

## HUNGER IN AMERICA 2014

### Northwest Pennsylvania Findings

#### Client Data

*Approximately one out of four people in northwest Pennsylvania receives food from the Second Harvest Food Bank network each year.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Unduplicated individuals served annually	81,800	167,700	2 million	46.5 million
Duplicated client households served each week	7,500	11,200	131,200	2.9 million
Duplicated client households served each month	32,700	48,700	570,100	12.6 million
Duplicated client households served annually	392,500	584,800	6.8 million	152 million
Number of times duplicated clients are served throughout SHFB network each year	844,400	1.3 million	16.5 million	389 million

#### DEMOGRAPHICS

*Second Harvest client households are diverse in size, age and race, with many containing vulnerable household members such as children under the age of 18 and seniors, age 60 and older.*

AGE PROFILE	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Children Age 0-17	24%	29%	28%	28%
Adults Age 18-59	56%	54%	54%	55%
Seniors Age 60+	20%	17%	18%	17%

ETHNIC PROFILE	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
White	68%	83%	57%	43%
Black	20%	10%	23%	26%
Latino or Other	12%	7%	20%	31%

#### EDUCATION LEVEL WITHIN THE HOUSEHOLD

*The majority of client households include a member who has earned a high school diploma or the equivalent. Many have some post high school education such as a business, trade or technical license/certificate or some college, some college or a 2-year college degree. Some households also contain a member with a 4-year college degree or higher.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Less than High School	7%	7%	10%	14%
High School Diploma or Equivalent	60%	60%	49%	45%
Post High School Education	27%	27%	32%	31%
Four-year college degree or higher	6%	6%	9%	10%
Full or Part-time Student	4%	5%	10%	19%

## HOUSING

*The majority of Client Households reside in non-temporary housing, defined as living in an apartment, house, mobile home/trailer or rented room.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Temporary Housing	2%	2%	3%	7%
Non-temporary Housing	98%	98%	97%	93%
House	36%	48%	49%	43%
Apartment	48%	37%	34%	34%
Mobile Home or Trailer	12%	13%	9%	12%
<i>Of those living in non-temporary Housing:</i>				
Own home with a mortgage	17%	19%	17%	15%
Rent or Lease	64%	62%	67%	64%
<i>However, not all non-temporary housing arrangements are stable:</i>				
Lived in at least two places in the past 12 months	18%	20%	20%	16%
Started living with another person or family member in the past 12 months	19%	15%	19%	22%
Faced an eviction or foreclosure in the past 5 years	14%	10%	14%	15%
<i>Households that DO NOT have:</i>				
Cooking facilities such as stove or hot plate	5%	5%	5%	6%
Refrigerator	5%	3%	5%	7%

## MILITARY FAMILIES

*For the first time, families were asked about U.S. military service through Hunger in America 2014. Approximately 11,898 households in northwest Pennsylvania contain a member who has served in the military, either in the Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard. Of that amount 4,627 households contain a member who is currently serving in the military.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Households with at least one member who has served	18%	18%	21%	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Households with a member currently serving</li> </ul>	10%	7%	4%	4%

## EMPLOYMENT

*SHFB client households struggle to secure adequate employment. Almost half employed households report that their longest-employed person work part-time. Clients were asked to provide both his or her own employment status, as well as the employment status of another person in the household who worked the greatest number of months. The individual who worked the most out of the year is identified as “the most employed person”.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Households where “the most employed person” worked for pay in the last 12 months	50%	49%	49%	54%
Households where “the most employed person” worked for pay in the last 4 weeks	35%	32%	33%	34%
Households where “the most employed person” Worked less than 31 hours per week	-	47%	51%	57%

Households where “the most employed person” is currently not working	65%	68%	67%	66%
Households where “the most employed person” is actively looking for work	14%	15%	19%	23%

Reasons why “the most employed person” is not working and not actively seeking work:

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabled/ poor health or acts as a caregiver for another</li> </ul>	61%	67%	56%	23%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retired</li> </ul>	32%	26%	33%	12%

Other Potential Barriers to Employment among respondents:

Client responsible for grandchildren in household	11%	10%	15%	17%
Household member released from prison in the past 12 months	7%	4%	4%	3%
Full or part-time student	4%	4%	10%	19%

## HEALTH

*Households who are facing both poor health and food insecurity must overcome multiple challenges, including maintaining a good diet to manage disease.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Clients with Fair or Poor Health	55%	49%	50%	57%
Household member also in poor health	14%	18%	23%	24%
Household member with diabetes	33%	30%	32%	33%
Household members with high blood pressure	43%	48%	56%	58%
Households with unpaid medical bills	55%	49%	51%	55%

## INCOME AND POVERTY

*Clients Households subsist on lower incomes, with a majority reporting that they live below the poverty line.*

Annual Household income less than \$10,000	50%	49%	47%	53%
Annual Household Income less than \$20,000	85%	83%	79%	81%
Annual Income for Full-Time, Minimum Wage Job	\$15,080	\$15,080	\$15,080	\$15,080
Households living in Poverty	70%	68%	66%	72%

FOOD INSECURITY

*According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Households that experience enough limitations in access to adequate food to cause changes in diet or reduced food intake are deemed “food insecure.”*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
NW PA Client Households that are food insecure in a given month	73%	75%	81%	84%

PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
<i>The majority of Client Households receives SNAP benefits.</i>				
Client Households currently receiving SNAP	75%	70%	59%	55%
Households reporting SNAP benefits last 1 week or less	14%	23%	23%	21%
Households reporting SNAP benefits last 2 weeks	27%	28%	32%	31%
Households reporting SNAP benefits last 3 weeks	39%	34%	33%	34%
Households that participate in free or reduced school lunch program	94%	98%	95%	94%
Households that participate in free or reduced school breakfast	50%	56%	49%	46%
Households that participate in WIC	5%	8%	10%	11%

## THE DIFFICULT DECISIONS CLIENTS FACE

*Client Households experienced difficult spending tradeoffs in the last 12 months in order to ensure there is enough food to put on the table.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Had to choose between Food and Educational Expenses	41%	27%	31%	31%
Had to choose between Food and Medical Care	66%	61%	65%	66%
Had to choose between Food and Housing	59%	50%	55%	57%
Had to choose between Food and Transportation	68%	64%	62%	67%
Had to choose between Food and Utilities	67%	64%	67%	69%

*Many Client Households experience these same difficult decisions every month.*

Had to choose between Food and Educational Expenses	20%	13%	14%	14%
Had to choose between Food and Medical Care	25%	23%	30%	31%
Had to choose between Food and Housing	26%	23%	26%	27%
Had to choose between Food and Transportation	31%	30%	30%	34%
Had to choose between Food and Utilities	25%	25%	32%	34%



## COPING STRATEGIES

*Six out of 10 Client Households employed multiple strategies within the last twelve months in order to secure enough food, including incorporating assistance received through SHFB into their overall monthly strategy for obtaining food.*

	<u>Erie</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>National</u>
Access food from SHFB on a regular basis	84%	86%	77%	63%
Sold or pawned personal property	34%	28%	31%	35%
Purchased inexpensive, unhealthy food	84%	84%	77%	79%
Grew food in garden	34%	42%	27%	23%
Watered down food or drinks	45%	35%	40%	40%
Received help from family or friends	63%	57%	54%	53%

## HUNGER IN AMERICA 2014

### Northwest Pennsylvania Findings

#### AGENCY PROGRAM DATA

	<i>Erie</i>	<i>Regional</i>
Where do agencies get food for their programs?		
Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA	71%	69%
Purchased	25%	24%
Donations or Other	4%	7%

#### AGENCY STAFF and VOLUNTEERS

Most agencies employ paid staff	66%	61%
Median number of volunteers per week	2	2
Median number of volunteer hours each week	16	11
Age of volunteers:		
18 and Younger	9%	8%
19 – 59	39%	41%
60 and older	52%	51%

Erie                      Regional

VOLUME OF CLIENTS COMPARED TO PRIOR YEAR

Saw an Increase	45%	47%
About the Same	49%	45%
Saw a Decrease	6%	8%

FOOD AVAILABLE TO MEET NEEDS OF CLIENTS

More food than needed	15%	12%
Enough food to meet needs	74%	71%
Less food than needed	11%	17%

AGENCY RELIANCE ON FOOD BANK: EFFECT IF NO LONGER RECEIVED FOOD FROM SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF NW PA

Major Effect	79%	79%
Minor Effect	17%	15%
No Effect at all	4%	6%