

SF Food Security Landscape

& Update on Healthy Food Purchasing Supplement

Presentation by the SF Food Security Task Force/SFDPH

SF SDDTAC meeting 12/13/23

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Food Insecurity and its Impacts

FOOD INSECURITY = Inadequate access to food because of financial constraints

Health impacts of food insecurity



Inadequate intake of nutrients



Increase risk for various chronic diseases



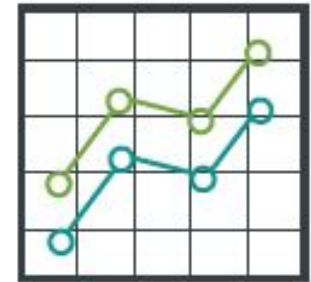
Increased risk for negative pregnancy outcomes



Long-term deficits in children's socio-emotional, cognitive and motor functioning

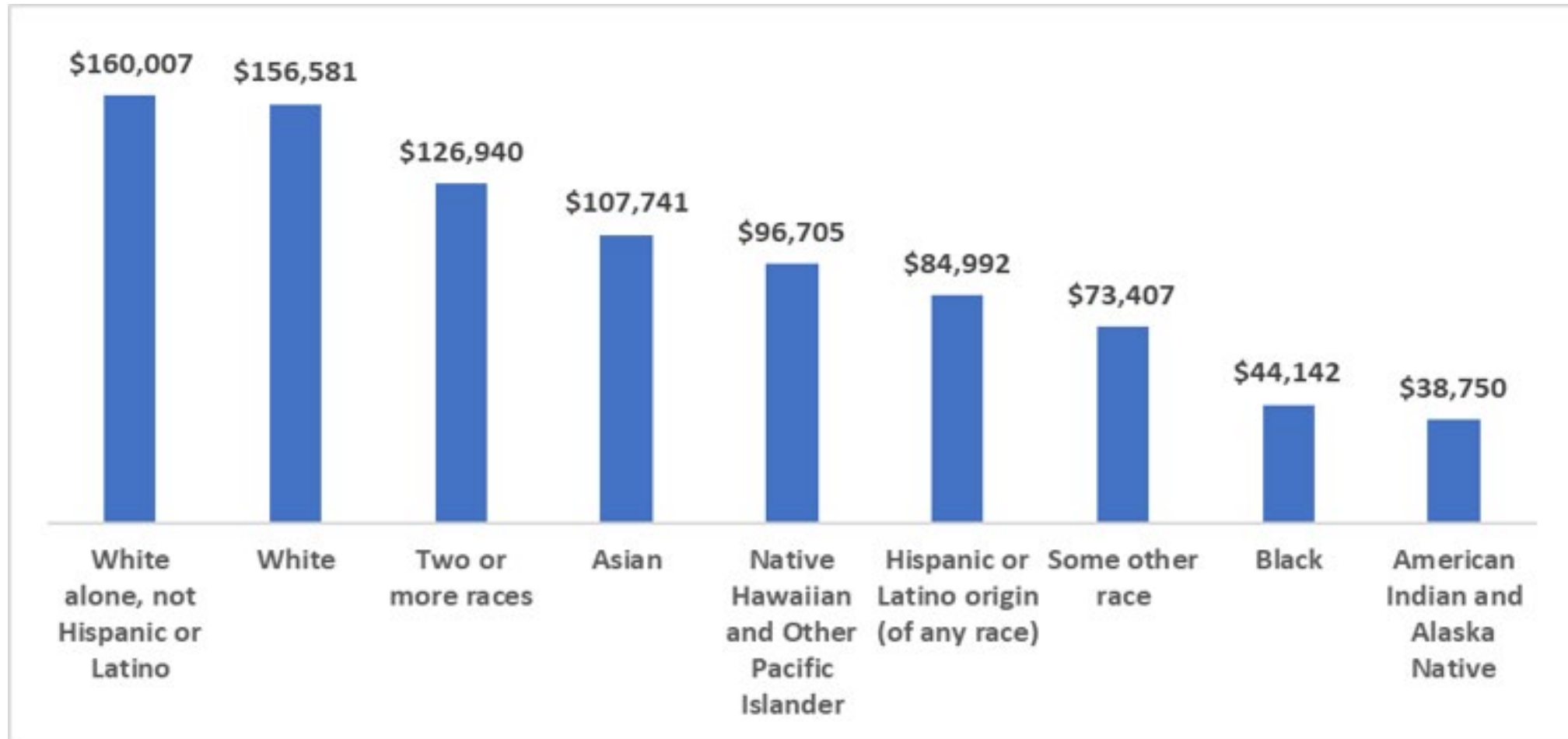


Increase risk for negative mental health impacts
(including depression, suicide, substance misuse, etc)

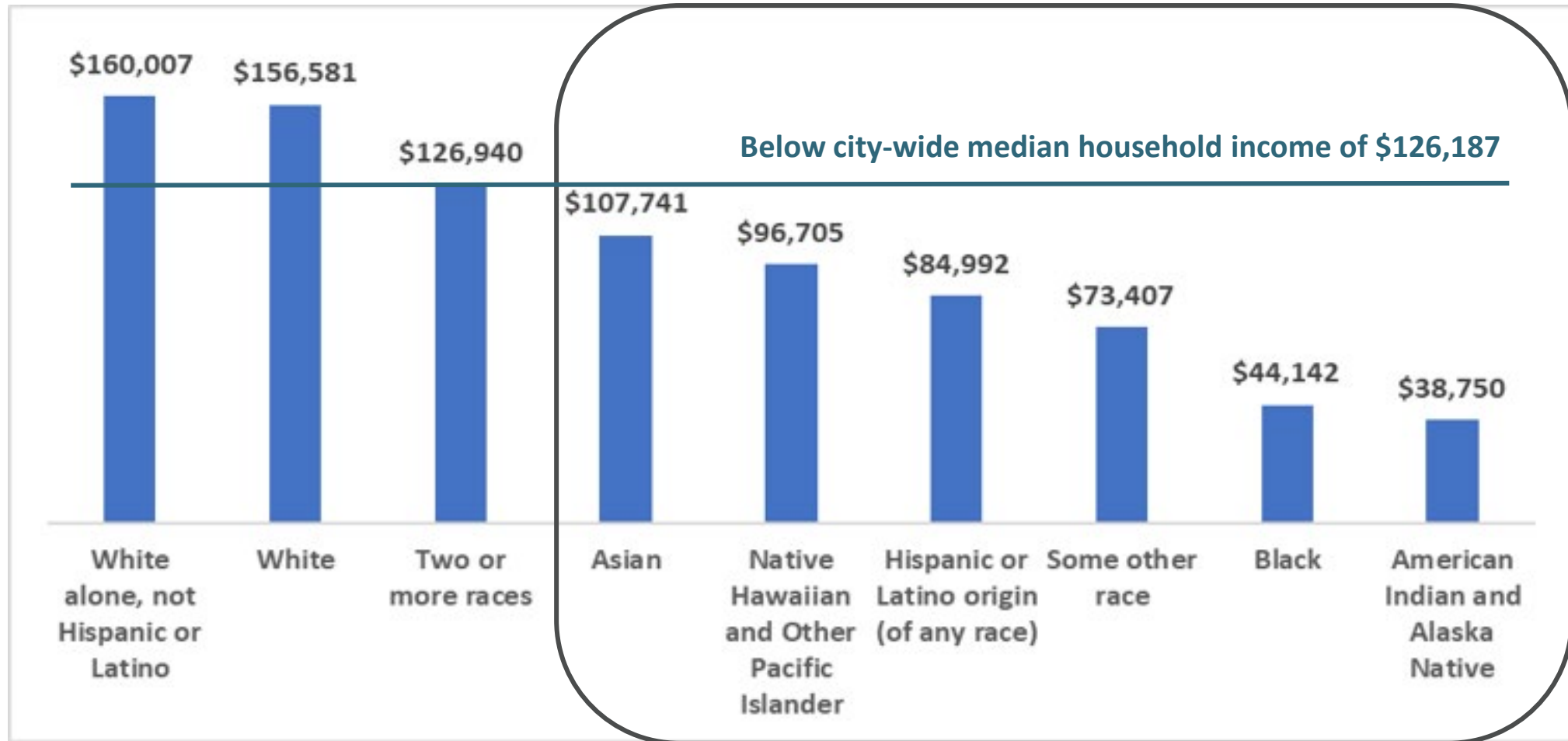


Total healthcare costs increase steadily with increased severity of household food insecurity

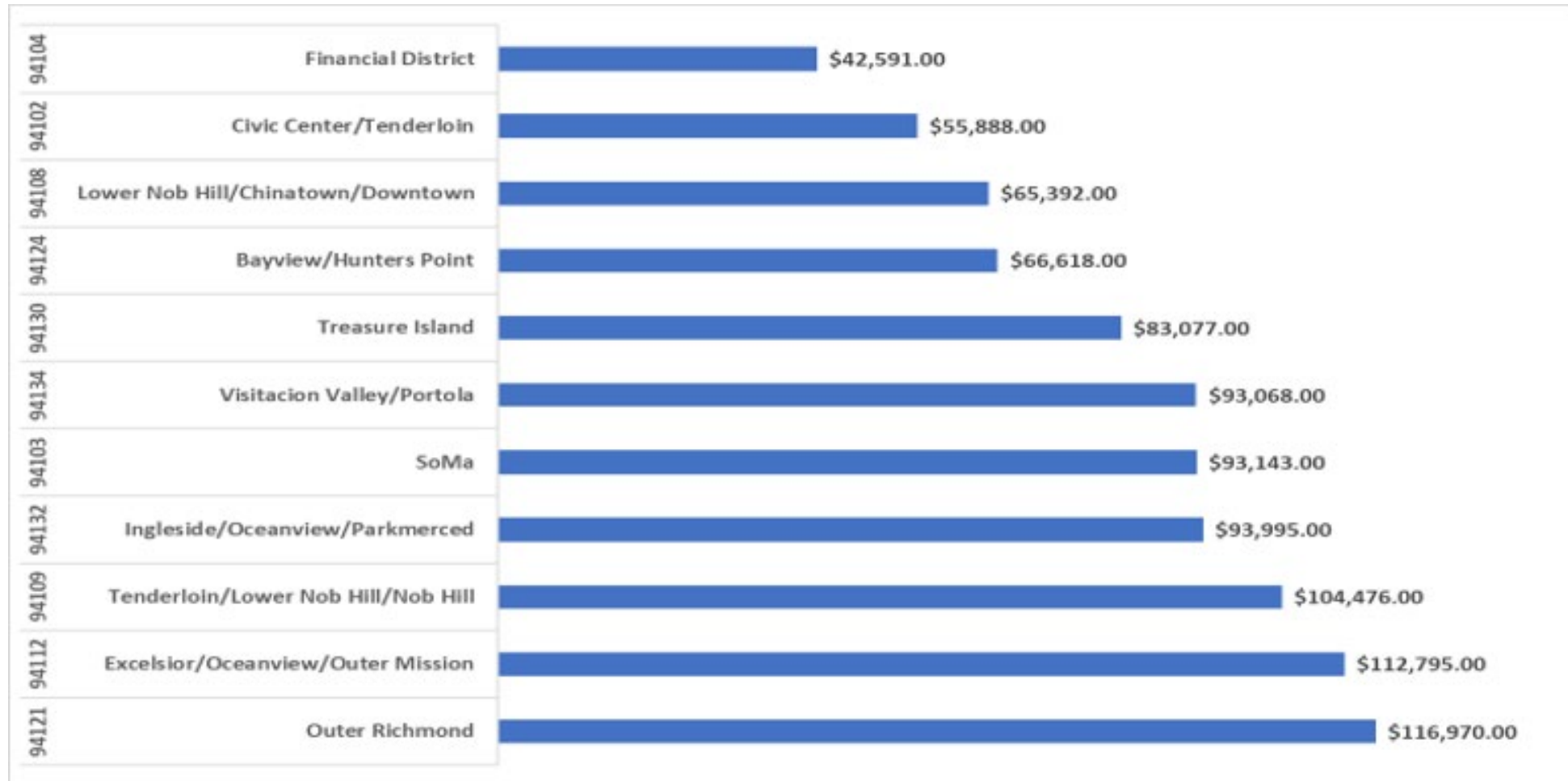
Income Inequity in San Francisco



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Populations Experiencing Food Insecurity

High rates of food insecurity are seen among:

- Individuals < 200% FPL (67%)
- People experiencing homelessness (47%)
- Households with children (30%)
 - CalWorks (90%)
 - Black/African American (77%)
- Birthing Individuals (10.2%)

Nutrition Sensitive Health Disparities Increasing

Black/African American and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander residents experience:

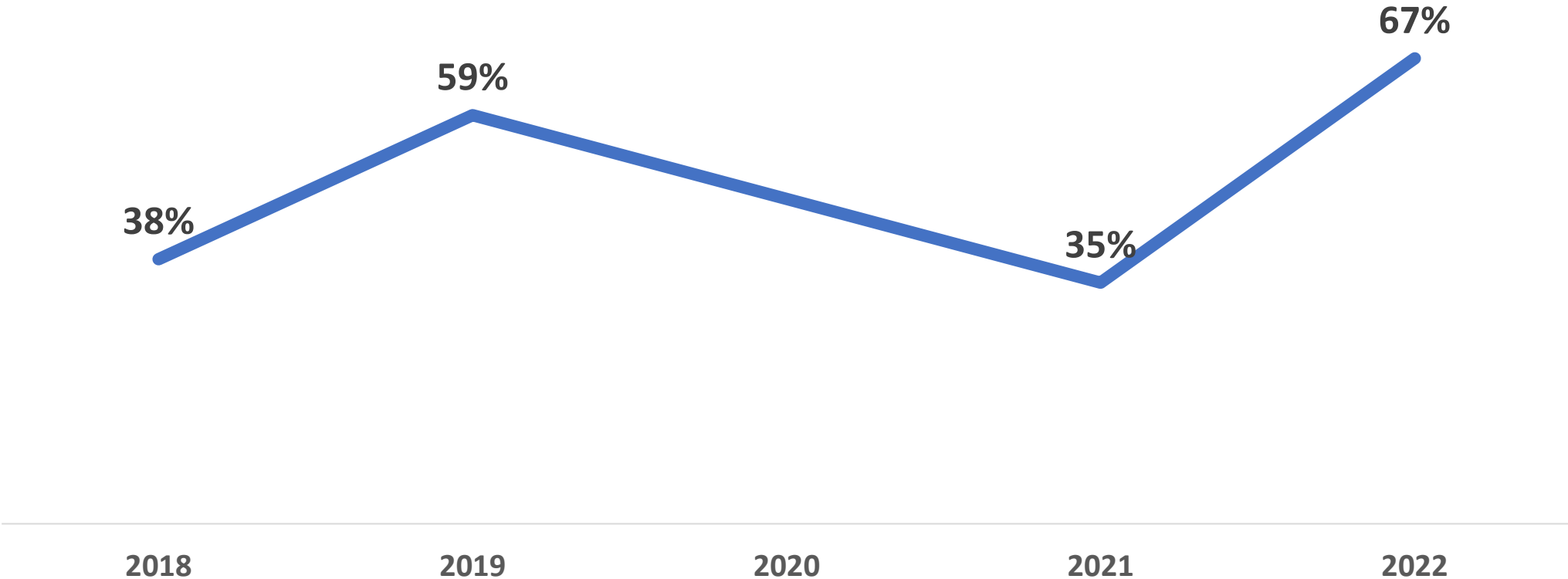
- the greatest burden of diet-sensitive diseases (diabetes, hypertension, heart diseases)
- the shortest life expectancies compared to other racial and ethnic groups in San Francisco

Hospitalization rates due to diet-sensitive diseases compared to the average rate in San Francisco:

- **9x** higher for Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islanders
- **4x** higher for Black/African Americans

Food Insecurity in San Francisco is Growing

Food insecurity (ability to afford enough food)

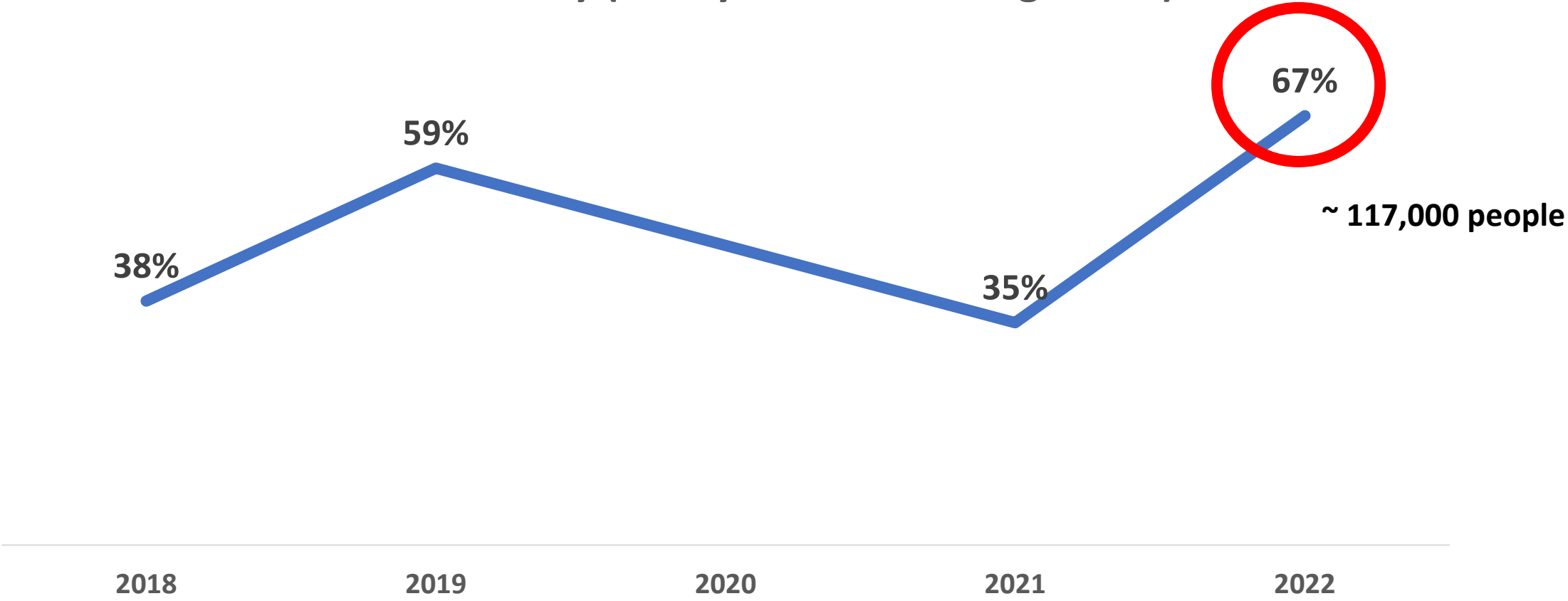


Data source: California Health Interview Survey, 2018-2022

Notes: Food insecurity was only asked among respondents who were below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Data for 2020 are not shown because the estimate was statistically unstable. For 2021, the estimate of food insecurity among San Franciscans was lower in large part due to federal and state financial assistance that was provided during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Additional Impacts

- Food Security Task Force recently learned:
 - Closure of all SF Marin Food Bank pop-up pantries over next 18 months (by June 2025)
 - Impacting 18,000 households
 - Reducing Home Delivered Grocery program by 40%
 - Impacting 5,200 households

More detailed data and information can be found on the
Food Security Task Force webpage:

<https://sf.gov/departments/food-security-task-force>

FY 2022-2023 Healthy Food Purchasing Supplement

Goal: Provide financial resources to purchase more fruits & vegetables at grocery stores, corner stores, farmers markets

Total funding FY 22-23: ~\$1.5M - \$1M SDDTAC (67%), \$400K General Fund (27%), \$100K carryover from FY 21-22 (6%)

2 Grantees: Heart of the City Farmers Market and EatSF/Vouchers 4 Veggies



Healthy Food Purchasing Supplement (HFPS) FY 22-23 Outcomes & FY 23-24 Plans

Total served in FY 22-23: 14,839 individuals

Heart of the City: (year round program, HFPS funds 4 months)

- Matches EBT transactions - 10,992 unique shoppers using HFPS funds
- Total of 20,672 total EBT shoppers annually (HFPS and other funds)



EatSF/Vouchers 4 Veggies:

- Provides fruit and vegetable vouchers to pregnant people (9 months), people on SSI/other (6 months) - 3,732 unique clients
- 27 corner stores; 5 grocery stores; 4 farmers markets



FY 2023-2024 Healthy Food Purchasing Supplement



SFDPH WIC's and Vouchers 4 Veggies-EatSF joint effort since 2016

Goal: Reduce rates of food insecurity and Improving birth outcomes for low-income pregnant people in San Francisco

FY2023-2024 : Serve 1500+ pregnant households enrolled in WIC

Voucher Details: \$40/month in F&V vouchers for 9 months



FY 2023-2024 Healthy Food Purchasing Supplement



Program Impact:

Health outcomes:

- The additional fruit and vegetable supplement has been found to reduce food insecurity by as much as 30%.
- Participants report increased servings of fruits and vegetables.
- 37% decreased odds of preterm birth among participants

Policy outcomes:

- In 2021 replicated efforts in MCAH's BIH program to offer grocery vouchers with add-back funds.
- Findings have supported an increase in the WIC fruit and vegetable benefit nationwide.



Closing and Next Steps

- Hunger and food insecurity has increased
- Challenges with closure of more programs
- SDDT funds have funded a critical program (HFPS) addressing food insecurity and improving health
 - Supports food systems and food justice
 - Choice
 - Local businesses
 - Local farms
- Communities need support
- Rising cost of food and high cost of living

“As a public school teacher and single mother, I struggle financially but don't qualify for any government assistance because I make above the poverty line. Low income in San Francisco is different from other places in the US. There need to be more programs for people like me”
RAPID survey respondent 2022

