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

**Whom Does SNAP Reach?**

In Fiscal Year 2017, it reached:

- **2,911,000** New York residents, or **15%** of the state population (**1 in 7**)
- **42,000,000** participants in the United States, or **13%** of the total population (**1 in 8**)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW YORK</th>
<th>NATIONALLY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>more than 55% of SNAP participants are in families with children</td>
<td>more than 68% of SNAP participants are in families with children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>almost 46% are in families with members who are elderly or have disabilities</td>
<td>almost 33% are in families with members who are elderly or have disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>more than 43% are in working families</td>
<td>more than 44% are in working families</td>
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Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, FY 2017

**Most SNAP Participants in New York Are Poor**

Share of participants by household income, FY 2017

- Income between 51-100% of poverty: 25%
- Income at or below 50% of poverty: 25%
- Income above 100% of poverty: 50%

Source: CBPP analysis of FY 2017 USDA SNAP Household Characteristics data

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

The most recent data show:

- **10.9%** of households were “food insecure,” or struggled to afford a nutritionally adequate diet.
- Median income was **2.3% above** the 2007 level, after adjusting for inflation.
- **14.1%** of the population lived below the poverty line.
- **19.7%** of children lived below the poverty line.
- **11.4%** of elderly lived below the poverty line.

**SNAP reaches needy populations:** **87%** of eligible individuals participated in SNAP in **New York** in 2015, and **79%** of eligible workers participated.

SNAP kept **714,000** people out of poverty in **New York**, including **321,000** children, per year between 2009 and 2012, on average. (These figures adjust for households’ underreporting of benefits.)
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 $4.74 billion in benefits in 2017.

Fiscal Year 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Description</th>
<th>Average Monthly Benefit Per Household Member</th>
<th>Average Benefit Per Person Per Meal</th>
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<td>$136</td>
<td>$1.49</td>
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</table>

Average Monthly SNAP Benefit By Demographic Group, FY 2017, New York

- All Households: $239
- Households with children: $399
- Working households: $304
- Households with seniors: $79
- Households with non-elderly disabled individuals: $203


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 the 263,100 authorized retail locations around the country, including some 18,600 in New York.

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


Notes: In addition to SNAP, in FY 2017, based on preliminary data, an average of about 400 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.