



**All Persons Have The
Right To Be Free From
Hunger**

OREGON HUNGER TASK FORCE

Creating Policies for a Hunger-Free Oregon

The Oregon Hunger Task Force



The Oregon Hunger Task Force was created by the State Legislature in **1989** to act as a resource within government and as a statewide advocate for Oregonians who are hungry or at risk of hunger.

When the Task Force was created, Oregon was ranked one of the highest states in the nation for hunger, and the legislature declared in [ORS 458.530](#) that

“All persons have the right to be free from hunger.”

Nothing good happens when you're hungry



SAFETY NET FOR SAFETY NETS



**BENEFIT
REDUCTIONS** 

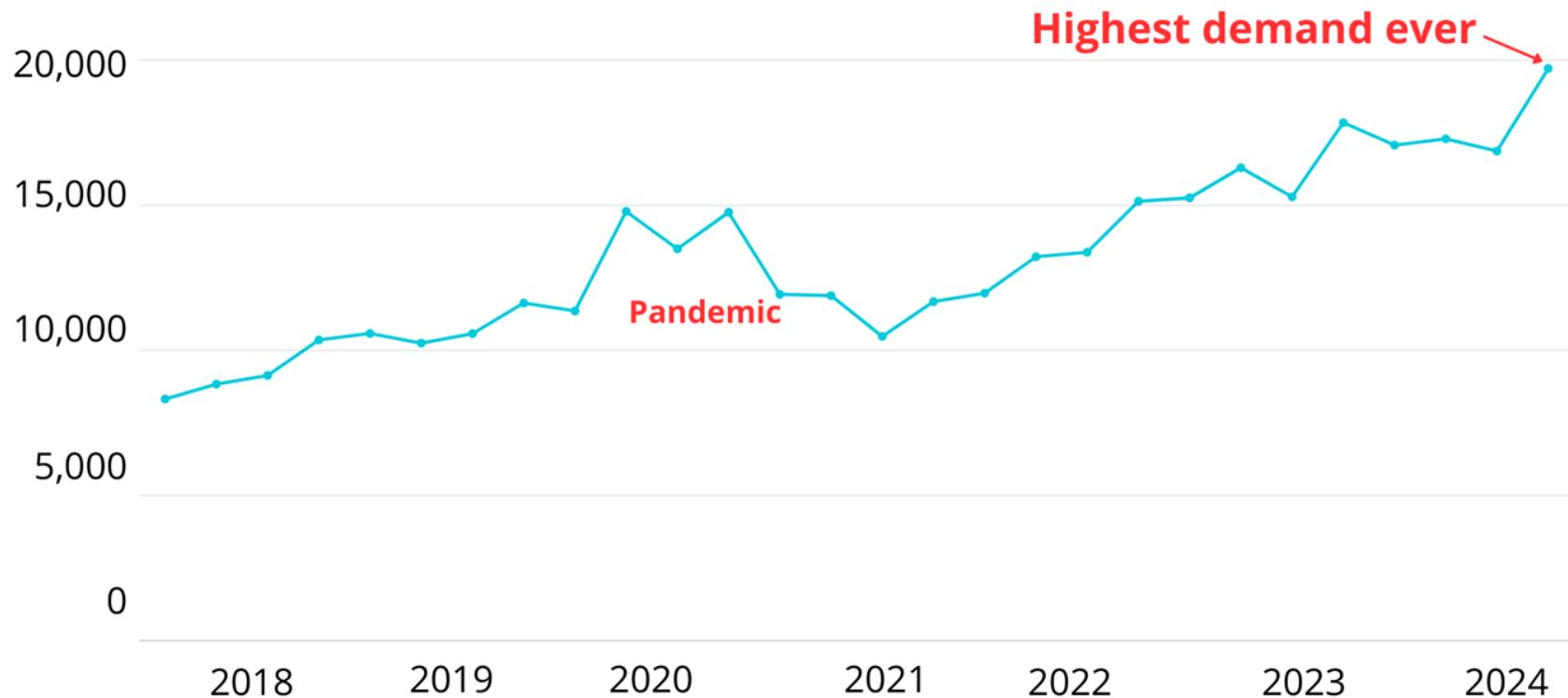
**BENEFIT
REDUCTIONS** 

**EXPIRED &
NOT RENEWED** 

FOOD BANKS

AVERAGE MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD PANTRY VISITS

January 2018 - October 2024



Roadmap To End Hunger

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Roadmap to End Hunger 2025-2027



2025 Policy Recommendations



- School Meals For All
- Food For All Oregonians
- Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act
- Continuation of Funding for Existing Food Programs

2025 Policy Recommendations



School Meals for All

Nourished Kids, Healthy Futures



- As many as 1 in 6 Oregon children experience food insecurity
- School meals are a critical intervention to prevent food insecurity, increase academic performance, and decrease in-school suspensions.
- Some schools in Oregon continue to operate a “Paid vs. Free” meal program, which results in far fewer meals being served, increased food insecurity, a negative stigma attached to school meals.

2025 Policy Recommendations



School Meals for All

Nourished Kids, Healthy Futures



- Create a permanent, statewide, and fully funded School Meals for All program.
- Ensure participating schools meet the strongest available federal nutrition guidelines
- Ensure schools have the equipment necessary to effectively implement the program
- Ensure that families in districts that participate in the program will not have to pay existing school meal debts

2025 Policy Recommendations



- No one should be denied food assistance simply because of where we were born
- Oregonians who are Latinx and Pacific Islander are twice as likely to experience hunger
- Five other states have state-funded food assistance programs based on immigration status, but not Oregon (yet!)

2025 Policy Recommendations



Food for All Oregonians will:

- Create a state-funded program that eliminates immigration-based exclusions to SNAP
 - Bill in 2025 focuses on youth and elders
- Make applying for assistance more welcoming
- Reduce hunger in communities across Oregon

2025 Policy Recommendations



Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act



- 63% of Oregon community college students, identified as food insecure, housing insecure or homeless.
- Last year, Benefits Navigators served 15,787 students, a 43% increase compared to the number of students served in fiscal year 2023.
- A survey of Oregon State University students that asked about textbook affordability found that: 61% of students do not purchase their textbooks because of high costs; 44.5% took fewer classes, 18% dropped classes, and 14% withdrew from a course.

*https://saragoldrickrab.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Oregon_Community_Colleges_2019_RealColle-1.pdf

2025 Policy Recommendations

Budget Requests Continued from Previous Biennium



- Continued funding for the SNAP incentives program Double Up Food Bucks that assists participants in improving their
- Continued funding for the Farm to School program.
- One time investments for local food pantries to make essential infrastructure improvement to truly serve their communities for years to come.

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