

Statement of Need data brief: Queens County, New York

Emergency food pantry and fresh produce distribution · Sample: Jamaica Community Pantry (fictional test order)
Prepared October 25, 2026

Prepared for: Sample: Jamaica Community Pantry (fictional test order) · **Program focus:** Emergency food pantry and fresh produce distribution · **Area:** Queens County, New York

How to use this brief: copy the paragraph below into your proposal's Statement of Need, keep the citations, and add one or two sentences about the people you serve. Every number traces to a source listed at the end.

Draft need statement

CDC PLACES estimates that 22.0% of adults in Queens County (95% CI 18.7–25.5%) reported food insecurity in the past 12 months (2023 model-based estimate)^[10] — roughly 401,000 adults when applied to the 1,821,507 adults PLACES uses for the county (CivicVane arithmetic). CDC PLACES estimates that 17.5% of adults in Queens County (95% CI 15.1–20.0%) reported housing insecurity in the past 12 months (2023 model-based estimate)^[10] — roughly 319,000 adults when applied to the 1,821,507 adults PLACES uses for the county (CivicVane arithmetic). In Queens County, an estimated 188,936 residents (±4,440) — 8.2% (±0.2 pts) — had no health insurance, compared with 5.1% in New York and 8.4% nationally, a statistically significant difference from New York.^[4] In Queens County, an estimated 146,500 households (±3,156) — 17.4% (±0.4 pts) — were limited-English-speaking (no member 14 or older speaks English only or very well), compared with 7.7% in New York and 4.3% nationally, a statistically significant difference from New York.^[5] In Queens County, the unemployment rate averaged 7.2% (±0.2 pts), compared with 6.4% in New York and 5.2% nationally, a statistically significant difference from New York.^[8]

Community indicators

ACS 2020-2024 5-year estimates. Each cell shows the estimate and its 90% margin of error.

Indicator	Queens County	New York	United States
Total population ^[1] Table B01003	2,323,052 controlled, no MOE	19,852,366 controlled, no MOE	334,922,499 controlled, no MOE
Children under 18 below the poverty level ^[2] Table B17020	15.8% ±0.7 pts	18.3% ±0.2 pts	16.1% ±0.1 pts
Households receiving SNAP (food stamps) ^[3] Table B22003	15.9% ±0.4 pts	15.6% ±0.1 pts	12.1% ±0.0 pts
Residents with no health insurance ^[4] Table B27010	8.2% ±0.2 pts	5.1% ±0.1 pts	8.4% ±0.0 pts

Limited-English-speaking households ^[5] Table C16002	17.4% ±0.4 pts	7.7% ±0.1 pts	4.3% ±0.0 pts
Residents below the federal poverty level ^[6] Table B17001	12.9% ±0.4 pts	14.0% ±0.2 pts	12.5% ±0.1 pts
Median household income ^[7] Table B19013	\$86,136 ±\$875	\$85,974 ±\$402	\$80,734 ±\$166
Unemployment rate (civilian labor force, 16+) ^[8] Table B23025	7.2% ±0.2 pts	6.4% ±0.1 pts	5.2% ±0.0 pts
Adults 25+ without a high-school diploma ^[9] Table B15003	17.4% ±0.3 pts	12.0% ±0.1 pts	10.4% ±0.0 pts
Adults 25+ with a bachelor's degree or higher ^[9] Table B15003	36.1% ±0.4 pts	40.2% ±0.2 pts	35.7% ±0.1 pts

Health and social needs (adults)

CDC PLACES 2025 release, crude prevalence among adults 18+, model-based estimates with 95% confidence intervals ^[10].

Measure	Queens County
Food insecurity in the past 12 months among adults FOODINSECU, survey year 2023	22.0% 95% CI 18.7–25.5
Received food stamps in the past 12 months among adults FOODSTAMP, survey year 2023	15.4% 95% CI 12.7–18.2
Housing insecurity in the past 12 months among adults HOUSINSECU, survey year 2023	17.5% 95% CI 15.1–20.0
Utility services shut-off threat in the past 12 months among adults SHUTUTILITY, survey year 2023	8.4% 95% CI 7.2–9.7
Lack of reliable transportation in the past 12 months among adults LACKTRPT, survey year 2023	9.8% 95% CI 8.4–11.3
Diagnosed diabetes among adults DIABETES, survey year 2023	14.3% 95% CI 12.7–15.9
Obesity among adults OBESITY, survey year 2023	24.0% 95% CI 21.3–26.8
Current lack of health insurance among adults aged 18-64 years ACCESS2, survey year 2023	10.6% 95% CI 8.4–12.9
Depression among adults DEPRESSION, survey year 2023	13.7% 95% CI 12.1–15.4
Frequent mental distress among adults MHLTH, survey year 2023	13.6% 95% CI 12.2–15.1
Any disability among adults DISABILITY, survey year 2023	28.9% 95% CI 26.0–31.9

Notes and limits

- All ACS figures are 2020-2024 5-year estimates (downloaded from the Census Bureau's table-based summary files). They describe the average over those five years, not a single year.
- $\pm$ values are 90% margins of error as published by the Census Bureau; for rates CivicVane derived the MOE with the Census Bureau's proportion formula, and for sums of table cells with the root-sum-of-squares approximation.
- “Statistically higher/lower” compares the county with the state using the Census Bureau's 90%-confidence test. Where we say “not statistically different”, avoid claiming the county is worse or better.
- Unemployment comes from ACS Table B23025 (people 16+ in the civilian labor force), not from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It is a 5-year average and will not match current monthly BLS figures.
- CDC PLACES values are model-based estimates for adults 18+, not direct counts; quote them with the confidence interval.
- Left out of the draft because the county is statistically better off than the state on them: children under 18 below the poverty level, residents below the federal poverty level. They are still in the table.

Sources

1. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B01003 (Total Population), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b01003.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Total population.
2. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B17020 (Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Age), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b17020.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Children under 18 for whom poverty status is determined.
3. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B22003 (Receipt of Food Stamps/SNAP in the Past 12 Months by Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months for Households), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b22003.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Households.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B27010 (Types of Health Insurance Coverage by Age), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b27010.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Civilian noninstitutionalized population.
5. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table C16002 (Household Language by Household Limited English Speaking Status), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-c16002.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Households.
6. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B17001 (Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Age), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b17001.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Population for whom poverty status is determined.
7. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B19013 (Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months (in 2024 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b19013.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Households (2024 inflation-adjusted dollars).
8. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B23025 (Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b23025.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Civilian labor force 16 years and over.
9. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020-2024 5-year estimates, Table B15003 (Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over), downloadable summary file https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/summary_file/2024/table-based-SF/data/5YRData/acsdt5y2024-b15003.dat; view online: data.census.gov. Universe: Population 25 years and over.

10. CDC PLACES: Local Data for Better Health, County Data, 2025 release (BRFSS model-based estimates), dataset <https://data.cdc.gov/d/swc5-untb>; query used: <https://data.cdc.gov/resource/swc5-untb.json?%24where=locationid%3D'36081'+AND+datavalueid%3D'CrdPrv'+AND+measureid+in%28'FOODINSECU'%2C'FOODSTAMP'%2C'HOUSINSECU'%2C'SHUTUTILITY'%2C'LACKTRPT'%2C'DIABETES'%2C'OBESITY'%2C'ACCESS2'%2C'DEPRESSION'%2C'MHLTH'%2C'DISABILITY'%29&%24limit=200>

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