

# RESEARCH NOTE

**#PARG 2025-50RN** 

## **Food Banks Finances in Canada**

Overview

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September 2025

#### Introduction

Poverty remains a serious problem for communities across Canada (National Advisory Council on Poverty, 2022). Typically, if the general population expects the federal, provincial and municipal governments to engage in welfare provisions and alleviate poverty, several solutions may be noted which fall outside of government initiatives. Food banks illustrate such an alternative strategy. They focus on one area connected to poverty, namely fighting food insecurity nationally. However, they are by no means a permanent solution to address hunger. Few studies (Charity Intelligence Canada, 2025) examine the Canadian scene of food banks.

The purpose of this study is to examine the financial information of selected food banks registered charities in major Canadian cities, across Canadian provinces / territories, including their national / provincial associations. This is part of a mapping exercise to offer an overview of the situation and the ecosystem in the country (See Appendix A for a list of the research notes).

Overall, the study aims to better understand the philanthropic sector of food banks through the following research questions:

- RQ1) How many food banks exist in Canada and how many registered charities operate a food bank in Canada?
- RQ2) Who are the national / provincial food banks associations in Canada?
- RQ3) What are the food banks in major cities in Canada?
- RQ4) What are the finances of the national / provincial associations and food banks in major cities in Canada?





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This research note summarizes some general information regarding food banks in Canada. It is important to underline that it is not exhaustive. The note outlines the context of poverty, food insecurity, and food banks as a potential strategy and emergency response. It also details the methodology employed, includes a brief description of the national and provincial food bank associations, and lists the research notes in the series concerning food banks.

## Methodology

The methodology section describes the selection of Canadian food banks and the data collection. A data-driven method was used to identify and analyze the food banks serving Canada's largest urban areas in each of the provinces.

#### Selection of Canadian food banks

Figure A illustrates the steps in the selection of Canadian food banks used in this research.

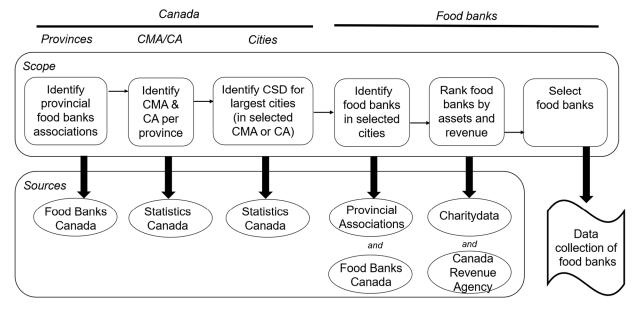


Figure A - Selection of Canadian Food Banks

Note: CMA = Census metropolitan areas; CA = Census agglomerations; CSD = Census subdivisions

#### National / Provincial associations

To identify the provincial food banks associations, the national organization's (Food Banks Canada) website was used. Food Banks Canada has a network of 10 provincial associations. No territories are listed as a member of the network. Therefore, territories are not specifically examined in the research note series, except in some tables. Table 1 shows the national and provincial associations.







Table 1 – National and Provincial Associations

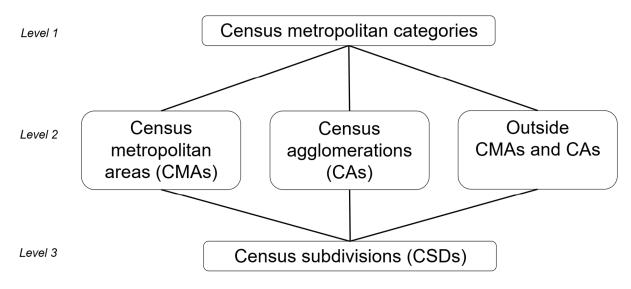
| Province                  |     | Association   |
|---------------------------|-----|---|
| Canada (National)         | CAN | Food Banks Canada / Banques alimentaires Canada       |
| British Columbia          | ВС  | Food Banks BC   |
| Alberta                   | AB  | Food Banks Alberta                                    |
| Saskatchewan              | SK  | Food Banks of Saskatchewan                            |
| Manitoba                  | MB  | Harvest Manitoba                                      |
| Ontario                   | ON  | Feed Ontario  |
| Québec                    | QC  | Banques alimentaires du Québec / Food Banks of Quebec |
| New Brunswick             | NB  | Food Depot Alimentaire                                |
| Nova Scotia               | NS  | Feed Nova Scotia                                      |
| Prince Edward Island      | PE  | P.E.I. Association of Food Banks                      |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | NL  | Community Food Sharing Association                    |

Source: Food Banks Canada (2025a)

## Main cities (CMA / CA)

To identify the main cities for each province, Statistics Canada concepts were used. (See Figure B for Standard Geographical Classification Hierarchy of those concepts) Concepts used were the Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA), the Census Agglomerations (CA) and the Census subdivisions (CSD) from Statistics Canada (see Brouard, Litalien and Brown (2023) for more details on definitions).

Figure B – Standard Geographical Classification Hierarchy



Source: Statistics Canada (2021)





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Our approach proceeds by listing all CMAs and CAs in a province and then choose the largest CMAs / CAs. Largest cities in a province are subsequently identified as CMAs for larger provinces or as CAs for smaller provinces (without any CMA) and are based on the 2021 population data from Statistics Canada.

## Largest cities in selected CMA or CA

To capture the various cities included in a CMA / CA, Census subdivisions (CSDs) were identified and used. Within a CMA / CA, all the CSDs are then listed in descending order of their population. CSDs are based on the 2021 population data from Statistics Canada. This allows us to make sure that the various cities (towns, villages, etc.) were included in the following search. Usually, the central or main food bank exist within a CMA / CA with the CSD cities with the highest population. From the largest CMA or CA, selected cities were chosen. The selection was based to get a representation of the main and largest cities (CMA / CA) in a province.

#### Food banks in selected cities

To identify the food banks in selected cities, various methods were used depending on the search engines at the provincial level. Some search engines of national / provincial associations exist to find specific food banks in an area (for example, Food Banks Canada, 2025e; Food Banks BC, 2025a). A list of food banks was prepared, making sure that the major subdivisions (CSD) are included within a CMA / CA. However, those food banks may be a central distributor or a local distributor.

As financial data are available from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for registered charities, the research focus on registered charities only. Additionally, many large food banks are likely registered charities, since the donors will benefit from the tax advantages associated with charitable donations tax treatment (see Brouard, 2023).

All food banks identified within a specific CMA / CA are searched on the Charitydata Website or the Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA) T3010 database, to verify if they are registered charities. The leading registered charities operating a food bank in that CMA / CA are subsequently ranked based on a combination of highest levels of assets and revenue. Additional information is added to the table, such as the city, the CRA registration number, and the year of most recent financial information available. The objective is to sort out the food banks and find the largest ones for data collection.





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#### Data collection

Figure C illustrates the data collection. The scope of the study covers the information regarding provinces, cities, provincial associations and selected food banks. Information collected could be separated in three groups, namely contextual information on a province or a city, financial information and "other information".

Scope **Provinces** Cities Information on provincial associations Information on selected food banks Contextual information Financial information (5 years) Other information Financial Financial details Basic Situation in and Description information a province summary (vision, mission) Assets / Property Poverty Liabilities Report Card Revenue Situation Expenditures in a city Compensation **Employees** Sources Provincial Canada Food Banks organization Charitydata Associations Revenue Canada website Agency literature

Figure C – Data Collection Regarding Canadian Food Banks

## Contextual information on a province or a city

The situation in a province or in a city provides some general context in the relevant setting. The sources of information are mainly provincial associations, Food Banks Canada and literature (newspapers articles, reports, websites). Poverty Report Cards prepared by Food Banks Canada add additional information on the strengths and weaknesses of a specific province. Score for 2023 and 2024 are presented to show the situation and the recent changes.

Poverty Report Card provides poverty index score at the national and provincial level. Four sections (experience of poverty, poverty measures, material deprivation, legislative progress) and 13 indicators are included in the report cards (Food Banks Canada, 2024a, 2024b, 2024d). The grade scale ranges from an F to an A+ (12 increments) for an overall score and for each section. Like university grades, A+ is the best grade and F is a failure.







## Financial information

Financial information was obtained through T3010. The T3010 is the *Registered Charity Information Return* that all registered charities operating in Canada are required to file annually (Brouard, 2023). Schedule 6 of the T3010 provides rich information on a charity's assets, liabilities, revenue, expenditures, and compensation.

Two sources are used to obtain T3010 data: Charitydata (2025) and Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) (2025). A comparison of both sources is available in Blumberg (2020).

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) (2025) is the official repository of T3010 with the most recent years, but only the last five years are made available. Each year must be viewed individually by section and schedule, with the limitation that the dataset offers no download capabilities for any specific charity. The CRA's advanced search engine therefore offers limited capabilities, despite offering up-to-date data.

Charitydata (2025) is the largest free charity data research tool in Canada, developed and maintained by the law firm Blumbergs, as part of the Sean Blumberg Transparency Project. As for the T3010 data, it is available since 2003 with the most recent complete year being 2023, but with some data for 2024 at the time of collection. Unlike the CRA repository, Charitydata allows comparison of data and allows the download of data for more than 20 years in a click per group of information.

Considering the advantages of both sources (Blumberg, 2020), both were used. Charitydata was the main source to download all the years available. The most recent years were found in the CRA source, if not in Charitydata. No comparison with audited financial statements that may be available from a specific organization's website was performed. Notably, sometimes, the financial statements categories are different from the T3010 categories, providing another challenge in gathering financial information.

The five most recent years are presented in the research notes (often 2018 to 2023 or 2019 to 2024). Financial summary and/or detailed financial information (assets, property not used in charitable activities, liabilities, revenue, expenditures, compensation, number of employees) are presented depending on the organization. Financial information is associated with the code in T3010.

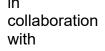
## Other information

A brief description of a food bank, including their vision and mission, is given using their website as the source of information. Basic information from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) was also collected to present registration number, status, effective date of status, type of qualified donee, designation, fiscal period end and their website.





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## Poverty, Food Insecurity, and Food Banks Solution

The context of poverty, food insecurity and possible solutions allow to insert food banks in the range of social solutions and community initiatives. This echoes the identification by the United Nations of two Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) (Brouard, 2022), namely 'no poverty' (#1) and 'zero hunger' (#2), which both aim to transform the world.

## Poverty and food insecurity

Canada does not have an official definition for poverty (Government of Canada, 2016). There is a lack of consensus in the literature on poverty measurements and definitions, even when welfare is used as a base line (Hagenaars, 1991). In the Canadian context, however, the "level of low income" is applied by the authorities (Government of Canada, 2016). Poverty is often measured by the income level and a poverty line, but it may not be the best indicator of material deprivation (Mendelson, Notten, Matern and Seer, 2024). Canada Revenue Agency (2020, #26) "accepts the Low-Income Cut-Off [LICO], the Low Income Measure [LIM], the Market Basket Measure [MBM], and the Core Need Income Threshold" as low income levels (see Statistics Canada, 2015, 2016). However, "poverty is not just a lack of income, it's a lack of education, food, health care, shelter, political inclusion, choice, safety, dignity" (United Nations, 2023, p.1).

Brouard and Litalien (2024a, 2024b) have prepared an analysis of Canadian registered charities aiming for 'Relief of poverty' as one of the four purposes of charities. As the focus is on the food banks' finances, Canada Revenue Agency (2020) may be a good source to defined poverty. "There is no complete definition of poverty in case law or in the Act [*Income Tax Act*]. So, the CRA interprets poverty and what it means to be experiencing poverty based on court cases." (Canada Revenue Agency, 2020, #2)

"Based on the court cases on the subject, the CRA's interpretation is that people experiencing poverty do not have the ability to acquire the basic necessities of life or simple amenities, which would be regarded as necessary for a modest but adequate standard of living. The courts have also agreed that poverty is a relative term and that it depends on a person's environment and individual circumstances. For example, there are wide discrepancies in income, education, and health, as well as social and economic opportunities, between and within countries. Therefore, the way that poverty is experienced in a developed country is different from that in a developing country. Differences may also exist in a geographically dispersed country such as Canada. These differences can be considered when determining who is experiencing poverty, since there is no uniform criteria." (Canada Revenue Agency, 2020, #5) Food is given as an example of one of the "basic necessities of life" (Canada Revenue Agency, 2020, #7).

Food insecurity may be defined as "a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food" (USDA, 2024). Food insecurity may or may not be with hunger. For example, "prolonged, involuntary lack of food, [can] results









in discomfort, illness, weakness, or pain that goes beyond the usual uneasy sensation." Hunger may be defined as "an individual-level physiological condition that may result from food insecurity" (USDA, 2024).

USDA (2024) distinguishes the ranges of food security and food insecurity, namely: Food security

- "High food security (old label = Food security): no reported indications of food-access problems or limitations."
- "Marginal food security (old label = Food security): one or two reported indications—typically of anxiety over food sufficiency or shortage of food in the house. Little or no indication of changes in diets or food intake."

### Food insecurity

- "Low food security (old label = Food insecurity without hunger): reports of reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet. Little or no indication of reduced food intake."
- "Very low food security (old label = Food insecurity with hunger): reports of multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake." (USDA, 2024)

"Household food insecurity is the uncertain or inadequate access to food of sufficient quantity/quality, because of financial constraints." (Ripley, 2023) Poverty and food insecurity are affecting various groups differently in society, with groups more likely to be living in low income, such as children, vulnerable groups (indigenous people, recent immigrants, people with disabilities, single parents) (Government of Canada, 2016).

"Poverty in Canada is moving through a transition. The latest data tells us that poverty is on the rise and is rising rapidly. This matches what we've seen on the frontlines at food banks, where there has been a 30 per cent increase in demand in the last year alone. However, in the first half of the past decade, between 2015 and 2020, Canada saw the most dramatic and comprehensive declines in poverty on record. In 2015, one in six Canadians (14.5 per cent) were living below the poverty line. Five years later, that figure fell to 6.4 per cent — less than half the former rate and a decline of about 66 per cent." (Food Banks Canada, 2024b)

In 2023, Food Banks Canada introduced "the country's first comprehensive poverty report to capture the nuances of provincial, territorial, and federal perspectives in one place" (Food Banks Canada, 2023, p.7). "The report and corresponding report cards are accompanied by a set of policy recommendations for each level of government, which act as a roadmap to steer the country toward a future where poverty and food insecurity are a thing of the past." (Food Banks Canada, 2023, p.7)

"This report examines the state and experience of poverty across the country and offers an analysis of poverty reduction efforts in each jurisdiction. The report not only contains an analysis of poverty in each province and territory – and a high-level federal analysis - but also contains thoroughly developed report cards based on diverse and reliable data









sources. These report cards will serve as a signal to Canadians and governments, as it enables us to assess and compare the performance of all governments in their efforts to eliminate poverty across Canada." (Food Banks Canada, 2023, p.8)

## Possible solutions regarding poverty associated with food

Lack of food is not the only factors associated with food insecurity, and it is a much more complex phenomenon, and it is associated with health, material deprivation, housing, income level (Ripley, 2023). Many possible options exist as possible solutions regarding poverty associated with food. They could be at the individual level and at the business level. Among them, we could cite a variety of examples: monetary or food donations, volunteering, picking, growing, specific production, harvesting of crops, transforming food crops, processing of animal products, supermarket recovery program, recycling consumable surplus, free low-cost meals, food vouchers / coupons, food baskets, soup kitchens, community gardens, school breakfast programs, and food banks.

#### Food banks as a solution

One of the solutions to food insecurity in society is identified as food banks. As Canadians are witnessing growing and persistent income inequality in the country (Major, 2024), providing a general portrait of food banks registered charities tax regime may be useful. Indeed, this can help to understand the areas their services cover, their capacity, and their key strategic geographic location.

However, critics caution us against seeing them as the main solution and instead invites us to look at them as an emergency or short-term solution. Critics are insisting for a more holistic and long-term structural solution, backed by government strategies and actions (Food Insecurity Policy Research, 2022; Loopstra and Lambie-Mumford, 2023; Loopstra and Tarasuk, 2015; Ripley, 2023; Tarasuk and Davis, 1996). The perspective adopted in our research notes series is limited on food banks and their finances.

Food bank may be defined in different manners:

"A food bank is a nonprofit organization that collects safe, nutritious and culturally appropriate food, and redistributes it to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity." (Tang, 2020)

"In Canada, the term "food bank" is often used to describe any cache of food designated for charitable purposes. In its most specific sense, however, the term food bank is used to describe any large-scale food recovery program that redistributes food, free of charge, to the community, usually through existing social service agencies or churches." (Bechtel, 2013)







"The term 'food bank' can refer to one of two types of service: a large redistributor[s] of rescued food to smaller charities that provide cooked and/or uncooked food to food insecure populations, or a service that provides grocery items directly to clients." (Bazerghi, McKay and Dunn, 2016, p.732)

It may be important to distinguish between food banks and food programs. The research notes distinguish food banks as central distributors (usually food banks) or as local distributors (usually food banks and/or food programs). As the study examines the largest food banks, they are mostly central distributors and are associated with local distributors.

## Number of Food Banks and Registered Charities Operating a Food Bank

Our first research question (RQ1) is: "How many food banks exist in Canada and how many registered charities operate a food bank in Canada?"

#### Number of food banks in Canada

Food Banks Canada (2025c) indicates working with "5,500 food banks and community organizations across Canada". In the HungerCount 2024 report, Food Banks Canada (2024c, p.103) mentioned that in their "network there are 10 provincial organizations; 770 affiliate food banks, with nearly 3,000 agencies included in them; and 4 direct affiliates in the 3 territories." Table 2 presents a summary of the participating food programs participating in the HungerCount 2024 survey.

Table 2 – Food programs participating in the HungerCount 2024 survey

| Table 2  |            | rairis participa | ung munc | riunger | Count 20 |                    |             |
|----------|------------|------------------|----------|---------|----------|--------------------|-------------|
| Province | # of       | # of             | Food     | Meal    | Both     | # of agencies,     | Total # of  |
|          | affiliates | organizations    | bank     | only    |          | incl. in affiliate | orgs.       |
|          |            | participating    | only     |         |          | surveys            | represented |
| BC       | 108        | 129              | 90       | 0       | 39       | 389                | 1,004       |
| AB       | 112        | 124              | 93       | 1       | 30       | 884                | 1,008       |
| SK       | 36         | 39               | 28       | 1       | 10       | 78                 | 117         |
| MB       | 1          | 12               | 10       | 1       | 1        | 389                | 401         |
| ON       | 139        | 653              | 498      | 80      | 75       | 498                | 1,151       |
| QC       | 30         | 1,342            | 345      | 495     | 502      | 0                  | 1,342       |
| NB       | 67         | 69               | 47       | 8       | 14       | 81                 | 150         |
| NS       | 137        | 136              | 87       | 34      | 15       | 94                 | 230         |
| PE       | 7          | 7                | 6        | 0       | 1        | 22                 | 29          |
| NL       | 52         | 52               | 42       | 1       | 9        | 6                  | 58          |
| NT       | 2          | 2                | 2        | 0       | 0        | 2                  | 4           |
| NU       | 1          | 0                | 0        | 0       | 0        | 0                  | 0           |
| YT       | 1          | 2                | 2        | 0       | 0        | 6                  | 8           |
| Total    | 693        | 2,567            | 1,250    | 621     | 696      | 2,935              | 5,502       |

Source: Food Banks Canada (2024c, p.105)

Note: "Independent food banks operating outside the network are also included in the survey." (Food Banks Canada, 2024c, p.103)





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As it is possible to consider a food bank a distributor of food to other organizations and food programs or as a provider of food directly to clients, the estimation is complicated (Bazerghi, McKay and Dunn, 2016). Other terms, such as 'food shelves' or 'food pantries', are also used. Therefore, it is difficult to estimate the number of organizations linked with food banks, depending on the chosen definition, but the numbers are quite high.

## Number of registered charities operating a food bank in Canada

Broadly, a total of 85,639 registered charities, including registered Canadian amateur athletic association (RCAAA) and registered National arts service organization (RNASO) are in operations in Canada (Brouard and Litalien, 2024a). Four categories of objects/purposes of charity exists: "relief of poverty", "advancement of education", "advancement of religion" and any "other purpose beneficial to the community" not falling under the other three purposes.

Food bank fall under the "relief of poverty" purpose. Within the "relief of poverty", a category of "organizations relieving poverty" and a sub-category "operating a food bank" exist (Brouard and Litalien, 2024b). Therefore, the sub-category "operating a food bank" is used to estimate the number of registered charities operating a food bank. Using only the subcategory "operating a food bank", Tables 4, 5 and 6 present a first group of several statistics for those 474 registered charities. Compared with statistics from Food Banks Canada (2024c), the sub-category "operating a food bank" seems to be understating the number of food banks.

Table 4 shows the number and percentages for sub-category Operating a food bank as registered charities in Canada, based on their assets and revenue levels in a descending order. Table 5 presents information on 10 major Canadian food banks charities for sub-category Operating a food bank, including their locations, Business Registration Numbers (BRNs), and their total assets and revenue for the most recent year available. The results indicate that the sub-category Operating a food bank does not include all food banks

Table 4 – Assets and Revenue for sub-category Operating a food bank charity

| Assets \$             | Number | %     | Revenue \$          | Number | %     |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|---------------------|--------|-------|
| More than 100 million | 0      | 0.0%  | More than 5,000,000 | 8      | 1.7%  |
| 1,000,001-100 million | 55     | 11.6% | 1,500,001-5,000,000 | 22     | 4.6%  |
| 500,001-1,000,000     | 49     | 10.3% | 500,001-1,500,000   | 56     | 11.8% |
| 200,001-500,000       | 101    | 21.3% | 150,001-500,000     | 130    | 27.4% |
| 100,001-200,000       | 76     | 16.0% | 30,001,150,000      | 170    | 35.9% |
| 50,001-100,000        | 54     | 11.4% | 30,000 or else      | 88     | 18.6% |
| 50,000 or less        | 139    | 29.3% | Unknown             |        |       |
| Unknown               | 0      | 0.0%  |                     |        |       |
| Total                 | 474    | 100%  | Total               | 474    | 100%  |

Source: Charitydata (2025)







Table 5 – Largest registered charities for sub-category Operating a food bank charity

| Table 3 - Largest registe                                 | ica chantics   | ioi sub-calegory c | peram | ig a lood balli | Condity    |
|---|----------------|--------------------|-------|-----------------|------------|
| Name of registered  | City, Prov     | CRA #              | Year  | Total           | Total      |
| charities   |                |                    |       | Assets          | Revenue    |
|   |                |                    |       | 4200            | 4700       |
| Central Okanagan<br>Community Foodbank Society            | Kelowna, BC    | 107561862 RR0001   | 2024  | 17,021,224      | 20,926,370 |
| Food Banks British Columbia                               | Surrey, BC     | 861331130 RR0001   | 2024  | 16,175,378      | 15,782,274 |
| Loaves and fishes community food bank society             | Nanaimo, BC    | 874258429 RR0001   | 2023  | 11,573,992      | 11,926,775 |
| St. Mary's International<br>Charitable Organization       | Pickering, ON  | 887903839 RR0001   | 2023  | 10,588,930      | 1,548,491  |
| Mada Community Center Inc./Centre communautaire MADA inc. | Montreal, QC   | 856356068 RR0001   | 2023  | 7,015,351       | 5,246,758  |
| Centraide Laurentides                                     | Blainville, QC | 106885270 RR0001   | 2024  | 5,726,001       | 5,527,633  |
| Ontario Association of Food Banks                         | Toronto, ON    | 885260968 RR0001   | 2024  | 5,538,815       | 26,372,504 |
| Partners in Mission Food<br>Bank                          | Kingston, ON   | 877390161 RR0001   | 2023  | 5,076,874       | 5,661,921  |
| Centre Flavie Laurent Inc./<br>Flavie Laurent Centre Inc. | Winnipeg, MB   | 877390161 RR0001   | 2024  | 4,972,429       | 1,845,000  |
| Moisson Outaouais   | Gatineau, QC   | 834961963 RR0001   | 2024  | 4,678,838       | 2,890,200  |

Source: Charitydata (2025)

Table 6 presents the statistics regarding distribution by province and territories of Canadian food banks charities for sub-category Operating a food bank.

Table 6 – Distribution by provinces for sub-category Operating a food bank charity

|       |       |           | <u> </u> |      |       |       | <u> </u> | _    |      |      |           |      |      |
|-------|-------|-----------|----------|------|-------|-------|----------|------|------|------|-----------|------|------|
| Can   |       | Provinces |          |      |       |       |          |      |      | 7    | erritorie | S    |      |
| total | BC    | AB        | SK       | MB   | ON    | QC    | NB       | NS   | PE   | NL   | ΥT        | NT   | NU   |
| 474   | 48    | 44        | 24       | 33   | 155   | 105   | 20       | 30   | 3    | 8    | 2         | 1    | 1    |
| 100%  | 10.1% | 9.3%      | 5.1%     | 7.0% | 32.7% | 22.2% | 4.2%     | 6.3% | 0.6% | 1.7% | 0.4%      | 0.2% | 0.2% |

Source: Charitydata (2025)

However, the subcategory "Operating a food bank" may include only those registered charities that list it as their main subcategory. Some registered charities may operate a food bank as part of a broader range of services and may not even fall under the "relief of poverty" purpose. As a result, food banks may also appear under other categories and sub-categories. This may result in limitation to the mapping exercise, if the subcategory "Operating a food bank" had been chosen, providing a lower number than the number of organizations providing such services on the ground. Statistics here delivered nevertheless deliver a starting point.

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) (2025) T3010 data only allows advanced searches based on general categories—for example, "Organizations relieving poverty"—but does not provide search functionality for sub-categories. However, using the same CRA data, Charitydata enables advanced searches that include both categories and sub-categories for all registered charities.









Tables 7, 8 and 9 present a second group of several statistics for the 2,769 registered charities with "food bank" by name or program variable as available through search.

Table 7 shows the number and percentages of registered charities in Canada with "food bank" by name or program, based on their assets and revenue levels in a descending order.

Table 7 – Assets and Revenue with "food bank" in name or program

|                       |        |       | 1 3                 |        |       |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|---------------------|--------|-------|
| Assets \$             | Number | %     | Revenue \$          | Number | %     |
| More than 100 million | 1      | 0.04% | More than 5,000,000 | 79     | 2.9%  |
| 1,000,001-100 million | 878    | 31.7% | 1,500,001-5,000,000 | 144    | 5.2%  |
| 500,001-1,000,000     | 437    | 15.8% | 500,001-1,500,000   | 347    | 12.5% |
| 200,001-500,000       | 483    | 17.4% | 150,001-500,000     | 864    | 31.2% |
| 100,001-200,000       | 275    | 9.9%  | 30,001,150,000      | 952    | 34.4% |
| 50,001-100,000        | 183    | 6.6%  | 30,000 or else      | 379    | 13.7% |
| 50,000 or less        | 508    | 18.3% | Unknown             | 4      | 0.1%  |
| Unknown               | 4      | 0.1%  |                     |        |       |
| Total                 | 2,769  | 100%  | Total               | 2,769  | 100%  |

Source: Charitydata (2025)

Table 8 presents information on 10 major Canadian charities of registered charities in Canada with "food bank" in name or program, including their locations, Business Registration Numbers (BRNs), and their total assets and revenue for the most recent year available.

Table 8 – Largest registered charities with "food bank" in name or program

| Name of registered charities          | City, Prov      | CRA#             | Year | Total       | Total      |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------|-------------|------------|
|                                       |                 |                  |      | Assets      | Revenue    |
|                                       |                 |                  |      | 4200        | 4700       |
| The Prosser Charitable Foundation     | Calgary, AB     | 859173668 RR0001 | 2023 | 102,619,542 | 7,384,022  |
| Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Separate  | Moose Jaw, SK   | 118812726 RR0001 | 2024 | 115,315,105 | 42,903,063 |
| School Division No.22 of Saskatchewan |                 |                  |      |             |            |
| Canadian Foodgrains Bank Association  | Winnipeg, MB    | 118831106 RR0001 | 2024 | 79,084,639  | 85,781,631 |
| INC/Association De La Banque          |                 |                  |      |             |            |
| Canadienne De Grains INC.             |                 |                  |      |             |            |
| Tachane Foundation Inc.               | Oro-Medonte, ON | 832129324 RR0001 | 2023 | 57,807,688  | 5,185,031  |
| Sea to Sky Community Services Society | Squamish, BC    | 119161107 RR0001 | 2024 | 52,261,037  | 17,094,536 |
| B.C. Muslim Association               | Richmond, BC    | 118801224 RR0001 | 2023 | 45,608,171  | 11,602,443 |
| Daily Bread Food Bank                 | Toronto, ON     | 118881549 RR0001 | 2024 | 40,038,472  | 84,599,407 |
| Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank Society | Calgary, AB     | 130167349 RR0001 | 2024 | 45,775,365  | 67,270,365 |
| Food Banks Canada/Banques             | Mississauga, ON | 130643737 RR0001 | 2024 | 44,398,260  | 91,765,234 |
| Alimentaires Canada                   | · ·             |                  |      |             |            |
| Islamic Circle of North America       | Oakville, ON    | 118951169 RR0001 | 2023 | 36,601,621  | 22,107,471 |

Source: Charitydata (2025)





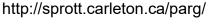




Table 9 presents the statistics regarding distribution by province and territories of registered charities in Canada with "food bank" in name or program.

Table 9 – Distribution by provinces and territories with "food bank" in name or program

| Can   |                                     | Provinces |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      | 7    | <b>Territorie</b> | s    |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-----------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|------|
| total | total BC AB SK MB ON QC NB NS PE NL |           |      |      |       |      |      | ΥT   | NT   | NU   |      |                   |      |
| 2,769 | 352                                 | 306       | 109  | 121  | 1,352 | 59   | 131  | 221  | 19   | 90   | 4    | 3                 | 2    |
| 100%  | 12.7%                               | 11.1%     | 3.9% | 4.4% | 48.8% | 2.1% | 4.7% | 8.0% | 0.7% | 3.3% | 0.1% | 0.1%              | 0.1% |

Source: Charitydata (2025)

Tables 10, 11 and 12 present a third group of several statistics for the 116 registered charities with "banque alimentaire" in name or program variable, as available through search. Other French expression may also be used to capture a more exhaustive image on the francophone side.

Table 10 shows the number and percentages of registered charities in Canada with "banque alimentaire" in name or program, based on their assets and revenue levels in a descending order.

Table 10 – Assets and Revenue with "banque alimentaire" in name or program

| Assets \$             | Number | %     | Revenue \$          | Number | %     |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|---------------------|--------|-------|
| More than 100 million | 0      | 0%    | More than 5,000,000 | 7      | 6.3%  |
| 1,000,001-100 million | 28     | 25.0% | 1,500,001-5,000,000 | 6      | 5.4%  |
| 500,001-1,000,000     | 16     | 14.3% | 500,001-1,500,000   | 19     | 17.0% |
| 200,001-500,000       | 21     | 18.8% | 150,001-500,000     | 39     | 34.8% |
| 100,001-200,000       | 16     | 14.3% | 30,001,150,000      | 26     | 23.2% |
| 50,001-100,000        | 11     | 9.8%  | 30,000 or else      | 13     | 11.6% |
| 50,000 or less        | 18     | 16.1% | Unknown             | 2      | 1.8%  |
| Unknown               | 2      | 1.8%  |                     |        |       |
| Total                 | 112    | 100%  | Total               | 112    | 100%  |

Source: Charitydata (2025)

Table 11 presents information on 10 major Canadian charities of registered charities in Canada with "banque alimentaire" in name or program, including their locations, Business Registration Numbers (BRNs), and their total assets and revenue for the most recent year available.





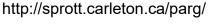




Table 11 – Largest registered charities with "banque alimentaire" in name or program

| Table II Largest registered            | 0110111100 111  |                  |      |            | 9           |
|--|-----------------|------------------|------|------------|-------------|
| Name of registered charities           | City, Prov      | CRA #            | Year | Total      | Total       |
|  |                 |                  |      | Assets     | Revenue     |
|  |                 |                  |      | 4200       | 4700        |
| Food Banks Canada / Banques            | Mississauga, ON | 130643737 RR0001 | 2024 | 44,398,260 | 91,765,234  |
| Alimentaires Canada                    |                 |                  |      |            |             |
| La Piaule de Val D'Or inc.             | Val-D'or, QC    | 119006609 RR0001 | 2024 | 25,271,156 | 1,634,213   |
| Jeunesse au Soleil / Sun Youth         | Montréal, QC    | 119206290 RR0001 | 2024 | 21,648,249 | 13,369,580  |
| organization                           |                 |                  |      |            |             |
| Association Y.W.C.A. de Québec / The   | Québec, QC      | 107701492 RR0001 | 2024 | 13,764,163 | 5,627,238   |
| Young Women's Christian Association of |                 |                  |      |            |             |
| Québec                                 |                 |                  |      |            |             |
| Église évangélique Philadelphie        | St-Leonard, QC  | 10728747 6RR0001 | 2023 | 11,142,871 | 2,265,207   |
| Les Banques alimentaires du Québec /   | Longueuil. QC   | 121134316 RR0001 | 2024 | 19,534,223 | 192,811,050 |
| Food Banks of Québec                   |                 |                  |      |            |             |
| La Fondation Mgr Leonce Bouchard Inc.  | Chicoutimi, QC  | 889438172 RR0001 | 2024 | 8,246,771  | 518,873     |
| La Tablée des Chefs                    | Longueuil, QC   | 863179057 RR0001 | 2023 | 6,155,217  | 12,860,160  |
| Moisson Outaouais                      | Gatineau, QC    | 834961963 RR0001 | 2024 | 4,678,838  | 2,890,200   |
| L'Eveque Catholique Romain             | Saint-Quentin,  | 12993022 8RR0003 | 2023 | 4,235,181  | 222,506     |
| d'Edmundston                           | NB              |                  |      |            |             |

Source: Charitydata (2025)

Table 12 presents the statistics regarding distribution by province and territories of registered charities in Canada with "banque alimentaire" in name or program.

Table 12 – Distribution by provinces with "banque alimentaire" in name or program

| Can   |      | Provinces                     |    |    |       |       |       |    |    |    | 7  | <b>Territorie</b> | S  |
|-------|------|-------------------------------|----|----|-------|-------|-------|----|----|----|----|-------------------|----|
| total | BC   | BC AB SK MB ON QC NB NS PE NL |    |    |       |       |       |    | NL | YT | NT | NU                |    |
| 112   | 1    | 0                             | 0  | 0  | 16    | 83    | 12    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0                 | 0  |
| 100%  | 0.9% | 0%                            | 0% | 0% | 14.3% | 74.1% | 10.7% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0%                | 0% |

Source: Charitydata (2025)

In conclusion, assessing the number of food banks operating as Canadian registered charity is not an easy task and search tools publicly available in databases used are not conclusive when compared with the statistics from Food Banks Canada (2024c). Therefore, instead of identifying registered charity operating a food bank, only with search engine tools on T3010 data, other methods were chosen.

#### **National and Provincial Associations**

To answer the second research question (RQ2): "Who are the national / provincial food banks associations in Canada?", a brief description of each association is presented below. More information is included in the specific national / provincial research note.

#### Food Banks Canada / Banques alimentaires Canada

"Food Banks Canada is a national charitable organization dedicated to helping Canadians living with hunger. We have a network of affiliated food banks and partners across Canada, which includes 10 Provincial Associations and more than 500 food banks." (Food Banks Canada, 2025b)



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#### Food Banks BC

"Food Banks BC is the provincial association of food banks. Our membership is comprised of over 100 hunger relief agencies throughout British Columbia.



We support our members and other agencies through the provision of resources that assist their efforts to tackle hunger in communities they represent. This is achieved through the distribution of food and financial donations, providing access to training and capacity building programs, networking opportunities, and as a representative voice to speak to the needs of food banks as well as the hundreds of thousands of British Columbians who face ongoing food insecurity." (Food Banks BC, 2025b)

#### Food Banks Alberta

"Food Banks Alberta was founded in 1998 on the belief that individual food banks were better together and could support one another through a unified, solutions-focused approach to ending poverty and hunger.



Today, we have 113+ members in communities throughout Alberta, where we work together to achieve positive social change. As a collective we provide relevant and innovative food insecurity programs that contribute to an Alberta without hunger." (Food Banks Alberta, 2025)

#### Food Banks of Saskatchewan

"Food Banks of Saskatchewan is the provincial association of Saskatchewan food banks that work together to build, support and strengthen relationships



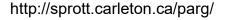
within the community. We aim to better serve and advocate on behalf of hungry food insecure people across Saskatchewan. Donations received are distributed to the 36 registered food banks across the province." (Food Banks of Saskatchewan, 2025)

#### Harvest Manitoba

"In 1985 when we started, the name Winnipeg Harvest said everything you needed to know about us. We collected and shared food inside the city limits. Over time we grew, and in



our 35th year, Harvest officially amalgamated the Manitoba Association of Food Banks into our Harvest family. We joined forces and resources to become the 4th largest food distributor of its kind in Canada – and the best and only provincial food network Manitoba has ever had." (Harvest Manitoba, 2025)













#### Feed Ontario

"Feed Ontario represents a network of more than 1,200 food banks and hunger-relief organizations across Ontario. Through our network, we deliver millions of pounds of food across Ontario, serving more than 1 million people each year." (Feed Ontario, 2025)



## Banques alimentaires du Québec / Food Banks of Québec

"Au Québec, ce sont 556 000 personnes uniques qui ont besoin d'aide alimentaire chaque mois. Depuis 1988, notre organisme à but non lucratif, Banques alimentaires du Québec, joue un rôle clé pour les nourrir. Notre force? Nous sommes à la tête d'un formidable réseau provincial! Nos 33 membres régionaux indépendants desservent près de



1300 organismes communautaires locaux affiliés, qui répondent mensuellement à 2,9 millions de demandes d'aide alimentaire." (Banques alimentaires du Québec, 2025)

"In Quebec, more than 556,000 people need food assistance. Every month. Since 1988, Food Banks of Quebec, a not-for-profit organization, has played a key role in feeding them. Our strength? We are at the head of a great provincial network! Our 33 independent regional members serve nearly 1,300 local community organizations, who handle 2.9 million requests for food assistance every month." (Banques alimentaires du Québec, 2025)

## Feed/Nourrir NB (formerly Food Depot Alimentaire)

"The New Brunswick Food Depot is Food Banks Canada's new provincial food bank association, supporting a national network of more than 3,000 food banks, kitchens, shelters and non-profit organizations supporting food security across the country." (Food Depot Alimentaire, 2025)



"Feed NB is a registered, non-profit charitable organization that serves food banks, community kitchens, school programs and other supportive agencies across New Brunswick." (Feed NB, 2025)





in

collaboration with



#### Feed Nova Scotia

"We first opened our doors in 1984 as the Metro Food Bank Society, with the mandate to provide emergency food relief within Metro Halifax. The volunteer staff served 12 member food banks and meal programs. In 2002, at the request of our member agencies, Metro Food Bank Society became the



umbrella organization for food banks across the province. In 2005, we rebranded as Feed Nova Scotia. (Feed Nova Scotia, 2025)

#### P.E.I. Association of Food Banks

"The Upper Room Hospitality Ministry was established in 1984 when the Soup Kitchen first opened its doors. The Soup Kitchen was located on the second floor, hence the term The Upper Room, and was also connected with a reference from The Bible referencing The Upper Room. The Soup Kitchen



provided hot meals for those in need in the Charlottetown area. Two years later the Food Bank was opened to provide even more assistance with monthly food hampers." (PEI Food Banks, 2025)

## Community Food Sharing Association

"The Community Food Sharing Association is the pivotal agency for food distribution to the hungry in Newfoundland and Labrador. From our St. John's office and warehouse, our six staff, with the help of hundreds of caring volunteers and community-minded businesses, manage the collection and distribution of food through 60 food banks to more than 15,400 children, women, and men throughout Newfoundland and Labra

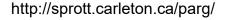




children, women, and men throughout Newfoundland and Labrador." (Community Food Sharing Association, 2025)







## **Structure and Content of Research Notes (RN)**

A series of research notes are prepared to answer two of our research questions, namely

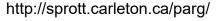
- (RQ3) What are the food banks in major cities in Canada?
- (RQ4) What are the finances of the national / provincial associations and food banks in major cities in Canada?

For Canada (national) and for each province, we have a specific research note. A typical research note for a province includes many components. An introduction presents objective and specific research questions. The methodology is described with general explanations and with specific elements for that province. This includes the selection of major cities (based on Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) and Census Agglomeration (CA) and population from Statistics Canada) and identification of largest food banks.

For each organization selected, a brief description of the organization with its vision and mission and some basic information (registration number, status, designation, fiscal year end, website). Financial information from T3010 is included. It contains a financial summary and detailed financial information (assets, liabilities, revenue, expenditures, compensation and a number of employees). For some organizations, only the financial summary is included.

Appendix A presents the research notes in the series, including charities located in the main cities (Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA) or Census Agglomerations (CA)) that have been examined in this research project.







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in collaboration with



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[suggestion for citing the research note: Brouard, François, Litalien, Manuel, Zaredorahi, Farnaz (2025). *Food Banks Finances in Canada – Overview*, PARG #2025-50RN, Research Note, Professional Accounting Research Group (PARG), Sprott School of Business, Carleton University, September, 25p.]

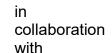
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#### PARG research notes

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# Appendix A List of research notes in the food banks series

| Province | National /<br>Provincial<br>Association  | Main cities<br>(CMA or CA)       | Food banks   | PARG<br>2025 - # RN |
|----------|--|----------------------------------|--|---------------------|
|          | Overview   | T                                |  | 2025-50RN           |
| CAN      | Food Banks<br>Canada   |                                  |  | 2025-51RN           |
| BC       | Food Banks BC  | Vancouver                        | Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society                                  | 2025-52RN           |
|          |  | Vancouver                        | Sources Community Resources Society                                  |                     |
|          |  | Vancouver                        | Surrey Food Bank Society   |                     |
|          |  | Vancouver                        | Richmond Food Bank   | 1                   |
|          |  | Victoria                         | Mustard Seed Food Bank   | 1                   |
|          |  | Kelowna                          | Central Okanagan Food Bank   |                     |
|          |  | Abbotsford-Mission               | Archway Community Services Society                                   |                     |
| AB       | Food Banks   | Calgary                          | The Calgary Food Bank  | 2025-53RN           |
|          | Alberta  | Edmonton                         | Edmonton's Food Bank   |                     |
| SK       | Food Banks of  | Saskatoon                        | Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre                                | 2025-54RN           |
|          | Saskatchewan   | Regina                           | Regina & District Food Bank  |                     |
| MB       | Harvest Manitoba   | Winnipeg                         | Harvest Manitoba   | 2025-55RN           |
| ON       | Feed Ontario   | Toronto                          | Daily Bread Food Bank  | 2025-56RN           |
|          |  | Toronto                          | Food Banks Mississauga   |                     |
|          |  | Toronto                          | Kerr Street Community Services                                       |                     |
|          |  | Toronto                          | Caledon Community Services   |                     |
|          |  | Ottawa                           | The Ottawa Food Bank   |                     |
|          |  | Hamilton                         | Burlington Food Bank   |                     |
|          |  | Kitchener-Cambridge-<br>Waterloo | The Food Bank of Waterloo Region                                     |                     |
|          |  | London                           | London and Area Food Bank  |                     |
|          |  | St. Catharines-Niagara           | Project Share  |                     |
| QC       | Banques  | Montréal                         | Moisson Montréal   | 2025-57RN           |
|          | alimentaires du  | Montréal                         | Moisson Rive-Sud   |                     |
|          | Québec / Food  | Montréal                         | Centre de bénévolat et Moisson Laval                                 |                     |
|          | Banks of Québec  | Gatineau                         | Moisson Outaouais  |                     |
|          |  | Quebec                           | Moisson Québec   |                     |
| NB       | Feed/Nourrir NB  | Moncton                          | Peter McKee Community Centre   |                     |
|          | (Formerly Food   | Saint John                       | Outflow Ministry   | 2025-58RN           |
|          | Depot Alimentaire)   | Fredericton                      | Greener Village  |                     |
| NS       | Feed Nova Scotia   | Halifax                          | Parker Street food & Furniture Bank [Community Care Network Society] | 2025-59RN           |
| PE       | P.E.I. Association<br>of Food Banks<br>(The Upper Room<br>Hospitality<br>Ministry) | Charlottetown                    | -  | 2025-60RN           |
| NL       | Community Food<br>Sharing<br>Association   | St. John's                       | Bridges to Hope Food Bank  | 2025-61RN           |





