The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation’s most important anti-hunger program.

**Who Does SNAP Reach?**

In Fiscal Year 2014, it reached:

- **212,000** Idaho residents, or **13%** of the state population (**1 in 8**)
- **46,536,000** participants in the United States, or **15%** of the total population (**1 in 7 people**)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDAHO</th>
<th>NATIONALLY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>more than 76% of all SNAP participants are in families with children</td>
<td>almost 24% of all SNAP participants are in families with elderly or disabled members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>almost 70% of all SNAP participants are in families with children</td>
<td>almost 29% of all SNAP participants are in families with elderly or disabled members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, FY 2013

**The majority of SNAP recipients in Idaho are children, elderly, or disabled**

- 47% Children
- 12% Adults living with children
- 6% Elderly
- 9% Nondisabled, non-elderly adults not living with children
- 26% Disabled adults

Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, FY 2013

**In Idaho many households still struggle to put food on the table:**

- **15.1%** of households were “food insecure,” or struggled to afford a nutritionally adequate diet, in 2011-2013.
- **3.7%** of the population was unemployed in December 2014.
- In 2013, average income in Idaho was **10.0% below** the 2007 level.
- **15.6%** of the population lived below the poverty line in 2013.
- **18.8%** of children lived below the poverty line in 2013.
- **8.2%** of elderly lived below the poverty line in 2013.

**SNAP reaches needy populations: 84%** of eligible individuals participated in SNAP in Idaho in 2012. In Idaho in FY 2013, **81%** of households receiving SNAP had income below the poverty line (about $23,850 for a family of four in 2014), and **37%** of households were in deep poverty, with income below 50% of the poverty line.

SNAP kept **33,000** people out of poverty from 2009-2012, including **14,000** children.
What Benefits Do SNAP Recipients Receive?

SNAP targets benefits according to need. Very poor households receive more SNAP benefits than households closer to the poverty line since they need more help affording an adequate diet.

Households receive SNAP benefits on electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards, which can be used only to purchase food at one of the 252,900 authorized retail locations around the country, including 1,000 in Idaho.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average monthly SNAP benefit for each household member:</th>
<th>October 2013</th>
<th>November 2013-September 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$125*</td>
<td>$116</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Average monthly SNAP benefit per person per meal:      | $1.39*       | $1.28                       |

*This amount includes the temporary boost in benefits provided by the economic recovery legislation, which expired in November 2013.

Average Monthly SNAP Benefit By Demographic Group, FY 2013, Idaho

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Group</th>
<th>Average Monthly SNAP Benefit ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All households</td>
<td>$294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with children</td>
<td>$428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working households</td>
<td>$353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with seniors</td>
<td>$133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with non-elderly disabled individuals</td>
<td>$203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Note: These amounts also include the temporary boost from the Recovery Act. In FY 2014, benefits will be lower by an average of $8-10 per person.

How Does SNAP Benefit the Economy?

Moody’s Analytics estimates that in a weak economy, $1 in SNAP benefits generates $1.70 in economic activity.

SNAP benefits pumped about $296 million into Idaho’s economy in 2014.

For more information on the SNAP program, including Idaho-specific information, please see:

- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Chart Book: http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3744
- USDA SNAP data: http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/snapmain.htm
- ID state SNAP program: http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/FoodCashAssistance/FoodStamps/tabid/90/Default.aspx