



FOOD INSECURITY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

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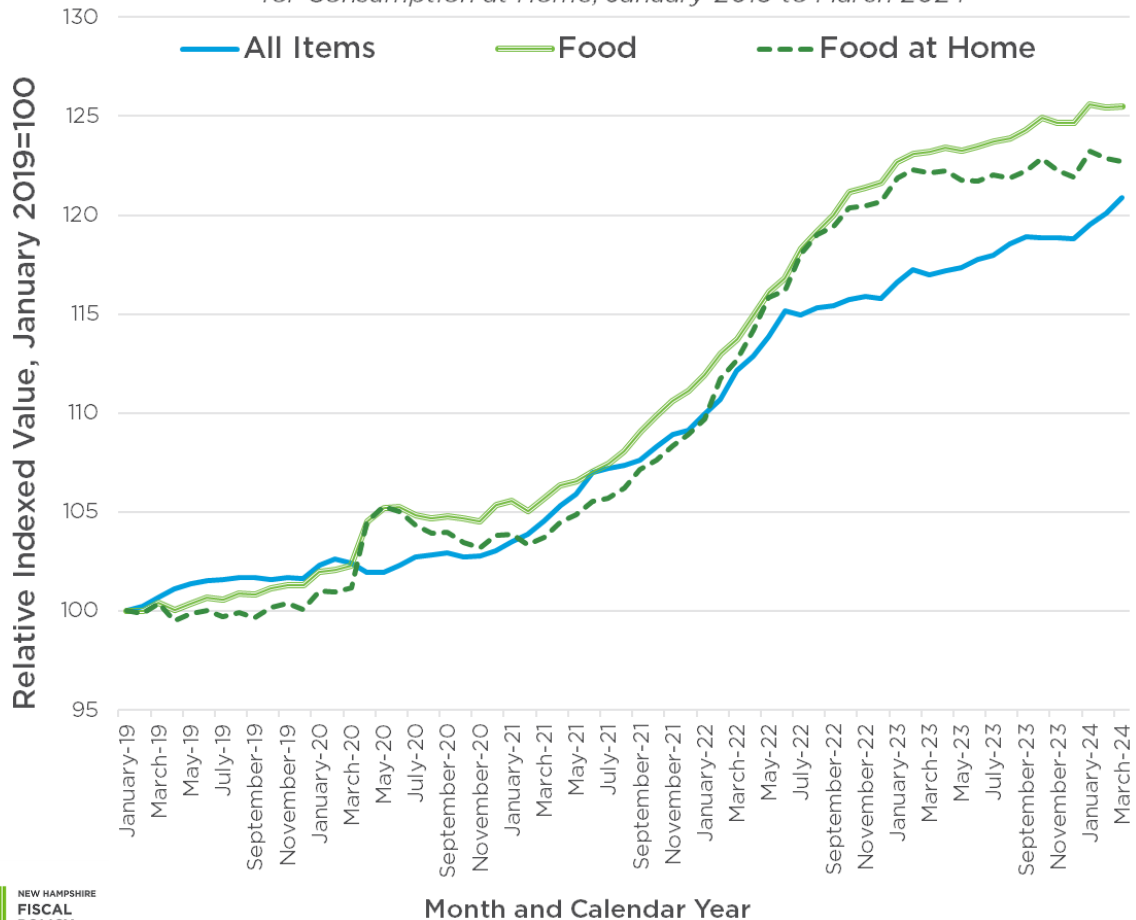
MEASURING THE PREVALENCE OF FOOD INSECURITY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Changes in cost of food
- Official measure from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Feeding America's "Map the Meal Gap" model
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) enrollment, as well as free and reduced-price school meal program enrollment
- U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey Food Insufficiency measure
- Food insecurity, poverty and health

CONSUMER FOOD PRICES INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE START OF COVID-19

RELATIVE PRICE CHANGES FOR FOOD

Consumer Price Index-Northeast, All Items, All Food Items, All Food Items for Consumption at Home, January 2019 to March 2024



Month and Calendar Year
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

- From January 2019 to March 2024, price of food purchased by consumers in the Northeastern United States up 25.5 percent
- Focusing on “food at home” to exclude restaurant prices, including labor, shows a 22.7 percent increase
- Faster than overall prices increase of 20.9 percent
- Recent data suggest food price increases have eased while overall inflation has risen

OFFICIAL MEASURE OF FOOD INSECURITY

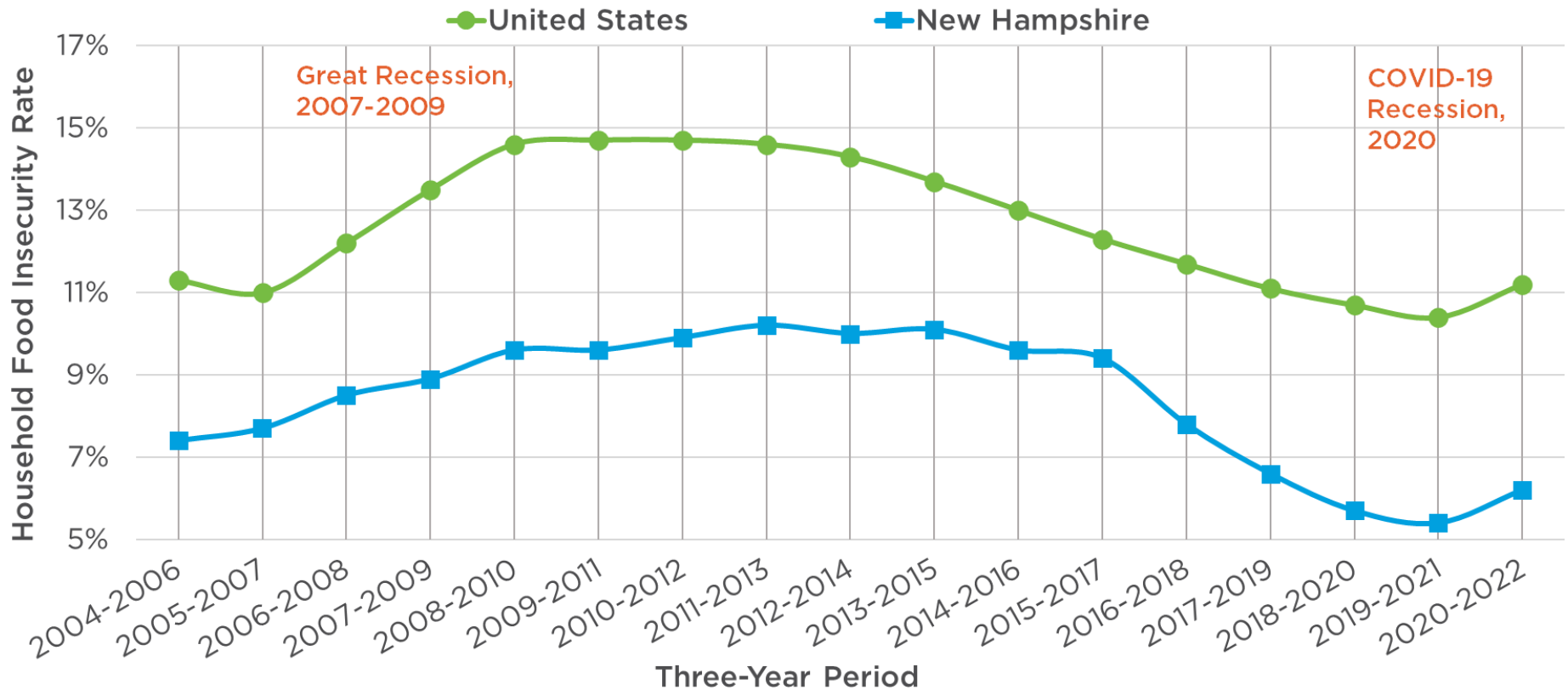
- Based on a survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Census Bureau
- Asks a series of questions focused on lack of food due to resource limitations to control for other factors that may limit intake
- Includes questions about skipped meals, buying less food due to lack of money, and particular effects on children
- Food security defined as “access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members,” and survey questions determine whether a household has food security or not
- Food insecurity not necessarily a constant status for households, and does not necessarily cause hunger, defined as “discomfort, illness, weakness, or pain caused by an involuntary lack of food”

Most recent official food insecurity measure data:

- In 2022, 12.8 percent of U.S. households, or 17.0 million, were food insecure, an increase from the 10.2 percent (13.5 million) in 2021
- In the 2020-2022 period, food insecurity rate in New Hampshire was 6.2 percent, or 35,000 households

END OF COVID-19 FEDERAL AID FOLLOWED BY LESS FOOD SECURITY

FOOD INSECURITY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE AND THE UNITED STATES



Notes: Each period of data represents an average of three years of data.

Sources: U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, Household Food Insecurity in the United States reports

MODELED COUNTY-LEVEL ESTIMATES

- County estimates from Feeding America rely on modeled assumptions to provide more geographic detail than survey data
- Using known relationships between poverty, income, unemployment, homeownership, race, ethnicity, disability, and food insecurity to build food insecurity estimates with other data
- 2021 estimates show 6.8 percent food insecurity rate, or about 94,000 Granite Staters
- Estimated rates range from 5.4 percent in Rockingham County to 10.2 percent in Coos County

ESTIMATED FOOD INSECURITY BY NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNTY, 2021

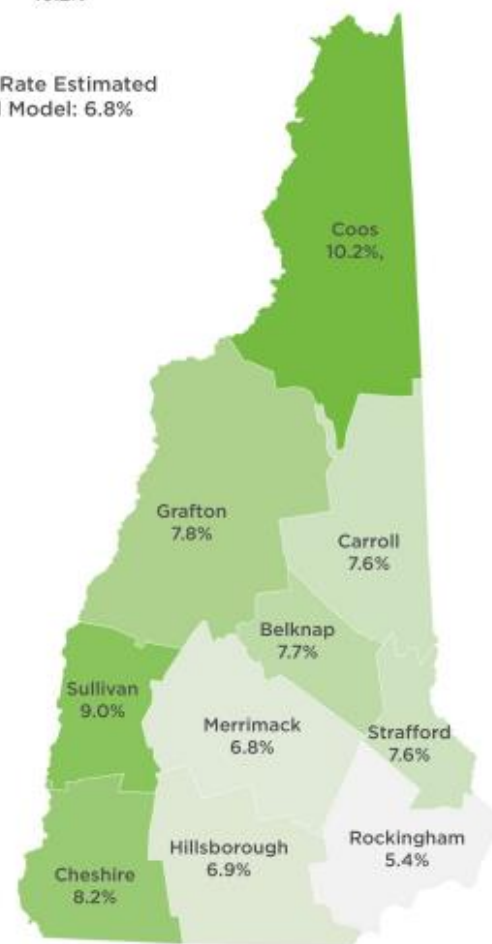
Modeled Estimates from Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap

Food Insecurity Rate



5.4% 10.2%

Statewide Total Rate Estimated by County-Level Model: 6.8%



Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap, 2023

SNAP USE VARIES WIDELY IN TOWNS

- About one in twenty New Hampshire residents were enrolled in SNAP in State Fiscal Year 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)
- One in five residents in Stratford, to nearly none or none in smaller, wealthier, and some rural communities
- Free and reduced-price meal enrollment for 2023-2024 school year (November 2023 estimates) showed 26 percent of students statewide enrolled, while five communities had enrollment of about 60 percent or more and five had no enrolled students

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BY NEW HAMPSHIRE MUNICIPALITY, STATE FISCAL YEAR 2023

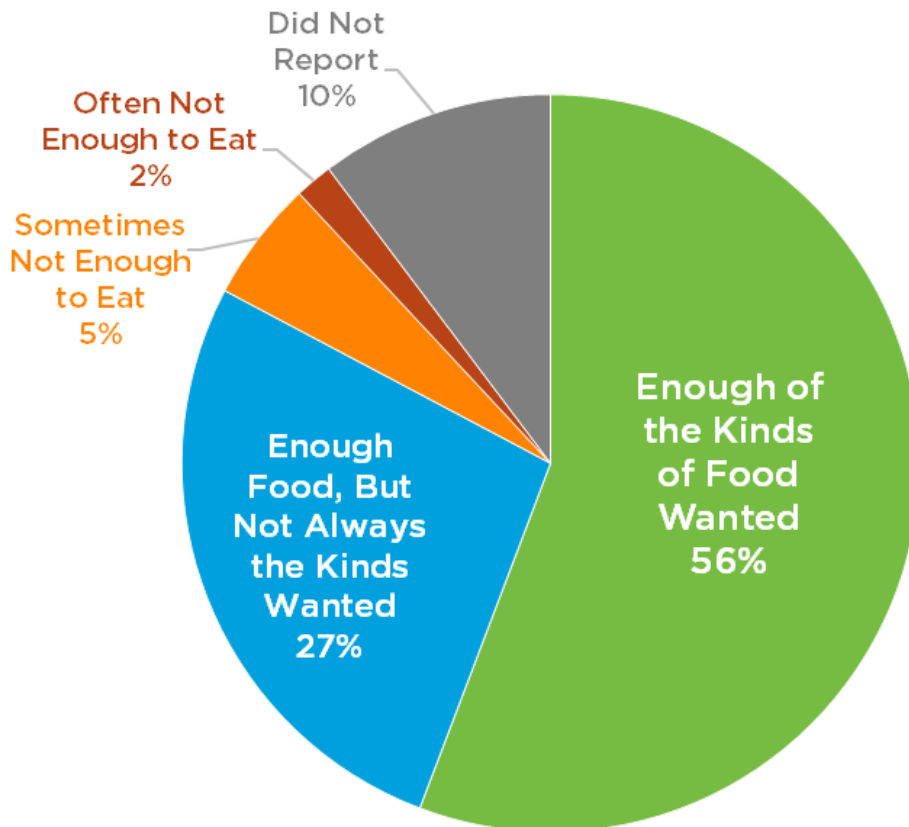
Municipality	Percent of Population Enrolled
Stratford	21.1%
Berlin	16.1%
Claremont	15.0%
Winchester	13.6%
Stewartstown	13.0%
Franklin	12.7%
Laconia	12.2%
New Hampshire Statewide Enrollment	5.2%
Durham	0.5%
Waterville Valley	0.4%
New Castle	0.05%
Hale's Location	0%
Hart's Location	0%
Wentworth's Location	0%
Millsfield	0%

Sources: New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates Program (July 1, 2022 Population Estimates)

FOOD SUFFICIENCY OFFERS ANOTHER MEASURE OF DIFFICULTY ACCESSING FOOD

REPORTED FOOD SUFFICIENCY AMONG NEW HAMPSHIRE ADULTS

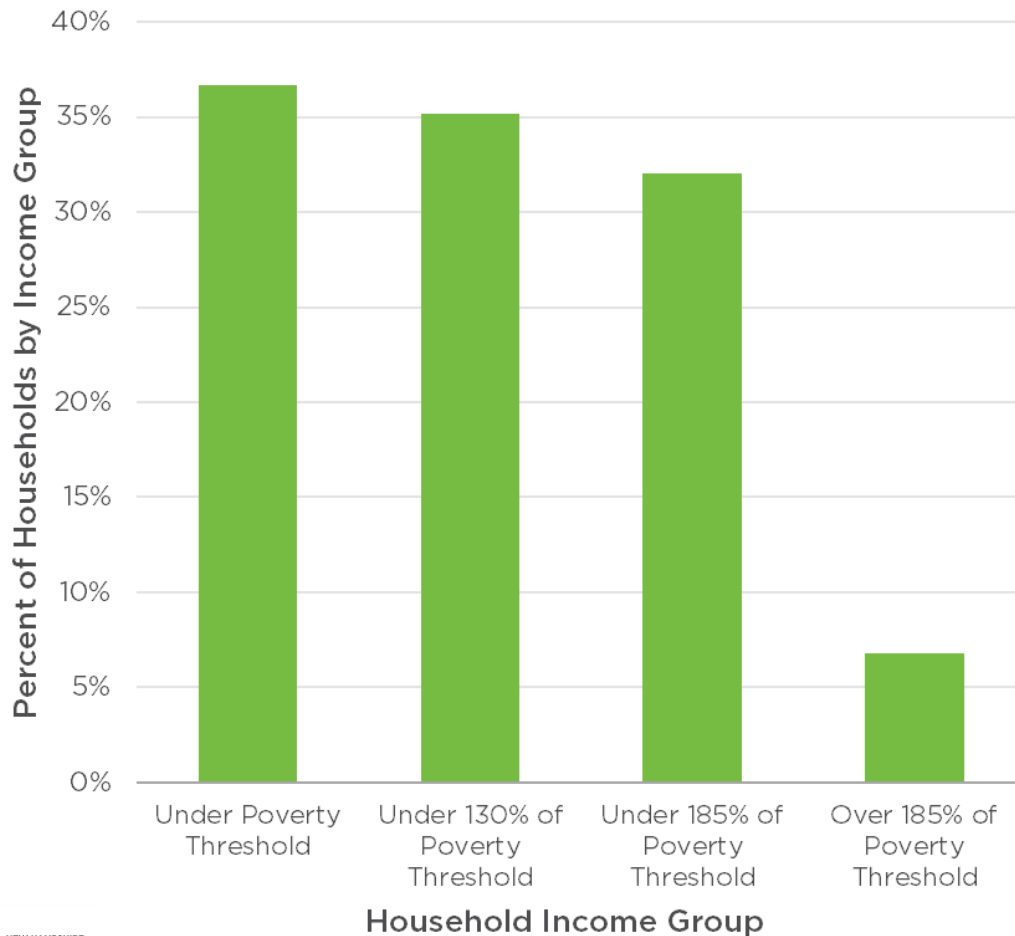
Late July 2023 to Late October 2023 Averages



- U.S. Census Bureau high-frequency survey, small sample size and few questions
- Often or sometimes not enough to eat, or that there was enough to eat but not always the kinds of food that household members wanted to eat, defined as “food insufficiency”
- Provides insight into transportation or health challenges to accessing food
- 18,500 often did not have enough to eat in prior 7 days
- 59,300 sometimes did not
- 161,000 said they did not have enough of types of food they wanted due to affordability

INCOMES RISE, FOOD INSECURITY FALLS

FOOD INSECURITY BY INCOME
United States Households, 2022

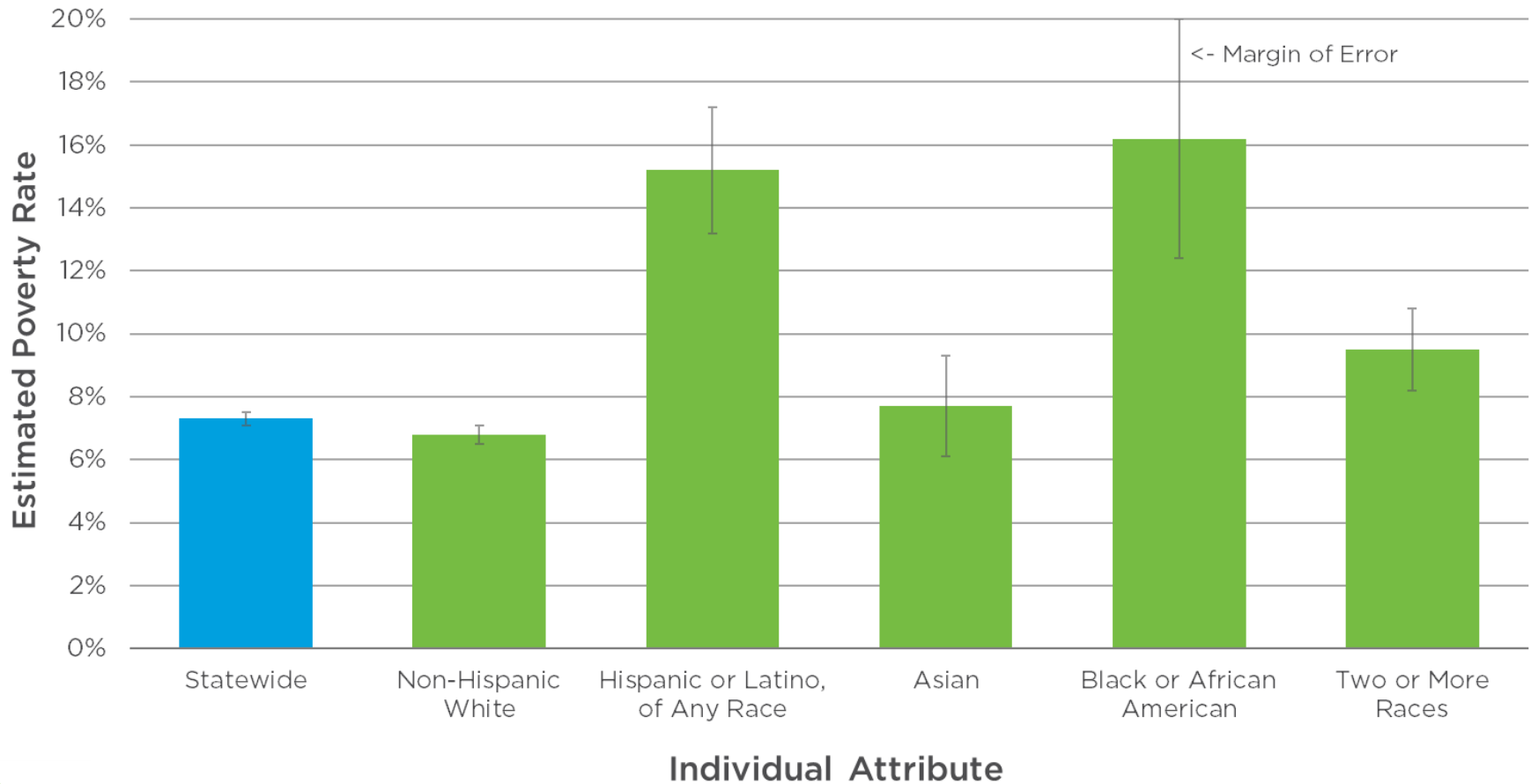


- Households in or near poverty-level incomes nationally are much more likely to face food insecurity by official measure
- Where food insecurity data are lacking, poverty may enhance understanding of who is food insecure
- Probability of food insecurity increases with income volatility
- Food insecurity associated with poorer adult and child health, common chronic illnesses, and child development challenges

POVERTY RATES VARY SUBSTANTIALLY AMONG NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS

INDIVIDUAL POVERTY RATES BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

2018-2022 Estimates, New Hampshire

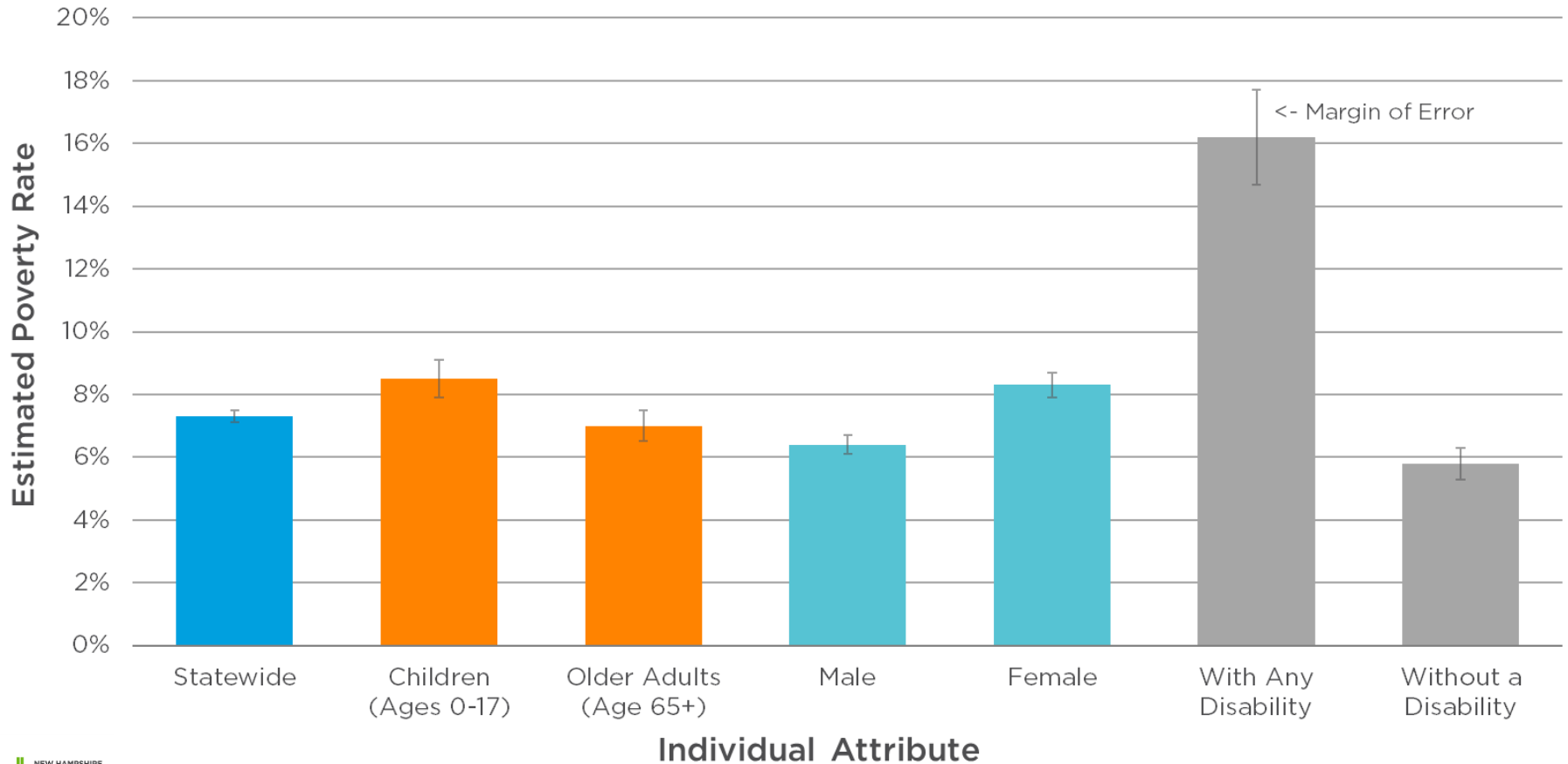


Notes: Margin of error bars represent 90 percent confidence intervals. Hispanic origin included in non-white races.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2018-2022

ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF ALL GRANITE STATERS IN POVERTY HAVE A DISABILITY

INDIVIDUAL POVERTY RATES BY AGE, GENDER, AND DISABILITY

2018-2022 Estimates, New Hampshire



Note: Margin of error bars represent 90 percent confidence intervals.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2018-2022

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Food insecurity and limitations on access to food can be measured in several different ways
- Food prices facing consumers have increased about 25 percent in the last five years
- Data collections from recent years suggest about 35,000 households, potentially about 75,000 to 95,000 people, faced food insecurity or a similar situation in New Hampshire
- Food insecurity and food assistance program enrollment varies widely by region and community within New Hampshire
- Lower income levels increase the risk of food insecurity
- Poverty levels in New Hampshire are substantially higher for Granite Staters with certain attributes, suggesting food insecurity risks are not evenly distributed

CITATIONS AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Fact Sheet: Food Insecurity in New Hampshire During and Following the COVID-19 Pandemic – March 4, 2024
<https://nhfpi.org/resource/food-insecurity-in-new-hampshire-during-and-following-the-covid-19-pandemic/>
- Issue Brief: Poverty and Food Insecurity in New Hampshire During and Following the COVID-19 Crisis – March 1, 2024
<https://nhfpi.org/resource/poverty-and-food-insecurity-in-new-hampshire-during-and-following-the-covid-19-crisis/>
- Blog: Latest Census Bureau Data Show Median Household Income Fell Behind Inflation, Tax Credit Expirations Increased Poverty – September 22, 2023
<https://nhfpi.org/blog/latest-census-bureau-data-show-median-household-income-fell-behind-inflation-tax-credit-expirations-increased-poverty/>

QUESTIONS AND OTHER INSIGHTS?



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