The food insecurity and hunger is a lot higher among minorities in the United States than people think. This is because food insecurity and hunger percentages are good in the United States compared to other countries around the world. National Data for 2004 shows that 82.4% of the United States children were food secure; 13.3% food insecure and 4.3% were hungry. This is relatively good internationally speaking but if you look into it nationally you'll see that most of the minorities are the ones that are food insecure and hungry, one group being Latino immigrant families. If you look at certain places in the United States with low income you can see how poor those people are. The percentages there for food insecurity and hunger are high. Appalachia, lower Mississippi delta, and Los Angeles County, California have some of the highest Food insecurity and hunger rates in the country. These minorities are not represented the right way (a bit unclear--do you mean they lack political representation?), they have to deal with many things that other people don't such as poverty, low-wage employment, job insecurity, language, education, and marginal social position. There are 34 million foreigners in the United States and over half of them are of Latino decent. Many of them were not born here and came here illegally. This means that they are not citizens of this country which means they are not counted and are not allowed rights that every other person in this country has. They work under harsh conditions with low pay and they can't do anything about it because they are illegal and they don't want to get deported. Low pay means not a lot of money to buy food therefore many of them starve (careful of word choice--do they actually starve or do you mean that they experience hunger?).

The population of Latinos in the United States continues to increase, in North Carolina the Hispanic population increased by 394% between 1990 and 2000 (if this is from the article itself you should provide a citation with page number). Most of the immigrants coming to America come here to make money and send back to their family in Mexico. They also often come with a lot of people so they end up having many people in one house. Thus, they have to deal with giving money to their family in the United States and the money for their family back home. This makes it very hard to have enough money for food, rent, clothing, etc. This study was done in North Carolina, there are four samples are discussed, including urban and rural areas and also those who lived on the west and east side of the state. I feel that this article tells a story that people don't usually read or even hear about. The United States measure themselves in a national percentage, and yes the percentages are good and a lot better than those of other countries. That doesn't mean that everything is that great or even equal for that matter. Most of the people in those low percentages of dealing with starvation, poverty, and crime are minorities and no one notices that because it is hidden behind the good national percentages. Food insecurity and hunger percentages are very high in urban areas all over the country like Los Angeles, NYC, Baltimore for example and no one's doing anything about it. a bit cynical--some people are trying to do something about it, but clearly it is not enough.


Sarah A. Quandt, John I Shoaf, Janeth Tapia, Mercedes Hernandez-Pelletier. reorder names with last name first