

FY25 Vermont Foodbank Request

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Vermont Foodbank



FY 2025 Requests

The Vermont Foodbank (VF) is seeking a total of \$5 million dollars in base funding in FY25 to address the sustained, increased need for access to food in communities throughout Vermont.

1. **\$2.5 million in base funding is being requested of through the Agriculture budget and of this committee** for the purpose of contracting for, purchasing, and distributing Vermont-grown and produced food to provide charitable food to people in Vermont, improving access to nourishing local Vermont-produced foods and enhancing food security for people with low incomes in Vermont.
2. An additional **\$2.5 million in base funding is being requested of the Human Services committee** to improve food, food access, and supports that improve food security for people with low incomes in Vermont.

Purchased Food

IMPACT

More Than



12.6 Million Pounds
of Food Distributed
in 2023

More Than



300 Vermont Farms
Supported Through
Purchasing & Gleaning

More Than



\$2.3 Million
Stayed in the Local
Economy in FY23

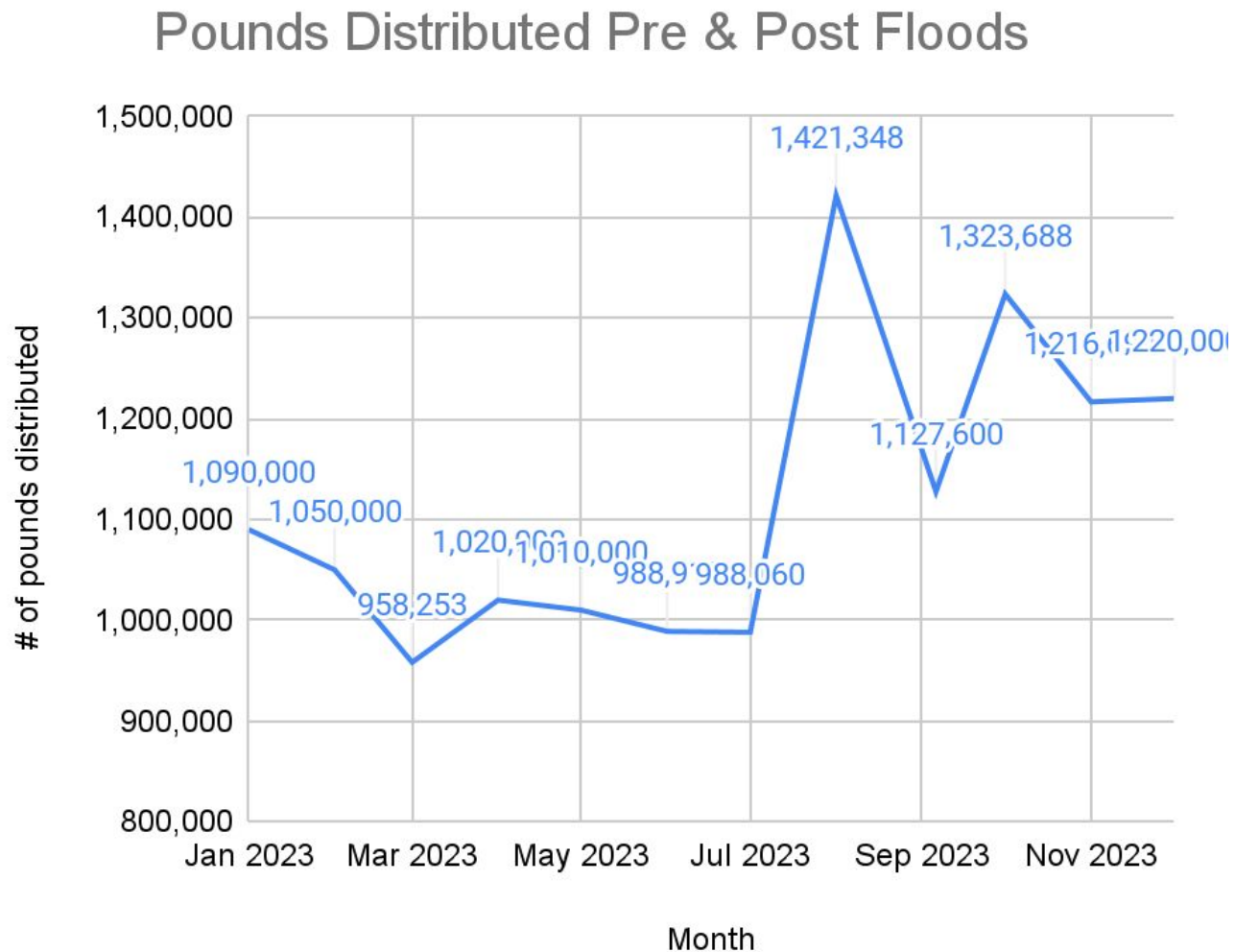
Why is this support needed?

- **In the past year, several issues have impacted the food security of people in Vermont and the financial security of Vermont farms**
 - **The end of SNAP Emergency Allotments** means that many people with low incomes have lost benefits that were helping them to access food and also makes it harder to afford local food.
 - **In turn, put additional pressure on the charitable food system**
 - **Flooding exacerbated difficult conditions** for many neighbors who were already struggling after pandemic disruptions to their lives
 - **Flooding also drastically impacted farms**
 - **Many of the support systems** that were in place during and following the pandemic **have ended**
 - **The Foodbank and our partners need support now to address the immediate needs of our neighbors, while working to create longer term solutions to food and economic insecurity**

What we know - pounds distributed

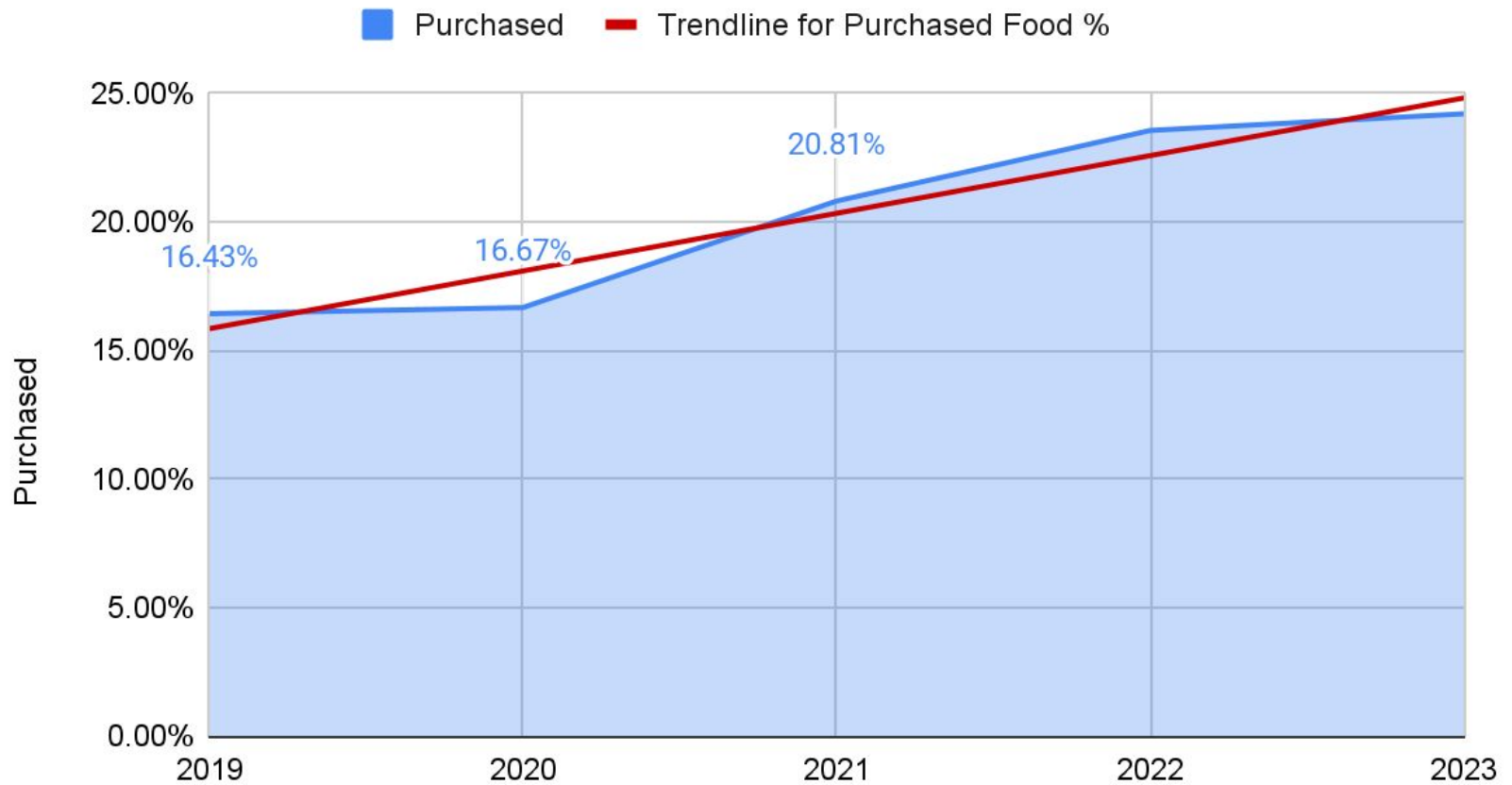
In August, The Vermont Foodbank distributed 1.42 million pounds of food - a 40% increase over the previous months.

Demand has stayed high, averaging 1.29 million pound a month since August. The last time monthly numbers were that high was in 2021.



% of Purchased Food has Increased

Purchased Food as % of Total Pounds Distributed



FY 2025 Requests

\$2.5 million in base funding is being requested of through the support of this committee for the purpose of contracting for, purchasing, and distributing Vermont-grown and produced food to provide charitable food to people in Vermont, improving access to nourishing local Vermont-produced foods and enhancing food security for people with low incomes in Vermont while *ALSO* supporting the economic security of Vermont farms and farmers.

Thank you for your time.

