User's Guide

Navigating Student Homelessness & Food Deserts Web Map



Learn more about the map



Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness



Getting Started

By default, the "About" tab is open, giving an overview of the map. You can minimize or close this at any time, and access it again if needed at the bottom of the map.



Every state in the U.S. is **shaded in orange**, representing the percent of students who are homeless in each state, with the darker orange showing higher percentages.

To view information about hunger and homelessness at a state level, click on any state.



A pop-up window will appear that shows the number of school districts, the number of homeless students, the percent of students who are homeless, and the percent of children (ages 0-17) who live in a food desert in the state.

For 15 states: Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Montana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Vermont, and Wisconsin—we also have information about hunger and homelessness among high school students from the **CDC's Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)**. For more information about this data, visit: *https://www.icphusa.org/ interactive_data/the-health-and-well-beingof-homeless-high-school-students/*



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! Important Note: We are defining a food desert as a census tract that is low-income and has limited access to a supermarket. Limited access thresholds vary based on population – rural census tracts that are more than 10 miles and urban census tracts that are more than 1 mile from a supermarket are considered low access.

To start, click on any state. The selected state will be highlighted.

View the name of the state and hunger and homelessness data in the pop-up window here.

The range for each class is listed in the map legend.

Where is the map legend located?

The Legends tab is expanded by default. From this list, you are able to see all three layers of data presented and available on the map. The map legend identifies the range of each class.



By default, the layer beneath the percent of students homeless by state is the percent of students homeless by school district in shades of blue. The darker the shade, the higher the percentage of students homeless in the school district. This layer is turned off by default.

From within the Legends tab, you can also choose to view where children living in food deserts are by census tract, shown in red (food desert) or green (not a food desert). While you do not need to turn off the Food Desert by Census Tract layer to turn on the Student Homelessness by School District layer, you cannot view both at the same time.

Also, please note that you cannot view the school district or census tract level layers from the full state-level zoom. We are showing very local data – showing these large datasets at a national level would slow down the application. You need to zoom in to see these layers.



To zoom in, use the Zoom symbol in the upper left-hand section of the map. *The map may take a few seconds to re-load at the new zoom level.* To pan around the map, hold and drag your mouse across the screen.Click on the Home button at any point to return to the map's original extent.

Going beyond the state-level data

To view school district or census tract level data, zoom into your state. You will know when you have zoomed in far enough when the "Percent of Students Homeless – State" layer is grayed out and the "Percent of Students Homeless – School District" layer is no longer grayed out.



Give the application a few moments to load the food desert layer.

Click on the map again. You will now have a new pop-up with different information.

There may be multiple pop-ups available when you click on the map. If you click on a small census tract, near the border of several census tracts, or have multiple layers turned on, chances are there will be more data underneath where you are clicking. Within the pop-up, click the arrow in the top right corner is there is text at the top that says (1 of X), indicating that more than one pop-up returned.



Searching for a neighborhood

To search by an address or zip code, use the search box in the upper left-hand corner of the map.



You can enter a zip code or address to zoom directly into your neighborhood.

Once the map zooms in and has time to re-load, click the point that appears for the popup with data regarding that location.



! Important Note: New York City has 34 school districts that are not included in the map, but whose data are included in all other analyses, including the New York state-level data.

Printing your map



! Important Note: By default, the map will print the current zoom level. To print a wider area of the map, zoom out. To change the dimensions of your map and for other advanced functionality, click on the Advanced drop-down menu.

Sharing the map



To share the Student Homelessness & Food Desert web map with others, click the Share button in the top-right corner. Copy and paste the link provided.

Exploring more information about Hunger & Homelessness

View more content about issues surrounding hunger and homelessness by visiting *https://www.icphusa.org/hunger-homelessness-awareness-2018* For comments, questions or more information, please contact: info@icphusa.org.