

# Westchester Summer Meals Fact Sheet



Westchester County is the third largest county in New York State, after New York City and Long Island, with 986,815 residents in 2018. Westchester is considered to be an affluent county; the median household income, \$92,758, is 42% higher than the state median. 31% of households in Westchester earn more than \$150,000 each year. Many people are drawn to the county for its exceptional public school districts, from which 90% of students graduate with a high school diploma, and more than 20 higher education institutions are located in Westchester. Westchester's reputation as a wealthy county overlooks the thousands of people who are living in poverty and do not have a reliable source of food, particularly in Westchester's largest cities: Yonkers, New Rochelle, Mount Vernon, and White Plains.

## City Profiles

	Yonkers	New Rochelle	Mount Vernon	White Plains
Population (2018)	199,745	79,205	68,035	58,040
% White	38.6%	44.9%	16.3%	46.5%
% Black	18.4%	20.1%	65.8%	11.6%
% Asian	7%	5.1%	1.9%	7.9%
% Hispanic or Latino	37%	28.6%	15.6%	32.7%
% of Residents with High School Diploma or higher	81.9%	84.2%	84.2%	87.7%
% of Residents with Bachelor's Degree or higher	32.8%	44.6%	28.6%	50.7%
% Residents under 65 years old without health insurance	9.9%	11%	9.7%	12.1%
Median Household Income	\$62,380	\$80,918	\$57,109	\$84,415
% Residents in Poverty	16%	10.7%	14.7%	11.6%

Across New York State, households are struggling with food insecurity due to COVID-19. People are becoming increasingly dependent on organizations and institutions which provide food. Between June 25 and June 30, 2020:

- 505,671 New York households received food from school/other programs for children
- 539,396 New York households received food from a food pantry/bank
- 391,691 New York households received food from other community programs
- 291,131 New York households received food from a religious organization
- 388,954 New York households received food from their family, friends, or neighbors
- 268,217 New York households received food from a home-delivered meal service
- 45,008 New York households received food from a shelter or soup kitchen.

## Feeding Westchester

Feeding Westchester's mission is to end hunger in Westchester County. Feeding Westchester has been tremendously important in adapting to the increased need for food during the COVID-19 pandemic. Between March 31 and June 6, 2020, Feeding Westchester distributed 6,584,882 pounds of food. During the week of May 31 to June 6, Feeding Westchester distributed 253,131 pounds of produce and 126,107 pounds of food through their mobile food pantry.

Feeding Westchester's **Mobile Food Pantry** brings fresh food right to where it is needed. Clients are able to choose their items. [Click here](#) for the Mobile Food Pantry's Schedule to see when it will be near you.

Feeding Westchester has dozens of **distribution sites** throughout Westchester county. [Click here](#) to view your closest distribution site.

## School Districts

Public schools are incredibly important in helping to make sure that all children are able to obtain nutritious meals. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Yonkers, New Rochelle, Mount Vernon, and White Plains school districts each had programs to provide food to children for free or for a reduced cost. All students in the Mount Vernon City School District and those attending Yonkers Public Schools were eligible for free breakfast and lunch. In White

Plains and New Rochelle, students needed to apply in order to obtain free or reduced price meals.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced school districts to adapt their programs to maintain social distancing and other safety precautions while making sure that children received the meals they needed. Even though the school year has ended, the need for meals for children still exists. Each school district has plans to provide food to its students over the summer months.

## Yonkers:

Yonkers Public Schools are providing free breakfast and lunch meals to all children under 18 years of age in the City of Yonkers until August 14th, 2020.

Food will be available from Monday to Friday, between 8:15 am and 12:15 pm at:

- Eugenio María de Hostos MicroSociety School, 75 Morris Street
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy, 135 Locust Hill Avenue
- Roosevelt High School-Early College Studies, 631 Tuckahoe Road
- Scholastic Academy for Academic Excellence, 77 Park Hill Avenue
- School 9, 53 Fairview Street
- School 13, 195 McLean Avenue
- Thomas Cornell Academy, 15 St. Marys Street

- Yonkers Middle High School, 150 Rockland Avenue
- Yonkers Riverfront Library, One Larkin Center (Opens July 13)

## Summer Meals in New Rochelle

The City of New Rochelle is providing breakfast and lunch meals for city residents 18 years old and younger through the New Rochelle Office of Parks and Recreation’s Summer Youth Nutrition program.

### Meals are available at:

- HOPE Community Services, 50 Washington Ave.
  - Mon. – Fri.: 10 a.m. until meals runout, usually around noon.
- WestCOP 95 Lincoln Ave.
  - Mon., Thurs. and Fri.: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tues. and Wed.: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
  - (A food pantry there is open Tuesday and Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)
- Bracey Houses, 345 Main St.
  - Mon. – Thurs.: 9 a.m. – noon.
  - (A food pantry there is open Tuesday and Wednesdays: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.)
- Parkside Place Housing Complex (5th Avenue/Flowers City Park)
  - Mon. – Fri.: 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Additionally, starting July 13, “Grab & Go” meals will be available to participants in the “Outside The Box in Our Parks” summer program.

## Mount Vernon:

The Mount Vernon City School District will sponsor the Summer Food Service Program between the last day of the academic school year and the first day of the following school year.

### Grab-and-Go Meals will be available from 9:00 am to 10:30 am at:

- Hamilton School, 20 Oak St
- Graham School, 421 E 5th St
- Benjamin Turner School, 624 S 3rd Ave
- Traphagen School, 72 Lexington Ave
- Grimes School, 58 S. 10th Ave

## White Plains

White Plains Public Schools will be providing Grab-and-Go breakfast and lunch meals to all children under the age of 18.

Breakfast and lunch can be picked up daily from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at:

- White Plains High School, 550 North St, Athletic Parking Circle
- Eastview Middle School, 350 Main St, Main Entrance Parking Circle
- Post Road School, 175 W. Post Rd, Parking Lot

The United Way of Westchester and Putnam is working with Feeding Westchester and DoorDash to help provide low-income families with children with fresh produce during the summer. Their program will run weekly through Labor Day. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch will also receive activities and/or books. You must reside in White Plains, Elmsford, Tarrytown, or Sleepy Hollow to participate. To sign up: [click here.](#)