

Food Access and Affordability Survey

Missoula Food Security Initiative conducted a survey to assess food access and affordability in Missoula County through organizations serving low to moderate income individuals and families. The following information is preliminary data and a full report will be available in April. Data was collected through Missoula Food Bank, Garden City Harvest, WORD, WIC, Missoula Aging Services, Council Groves, and the Poverello Center. The tables presented on the following sheets are averages of the numerical responses; data will be further evaluated in a comprehensive report. 361 surveys were completed, with 270 completed by Missoula Food Bank clients. This sample skews some results such as, where people generally access food and solutions to reducing barriers to accessing nutritious foods. Garden City Harvest had a large portion of survey respondents with a college degree and 69% made over \$25,000 per year, this data also skews results as survey data showed a majority of people are living at or below poverty wages.

Where do you get most of your food?

Rank from 1= All of the time, 2= Most of the time 3= Some of the time 4= Occasionally 5= Never

Grocery stores (Albertson’s, Good Food Store, Safeway, Wal-Mart, etc.)	1.84
Food assistance (food banks, pantries, Salvation Army, Poverello, etc.)	3.37
Seasonal markets (Farmer’s Market, winter market, farm stands, CSA or veggie subscription)	3.97
Gardens	3.99
Wholesale store (Costco)	4.12
Fast food restaurants	4.27
Convenience stores/gas stations	4.33
Church or congregate meals	4.61
Other: Friends/family, hunting, Missoula Co-op, garbage cans, Dollar Tree	

How do you usually travel to get your food?

Rank from 1= All of the time, 2= Most of the time 3= Some of the time 4= Occasionally 5= Never

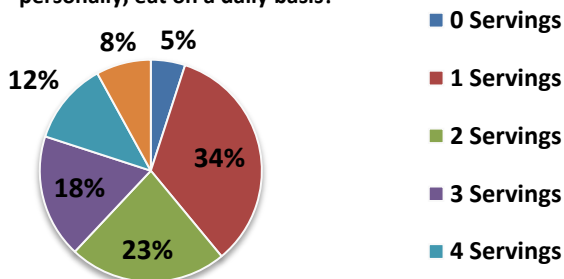
Personal Car	2.16
Walk	3.73
Someone else’s car	3.93
Bus	4.39
Carpool	4.42
Bike	4.44
Other _____	

Which of the following make it challenging for you to get and eat fruit, vegetables, and lean proteins? (examples like chicken, fish).

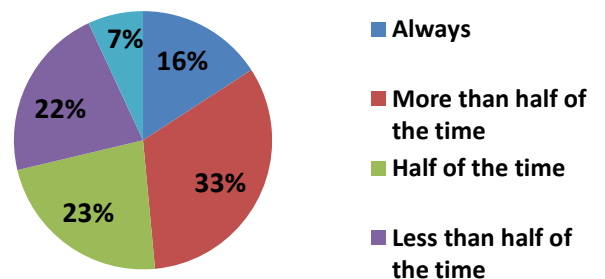
Rank from 1= All of the time, 2= Most of the time 3= Some of the time 4= Occasionally 5= Never

Low wages	2.37
Prices of fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins	2.83
Unemployment	3.34
Limited transportation	3.97
Distance to store	4.18
Lack of time available (cooking preparation)	4.24
Physical disabilities	4.47
Limited access to or no available kitchen	4.53
Uncertain of how to prepare and cook meals with fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins	4.57
Other: Out of SNAP benefits, weather, emergencies	

4. If a recommended serving size equals, for example, one medium apple, ¼ cup dried fruit, or one cup leafy vegetables, how many servings of fruits and vegetables do you, personally, eat on a daily basis?



How often does cost stop you from buying fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins?

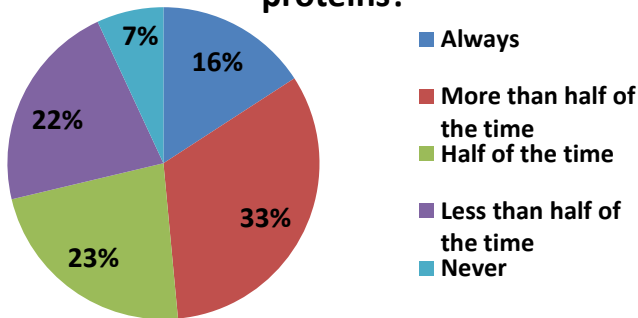


What would make it easier for you to consume more fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins?

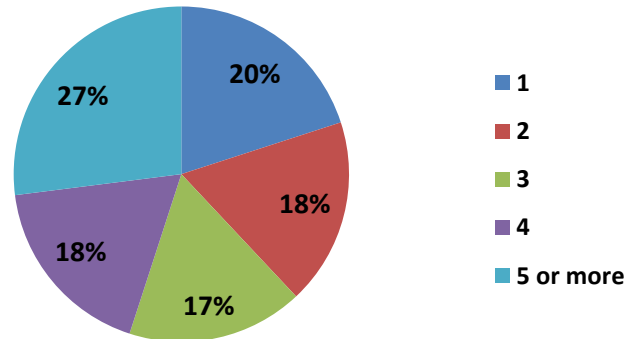
Rank from 1= All of the time, 2= Most of the time 3= Some of the time 4= Occasionally 5= Never

Less expensive	1.73
More of these items provided at my food bank/food pantry/delivery meal program	3.09
A community garden in my neighborhood where I can learn to grow my own food	3.20
More farmers markets or farm stands	3.28
Knowing how to grow my own food/having space to grow food	3.51
More time to prepare/cook meals	3.65
More grocery stores near where I live/work	3.70
More convenience stores that sell fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins	3.86
Bus routes to places that sell fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins	4.01
Knowing how to prepare fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins	4.20
Other: Cost of starting garden is high, rides to places	

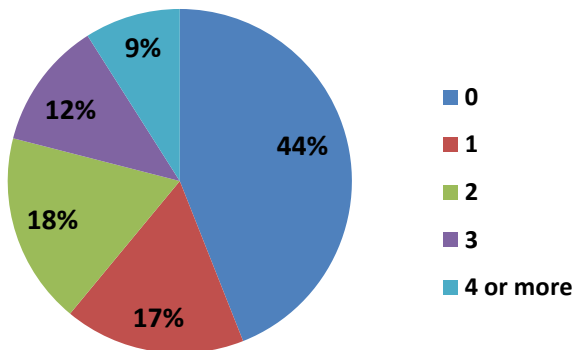
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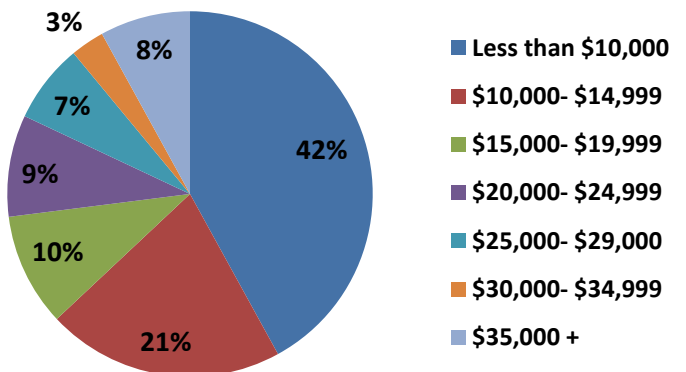
How many people currently live in your household?



How many members of your household are under the age of 18?



Annual Household Income



Are you currently using SNAP (food stamps), WIC or Senior Vouchers?

SNAP- 48%, WIC- 13%, Senior Vouchers- .2%

Average monthly amount -\$151-\$200.

Where do you live?

City of Missoula- 72%

Missoula County- 25%

Do not live in Missoula County – 3%

What is the highest level of education you have attained?

