

Foodbank – it's about more than food



A Social Return on Investment (SROI) evaluation of Foodbank Australia



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PREPARED BY

Suzi Young, Adam Richards and Georgia Kerkhof, Think Impact

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This report has been prepared by Think Impact on the instructions, and for the benefit, of Foodbank in relation to supporting the understanding of the Social Return on Investment (SROI) evaluation. It is not to be used for any other purpose.

Think Impact is a specialist social impact consultancy based in Melbourne. Our focus is to support organisations, across all sectors, to manage for better impact.

CONTACT

For further details please contact:

Think Impact
Our Community House
552 Victoria Street,
North Melbourne, VIC 3051, Australia
suzi@thinkimpact.com.au
+61 412 808 647

ABN 15 129 607 576

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Executive summary

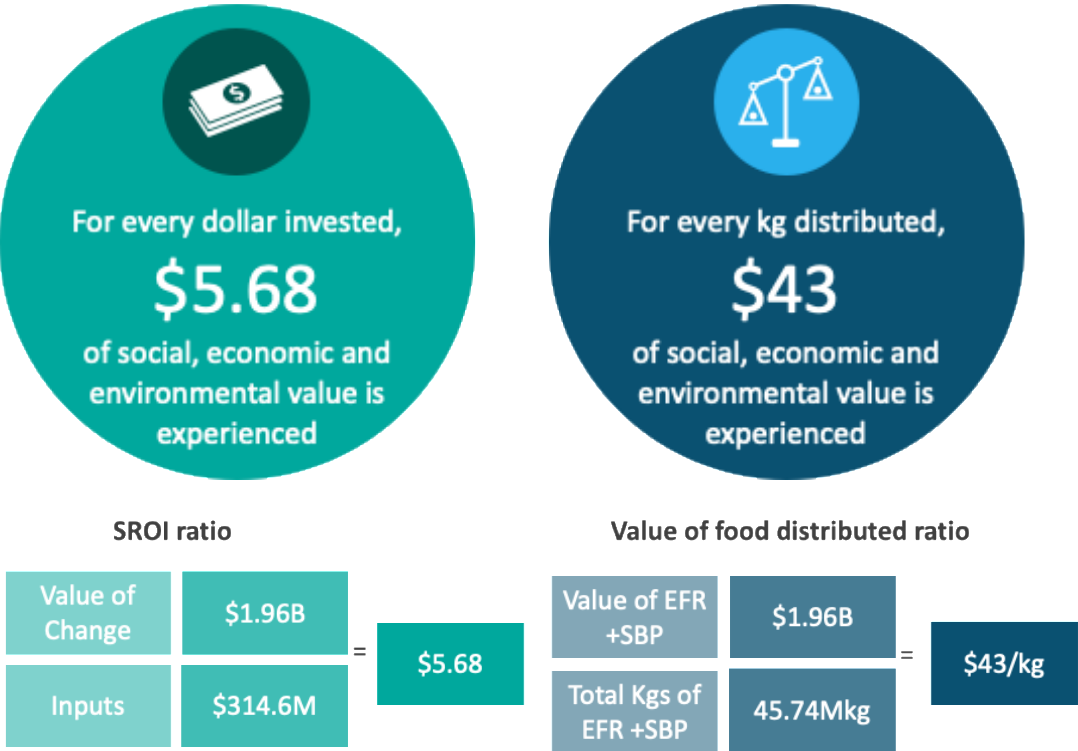
It's about more than food

Food relief serves as an important part of the social safety net in Australia, particularly for individuals and families facing financial hardship. As of August 2024, nearly two million Australian households (19%) were classified as severely food insecure.¹ Despite Australia producing enough food to feed three times its population, many people continue to go hungry or fail to meet their nutritional requirements.²

Foodbank is the largest food relief organisation in Australia and provides over 50% of all food and groceries to Australians who need support. To understand the value of this work, Foodbank conducted a Social Return on Investment (SROI) evaluation that considered the value created by two distinct food relief models, *Everyday Food Relief* (EFR) and *School Breakfast Programs* (excluding Foodbank Victoria activity) during a 12-month period (FY24). This report presents the results of this analysis conducted between April 2024 and February 2025.

Overall result

During this period, **45.7M kg** of food was distributed through the EFR and SBP activities. Considering these models together, for the 12-months (FY24):



¹ https://reports.foodbank.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024_Foodbank_Hunger_Report_IPSOS-Report.pdf
² https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Agriculture

Everyday Food Relief

Access to Foodbank means freedom...I am no longer plagued with stress about how/where I'll find enough money to feed my family – Food recipient

Everyday Food Relief (EFR) includes a range of food delivery modes including supporting people to access food directly from Foodbank via a pantry, social supermarket, or warehouse site, as well as options where food is provided through Foodbank partners such as charities, religious groups and Neighbourhood Houses.

During the 12-month reporting period, Foodbank distributed **42.6M kg** food through the Everyday Food Relief Program. This was equivalent to **76M meals**. These meals supported 987,060 people, including over 784,000 people on a frequent basis (at least once per month). The results of the sensitivity analysis suggest an SROI for EFR between **\$5.45-\$6.03**.



Of the value created, 97% was experienced by food recipients (45% by children, 52% by adults), with the remaining 3% experienced by the 1,952 Foodbank volunteers and over 14,000 community agency volunteers and society/environment. Over \$6M of value was created from the estimated 33.6M kg of food waste diverted from landfills and valued as the avoided greenhouse gas emissions and landfill costs.

The figure below provides a breakdown of the value by outcomes experienced by adult recipients. This includes five positive outcomes and one negative outcome, with the value from a greater ability to meet food needs making up 52% of the value and healthier eating 25% of the value. Increased access to fresh fruit and vegetables and other staple food stuffs was highlighted by many people as a significant and

valuable impact of EFR. As illustrated in the figure below, children experience five outcomes, with 71% of this value experienced from healthier eating.

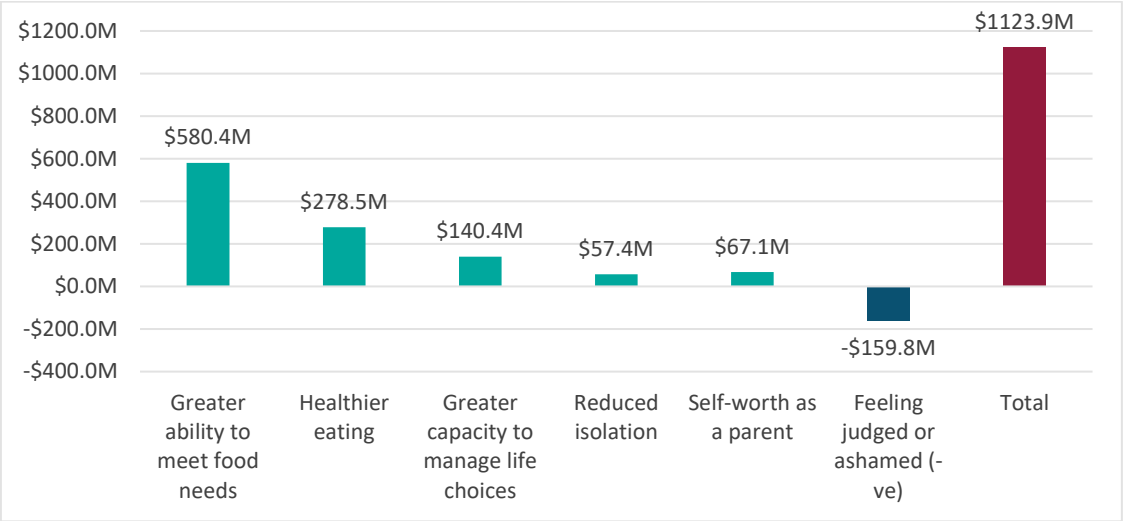


Figure 1 Adult food recipients frequently accessing food – outcomes and total value

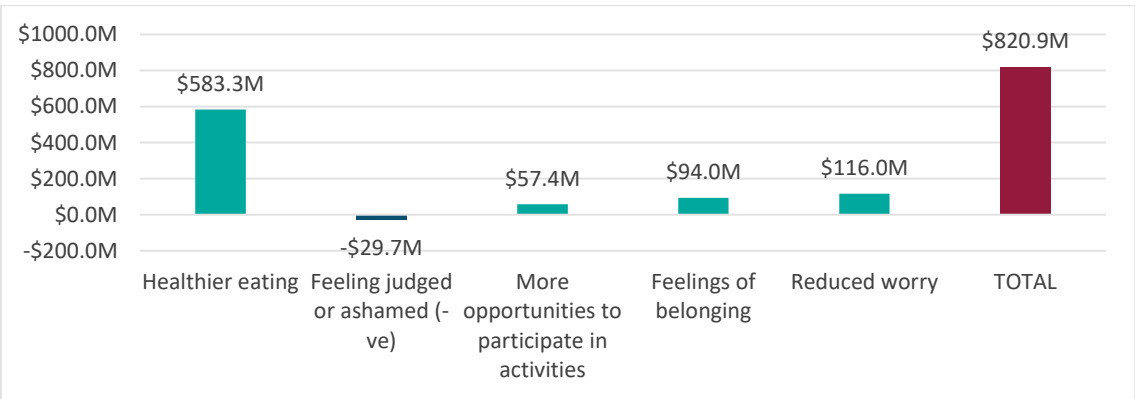
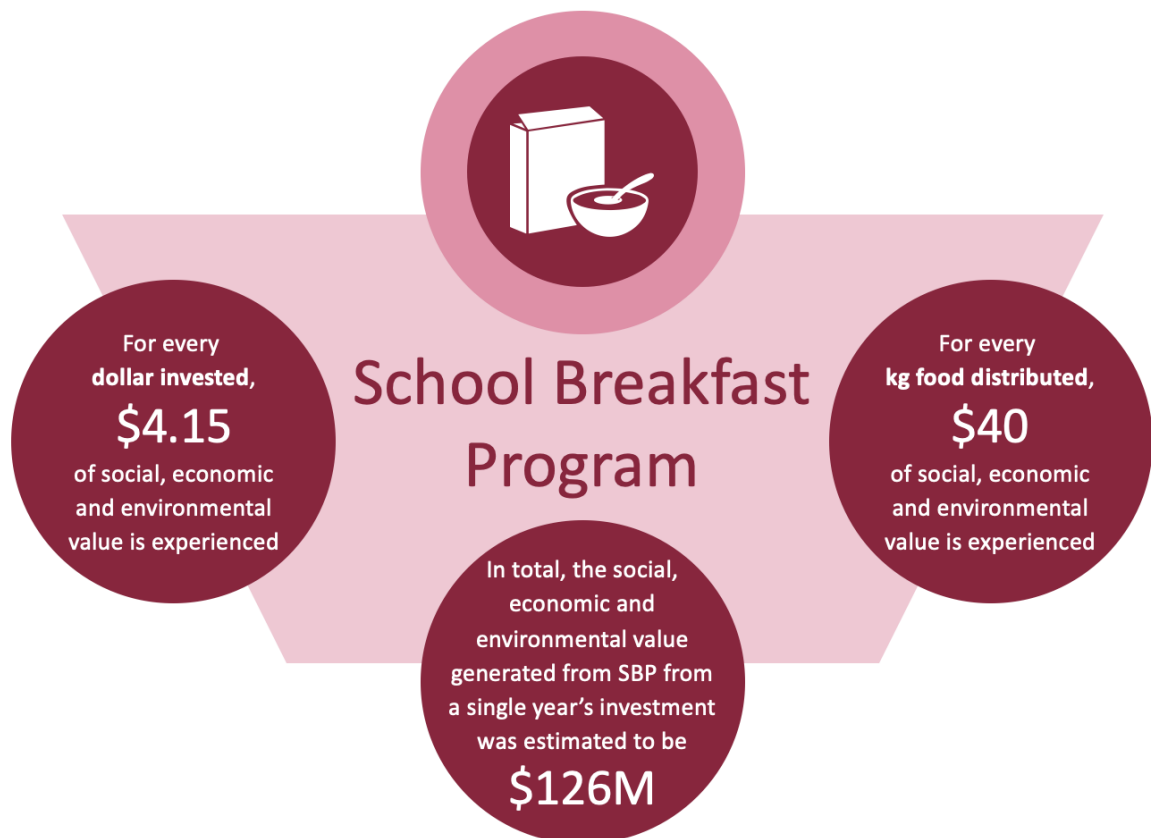


Figure 2 Children food recipients frequently accessing food – outcomes and total value

School Breakfast Program (excluding Foodbank Victoria)

Providing food to children on school mornings is so much more than feeding hungry children, and SBP generates value at scale for multiple stakeholders. During the reporting period:

- a. Over 2.5 million kilograms of food were provided by the School Breakfast program.
- Over 2,000 schools were supported.
- 75% of schools provided breakfast at least three times per week.
- 59% of schools provided food daily.
- Over 55,000 school children frequently received breakfast at school.
- Almost 30,000 parents/carers benefitted because their children received breakfast.
- Over 31,000 teachers experienced value because of SBP.
- Over 6,000 adults and 10,000 students volunteered to support SBP and experienced positive outcomes.



The SBP program creates significant value for multiple stakeholders, not just the children who are the direct recipients of breakfast meals. The results of the sensitivity analysis suggest an SROI between **\$3.33–\$4.41**. The figure below provides a breakdown of this value, with SBP participants experiencing 71% of the overall value.

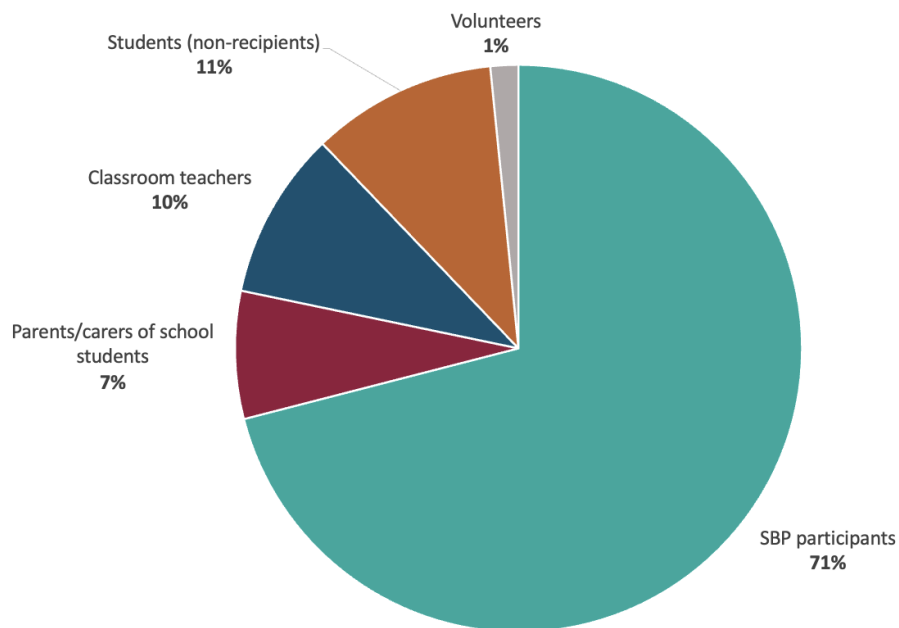


Figure 3 SBP value created by stakeholder group

Implications of results

The SROI methodology includes eight principles, one of which is to be responsive when managing for better impact. The following five recommendations are proposed to support Foodbank to be responsive.

Continue to invest in and advocate for access to food

Foodbank and other actors in the food relief sector appreciate the increasing demands on their services. As such, there is a need for continued and increased investment in meeting the needs of Australians experiencing food insecurity.

The need for a whole of systems approach to the increasing pressures on so many Australians is necessary. This calls for multi-lateral funding and working practices that can harness the power and potential of organisations such as Foodbank and others committed to improving the lives of people experiencing food insecurity.

Food security can be a catalyst for immediate and long-term improvements for young people. Feeding children has the potential to provide them with better conditions to learn and succeed in school and beyond. With this, there needs to be increased focus on the chances for all children to succeed – ensuring they have a healthy and fulfilling future that can also contribute to the fabric of Australian society.

Communicate the SROI results with stakeholders

As mentioned, principle eight of the Principles of Social Value is to be responsive. This includes communicating the results of the SROI assessments to those stakeholders who were involved in the data collection and whose lives are affected by the decisions of Foodbank and other actors in the food relief sector.

Continue to work in partnership across the food relief system

Providing food to people when and where they need it relies upon many individuals and organisations acting together to source, move and provide food. These relationships and partnerships across the food relief system are critical to achieving positive impacts. It is therefore important to continue to invest in these partnerships to understand what is working and what is needed to continue to reach people and create the most positive value from the interaction. To achieve this, a collaborative approach is required. This includes recognising other service providers as partners in a complex system rather than competitors for funding.

Continue to work with and value your volunteers

It is crucial that the contribution and value provided by thousands of volunteers is recognised, celebrated, and carefully managed. Foodbank and many other agencies in the food relief sector already recognise and value their volunteers – and ever-increasing this focus remains crucial for future success. Continue to understand volunteer experiences through stakeholder engagement and impact measurement activities and invest in efforts to support and grow a happy and productive volunteer workforce.

Identify opportunities to manage for better impact

SROI highlights more than just headline results of the social value created per \$1 or 1kg of investment. The SROI methodology also helps to identify where even more non-financial value can be generated. To support this assessment, systematic stakeholder engagement that monitors and evaluates impact performance is the key to frequent and timely insights. Embedding social value/impact accounting into decision making to support regular data collection and analysis helps to generate insights outlining where positive impacts can be increased and negatives reduced and is key to continual improvements being experienced by stakeholders.

This may include identifying the models of food relief that:

- Create optimal value in a given context.
- Can be used to develop targets for benchmarking.
- Compare results to thresholds to drive performance improvements.

Future research and evaluation

The work undertaken for this project has identified a range of material impacts for stakeholders and some insights that will help Foodbank make improvements for the ERF and SBF programs.

The next step in this journey is to further segment results so that:

- Differences between people of the same group can be identified.
- Different modalities of food relief can be examined.
- More stakeholders can share their experiences of food relief and the value that this creates for them.

Ultimately, continuing the process of learning what works well for whom across various contexts will provide insights that support Foodbank, and the food relief sector, to optimise the wellbeing of stakeholders.

Acknowledgements

Think Impact would like to thank Foodbank Australia for the opportunity to complete this Social Return on Investment (SROI) evaluation.

We would like to acknowledge and thank all the individuals that shared their stories and perspectives about the value and impact of food relief in their life and communities. This includes the 244 food recipients, 196 volunteers, 121 school breakfast program representatives and 66 community agencies working alongside Foodbank.

Thank you to all the Foodbank state members for their time, data and insights to support the development of the SROI model and report.

We hope the results in this report support Foodbank to continue to provide food relief to people throughout Australia when and where they need it.

We understand that Foodbank does not operate alone, and we acknowledge all the individuals and organisations, and connected efforts required to deliver food from across the supply chain including food growers, donors and food movers to the people that provide the food in all its forms and enable value to be created and experienced.

Thank you

Glossary

The following acronyms are used in this report:

Term	Definition
Activity	The action and effort undertaken to create change (that is, outcome).
Agencies	Charities, food relief services and organisations that use the food to supplement their core for purpose activities or to provide food relief, create meals etc. We understand: FBNA and FBV use 'community partners' FBQ and FBSANT use 'members' FBT 'charities' FBWA 'agencies'
Attribution	An assessment of how much of the outcome was caused by the contribution of other organisations or people.
Benefit period	The period beyond the intervention that benefits last.
B2B	Business-to-Business (B2B) refers to a transaction that takes place between one business to another.
B2C	Business-to-Consumer (B2C) refers to transaction that takes place between a business and an individual as the end consumer.
Deadweight	An assessment of what would have occurred anyway, in terms of achievement of outcomes, in the absence of the intervention/activity.
Discount rate	A rate of return used to calculate the present value of future value flows. Also used to describe the percentage by which a figure has been reduced.
Displacement	An assessment of how much of the change is a net benefit (i.e. a new change) or simply the movement of change from one place to another or the offsetting of one change for another.
Donated food	Food that could have been donated through usual channels but was gifted
Drop-off	The rate at which outcomes deteriorate over time.
Everyday Food Relief (EFR)	Supporting people in crisis and emergency situations and those with chronic and persistent food need, including Emergency Food Relief. Activities also support people in crisis due to the impacts of natural disasters.
Food	Food and grocery items
Financial proxy	Social value is calculated by placing a financial value on the quantified change commensurate with the degree of change experienced by stakeholders. These financial values are known as <i>financial proxies</i> .
Impact	The total sum or effect of change caused by an organisation, program or activity.

Indicators	Indicators are ways of knowing that change has happened. Indicators exist to provide evidence for whether and to what extent outcomes are occurring.
Materiality	Information is material if its omission has the potential to affect the readers' or stakeholders' decisions. Materiality requires a determination of what information and evidence must be included in the accounts to give a true and fair picture, such that stakeholders can draw reasonable conclusions about impact.
Output	The quantities or scale associated with an activity (e.g. number of people who took part in a program).
Outcome	The change that happens because of an activity or output.
Rescued food	Food that was destined for landfill or decomposing on-land
Social Return on Investment (SROI)	SROI is a framework for accounting for value. It tells the story of how change is being created for the people and organisations that experience it, by identifying and measuring social outcomes. Monetary values are then used to represent those outcomes.
Stakeholder	People, organisations or entities that either experience change as a result of the activity that is being analysed or contribute to the change taking place.

1. Introduction

Foodbank is the largest food relief organisation in Australia and provides over 50% of all food and groceries to Australians who need food relief. Because of their scale and networks, they play a crucial role in the system. They operate their own state-based facilities to provide food directly to people who need it, and they leverage their extensive network of food and non-food community organisations to coordinate the distribution of food.

1.1 About this report

To inform and support their work, Foodbank Australia embarked on two Social Return on Investment evaluations between April 2024 and January 2025 to identify the impacts and value created by providing food relief to people in need.

The two models evaluated were:

- **Everyday Food Relief programs** – covering the provision of food and groceries to people in need via a range of modalities including food pantries operated directly by Foodbank, as well as distribution by food and non-food agencies.
- **School Breakfast Programs** – covering all modes of delivery from grab-and-go models to options where students are seated for a full breakfast that also provides opportunities for important social interactions.

This report presents the results of these two evaluations.

The report is structured around seven sections:

- **Section 2** outlines the context in which Foodbank operates and provides an overview of food security in Australia. The content draws on the findings of the most recent *Hunger Report 2024*, research conducted by Foodbank each year.
- **Section 3** provides an overview of Foodbank activities and describes the activities considered in the two SROI evaluations produced for Everyday Food Relief and School Breakfast Program.
- **Sections 4 and 5** present the results of the SROI models for Everyday Food Relief and the School Breakfast Program.
- **Section 6** provides the results of the sensitivity analysis for the two models, and a discussion comparing the forecast SROI model developed in 2014.
- **Section 7** focuses on the SROI principle “be responsive” and provides recommendations to support continuous improvement.
- **Section 8** outlines the key assumptions underlying the SROI results and discusses their limitations.

1.1.1 About the authors

Think Impact in partnership with IPSOS Public Affairs were engaged to complete these SROI assessments. Think Impact is internationally recognised as one of the leading organisations globally applying the SROI methodology. The evaluation was led by Think Impact Director Suzi Young and co-authored by Dr Adam Richards. Suzi is a Level 3 Advanced SROI Practitioner through Social Value International (SVI) and member of SVI’s Assurance panel, assessing applications for report assurance or practitioner accreditation. Suzi has been conducting SROI evaluations for over 10 years across diverse contexts. Suzi holds degrees in Chemical Engineering, South-East Asian history and Economics and has a certificate in Managing Conflict for the Diploma of Government.

Dr Adam Richards is an Advanced SROI Practitioner and Accredited Trainer with Social Value International (SVI), where he also serves as Director of Impact. With nearly 20 years of experience in impact measurement and management (IMM), he has contributed to the development of international standards for IMM and the Social Return on Investment (SROI) methodology. His work spans impact investors, social enterprises, and NGOs, including leading the creation of one of the UK's first integrated accounts for a social enterprise.

IPSOS Public Affairs led the dissemination of the survey of food recipients, volunteers, schools and community organisations. IPSOS Public Affairs is the division of Ipsos specialising in social and government research.

1.2 About SROI

Social Return on Investment (SROI) is an evaluation approach that draws on well-established methodologies in economics, accounting and social research. It is underpinned by eight principles that ensure the analysis understands the changes that take place and the additional value that has occurred through the activities being delivered³.

The following eight principles are provided in Social Value International's SROI Guide.⁴

1. **Involve stakeholders** – Inform what gets measured, and how this is measured and valued, by involving stakeholders.
2. **Understand what changes** – Articulate how change is created and evaluate this through evidence gathered, recognising positive and negative changes as well as those that are intended and unintended.
3. **Value the things that matter** – Making decisions about allocating resources between different options needs to recognise the values of stakeholders. Value refers to the relative importance of different outcomes. It is informed by stakeholders' preferences.
4. **Only include what is material** – Determine what information and evidence must be included in the accounts to give a true and fair picture, such that stakeholders can draw reasonable conclusions about impact.
5. **Do not over-claim** – Only claim the value that activities are responsible for creating.
6. **Be transparent** – Demonstrate the basis on which the analysis may be considered accurate and honest and show that it will be reported to and discussed with stakeholders.
7. **Verify the result** – Ensure appropriate independent verification and assurance of results.
8. **Be responsive** – Make decisions to optimise value for stakeholders based on the results.

An SROI calculation provides an indication of cost-effectiveness, by comparing the investment required to deliver the activities with the value of the outcomes experienced by all beneficiary stakeholders. Social value is calculated by placing a financial value on the quantified change commensurate with the degree of change experienced by stakeholders because of Foodbank activities. These financial values are known as *financial proxies*.

³ The SROI evaluation was conducted in accordance with 'A Guide to Social Return on Investment' (the SROI Guide) published by the SROI Network in 2012 (now known as Social Value UK). Available at: <http://www.socialvalueuk.org/resources/sroi-guide/>

⁴ <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/60dc51e3c58aef413ae5c975/t/60f7fa286b9c6a47815bc3b2/1626864196998/The-SROI-Guide-2012.pdf>

The value of outcomes represents 'additional value' that would not have occurred in the absence of the activities. Value that would have happened anyway (deadweight) or that is attributable to other actors (attribution) has been deducted.

In accordance with the principle 'Do not over claim', a conservative approach has been adopted for decisions on data and assumptions used in the SROI calculation. It is therefore possible that the values presented in this report understate the actual value created.

A description of the methodology used to produce the SROI models is provided in Appendix A.

2. Food security in Australia

Food relief serves as an important part of the social safety net in Australia, particularly for individuals and families facing financial hardship. To support this work, every year, Foodbank conduct surveys of individuals experiencing food insecurity and of the organisations and businesses that support the food relief system. This research includes publishing an annual Foodbank Hunger Report that outlines the state of food insecurity in Australia. This section outlines many of these insights from the most recent Foodbank Hunger Report 2024 and provides context for the SROI assessment.

2.1 Defining food security in Australia

The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) defines food security as a state where ‘all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy lifestyle’.

Food security, as outlined by The Foodbank Hunger Report (2024) exists on a spectrum:

- Highly food secure – No reported indications of food-access problems or limitations.
- Marginally food secure – report one or two indications of food insecurity—typically of anxiety over food sufficiency or shortage of food in the house. Little or no indication of changes in diets or food intake.
- Moderately food insecure – report reduced quality, variety or desirability of diet; however, there is no indication of reduced food intake.
- Severely food insecure – face constant worry about food affordability and report disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake.

As of August 2024, nearly two million Australian households (19%) were classified as severely food insecure.⁵ Despite Australia producing enough food to feed three times its population, many people continue to go hungry or fail to meet their nutritional requirements.⁶

In 2024, more than seven in 10 (73%) Australian households experiencing food insecurity reported having not being able to afford enough food for themselves for the first time in the past 12 months.⁷ And only 11% of food insecure households were unemployed in 2024.

The Foodbank Hunger Report (2024) found people experiencing food insecurity for the first time are most likely young (aged between 18–24), full time-students, people earning higher incomes (over \$95,000) and those impacted by natural disasters.

2.2 What is contributing to food insecurity in Australia?

Food insecurity can be experienced as an ongoing, chronic situation or can be a crisis triggered by unexpected systemic events such as pandemics, civil unrest (such as strikes) or natural disasters or personal factors such as job loss or a large household bill. For this reason, food insecurity is not limited to low-socioeconomic groups and is a challenge that can affect anyone.

⁵ https://reports.foodbank.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024_Foodbank_Hunger_Report_IPSOS-Report.pdf

⁶ https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Agriculture

⁷ https://reports.foodbank.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024_Foodbank_Hunger_Report_IPSOS-Report.pdf

Cost-of-living a key driver of food insecurity

Australia is experiencing a rising cost-of-living crisis, with increases in essential goods such as rent, groceries and transport, placing significant strain on household budgets. This strain has been compounded by global factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, which have disrupted supply chains and driven up the cost of grain, fuel and energy.⁸

In August 2024, 66% of Australians identified the cost-of-living as being the primary issue facing the nation.⁹ Food insecurity has become a critical consequence of this crisis, with Foodbank's Hunger Report 2024 highlighting rising living expenses as the primary driver. Approximately 82% of households experiencing food insecurity attributed their inability to meet their essential living costs, such as housing, groceries, medical care and utilities, because of the escalating costs-of-living. This was also evidenced by the Salvation Army's 2024 Red Shield Report, which found that 45% of respondents reported having to choose between paying their rent or mortgage and buying the food they need in the last 12 months.¹⁰

Natural disasters

Natural disasters are another driver of food insecurity among Australians. While the overall percentage of households citing natural disasters as contributing to their food insecurity has decreased from 19% in 2022 to 7% in 2024, these events remain significant for some.¹¹ Notably, 9% of households accessing food support for the first time identified natural disasters as a factor contributing to their food insecurity.

As the number of extreme weather events associated with climate change continue to rise, this vulnerability can only be expected to increase. In 2024 there were 24 flooding events characterised as natural disasters according to the Australian disaster database.¹² As a result, instances of food shortages are becoming more common across Australia. For example, in January 2024 flooding in the Northern Territory left supermarket shelves bare as supply chains became disrupted while cyclone Jasper in far north Queensland led to shortages in fruit supplies.¹³

Interrelated nature of disadvantage

For some people, there are multiple factors that can exacerbate their experience of food insecurity. This is known as intersectionality and refers to how different aspects of a person's identity can interact with social structures and systems, amplifying their experience of oppression and/or marginalisation¹⁴. These include:

- **Geographic location** – Geographically isolated populations are also more vulnerable to food insecurity. There are higher costs and distributional challenges associated with transporting foods to remote communities, meaning the cost of groceries is consistently higher than the national average¹⁵.
- **Socioeconomic status** – lower-income households, classified as those below \$30,000, remain particularly vulnerable to food insecurity.¹⁶ In 2024, 48% of low-income households were classified

⁸ https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Agriculture/FoodsecurityinAustralia/Report

⁹ https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/ct/publication/documents/2024-09/IM_Nat_August24_v1.pdf

¹⁰ <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/red-shield-appeal/report-24/>

¹¹ https://reports.foodbank.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024_Foodbank_Hunger_Report_IPSOS-Report.pdf

¹² <https://www.disasterassist.gov.au/find-a-disaster/australian-disasters>

¹³ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-22/nt-flooding-freight-disruptions-supermarket-food-supplies/103374468>

¹⁴ <https://www.vic.gov.au/understanding-intersectionality>

¹⁵ https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Agriculture/FoodsecurityinAustralia/Report

¹⁶ https://aifs.gov.au/sites/default/files/publication-documents/2009_cfca_understanding_food_insecurity_in_australia_0.pdf

as food insecure.¹⁷ This vulnerability is often exacerbated by the rising cost of living, with those households already experiencing financial hardship having limited capacity to manage unexpected expenses and price inflation.

- **First Nations people** – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations face disproportionately high rates of food insecurity. According to the 2012–13 Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, 22% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people lived in households where someone went without food when household supplies ran out, compared to just 3.7% in the non-Indigenous population.¹⁸
- **Cultural and linguistic diversity (CALD) backgrounds** – People from CALD backgrounds, particularly migrants and refugees are at a heightened risk of food insecurity due to multiple intersecting factors. Challenges such as unfamiliarity with Australian foods and difficulty finding culturally appropriate food suppliers make accessing appropriate foods for their nutritional needs more difficult.¹⁹ In addition, structural barriers, including higher rates of unemployment and language or cultural challenges, further exacerbate their vulnerability to food insecurity.

2.3 Consequences of food insecurity

Food insecurity poses significant risks to the mental, physical and social health of both adults and children.²⁰ Moderate and severe food insecurity can force households to compromise on nutrition in place of affordable, energy-dense foods or by reducing the size and frequency of meals. Additionally, households experiencing severe food insecurity frequently forgo essential healthcare or medications to manage limited resources, increasing their risk of chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and obesity.

The mental health consequences of food insecurity can also be profound. The constant worry about affording future meals can create significant emotional stress, which can lead to anxiety, depression, and reduced overall wellbeing.

However, food insecurity is only part of a complex system of causes and effects. For some it can be the cause of other challenges such as worsening health or reducing the ability to focus on other important aspects of life, whilst for others it can be the consequence of issues such as rising living costs, job loss, and unexpected expenses.

The role of alleviating food insecurity is therefore much more than reducing immediate hunger and providing people with nutrition. Food relief has the potential to empower people by freeing up household resources for other essential needs such as medications, energy, fuel, and education, allowing them to leave abusive or intimidating relationships, and generally provide people with dignity and positive impacts on their wellbeing.

On a much larger scale, food relief has the potential to contribute to a more equitable society – ensuring that all Australians have access to the fundamental human right of safe and nutritious food. This can also positively affect the Australian economy as positive health and wellbeing allows people to play an active part in family and community life, as well as providing positive contributions to the country's civic and economic wellbeing.

For children and younger people, access to sufficient and healthy food has the potential to reduce barriers that can have long-term consequences on their life-chances. There is substantial evidence on

¹⁷ https://reports.foodbank.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024_Foodbank_Hunger_Report_IPSOS-Report.pdf

¹⁸ <https://aifs.gov.au/resources/policy-and-practice-papers/understanding-food-insecurity-australia>

¹⁹ Ibid

²⁰ <https://aifs.gov.au/resources/policy-and-practice-papers/understanding-food-insecurity-australia>

the link between hungry school children and their educational outcomes – it is therefore not an understatement to identify the potential contribution that food relief can play in the alleviation of life-long poverty.

3. How Foodbank creates value

Foodbank is a major part of the food and grocery supply chain to the charity sector working with thousands of community organisations (sometimes referred to as ‘agencies’) and volunteers to coordinate the distribution of food.

In 2024, they provided large-scale support:

- Distributing over 42.6M kgs of food and groceries, the equivalent to over 76 million meals.
- Supporting around 1.2 million households experiencing food insecurity. Some of the people supported access the service occasionally. Some depend on it most days.
- Assisting approximately 3,320 schools to provide food to children.²¹

3.1 The activity

To provide food relief on such a scale, Foodbank utilise various mechanisms to source and distribute food and groceries, including:

- **Surprise chain** – Providing a role as a central hub for the collection of surplus food and other groceries that would potentially be wasted from farms, manufacturers, and retailers.
- Collaborative supply program – Partnering with manufacturers to source regular supplies of staple foods.
- Distribution network – Utilising their infrastructure and distribution network of thousands of members and partners to ensure distribution of millions of tonnes of food annually across Australia.
- School breakfast program – Supporting thousands of schools nationwide to provide school breakfast programs to children and in some cases members of their families.
- Disaster relief – Providing emergency and disaster response by ensuring food supplies are stockpiled in areas likely to need them when required.
- Agriculture program – Working with growers and producers to source and distribute fresh produce.
- Awareness raising – Increasing recognition of the challenges of food insecurity and food waste, as well as highlighting solutions to help increase responsible practices amongst organisations and members of the public.
- Advocacy – Campaigning for legislative changes to both reduce the need for food relief and improve the ability to respond to the increasing demand.

3.2 Scope of analysis

Between April 2024 and January 2025, two Social Return on Investment (SROI) assessments were conducted to identify the impacts and value created by providing food relief to people in need. The two models analysed were:

- **Everyday Food Relief programs** – covering the provision of food and groceries to people in need via a range of modalities including food pantries operated directly by Foodbank, as well as distribution by food and non-food agencies.
- **School Breakfast Programs** – covering all modes of delivery from grab and go models to options where students are seated for a full breakfast that also includes important social aspects.

²¹ <https://www.foodbank.org.au/faqs/?state=au>

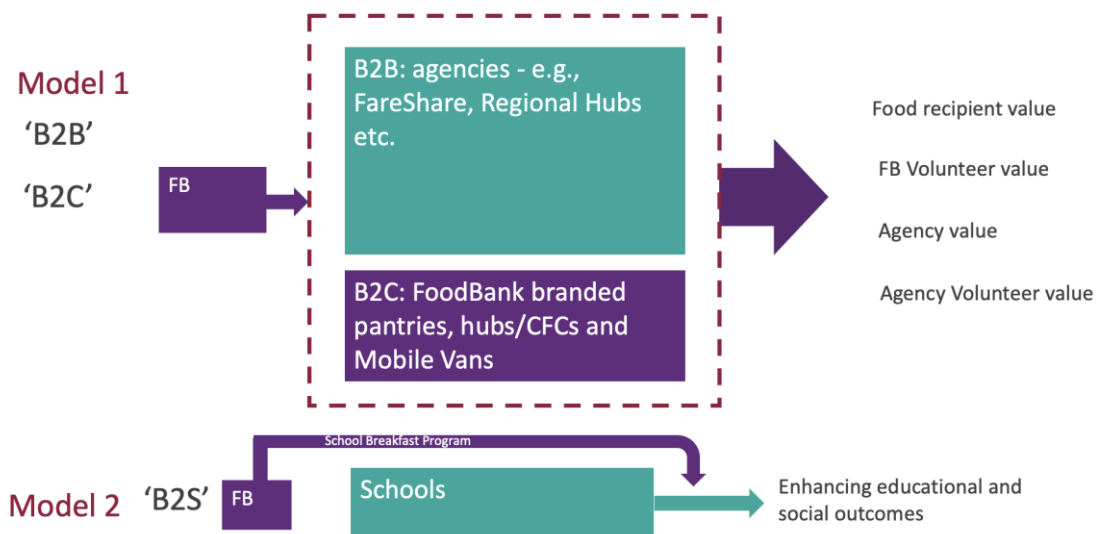


Figure 4 Modelling approach – value through system

3.3 Everyday Food Relief (EFR) model

Everyday Food Relief (EFR) covers the range of modalities of providing food to people in need. This includes people directly accessing food from Foodbank via a pantry, social supermarket, or warehouse site, as well as options where food is provided by Foodbank partners such as charities, religious groups and Neighbourhood Houses. The only modalities not included within EFR are School Breakfast Programs (SBP) and emergency and disaster relief.

There is significant complexity and variety in how EFR is provided across Australia. The SROI model does not attempt to assess different modalities as this would require extremely detailed and large sample sizes across the different options. As illustrated above, the EFR model does identify two important and distinct options to account for general differences in Foodbank’s modes of delivery – those of:

- **Business-to-business (B2B)** – where food is provided to food and non-food agency partners to distribute to recipients. This equates for about 79% of Foodbank’s EFR provision, supporting an estimated 323,764 adults and 298,859 children frequently.
- **Business-to-consumer (B2C)** – where food is delivered directly to recipients via options including food hubs, pantries, and social supermarkets. This equates for about 21% of Foodbank’s EFR provision, supporting an estimated 84,239 adults and 77,759 children frequently.

During the assessment period (FY24), 42.6M kg of food was distributed through the EFR program:

- Supporting 784,621 people (Hunger Map 2024) – with an estimated 408,003 adults and 376,618 children.
- 79% of recipients received food at least monthly.
- EFR equated to 93.1% of the total food distributed (with SBP making up the remaining 6.9%).

3.3.1 Stakeholders included

A range of stakeholders were engaged as part of the SROI process. These are included on the SROI model for EFR as providing valuable inputs and, in most cases, experiencing material impacts.

The SROI model considers EFR recipients who receive food at least monthly to be frequent users (79% based on Hunger Report 2024 data). Those recipients experience a range of different impacts from EFR. Those receiving food less frequently are also accounted for, although they are anticipated to receive

fewer impacts. Children in the families of EFR recipients are only accounted for when their parents/carers receive food frequently – as it is unlikely that children living in a household receiving food infrequently will experience material impacts.

Table 1 EFR stakeholder groups – overview of their inputs and potential to experience outcomes

Stakeholder	Stakeholders providing monetised inputs	Stakeholders experiencing material outcomes
Adult food recipients	No – although they will use their time to access EFR, it is standard practice not to monetise the value of this input	Yes – this stakeholder group experience significant material outcomes
Children food recipients	No – it is unlikely that children provide much time to EFR other than consuming the food	Yes – this stakeholder group experience significant material outcomes
Foodbank	Yes – valuable financial resources that pay for food, staff, and much of the infrastructure of EFR. The investment provided by Foodbank includes all resources provided by government, corporate, non-government, and individual provision and donations	No – material outcomes are experienced by other stakeholders as a result of their investments
Foodbank volunteers (non-corporate)	Yes – the time contribution is included as a valuable and monetised input	Yes – they experience material impacts through their involvement with Foodbank and EFR
Foodbank volunteers (corporate)	Yes – the time contribution is included as a valuable and monetised input	No – although there will be benefits experienced by the corporate volunteers, the average amount of time they each volunteer is relatively low, so it is likely there are no sustained material outcomes from their involvement in EFR
Agency volunteers	No – although they provide valuable time investments, the model accounts for these when considering the attribution of other stakeholders	Yes – this stakeholder group experience material outcomes through their work with agencies and EFR
Society / the environment	No – societal inputs through donations of food and financial resources are already accounted for when considering Foodbank's inputs	Yes – environmental outcomes associated with avoided food waste and food sent to landfill are included as material impacts
Food donors	Yes – value of food donated and the in-kind contribution of food deliveries has been monetised	No – outcomes not considered material

3.3.2 Material outcomes

To develop the model, qualitative and quantitative research helped to identify a range of relevant and significant outcomes for stakeholders. Drawing on this research, for each stakeholder group, the benefit

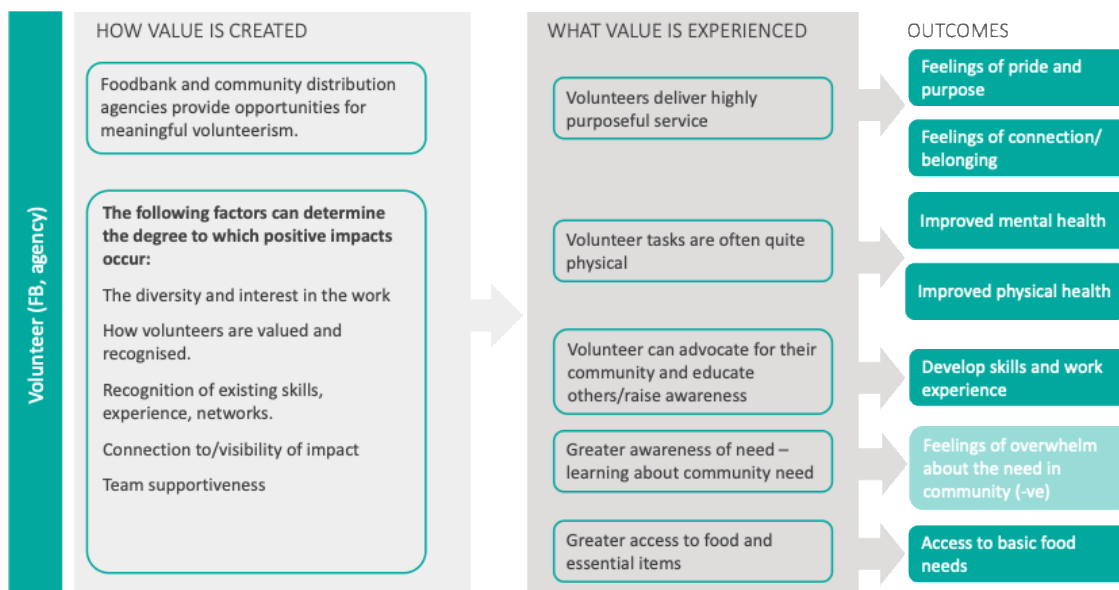


Figure 9 Volunteer – benefit pathway

Agencies

The following image illustrates the outputs from the survey when agencies were asked what three words they would use to describe the impact of food relief on them. The value experienced by agencies is captured through the agency volunteer stakeholder group.



Figure 10 How agencies described the impact of Foodbank services

3.4 School Breakfast Program

Important note: The SBP SROI model does not include any data relating to Foodbank Victoria so all information below relates to the other states.

School Breakfast Program (SBP) supported 2,104 schools across Australia in 2024. Each Foodbank state-based team supports schools with varied means of providing food to children. Modes of delivery vary based on variables including: ²²

- Frequency of provision – ranging from only as required by students to each day.
- Physical setting – including options of eating in the classroom, communal areas, to dedicated café/eating spaces.
- Volunteer and student involvement – with options including combinations of dedicated paid adults, school staff volunteers, community adult volunteers, and student volunteers.
- Food provided – with options including grab and go where children can pick up food such as toast, cereal bars, fruit, and juice and eat before going to class through to full sit-down experiences with cooked and chilled food.

Millions of Australian children are going to school each day without eating breakfast. There are various reasons for this including financial pressures in their household and the challenges of managing morning work and school routines. Resultant impacts on energy levels, educational attainment, and disruption in the class are well-evidenced, with longer-term causal impacts on life-chances also posing significant risks to children.

Respondents to research conducted for the SBP SROI identified that Foodbank:

- Supported an average (median) of 35 students per week.
- Supported an average (median) of 55,230 students annually.
- Provided an average (median) of 368,200 meals per week.

Results also indicated that:

- 75% of schools reported providing SBP at least 3 times per week.
- 59% of schools provide food daily.
- 60% students reported to miss breakfast if not for the program.
- 45% programs are the grab and go model.

The SROI model only considers stakeholders where SBP recipients receive food at least three times per week to experience material outcomes. Where provision is less than this, it is less likely that students experience sustained material impacts.

3.4.1 Stakeholders included

The SBP impacts multiple stakeholders, not just children who receive food. The range of stakeholders are highlighted below along with identification of where inputs and material outcomes are included.

²² Adapted from Hill *et al.* (2022)

Table 2 SBP Stakeholder groups – overview of their inputs and potential to experience outcomes

Stakeholder	Stakeholders providing monetised inputs	Stakeholders experiencing material outcomes
Children participants	No – although they will use their time to access SBP, it is standard practice not to monetise this value	Yes – this stakeholder group experience material outcomes
Parents/carers of school students	No – it is unlikely that parents/carers provide a significant contribution to SBP	Yes – this stakeholder group experience material outcomes
School teachers	No – although in some cases teachers may volunteer their time to SBP, this is accounted for within adult volunteers	Yes – this stakeholder group experience material outcomes
Children in school who are not SBP recipients	No – they do not contribute any inputs to SBP	Yes – although these children may not be receiving SBP, they are still likely to experience outcomes because of other children receiving breakfast
Foodbank	Yes – valuable financial resources that pay for food, staff, and much of the infrastructure of SBP are included. The resources provided by Foodbank includes all resources provided by government, corporate, non-government, and individual provision and donations	No – material outcomes are experienced by other stakeholders because of their investments
Foodbank volunteers (non-corporate)	Yes – the time contribution is included as a valuable and monetised input	Yes – they experience material outcomes through their involvement with Foodbank and its contribution to SBP
Foodbank volunteers (corporate)	Yes – the time contribution is included as a valuable and monetised input	No – although there will be benefits experienced by the corporate volunteers, the average amount of time they each volunteer is relatively low, so it is likely there are no sustained material outcomes from their involvement in Foodbank and its contribution to SBP
Volunteers – students	Yes – the time contribution is included as a valuable and monetised input	Yes – this stakeholder group experience material outcomes
Volunteers – parents, carers & community	Yes – the time contribution is included as a valuable and monetised input	Yes – this stakeholder group experience material outcomes

Stakeholder	Stakeholders providing monetised inputs	Stakeholders experiencing material outcomes
Society/the environment	No – societal inputs through donations of food and financial resources are already accounted for when considering Foodbank’s inputs	Yes – environmental impacts associated with avoided food waste and food sent to landfill are included as material outcomes

3.4.2 Material outcomes

The following image illustrates the outputs of the SBP survey when respondents were asked what three words they would use to describe the impact of the SBP.



Figure 11 How schools described the impact of Foodbank services

As for the EFR model, qualitative and quantitative research helped to identify a range of relevant and significant outcomes for stakeholders. Drawing on this research, the benefit pathways for each stakeholder group is illustrated. This includes SBP participants, parents and carers, volunteers, classroom teachers, and other students.

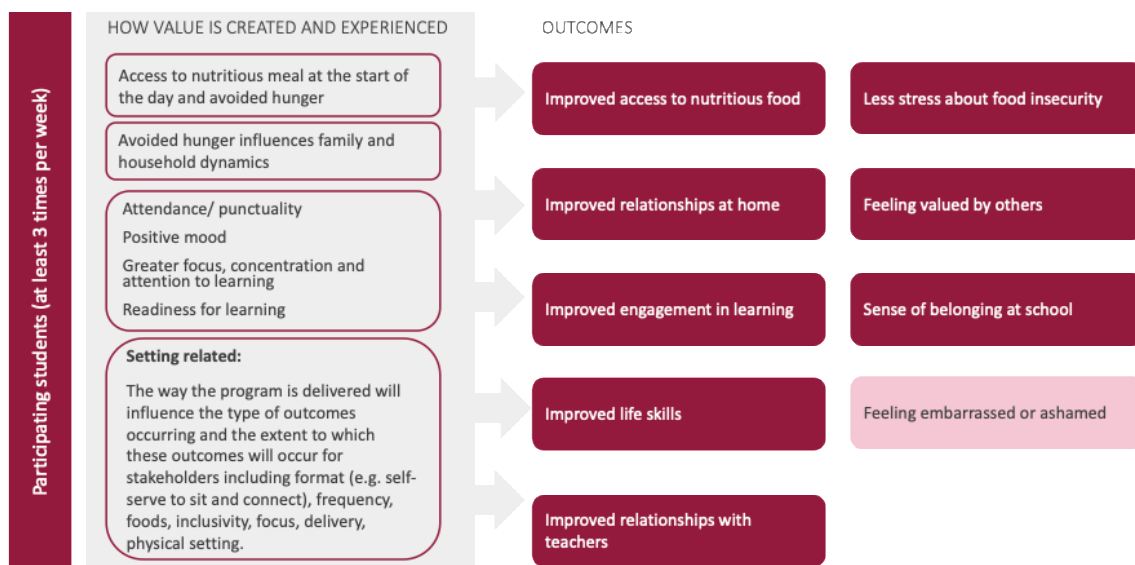


Figure 12 SBP participating students – benefit pathway

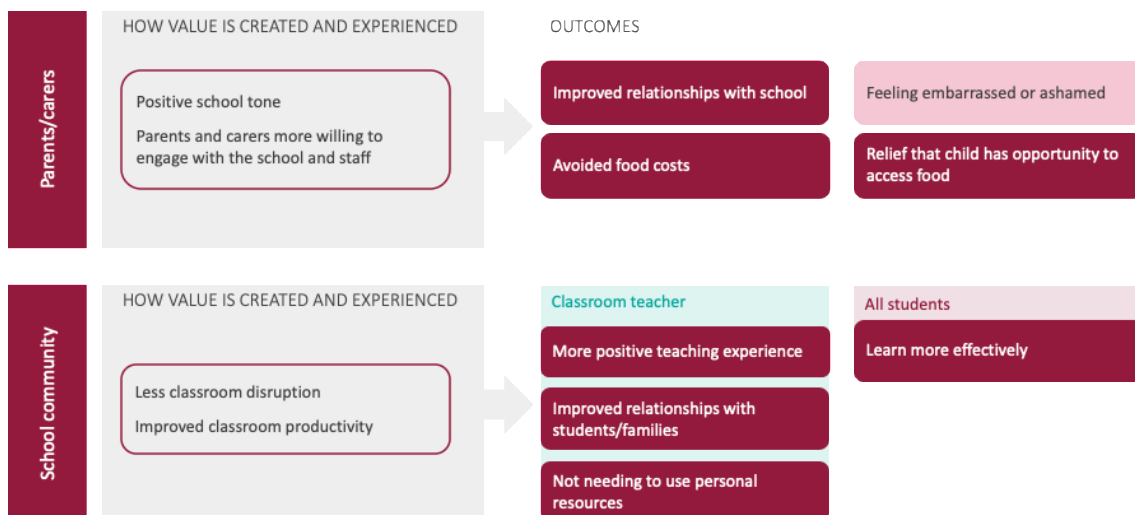


Figure 13 SBP school community, classroom teacher and other students – benefit pathway

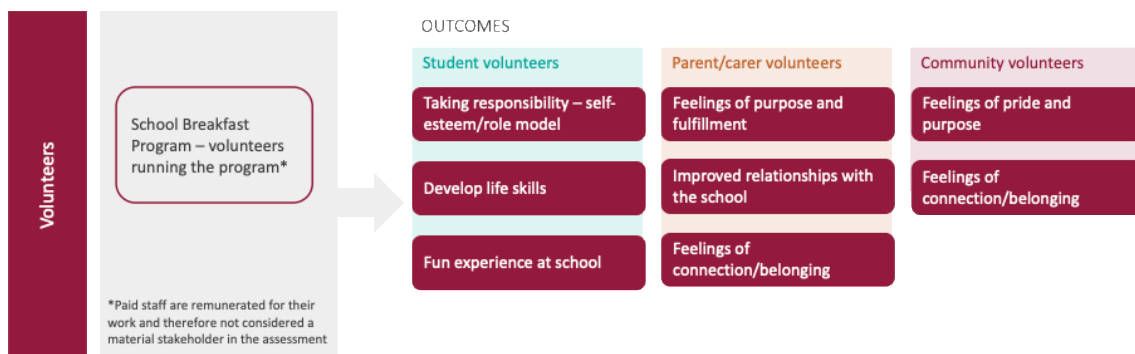


Figure 14 SBP volunteer – benefit pathways

3.5 Scope of investment

To provide an accurate assessment of the value of the investment required to power both EFR and SBP, financial and non-financial resources needed to be considered, quantified and monetised. This is in-line with best-practice standards for SROI analyses that compares the monetary value of impacts to the value required to generate them.

The inputs captured by the assessments include financial resources provided by Foodbank and government agencies, donations of food and other in-kind support, and Foodbank and agency volunteer time. Being able to identify the annual value of all inputs allows the models to present a complete assessment of system-wide value generated for a range of materially affected stakeholders.

For those stakeholders that contribute to both EFR and SBP (i.e., Foodbank, and Foodbank volunteers) an appropriate division of the value of their inputs was calculated based on the total kilograms of food provided to each program. It was identified that 6.9% of total food provided (excluding Foodbank Victoria) went to SBP. Therefore, 6.9% of total investment value was attributed to the SBP, with the remaining 93.1% to EFR.

The value of the contribution from community agencies, along with their volunteers was not included as monetised inputs. Instead, these important contributions to the system of food relief are captured as part of attribution. The specific figures are highlighted later in the report.

Figure 15 illustrates the total Foodbank inputs for FY2024.

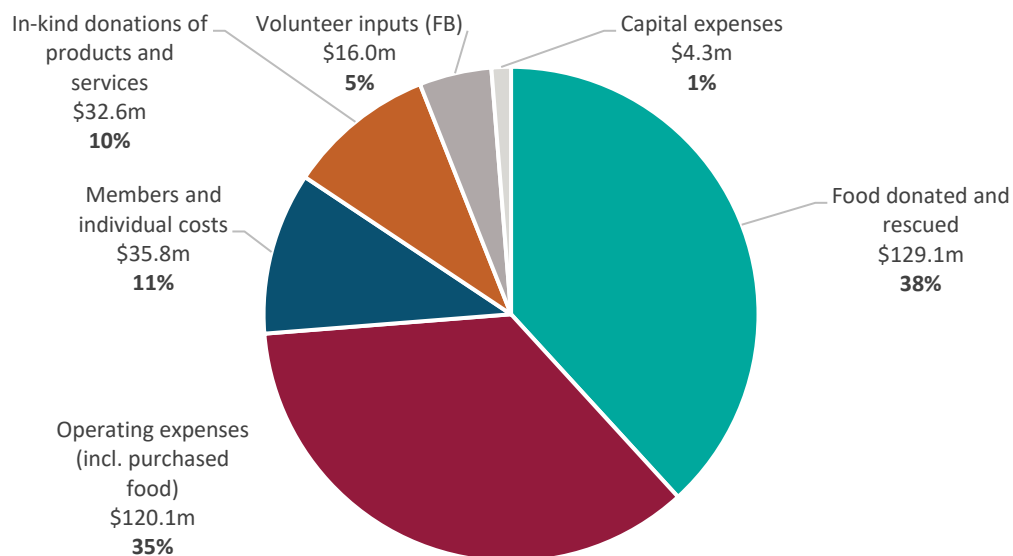


Figure 15 FB inputs for FY24

The following tables outline all annual investments for FY24. The first table outlines the total value of inputs from Foodbank and their volunteers, with subsequent tables highlighting the specific investments for EFR and SBP.

Table 3 Overview of Foodbank inputs over a 12-month period (FY24)

Stakeholder	Financial investments	Non-financial investments	Total value of investments
Foodbank – all states and central	Total operating expenses = \$120,085,339 Depreciation & Amortisation = \$4,295,418 Member & individual fees collected = \$35,814,991	Donated food (based on purchase costs per kg) = \$129,117,229 In-kind donations (e.g., logistics) = \$32,614,182	\$321,927,159
Foodbank volunteers	N/A	Calculated based on total number of hours donated (311,133) at \$43.02 ²³ per hour = \$15,970,480	\$15,970,480
Totals	\$160,195,748	\$177,701,891	\$337,897,639

Table 4 Inputs of Everyday Food Relief (EFR) over a 12-month period (FY24)

Stakeholder	Financial investments	Non-financial investments	Total value of investments
Foodbank – all states and central	Share of total operating expenses (93.1%) = \$111,799,451 Share of depreciation & Amortisation (93.1%) = \$3,999,034 Share of member & individual fees collected (93.1%) = \$33,343,757	Share of donated food (93.1%) (based on purchase costs per kg) = \$120,208,140 Share of in-kind donations (e.g., logistics (93.1%) = \$30,363,803	\$299,714,185
Foodbank volunteers	N/A	Share of donated hours (93.1%). (289,665) at \$43.02 per hour = \$14,868,517	\$14,868,517
Totals	\$149,142,242	\$165,440,460	\$314,582,702

Figure 16 illustrates the total School Breakfast Program inputs for FY2024.

²³ Volunteering Australia (2017) 'Volunteering Support Services' [PDF], Volunteering Australia

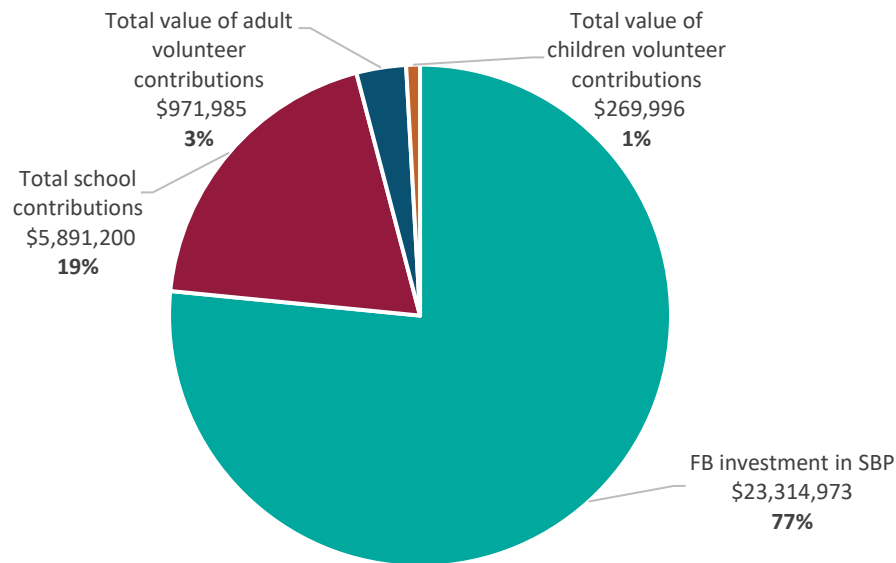


Figure 16 SBP inputs for FY24

Table 5 inputs for School Breakfast Program over 12-month period (FY24)

Stakeholder	Financial investments	Non-financial investments	Total value of investments
Foodbank – all states and central	Share of operating expenses (6.9%) = \$8,285,888 Share of depreciation & Amortisation (6.9%) = \$270,611 Share of member & individual fees collected (6.9%) = \$2,471,234	Share of donated food (6.9%) (based on purchase costs per kg) = \$8,909,089 Share of in-kind donations (6.9%) (e.g., logistics) = \$2,250,379	\$23,314,973
Schools	Average (median) of \$70 per week X 40 weeks X 2,104 schools = \$5,891,200	The schools do also provide in-kind resources such as cooking facilities and venues for SBP. These are accounted for by the inclusion of further attribution to the schools.	\$5,891,200
Adult volunteers	N/A	Calculated based on total number of hours donated (18,936) at \$43.02 per hour = \$971,985	\$971,985

Stakeholder	Financial investments	Non-financial investments	Total value of investments
Student volunteers	N/A	Calculated based on total number of hours donated (10,520) at \$21.51 per hour = \$269,996	\$269,996
Totals	\$16,918,933	\$13,529,185	\$30,448,118

4. The value created by EFR

Without Foodbank I would either be homeless or starving myself. – Food recipient

It's given me food for the first time in three weeks. – Food recipient

The EFR program creates significant value for multiple stakeholders, not just people who are recipients of food relief. In total, the social value generated from EFR from a single year's investment was estimated to be \$1,828,996,390.

When compared to the value of investment required to generate this value the social return on investment can be identified as 5.83:1 – this indicates for each \$1 of value invested, \$5.83 of social value is generated.

In total, over 42.6M kgs of food were provided. When the value is compared to the total amount of food distributed through EFR the result is \$43 for each kilogram of food provided to people in need.

Both the SROI and value per kilogram of food demonstrate the systemic value that EFR generates for stakeholders.



The majority of value generated is experienced by adults and children who are frequent recipients of EFR. These two stakeholder groups experience 97% of the total value. Although a relatively small percentage of value is experienced by other stakeholders in the system, this should not be overlooked. EFR generates substantial value for volunteers who provide their time to Foodbank and other agencies and value to the environment and society from avoided food waste.

Qualitative engagement with stakeholders also highlighted the substantial value that food created for agencies. Food was often cited as a key driver in their ability to engage with people – being both a means of first engaging with people and helping to address one of the challenges they face. Services providing support relating to family violence, mental health, and loneliness were all cited as being better able to support their clients.

Therefore, although the SROI model does not include any quantitative data relating to these matters – food relief contributes to substantial value for non-food agencies and their clients. For many, food is a gateway to improvements in many areas of their lives.

Money not spent on food can go to things like school uniforms and therapy fees – food recipient

Figure 17 below highlights the breakdown of total value experienced by stakeholder (results for B2B and B2C are combined).

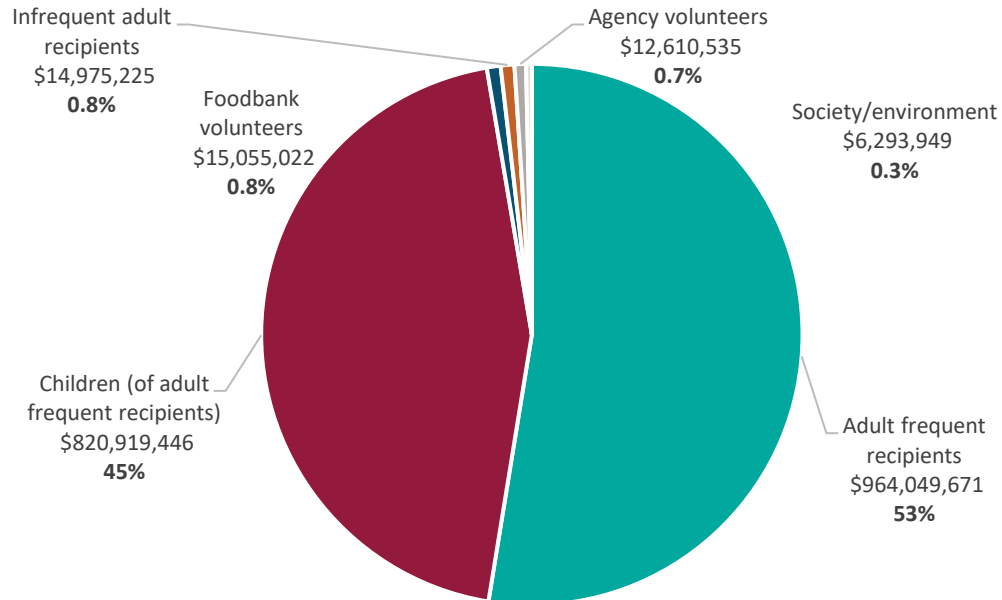


Figure 17 Total value by stakeholder (B2B & B2C approaches combined)

Table 6 Breakdown of total value by stakeholder (B2B & B2C approaches combined)

Stakeholder	Value experienced \$	Proportion of total value
Adult frequent recipients	\$964,049,671	53%
Children (of frequent adult recipients)	\$820,919,446	45%
Foodbank volunteers	\$15,055,022	0.8%
Infrequent adult recipients	\$14,975,225	0.8%
Agency volunteers	\$12,610,535	0.7%
Society/environment	\$6,293,949	0.3%
Total	\$1,833,374,451	100%

4.1 Adult recipients

Frequent adult recipients experience multiple material outcomes from EFR. As illustrated below, adult recipients experience six outcomes.

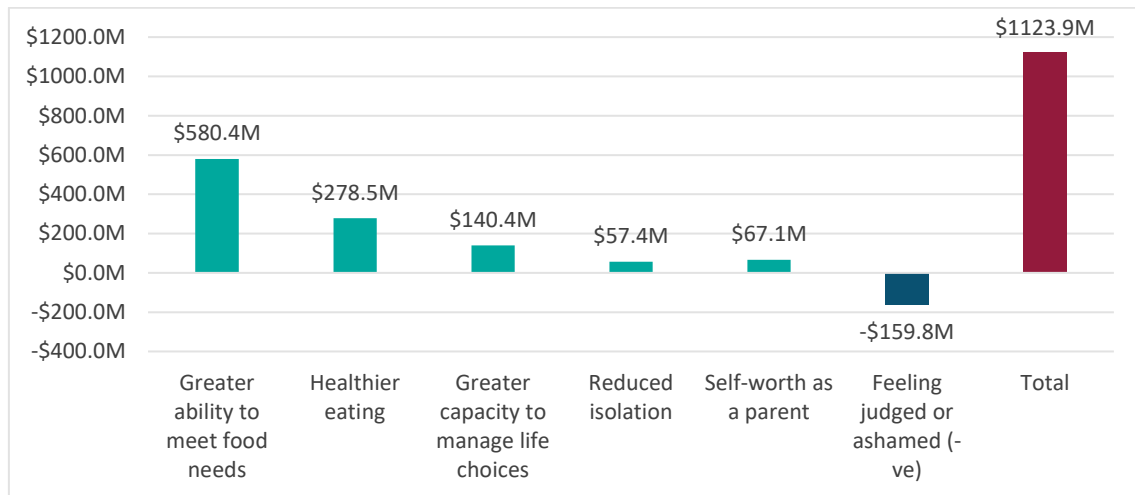


Figure 18 The value experienced by adult recipients (receiving food frequently)

Their ability to meet food needs is the most significant outcome experienced and represents the psychological feelings associated with meeting not only their own food needs, but also those of family members. This impact had by far the greatest incidence from the survey findings, with 93% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that food relief positively impacted this outcome (see Appendix B for a full overview of all outcome incidence results). The same respondents also identified this as the most valuable change experienced.

Healthier eating is the second most significant impact, with a significant response rate highlighting this to be an effect experienced from EFR, and one of high value. Although food available was reported to not always meet all requirements, increased access to fresh fruit and vegetables and other staple food stuffs was highlighted by many people as a significant and valuable impact of EFR.

*[Without Foodbank] we would be eating so badly, that our health would have suffered –
Food recipient*

The increased ability to manage life with choices is an important outcome for many people. Qualitative engagement highlighted multiple specific issues where food relief increased people's:

- Ability to leave abusive relationships as people were less dependent on their partners for ongoing financial support.

My husband transferred all of our money out of our joint account. He did that to try and starve me out so I would go back to him. Because I had the food hamper I didn't have to go home ... – Food recipient

- Capacity to do other things with their families such as afford fuel in their vehicles for a day out or afford to visit a family attraction.

*If it weren't for Foodbank, we'd not be able to afford to run our vehicle or pay our bills. –
Food recipient*

- Ability to focus on health issues as the worry about meeting basic food needs were addressed.

By getting food from Foodbank it allows me to eat and not make the heart-wrenching decision to buy food or medicine for my daughter, who is disabled. – Food recipient

As with any initiative there are negative impacts experienced by some stakeholders. Feedback from recipients highlighted a relatively low incidence of embarrassment or feelings of stigma (20% of respondents), although the value of this negative impact is high. Foodbank and agencies were frequently commended by recipients for their efforts to make people's experiences positive – with many people valuing approaches such as the format of stores and availability of products (not just healthy options) helping to make things feel like a regular shopping experience.

The value of all material impacts for frequent adult recipients are illustrated below.

Table 7 Value per outcome for frequent adult EFR recipients

Impacts for frequent adult EFR recipients	Impact value \$	Proportion of total value
Greater ability to meet food needs	\$580,415,626	60%
Healthier eating	\$278,497,673	29%
Feeling judged or ashamed (negative)	\$(159,802,712)	-17%
Greater capacity to manage life choices	\$140,384,913	15%
Self-worth as a parent	\$67,115,913	7%
Connections/feeling supported by community	\$57,438,259	6%
Total	\$964,049,671	100%

4.2 Children recipients

Children of the adults who receive food frequently also experience significant impacts. As illustrated below, children recipients experience five outcomes.

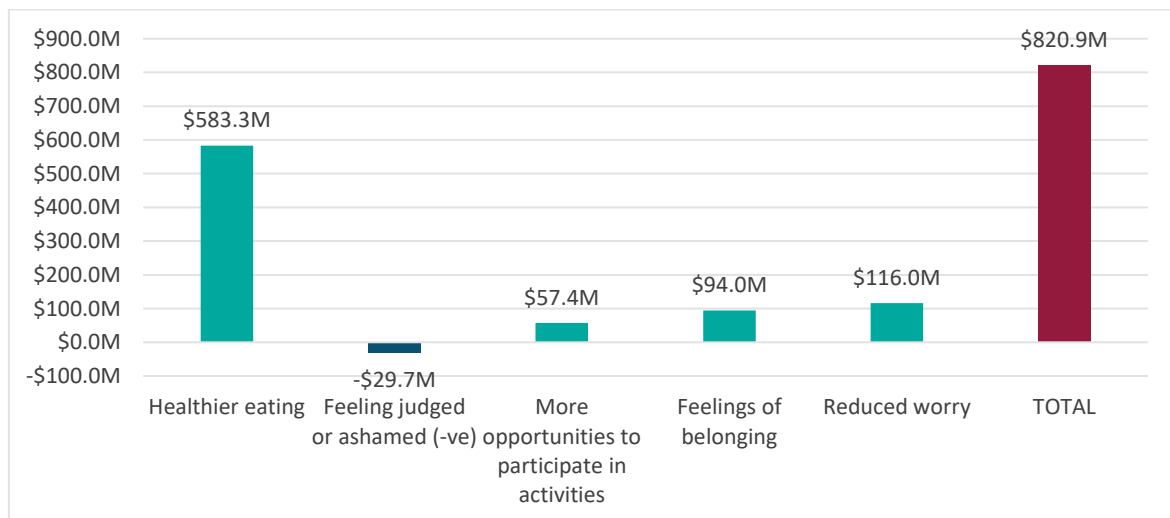


Figure 19 The value experienced by children by outcome receiving food frequently

The most significant impact for children is that of healthier eating. Access to essential food and a balanced diet is crucial for a child's development, and when parents/carers access EFR frequently children experience this benefit.

Quantitative data from parents identified this as both the most valuable impact for children and the one most experienced. This supported qualitative evidence from parents and other stakeholders who often identified the impact of sufficient and healthier food as a key benefit of EFR.

[As a result of Foodbank] I am able to provide healthier food options for my children. – Food recipient

I can actually say yes to things the kids ask for at the supermarket. The kids can eat all the fruit they want without me rationing it. – Food recipient

A parent/carer's ability to provide food for children provides a range of psychological benefits to children. In particular, parents identified reduced worry about the family's food situation as the second most significant outcome for children. Qualitative engagements highlighted the risks to children's mental wellbeing and the associated adultisation that occurred from recognising their family's circumstances. Reducing children's awareness and concerns about issues their parents/carers may be facing allows them to be children and focus more on the things that should matter to them.

[My children] don't ever need to worry about going without meals or the stress not paying bills brings the family. – Food recipient

We are able to do more enjoyable things as a family without the stress of putting good food on the table. – Food recipient

Another positive outcome experienced by children is the increased ability to socialise more with their friends, make stronger connections, and ultimately feel a greater sense of belonging. Just over 50% of parents/carers reported that as families' financial challenges are eased by EFR, there is an increased ability for children to do other things that would otherwise be less likely owing to a lack of funds and/or time.

When children are aware of their family's situation and the need for EFR, there is the risk they feel judged, ashamed, or embarrassed. This is unavoidable, but similar to the experience of parents, feedback highlighted a low (14%) incidence of this negative impact. Nevertheless, the existence of this and any negative impact provides useful insights on possible improvements. The table below summarises the value of each outcome, and the proportion of the value.

Table 5 Value per outcome for children EFR recipients

Impacts for children EFR recipients	Impact value \$	Proportion of total value
Healthier eating	\$583,255,292	71%
Feeling judged or ashamed (negative)	\$(29,718,568)	-4%
More opportunities to participate in activities	\$57,373,383	7%
Feelings of belonging	\$93,976,304	11%
Reduced worry	\$116,033,034	14%
Total	\$820,919,446	100%

4.3 Other stakeholder value

The total value experienced by other stakeholders is around 2% of the total. Whilst relatively low overall, it equates to approximately \$45 million of social value.

This substantial value is primarily experienced by Foodbank non-corporate volunteers and those that volunteer with agencies. Annually:

- Over 2,000 people regularly volunteer with Foodbank.²⁴
- The total number of hours donated by Foodbank volunteers is estimated to be over 270,000.
- Each person provided an average of 129 hours of unpaid work.

So many people donate their time to Foodbank, and the substantial value they experience highlights the reasons they do it. Volunteers not only provide valuable services to members of the community, but they also gain substantial value themselves. In particular, strengthening connections to their community and the people within it, levels of pride, and their mental health were all reported as positive experiences by an overwhelming majority of volunteers.

Volunteering has made me feel more connected to the community. As a foreigner, it gives me a sense of belonging and purpose. I've always wanted to contribute to society, and Foodbank has given me the perfect opportunity to do that. – volunteer

If I didn't come here I would stay at home and never leave the house. It's been good for me to have physical activity and talk to people. – volunteer

It has helped me stay connected with people while I go through the loss of my husband. – Volunteer

As a recent retiree, volunteering provides structure and a new sense of identity. – Volunteer

Feedback from Foodbank volunteers clearly identified the two impacts of pride and connections to the community as the most valuable experiences gained. Volunteers spoke passionately of their ability to support other people in need and contribute positively – whether retirees with time and knowledge or younger people wanting to also gain valuable transferrable skills, the contribution from and value to volunteers is a significant element of EFR and further demonstrates the systemic value of food relief.

As a social work student, volunteering for Foodbank, provides me with a direct opportunity to serve the community and engage with service users to understand their different circumstances and how Foodbank impacts their life. – Volunteer

Personally, it has given me the opportunity to gain work experience in a safe environment. It has been a great place to meet people from different backgrounds while serving the community. – Volunteer

People who volunteer with food and non-food agencies are also key to an effective food relief system. Almost 3,000 agencies work with Foodbank, with an estimated total of 15,000 people providing their time to support food relief and other concerns facing people in their communities.

²⁴ As with the value of the inputs, 93% of this was attributed to EFR.

These volunteers experience the same outcomes as people who donate their time with Foodbank. However, because these volunteers are more likely to have direct contact with people in need from their communities, the value experienced in relation to connections with community is the most valuable experience.

The impacts identified for volunteers of food and non-food agencies helps us to better understand the indirect value that food relief contributes to. The volunteers, the agencies, and ultimately people utilising their services benefit from the role that food relief plays.

Being able to reach out to people in a community who may otherwise be less likely to seek or receive much needed support is key to addressing what can often be multi-faceted challenges. Food can act as a bridge to help people on their journey to improved health and wellbeing.

4.4 Environmental impacts

Foodbank help to divert food and groceries that may otherwise have ended up as waste and sent to landfill. Each kilogram of food that goes to landfill is a missed and wasted opportunity to provide support to people who need it.

Although the current full cost of food sent to landfill can appear relatively low (\$187 per tonne = \$0.187 per kg), when the total amount of food diverted by Foodbank from becoming waste is factored in, the value is significant:

- Over 34 million kilograms of food is estimated to be diverted from landfill.
- A total of almost \$6.5M of value is generated by avoiding food unnecessarily going to landfill.

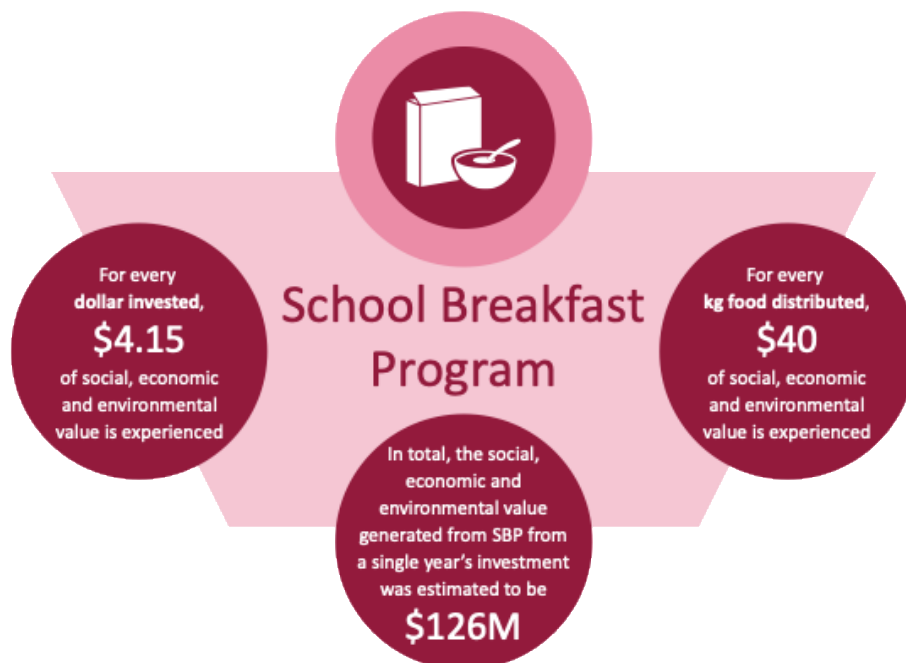
Foodbank ensure that as much food as possible reaches the people who need it. Less than 2.5% of food goes to landfill from Foodbank's nationwide activities. This figure is much less than would otherwise be the case if donations were alternatively transported to landfill and become waste. In total just over 1 million kilograms of food and waste is sent to landfill from Foodbank's operations – with a negative social value of almost \$218,000.

5. The value created by SBP

[Without SBP] Their whole day would be completely out of shape. Their social interactions would be completely different, their engagement in education would certainly diminish, their understanding of nutritional foods would be minimal, their view of the world would bring greater resentment, they would feel even more disparate from mainstream Australia. – teacher

The SBP program creates significant value for multiple stakeholders, not just the children who are the direct recipients of breakfasts. In total, the social value generated from SBP from a single year's investment was estimated to be \$126,216,485.

When compared to the value of investment required to generate this value the social return on investment can be identified as 4.15:1 – this indicates for each \$1 of value invested, \$4.15 of social value is generated. When the value is compared to the total amount of food distributed through SBP the result is \$40 for each kilogram of food provided to people in need.



The following is based on survey responses received from representatives of school breakfast program. The percentage indicates the survey respondents who agreed or strongly agree with the statement.

As a result of the school breakfast program...

Students start the day in a positive mood (95%).

Students are less stressed about their access to food (92%) and access to nutritious food has improved (88%).

Students tend to concentrate better in class (88%) and report feeling more cared for and valued (87%).

Relationships with teachers (77%) and their peers have improved (74%).

Providing food to children in a morning is so much more than feeding hungry children, and SBP generates value at scale for multiple stakeholders. In total:

- Over 2.5 million kilograms of food were provided.
- Over 2,000 schools were supported.
- 75% of schools provided breakfast at least three times per week.
- Over 55,000 school children frequently received breakfast at school.
- Almost 30,000 parents/carers benefitted because of their children receiving breakfast.
- Over 31,000 teachers experienced value because of SBP.
- Over 6,000 adults and 10,000 students volunteered to support SBP and gained valuable impacts.

As would be expected, most social value is experienced by children who are frequent recipients of SBP.²⁵ They experience over 70% of the total value. Significant value is also experienced by parents/carers of the children, as well as other students in the school and their teachers. The figure below highlights the value experienced by each stakeholder.

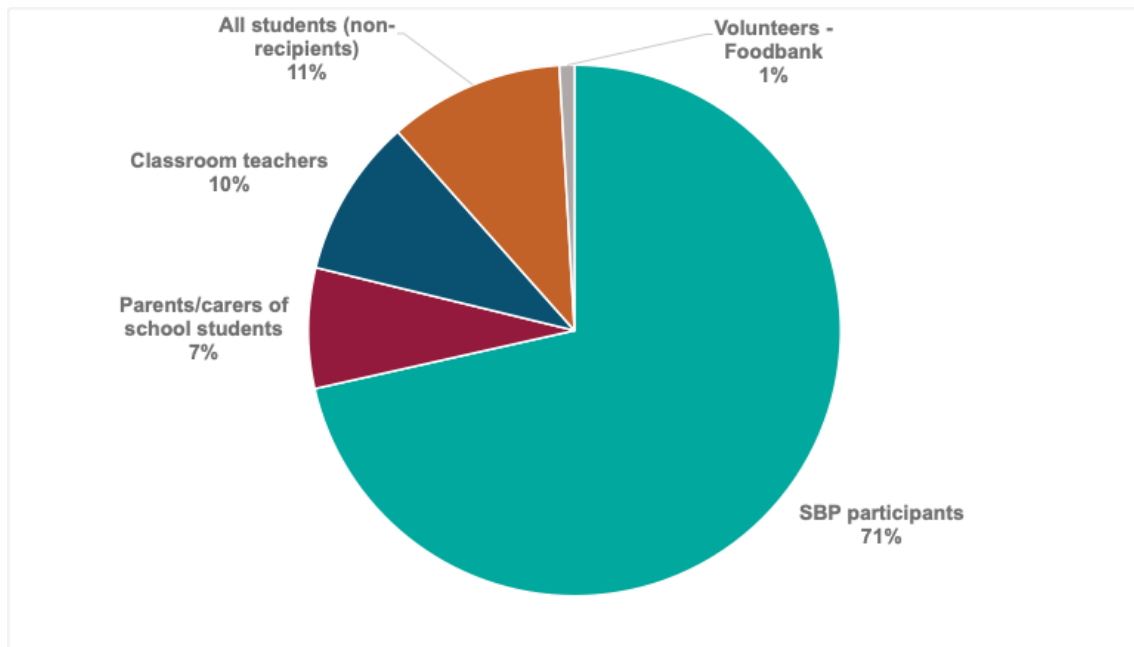


Figure 20 Value experienced by stakeholder group

Table 8 Value experienced by stakeholder group

Stakeholder	Value experienced \$	Proportion of total value
Children frequent recipients	\$89,350,058	71%
Parents/carers of children receiving frequent breakfast	\$9,161,969	7%
Classroom teachers	\$12,054,406	10%
Other children in school not receiving SBP	\$13,295,753	11%

²⁵ At least 3 times per week

Stakeholder	Value experienced \$	Proportion of total value
Foodbank volunteers	\$1,137,046	1%
Student volunteers	\$484,159	<1%
Volunteers – parents, carers & community	\$384,178	<1%
Society/environment	\$348,916	<1%
Total	\$126,216,485	100%

5.1 Children receiving SBP frequently

On average 35 students per week receive some form of SBP, with 75% of the students doing so at least three times per week. Only those students receiving breakfast at least this often are considered as frequent recipients of SBP and are therefore included in the social value analyses. Less often than this, they are unlikely to receive the same benefits and value.

Respondents to the survey identified very strong contributions from the SBP to a range of outcomes. In particular children being less stressed about accessing food, increased access to nutritious food, feeling valued, and improved engagement in learning all received at least 80% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that SBP contributed positively.

Other noticeable results reported from the survey (n=121) included:

- 57% of responses suggesting school attendance had improved for children receiving SBP.
- 78% reporting less disruption in class.
- 88% of recipients being able to concentrate more effectively.
- 95% starting the day more positively.
- Only 4% suggested levels of embarrassment were of concern.

Figure 21 and Table 9 below illustrate the value experienced by frequent student recipients.

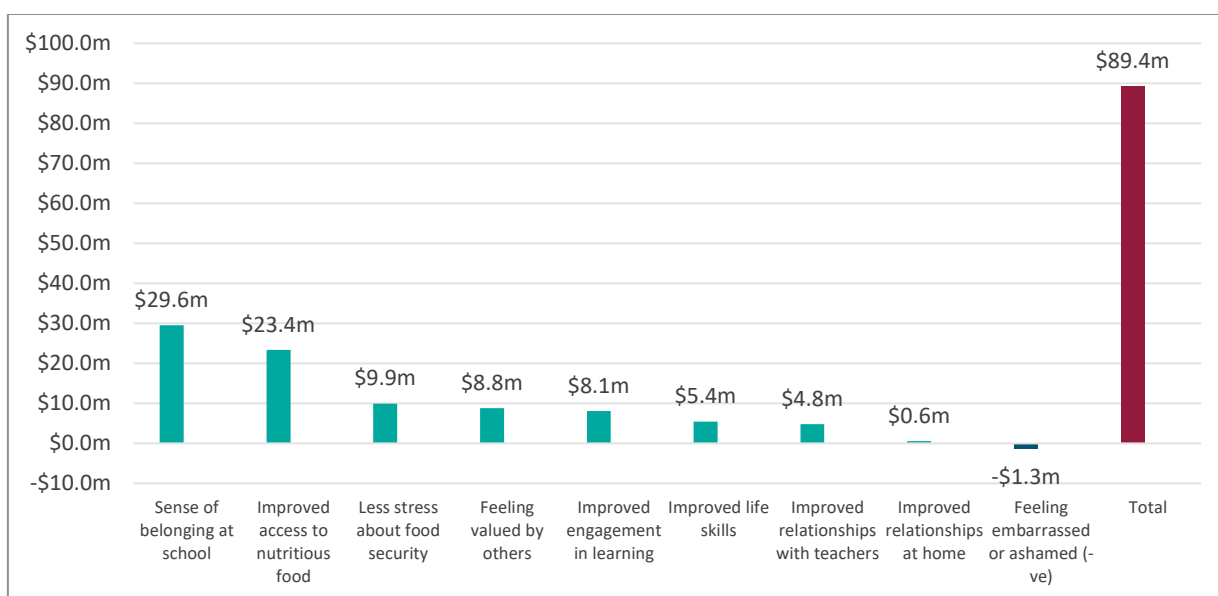


Figure 21 Value experienced by students frequently accessing the SBP

Table 9 Impacts experienced by frequent student recipients

Impacts for frequent children SBP recipients	Impact value \$	Proportion of total value
Sense of belonging at school	\$29,553,756	33%
Improved access to nutritious food	\$23,377,353	26%
Improved relationships with teachers	\$4,775,569	5%
Less stress about food security	\$9,944,086	11%
Feeling valued/cared for	\$8,848,036	10%
Improved engagement in learning	\$8,110,699	9%
Improved life skills ²⁶	\$5,436,289	6%
Improved relationships at home	\$598,296	1%
Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (-negative)	-\$1,294,025	-1%
Total	\$89,350,058	100%

The results for children receiving frequent SBP illustrate that breakfast is not just about the immediate relief of hunger. The various modalities of SBP all provide various positive impacts to students – enhancing their relationships with others, their ability to effectively function, and how they view themselves. These are all essential for the development and future wellbeing of children.

5.2 Parents/carers of children frequently receiving SBP

Parents/carers of those children frequently receiving SBP experience a range of impacts that provide significant overall positive value to them.

The psychological value that comes from the relief of knowing that their children can start the day with breakfast was by far the most valuable and reported impact (over 90% of responses agreed or strongly agreed). Whether the challenges of being able to provide breakfast stems from financial concerns or time pressures in a morning, the comfort to parents/carers that children will be fed is a substantial impact of SBP.

The other positive impacts of reduced costs associated with providing breakfast and improved relationships with teachers and others in the schools was also significant and further demonstrate the wide-ranging benefits experienced in the home. The negative impact associated with feelings of shame or embarrassment are important to consider and provide motivation to constantly look for opportunities to reduce any such experiences. However, there was a low incidence of this impact being reported, with only 7% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that this was an issue faced by parents/carers.

Table 10 below highlights the value for each outcome experienced by parents/carers.

²⁶ This outcome was only assessed for 50% of students based on the percentage of schools that identified as providing SBP modalities where children were required to assist in the preparation of breakfasts

Table 10 Impacts for parents/carers

Impacts for parents/carers	Impact value \$	Proportion of total value
Improved relationships with school	\$1,705,968	19%
Relief that child has opportunity to access food	\$5,386,380	59%
Avoided food costs	\$3,191,110	35%
Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (negative)	-\$1,121,489	-12%
Total	\$9,169,969	100%

5.3 Classroom teachers

When children receive breakfast at the start of their day, they are more likely to enter the class in a positive frame of mind, engage more effectively, and be less disruptive. The scale of SBP across Australia means an estimated 31,000 classroom teachers are affected, many of whom experience benefits as they can spend more of their time and energies devoted to support all children in their class.

Without SBP, many teachers frequently use their own resources to provide children with food. This is not a sustainable solution to the challenges faced by an ever-increasing number of children and families. A significant proportion of respondents (85%) identified that SBP helped to reduce this pressure.

Of even greater significance is the contribution to positive psychological effects of reduced stress in the classroom leading to an improved teaching experience. This was the most valuable impact identified by respondents and was also highly correlated as an impact of SBP – with 70% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with this consequence.

The potential of SBP to also support improved relationships between teachers, children and parents/carers was also highlighted. In some cases, the ability of parents/carers to also attend SBP was identified as providing opportunities to break down unintended barriers between them and teachers. When teachers also attended SBP, volunteering and/or sitting with children, associated with the potential benefits of having a shared space outside of the classroom were also reported.

Table 11 Impacts for classroom teachers

Impacts for classroom teachers	Impact value \$	Proportion of total value
More positive teaching experience	\$5,582,863	46%
Improved relationships with students/families	\$1,698,973	14%
Not needing to use personal resources	\$4,772,569	40%
Total	\$12,054,406	100%

5.4 Other children not receiving SBP

On average, it was reported that 35 students received SBP each week at each school. Additionally, given the evidence of recipients being more attentive and less disruptive in class, and teachers having an improved teaching experience, it is also important to consider the material impacts experienced by other students in the classroom.

When disruption is reduced and teachers are better able to deliver learning opportunities for all, the benefits are felt by many in the classroom. The ability to learn more effectively is therefore modelled for 25% of children in the classroom – meaning approximately 90,000 additional children experience a positive impact from SBP.

5.5 Volunteers

Volunteer support from Foodbank is integral to SBP. Based on the analysis conducted, the impacts experienced by Foodbank volunteers are accounted for based on the consistent application of 6.9% of value to SBP.

Additionally, the donations from adults and children who provide their time directly to the various schools providing SBP is essential to the functioning of the programs. Student volunteers can be involved on a rotating basis to ensure as many students as possible are afforded the opportunity – with qualitative feedback from respondents highlighting how students gain significant value from their experience.

Being able to develop important life skills as well as the psychological effects on a child's self-esteem from being recognised as a role model were both highlighted as valuable impacts experienced by children.

Adults also provide valuable donations of time to support SBP. This includes parents/carers, teachers, and other members of the community. Feelings of connections and belonging to the school were identified along with an increased sense of purpose and fulfilment as positive consequences of volunteering.

5.6 Society/the environment

As with EFR, some food distributed through SBP could have alternatively been sent to landfill and lost as food waste. Demonstrating the wide-ranging impacts of SBP, the avoidance of food becoming waste is an important impact of providing children with a great start to the day.

For SBP this was calculated to be 1.92M kgs of food, resulting in \$360,000 of value being created from avoided greenhouse gas emissions and landfill levy costs.

6. Model analysis and discussion

6.1 Sensitivity analysis

The SROI model has been developed by applying the eight principles of the methodology. Where professional judgment has been required, a conservative approach has been used. However, any approach requiring judgement, assumptions and extrapolation carries the risk of errors in the data and findings. For this reason, a sensitivity analysis has been conducted to understand the influence that variations in the figures used would have on the SROI ratio.

Variables were selected for the sensitivity analysis because they were assumed, or they may have variability in their value that could influence the result.

The results of the sensitivity analysis suggest an SROI for EFR between **\$5.45-\$6.03**.

Table 12 EFR sensitivity analysis – where baseline SROI ratio is 5.83

Stakeholder group	Original variable	Tested variable	New ratio	% change
EFR Food recipients	ATTRIBUTION: All B2C attribution 25% for food outcomes	All B2C attribution 50% food outcomes	5.45	-7%
Volunteers – Foodbank	Deadweight 25%	Deadweight 50%	5.81	-0.3%
EFR food recipients	323,764 frequent B2B	10% increase in number recipients	6.03	3.4%
	84,239 frequent B2C		5.92	1.5%
EFR food recipients	323,764 frequent B2B	10% decrease in number of recipients	5.65	-3.1%
	84,239 frequent B2C		5.75	-1.4%
EFR food recipient (parents)	60% households have children	40% households have children	5.76	-1.2%
		80% households have children	5.90	1.2%

The results of the sensitivity analysis for SBP suggest an SROI between **\$3.33–\$4.41**

Table 13 SBP sensitivity analysis – where baseline SROI ratio 4.15

Stakeholder group	Original variable	Tested variable	New ratio	% change
SBP students	Number of student recipients = 55,230 based on (median) of 35 students participating in SBP	Number of student recipients is 26 (as per 2014 analysis) = 41,028 students	3.33	-20%
Other students	25% students in the class receive value from less disruptive students accessing SBP	No value experienced by other students = \$13,295,753 removed from the model	3.71	-11%
Attribution	75% to schools	50% to schools for improved engagement in learning	4.41	6%
Classroom teachers	Average number of teachers per school calculated as ~20 per school	Reduce number of teachers per school to 10	3.95	-5%

6.2 Comparison to 2014 results

For every **dollar** invested, **\$5.83** of social and economic value is experienced

In 2014, this value was \$3.2

For every **kg** distributed, **\$43** of social and economic value is experienced

In 2014, this value was \$23 per kg

In 2014, the estimated social value created for EFR recipients was **\$482.6 million**, whereas in 2024, frequent adult and child recipients experienced a social value of **\$1.80 billion**. When compared with the investment, the SROI ratio in 2024 has increased.

In 2024, there was a 12% increase in the number of people estimated to be accessing food relief. In the 2014 analysis **five** stakeholder groups were included in the analysis, including students for the SBP,

environment, food recipients, children and food donors. In the 2024 analysis **ten** stakeholder groups were identified as experiencing material impacts, including students, parents/carers, teachers, student SBP volunteers, other school students and for EFR activities, adult food recipients, children food recipients, Foodbank volunteers, agency volunteers and the environment.

The 2014 analysis did not include the value experienced by volunteers and this was noted as a potential limitation of the analysis and did include the value experienced by food donors. In the 2024 assessment, Foodbank volunteers and agency volunteers represented ~2% of the total value created.

In 2014, the social value of the SBP program was estimated at **\$84.5 million**, compared to a total of **\$126.2 million** in 2024. A key difference between the two assessments is the scope of outcomes considered. The 2014 analysis calculated social value based on only two outcomes: "improved physical health" and "better performance at school." In contrast, the 2024 SROI analysis incorporated eight different outcomes for students, and five other stakeholder groups including parents/carers of students, teachers, student SBP volunteers, other school students, capturing a broader range of program benefits.

Table 14 Results comparison between 2014 analysis and 2024 analysis

	2014 study results	2024 EFR	2024 SBP
Ratio	\$3.2 (\$2.7 - \$4.0) (total SBP and EFR)	\$5.83 (\$5.45-\$6.03)	\$4.15 (\$3.3-4.4)
Number people /stakeholders	879,462 recipients 2,500 charities 832 schools (21,632 students)	987,060 including 784,621 people frequently accessing food 2,929 agencies	2,104 schools (55,230 students)
Investment (annual)	\$178.4M	\$314.6M	\$30.5M
Value of volunteer contributions	\$2,953,598 (320,250 hours valued at \$15.96 per hour or \$20.86 in 2024 dollars)	\$15,970,480 (311,133 hours valued at \$51.33 per hour)	\$971,985 (adults) \$269,996 (children)
Scope of stakeholder engagement	30 one-on-one interviews 100 food recipients and school-teacher surveys	33 one-on-one interviews Survey respondents: 244 food recipients, 121 SBP, 66 agency and 196 volunteer surveys	
Total Value	\$571M SBP = 84.5M Food recipients \$482.6M	\$1.83B	\$126.2M
Time period of analysis	2012/13	FY24	FY24
kg food distributed	24m kg (equivalent to 34m meals)	\$42.6m kg	3.2m kg

7. Implications of results

7.1 Continue to invest in and advocate for access to food

Food relief provides clear value to multiple stakeholders and this value goes beyond immediate impacts on addressing food insecurity. Foodbank and other actors in the food relief sector appreciate the increasing demands on their services – and as such there is a need for continued and increased investment in meeting food insecurity needs of Australians.

However, food relief agencies cannot solve the systemic drivers of food insecurity and hunger. Additionally, the multifaceted challenges that cause people to need food relief often also impacts on other key aspects of their lives such as their ability to secure and maintain employment and their health. The need for systematic solutions to the increasing pressures on so many Australians is necessary – and this calls for multi-lateral funding and working practices that can harness the power and potential of organisations such as Foodbank and others committed to improving the lives of people in need.

Food can be a catalyst for immediate and life-long changes for people. The value of school breakfast programs demonstrates this. Feeding children has the potential to provide them with increased opportunities to learn and succeed in school and beyond. With this, there needs to be increased focus on the chances for all children to succeed – ensuring they have a healthy and fulfilling future that can also contribute to the fabric of Australian society.

7.2 Communicate the SROI results with stakeholders

Principle 8 of the Principles of Social Value is to be responsive. This includes communicating the results of the SROI assessments to those stakeholders who were involved in the data collection and whose lives are affected by the decisions of Foodbank and other actors in the food relief sector.

Sharing results demonstrates respect to the stakeholders and demonstrates how their time and data is valuable and will be used to support the ongoing work of Foodbank. Stakeholders including staff members, volunteers, school breakfast program leads, and food recipients, should be included in clear communications of the results.

7.3 Continue to work in partnership across the food relief system

Providing food to people when and where they need it relies upon many individuals and organisations acting together to source, move and provide food. These relationships and partnerships across the food relief supply chain are critical to achieving positive impacts. It is therefore important to continue to invest in these partnerships to understand what is working and what is needed to continue to reach people and create the most positive value from the interaction. To achieve this requires a full partnership approach. This entails recognising other service providers as partners in a complex system not competitors for funding.

7.4 Continue to work with and value your volunteers

It is no exaggeration to state that without volunteers the food relief sector as it is currently would not be able to function. It is crucial that the contribution and value provided by thousands of people who provide regular support to help people access food is constantly recognised, celebrated, and carefully managed.

Volunteers equally gain so much from their experiences. If not, in many cases they would not volunteer their time and they would look for something else more rewarding. Highlighting the value to volunteers can help gain the support of more people – whilst carefully managing the impacts on the wellbeing of people whose contributions are fundamental to the success of food relief is essential.

Regular measurement and management of their impacts and satisfaction will help to support and grow a happy and productive volunteer workforce. Foodbank and many other agencies in the food relief sector already recognise and value their volunteers – and ever-increasing this focus remains crucial for future success.

7.5 Identify opportunity to grow impact

Social Return on Investment highlights more than just headline results of social value per \$1 or 1kg of investment. The methodology also helps to demonstrate where even more value can be generated. Embedding social value/impact accounting into decision making to support regular data collection and analysis helps to generate insights outlining where positive impacts can be increased and negatives reduced and is key to continual improvements being experienced by stakeholders.

For example, within these analyses, the negative impact of people feeling embarrassed or ashamed was identified. This is a consistent outcome for some people when involved in food relief – it is certainly not unique to food relief in Australia. Learning from good practice within Foodbank’s operations and internationally so that lessons can be shared has the potential to further reduce this negative impact.

Additionally, Foodbank do send some, albeit relatively limited food and waste to landfill. Constantly identifying solutions to reduce their own and the food waste of other organisations in the food relief sector will continue to reduce negative impacts.

Systematic stakeholder engagement that monitors and evaluates impact performance is the key to frequent and timely insights. When results are compared to thresholds and targets – Foodbank will be able to better understand the context of their results. For example, if monitoring the impacts experienced by volunteers it is possible to establish expectations that by a certain point-in-time they will have experienced an amount of change to a material impact. If this is not the case, Foodbank would have evidence to rapidly address this challenge and improve the situation of volunteers. This not only increases the impacts people experience, but also reduces the accompanying risks that people experience sub-optimal results.

Impact management will identify insights where options to increase impacts are available. This will also help to identify the value of increased and new partnerships. Food insecurity is a systemic issue and addressing the various needs of people requires collaborations and partnerships. Foodbank has the potential to support other organisations to recognise the need for and develop their own approaches to impact measurement and management – aiding the system to identify insights and improvements.

7.6 Future research and evaluation

The work undertaken for this project has identified a range of material impacts for stakeholders and some insights that will help Foodbank make improvements, by increasing positive impacts and reducing negatives.

The next step in this journey is to further segment results so that:

- Differences between people of the same group can be identified. For example, it could be that people from different parts of the country value things differently or based on cultural preferences for certain foods there are different experiences for some people. Better understanding these

potential differences will provide valuable insights that will allow for ever-greater tailoring of services to meet the needs of people and optimise their impacts.

- Different modalities of food relief can be examined. Understanding how one or more means of delivery creates different value for people is another potential area for insights. There is clearly no one-size-fits-all when it comes to food relief – but increasing understanding of what modalities of delivery create most value for different people will provide opportunities to consider future investments and options for delivery.

The SBP model relied on survey responses from individuals representing the school programs to understand the value experienced for stakeholders from across the school community. In future the modelling approach would benefit from directly involving these stakeholders to share their experiences.

Ultimately continuing the process of learning what works well for whom across various contexts will provide insights that support Foodbank, and the food relief sector to optimise the wellbeing of stakeholders.

This approach will also assist Foodbank to forecast and model social returns from different options. The insights from these options can be used to support internal decisions about where to invest and how to deliver services. The results can also support advocacy and funding efforts for more impactful models of both everyday food relief and school breakfast programs.

8. Key limitations and assumptions

In preparing this report, Think Impact has relied upon verbal and written information provided by Foodbank, food recipients, volunteers, representatives from school breakfast programs and other stakeholders and information available in the public domain. Stakeholder engagement captured the views of only a cross-section of stakeholders and therefore, does not necessarily reflect the views of all beneficiaries or other stakeholders. Survey results provide a subjective, self-reported assessment of the experiences of Foodbank participants. The responses received the surveys were then used to extrapolate to the estimated number of people in each stakeholder group.

For the School Breakfast Program, surveys were distributed to key school breakfast program contacts who were invited to share their perspectives about the value experienced by stakeholders from across the school community. These respondents acted a proxy stakeholder for participating students, their parents/carers, teachers, and school volunteers. This is a limitation of the analysis.

The SROI analysis takes a conservative approach to estimating value in line with the SROI principle 'do not overclaim', and only outlines the key areas of value identified. Not all material stakeholders or outcomes were considered.

The dollar values stated in this report do not represent cash but are financial proxies denoting the value created. Where data was not available from a Foodbank member, the data was extrapolated from available data provided by another Foodbank operation with the most similar approach.

Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the material and the integrity of the analysis presented herein, Think Impact accepts no liability for any actions taken based on the contents of this report. If the information is determined to be false, inaccurate or incomplete, then the conclusions outlined in this report may change. Under certain circumstances, further analysis of the data, findings, observations and conclusions expressed in this report may be necessary.

Appendix A Methodology

The following figure illustrates the methodology in four key stages. Each stage is further described below.

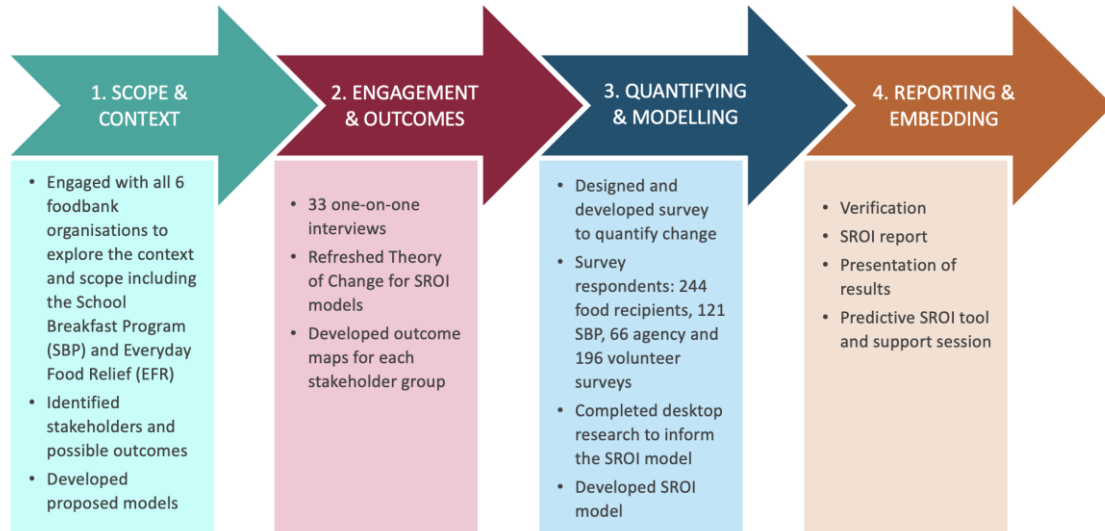


Figure 22 SROI methodology

A.1.1 Scope and context

The evaluation examined the social value created in a 12-month period (July 2023 to June 2024) across the Everyday Food Relief (EFR) program and School Breakfast Program (SBP). For the Everyday Food Relief program the analysis captured all locations where these programs are delivered, including Foodbank NSW, Foodbank Queensland, Foodbank SA & NT, Foodbank Tasmania, Foodbank Victoria and Foodbank Western Australia. The School Breakfast Program excluded Foodbank Victoria activities.

A.1.2 Stakeholder engagement and outcomes

The stakeholder engagement phase is a critical component of SROI, ensuring stakeholders share their experiences about the change they experience or influence. Engagement enables the identification of intended and unintended, positive and negative outcomes that may be occurring for key stakeholders to inform the quantification stage of the research.

Stakeholder engagement included 33 one-on-one in-depth interviews across June and July 2024 including:

- 11 Foodbank employees
- 7 schools
- 5 non-food agencies
- 4 volunteers
- 2 food agencies
- 2 food recipients
- 2 government body representatives

This stage also included the development of a benefit pathway for each material stakeholder group, illustrating how value is created and the outcomes identified for inclusion in the quantification stage. In addition, a refreshed Theory of Change was developed to illustrate an overview of the Everyday Food Relief System and School Breakfast Programs.

A.1.3 Quantifying and modelling the social, economic and environmental value

Through stakeholder engagement, it became evident that the outcomes experienced between **B2B transactions** (e.g. FareShare, Regional Hubs, etc.) and **B2C transactions** (e.g. Foodbank branded pantries, hubs/Community Food Centres and Mobile Vans) differed significantly. Where B2B transactions primarily involved large-scale food distribution to partner organisations who then deliver services to end beneficiaries, B2C interactions provide direct support to individuals and households. Due to the differences in how food relief is delivered and experienced, B2B and B2C outcomes were calculated separately for the EFR model.

A second model was developed to account for Foodbank's relationship with schools in the delivery of the School Breakfast Program. The relationship between the two models is illustrated below.

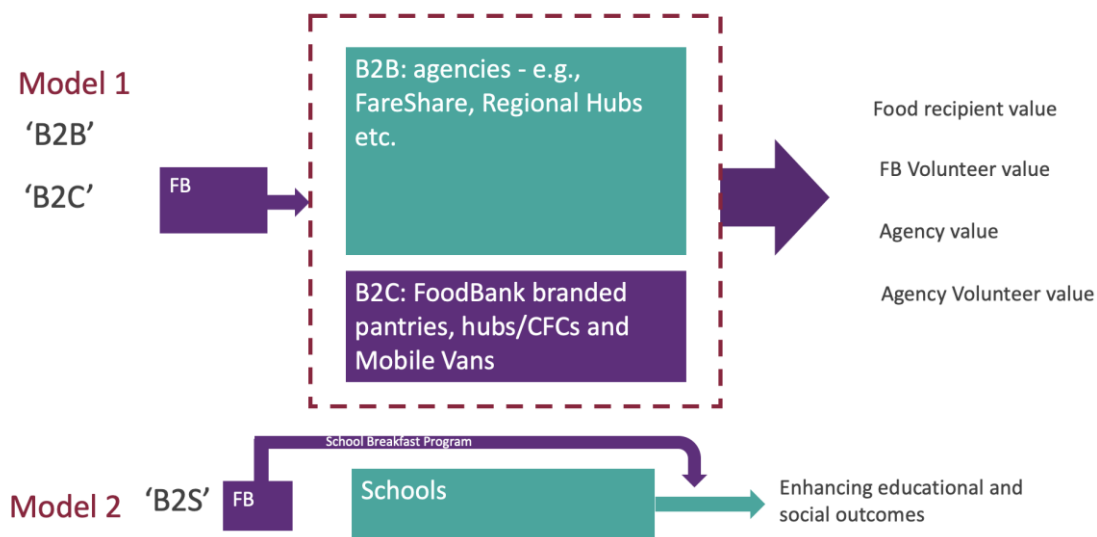


Figure 23 Modelling approach – value through system

Think Impact worked collaboratively with Ipsos Public Affairs to develop a survey to evidence and quantify outcomes experienced by material stakeholders. The survey included a range of multiple-choice, open text short-answer and Likert scale questions to complement the qualitative engagement conducted with stakeholders. With assistance from Ipsos Public Affairs, the survey was available for food relief recipients to complete in different formats, including online and face-to-face.

Table 15 Survey data received summary

Organisation	Food recipient	Agency	Volunteers	SBP
QR code	25	-	14	-
F2F intercepts	161	-	24	-
Distribution list	58	-	158	-
NET	244	66	Total: 196 including 70 FB and 126 Agencies	121

A.1.4 Reporting and embedding results

A draft report was produced outlining the results of the SROI model in addition to the context and need for Foodbank Australia. The report appendices include all the variables contributing to the SROI model, in line with the transparency principle. Recommendations have also been shared consistent with the be responsive principle.

Appendix B EFR SROI model data

B.1 Outcome incidence by stakeholder group

*note: based on Likert scale questions (survey evidence)

Table 16 Outcome incidence – EFR

Stakeholders	Potential stakeholders	Outcome	Outcome Incidence	
		Indicator	Proportion experiencing outcome (%)	Number of stakeholders experiencing outcome
Food recipients (B2B) - ADULTS (rest of Aus)	323,764	Greater ability to meet food needs	93%	302,533
		Healthier eating	75%	241,938
		Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	20%	66,345
		Greater capacity to manage life choices	76%	245,477
		Connections / feeling supported by community	54%	174,709
	194,258	Self-worth as a parent	89%	173,559
Food recipients (B2C) - ADULTS (SANT/WA)	84,239	Greater ability to meet food needs	93%	78,715
		Healthier eating	75%	62,949
		Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	20%	17,262
		Greater capacity to manage life choices	76%	63,870
		Connections / feeling supported by community	54%	45,457

Stakeholders	Potential stakeholders	Outcome	Outcome Incidence	
		Indicator	Proportion experiencing outcome (%)	Number of stakeholders experiencing outcome
	50,543	Self-worth as a parent	89%	45,158
Food recipients ADULTS (less frequently) B2B	83,534	Greater ability to meet food needs	93%	78,056
Food recipients ADULTS (less frequently) B2C	21,734	Greater ability to meet food needs	93%	20,309
Food recipients (B2B) - CHILDREN	298,859	Healthier eating	77%	131,465
		Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	14%	23,476
		More opportunities to participate in activities	57%	97,033
		Feelings of belonging	53%	90,773
		Reduced worry	68%	115,814
Food recipients (B2C) - CHILDREN	77,759	Healthier eating	77%	230,313
		Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	14%	41,127
		More opportunities to participate in activities	57%	169,993
		Feelings of belonging	53%	159,026
		Reduced worry	68%	202,895
Volunteers (FBA)	1,952	Feelings of pride and purpose	87%	1,704
		Feelings of connection/belonging	89%	1,733

Stakeholders	Potential stakeholders	Outcome	Outcome Incidence	
		Indicator	Proportion experiencing outcome (%)	Number of stakeholders experiencing outcome
		Improved mental health	85%	1,655
		Improved physical health	52%	1,040
		Feelings of overwhelm about the need in the community (-ve)	48%	945
		Develop skills and work experience	19%	375
		Access to basic food needs	40%	787
Volunteers (Agencies)	14,190	Feelings of pride and purpose	94%	13,355
		Feelings of connection/belonging	93%	13,161
		Improved mental health	90%	12,750
		Improved physical health	42%	5,964
		Feelings of overwhelm about the need in the community (-ve)	77%	10,899
		Develop skills and work experience	35%	4,936
		Access to basic food needs	45%	6,375
Society / the environment	1	Food waste diverted from going into landfill Kg	N/A	34,777,173 kg
		Food waste going to landfill Kg	N/A	1,164,627 kg

B.2 Financial proxies by stakeholder group

Table 17 Financial proxies by stakeholder group – EFR

Stakeholders	Outcome value			
	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
Adults	Greater ability to meet food needs	Based on weekly expenditure on groceries for a family of 2.5 people (\$193 per week and \$10,036 annually). Take 50% of this value.	\$5,018	Family size: https://aifs.gov.au/media/households-shrink-more-people-living-alone Grocery bill; https://www.thenewdaily.com.au/finance/finance-news/2024/03/26/grocery-bills-data
	Healthier eating	Average proportion of healthy foods in grocery shopping (60%) – as a proportion of the value of money spend on groceries (using the value of the outcome of meeting family food needs)	\$3,011	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/health-conditions-and-risks/apparent-consumption-selected-foodstuffs-australia/latest-release https://www.foodforhealthalliance.org.au/media-news/media-release/2024/new-data-shows-supermarkets-pushing-unhealthy-foods-onto-australians.html
	Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 20 session to experience outcome – representing a large number of session to reflect the nature of negative outcomes being valued by humans.	\$6,300	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf

Stakeholders	Outcome value			
	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
				https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
	Greater capacity to manage life choices	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 10 session to experience outcome	\$3,150	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
	Connections / feeling supported by community	Cost of loneliness in Australia - adjusted to 2024 value from 2021	\$1,811	https://bcec.edu.au/assets/2021/11/139532_BCEC-Stronger-Together-report_WEB.pdf
	Self-worth as a parent	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 6 session to experience outcome	\$2,130	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
Food recipients ADULTS (less frequent)	Greater ability to meet food needs	Based on 10% of weekly expenditure on groceries for a family of 2.5 people (\$193 per week and \$10,036 annually). Take 50% of this value.	\$502	Family size: https://aifs.gov.au/media/households-shrink-more-people-living-alone

Stakeholders	Outcome value			
	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
				Grocery bill; https://www.thenewdaily.com.au/finance/finance-news/2024/03/26/grocery-bills-data
Children	Healthier eating	Average proportion of healthy foods in grocery shopping (50%) – as a proportion of the value of money spent on groceries (using the value of the outcome of meeting family food needs)	\$6,624	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/health-conditions-and-risks/apparent-consumption-selected-foodstuffs-australia/latest-release https://www.foodforhealthalliance.org.au/media-news/media-release/2024/new-data-shows-supermarkets-pushing-unhealthy-foods-onto-australians.html
	Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 6 session to experience outcome	\$1,890	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
	More opportunities to participate in activities	Average expenditure on extra-curricula activities	\$1,859	https://theconversation.com/is-your-child-overscheduled-how-to-get-the-balance-right-on-extracurricular-activities-225786

Stakeholders	Outcome value			
	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
	Feelings of belonging	Average annual expenditure on children's activity for active children	\$3,255	https://www.realinsurance.com.au/news-views/the-real-healthy-kids-report
	Reduced worry	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 10 session to experience outcome	\$3,150	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
Volunteers	Feelings of pride and purpose	Value in relation to the outcome of feeling connected. Stakeholders identified this as more valuable (assuming 20% more valuable then \$6,147 based on 50% of the average expenditure on recreation and culture).	\$7,377	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/cohesive/time-recreation-and-social-interaction https://www.finder.com.au/insights/australianhousehold-spending-statistics
	Feelings of connection/belonging	Commensurate with the average expenditure on recreation and culture annually accounting for the proportion of time spent on social/community activities as a proportion of recreational activities (46%)	\$6,147	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/cohesive/time-recreation-and-social-interaction https://www.finder.com.au/insights/australianhousehold-spending-statistics

Stakeholders	Outcome value			
	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
	Improved mental health	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 5.4 session to experience outcome	\$1,701	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
	Improved physical health	Average annual expenditure on sports – per adult from the Australian Sports Commission	\$1,304	https://news.csu.edu.au/opinion/no-cash,-no-play-have-cost-of-living-pressures-impacted-sports-participation-in-australia
	Feelings of overwhelm about the need in the community (-ve)	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 5.4 session to experience outcome	\$1,701	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
	Develop skills and work experience	Cost of Introductory Employability Skills Training (EST) courses = \$1,250 in addition to further generalist training block (\$300)	\$1,550	https://mtcaustralia.com.au/refer/employability-skills-training/course-payments/
	Access to basic food needs	Utilising same proxy value as used for infrequent recipients of EFR experiencing the outcome of meeting food needs. The value is 10% of that	\$501.80	Family size: https://aifs.gov.au/media/households-shrink-more-people-living-alone

Stakeholders	Outcome value			
	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
		frequent food recipients experiencing the same outcome		Grocery bill; https://www.thenewdaily.com.au/finance/finance-news/2024/03/26/grocery-bills-data
Agency Volunteers	Feelings of connection/belonging	Commensurate with the average expenditure on recreation and culture annually accounting for the proportion of time spent on social/community activities as a proportion of recreational activities (75%). Stakeholders valued this outcome more than FBA volunteers.	\$10,023	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/cohesive/time-recreation-and-social-interaction https://www.finder.com.au/insights/australianhousehold-spending-statistics
Society / the environment	Food waste diverted from going into landfill Kg	Cost of avoided greenhouse gas emissions associated with food waste emission from a landfill National Greenhouse Account Factors calculated (Scope 3 mission factor 2.1 tCO ₂ -e/t) and spot price of an ACCU (\$42.50 per tonne CO ₂ -e)	\$0.187	National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, Table 15 available here https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-greenhouse-account-factors-2023.pdf
	Food waste going to landfill Kg	As above but negative to reflect negative impact	\$0.187	National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, Table 15 available here https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-greenhouse-account-factors-2023.pdf

B.3 Discount factors by stakeholder group

Table 18 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Food recipients (B2B) – ADULTS (rest of Aus)

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Greater ability to meet food needs	\$5,018	45%	50%	0%	\$1,380	\$417,480,890
Healthier eating	\$3,011	45%	50%	0%	\$828	\$200,317,585
Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	\$6,300	45%	50%	0%	\$1,733	\$114,942,768
Greater capacity to manage life choices	\$3,150	45%	80%	0%	\$347	\$85,058,648
Connections / feeling supported by community	\$1,811	45%	80%	0%	\$199	\$34,801,199
Self-worth as a parent	\$2,130	45%	80%	0%	\$234	\$40,664,781

Table 19 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Food recipients (B2C) - ADULTS (SANT/WA)

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Greater ability to meet food needs	\$5,018	45%	25%	0%	\$2,070	\$162,934,735
Healthier eating	\$3,011	45%	25%	0%	\$1,242	\$78,180,088
Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	\$6,300	45%	25%	0%	\$2,599	\$44,859,944
Greater capacity to manage life choices	\$3,150	45%	50%	0%	\$866	\$55,327,264
Connections / feeling supported by community	\$1,811	45%	50%	0%	\$498	\$22,637,060
Self-worth as a parent	\$2,130	45%	50%	0%	\$586	\$26,451,132

Table 20 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Food recipients ADULTS (less frequently) B2B

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Greater ability to meet food needs	\$502	45%	50%	0%	\$138	\$10,771,368

Table 21 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Food recipients ADULTS (less frequently) B2C

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Financial proxy (after discount)	Total present value
Greater ability to meet food needs	\$502	45%	25%	0%	\$207	\$4,203,857

Table 22 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Food recipients (B2B) – CHILDREN

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Healthier eating	\$6,624	45%	50%	0%	\$1,822	\$419,523,404
Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	\$1,890	45%	50%	0%	\$520	\$21,375,948
More opportunities to participate in activities	\$1,859	45%	80%	0%	\$204	\$34,761,891
Feelings of belonging	\$3,255	45%	80%	0%	\$358	\$56,939,192
Reduced worry	\$3,150	45%	80%	0%	\$347	\$70,303,118

Table 23 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Food recipients (B2C) – CHILDREN

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Healthier eating	\$6,624	45%	25%	0%	\$2,732	\$163,731,889
Feeling judged or ashamed (-ve)	\$1,890	45%	25%	0%	\$780	\$8,342,620
More opportunities to participate in activities	\$1,859	45%	50%	0%	\$511	\$33,494,657
Feelings of belonging	\$3,255	45%	50%	0%	\$895	\$37,037,113
Reduced worry	\$3,150	45%	50%	0%	\$866	\$45,729,917

Table 24 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Volunteers (FBA)

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Feelings of pride and purpose	\$7,377	25%	25%	0%	\$4,150	\$7,071,777
Feelings of connection/belonging	\$6,147	25%	25%	0%	\$3,458	\$5,991,259
Improved mental health	\$1,701	25%	25%	0%	\$957	\$1,583,912
Improved physical health	\$1,304	25%	25%	0%	\$734	\$762,890
Feelings of overwhelm about the need in the community (-ve)	\$1,701	25%	25%	0%	\$957	\$903,784
Develop skills and work experience	\$1,550	25%	25%	0%	\$872	\$326,786
Access to basic food needs	\$502	25%	25%	0%	\$282	\$222,182

Table 25 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Volunteers (Agencies)

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Feelings of pride and purpose	\$7,377	50%	90%	0%	\$369	\$4,925,953
Feelings of connection/belonging	\$6,147	50%	90%	0%	\$501	\$6,595,873
Improved mental health	\$1,701	50%	90%	0%	\$85	\$1,084,403
Improved physical health	\$1,304	50%	90%	0%	\$65	\$388,839
Feelings of overwhelm about the need in the community (-ve)	\$1,701	50%	90%	0%	\$85	\$926,989
Develop skills and work experience	\$1,550	50%	90%	0%	\$78	\$382,505
Access to basic food needs	\$502	50%	90%	0%	\$25	\$159,951

Table 26 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Society/the environment

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Food waste diverted from going into landfill Kg	\$0.71	0%	0%	0%	\$0	\$6,512,026
Food waste going to landfill Kg	-\$0.71	0%	0%	0%	\$0	\$218,076

Appendix C SROI model data (SROI)

Table 27 Outcome incidence – SBP

Stakeholders	Potential stakeholders	Outcome	Outcome Incidence	
		Indicator	Proportion experiencing outcome (%)	Number of stakeholders experiencing outcome
SBP participants	55,230	Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (-ve)	4%	2,282
		Sense of belonging at school	74%	40,624
		Improved relationships with teachers	77%	42,450
		Improved engagement in learning	80%	43,933
		Feeling valued/cared for	87%	47,927
		Less stress about food security	92%	50,666
		Improved relationships at home	26%	14,606
		Improved access to nutritious food	26%	14,606
	27,615	Improved life skills	68%	18,778
Parents/carers of school students	29,916	Improved relationships with school	38%	11,373
		Relief that child has opportunity to access food	92%	27,444
		Avoided food costs	49%	14,587
		Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (-ve)	7%	1,987
Classroom teachers	31,148	More positive teaching experience	70%	21,881
		Improved relationships with students/families	36%	11,326

Stakeholders	Potential stakeholders	Outcome	Outcome Incidence	
		Indicator	Proportion experiencing outcome (%)	Number of stakeholders experiencing outcome
		Not needing to use personal resources	85%	26,514
Students (non-recipients)	90,538	Learn more effectively	80%	72,019
Volunteers (FBA)	145	Feelings of pride and purpose	87%	126
		Feelings of connection/belonging	89%	128
		Improved mental health	85%	123
		Improved physical health	53%	77
		Feelings of overwhelm about the need in community (-ve)	48%	70
		Develop skills and work experience	19%	28
		Access to basic food needs	94%	136
Volunteers - students	10,520	Taking responsibility – self-esteem/role model	62%	6,477
		Develop life skills	61%	6,434
Volunteers – parents, carers & community	6,312	Feelings of purpose and fulfilment	60%	3,808
		Feelings of connection/belonging	63%	3,965
Society / the environment	1	Food waste diverted from going into landfill Kg	N/A	1,921,688
		Food waste going to landfill Kg	N/A	58,320

C.1 Financial proxy by stakeholder group

Table 28 Financial proxies – SBP

Stakeholder	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
SBP participants	Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (-ve)	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 12 sessions to experience outcome	3,780	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf
	Sense of belonging at school	Commensurate with the cost of attending social skills training program	\$4,850	https://www.thesocialskillshub.com.au/peers-for-teens
	Improved relationships with teachers	Commensurate with completing a youth leadership program	\$750	https://www.leadershiplakecounty.org/youth-leadership-academy
	Improved engagement in learning	Assuming 1 hour per week of personal tutoring for 40 weeks of the school year (40*40*1).	\$1,231	https://www.thrivetutors.com.au/how-much-does-tutoring-cost/
	Feeling valued/cared for	Assuming 1 hour per week of personal tutoring for 40 weeks of the school year (40*40*1).	\$1,231	https://www.thrivetutors.com.au/how-much-does-tutoring-cost/
	Less stress about food security	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 5.4 sessions to experience outcome	1,308	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf
	Improved relationships at home	Cost of a weekly family counselling session (\$355). This value has been reduced by the number of school weeks per year (40/52)	\$1,231	https://www.allrelationshipmatters.com.au/psychologists-counsellors-psychotherapists-melbourne/counselling-psychologist-cost

Stakeholder	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
	Improved access to nutritious food	Using the assumption of 60% of expenditure on food as a reflection of average spend on healthy foods x 50% owing to EFR providing more frequent meals (all year round). This value has been reduced by the number of school weeks per year.	\$1,930	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/health-conditions-and-risks/apparent-consumption-selected-foodstuffs-australia/latest-release
	Improved life skills	Commensurate with completing a youth leadership program	\$750	https://www.leadershiplakecounty.org/youth-leadership-academy
Parents/carers of school students	Improved relationships with school	Approximate cost of implementing a parent engagement program – the lower end of the value (\$1,000-3,000) aligns with ranking of the outcomes.	\$1,000	https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8320427/
	Relief that child has opportunity to access food	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 5.4 sessions to experience outcome	\$1,308	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf
	Avoided food costs	Average expenditure on breakfast as a proportion of household spending on food (about 20-25%). Cost of breakfast approximately 22.5% of the total per household – calculated for 40 weeks of the year based on approximate length of school year	\$1,458	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/finance/monthly-household-spending-indicator/jun-2024

Stakeholder	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
	Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (-ve)	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 12 sessions to experience outcome	\$3,780	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf
Classroom teachers	More positive teaching experience	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 10 sessions to experience outcome	\$1,701	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf
	Improved relationships with school	Approximate cost of implementing a parent engagement program – the lower end of the value (\$1,000-3,000) aligns with ranking of the outcomes.	\$1,000	https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8320427/
	Not needing to use personal resources	Assuming teachers would provide food for 3 children per day each day of the school week. At \$2 per child and 40 weeks of the school year.	\$1,200	https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10781432/
Students (non-recipients)	Learn more effectively	Assuming 1 hour per week of personal tutoring for 40 weeks of the school year (40*40*1).	\$1,231	https://www.thrivetutors.com.au/how-much-does-tutoring-cost/
Volunteers (FBA)	Feelings of pride and purpose	Value in relation to the outcome of feeling connected. Stakeholders identified this as more valuable (assuming 20% more valuable).	\$7,377	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/cohesive/time-recreation-and-social-interaction https://www.finder.com.au/insights/australian-household-spending-statistics

Stakeholder	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
	Feelings of connection/belonging	Commensurate with the average expenditure on recreation and culture annually accounting for the proportion of time spent on social/community activities as a proportion of recreational activities (46%)	\$6,147	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/cohesive/time-recreation-and-social-interaction https://www.finder.com.au/insights/australian-household-spending-statistics
	Improved mental health	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 5.4 session to experience outcome	\$1,701	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
	Improved physical health	Average annual expenditure on sports – per adult from the Australian Sports Commission	\$1,304	https://news.csu.edu.au/opinion/no-cash,-no-play-have-cost-of-living-pressures-impacted-sports-participation-in-australia
	Feelings of overwhelm about the need in community (-ve)	Cost of attending psychology session at \$315 each. Assumption of needing to attend 5.4 session to experience outcome	\$1,701	https://www.aapi.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/AAPi/2024-2025%20AAPi%20Recommended%20Fees%20detailed.pdf https://foundationpsychology.com.au/fees-and-rebates/how-many-sessions-do-i-need/
	Develop skills and work experience	Cost of Introductory Employability Skills Training (EST) courses = \$1,250 in addition to further generalist training block (\$300)	\$1,550	https://mtcaustralia.com.au/refer/employability-skills-training/course-payments/

Stakeholder	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
	Access to basic food needs	Utilising same proxy value as used for infrequent recipients of EFR experiencing the outcome of meeting food needs. The value is 10% of that frequent food recipients experiencing the same outcome	\$501.80	Family size: https://aifs.gov.au/media/households-shrink-more-people-living-alone Grocery bill; https://www.thenewdaily.com.au/finance/finance-news/2024/03/26/grocery-bills-data
Volunteers – students	Taking responsibility – self-esteem/role model	Commensurate with completing a youth leadership program	\$750	https://www.leadershiplakecounty.org/youth-leadership-academy
	Develop life skills	Commensurate with completing a youth leadership program	\$750	https://www.leadershiplakecounty.org/youth-leadership-academy
Volunteers – parents, carers & community	Feelings of purpose and fulfilment	SBP volunteers on average donate 3 hours of time in comparison to 129 hours of non-corporate FBA volunteers and agency volunteers (approx..2.3%) – therefore using only 10% of value.	\$738	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/cohesive/time-recreation-and-social-interaction
	Feelings of connection/belonging	Assuming 20% of EFR value owing to fewer donated hours on average.	\$1,229	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/cohesive/time-recreation-and-social-interaction https://www.finder.com.au/insights/australian-household-spending-statistics
Society/the environment	Food waste diverted from going into landfill Kg	Cost of avoided greenhouse gas emissions associated with food waste emission from a landfill National Greenhouse Account Factors calculated (Scope 3 mission factor 2.1 tCO2-	\$0.187	National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, Table 15 available here https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files

Stakeholder	Outcome	Proxy rationale	Financial proxy for one stakeholder year	Source
		e/t) and spot price of an ACCU (\$42.50 per tonne CO2-e)		/documents/national-greenhouse-account-factors-2023.pdf
	Food waste going to landfill Kg	As above but negative to reflect negative impact	\$0.187	National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, Table 15 available here https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-greenhouse-account-factors-2023.pdf

C.2 Discount factors by stakeholder group

Table 29 Discount factors by stakeholder group – SBP participants (note all outcomes have a benefit period of 1 year)

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (-ve)	\$3,780	40%	75%	0%	\$567	\$1,294,025
Sense of belonging at school	\$4,850	40%	75%	0%	\$728	\$29,553,756
Improved relationships with teachers	\$750	40%	75%	0%	\$113	\$4,775,569
Improved engagement in learning	\$1,231	40%	75%	0%	\$185	\$8,110,699
Feeling valued/cared for	\$1,231	40%	75%	0%	\$185	\$8,848,036
Less stress about food security	\$1,308	40%	75%	0%	\$196	\$9,944,086
Improved relationships at home	\$273	40%	75%	0%	\$41	\$598,296

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Improved access to nutritious food	\$4,850	40%	45%	0%	\$1,601	\$23,377,353
Improved life skills	\$1,930	40%	75%	0%	\$290	\$5,436,289

Table 30 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Parents/carers of school students

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Improved relationships with school	\$1,000	40%	75%	0%	\$150	\$1,705,968
Relief that child has opportunity to access food	\$1,308	40%	75%	0%	\$196	\$5,386,380
Avoided food costs	\$1,458	40%	75%	0%	\$219	\$3,191,110
Feeling embarrassed or ashamed (-ve)	\$3,780	40%	75%	0%	\$567	\$1,121,489

Table 31 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Classroom teachers

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
More positive teaching experience	\$1,701	40%	75%	0%	\$255	\$5,582,863
Improved relationships with students/families	\$1,000	40%	75%	0%	\$150	\$1,698,973
Not needing to use personal resources	\$1,200	40%	75%	0%	\$180	\$4,772,569

Table 32 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Students (non-recipients)

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Learn more effectively	\$1,231	40%	75%	0%	\$185	\$13,295,753

Table 33 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Volunteers (FBA)

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Feelings of pride and purpose	\$7,377	25%	25%	0%	\$4,150	\$523,790
Feelings of connection/belonging	\$6,147	25%	25%	0%	\$3,458	\$443,759
Improved mental health	\$1,701	25%	25%	0%	\$957	\$117,317
Improved physical health	\$1,304	25%	25%	0%	\$734	\$56,506
Feelings of overwhelm about the need in community (-ve)	\$1,701	25%	25%	0%	\$957	\$66,941
Develop skills and work experience	\$1,550	25%	25%	0%	\$872	\$24,204
Access to basic food needs	\$502	25%	25%	0%	\$282	\$38,412

Table 34 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Volunteers – students

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Taking responsibility – self-esteem/role model	\$750	50%	90%	0%	\$38	\$242,895
Develop life skills	\$750	50%	90%	0%	\$38	\$241,264

Table 35 Discount factors by stakeholder group – Volunteers – parents, carers & community

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Feelings of purpose and fulfilment	\$738	50%	90%	0%	\$37	\$140,459
Feelings of connection/belonging	\$1,229	50%	90%	0%	\$61	\$243,719

Table 36 Society/the environment

Outcome	Financial proxy (before discount)	Deadweight	Attribution	Displacement	Value after discount	Total present value
Food waste diverted from going into landfill Kg	0.071	0%	0%	0%	\$0	\$359,836
Food waste going to landfill Kg	0.071	0%	0%	0%	\$0	\$10,920



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