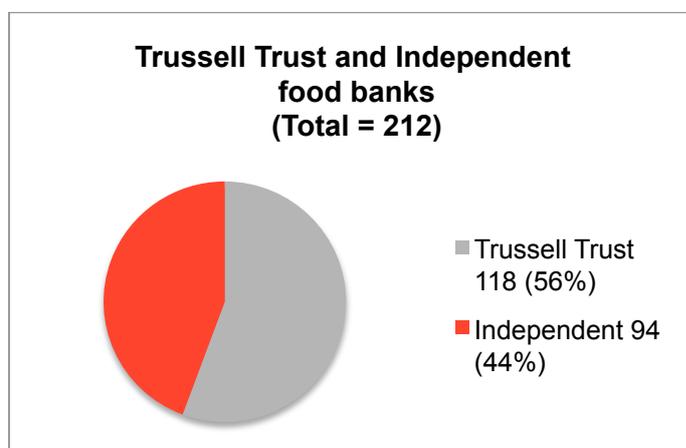


Emergency Food Parcel Provision in Scotland April 2017 to September 2018

A Menu for Change has worked closely with the Independent Food Aid Network in order to measure the scale of emergency food parcel provision in Scotland. To date the only national data available has come from the Trussell Trust, the UK's largest network of food banks. However, it is recognised that many other organisations not part of this network are regularly giving out food parcels to people in need.

The Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) has identified 94 independent food banks and food parcel distributors operating across Scotland between April 2017 and September 2018¹. Adding to the 118 Trussell Trust food banks already known to be operating in Scotland, this puts the total number of food banks in Scotland at 212.²



IFAN's Sabine Goodwin has gone on to work together with A Menu for Change to establish the number of emergency food parcels distributed by independent food banks and independent food parcel distributors between April 2017 and September 2018 as part of an ongoing project to represent independent food parcel providers across Scotland³. 84 of the 94 independent food parcel distributors were able to contribute statistics to our database following initial meetings with food bank representatives in Glasgow and Edinburgh in November 2018.

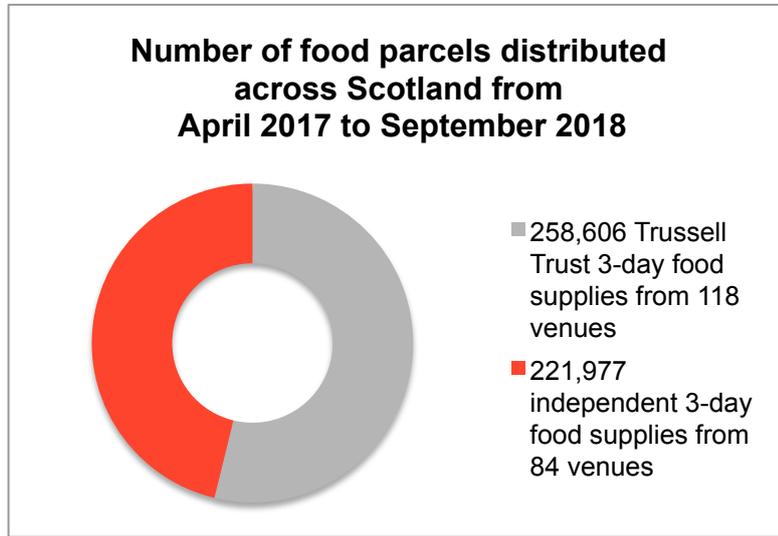
The number of emergency food parcels distributed by independent food banks adds significantly to the 258,606⁴ parcels provided by the Trussell Trust, bringing the combined total of food parcels distributed in Scotland over the period to at least 480,583, with the independent total standing at 221,977 from 84 of 94 venues.

¹ Sabine Goodwin's identification of independent food banks and food parcel distributors on behalf of IFAN uses a benchmark definition of a venue that regularly gives out emergency food parcels at least once a week.

² This figure does not include the number of Salvation Army centres that distribute emergency food parcels as an up-to-date figure was not available.

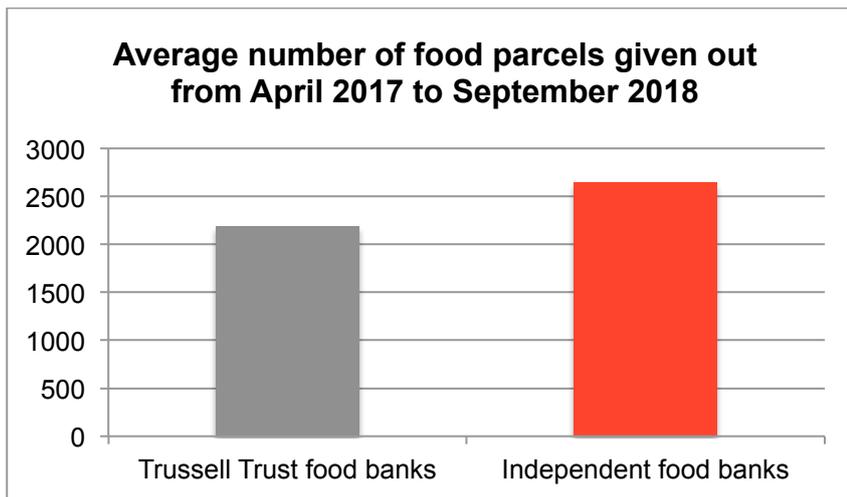
³ <http://www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/food-bank-data-in-scotland>

⁴ Trussell Trust data shows that the network distributed 170,625 3-day emergency food supplies from 118 food bank centres from April 2017 to March 2018 and 87,981 from April 2018 to September 2018 - <https://www.trusselltrust.org/news-and-blog/latest-stats/>



The number of parcels distributed by the 10 remaining independent food banks is still unknown⁵. Estimates suggest that if the food parcels provided by all 94 independent food banks were counted, as many as 248,348 emergency food parcels could have been distributed by independent food banks in Scotland over the period - roughly equivalent to the number distributed by the Trussell Trust.

In the period April 2017 to September 2018, the Trussell Trust's 118 food banks each distributed an average of 2,191 food parcels. By contrast, 84 independent food banks distributed 2,642 parcels on average per food bank.



Despite showing food bank use to be nearly twice as much as previously thought, these combined food bank statistics still remain the tip of the iceberg as they do not reflect the use of other types of emergency food aid provision nor the scale of people going hungry without accessing help at all. The 2017 Scottish Health Survey found 8% of adults in Scotland worried about running out of money for food, rising to 21% among lone parents and single households⁶.

⁵ Some independent food banks have been unable to send in data /confirm details due to being too busy, some have proved to be unreachable and one venue recently closed.

⁶ <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/scottish-health-survey>

Data was collected from independent food banks and food parcel distributors across 18 Scottish local authorities:

Local Authority	No of participating independent food banks	No of parcels distributed from April 2017 to September 2018
North Lanarkshire	9	27,267
South Lanarkshire	8	15,486
Dumfries and Galloway	3	11,970
North Ayrshire	1	367
Argyll and Bute	5	7,195
Clackmannanshire	2	12,018
West Dunbartonshire	3	15,894
Falkirk	3	2,185
City of Edinburgh & East Lothian	10	23,670
Fife	9	25,795
Perth and Kinross	1	272
Scottish Borders	5	3,373
Stirling	2	3,402
Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire	12	27,062
Glasgow City	10	44,037
Angus	1	1,984

Notes:

1. Like the Trussell Trust's statistics, the number of parcels is based on the number of people, both children and adults, who have been provided with 3-day supplies of food with one parcel equating to one 3-day supply of food for one person. Some independent food banks provide more than 3 days-worth of food per person so to enable comparison with Trussell Trust data, collated information was converted into the shared unit of measurement.
2. Like the Trussell Trust totals, these figures do not account for repeat users who may have used a food bank on more than one occasion and so therefore does not reflect the total number of individuals using food banks during this period.
3. Reflecting the pressure independent food banks are under simply to maintain their operations, 11 of the 84 venues were only able to provide estimates of the number of people supported or the number of referrals/visits. A further 9 venues provided an estimate based on 6-months of data collected mid-way between April 2017 and September 2018. In the latter case this data has been extrapolated to provide the number of parcels distributed over the full 12 months.
4. 10 venues were only able to provide data on the number of referrals/visits - this means the number of 3-day supplies in these cases is underestimated.

The Independent Food Aid Network supports and connects a range of independent frontline food aid organisations while advocating on their behalf at a national level. Their vision is of a country that doesn't need emergency food aid and in which good food is accessible to all.

On behalf of IFAN, Sabine Goodwin has by now identified at least 803 independent food banks and food parcel distributors across the UK -www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/mapping.

A Menu for Change is a three-year project, funded by the Big Lottery, and managed by Oxfam Scotland, Poverty Alliance, Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland and Nourish Scotland. We aim to reduce the need for emergency food aid by ensuring people across Scotland get the cash, rights and food they need before they are in crisis.

You can find out more about our on-going project and see a map/list of current participants here: <http://www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/food-bank-data-in-scotland>

Organisations contributing to this data are listed here:

Kintyre Food Bank, Argyll and Bute
Bute Oasis Food Bank, Argyll and Bute
Helensburgh and Lomond Food Bank (2 venues), Argyll and Bute
Hope Kitchen, Argyll and Bute
Largs Food Bank, North Ayrshire
Start-Up Stirling (2 venues), Stirling
Whiteinch Food Bank, Glasgow City
Storehouse Food Bank, Glasgow City
Queen's Park Govanhill Food Bank, Glasgow City
Govan Community Project (2 venues), Glasgow City
Lodging House Mission, Glasgow City
Central and West Integration Network, Glasgow City
Crookson Community Group, Glasgow City
Drumchapel Foodbank, Glasgow City
Glasgow City Mission, Glasgow City
East Kilbride Community Food Bank (6 venues), South Lanarkshire
Clydesdale Food Bank, South Lanarkshire
Loaves and Fishes, South Lanarkshire
Coatbridge Community Food Bank, North Lanarkshire
Bethlehem House of Bread Food Bank (3 venues), North Lanarkshire
Basics Food Banks (4 venues), North Lanarkshire
Belshill Community Food Bank, North Lanarkshire
Machars Churches Basics Food Bank, Dumfries and Galloway
The First Base Agency, Dumfries and Galloway
Helping Hands Food Bank The Hub Youth Centre, Dumfries and Galloway
Kersiebank Community Food Bank, Falkirk
Bo'ness Storehouse, Falkirk
Falkirk Vineyard Storehouse, Falkirk
Galashiels Area Food Bank, Scottish Borders
Kelso Food Bank, Scottish Borders
Berwickshire Churches Food Bank, Scottish Borders
Selkirk Food Bank, Scottish Borders
Jedburgh Churches Food Bank, Scottish Borders
Edinburgh City Mission Basics Banks (9 venues), Edinburgh City & East Lothian
Broomhouse Foodbank, Edinburgh City
Kirkcaldy Food Bank (5 venues), Fife
EATS Rosyth, Fife
Tay Bridgehead Food Bank (2 venues), Fife
East Neuk Foodbank, Fife
The Gate Charity, Clackmannanshire
Sauchie Food Bank, Clackmannanshire

Broke not Broken, Perth and Kincross
Somebody Cares, Aberdeen City
CFINE, Aberdeen City
Instant Neighbour, Aberdeen City
Tillydrone Community Flat, Aberdeen City
Integrate Scotland (7 venues), Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire
West Dunbartonshire Community Foodshare (3 venues), West Dunbartonshire
Brechin Community Pantry, Angus