

Tarrant Area Food Bank Background



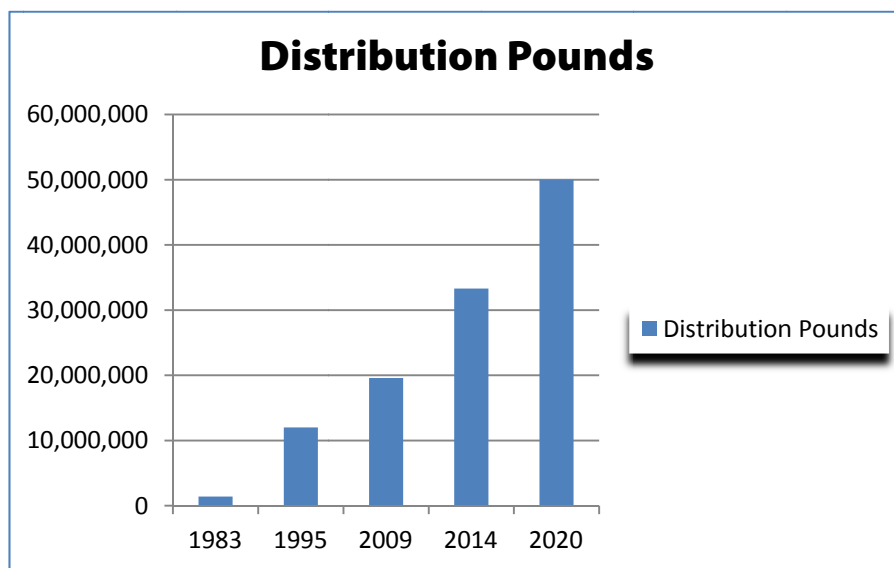
BUILDING TO FEED COMMUNITIES

Overview Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB) was founded in 1981-82 by a group of Fort Worth leaders interested in collecting surplus edible food from grocery retailers and wholesalers to give to social service charities and churches feeding families in need.

Today, the Food Bank is part of a community-wide safety net catching dependent children, senior citizens on fixed incomes, minimum-wage workers with families, adults with chronic illnesses or disabilities that prohibit them from working, and adults who are temporarily or long-term unemployed or underemployed.

The growing need for food assistance is reflected in the increasing amount of food distributed by TAFB over the past three decades and by the increasing number of households provided groceries and prepared meals by the TAFB network of partner charities.

Food Distribution



Households Served

Monthly Average Number of Households Provided Groceries*

1983:	4,000 Households per Month
1995:	6,300
2009:	36,500
2014:	53,000

*Does not include prepared meals or snacks served in children's feeding programs, senior centers, soup kitchens and shelters served by TAFB.

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TAFB Facility **Tarrant Area Food Bank changed its operations and facility as** the number of people struggling with hunger grew and the kind of food preferred by consumers and thus donated by the food industry gradually changed from primarily nonperishables to predominately fresh and frozen products.

- 1989: Moved from a 13,000-sq.ft. warehouse to 2600 Cullen Street, a 77,000-sq.ft. office and warehouse facility, of which today over 69,000 square feet is warehouse space.
- 2001: Built a second cooler, almost doubling refrigerated warehouse space.
- 2005: Built a second warehouse freezer, 2-stories high, more than doubling freezer capacity to 442 pallets, or approximately 946,000 pounds of food.
- 2015: Mid-year, projected to move most program and administrative staff into the new Dorothy and Norman M. Kronick Building and thus make space for reconfiguring the warehouse for greater efficiency.
- 2016: Once the funds for the warehouse improvements have been raised, construction will begin to turn offices into warehouse space, relocate coolers and the interior freezer to sit along the perimeter walls and reconfigure racking for temporary storage of food. In addition, the Quality Control area will be expanded to better accommodate the many volunteers who sort, inspect and assemble boxes of food for distribution to pantries and other partner charities of TAFB. A sophisticated warehouse management system and a climate control system will also be installed.

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