

Arkansas

HUNGRY FOR CHANGE: VOTE TO END HUNGER



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

“Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.”

– Proverbs 3:27

Hunger and Poverty Data

Arkansas is the **hungeriest state**. Last year, **21.2 percent of Arkansas households** were at risk of hunger.

Arkansas has the **4th highest poverty rate** in the country. Over **19 percent of Arkansans** lived in poverty in 2013.

More than 1 in 4 Arkansas children were living in poverty, including 60,708 children under age 5.

Since 2009, wages for the bottom 60 percent of American workers **have fallen by 4 to 6 percent**. Families on average are still **earning \$4,500 less** than before the recession.

49.9 percent of Arkansas households in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps) are working households. **Over half of Arkansas SNAP recipients are children or elderly**.

SNAP moved **3.7 million Americans** out of poverty in 2013. The average SNAP recipient transitions off the program within 9 months.

Behind the Numbers

The economy is improving, but not fast enough. **Relief isn't getting to families that need it most.**

Poverty continues to keep families from knowing where their next meal will come from.

Hunger and poverty hit children hardest. Hunger affects children's growth and education for the rest of their lives.

A full-time job is no longer enough to keep a family out of poverty. **Congress has yet to pass legislation that increases the minimum wage.**

Many SNAP participants who can work have a job but still need assistance. **Yet some Members of Congress voted to kick 2 million people off the program, many of whom were children, elderly or disabled.**

SNAP is one of the most effective anti-poverty programs. **Yet this Congress has proposed cutting SNAP funding 13 times.**

Source: 2013 American Community Survey by the U.S. Census Bureau

Are your elected officials voting to end hunger?

Visit www.bread.org/elections:

- to see how your members of Congress have voted on hunger and poverty issues
- for ways to engage candidates and make hunger an election issue