



2020 APR



## LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR NICOLA VALLEY FOOD BANK

Sponsors, partners,  
volunteers and more! |

## STATISTICAL COMPARISONS & DATA

An in-depth breakdown of the  
first nine months of 2020 and  
2021, compared and analyzed. |

## A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Learn more about upcoming  
Food Bank projects and goals  
with a look ahead. |



When an unprecedented wildfire season struck, thousands of British Columbians found themselves without food or shelter.

During the historic wildfire season, the Nicola Valley Food Bank took the lead in community relief efforts, with the help of the Merritt Elks providing their Hall as a temporary

## WILDFIRE RESPONSE

base of operations during the crisis. Coordinating relief efforts and the support provided by United Way, Highland Valley Copper, and the South Delta, Lake Country and Vancouver Food Banks, the Nicola Valley Food Bank was able to donate an unprecedented 93,296 pounds of product to evacuees in need, including everything from food and water, to bedding, soaps, tents, propane and more.

This massive undertaking wouldn't have been possible without the outpouring of volunteer effort, as members of the community committed to providing day in and day out service at the Elks Hall location, totalling over one thousand hours of volunteer assistance specifically for the purpose of managing the wildfire relief effort.

## ARTICLE

# MEET THE VOLUNTEERS

The Nicola Valley Food Bank has had the pleasure of working with the help of several dedicated volunteers from the Nicola Valley area. Residents of the Nicola Valley come together to contribute literally thousands of hours of work sorting, unpacking, and providing food to clients, among other duties.

In 2021, Nicola Valley Food Bank volunteers had their work cut out for them - the historic wildfire season led to round the clock days at the Merritt Elks' Hall gathering and coordinating supplies for the massive influx of Canadians displaced or evacuated.

In addition, participation in important programs and events such as Coldest Night of the Year, an impactful look at homelessness in Canada.

To date, regular operations at the Nicola Valley Food Bank have leveraged 1,403 hours of volunteer effort - but the wildfire relief effort alone totaled an additional 1,053 hours of volunteer commitment.

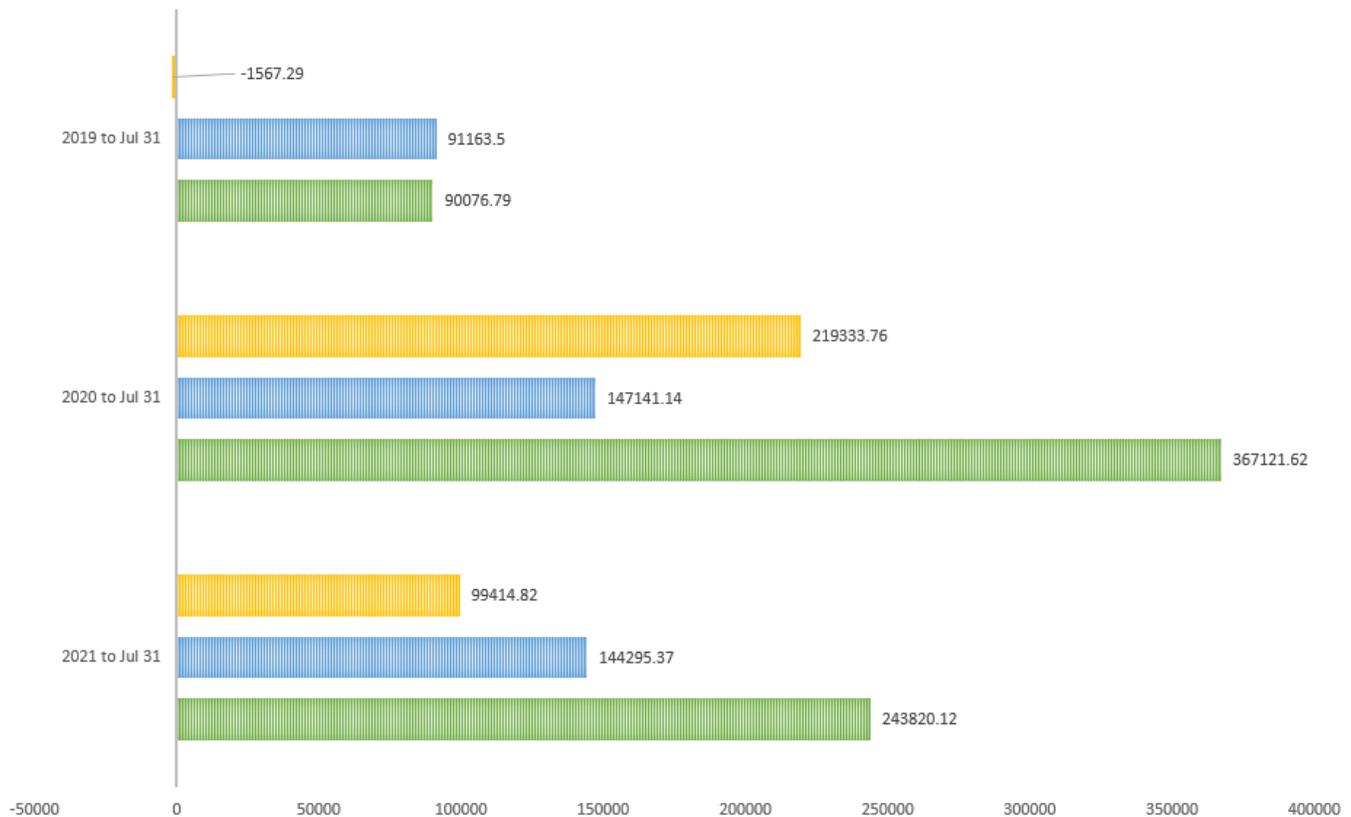


# PROFIT AND LOSS

## PROFIT & LOSS 2019, 2020, 2021

JANUARY 1 TO JULY 31

Final Loss (Expenses) Profit



The graph above compares profit and loss across a uniform sample period of eight months for 2019, 2020 and 2021.

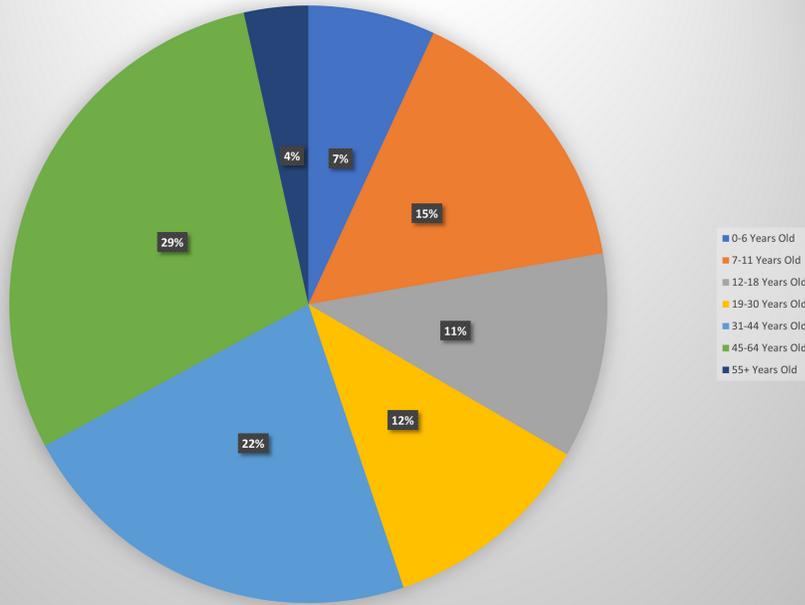
There's several interesting stories being told in this information but we'll start at the top - the first eight months of 2019 actually reflect a loss of roughly \$1,500 as expenses and profit manage to stay extremely close together. Food banks often operate on pretty tight numbers and this is a good representation of that.

Moving into 2020 we see something very abnormal; due to a spike in donations we see a profit of over \$360,000 that even when applied against the largest expenses bill on the chart leaves behind a final balance more than double that of other years. This is of course thanks to the famous Darius Sam fundraiser that took place in 2020, bringing an unprecedented amount of donations to the Nicola Valley Food Bank.

2021 represents another atypical year to date - expenses remain much higher than previous years due to COVID-19 considerations and profit reflects a higher amount as the Food Bank leverages more grant funding for COVID-19 relief. These numbers don't include the last four months of each year however, and the Christmas season is typically a very impactful one for food banks.

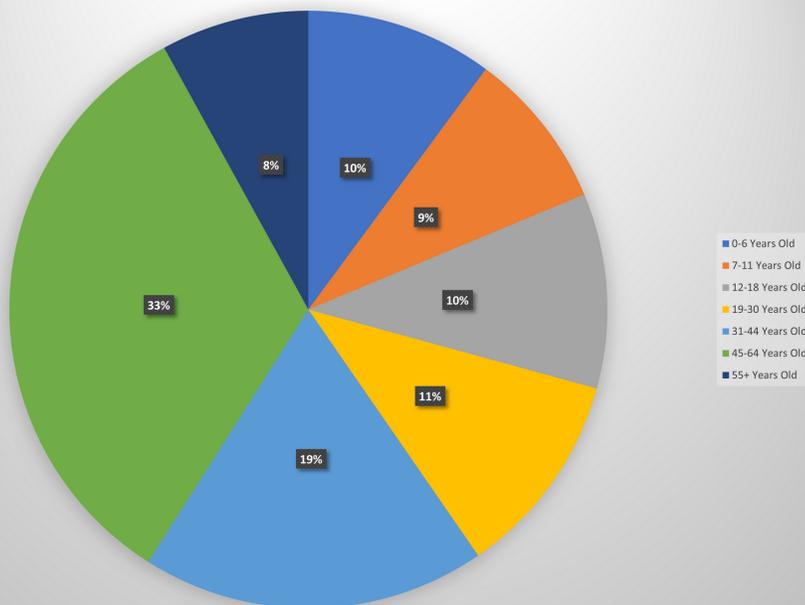
# Age Groups Visiting the Nicola Valley Food Bank

Age Groups of Visitors - January to July 31, 2020



These two graphs compare both 2020 and 2021's visitor numbers broken down by age group, during an equal timeframe. One important thing to note is the impact of the pandemic on 2020's graph - this timeframe for 2020 records over 2,000 more visitors than the same frame for 2021, and the vast majority of these 2,000 additional visitors were in the typically less dominant 18 and younger groups, as well as the working age 31-44 group, which had seen the largest spike of all the groups measured.

Age Groups of Visitors - January to July 31, 2021



2021 appears to represent a return to normal, but attendance among seniors has actually risen significantly this year over previous, and seems to be continuing to climb. In addition, none of the youth age groups have dropped below pre-COVID levels, indicating that several Nicola Valley families are experiencing hardships in the new year.

These numbers will be affected significantly by the upcoming holidays - while there is no off-season for hardship, cold weather and rising utility bills make keeping up difficult for many Valley residents that struggle with intermittent food insecurity.



# THANK YOU

2021 was another immensely eventful year for the Nicola Valley Food Bank - and it made the organization more aware than ever of the extensive family of partners, volunteers, supporters and friends that the Food Bank has found here in the Valley. Without the tens of thousands of dollars of relief effort funding graciously provided by partners like United Way, Highland

Valley Copper, and even our fellow Food Banks, as well as the generous donations of time, energy and funding by members of the public, this year would have been an insurmountable challenge. Amidst the myriad new challenges of the past few years, we've been unbelievably lucky to experience these moments of community during hardship, from the

extraordinary Darius Sam Fundraiser to the massive efforts made during this wildfire season, and even regular attendance for programs like community bingo, the Nicola Valley Food Bank wants to extend a sincere thank you to the people that allow us to do what we do!

Merritt & District Chamber of  
Commerce  
Telus - Cause Campaign  
Ryzak Foundation  
Nicola Valley Health Care  
International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers Lc 993  
Kamloops & District Labour  
Council  
School District #58  
CUPE Lc 900-  
Vipassana Foundation  
Walmart Spark Change  
Dr. L. Ladyman  
Merritt Stockcar Association  
(Food and Toy Drive)  
Syngenta and Farm Credit  
Canada  
Ministry of Forests - Wildfire  
Division  
BC Teacher's Union  
Miss Vicki's Petals & Plants  
Extra Foods  
Save On Foods  
Tim Hortons  
Canadian Tire  
Century 21 Moving  
Work BC  
City of Merritt  
Walmart Canada

Becca & Kenny Hess - Rockin'  
River Festival  
Bass Coast Festival  
The Catholic Womens League  
Knights of Columbus  
The Church of Jesus Christ of  
Latter Day Saints (Food Drive)  
Trans Mountain  
Zanzibar Holdings  
Pharmasave  
Enbridge  
NVIT  
BC Oldtime Fiddlers  
Heidi Brown  
Jared Thomas  
Bruce Walter  
Larry & Priscilla Jackson  
Leader Silviculture  
Sun Life  
David Brown  
IG Weath Management  
Parkland Fuels  
Murray GM  
Merritt Property Management  
Merritt & District Chamber of  
Commerce  
Community Futures Nicola  
Valley  
Elks Hall  
Royal Canadian Legion

BC Dairy Farmers Association  
Jays Care/Rogers/Foodbanks  
Canada  
Fidelity  
McDonalds  
Nicola Valley Teachers Union  
"We Care Students - Merritt  
Central, MSS, Diamondville  
Elementary "  
CBC Thanksgiving Food Drive  
Infracon  
Donors through Benevity  
Brambles Bakery & Cafe  
Starbucks Coffee Merritt  
United Way  
Food Banks Canada  
Food Banks BC  
Community Food Centres  
Canada  
Province of British Columbia  
Empty Keg Brewhouse  
Interior Savings  
Rotary Club of Merritt  
The Florentine  
Highland Valley Copper  
South Delta Food Bank  
Lake Country Food Bank  
Vancouver Food Bank  
All anonymous donors

**THANK YOU! YOUR SUPPORT  
MAKES THE DIFFERENCE**



Nicola Valley Food Bank Annual Performance Report  
(October 7, 2021)

This document prepared in partnership with Community Futures  
Nicola Valley and presented at the 2021 Nicola Valley Food Bank  
Annual General Meeting for review.

Nicola Valley Food Bank  
2026 Quilchena Ave  
Merritt B.C.  
[nicolavalleyfoodbank.com](http://nicolavalleyfoodbank.com)  
[foodbank@telus.net](mailto:foodbank@telus.net)