# Map the Meal Gap 2009: Child Food Insecurity
# State Overview

**Montana**

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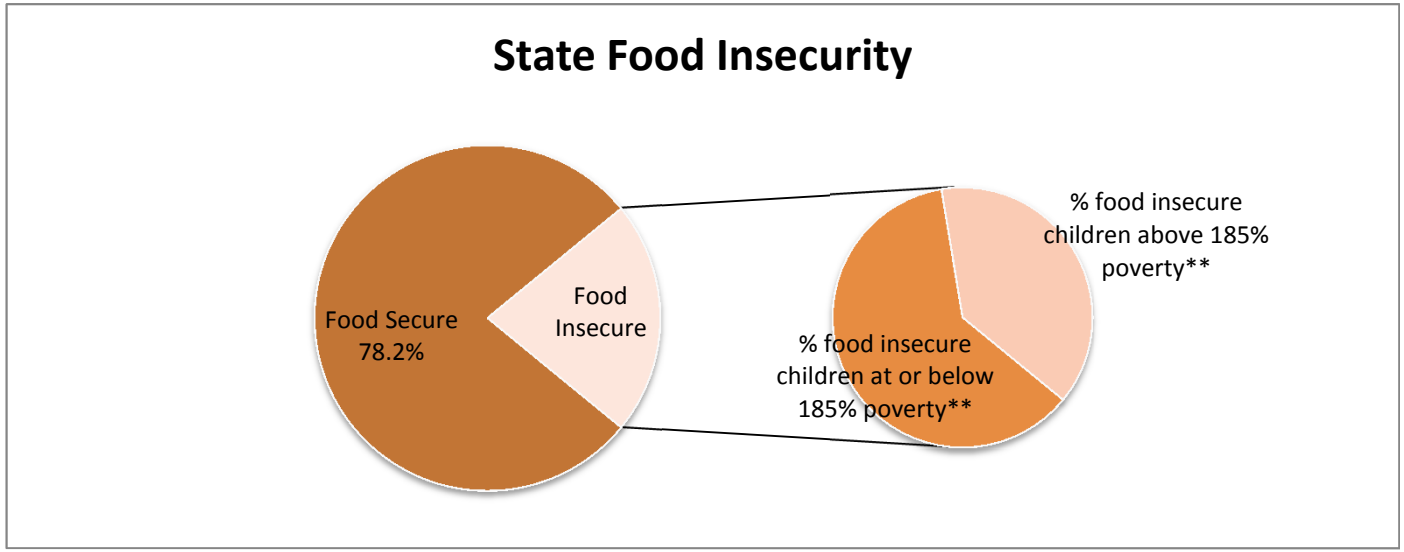
|---|---|
| **Population under 18 years old** | **219,699** |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Child food insecurity* rate (2009)** | **21.8%** |
| **Estimated number food insecure children** | **48,000** |




*A child (under 18 years old) is defined as being food insecure if he or she lives in a household experiencing food insecurity. The food insecurity measures here are derived from the measures of food insecurity found in the nationally representative Current Population Survey. Since 1995, those measures have been calculated from responses to a series of questions about conditions and behaviors known to characterize households having difficulty meeting basic food needs. For more details about how food insecurity is calculated, see Nord, M., Andrews, M. & Carlson, S. "Household Food Security in the United States, 2009." U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service: Washington D.C. 2010.

**Program eligibility for child hunger programs such as National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast, and other federal nutrition programs is determined in part by these income thresholds. These thresholds vary by state.

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