



factsheet

WAREHOUSE

Overview

Our primary function is to distribute massive amounts of food to hunger relief charities. The Houston Food Bank receives, sorts, stores and distributes donated and purchased food and government commodities.

Receiving

Food Sources include retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers, growers and the USDA community. Food is weighed and entered electronically into our system; thus giving our agencies a real-time inventory to shop. The product is then stored on our shelves until it's distributed. At any given time the warehouse holds approximately twelve million pounds of perishable and nonperishable items; food is held for an average of 19 days after it is received, before it reaches the agency's shelves.

Product Recovery Area

Ten percent of the product received requires processing: cleaned and sorted. Through the Pantry Select project, volunteers work product (dry, frozen and refrigerated) donated to the Food Bank to ensure it meets appropriate safety guidelines. All product is separated into various categories prior to distribution. Volunteers age 16 and up may work in Pantry Select.

Repack

Volunteers repack beans and rice from 2,000 pound containers into 2.25 pound family size bags. Volunteers also sort food drive and other product. Special needs volunteers, children under 16 and others can work in this area and experience the Food Bank.

Distribution

In FY '15, Houston Food Bank distributed 74 million nutritious meals via the warehouse, kitchen and SNAP meals; our warehouse pulls almost 2,065 orders every month. Forty-five per cent of our 600 partner agencies picked up food at our dock, Monday through Saturday, while 54% of those agencies receive food distributed by our fleet over a 15,000 square mile area.

Transportation

Our fleet comprises ten tractors, eleven refrigerated trailers, twenty-two refrigerated bobtails, two pick-ups with refrigerated boxes, nine mobile pantries, two mini-trailers, ten unrefrigerated 53' trailers, and one 33' Kraft mobile pantry truck. Each tractor is equipped with GPS tracking to streamline our delivery process.

HFB Main Warehouse (sq ft)

- Dry storage: 110,000
- Coolers: 29,400
- Freezers: 30,000
- Dry Dock: 8,919
- Space to store 15,000 pallets

By the Numbers

- An average pallet weighs 1,500 pounds
- A 45' – 53' trailer can hold 20 to 26 pallets
- HFB warehouse is 308,000 sq. ft.

A gift of \$1 provides 3 meals for a hungry child, senior or adult | houstonfoodbank.org/donatenow

Main Warehouse • 535 Portwall • Houston, Texas • 77029 • 713 223 3700

houstonfoodbank.org

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