POLK COUNTY

OVERALL RANK*

Need	Performance
High	Low

Need is from a composite score including % food insecure, % SNAP eligible, % NSLP enrolled, and % < 5 WIC eligible. *Performance* is from a composite score including % eligible and participating in SNAP, NSLP, WIC, and pounds of food distributed per capita < 100% poverty.

NEED INDICATORS	COUNTY	STATE	RANK
Food Insecurity 2023			
% Individuals Food Insecure	17.6%	15.4%	High
% Individuals < 18 Food Insecure	20.0%	18.1%	Average
% Individuals Food Insecure with Hunger	8.0%	5.8%	High
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps) 2023			
% Total Population Income Eligible	24.5%	16.1%	High
% < 18 Years Income Eligible	40.0%	25.0%	Very High
Free and Reduced-Price Lunch (National School Lunch Program) 2023			
% Students Enrolled	55.9%	47.4%	High
Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) 2023			
% < 5 Years Income Eligible	52.1%	37.4%	High

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	COUNTY	STATE	RANK
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps) 2023			
Number of Monthly Participants	3,558	636,724	—
% Total Population Participating	11.1%	10.3%	Average
% Income Eligible and Participating	47.3%	63.9%	Low
Number of Monthly Participants < 18 Years	1,443	269,042	—
% < 18 Years Participating	19.1%	19.6%	Average
Free and Reduced-Price Lunch (National School Lunch Program) 2023			
% Students Enrolled and Participating	65.2%	66.9%	Low
Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) 2023			
Number < 5 Years Participating, Monthly	519	67,306	—
% < 5 Years Eligible and Participating	50.8%	51.2%	Average
Food Bank Distributions 2023			
Total Pounds Distributed in County	291,646	132,203,712	—
Pounds Per Capita Below 100% Poverty Level	53	175	Very Low

COUNTY PROFILE	COUNTY	STATE	
Demographic Indicators 2023			
Total Population	32,109	6,196,156	—
% Population < 18 Years	23.5%	22.1%	—
% Population > 64 Years	18.1%	18.4%	—
Health Indicators 2022			
Obesity Prevalence (%)	36.0%	36.6%	—
Diabetes Prevalence (%)	9.7%	12.4%	—
Hypertension Prevalence (%)	36.6%	37.5%	—
Economic Indicators 2023			
% Population Below Poverty Level	17.9%	12.6%	—
% < 18 Below Poverty	22.6%	16.0%	—
% > 64 Below Poverty	13.2%	10.0%	—
Median Household Income ($, Annual)	$56,686	$68,920	—
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.1%	3.0%	—
Single-Parent Households (%)	9.4%	8.3%	—
Food Affordability (%)	16.5%	13.1%	—

Missouri Hunger Atlas 2025