IDEA Collective: October 2025

IAND Activities & National Policy Update

IAND Activities

- IAND Conference is <u>next month</u> "Growing Our Future Through Nutrition"
 - The Iowa Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics annual conference is coming up -November 12-13th in Coralville! The link to register is here. We look forward to welcoming you there.
- IAND Annual Survey- Coming next month!
 - As we plan for next year, the IDEA team wants your input! The IAND Annual Survey includes two quick questions from the IDEA team where you can share feedback and suggest topics. Your insights will guide our future content. Please provide input & make your voice heard!

National Policy Update: Discontinuation of Food Insecurity Survey and Report

The National Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics published a <u>statement</u> on this decision.

What is happening: The USDA announced the termination of the annual "Household Food Security in the United States" report in a <u>press release</u> on September 20th. In the press release, the survey is called "redundant, costly, politicized, and extraneous studies do nothing more than fear monger." The press release also points out how the survey was created as a means to support access to food assistance programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and states that, "Trends in the prevalence of food insecurity have remained virtually unchanged."

*FACT CHECK*According to the <u>USDA's last Household Food Security in the United States</u>, food insecurity in 2023 was statistically significantly higher than in 2022 (13.5% and 12.8%, respectively).

The termination of this survey follows the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, passed in July, which eliminated SNAP-Ed (nutrition education) and made changes to SNAP eligibility, benefits, and program administration, making the program more difficult to access (<u>SNAP Provisions OBBB</u>).

Concerns: With reduced transparency around food insecurity trends, food security and nutrition professionals—including dietitians—face new challenges in assessing community needs and guiding food security interventions. Without reliable data, food security policies lose direction, and the ability to measure impact is compromised. This

shift complicates efforts to improve food access and deliver targeted, evidence-based care to vulnerable populations.

See the articles below for additional information and perspectives on this policy:

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics statement:
 https://www.eatrightpro.org/about-us/who-we-are/public-statements/academy-statement-on-discontinuation-of-annual-hunger-survey
- USDA press release: https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2025/09/20/usda-terminat es-redundant-food-insecurity-survey
- USDA webpage on the history of the survey, "Food Security in the U.S.- History & Background."
 https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/history-background
- NPR, "USDA cancels survey tracking how many Americans struggle to get enough food." (September 22, 2025). https://www.npr.org/2025/09/22/nx-s1-5549115/usda-food-insecurity-survey-hung-er
- Forbes, "Trump USDA ends hunger survey for being 'overly politicized'."
 (September 21, 2025)
 https://www.forbes.com/sites/eriksherman/2025/09/21/trump-usda-ends-annual-hunger-survey-for-being-overly-politicized/

Previous Household Food Security reports remain available on the <u>USDA website</u>, and data continues to be available through the <u>Food Environment Atlas</u>.

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