

HCC / CAIHR SYMPOSIUM

**FOOD SECURITY
BEFORE, DURING & AFTER
COVID-19**

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

1. FOOD SECURITY **BEFORE COVID**

2. FOOD SECURITY **DURING COVID**

3. FOOD SECURITY **AFTER COVID**

4. **ANY LESSON TO LEARN?**

DEFINITION

(World Food Summit, 1996)

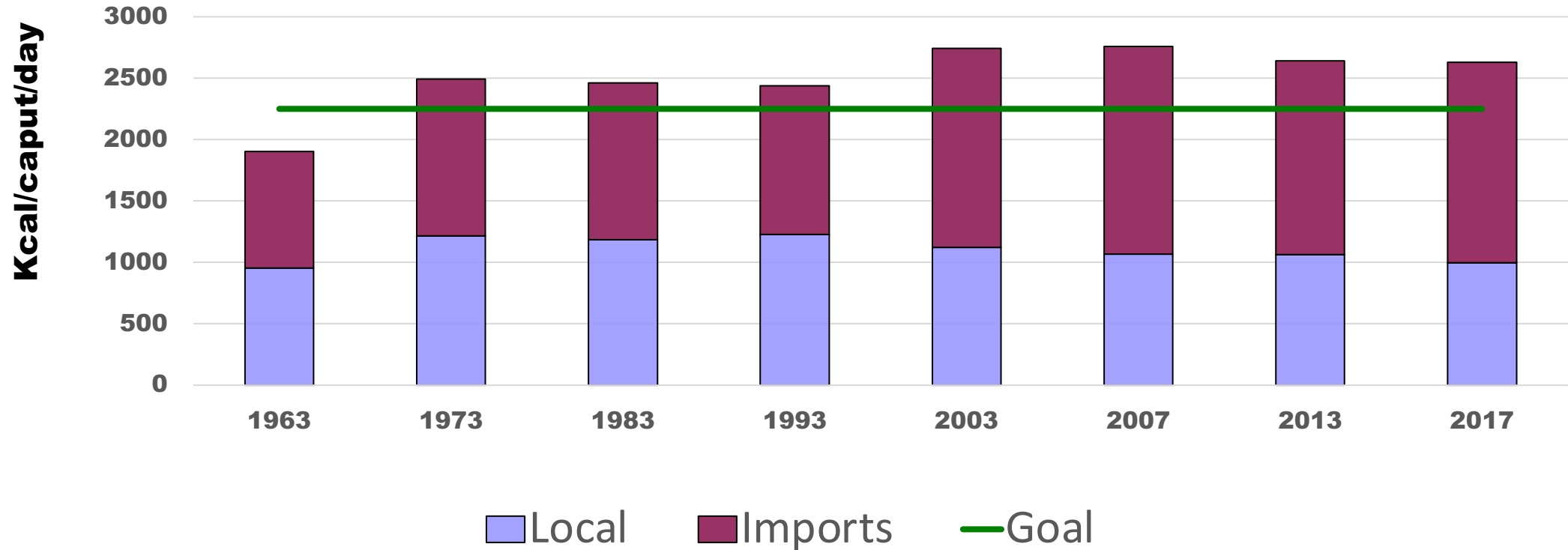
- Food Security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and **nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.**
- Implies stability of: - Availability, Accessibility & **Consumption/Utilization**

FOOD SECURITY BEFORE COVID

AVAILABILITY

IS JAMAICA FOOD SECURE?

Trend in **Total Food Availability (Energy)** vs Population Health Goal - Jamaica

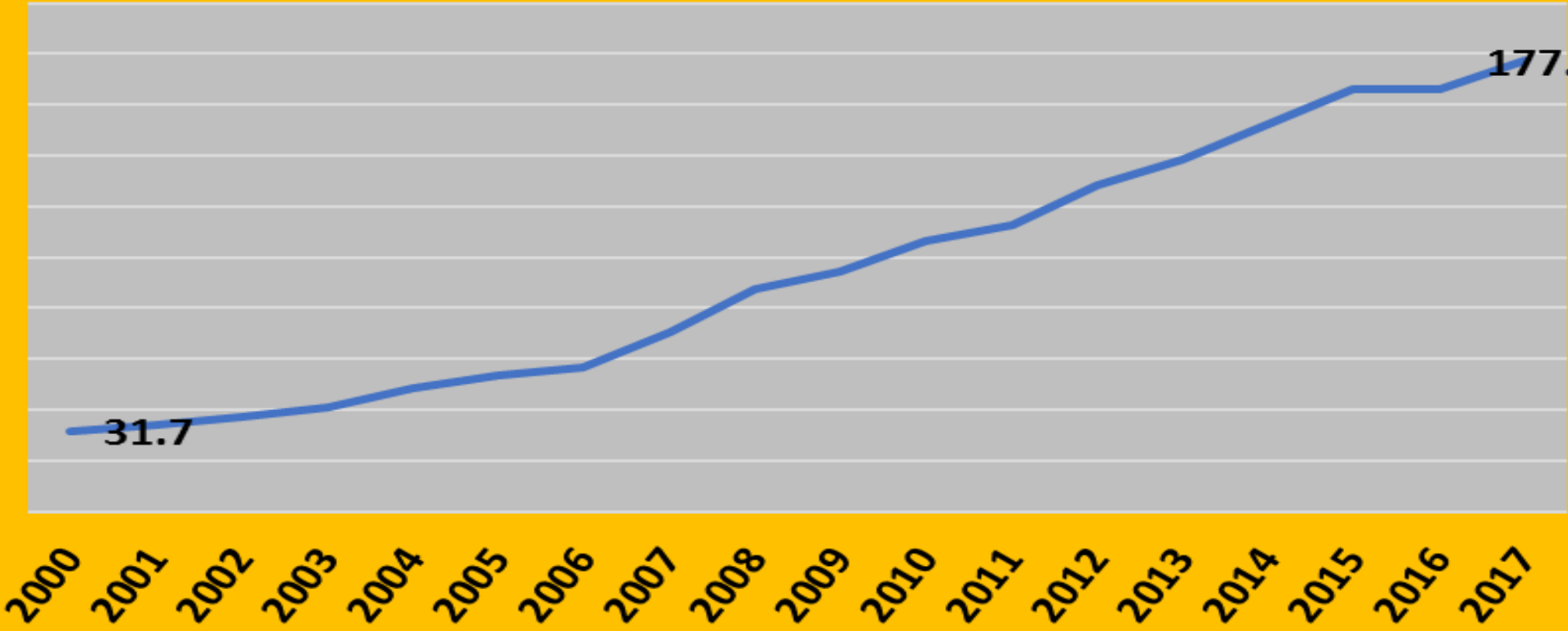


ACCESSIBILITY

Consumer Food Price Index

(2010=100)

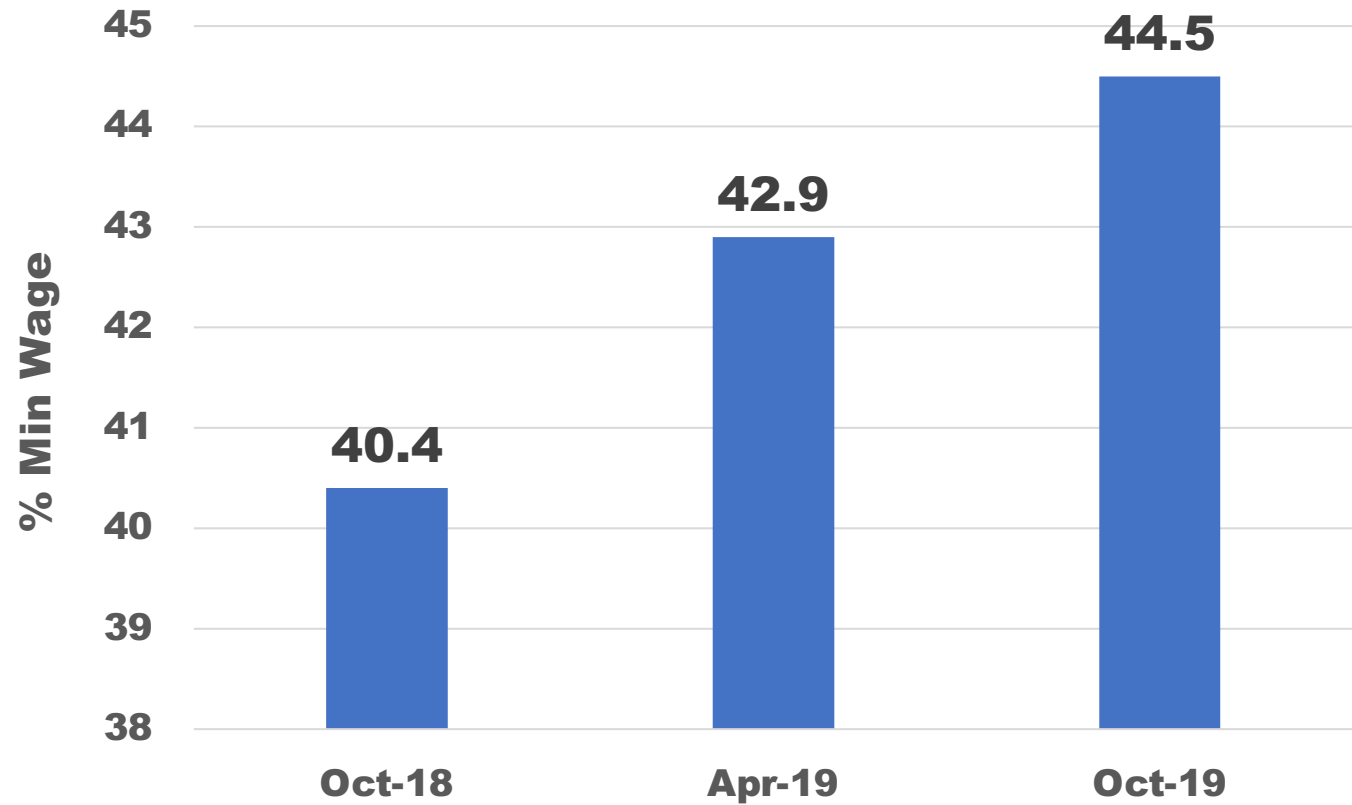
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Jamaica Food Price Index

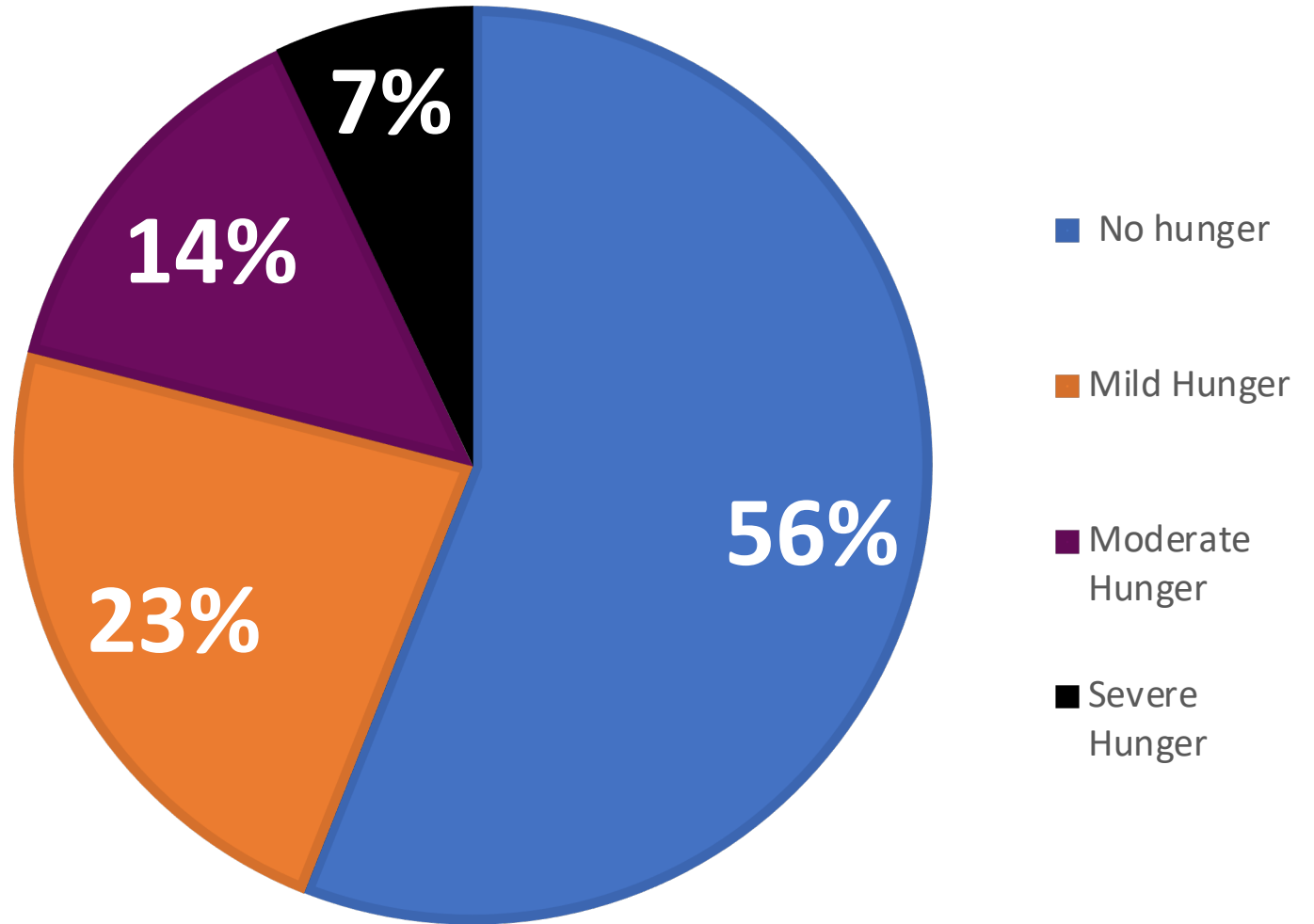
**CAN THE
POOR AFFORD
A
LOW-COST
BALANCED
DIET?**

Low-Cost 2400 Kcal Basket as % of Minimum Wage - Jamaica



CONSUMPTION

**HUNGER
BEFORE
COVID
- JAMAICA**

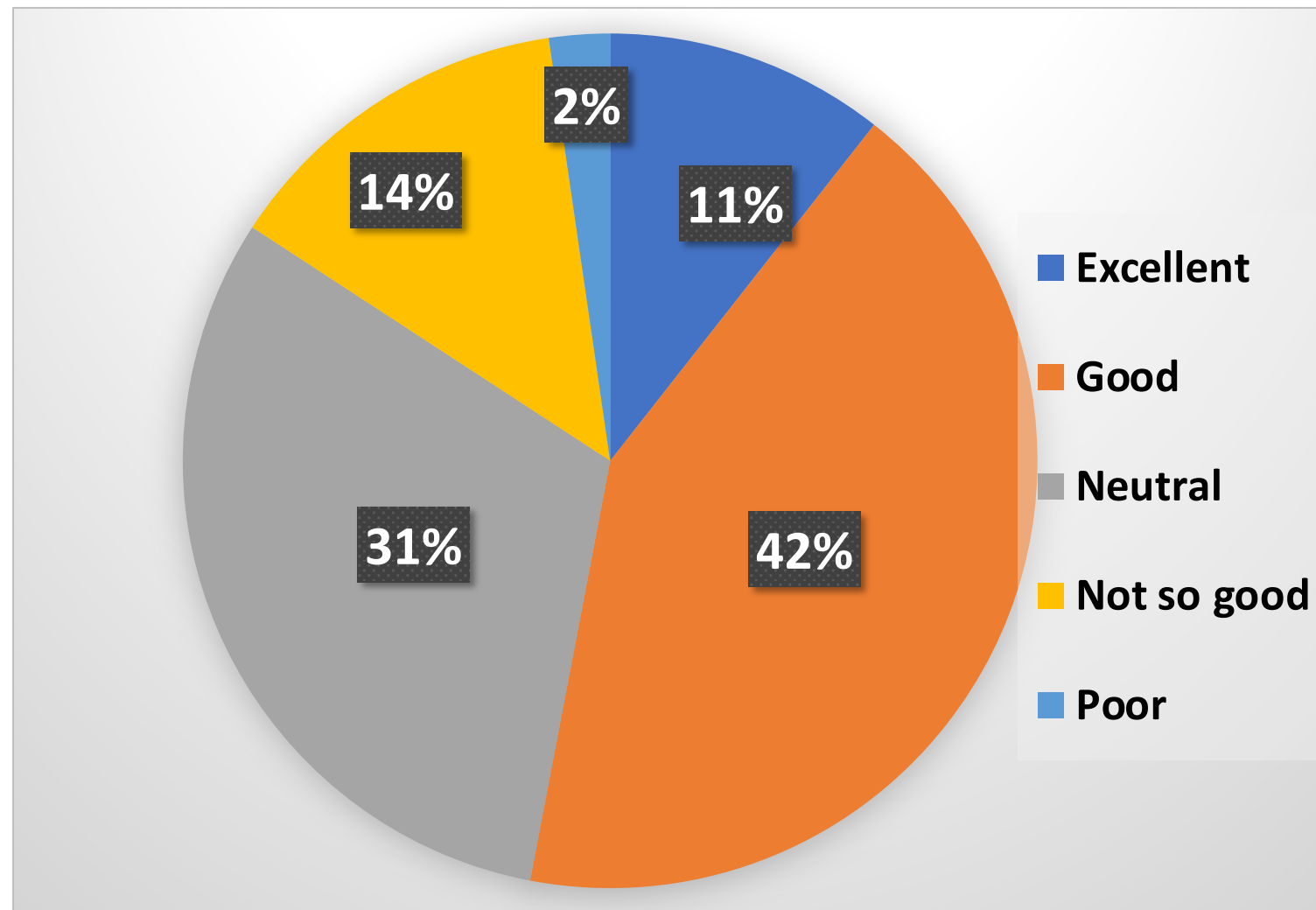


SUMMARY OF FOOD SECURITY BEFORE COVID

- **In 2019, the food import bill in Jamaica was approximately US\$326 per person. Tourist consumption was only 6% .**
- **Imports are dominant in the health-retarding food groups such as sugar, food from animals, and fats and oils.**
- **Imports are not major contributors to the health-promoting food groups such as vegetables, legumes and fruits**
- **The combined supply of fats and oils from imports and local sources was more than double the health goal**
- **The sugar supply about 2.7 times in excess of the health goal.**
- **Food imports from CARICOM was small (rice, sugar)**
- **The dangerous health-retarding ultra-processed foods contributed 20% of the food import bill.**

FOOD SECURITY DURING COVID

**Diet
Quality
during
COVID**



HUNGER PREVALENCE - JAMAICA

	BEFORE	DURING
No Hunger	56.3	58.2
Mild Hunger	22.7	18.5
Moderate Hunger	13.9	13.5
Severe Hunger	7.1	9.8
Total	100	100

SUMMARY OF FOOD SECURITY DURING COVID

Mean HH Income fell by 26% from US\$346 to US\$255 per month

Cost of food continued to increase during COVID

40% experienced some form of hunger and 42% of them said it was moderate to severe

In 16%, diet was not good or poor

Severely affected: >>> intake of fruits, veggies, fish, chicken & meats

FOOD SECURITY AFTER COVID

CARICOM FOOD PLAN - “25% by 25”

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE CREDIT FACILITY – REPUBLIC BANK OF TT

Development of priority crops

Capital equipment for farming

Feeder roads

Bulk storage

Processing plants

Shade house farming

MY QUESTION:

**DOES A LOWER FOOD IMPORT BILL MEAN
MORE FOOD SECURITY?**

**MORE ACCESSIBILITY TO LOW
INCOME EARNERS?**

**MORE NUTRITIOUS FOODS TO
CHOOSE FROM?**

GOING FORWARD

CREDIT FACILITY

PRODUCTION & MARKETING

LAND HUSBANDRY

ON-FARM IRRIGATION/WATER MANAGEMENT

POST HARVEST TECHNIQUES

PRAEDIAL LARCENY PROTECTION

AGRI-BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

SOCIAL SERVICES/HOME ECONOMICS

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

PLANT HEALTH/FOOD SAFETY

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

TOWARDS FOOD SOVERIGNTY VIA HEALTHY FOOD POLICY

THE END