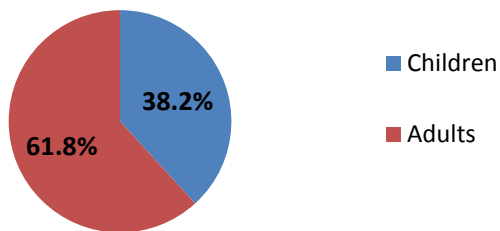


# A Report on Hunger and Food Insecurity in Nevada



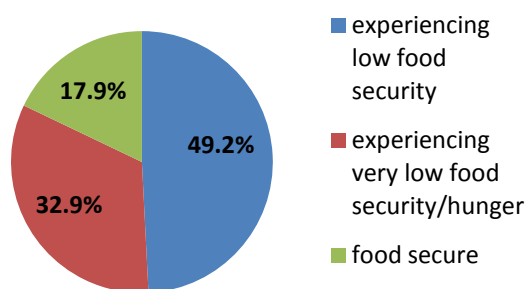
## Population Seeking Emergency Food Assistance from Nevada Food Banks



The Food Bank of Northern Nevada and Three Square, the two Feeding America food banks that serve the entire state of Nevada, provided emergency food assistance to one out of every eight (329,900) Nevadans last year, including 126,022 children, according to the national Hunger in America 2010 study.

An overwhelming 79% of those seeking emergency food assistance experience food insecurity, and 37% experience very low food security or hunger. Food insecurity hits households with children even harder – 82% of these households experience food insecurity, and 33% experience very low food security/hunger.

## Client Households with Children



Many people seeking food assistance are struggling with unemployment, difficult choices about food and basic necessities, and the pressures of skyrocketing healthcare costs.

Nevada emergency food clients forced to choose between paying for food and paying for:

- Utilities/heating fuel 47%
- Rent/mortgage 51%
- Medicine/medical care 37%
- Transportation 45%
- Gas 42%

- 72% of adult clients were unemployed at the time of the survey, with 39% of those having been without a job for less than a year.
- 41% of client households had no health insurance whatsoever; 22% had at least one member in poor health; and 43% had unpaid medical bills at the time of the survey.
- 73% of interviewed clients had household incomes below the federal poverty level, and 90% were below 185% of poverty, whereas the Economic Policy Institute calculates it takes approximately 237% of poverty to cover basic household expenses in Nevada.

- 29% of interviewed clients reported that someone in the household was receiving SNAP (formerly food stamp) benefits. However, 90% of client households had incomes below 185% of poverty and are therefore likely to be eligible for the program.

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada and Three Square are by far the most important sources of food for partner agencies with emergency food programs surveyed in Nevada, accounting for 79% of the food distributed by pantries, 61% of the food distributed by soup kitchens and 43% of the food distributed by shelters.

Among the Nevada programs that were surveyed, 84% of pantries, 49% of kitchens and 75% of shelters reported that there had been an increase since 2006 in the number of clients who come to their emergency food program sites.

