The New Mexico Association of Food Banks and its members maintain an effective, efficient statewide hunger relief network.



Santa Fe

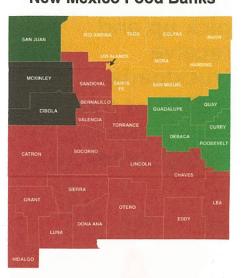
Albuquerque

What is the New Mexico Association of Food Banks and how does it serve the community?

Gallup

Farmington

New Mexico Food Banks





The mission of the New Mexico Association of Food Banks is to work towards ending hunger in New Mexico through collaborative food acquisitions and distribution, education, and advocacy, throughout New Mexico.

Food Bank



Clovis

- Food is distributed by each member food bank through a statewide network of over 500 hunger relief locations impacting every county in the state (see map on left).
- The food banks work together as the NMAFB to provide critical food assistance resources for New Mexicans facing hunger, impacting the lives of children, seniors, families and adults.
- The primary function of the NMAFB is to advocate on behalf of those experiencing hunger in every community and serve as an educational resource to local and state governments.
- The support of volunteers and investment of donors is vital and critical to continue providing services at pandemic levels.

Pounds # Meals
Distributed in
2020 2020
60,860,848 50,717,373

Average # Meals per Month 2020



Overall
Hunger
1 in 5

% Fruits & % Protein
Vegetables
Distributed

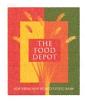
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New Mexico's Food Banks











How do we do it?

Food is:

- Donated
- Purchased
- Rescued from retailers
- Received through contracts



Food Banks pick up and receive truckloads



of food every week.



Food is distributed to each of New Mexico's 33 counties.

Volunteers help:

- Box
- Sort
- Repack
- Relabel



Food is supplied to free food programs including:

- Food Pantries
- School Partners
- After-school Programs
- Community Kitchens
- Daycare Centers
- **Emergency Shelters**
- Soup Kitchens
- Senior Meal Sites
- Low-income Housing
- Chapter Houses
- Health Partners

Hunger relief is provided to tens of thousands of New Mexicans each week.



Millions of people in rural communities face hunger

People who live in rural areas often face hunger at higher rates than people who live in urban areas. Living in a rural community comes with unique challenges. This includes a lack of transportation when the nearest grocery store, food pantry, or food bank is potentially hours away, job opportunities that are more concentrated in low-wage industries, and higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

- 2.2 million households in rural communities face hunger
- Rural communities make up 63% of counties in the United States and 87% of counties with the highest rates of overall food insecurity (Food insecurity is defined as a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. This can be a temporary situation for a household or can last a long time. Food insecurity is one way we can measure how many people cannot afford food.)
- 86% of the counties with the highest percentage of children at risk for food insecurity are rural
- Poverty is worse in rural communities than in urban communities. In 2019, 13.3% of all people in rural areas lived below the poverty line compared to 10.0% of people in urban areas.

New Mexico food banks feed our neighbors in rural communities

New Mexico food banks are committed to reaching everyone who faces hunger regardless of where they live. New Mexico food banks serve rural communities by:

- Supplying rural community food pantries with the food they need to feed hungry New Mexicans in their community – the food banks deliver to these community food pantries so those pantries don't have to use their resources to travel to the food bank
- Operating mobile pantries that bring food to hard-to-reach communities Mobile Food Pantries operate like a Bookmobile food is distributed by the food banks directly from food bank trucks with no need for long term storage. This service reaches communities that do not have the resources to set up their own food pantries. Participating communities inform local families about the opportunity to receive the food, and provide volunteers to distribute it. The program also offers a venue for resources such as health screenings, flu shots, and nutrition education.
- Assist community members with enrolling in SNAP, WIC, and other programs
 - o SNAP stands for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. SNAP is a federal program that helps millions of low-income Americans put food on the table. Across the United States there are 9.5 million families with children on SNAP. It is the largest program working to fight hunger in America.
 - The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) safeguards the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk. Since households with children are far more likely to be food insecure (20 percent) than households with no children (11.9 percent)[1], WIC plays a critical role in protecting the health of its target population. The program provides nutritious foods, nutrition and breastfeeding education, and healthcare access in order to safeguard low-income women, infants, and children dealing with, or at risk of developing, nutrition-related health problems.