavirus on Food Insecurity*: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/coronavirus-hunger-research>.