

San Francisco Food Security Task Force

INCREASED HUNGER: A SUMMARY OF FOOD PROGRAM TRENDS

Comparing the first federal fiscal quarter (Jul, Aug, Sep) of 2007 and 2008

FOOD BANK

	FY 07-08 Q1	FY 08-09 Q1	Percent Change
Number of Pantries	170	193	+13.5%
Pounds of Food	7,735,764	8,571,294	+10.8%
Average Meals per Day	65,691	72,786	+10.8%
Average Households Served per Month	61,503	69,137	+12.4%

In San Francisco, **at least 150,000 people** live at or below 150% of the federal poverty line and are in need of food.

In 2008, the San Francisco Food Bank distributed **33 million pounds of food** into the community. The majority of recipients were seniors.

Over the last year, demand for the Food Bank's programs has continued to rise, while food donations from the manufacturing industry have dropped.

From September 2007 to September 2008, the number of San Francisco households with minors receiving non-assistance food stamps **increased 19.5%**.

Individuals receiving non-assistance food stamps accounted for **more than 75%** of food stamp recipients. (The rest received public assistance benefits.)

FOOD STAMPS

	FY 07-08 Q1	FY 08-09 Q1	Percent Change
Average Number of Individuals per Month	30,985	31,951	+3.1%
Total Value of Food Stamps per Month	\$3,505,332	\$3,800,408	+8.4%

FOUR FREE MEAL PROGRAMS

	FY 07-08 Q1	FY 08-09 Q1	Percent Change
Total Meals (Congregate and Delivered)	784,549	808,390	+3.0%

Dozens of organizations provide free meals in San Francisco on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis. Here, we provide a snapshot of demand by synthesizing data from four members of the Tenderloin Hunger Task Force: Glide Foundation, Meals On Wheels, Project Open Hand, and St. Anthony Foundation. Together, they represent a majority of the hot meals served throughout the city.

**These numbers do not include additional meals provided through Project Open Hand's grocery bag service.*

The number of meals served by Glide alone during this quarter in 2008 reflects an **18.9% increase** over the number of meals it served in the same quarter in 2007.

The Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) partially funds a large number of nutrition contractors to provide meals for seniors and adults with disabilities. The contractors also rely on donated food and supplies and outside funds to cover costs. The number of meals served is largely driven by budget constraints and therefore may not accurately reflect demand.

The number of seniors turned away from congregate meal sites **increased 66.0%** from 309 in the first fiscal quarter of 2007 to 513 in the first fiscal quarter of 2008. **150 seniors** remain on a waiting list for home meal delivery.

**There may exist duplicate meals between this table and those displayed under Four Free Meal Programs.*

DAAS NUTRITION CONTRACTORS

	FY 07-08 Q1	FY 08-09 Q1	Percent Change
Congregate Meals	204,585	214,707	+4.9%
Delivered Meals	261,715	280,090	+7.0%
Total Meals	466,300	494,797	+6.1%

DCYF SUMMER MEALS

	July 2007	July 2008	Percent Change
Summer Snack	2,057	2,576	+25.2%
Summer Lunch	4,977	5,164	+3.8%
Total Meals	7,034	7,740	+10.0%

In 2008, the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families served summer meals at **100 sites** throughout San Francisco, from June 23 through August 15.

Data for July best reflects the number of meals served while all sites were operating. (Other organizations, such as SFUSD and Boys & Girls Club, also sponsor summer meals.)

2006 was the first year DCYF offered snack as part of the summer lunch program; the Department expects the number of snacks served to continue to grow as more sites are willing to add the snack component.

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN

	FY 07-08 Q1	FY 08-09 Q1	Percent Change
Clients per Month	16,492	17,079	+3.6%
Allocated Caseload	15,500	15,700	+1.3%
Total Value of Food Checks Issued	\$1,071,915	\$1,110,070	+3.6%

WIC is a discretionary program subject to annual budget approval; therefore, the data may not accurately reflect trends in eligibility or need. WIC serves those at 185% of the federal poverty line. At times, under direction from the State of California WIC office, the San Francisco Department of Public Health WIC Program will increase its caseload.

Authors: Joyce Lin-Conrad, Paula Jones ([paula.jones@sfdph.org](mailto:Paula.jones@sfdph.org)), Leo O'Farrell (leo.o'farrell@sfgov.org), Taninha Ferreira

For more information on the Food Security Task Force and for a list of sources, please visit <http://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/mtgsGrps/#foodsecurity> or www.sfood.org.