THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM:
Important Sources of Information on the Program and Policy

I. Research:

A. Reports from the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Office of Analysis, Nutrition, and Evaluation:

1. Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 2000 (October 2001); www.fns.usda.gov/oane/menu/Published/fsp/NewReleases.htm


3. The Decline in Food Stamp Participation: A Report to Congress (July 2001); www.fns.usda.gov/oane/menu/Published/fsp/NewReleases.htm


6. Theodore F. Macaluso, The Extent of Trafficking in the Food Stamp Program: An Update (March 2000); www.fns.usda.gov/oane/menu/Published/fsp/ProgramIntegrity.htm


10. *Food Stamp Participants’ Access to Food Retailers: Final Report* (July 1999); www.fns.usda.gov/oane/menu/Published/fsp/ProgramOperations.htm
18. Mike Stavrianos, Scott Cody, Kimball Lewis, *Characteristics of Childless Unemployed Adult and Legal Immigrant Food Stamp Participants in Fiscal Year 1995* (December 1997); www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/Participation.htm
19. *Food Retailers in the Food Stamp Program: Characteristics and Service to Participants: Summary of Report* (February 1997); www.fns.usda.gov/oane/menu/Published/fsp/ProgramOperations.htm
B. Reports from HHS’s Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE):
www.aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/leavers99/foodstamps.htm


http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/leavers99/synthesis01

3. Joan Acker, et al, *Oregon Families who Left Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or Food Stamps* (University of Oregon, January 2001);
wnw.uoregon.edu/welfareind.shtml

www.aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/leavers99/cross-state00/


www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/med-fs.htm

7. Sheila R. Zedlewski, Sarah Brauner, *Declines in Food Stamp and Welfare Participation: Is there a Connection?* (Urban Institute, October 1999);
www.aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/leavers99/foodstamps.htm

C. Reports from USDA’s Economic Research Service (ERS) (www.ers.usda.gov)

1. Craig Gundersen, *State Use of Funds To Increase Work Slots for Food Stamp Recipients: Report to Congress* (August 2001);
www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr15/


8. Parke E. Wilde, Paul E. McNamara, Christine K. Ranney, *The Effect on Dietary Quality of Participation in the Food Stamp and WIC Programs Education* (September 2000); www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr9


D. Report from the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation: Janet Quint and Rebecca Widom, Lindsay Moore; *The Project on Devolution and Urban Change: Post-TANF Food Stamp and Medicaid Benefits: Factors That Aid or Impede Their Receipt* (January 2001); www.mdrc.org/RecentPublications.htm

E. Reports from the Urban Institute (www.urban.org)

1. Sheila Rafferty Zedlewski, Amelia Gruber; *Former Welfare Families Continue to Leave the Food Stamp Program* (April 2001); http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/series_b/b33/b33.html

2. Sheila Rafferty Zedlewski, Amelia Gruber; *Former Welfare Families Continue to Leave the Food Stamp Program* (March 2001); http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/discussion01-05.html


F. Other Reports from Mathematica Policy Research (www.mathematica-mpr.com/Publications/publications.asp; Select "Nutrition" as topic of interest and "Food Stamps" as the subtopic and a list of reports will be available. For those reports without a web address, you may order them from MPR on the internet www.mathematica-mpr.com/3rdLevel/orderpub.htm or by phone at (609) 275-2350).


5. Philip Gleason, Anu Rangarajan, Christine Olson, *Dietary Intake and Dietary Attitudes Among Food Stamp Participants and Other Low-Income Individuals* (September 2000); www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FILES/FSPDiet.pdf


7. Nancy Wemmerus, Laura Castner and Dan O’Connor, *Tables Describing the Asset and Vehicle Holdings of Food Stamp Participants, Nonparticipants, and Asset Ineligibles in 1994* (September 1999)


G. Reports from the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) (www.gao.gov; Select "GAO Reports" and scroll to "Find GAO Reports" and type in publication number listed in parentheses below):

1. *Food Stamp Program: Program Integrity and Participation Challenges* (GAO-01-881T); June 27, 2001

2. *Food Stamp Program: Implementation of the Employment and Training Program for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents* (GAO-01-391R); February 27, 2001

3. *States Seek to Reduce Payment Errors and Program Complexity* (GAO-01-272); January 19, 2001
4. *Food Assistance: Reducing the Trafficking of Food Stamp Benefits* (T-RCED-00-250); July 19, 2000

5. *Food Stamp Program: Data on Assistance to the Elderly* (RCED-00-223R); June 28, 2000

6. *Food Stamp Program: Better Use of Electronic Data Could Result in Disqualifying More Recipients Who Traffic Benefits* (RCED-00-61); March 7, 2000

7. *Food Stamp Program: How States Are Using Federal Waivers of the Work Requirements* (RCED-00-5); October 29, 1999

8. *Food Stamp Program: Households Collect Benefits for Persons Disqualified for Intentional Program Violations* (RCED-99-180); July 8, 1999

9. *Food Stamp Program: Various Factors Have Led to Declining Participation* (RCED-99-185); July 2, 1999

10. *Welfare Reform: Few States are Likely to Use Simplified Food Stamp Programs* (RCED-99-43); January 29, 1999

11. *Food Stamp Program: Information on Employment and Training Activities* (RCED-99-40); December 14, 1998


13. *Food Stamp Program: Characteristics of Households Affected by Limit on the Shelter Deduction* (RCED-97-118); May 14, 1997

II. Data:

A. Characteristics of Food Stamp Households (annual series; reports from 1997 through 2000 are posted at [www.fns.usda.gov/oane](http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane) with earlier years available in hard copy from Office of Analysis Nutrition and Evaluation, Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22303)

B. State Activity Reports (annual series; available through federal fiscal year 1999 from FNS’s Program Accountability Division, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302): aggregate annual data by state on participation, issuances, administrative costs, fair hearing results, fraud investigations, administrative disqualifications, and claims establishment and collections.
C. Program participation data: monthly state data for FY1998 through FY2001 and national data on participation, costs, and benefits provided to food stamp beneficiaries for years 1969 through 2001 (www.fns.usda.gov/pd/fspmain.htm)

D. Food Stamp Statistical Summary of Project Area Operations Report (available from FNS’s Program Information Division, Data Base Monitoring Branch, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302): reports on individual and household participation and total issuance by county for most states in the months of January and July, divided only by public assistance and non-public assistance households.

E. States collect a variety of other data for reports to USDA or for their own internal use; data reported to USDA is often held by the Food Stamp Program’s Program Accountability Division, the Data Base Monitoring Branch of the Program Information Division, or the Office of Analysis, Nutrition, and Evaluation.

III. Recent Regulations (www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/regulations/FSPReg.htm or available through www.gpo.gov). Although some of these regulations have implementation dates in the future, many codify parts of the PRWORA that became effective in 1996:


F. Miscellaneous final rules published or expected on technical issues involving retailers, wholesalers, and electronic benefit transfer (EBT), including:
1. Revisions to the Retail Food Store Definition and Program Authorization Guidance, 66 Fed. Reg. 2795 (January 12, 2001)(Note: the effective date of this provision has been postponed twice).


IV. Guidance:

A. Reporting and Budgeting Issues:

1. *Questions and Answers on the Noncitizen Eligibility and Certification Provision (NECP) Final Rule* (March 20, 2001); www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/MENU/NCEP_Q&As.htm


B. Other Financial Eligibility Issues:


2. *Questions and Answers on Categorical Eligibility for Food Stamps* (October 21, 1999); www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/MENU/ADMIN/WELFARE/SUPPORT/CatElQ&As.htm


C. Improving Program Access:


D. Immigrants’ Eligibility:


E. Three-Month Cut-off for Childless Adults Ages 18 to 49:


F. Miscellaneous Policy:

1. *Letter to States on Adjustment of Food Stamp Quality Control Liabilities* (January 18, 2001); Copies available at FNS’s Program Accountability Division, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302


V. **Reports from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities** www.cbpp.org/pubs/fa.htm


4. *The Food Stamp Program Can Be Improved for Working Families* (August 1, 2001)

5. *Work and the Food Stamp Program* (July 20, 2001)

6. David Super, *Background on The Food Stamp Program*, (July 10, 2001)

7. Stacy Dean, *Testimony of Stacy Dean before the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry Committee on Agriculture*, (June 27, 2001)


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<td>Stacy Dean and David Super, <em>Overview of The Food Stamp Time Limit for People Between Ages 18 and 50</em> (rev. December 2000).</td>
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<td>Stacy Dean and Dorothy Rosenbaum, <em>Linking Medicaid and Food Stamps: Four Little-known Facts about the Food Stamp Program</em> (November 30, 2000).</td>
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<td>Sharon Parrott and Stacy Dean, <em>Food Stamps Can Help Low-Income Working Families Put Food on the Table</em> (March 31, 1999).</td>
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<td>Stacy Dean, <em>Research Findings Show 18- to 49-Year-Old Food Stamp Recipients Are Disadvantaged and Can Face Major Difficulties in the Job Market</em> (December 29, 1999).</td>
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<td>Stacy Dean, <em>Restarting the Clock on the Food Stamp Three-Month Cut-off</em> (December 7, 2000).</td>
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VI. Information State and Local Agencies are Required to Maintain:

A. Sources of information on individual households:
   2. Requirement to retain information: 7 C.F.R. §§ 272.1(e) and (f)
   3. Households contemplating hearing requests: 7 C.F.R. § 273.15(i)(1)
   4. Households that have requested hearings: 7 C.F.R. § 273.15(l)(1)

B. Sources of information on state policies:
   1. Sources of state policy: 7 C.F.R. § 272.3(a)
   2. Public access to state policies: 7 C.F.R. §§ 272.1(d) and 295
   3. Hearing procedures: 7 C.F.R. § 273.15(i)(3)
   4. Waivers: 7 C.F.R. § 272.3(c)(2) and (d) see also FNS’s data base of state waivers at: www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/Regulations/FSPReg.htm#WaivDB1

C. Sources of Information on State Agencies’ Operations
   1. Summaries of hearing decisions: 7 C.F.R. § 273.15(q)(5)
   2. Management Evaluation (ME) reviews: 7 C.F.R. §§ 275.5-275.9
   3. Quality Control (QC) reviews of “negative” cases: 7 C.F.R. § 275.13
   5. Data analysis and evaluation requirements: 7 C.F.R. § 275.15
   6. Complaint analyses: 7 C.F.R. § 271.6(a)(3); see also 7 C.F.R. §§ 271.6(a) and (b) (setting out state and federal complaint procedures, respectively)
   7. Record retention requirements: 7 C.F.R. § 275.4