



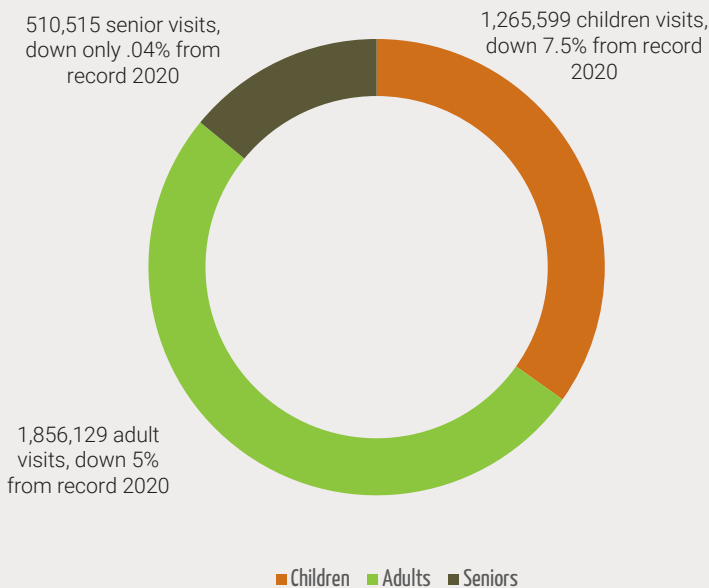
2021 marked the 11th consecutive year with over 3 million food shelf visits for Minnesota, a trend that began after the 2007 recession. Despite the unprecedented food insecurity happening in Minnesota, 2021 food shelf visits were down overall by 5% from the record visits set in 2020. Senior visits remained high despite the overall decrease, as seniors continue to be the fastest growing group of food shelf visitors.

Last year, Minnesotans made **3,632,243 visits to food shelves.**

2021 brought the number of food shelf visits down to pre-pandemic levels.

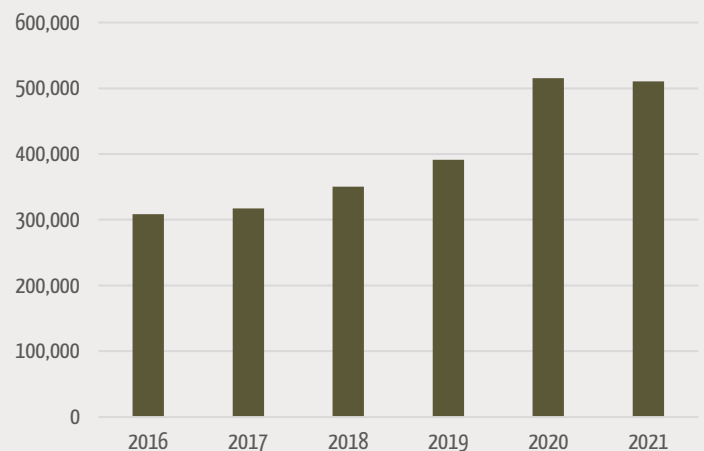


Food Shelf Visits by Age, 2021



Food Shelf Visits by Seniors, 2016-2021

Despite overall decrease in visits made from 2020 to 2021, senior visits remained steady with adults aged 60+ making 510,515 visits to their food shelves. Senior visits have increased by 31% since pre-pandemic 2019.

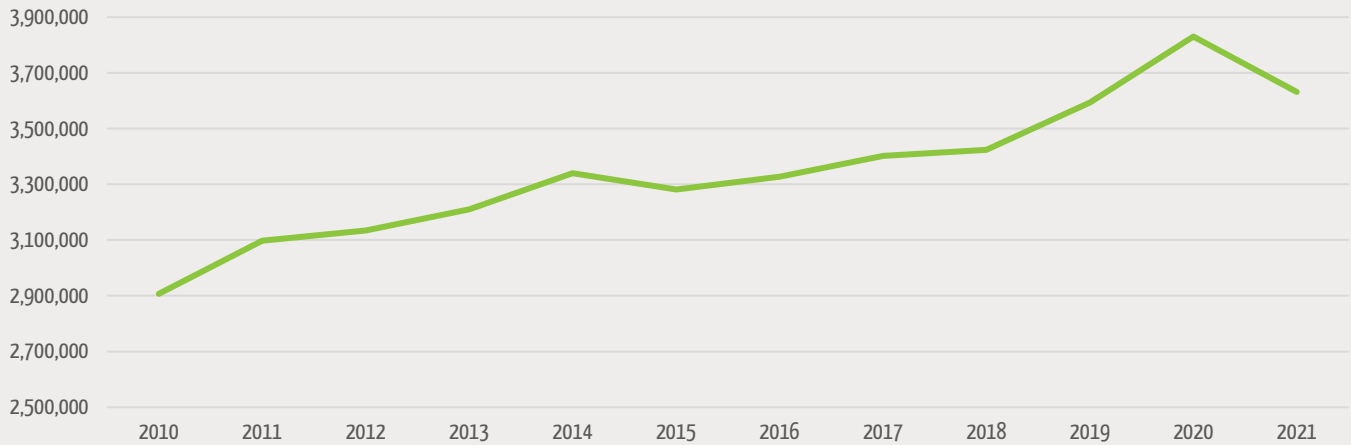


Source: Food shelf reports to MN DHS. Analysis by Hunger Solutions.

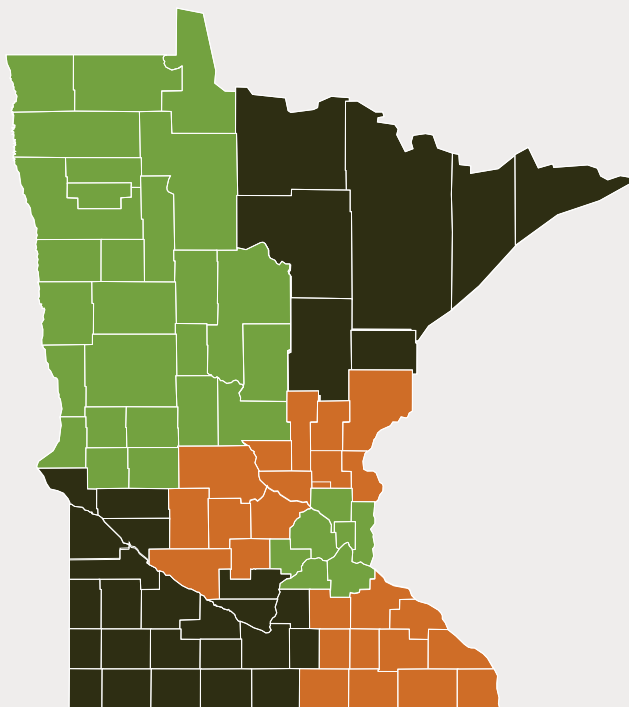
Back to pre-pandemic “normal”

2021 brought food shelf visit numbers back to pre-pandemic levels, mirroring the 3,594,612 visits made in 2019. Pandemic relief programs that existed throughout 2021 helped low-income households stay afloat during the year. Over \$700 million of Emergency SNAP was issued to low-income Minnesotans since March of 2020, and over 600,000 Minnesotan families received support from the enhanced Child Tax Credit payments.

Food Shelf Visits, 2010-2021



Source: Food shelf reports to MN DHS. Analysis by Hunger Solutions Minnesota.



Food Shelf Visits by Region, 2021

	% total visits 2021	% of population
Central	7.5%	13.0%
Metro	68.8%	55.0%
NE	3.6%	6.0%
NW	5.0%	10.0%
SE	9.0%	9.0%
SW	6.1%	7.0%

The number of food shelf visits in each region of the state roughly follow the percentage of the population that lives there. It doesn't matter if you live in a rural area, a small town, or urban area— hunger exists in every corner of the state.

Sources: Food shelf reports to MN DHS. Analysis by Hunger Solutions Minnesota.

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