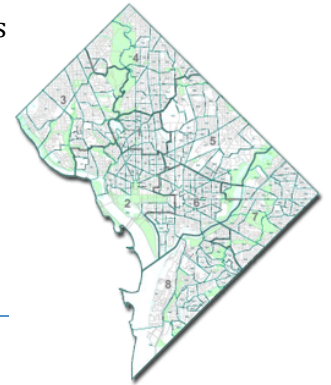




National Commission on Hunger Fact Sheet

Washington, DC Overview

Washington, DC, is the 23rd most populous city in the United States.¹ Anacostia is a historic neighborhood located in the southeast quadrant of Washington, DC. This neighborhood has an income lower than 81.4% of U.S. neighborhoods. With 57.8% of the children here living below the federal poverty line, this neighborhood has a higher rate of childhood poverty than 94.0% of U.S. neighborhoods.²



Washington, DC⁴

Demographics

- Median household income (2009–2013)³
 - Washington, DC: \$65,830
 - United States: \$53,046
- Persons below poverty level (2009–2013)³
 - Washington, DC: 18.6%
 - United States: 15.4%
- Race/Ethnicity (2013):³

| Ethnicity | Anacostia ⁴ (2010) | Washington, DC | United States |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| White | 1.3% | 43.4% | 77.7% |
| Black/African American | 96.0% | 49.5% | 13.2% |
| Asian | 0.2% | 3.9% | 5.3% |
| Hispanic/Latino | 0.9% | 10.1% | 17.1% |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | N/A | 0.6% | 1.2% |

(All Washington, DC, data cited includes Anacostia.)

Poverty in Washington, DC

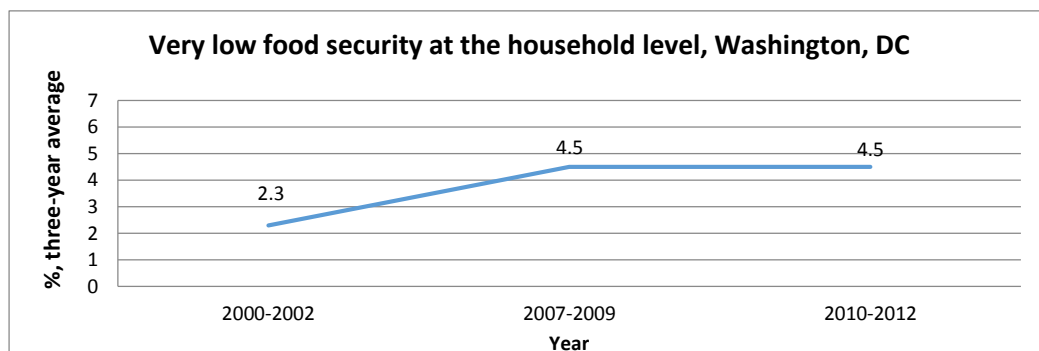
- Persistent poverty⁵
 - Persistent poverty is defined as areas of long-term, concentrated poverty (e.g., neighborhoods facing high poverty for multiple decades in a row). Washington, DC, contains areas that have persistent poverty tracts. Persistent poverty can be related to other issues such as poor housing and health conditions, higher crime rates, poor child development and educational outcomes, and employment dislocation.
- Income mobility⁶
 - Washington, DC, ranks poorly in terms of income mobility for children in poor families: it is below average in helping poor children up the income ladder, ranking 985th out of 2,478 counties (better than about 40% of counties). It is relatively worse for poor girls than it is for poor boys. The table below provides a 20-year estimates of how much 20 years of childhood in Washington, DC, adds or takes away from a child's income (compared with an average county), along with the national percentile ranking for each.

What a Childhood in Washington, DC, Does to Future Income

| Group | For poor kids | | For average-income kids | | For rich kids | | For kids in the top 1% | |
|----------|---------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|---------------|--------|------------------------|--------|
| | Income Change | Nat. % | Income Change | Nat. % | Income Change | Nat. % | Income Change | Nat. % |
| All kids | +\$140 | 40% | -\$2,440 | 4% | -\$4,870 | <1% | -\$6,450 | <1% |
| Boys | +\$690 | 46% | -\$2,830 | 3% | -\$6,240 | <1% | -\$8,600 | <1% |
| Girls | -\$550 | 32% | -\$1,940 | 9% | -\$3,230 | 3% | -\$4,100 | 2% |

Food Insecurity in Washington, DC

- Household Food Insecurity (2013)⁷
 - Washington, DC: 15.0% (96,640)
 - United States: 15.8% (49,078,000)
- Child Food Insecurity (2013)⁷
 - Washington, DC: 30.5% (32,100)
 - United States: 21.4% (15,772,000)
- Household very low food security, Washington, DC⁸



- Additional food insecurity data⁹
 - Nearly 15% of the senior population in DC lives in poverty and struggles to afford housing, medical care, and food.

- DC has one of the highest rates of senior hunger in the United States. In 2013, approximately 20% of seniors in DC faced the threat of hunger.¹⁰

Participation in Assistance Programs

- SNAP participation, Washington, DC¹¹
 - 2013: 99% of eligible participants (estimate based on FY 2012)
 - 2013: 144,889 individuals (monthly average)
- WIC participation, Washington, DC¹²
 - 2013: 62.3% of eligible participants (estimate based on FY 2012)
- School feeding programs, Washington, DC¹³
 - School breakfast program (2013–2014 school year)¹⁴
 - Free and reduced-price student participation rate (compared with school lunch participation): 70.0%
 - Change in free and reduced-price participation in last 10 years: 101.0%
 - Washington, DC ranked #3 in the nation with a ratio of low-income students participating in school breakfast compared to school lunch: 70:100
 - Summer nutrition program (July 2013)¹⁵
 - Washington, DC ranked #1 in the nation for reaching children with summer meals
 - Low-income participation rate (compared with regular-year free and reduced-price school lunch): 57.9%
 - Change in average daily summer nutrition participation in last 10 years: 9.9%

Sources

- ¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington,_D.C.
- ² <http://www.neighborhoodscout.com/dc/washington/anacostia/>
- ³ Census Bureau: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/11000.html>
- ⁴ NeighborhoodInfo DC: <http://www.neighborhoodinfodc.org/>
- ⁵ Crandall, K. "Persistent Poverty on a Neighborhood Scale." *PolicyMap*, 23 March 2015. http://www.policymap.com/blog/2015/03/persistent-poverty-on-a-neighborhood-scale/?utm_source=&utm_medium=&utm_campaign
- ⁶ Aisch G, Buth E, Bloch M, et al. "The Best and Worst Places to Grow Up: How Your Area Compares." *The New York Times*, 4 May 2015. <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/05/03/upshot/the-best-and-worst-places-to-grow-up-how-your-area-compares.html>
- ⁷ Feeding America: <http://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2013/child/district-of-columbia>
- ⁸ USDA Economic Research Service: <http://ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-environment-atlas/data-access-and-documentation-downloads.aspx>
- ⁹ DC Hunger Solutions: <http://www.dchunger.org/about/facts.html>
- ¹⁰ The State of Senior Hunger in America 2013: An Annual Report <http://www.nfesh.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/State-of-Senior-Hunger-in-America-2013.pdf>
- ¹¹ USDA Food and Nutrition Service: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/ops/techpartrate2010-2012.pdf>
- ¹² USDA Food and Nutrition Service: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/ops/WICEligibles2012-Volume1.pdf>
- ¹³ Food Research and Action Center: <http://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/dc.pdf>
- ¹⁴ Food Research and Action Center: [http://frac.org/pdf/School Breakfast Scorecard SY 2013 2014.pdf](http://frac.org/pdf/School%20Breakfast%20Scorecard%20SY%202013%202014.pdf)
- ¹⁵ Food Research and Action Center: [http://frac.org/pdf/2014 summer nutrition report.pdf](http://frac.org/pdf/2014_summer_nutrition_report.pdf)