KEY FINDINGS

A poll from Change Research of 617 adults in New York City conducted April 20-26, 2022\(^1\) shows:

- Many New Yorkers faced hunger in the past 12 months due to lack of money or other resources.
  - A quarter (27%) say there was at least one time when they were hungry but did not eat.
  - Nearly half (46%) of respondents say there was at least one time when they were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food. This includes a majority (58%) of respondents with a child or children in New York City’s public school system.

- Nearly a third (31%) of New Yorkers report that they struggle to buy groceries or pay their bills due to lack of money or other resources.

- Two-thirds (67%) say they would be somewhat or very worried about their ability to buy groceries or pay bills if faced with the unexpected loss of two weeks’ income.
  - Respondents living with at least one child in NYC’s public schools and lower-income respondents are especially worried about their ability to cover essential expenses if they found themselves in this situation.

- 62% of respondents say it has become harder to afford groceries for their household compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic.

- An overwhelming majority (85%) agree that ending childhood hunger should be a top priority for elected officials in New York, including 67% who strongly agree.

- Expanding school-based meal programs is a popular policy (87% support, including 72% strongly support) that would help address the childhood hunger crisis in New York City.

\(^1\) Using its Dynamic Online Sampling Engine to obtain a sample reflective of the adult population in New York City, Change Research polled 617 people citywide from April 20-26, 2022. The margin of error is 5.0%. Post-stratification weighting was performed on age, race/ethnicity, sex, education, and zip code. Weighting parameters were based on US Census data.
TOPLINES

Are you:
44% Male
55% Female
1% Other

In what year were you born?
25% 18 to 34
26% 35 to 49
24% 50 to 64
24% 65 or older

In what ZIP code do you currently live?
32% Brooklyn
25% Queens
21% Manhattan
16% Bronx
6% Staten Island

What is your race?
34% White / Caucasian
27% Hispanic or Latino/a
25% Black or African American
10% Asian / Pacific Islander
0% American Indian or Alaska Native
3% Other

What is the highest level of education you have completed?
21% High school diploma or less
41% Some college, but no degree
16% Associate’s degree, or two-year college degree
12% Bachelor’s degree, or four-year college degree
10% Graduate degree

Are you currently registered to vote in New York City?
93% Yes
6% No
1% Not sure

How many children under 18 do you have living at home?
70% 0
14% 1
10% 2
3% 3
3% 4 or more

[IF CHILDREN AT HOME > 0] Do you have a child under 18 who attends a public school or public charter school in New York City?
74% Yes
26% No
Select all that apply. During the last 12 months, was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources:

- 46% You were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food
- 43% You ate only a few kinds of foods
- 39% You were worried you or members of your household would not have enough food to eat
- 36% You had to skip a meal
- 33% You ate less than you thought you should
- 27% You were hungry but did not eat
- 22% Your household ran out of food
- 18% You went without eating for a whole day

If you were faced with the unexpected loss of two weeks’ worth of income, how worried would you be about your ability to buy groceries or pay your bills?

- 54% Very worried
- 13% Somewhat worried
- 12% A little worried
- 16% Not at all worried
- 5% Not sure

Do you personally know anyone in New York City who struggles to buy groceries or pay their bills due to lack of money or other resources?

- 31% Yes, I am in this situation myself
- 38% Yes, I know someone in this situation
- 31% No, I do not know anyone in this situation

If you or someone you know personally needed food assistance in New York City, would you know where to go to access meals or other forms of assistance?

- 25% Yes, definitely
- 30% Yes, probably
- 32% No, probably not
- 12% No, definitely not

Has it become easier or harder to afford groceries for your household since before the COVID-19 pandemic?

- 62% Has become harder
- 29% Is about the same
- 2% Has become easier
- 7% Not sure
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: “Ending childhood hunger should be a top priority for elected officials in New York.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Level</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total agree: 85%
Total disagree: 11%
Net agree: +74

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: “Elected officials in New York City should do more to help families put food on the table.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Level</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total agree: 79%
Total disagree: 17%
Net agree: +61

How could the government better help your family put food on the table? [OPEN-ENDED]

If applicable, please share a personal experience you or someone you know has had that shows the real-world impact of child hunger. [OPEN-ENDED]

Below are some policies that New York City officials are considering. For each one, please indicate whether you support or oppose that policy.

School meals are a way for children to get something healthy to eat when their families don’t have enough resources at home. We should expand access to school-based programs that provide meals to children and families, like Grab-and-Go Breakfast and breakfast delivered to the classroom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support Level</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total support: 87%
Total oppose: 8%
Net support: +80
The expanded Child Tax Credit which expired last year gave families up to $300 per month for each child to help them better afford necessities. The government should reinstate that aid and make it permanent.

58% Strongly support
21 Somewhat support
6 Somewhat oppose
9 Strongly oppose
6 Not sure

79% Total support
14% Total oppose
+65 Net support

For statistical purposes, which of the following best describes your household total yearly income before taxes?

8% Under $10,000
11 $10,000-$19,999
10 $20,000-$29,999
12 $30,000-$39,999
8 $40,000-$49,999
7 $50,000-$59,999
6 $60,000-$69,999
5 $70,000-$79,999
4 $80,000-$89,999
4 $90,000-$99,999
8 $100,000-$149,999
3 $150,000-$200,000
6 Over $200,000
8 Prefer not to answer
METHODOLOGY

Change Research surveyed 617 adults in New York City from April 20-26. We used the following sources to recruit respondents:

- targeted advertisements on Facebook
- text messages sent, via the Switchboard platform, to cell phone numbers listed on the voter file for individuals who qualified for the survey’s sample universe, based on their voter file data

Regardless of which of these sources a respondent came from, they were directed to a survey hosted on SurveyMonkey’s website.

Ads placed on social media targeted all adults living in New York City. As the survey fielded, Change Research used dynamic online sampling: adjusting ad budgets, lowering budgets for ads targeting groups that were overrepresented and raising budgets for ads targeting groups that were underrepresented, so that the final sample was roughly representative of the population of NYC adults across different groups. The survey was conducted in English.

The survey was conducted on behalf of No Kid Hungry NY and conducted online by Change Research. Post-stratification was performed on age, sex, education, race/ethnicity, and geographic region. Weighting parameters were based on the demographic composition of adults in NYC, obtained from US Census data. That is, if a given age bracket represented x% of all adults, then that same group would be weighted to x% in this survey.

The modeled margin of error* for this survey is 5.0%, which uses effective sample sizes** that adjust for the design effect of weighting.

* We adopt The Pew Research Center’s convention for the term "modeled margin of error"(1) (mMOE) to indicate that our surveys are not simple random samples in the pure sense, similar to any survey that has either non-response bias or for which the general population was not invited at random. A common, if imperfect, convention for reporting survey results is to use a single, survey-level mMOE based on a normal approximation. This is a poor approximation for proportion estimates close to 0 or 1. However, it is a useful communication tool in many settings and is reasonable in places where the proportion of interest is close to 50%. We report this normal approximation for our surveys assuming a proportion estimate of 50%.

** The effective sample size adjusts for the weighting applied to respondents, and is calculated using Kish’s approximation (2).


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