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ATLANTA COMMUNITY FOOD BANK SHARES LATEST GEORGIA HUNGER FACTS

ATLANTA, GA (July 1, 2020) — As a member of [Feeding America](#), the largest hunger relief organization in the United States, the [Atlanta Community Food Bank](#) has access to essential hunger studies and resources that prove vital to making accurate assessments about food insecurity and how to meet those needs on a local level. Recently, the Food Bank shared updates from a yearly state hunger report which indicate Georgia's latest food insecurity projections for 2020.

This year, Feeding America's tenth annual food insecurity study, "Map the Meal Gap," was supplemented by a companion study, which factored in the COVID-19 variable and its potential impact on Georgia's food insecurity.

Pre-pandemic, Georgia had an estimated 1.32 million people, including 405,380 children, who did not have adequate access to enough nutritious food to live a healthy life. However, in 2020 this number is likely to grow by 550,000 people, including 234,700 children. That means approximately 1.87 million people may experience food insecurity in 2020, including 640,080 children. Note that this assumes the state-wide annualized unemployment rate of 11.4% and a 4.8% increase in poverty rate.

For the Atlanta Community Food Bank's ongoing mission to build communities free of hunger, the report shows that throughout the Food Bank's 29 county service area of 6.4 million, general population food insecurity is expected to increase by 47%. Food insecurity rates for children are expected to increase 66% from pre-pandemic estimates, with 1 in 4 children in the Food Bank's service area likely to experience food insecurity.

Three Georgia counties in the Food Bank's service area are expected to see the greatest increase in food insecurity: Spalding at 21.6% for adults and 32.4% for children, Butts at 21% for adults and 32.4% for children and Clayton at 20.6% for adults and 29.3% for children.



“Every person touched by food insecurity is potentially at risk of its harmful effects, and hunger is an especially damaging experience for children,” said [Kyle Waide](#), President and CEO of Atlanta Community Food Bank. “Our service area is expected to see a 66% rise in child hunger rates as a result of the current economic conditions. With this report we’re getting a very clear picture of the work to be done. Clearly the need is growing, and our future strategies will need to effectively accommodate the anticipated growth.”

Atlanta Community Food Bank offers a variety of ways to get involved in hunger relief efforts. There’s something for everyone - from events and volunteering to advocacy and education. To learn more about the Food Bank visit www.acfb.org.

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About Atlanta Food Community Bank

The Atlanta Community Food Bank works to end hunger with the food, people and big ideas needed to ensure our neighbors have the nourishment to lead healthy and productive lives. Far too many people in our own community experience hunger every day, including children, seniors and working families. Through more than 700 nonprofit partners, we help more than 755,000 people get healthy food every year. Our goal is that all hungry people across metro Atlanta and North Georgia will have access to the nutritious meals they need when they need them. It takes the power of our whole community to make that possible. Join us at ACFB.org.