



## Snapshot: Hunger in Cleveland and Across Ohio

### **Ohio: Sixth in the Nation for Food Insecurity; One in Six Ohioans Faces Food Insecurity**

- According to a [report released](#) by U.S. Department of Agriculture in September 2011, approximately 16.4 percent of Ohioans—or **more than one in every six individuals**—faced food insecurity between 2008 and 2010. According to the USDA, the term “food security” refers to the “assured access to enough food for an active, healthy life” and for that food to be nutritious, safe, and easily obtainable through normal channels.
- A separate study conducted in 2009 and [released in 2011 by Feeding America](#) found the percentage of **food insecure Ohioans to be even higher, with 17.1 percent of Ohioans facing food insecurity.**
- The [same study](#) found that 18.2 percent of Cuyahoga County residents—or more than **235,580** individuals—faced food insecurity. The Cleveland Foodbank estimates that **332,420 individuals in its six-county service area** are in need.
- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services estimates that in Cuyahoga county **70,000 Ohioans will exhaust unemployment insurance (UI) in January**—unless Congress acts—which could put an even greater strain on Ohio food banks and pantries. This number is greater than the total number of Ohioans who exhausted their UI than in all of 2011. (Source: ODJFS/Office of Unemployment Compensation)

### **Cleveland Foodbank: Rising Demand**

- 2011: Distributed 34.5 Million Pounds of Food, Made Possible 28.5 Million Meals
- 2010: Distributed 32.0 Million Pounds of Food, Made Possible 25.6 Million Meals
- 2009: Distributed 27.3 Million Pounds of Food, Made Possible 21.0 Million Meals
- 2008: Distributed 21.6 Million Pounds of Food, Made Possible 17.4 Million Meals
- 2007: Distributed 20.1 Million Pounds of Food, Made Possible 15.0 Million Meals
- 2006: Distributed 19.5 Million Pounds of Food, Made Possible 14.7 Million Meals  
(Source: Cleveland Foodbank Annual Reports, 2006-2010)
- Of the 34.5 million pounds of food distributed by the Cleveland Foodbank in FY 2011, 9.3 million pounds—27% —was made possible through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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