



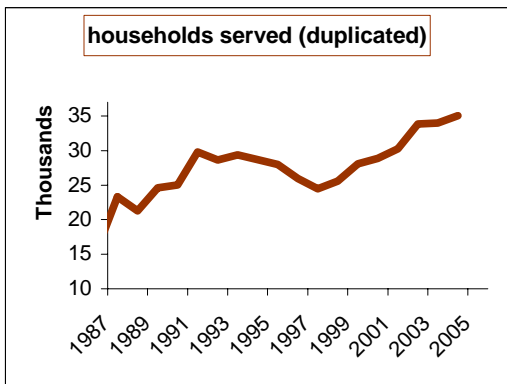
Part of the
Oregon Food
Bank Network

Linn-Benton Food Share
545 SW 2nd Street, Suite A
Corvallis, OR 97333
Phone: (541) 752-1010
Fax: (541) 752-2348
Dedicated To Preventing Hunger in Linn and
Benton Counties
A Program of Community Services Consortium

◆ **Who We Are and Why We Are Needed** ◆

Since 1981 Linn-Benton Food Share (LBFS), a Regional Coordinating Agency (RCA) of the Oregon Food Bank Network, has prevented hunger in the Mid-Willamette Valley. LBFS has aggressively expanded outreach and food resources so that “everybody eats.” LBFS attempts to reach every person that cannot find enough resources to adequately feed themselves or their family.

The work to eradicate hunger requires not only immense resources of food and funds, but also a superior resource of volunteers and community leaders. In no abstract terms, LBFS is the vehicle by which the compassion of the community tangibly expresses itself. Our work could not be completed without the energetic efforts of community volunteers. In fact, in 2005-06, over 4,000 volunteers contributed over 12,280 hours that proved crucial to Food Share’s success.



◆ **Hunger in Oregon** ◆

With reductions in state and federal social services, LBFS has seen a 57% increase in requests for emergency food since 1997. In Oregon and Clark County, WA, more than 850,000 individuals received

emergency food assistance from agencies of the Oregon Food Bank Network in the past year. Linn Benton Food Share alone supplied food resources to over 42,500 individuals (unduplicated) at least once in the past year through our network of emergency food pantries.

In the most recent Census Data report **Oregon’s** hunger ratings were:

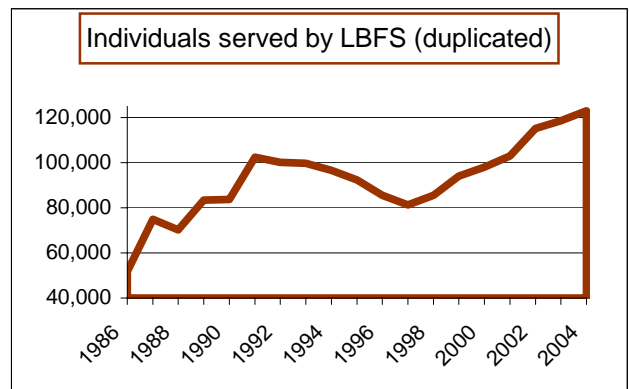
Food insecurity

Oregon: 11.9% of households; national average = 11%

And

Food insecurity with hunger

Oregon: 3.9% of households; national average = 3.3%.

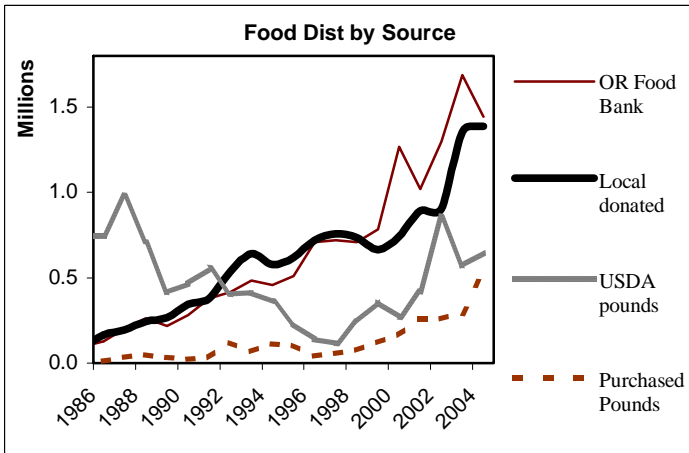


Linn-Benton Food Share distributed over 5 million pounds of food to our 71 member agencies in 2005-06.¹ Equivalent to 144 semi-truck loads.

¹ 2000-01 fiscal year 2.9 million pounds distributed. This represents a 72% increase in food distributed.

A constant commitment to acquire greater amounts of nutritious food allowed food pantries to give out an average of 3,094 boxes of emergency food as well as provide resources for over 19,500 meals at soup kitchens and shelters **every month**.

◆ **Who Benefits?** ◆

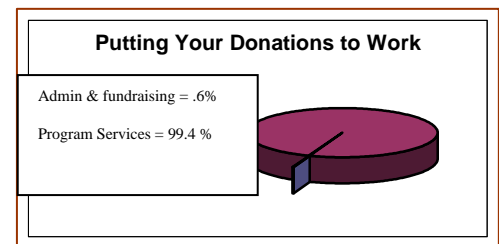


Those receiving emergency food services run the full range of age and domestic situation. Increasingly, recipients are working families who must often choose between paying for groceries or basic services. They are families that may also suffer through tremendous medical bills or increasing housing costs, as well as victims of domestic violence seeking to rebuild their lives. The food box lines also include retired persons whose fixed incomes cannot match the costs of housing, heat and essential medications.

In addition, in a recent report issued by the National Center for Children in Poverty found 30.9% of children under the age of three living in poverty in Oregon.

Over 40% of all recipients of emergency food services from LBFS are children. Studies investigating the effects of diet on academic and social development in children have consistently found that hungry kids are saddled with serious obstacles to achieving their potential.² Linn-Benton Food Share is committed to finding the resources that many children lack through no fault of their own.

For every dollar contributed to Linn-Benton Food Share up to fifteen pounds of food can be distributed throughout the Mid-Willamette Valley.



◆ **Other Programs of Linn-Benton Food Share** ◆

Linn-Benton Food Share also coordinates a network of fourteen **gleaning groups** that function as self-help, participatory means for families with low-incomes to supplement their nutritional needs. Gleaning is a time-honored tradition that keeps millions of pounds of food from the landfill and helps enhance community food security. Gleaning groups operate year-round; gleaning food from fields, stores, as well as re-packaging donated bulk foods.

In addition, **Wood Share**, an all-volunteer program, distributes cords of firewood. Donated wood is cut, split, and delivered to low-income families that rely upon wood stoves to heat their homes.

Linn-Benton Food Share is a public, non-profit organization, designated 501 (c) 3 by the IRS. All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

[Linn-Benton Food Share](#)

e-mail: rmccambridge@csc.gen.or.us
<mailto:mgibson@csc.gen.or.us>

[Oregon Food Bank](#)

(800) 777-7427

[America's Second Harvest](#)

For more information, click the links provided.

² For more information: *Center on Hunger and Poverty*. www.centeronhunger.org