



What food issues are important to Oceanside residents?



In the summer of 2020, as part of [San Diego County Food Vision 2030](#), San Diego County residents answered a few survey questions to express their unique needs and aspirations related to food in their communities. We're excited to share what we heard from residents of Oceanside.

OVERVIEW

What food issues are most important to you?

TOP ISSUES

- Finding healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate food
- Getting healthy food into schools
- Providing nutrition education to families, children, and seniors
- Reducing hunger & food insecurity
- Supporting worker rights

I would like to see more _____ in my community

TOP SELECTIONS

- Community gardens
- Food banks and pantries
- Farmers' markets
- School gardens
- Cooking Classes

ACCESSING HEALTHY FOOD

Do you face any challenges in getting healthy food?

64% of respondents answered 'yes,' they do face challenges in getting healthy food

What challenges do you face in getting healthy food?

TOP CHALLENGES

- Cost of food
- Small food budget
- Limited time to shop & cook food

FOOD ISSUES AT SCHOOLS

Are you interested in food issues at schools?

88% of respondents answered 'yes,' they are interested in food issues at schools

What issues are most important to you at schools?

TOP ISSUES

- Fruit & vegetable options
- Free food distributions
- Free or reduced price school meals

GROWING FOOD

Are you interested in gardening or growing your own food?

83% of respondents answered 'yes,' they are interested in growing their own food

What support would be helpful with gardening or growing your own food?

TOP SELECTIONS

- Garden education (tips, how-tos, classes, videos, etc.)
- Space to grow at home
- Access to public spaces or vacant land

SHAPING FOOD DECISIONS

Are you interested in playing an active role in shaping food decisions in your community?

76% of respondents answered 'yes,' they are interested in playing an active role

What resources would be most helpful?

TOP RESOURCES

More education
Community partners
More money

ASPIRATIONS FOR FOOD IN OCEANSIDE

Within the next 10 years, what is one hope that you have for food in your community?

COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

- "Cooperative, local food production in everyone's front yard and in any open space."
 - "That we create community gardens and get healthy foods into the community at an affordable price. As well as raise farmers' wages and fight for their rights so they don't have to work in the rain or during fires."
 - "Within the next 10 years, one hope that I have for food in my community would be growing a lot more of our own fruits and vegetables."
 - "Having immediate agency and ownership over the entire process that produces all of our food. Restoring the natural landscape to the high level of foragibility it was cultivated to have."
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COMMUNITY GROWING SPACES

- "I am interested in seeing more urban gardens and fruit trees in public spaces."
 - "Having a community garden for kids outside of school."
 - "Que haya mas oportunidad de sembrar los propias frutas y verduras y que todo sea organico." (that there is more opportunity to grow your own fruits and vegetables and that everything is organic)
 - "To have community gardens to give the community the opportunity to grow their own food."
 - "Growing, planting locally with care for the well-being of the land, worker, and animals."
 - "More home and community gardens, a focus on more sustainable food and less use of pesticides. Native gardening to help boost the role of pollinators to help grow produce and herbs."
 - "I hope more small farms and community gardens start and succeed."
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HEALTHY, AFFORDABLE FOOD

- "Sustainability, health options, making sure healthy and organic foods can be affordable to low income people, food culture education, a right to choose what food you want to eat."
 - "Healthier food options in schools and in the community at affordable pricing with local farmer produce. Fast food doesn't have to be always be fried or processed."
 - "I hope that healthy food can be more accessible and affordable."
 - "That healthy food be available to everyone, regardless of ability to pay."
 - "Families are able to eat healthy foods that are not super expensive."
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FOOD SYSTEM EDUCATION

- "I hope that there will not be this disconnect of producer and consumer. Where the consumer is not entirely disassociated with the process of growing food and therefore finds more value in it instead of something that is tossed by the wayside. Whether the value is taught through community gardens or in school, I hope it will reduce the waste of food in the future."
- "Education for the community. From farming to how to prepare food with fresh veggies."
- "Educación para niños sobre las importancia de comer frutas y verduras." (Education for children about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables)