

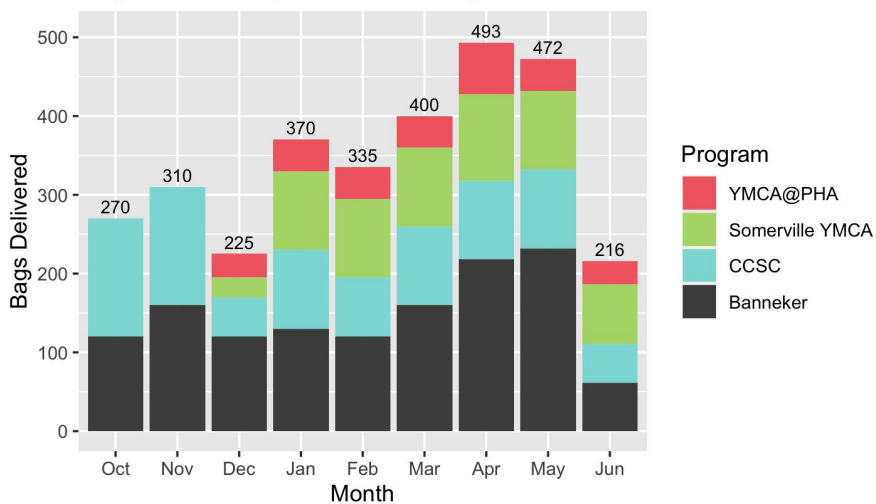
Food For Free Weekend Backpack Program Mockup Report

Food For Free's Weekend Backpack Program sends food home with K-8 students on Fridays to ensure access to healthy food over the weekend. Food bags contain 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, healthy snacks, fruits, and vegetables. These weekend bags are equivalent to meals provided by schools during the week.



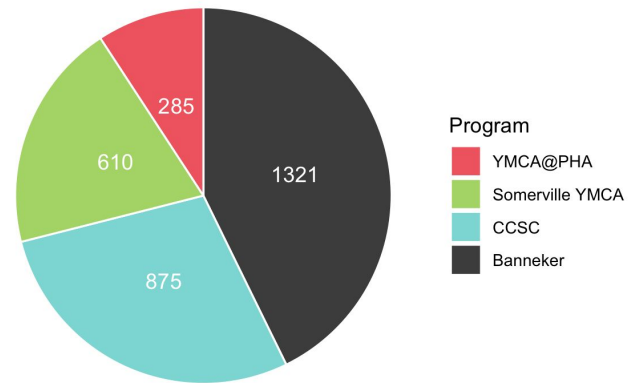
3,091 total meal bags delivered

Bags Delivered per Month during 2020-21 School Year



- Demand for the Weekend Backpack Programs grew throughout the **COVID-19** school year.
- Meal bags were given out for 34 weeks of the school year, with an average of approximately 91 bags (or 364 total meals) per week.

Bags Delivered per Program during 2020-21 School Year



The 4 programs were located at:

- YMCA at Prospect Hill Academy Charter School (Y@PHA)
- Somerville YMCA
- Community Charter School of Cambridge (CCSC)
- Benjamin Banneker Charter Public School

Child food insecurity increased by 102% in Massachusetts from 2018 to 2020, the largest percent increase in the country.

Source: *The Impact of the Coronavirus on Food Insecurity in 2020*, Feeding America

Gift cards were given in lieu of meal bags for winter vacation

There were fewer meal bag deliveries due to school vacation; gift cards were also distributed.

June is the last month of the school year, and programs began closing in early to mid June.

Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun



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[Testimonial placeholder]

- “The coronavirus has caused food insecurity among children to rise 117% in Eastern Massachusetts so that now 1 in 5 children live in a home that is food insecure. This is the highest percentage increase for a food bank service area in the country!”
<https://www.gbfb.org/2021/01/19/food-insecurity-across-eastern-massachusetts-at-an-all-time-high/>
- “Massachusetts has seen a 59 percent rise in food insecurity since 2018, the highest rate of increase in the nation.”
https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/03/02/magazine/pandemic-revealed-our-food-system-is-broken-we-can-fix-it/?p1=BGSearch_Overlay_Results
- “As of December 2020, 1 in 6 households and 1 in 5 households with children across the Commonwealth were food insecure.”
https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/06/03/opinion/food-insecurity-is-decrease-return-normal-is-not-an-option/?p1=BGSearch_Overlay_Results
- “And in November, a study by Feeding America showed that Massachusetts had the country’s highest percent increase of residents facing food insecurity — that the hunger rate had increased by 59 percent since 2018 and that one in five children in Massachusetts were living in food-insecure households, an increase of 102 percent.”
https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/06/24/metro/survey-finds-significant-food-insecurity-among-massachusetts-families/?p1=BGSearch_Overlay_Results
- “The child food-insecurity rate has also worsened, with one in five children in Massachusetts now living in food-insecure households, a 102 percent increase over pre-COVID-19 levels.”
https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/11/05/business/study-million-people-mass-dont-have-enough-food/?p1=Article_Inline_Text_Link&p1=Article_Inline_Text_Link
- https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/Brief_Local%20Impact_10.2020_0.pdf

Table 2. Areas with the highest 2020 food insecurity projections due to COVID-19

Highest Projected:	State		County		Congressional District	
	Overall	Children	Overall	Children	Overall	Children
Food insecurity rate	Mississippi (22.6%)	Nevada/Louisiana (32.3%)	Jefferson County, MS (36.8%)	Kusilvak Census Area, Alaska (56.9%)	Michigan’s 13 th District (29.3%)	New York’s 15 th District (43.9%)
Increase to the number of people in food insecure households	California (1.9 million)	California (864,100)	Los Angeles County, CA (614,760)	Los Angeles County, CA (271,290)	Nevada’s 3 rd District (61,720)	Nevada’s 4 th District (26,890)
Total number of people in food insecure households	California (6.2 million)	California (2.2 million)	Los Angeles County, CA (1.8 million)	Los Angeles County, CA (613,540)	New York’s 15 th District (215,690)	New York’s 15 th District (88,270)
Percent increase in the food insecurity rate	Massachusetts (59%)	Massachusetts (102%)	Kendall County, IL (93%)	Norfolk County, MA (163%)	New York’s 3 rd District (96%)	Michigan’s 11 th District (183%)

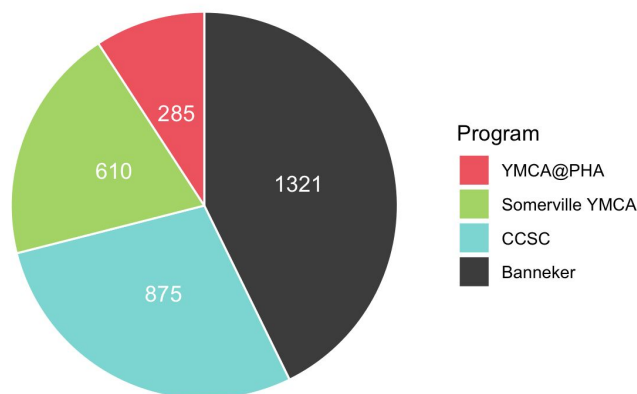
Food For Free Weekend Backpack Program Mockup Report

Weekend Backpack Programs send food home discreetly on Fridays to ensure students are well fed over the weekend and can come in Monday mornings, ready to learn.

Bags typically contain 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and some healthy snacks. These are the meals that students would have access to in a typical school day.

[Image + testimonial placeholder]

Bags Delivered per Program during 2020-21 Academic Year



The 4 programs were located at:

- YMCA at Prospect Hill Academy
- Somerville YMCA
- Community Charter School of Cambridge
- Benjamin Banneker Charter Public School



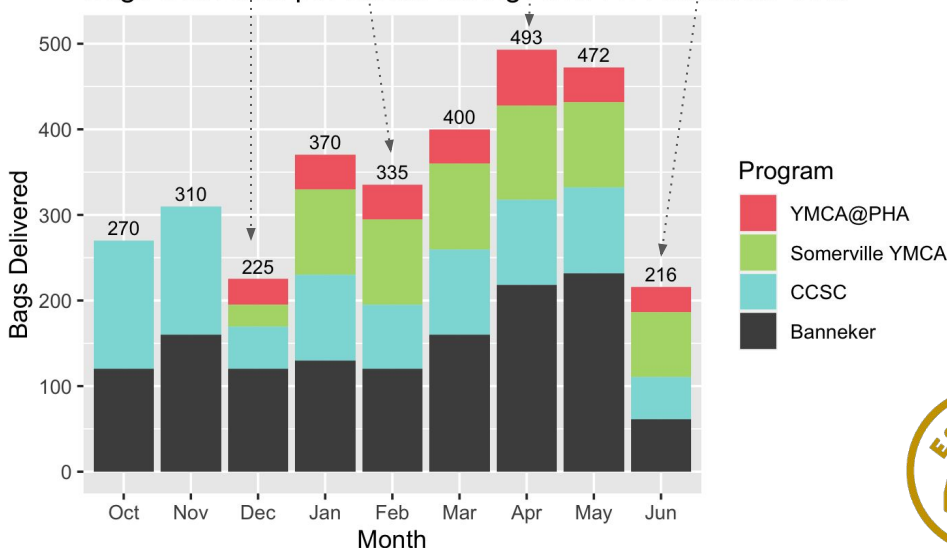
3,091 total meal bags delivered

"Massachusetts has seen a 59 percent rise in food insecurity since 2018, the highest rate of increase in the nation"

Source: P-EBT / SNAP Survey
The MassInc Polling Group

Winter Break
February Break
April break & in-person learning resumes
End of academic year

Bags Delivered per Month during 2020-21 Academic Year



- Demand for the Weekend Backpack Programs grew throughout the school year.
- The two weeks with the highest number of meal bags distributed were the week of May 28th and June 4th (121 bags each).
- Fewer bags were delivered during school breaks.



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