

## **HUNGER & POVERTY IN AMERICA, 2008**

### A MAZON Quiz

1. How many Americans are hungry or food insecure? (Food insecurity is defined as “lack of access to enough food to fully meet basic needs at all times due to lack of financial resources.”)
  - a. 5 million
  - b. 700,000
  - c. 1 billion
  - d. 35.5 million
  
2. What percentage of American households are food insecure at least some time during the year?
  - a. 3.6%
  - b. 25%
  - c. 10.9%
  - d. 1%
  
3. How many of those hungry or food insecure Americans are children?
  - a. 675
  - b. 12.6 million
  - c. 25 million
  - d. 850,000
  
4. How does the U.S. rank with other industrialized nations in the percentage of child poverty?
  - a. 20<sup>th</sup>
  - b. 1<sup>st</sup>
  - c. 13<sup>th</sup>
  - d. 5<sup>th</sup>
  
5. What percentage of children in the U.S. lives in hungry/food insecure households?
  - a. 12.3%
  - b. 7.2%
  - c. 17.2%
  - d. 37.8%
  
6. Which of the following are consequences of chronic hunger in children?
  - a. infant mortality
  - b. poor cognitive development
  - c. increased risk of disease
  - d. all of the above
  
7. What percentage of children under the age of 18 live in poverty?
  - a. 9.4%
  - b. 3%
  - c. 17.4%
  - d. 27%

8. What percentage of people 65 and older live in poverty?
- a. 9.4%                      b. 3%                      c. 17.4%                      d. 27%
9. Senior citizens who experience hunger are at risk for serious health problems. Which of the following is a potential result of hunger in seniors?
- a. stroke                      b. depression
- c. both "a" and "b"
10. How many Americans receive food stamps?
- a. 26 million                      b. 890,000                      c. 100 million                      d. 17 million
11. What is the average gross income of food stamp households per month?
- a. \$1,000                      b. \$673                      c. \$750                      d. \$865
12. What is the average **monthly** food stamp benefit, per person?
- a. \$507.68                      b. \$1,500                      c. \$95.64                      d. \$105.77
13. Food stamp participants tend to leave the program frequently. Fifty percent of food stamp recipients leave the food stamp program within:
- a. 2 years                      b. 8 months                      c. 1 year                      d. 5 years
14. Food stamps cannot be used to buy which of the following items:
- a. vitamins                      b. toilet paper                      c. hot foods                      d. all of these
15. How many individuals who are eligible for food stamp benefits in an average month do not participate in the program?
- a. 18 million                      b. 600,000                      c. 5 million                      d. 13 million

16. What percentage of households that receive food stamps contain children?
- a. 80%                      b. 65%                      c. 10%                      d. 30%
17. According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, the poverty line for a family of 4 is:
- a. \$21,200                      b. \$28,000                      c. \$19,750                      d. \$25,000
18. How many U.S. children receive free or reduced price lunch at school every day?
- a. around 13 million    b. over 5 million                      c. 20.5 million                      d. 17.7 million
19. Children are eligible for free school lunches if their families earn at or below what percent of the federal poverty line?
- a. 300%                      b. 130%                      c. 250%                      d. 180%
20. How much money does the government spend on each free school lunch?
- a. \$2.47                      b. \$3.75                      c. \$2.80                      d. \$5

**ANSWERS TO HUNGER & POVERTY QUIZ, 2008**

1. d
2. c
3. b
4. b
5. c
6. d
7. c
8. a
9. c
10. a
11. b
12. c
13. b
14. d
15. d
16. a
17. a
18. d
19. b
20. a

## **HUNGER & POVERTY QUIZ, 2008**

### Discussion Questions

1. What have you learned as a result of taking this quiz?
2. Did any of the answers surprise you? Which ones, and why?
3. Why do you think so many of those hungry or food insecure Americans are children?
4. What have you learned about government programs that exist to help poor and hungry people?

### ***SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS***

1. Do you see many poor people in your neighborhood? How do you feel when you see them?
2. When someone on the street asks you for money, what do you do? Why?
3. How would you end hunger and poverty in America? Who do you think needs to be involved in that effort?
4. Do you think that local, state and/or federal government agencies should play a role in ending hunger and poverty? If so, how?