

Beat: Business

HISPANIC HUNGER AND POVERTY RATES HIGHER THAN U.S. AVERAGE

BREAD FOR THE WORLD RELEASED NEW INFOS

PARIS - WASHINGTON DC, 13.12.2015, 14:22 Time

USPA NEWS - 'Bread for the World' has released new information detailing hunger and poverty rates among Hispanics in the United States. The data shows that Hispanics have much higher rates of both poverty and food insecurity than the general population....

'Bread for the World' has released new information detailing hunger and poverty rates among Hispanics in the United States. The data shows that Hispanics have much higher rates of both poverty and food insecurity than the general population. The data also documents how federal programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, or food stamps) help lift Hispanic families out of poverty.

In 2014, 22.4 % of Hispanic households were food-insecure, and 24.1 % of Hispanics lived in poverty, compared with 14% and 15.5% of the general population, respectively. Federal programs like SNAP provide long-term benefits for health, education, and economic well-being. Last year, SNAP lifted at least 4.7 million people out of poverty, including 2.1 million children.

These benefits are particularly important for Hispanic families because in 2013 Hispanics made up 17 % of the U.S. population but 28 % of the working poor.

The data comes on the heels of a new report from the President's Council of Economic Advisers highlighting how SNAP improves food security and life outcomes for families.

At the same time, the current monthly benefit levels are often not sufficient to sustain households through the end of the month.

A report by Bread for the World Institute, 'The Nourishing Effect: Ending Hunger, Improving Health, Reducing Inequality,' documents how food insecurity is associated with higher rates of depression, cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and other physical and mental health conditions.

The report estimates that hunger and food insecurity increased health expenditures in the United States by \$160 billion in 2014.

Source : Bread for the World

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Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-6722/hispanic-hunger-and-poverty-rates-higher-than-us-average.html>

Editorial office and responsibility:

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