

Ottawa Food Data Summary 2019



The work of Ottawa Food is based on the following local data:

Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

- Only 17.6% of Ottawa County adults consume 5 or more fruit and vegetable servings per day.¹
- Only 26.5% of Ottawa County teens (down from 32.2% in 2015) consume 5 or more fruit and vegetable servings per day.²
- Inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption is seen throughout age, gender, income and geographical demographics in OC.¹

Food Insecurity

- There are approximately 23,660 food insecure individuals in Ottawa County (8.4%).³
- There are approximately 7,500 food insecure children in OC (10.9%).³
- 1 in 5 minority teens goes hungry in Ottawa County.²
- 16,611 Ottawa County students qualified for free or reduced price lunches in 2017.⁴
- While the 2017 unemployment rate in Ottawa County was only 3.3%, the rate of Ottawa County households that earned more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living (the ALICE threshold) was 22%.⁵

Ottawa Food's *2018 Food Access Survey* collected data from 318 households accessing food resources (SNAP/Bridge Card, food pantries, WIC, etc.). Of those who responded:

- 2.5% consume 5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables per day.⁶
- 40.1% have had to cut the size of meals or skip meals due to lack of money.⁶

1- Ottawa County 2017 Behavior Risk Factor Survey

https://www.mriottawa.org/Health/OCHD/pdf/BRFS/2017_BRFS.pdf (page 84)

2- 2017 Ottawa County Youth Assessment Survey

https://www.mriottawa.org/Health/OCHD/pdf/data/OCYAS_2017.pdf (page 36)

3- Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2019: Overall and Child Food Insecurity by County in 2017

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/map-the-meal-gap/by-county>

4-2018 Community Assessment for Ottawa County

https://www.ottawaunitedway.org/sites/ottawaunitedway.org/files/2018%20Community%20Assessment%20Final%20Web_1.pdf (page 68)

5- 2019 Ottawa County ALICE Report

<https://www.ottawaunitedway.org/sites/ottawaunitedway.org/files/ALICE%20booklet%20Ottawa%20County%202019.pdf>

6- Ottawa Food 2018 Food Access Survey <http://www.ottawafood.org/wp-content/uploads/delightful-downloads/2018/08/2018-OF-Access-Survey-Results-E-and-S.pdf>