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

Whom Does SNAP Reach?

In Fiscal Year 2019, it reached:

- **2,661,000** New York residents, or **14%** of the state population (1 in 7)
- **38,000,000** participants in the United States, or **12%** of the total population (1 in 9)

### NEW YORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Share</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income at or below 50% of poverty</td>
<td>more than 58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income between 51-100% of poverty</td>
<td>almost 51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income above 100% of poverty</td>
<td>almost 38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NATIONALY

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income at or below 50% of poverty</td>
<td>more than 67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income between 51-100% of poverty</td>
<td>almost 34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income above 100% of poverty</td>
<td>more than 43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, FY 2018

### Most SNAP Participants in New York Are Poor

Share of participants by household income, FY 2018:

- **22%**: Income at or below 50% of poverty
- **26%**: Income between 51-100% of poverty
- **52%**: Income above 100% of poverty

Source: CBPP analysis of FY 2018 USDA SNAP Household Characteristics data

### Many New York households struggle to put food on the table.

The most recent data show:

- **10.5%** of households were “food insecure,” or struggled to afford a nutritionally adequate diet.
- Median income was **4.4% above** the 2007 level, after adjusting for inflation.
- **13.6%** of the population lived below the poverty line.
- **18.6%** of children lived below the poverty line.
- **11.8%** of elderly lived below the poverty line.

**SNAP reaches needy populations:** **93%** of eligible individuals participated in SNAP in **New York** in 2016, and **81%** of eligible workers participated.

SNAP kept **637,000** people out of poverty in **New York**, including **273,000** children, per year between 2013 and 2016, on average. (These figures adjust for households’ underreporting of benefits.)

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*Due to data-reporting issues, 2019 SNAP participation data for North Carolina are not available from the Department of Agriculture. This national participation total was calculated using SNAP caseload data from the North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services, and was adjusted to account for the early issuance nationwide of February 2019 SNAP benefits in January 2019.*
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. SNAP recipients in New York received $4.34 billion in benefits in 2019.

Average monthly SNAP benefit for each household member: $136
Average SNAP benefit per person per meal: $1.49

Fiscal Year 2019

**Average Monthly SNAP Benefit By Demographic Group, FY 2018, New York**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Group</th>
<th>Average Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Households</td>
<td>$233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with children</td>
<td>$382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working households</td>
<td>$301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with seniors</td>
<td>$168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with non-elderly disabled individuals</td>
<td>$213</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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. Households receive SNAP benefits on electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards, which can be used only to purchase food at one of about 247,600 authorized retail locations around the country, including some 17,300 in New York.

For more information on SNAP, including New York-specific information, please see:


Notes: In addition to SNAP, in FY 2019, based on preliminary data, an average of about 200 individuals in New York received benefits through the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), which is a federal program that provides commodity foods to low-income households, including the elderly, living on Indian reservations, and to Native American families residing in designated areas near reservations and in the State of Oklahoma.