



Third Quarter Fact Sheet

Healthier Food Options Report (HFOR) Data

April - June 2015

The WSDA's Food Assistance Programs collects information from 500 food pantries and meal programs to develop an overview of statewide trends in the emergency food system. Our goals are to develop key partnerships and data-driven strategies to alleviate hunger and increase access to healthier food options in the emergency food system while supporting the agricultural community. 1 in every 6 Washingtonians used the services of their local food pantry in 2015.

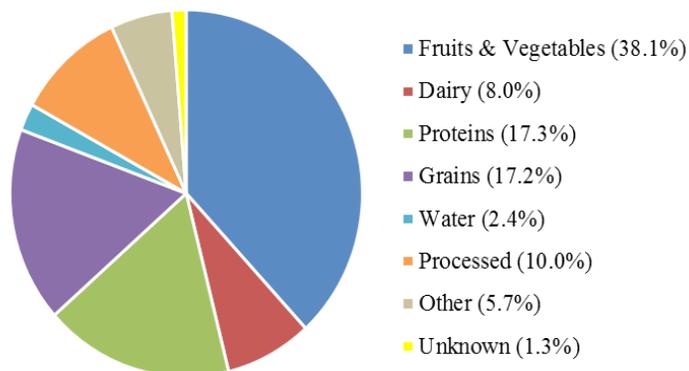
“Increase the percentage of healthier food options being offered to low-income children and families through food pantries, farmers markets, and meal programs by 5% from the 2014 baseline by 2017”

The Washington State Department of Agriculture and its' partners have included a metric to improve the healthier food options being made available to individuals requiring food assistance as part of the state's data-driven improvement system, Results Washington. Our focus is on Governor Goal 4 – Healthy and Safe Communities – Fostering the health of Washingtonians from a healthy start to a safe and supported future.

The process of compiling this informative data to increase healthier food options being offered to low-income families is beginning to show some specific trends. Compared to the baseline, third quarter data for EFAP Food Pantries reflected increases in the majority of healthier food categories with just a slight decrease in fruits and vegetables. Overall, healthier foods jumped from 81.5% to 83.0% (+1.5) resulting in a decrease in less healthy foods from 18.5% to 17.0%. In a similar trend, TEFAP Meal Programs reflected a 3% increase in healthier foods from 83.3% to 86.3%. It is such a positive representation of how dedicated our food service providers are to having healthy food options available to their clients.

Working closely with our partners to provide useable data and results is critical in helping to maintain positive outcomes and support this reporting effort. Collaboration and partnerships are key in decreasing less healthy food options and making positive strides forward. Northwest Farmers Fighting Hunger, a summer food drive done in partnership with the Dairy Farmers of Washington in June, is an example of an avenue that is being utilized to garner healthier food donations such as fresh dairy and produce items.

EFAP Food Pantry HFOR Results



TEFAP Meal Program HFOR Results

