



FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

Program Facts

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

December 2014

(Unless otherwise noted, all program figures reflect FY 2014 data and include ARRA.)

GENERAL

- In FY 2014, the Federal government spent over \$103 billion to fund and operate the nutrition assistance programs, representing more than 60% of USDA’s expenditures. In FY 2013, FNS programs served 1 in 4 Americans in the course of a year.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES (2014-15)		
% of Poverty	Income for a Family of 4	Makes You Eligible for:
130%	\$31,005 per year; \$2,584 per month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNAP/FDPIR • free school meals/CACFP • CSFP (elderly)
185%	\$44,123 per year; \$3,677 per month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduced price school meals/CACFP • SFSP (at least 50% of families at this income level) • CSFP • WIC

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

- Served an average of 46.5 million low-income people each month
- In FY 2012, served 83 percent of eligible people (latest available data)
- Participants received an average monthly benefit of \$125.37
- FY 2013 national error rate was 3.2%, consisting of 2.6% overpayments and 0.6% underpayments
- Program Level: \$76.0 billion (includes Puerto Rico NAP, FDPIR and related activities)

THE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

- Served an average of 8.3 million participants each month
- Average monthly benefit is about \$63 per recipient (food and services)
- In 2012, WIC served about 63 percent of all eligible people, including:
 - About 85 percent of eligible infants;
 - About 71 percent of eligible pregnant women
 - About 77 percent of post-partum women
 - About half of eligible children (ages 1 to 4)
- Program Level: \$6.2 billion

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

- Served over 30.3 million school children each school day, in about 100,000 schools and residential child-care facilities; about 71% of meals served free or at reduced price
- SY 2014-15 reimbursement rates: free – \$2.98; reduced price – \$2.58; paid – \$0.28 (plus 6 cents per meal in schools certified to meet new meal requirements)
- In SY 2013-2014, reached 57% of children enrolled in school
- Program Level: \$12.6 billion

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

- Served over 13.5 million school children each day, in about 90,000 schools and residential child-care facilities
- SY 2014-15 reimbursement rates: free – \$1.62; reduced price – \$1.32; paid – \$0.28
- In SY 2013-2014, reached 27% of school children, with over 84% of participating schools serving low-income areas; about 85% of meals served free or at reduced price
- Program Level: \$3.7 billion

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

- Served over 3.7 million children and seniors each day through child care institutions, family day care homes, adult day care centers, and after-school care programs
- SY 2014-15 child and adult care center reimbursement rates same as for NSLP and SBP
- Over 80% of meals provided free or at reduced price
- Program Level: \$3.1 billion

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

- SFSP served over 2.6 million low-income children during an average day in July 2014; SFSP and school meals together served over 3.8 million low-income children during an average day that month
- 2014 reimbursement rates: breakfast: \$2.02; lunch/supper: \$3.55; snack: \$0.84
- Meals are served primarily in low-income areas, and provided free
- Program Level: \$461.9 million

FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS

- Served an average of about 85,400 low-income individuals living on or near Indian reservations each month
- Five States and 100 ITOs operated FDPIR on 276 Indian reservations
- Average food package cost: \$61 (per person/per month)
- Program Level: \$109 million

THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Distributed about 758 million pounds of food through food pantries, emergency kitchens, and other emergency food providers
- Total value of TEFAP foods (entitlement and bonus): \$560.2 million
- Program Level: \$687.6 million

THE COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM

- Served about 10,000 low-income women, infants, and children, and over 563,000 low-income elderly people, in an average month.
- Operated in 39 States, the District of Columbia and two Indian tribal organizations
- Average elderly food package cost including free foods: \$19.24 (per person/per month)
- Average women-infant-children food package cost including free foods: \$23.82 (per person/per month)
- Program Level: \$184.2 million