

Hunger in Minnesota

Policy Interventions + Recent Trends

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2023 Investments in Children & Families Committee

\$5 million in emergency food shelf funding

Disbursed in March to 280 food shelves

\$3 million increase to the base funding for food shelves

Brings total to \$4.7m a year for MN Food Shelf Program.

\$7 million in one-time capital improvements for food shelves

DHS initiative to improve and expand emergency food distribution facilities across the state.

Funding for Tribal food sovereignty

DHS initiative to support food security and food sovereignty among Tribal Nations and American Indian communities.

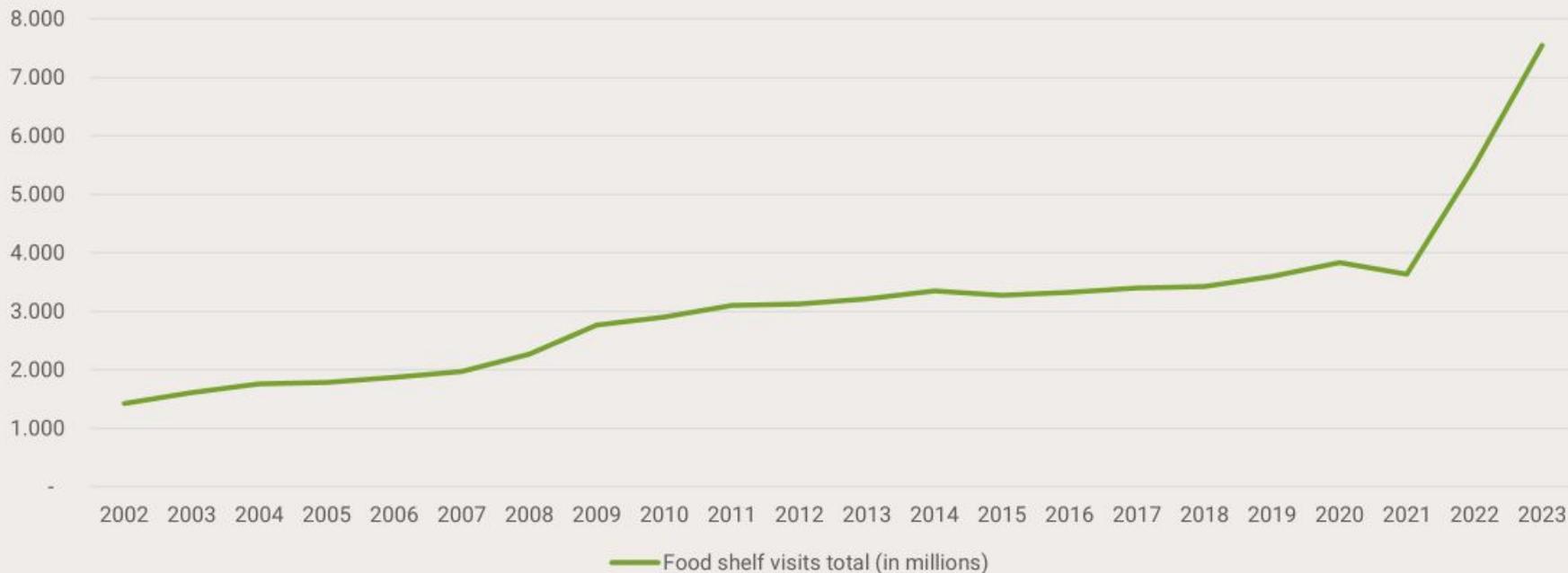
New funding for SNAP Outreach Program

DHS initiative) to support additional outreach and application assistance to Minnesotans who may be eligible for SNAP.

Food Shelf Visits

Minnesotans made 7,551,147 visits to food shelves in 2023. 1.8 million more visits than in 2022

Food shelf visits total (in millions)

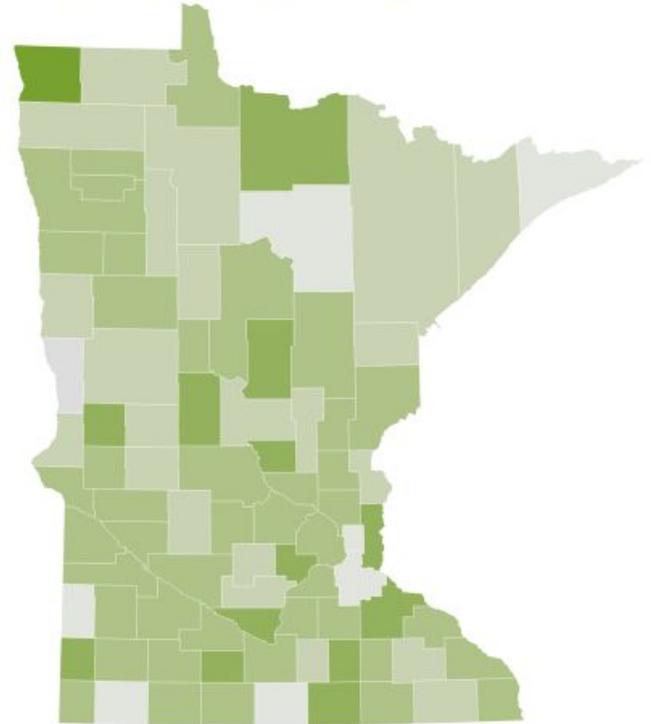


Visit change by county

| Increases in total visits | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Steele | 77.9% |
| Watonwan | 79.3% |
| Nicollet | 79.8% |
| Washington | 80.0% |
| Carver | 85.3% |
| Crow Wing | 87.8% |
| Pipestone | 93.6% |
| Grant | 98.1% |
| Benton | 99.8% |
| Kittson | 133.8% |

% change in visits 2022 to 2023

< 0.0% 0.0%-25.0% 25.0%-50.0% 50.0%-100.0% ≥ 100.0%



Source: Hunger Solutions Minnesota • Created with Datawrapper

https://www.datawrapper.de/_/QATct/?v=2

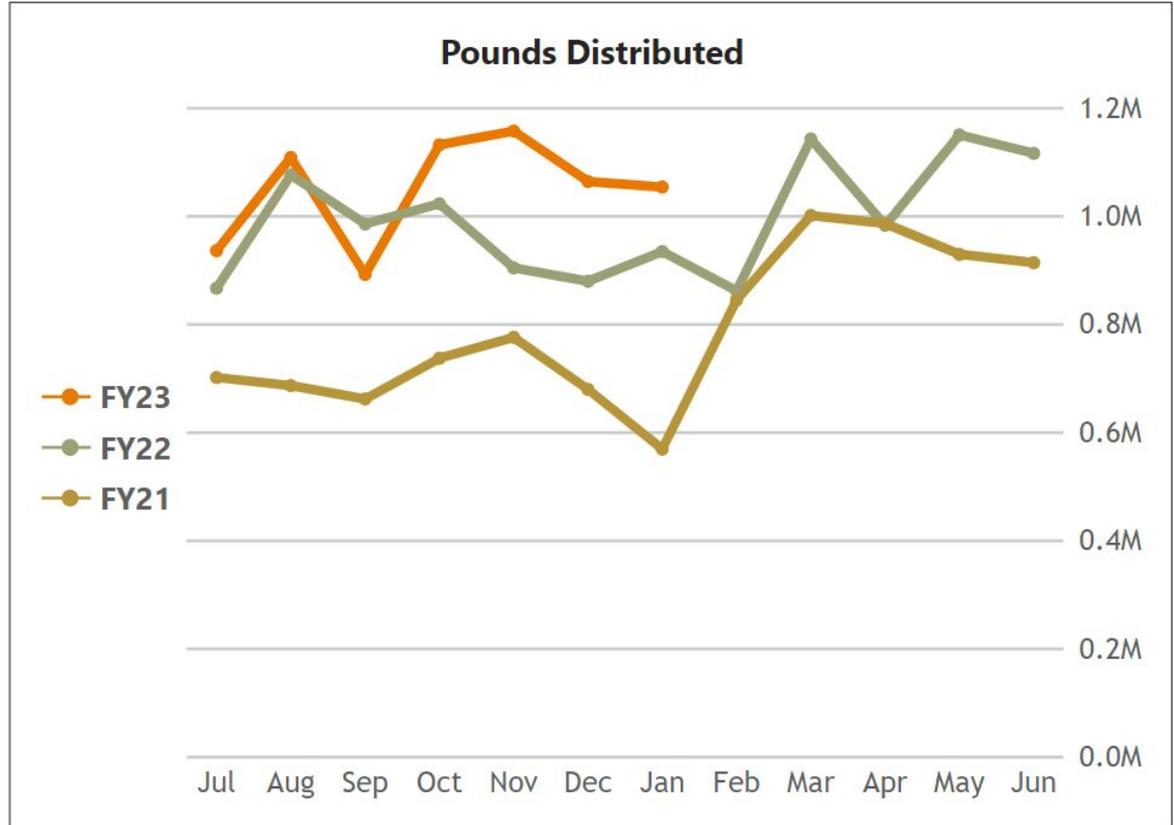


Food Bank Distribution

Channel One Food Bank: Pounds Distributed

Distribution lbs for fiscal year 2022-2023 (11,910,894) increased 26% over fiscal year 2021-2022 (9,474,979).

Our best explanation for the increase in pounds distributed most months of 2023 compared to 2022 is that the need statewide is just that high and that if not for the pilot we may not have had enough food.



Why is this happening?

1

Food price inflation

Inflation adjusted price of groceries that cost \$100 in 2019



The rise in the price of food has slowed, but the increases build on themselves month after month.

A basket of food that cost \$100 in December 2019, cost more than \$125 in December 2023.



2

Loss of food support programs

- Stimulus payments
- Child tax credit advance payments
- Expanded Unemployment Insurance
- Eviction moratorium
- Pandemic EBT
- Emergency SNAP



2

Loss of food support programs

Monthly SNAP benefits per person,
2020-2023



SNAP benefits increased in early 2022 with additional pandemic related E-SNAP benefits. Minnesotans went from \$100 per person on average in January to about \$180 per month in June 2020.

E-SNAP benefits distributed per person increased to about \$260 by early 2023. These additional benefits ended in March 2023. By April 2023, Minnesotans received an average of \$160 per month in SNAP benefits, a monthly decrease of about \$100 per person.



Future Interventions

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)- increasing access and eligibility

SNAP Increases for People with Disabilities

Participation in Federal Restaurant Meals Program

SNAP is Medicine Pilot

Senior Minimum SNAP Benefit

SNAP Access for College Students

Increased SNAP Outreach Program funding

Medical Assistance

1115 Demonstration Waiver could allow nutrition services to be reimbursable (medically-tailored meals, prescription groceries, prepared meals)

Emergency Food Assistance

Funding for a stream of fresh food into the system using MN food banks