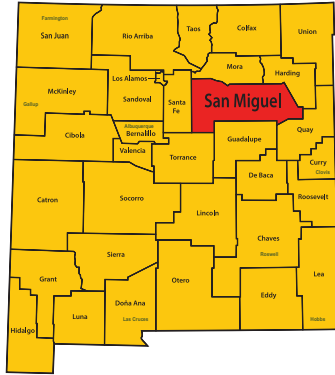


SAN MIGUEL

Population
27,357

Hunger is a Growing Crisis for Families in Northern New Mexico



Hunger by the Numbers for SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

Number of Food Insecure Persons
4,390 total (16%)
1,220 children (24.5%)

Average Cost of Meal – \$3.50

Annual Food Budget Shortfall
\$2,715,000

Population of San Miguel County –
27,357

Unemployment Rate – 7.3%

People Living in Poverty – 6,061 (23%)

Children Living in Poverty – 1,254
(30%)

SNAP Person Participation – 3,573 (31%)

WIC Person Participation – 621 (2%)

Data Sources:

- (1) Hunger - Feeding America Map the Meal Gap
- (2) Poverty - The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center 2022
- (3) WIC – NM Department of Health 10/2022

(Fact sheet created - January 2024)

What is Food Insecurity?

Food insecurity refers to USDA’s measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods. Food-insecure households are not necessarily food insecure all the time. Food insecurity may reflect a household’s need to make trade-offs between important basic needs, such as housing or medical bills, and purchasing nutritionally adequate foods.

Hunger by the Numbers...

UNITED STATES

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Number of Food Insecure Persons | 33,844,000 (10.4%) |
| Number of Food Insecure Children | 9,262,000 (12.8%) |
| Average Cost of Meal | \$3.59 |
| Annual Food Budget Shortfall | \$21,466,234,000 |
| Population of USA (July 1, 2022 Census) | 334,914,895 |

NEW MEXICO

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Number of Food Insecure Persons | 285,220 (13.5%) |
| Number of Food Insecure Children | 90,490 (19.2%) |
| Average Cost of Meal | \$3.35 |
| Annual Food Budget Shortfall | \$168,875,000 |
| Population of NM (July 1, 2021 Census) | 2,109,366 |
| People Living in Poverty | 364,725 (18%) |
| • NM ranks 3 rd in poverty of the 50 states | |
| Children Living in Poverty | 105,030 (24%) |
| • NM ranks 3 rd in childhood poverty of the 50 states | |

Why are New Mexicans Food Insecure?

The **leading causes of food insecurity** in America cited in order of frequency in studies by the *Food Research and Action Center* are:

1. unemployment
2. underemployment
3. low-paying jobs
4. high housing costs
5. medical or health costs
6. homelessness
7. poverty or lack of income
8. substance abuse
9. mental health problems
10. reduced public benefits
11. child care costs
12. limited life skills

Here is what The Food Depot is doing in San Miguel County:



Partner Agencies

Strong partnerships with independent nonprofits and churches connect The Food Depot to diverse communities and provide nutritious foods directly to families. These organizations include churches, shelters, community centers, soup kitchens, emergency pantries, college campuses, transitional or supported living programs, and more.

Agencies receive support from The Food Depot in pursuing their hunger relief goals, including site visits, technical assistance, educational opportunities, and resources for clients. The Food Depot's ability to acquire, store, and deliver food to each partner agency enables organizations to focus time and resources on their primary mission. **Many agencies provide a multitude of wraparound services along with hunger-relief efforts.**

Partner Agencies in San Miguel

- Bernal Community Center
- Comedor de San Pascual
- El Valle Community Center
- Las Vegas Community Soup Kitchen
- Luna Community College
- Samaritan House
- Sunrise Kiwanis - Food for Thought Project
- Victory Life Church

IN 2023, THE FOOD DEPOT DISTRIBUTED:

1,007,352 Pounds =



839,460 Meals

Diaper Depot

Diaper Depot provides families with a one-week supply of diapers and wipes once a month in sizes ranging from newborn to six. **Diaper Depot distributes diapers through The Food Depot and more than a dozen partner agencies.** Access to diapers improves the health of babies, reduces parental stress, and gives families the ability to divert household income towards other essential needs.

Diaper Depot Partners

- Bernal Community Center
- Samaritan House - Las Vegas
- Victory Life - Las Vegas

Mobile Food Pantries

Mobile Food Pantries provide easy access to groceries to Northern New Mexico's rural towns and villages.

At every Mobile Food Pantry distribution, a truck delivers a variety of healthy foods to a central community location, such as a fire station, community center, or church.

Local leaders, all volunteers, take time to build healthy food boxes for their community and organize the distribution. Mobile Food Pantries not only provide nutritious food, but also give community members the chance

to fellowship with one another. These distributions are designed without the need for long-term storage. All food is delivered and distributed the day of the Mobile Food Pantry.

Food 4 Pets

The Food Depot's Food 4 Pets program provides a **supplemental supply of dog and/or cat food to clients who come to Mobile Food Pantry sites each month.** Families pick up pet food with pantry staples and produce, so everyone in the family has access to appropriate and nutritious foods.

Food 4 Pets Partners

- Pecos MFP
- Bernal Community Center



Mobile Food Pantries in San Miguel

- Las Vegas
- Pecos

