

Nutrition Assistance Program Report
March 2026
US Summary

Programs	Mar 2025	Feb 2026	Mar 2026
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)			
Participants (thousands)	42,194	37,729	37,298
Average Benefit (\$)	\$188.08	\$189.51	\$189.18
National School Lunch Program			
Average Daily Participation (thousands)	29,866	29,471	29,220
Participating Children (Free/Reduced)	21,845	21,599	21,359
Percent Free/Reduced Price	73.14%	73.29%	73.10%
Total Snacks Served (in thousands)	18,388	16,983	18,360
School Breakfast Program			
Average Daily Participation (thousands)	15,706	15,371	15,331
Participating Children (Free/Reduced)	12,598	12,380	12,288
Percent Free/Reduced Price	80.21%	80.54%	80.15%
Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)			
Meals Served in Homes (thousands)	26,708	23,217	26,179
Meals Served in Centers (thousands)	124,999	114,195	123,059
Meals Served in Adult Care Centers (thousands)	6,399	6,214	6,737
Percentage of Meals Served Free	76.60%	77.16%	76.86%
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC)			
Participants (thousands)	6,851	6,665	6,702
Average Benefit (\$)	\$65.41	\$61.88	\$64.36
Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)			
Participants (thousands)	707	679	687
Average Benefit (WIC)	--	--	--
Average Benefit (Elderly)	\$33.86	\$32.93	\$32.79
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)			
Participants (thousands)	58	67	69
Total Food Costs (dollars in thousands)	\$8,173	\$9,307	\$9,581
USDA Food Donations (All Programs)			
Entitlement Foods (dollars in thousands)	\$198,250	\$156,226	\$177,369
Bonus Foods (dollars in thousands)	\$1	\$0	\$0
TEFAP (dollars in thousands)	\$95,781	\$52,971	\$55,478

*States tend to distribute multiple months of P-EBT benefits in a single issuance. Benefits distributed in June, for example, may represent the value of P-EBT benefits for participants' virtual school days in the months of March through May. Because states distribute multiple months of benefits in a single issuance, participant counts must be interpreted with caution. Participants who receive a combined P-EBT benefit in June for the months of March through May will appear in the participant count for June only. A household or person who receives a combined benefit for March and April in June, and a second combined benefit for May and June in July will appear in the June and July participant counts. As result, the number of P-EBT beneficiaries is much greater than any single monthly count, but summing the participant counts across months will overstate the number of beneficiaries.