

Social and Economic Context

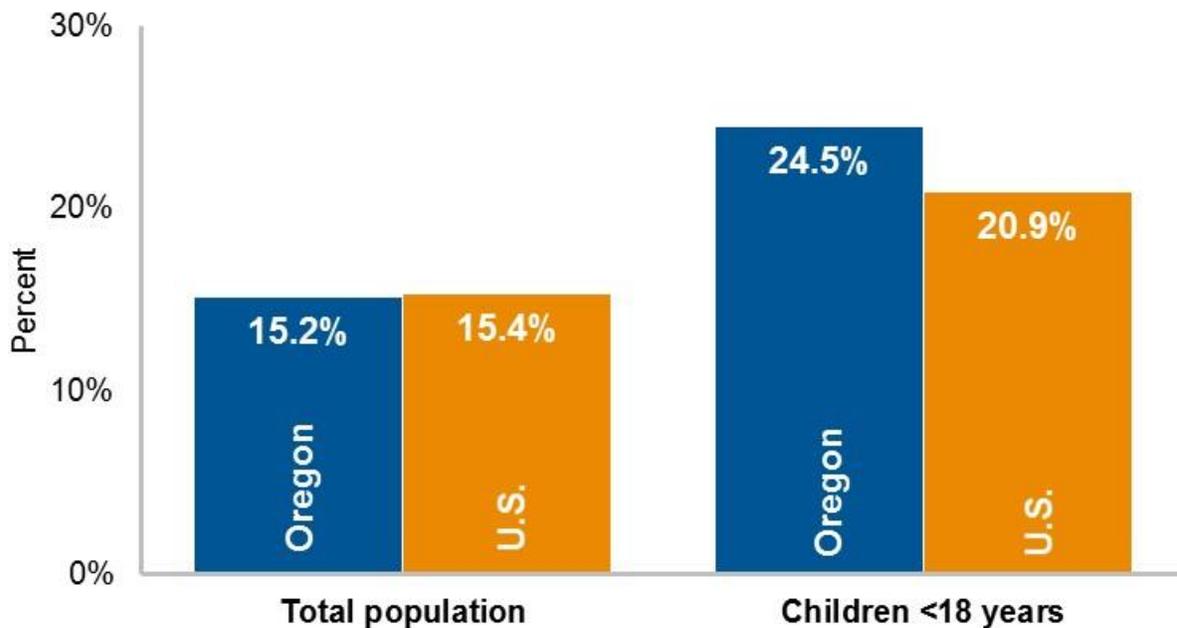
Food insecurity

Food insecurity influences health status in several ways: lack of access to adequate and nutritious food is related to overweight and obesity, hypertension, high cholesterol, and diabetes. In addition, food insecurity affects child development and readiness to learn.

In 2014, 15.2% of Oregonians overall and 24.5% of children were food insecure (Figure 1). This compares to 15.4% in the U.S. overall and 20.9% for children.

FIGURE 1

Food insecurity among total population and children < 18 years, Oregon and U.S., 2014



Source: Map the Meal Gap, Feeding America

Additional Resources: [Household Food Security in the United States in 2015](#); [Map the Meal Gap](#)

About the Data: Data source is [Map the Meal Gap](#), Feeding America.

Food insecurity is defined as limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.

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[Oregon State Health Profile](#)

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