

Ottawa County Food Policy Council Food Assessment Survey Results April 2015

1. Which of the following programs do you use for food assistance? (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Food Stamps / Bridge Card	78	41.1%						
Soup Kitchens/Free prepared meals (Western Theological Seminary, WIC (Women, Infant and Children)	11	5.8%						
Food Pantries (such as Salvation Army, Community Action House, School meal programs (Free or Reduced Lunch Program)	45	23.7%						
Food Commodity distribution	93	48.9%						
Congregate Meals	35	18.4%						
Home delivered meals (Meals on Wheels)	21	11.1%						
Mobile Food Pantry/Truck	13	6.8%						
Backpack Program (Hand2Hand Ministries, Blessings in a Backpack,	13	6.8%						
None	3	1.6%						
Other	13	6.8%						
	14	7.4%						

2. How often do you run out of money for food?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Every week	43	22.5%						
At least once a week	23	12.0%						
Occasionally	73	38.2%						
Never	52	27.2%						

3. Does the amount of food that you get (purchased and through food assistance programs) usually last throughout the month?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	61	32.3%						
No	77	40.7%						
Sometimes	51	27.0%						

4. If you answered "no" or "sometimes" to question 3, please indicate if there are specific times when the food does not last throughout the month. (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
During the holidays	26	21.0%						
On school breaks	32	25.8%						
End of the month	63	50.8%						
Middle of the month	45	36.3%						
Other	16	12.9%						

5. How often does your household have the resources to eat balanced meals (meals that include meat or protein, fruit and vegetables, grains, and dairy products)?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Always	40	20.8%						
Almost every day	49	25.5%						
Some days, but not everyday	77	40.1%						
Only 1 or 2 days per week	22	11.5%						
Never	4	2.1%						

6. Do you ever eat less than you feel you should, or skip meals because there isn't enough money or food?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	78	40.6%						
No	100	52.1%						
Don't know	14	7.3%						

7. Do you use a food pantry?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	120	62.8%						
No	71	37.2%						

8. If you answered "no" to question 7, why don't you use a food pantry? (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
I do not need to	38	51.4%						
I do not want to	9	12.2%						
I do not have transportation	10	13.5%						
I do not know about the food pantry	13	17.6%						
Pantry day/time is not convenient	3	4.1%						
Pantry location is not convenient	0	0.0%						
Other	8	10.8%						

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9. Does anyone in your household have any of the following conditions? (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Diabetes	45	24.5%						
High blood pressure	82	44.6%						
Respiratory problems (asthma, bronchitis, emphysema)	43	23.4%						
Heart disease	28	15.2%						
Food allergies	19	10.3%						
Other dietary restrictions (please list)	21	11.4%						
Not applicable	63	34.2%						

10. Does the food you are able get for this person's specific condition (purchased and through food assistance programs) usually last throughout the month?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	58	40.3%						
No	55	38.2%						
Sometimes	31	21.5%						

11. Where do you purchase food? (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Supermarkets (Meijer, Family Fare, D&W, Wal-Mart)	174	92.1%						
Convenience store/gas station	12	6.3%						
Dollar store	71	37.6%						
Discount food store (Aldi, Save A Lot)	98	51.9%						
Farmers Market	40	21.2%						
Other	5	2.6%						

12. Where do you get fresh fruits and vegetables? (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Supermarket (Meijer, Family Fare, D&W, Wal-Mart)	163	85.8%						
Convenient store/gas station	2	1.1%						
Discount food store (Aldi, Save A Lot)	54	28.4%						
Farmers market	55	28.9%						
Community /personal garden	13	6.8%						
Food pantry	52	27.4%						
Ethnic market	5	2.6%						
Other	9	4.7%						
I don't purchase fruit and vegetables	5	2.6%						

13. Which of the following prevents you from eating fruits and vegetables on a regular basis? (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
They are too expensive	103	55.1%						
The quality is poor where I shop	11	5.9%						
They are not available where I shops	4	2.1%						
They are not always available at food pantries	37	19.8%						
I don't know how to prepare fruits and vegetables	0	0.0%						
I don't like fruits and vegetables	1	0.5%						
Not applicable, because I do eat fruits and vegetables on a regular	60	32.1%						
Other	8	4.3%						

14. How many servings of fruits and vegetables do you eat on an average day? (Note: a serving is about a 1/2 cup, a small apple, 1/2 banana, etc.). (Select one answer)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
0	13	6.9%						
1 - 2	123	65.1%						
3 - 4	44	23.3%						
5 - 9	8	4.2%						
10 or more	1	0.5%						

15. Are you aware of Double Up Food Bucks, a program that helps you stretch your food dollars when purchasing local fruits and vegetables?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	22	11.5%						
No	169	88.5%						

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16. How do you find out about food resources in your community? (Select all that apply)

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Friends or family members	120	64.5%						
Another food resource provider	29	15.6%						
Media (television, newspaper, facebook, etc.)	31	16.7%						
DHS or other caseworker	19	10.2%						
www.OttawaFood.org (website with local food resources)	8	4.3%						
211	25	13.4%						
Church	44	23.7%						
Promotional Flyers	24	12.9%						
Other	18	9.7%						

17. If you feel comfortable, please share a personal experience you have had with food insecurity (positive or negative), or anything you would like us to know as we work toward increasing Ottawa County residents' access to healthy food. You do not need to include your name.

18. May we include this story in our publicity?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	53	68.8%						
No	24	31.2%						

19. Please indicate your gender

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Female	149	81.0%						
Male	35	19.0%						

20. Please indicate your age.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
18 - 29 years	40	21.3%						
30 - 49 years	63	33.5%						
50 - 64 years	31	16.5%						
65 years or older	54	28.7%						

21. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	21	11.4%						
No	163	88.6%						

22. What is your race?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	1.1%						
Asian	1	0.5%						
Black or African American	12	6.6%						
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0.5%						
White	158	86.8%						
Other	6	3.3%						
Multiracial	2	1.1%						

23. If you reported that you are multiracial in question 22, please indicate the races that best describe you.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
American Indian or Alaska Native and White	1	5.6%						
American Indian or Alaska Native and Black or African American	0	0.0%						
Asian and White	6	33.3%						
Black or African American and White	5	27.8%						
Other	6	33.3%						

24. How many people live in your household?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
1	51	27.4%						
2	32	17.2%						
3	23	12.4%						
4	30	16.1%						
5	29	15.6%						
6	9	4.8%						
7	8	4.3%						
8 or more	4	2.2%						

25. Do you have children younger than 18 years of age living in your household?

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Yes	96	52.7%						
No	86	47.3%						

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PA

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
17	10	5.2%	█					
03	10	5.2%	█					
18	9	4.7%	█					
11	10	5.2%	█					
21	10	5.2%	█					
15	5	2.6%	█					
01	10	5.2%	█					
05	10	5.2%	█					
10	10	5.2%	█					
04	10	5.2%	█					
16	10	5.2%	█					
08	10	5.2%	█					
02	10	5.2%	█					
06	10	5.2%	█					
12	10	5.2%	█					
07	10	5.2%	█					
14	4	2.1%	█					
13	10	5.2%	█					
22	10	5.2%	█					
20	5	2.6%	█					
09	10	5.2%	█					

Zip Code

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
49419	3	1.6%	█					
49428	19	10.4%	█					
49426	24	13.1%	█					
49401	8	4.4%	█					
49424	15	8.2%	█					
49464	10	5.5%	█					
49534	3	1.6%	█					
49417	30	16.4%	█					
49456	15	8.2%	█					
49441	2	1.1%	█					
48813	1	0.5%	█					
49404	8	4.4%	█					
49429	1	0.5%	█					
49509	1	0.5%	█					
49423	33	18.0%	█					
49415	1	0.5%	█					
39315	1	0.5%	█					
49448	1	0.5%	█					
49418	3	1.6%	█					
49451	2	1.1%	█					
49330	1	0.5%	█					
49403	1	0.5%	█					