



Leading the effort to end hunger in Idaho

Hunger in Idaho

The Idaho Foodbank is an independent nonprofit organization in Idaho. For more than 25 years, The Idaho Foodbank has been working with a network of more than 200 independent partner hunger relief organizations to distribute free emergency food to individuals and families in need. This network consists of emergency food pantries, community kitchens, shelters and programs that collectively work together to relieve hunger in Idaho.

More than a statewide distribution system, The Idaho Foodbank provides important programs like the Backpack program which supplies weekend nutrition to school children who otherwise would go hungry over the weekend. Mobile Pantry, a program that provides emergency food to rural and areas lacking emergency food services. The Grocery Alliance program which partners with grocery stores and supermarkets in providing fresh nutritious food into the Foodbank network. The Idaho Community Gardens program coordinates the direct connect with local community gardens to local emergency food pantries throughout the state. These programs serve an important role in filling the gaps for communities which lack resources for families and children.

Contributions made to the organization come from many sources such as individuals, grants and corporate donations. The Idaho Foodbank does not depend on government funding or subsidies. Food donations are accepted from manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers, community and corporate food drives and through the national Feeding America network. Tax deductible cash donations received are critically needed to underwrite the costs associated with acquiring, transporting, warehousing and distributing the donated food.

- 1 in 6 Idahoans do not know where their next meal will come from (are food insecure).
246,167 (16.2%) of Idahoans are food insecure.
66,600 of those are children under age 18 (16.3%).
23,008 of those are children under age 5. That rate is 20.2%, the 10th highest rate in the country.
- For FY 2010 it was 8.9 million pounds or 6.95 million meals. In FY 2009, we and our agencies distributed 6.8 million pounds of food or 5.3 million meals. For calendar year 2009, it was 7.87 million pounds or 6.15 million meals. The Foodbank Has distributed more than 92 million pounds of food, since 1984.
- The Foodbank provides emergency food more than 125,000 times a month.
- The USDA has ranked Idaho the 29th hungriest state, down from 24th in 2005-2007 and 13th in 2004-2006.
- 66,628 Idaho children (16.3%) are food insecure, the 33rd highest rate in the country, down from 6th highest.
- The 2009 poverty rate in Idaho was 13.7% (209,000 people), child poverty rate in Idaho was 16% (63,800 children)
- Of those assisted by The Idaho Foodbank network partners: 26% are children, 54% adults, and 20% seniors and 206,433 families.



www.idahofoodbank.org

Administrative Offices & Southwestern Idaho

3562 South TK Avenue
P.O. Box 5601
Boise, ID 83705-0601
PH: 208.336.9643
FX: 208.336.9692

Eastern Idaho

555 South 1st Ave.
P.O. Box 125
Pocatello, Idaho 83204
PH: 208.233.8811
FX: 208.233.4612

North Central Idaho

3600 East Main Street
P.O. Box 513
Lewiston, Idaho 83501
PH: 208.746.2288
FX: 208.746.2291



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The Foodbank's *Hunger in Idaho 2010*, the largest hunger study ever done in the state, found that **17,200** people needed emergency food assistance on any given week, and **142,200** people per year received assistance.

It also found:

- Only **36%** of Foodbank client households receive food stamps.
- **142,200** different people received emergency food in 2009.
- Only **36%** of Foodbank client households receive food stamps.
- Among the programs that existed in 2006, **83%** of pantries, **60%** of kitchens and **64%** of shelters in Idaho have seen an increase in the number of people who came to their emergency food program sites.
- Among all client households served by emergency food programs in Idaho, **81%** are food insecure, according to the U.S. government's official food security scale. This includes client households who have low food security and those who have very low food security.
- Among households with children, **86%** of those served are food insecure and **38%** are food insecure with very low food security.
- **25%** of client households in Idaho report having at least one household member in poor health.

Idaho Foodbank recipients who say they must choose between paying for food and paying for:

Utilities or heating fuel: **47%** Rent or mortgage: **34%** Medicine or medical care: **34%**

Transportation: **37%**

Gas for car: **49%**

- The Foodbank has **45** full and part-time employees at three facilities (Boise, Lewiston and Pocatello) to help service the people of Idaho who rely upon our services.
- The Foodbank operates on a **7%** administrative overhead, assuring that public support goes directly to programs and the acquisition and distribution of food.
 - **\$1** donated provides **3.89** pounds of food.
 - **\$1** donated provides **\$6.00** worth of food.
 - **\$1** donated provides **three** nutritious meals.

Please visit www.idahofoodbank.org to learn more about The Idaho Foodbank mission, partnerships and opportunities, as well as the latest information about hunger in Idaho.



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