

Food insecurity in Monroe county Indiana was last estimated to be [14.1 percent of the population in 2018, with just over 20,500 county residents suffering from lack of secure food sources](#). I do not know the extent of food insecurity issues in my high-school, but I know that there are definitely such issues. Under the pandemic I received a lot of notifications from my high-school about students being able to pick up breakfast meals and lunches from the school even though we were having online classes. Clearly, for some of my classmates, the school provided breakfasts and lunches are important for the security of their meals. I can imagine that many of these classmates have families that cannot provide or attain secure access to healthy food, and the pandemic only worsened the situation.

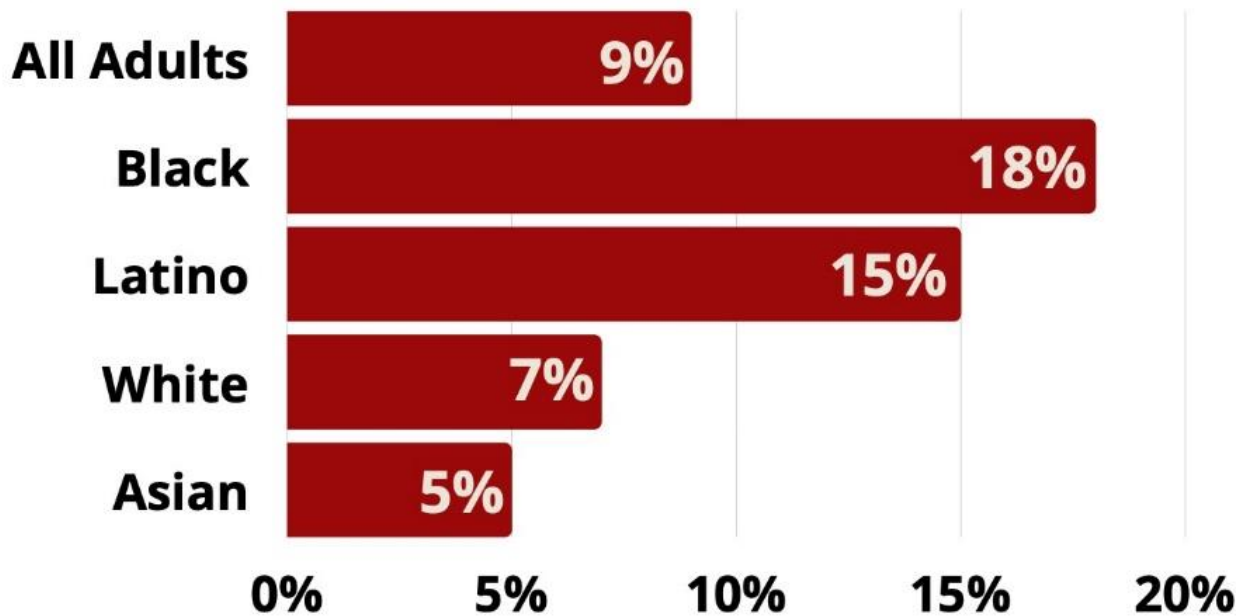
I have learned that many minority women are in occupations that were on the frontlines of battling the pandemic. For example, [50.3 percent of nursing assistants are women of color](#). Furthermore, these minority women are often times the primary income earner of their household. For example, a [2018 Center for American Progress report](#) found that 67.5 percent of Black mothers were the primary breadwinners for their families, compared with 37 percent of white mothers.

So, when the pandemic disproportionately disrupted the lives of front line workers, a lot of that burden fell on women of color, and the households that depend on them. For example, [Even though black nurses make up only 12.4 percent of total nurses in the US, they have disproportionately accounted for 17.8 percent of COVID-related nurse deaths](#). This added burden shows up clearly in recent data that reveals that [under the pandemic households of color are more than twice as likely to experience food insecurity than white households](#).

Most of the research that I have read on what I can do to help alleviate this growing problem of food insecurity is to either donate financially, or volunteer my time, to help local food banks. There is a student organization at Indiana University called [Crimson Cupboard Food Pantry](#) whose mission is to offer free healthy food to IU students struggling to find secure food options. I like how Crimson Cupboard does operates on the honor system, never asking for financial information of their patrons. Their mission is simple: if a student signals they are in need of secure food, they will provide it through their food security partners and volunteers. The organization sets up student-led food drives, so this could be something that we look to organize at Bloomington Highschool North, and they also work with the community food bank Hoosier Hills, to reach a wider audience than just students on campus.

Households of Color Suffer More From Food Insecurity During the Pandemic

Share of adults saying that their household sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the weeks of September 15-27, 2021



Source: <https://www.cbpp.org/households-of-color-likelier-to-lack-sufficient-food-during-pandemic-4>

Bloomington Residents and Restaurants must continue to support local food banks like Hoosier Hills and Crimson Cupboard

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Race/Ethnicity	Share of Adults
All Adults	9%
Black	18%
Latino	15%
White	7%
Asian	5%

Source: <https://www.cbpp.org/households-of-color-likelier-to-lack-sufficient-food-during-pandemic-4>

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fabmrvincent PGC Day 19: Bloomington Residents and Restaurants must continue to support local food banks like @hoosierhillsfb and @crimsoncupboardiu .

@turninggreenorg @foodprintorg @foodtank #PGC2021

11 SECONDS AGO

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