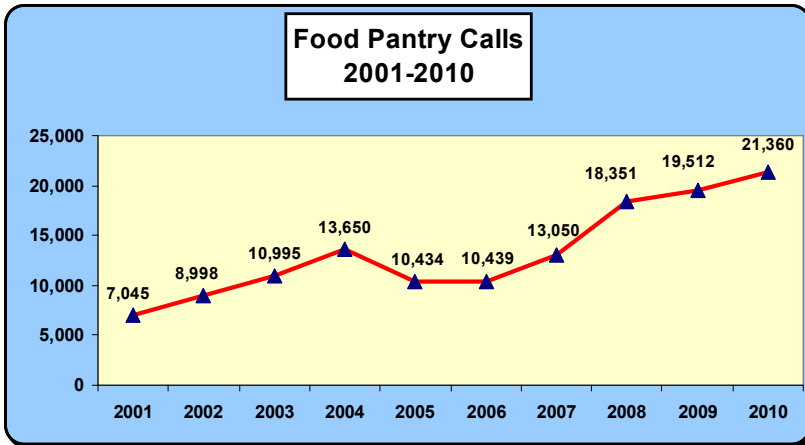


For Thousands in Our Community, Poverty and Hunger Go Hand in Hand

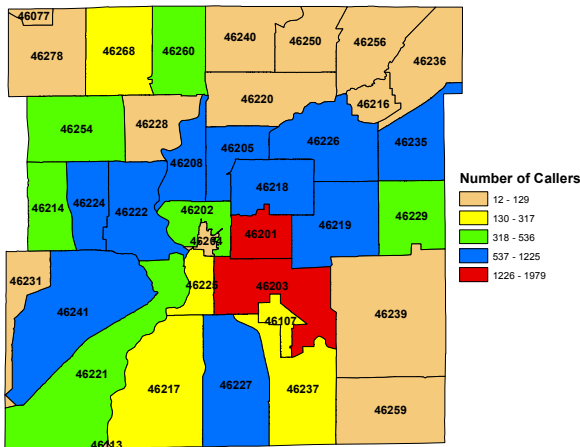


- As our community digs out of the worst recession in more than 70 years, food needs continue to climb. In 2010, more than **21,000 people** called Connect2Help (C2H) for emergency food assistance for their families, **including tens of thousands of children**. This is a 9% increase compared to 2009.
- Hunger in America 2010**, a study conducted by [Feeding America](#), reveals that the majority of people who seek emergency food assistance are living below the federal poverty level; they **often have to make choice between buying food and paying for other basic needs** like housing and utilities. Data from C2H reflect this finding.

- Based on available income data, **60% of all C2H callers are well below poverty level**, with income only from public assistance or no income at all.
- This percentage **rises to 65%** when looking only at people calling C2H for food.
- When looking only at zip code areas 46201 and 46203, the 2 areas with the most calls for food help, this percentage **jumps to 73%**.

Callers' Income Source			
	All Callers	All FOOD Callers	46201 and 46203 Food Callers
Public Assistance	35%	40%	48%
No income	25%	25%	25%
Employed PT or FT	25%	21%	15%
SS/Pension/Retirement	6%	6%	6%
Unemployment Ins.	5%	4%	4%
Child Support	2%	2%	1%
Other	2%	2%	2%

2010 Food Callers – Marion County



- Most of the callers (**82%**) lived in Marion; another 6% lived in the 7 surrounding counties; an additional 12% lived outside of Central Indiana.
- The **table below** shows the largest percentage increases and decreases in food calls compared to 2009.

Largest Percentage Increases 2009 to 2010		Largest Percentage Decreases 2009 to 2010	
Zip Code	Percentage Increase	Zip Code	Percentage Decrease
46208	38%	46236	-47%
46231	38%	46254	-11%
46205	35%	46239	-9%
46217	34%	46224	-7%
46240	26%	46234	-7%

Six percent (6%) of food callers' needs (which represents over 1,200 households with thousands of children) were coded as "unmet" by C2H. Reasons for these needs being coded as unmet included: **no resource** - 36%; **call interrupted or terminated** (often the result of a "dropped" cell phone call) - 29%; **client refused available resource** - 20%; **client and/or need is inappropriate for existing resource** (often meaning that there was not a pantry in the client's area or available on the day s/he needed food, or that the client had no transportation to get to the pantry) - 14%; and "other" - 2%.

The **Indianapolis Food Resource Network - IFRN** (of which C2H is a member) was created in 2009 to improve our community's ability to obtain food, funding and volunteer resources to ensure that no one in the community has to go hungry.



Community Partner

For help finding emergency food or locating a pantry that needs donations or volunteers, dial 2-1-1.

