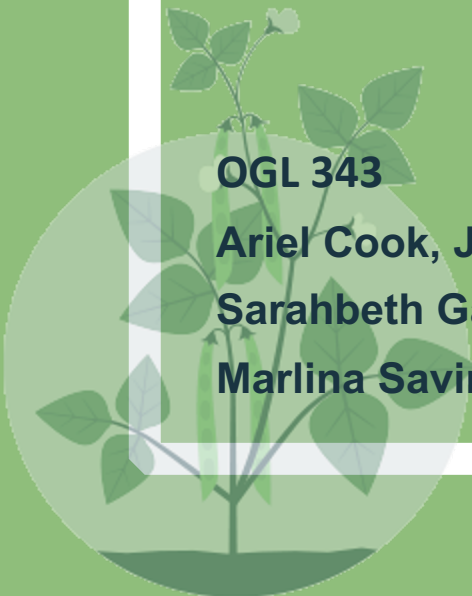


# Food Insecurity: San Antonio, Texas

**OGL 343**

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# Overview

- ❑ **What is Food Insecurity?**
  - ❑ **How is San Antonio, Texas impacted?**
  - ❑ **Food insecurity & Covid - 19**
- ❑ **Feeding America**
  - ❑ **Food insecurity Report Briefs**
  - ❑ **Map The Meal Gap**
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# What is Food Insecurity



## Food insecurity in San Antonio.

**Food Insecurity** is not being able to have access to quality nutritious food at times or/and lack of food to feed each person in your household because of not being economically able or not having the resources.

Food insecurity does affect mainly low income families, but also partly due to chronic sickness, location, unemployment and affordable housing. Food Insecurity doesn't have a face it can affect anyone.

## Currently impact with Covid-19

- **Food Banks**- Higher demands in food banks due to Covid the families needing assistance has doubled. The food banks needing more volunteers.
- **Children**-In San Antonio most households with children were living with food insecurity before the Pandemic, now due to COVID-19 the estimated number is 18 million. Even more now with kids attending classes remotely from home.
- **Military families**-Some got less hours or were let go from their jobs, which led them to be dependent on the food bank.

# Feeding America



## Brief of who the organization is and its purpose...

Feeding America is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1979 with the mission to end hunger within the country. As stated on their website, their mission is to end hunger for the millions of people that suffer from food insecurity. In a country where so much food goes to waste every day, it is shocking to think that there are still hungry people. Feeding America has made it their goal to end hunger one day at a time and eventually reach the point where no one is hungry anymore. Feeding America has made it their goal that they can end hunger one day at a time and eventually reach the point where no one is hungry anymore. They are now the largest hunger-relief organization within the United States.



# Food Insecurity Brief Reports

## What is it and how does the research help with Map the Meal Gap?

Food Insecurity Brief summarizes food insecurity based on current populations, unemployment, poverty, homeownership, and other demographic variables

publicly available. Feeding America's mission to end hunger through a quantifiable and data-driven approach generated four types of community-level reports to assist in Mapping the Meal Gap. Those reports consist of overall food-insecurity estimates, child food-insecurity estimates, average meal costs, and food budget shortfalls.



# Map the Meal Gap

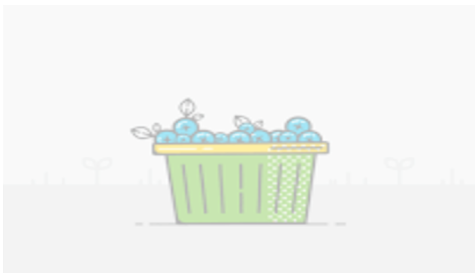
## What is map the meal gap?

Map the Meal Gap aims to initiate data-driven conversations and insights about the reality of food insecurity in the United States and lay the foundation for evidence-based initiatives, strategies, and actions to address it.

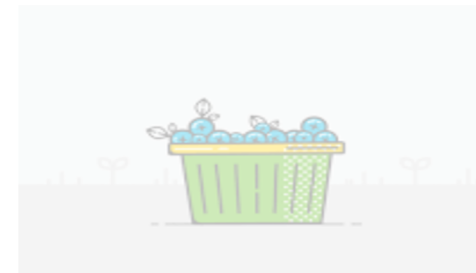
### San Antonio, Texas

The food insecurity rate in San Antonio, more specifically, Bexar county, is 13.9%. That's 270,950 people who are experiencing food insecurity. The average meal cost is \$2.78. The additional money required to meet food needs is \$128,970,000





# San Antonio Food Bank: Farmers Markets



## What is the San Antonio Food Bank Farmers Market?

- The Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) allows qualified participants to buy nutritious fruits and vegetables using FMNP vouchers from participating Farmers Market Associations to improve their diets.
- The program promotes the routine consumption of healthy and fresh produce from Farmers Markets as a part of the daily diet of families and individuals we serve.
- Provides resources to WIC participants and seniors that qualify in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally-grown fruits, vegetables, and culinary herbs from farmers markets.
- Increases the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by helping develop or expand domestic farmers markets.

## Why are these Farmers Markets so important?

- Offer affordable and healthy food options to seniors, moms and young women which assist to live a more healthy life and set a standard of health for their families on an affordable budget/voucher program
- The program is already in place and supported by local governments
- Give support to local farmers and businesses to help in community financial gains

## Criteria for Senior Vouchers SFMNP:

- Seniors 60+ (income eligibility required)

## Eligible WIC clients include:

- Pregnant Women
- Breastfeeding Women
- Postpartum Women
- Children ages 1-4

## Voucher Program Details:

- Last day to obtain vouchers: September 30
- Vouchers expire October 31st
- We are unable to replace lost or stolen vouchers
- Products that are eligible to be purchased with vouchers are fruits and vegetables and honey for senior vouchers (please reference here for more details)

# Conclusion

Team 3 explored food insecurity within the greater San Antonio area. We defined food insecurity and explained what organizations like Feeding America do to combat food insecurity. We described how the pandemic related to Coronavirus 19 had exasperated an already affected community. Unemployment associated with the pandemic has increased the number of households dependent on local governmental resources. As discussed, The San Antonio Food Bank farmers market is our best bet at supporting already impacted communities.



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