



Food Insecurity and SNAP

Benton County



Many people in Benton County struggle to put food on the table. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation’s first line of defense against food insecurity. Efforts to weaken SNAP threaten more hardship on the people of Benton County and the loss of millions in spending at local businesses.

	 All People	 Children
Number of people who are food insecure	13,500	2,700
Share of county population who are food insecure	15%	18%
Share of Oregonians who are food insecure (for comparison)	13%	20%
Number of people helped by SNAP	8,642	2,756
Share of county population helped by SNAP	9%	19%
Share of Oregonians who are helped by SNAP (for comparison)	16%	27%

Annual federal SNAP dollars to Benton County: \$13.0 million

Source: Food insecurity data (2016) from C. Gundersen, et al, *Map the MealGap 2018*, Feeding America; SNAP data from Oregon Department of Human Services, monthly average of most recent 12-months as of March 2018.

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