

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION DASHBOARD

About the Dashboard

The Program Participation Dashboard is an interactive tool that provides FNA Nutrition Program data, including participation and meals served data, at the State, Territory, and National levels. The dashboard contains data on the below programs:

- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP)
- Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Seamless Summer Option (SSO)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

How to use the dashboard

The user can select programs by Program Category: Program Participation (by number of households and/or individuals) or Meals Served, for given State or Territory and time period. The dashboard provides users with the option to highlight select policy milestones (denoted by the vertical dotted line on the graph view), dating back to 2002, which can also be toggled on or off. The dashboard allows users to explore the data in both line graphs or tabular form. Note, users cannot view both participation and meals served data at the same time. Please note the State or Territory selections when viewing programs limited to specific States or Territories; for example, the Nutritional Assistance Program (NAP) only operates in American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico and data would only appear if those Territories are selected.

Users can save an image of the visual displayed by clicking on the "Export Image" button, and when viewing data in the tabular form, users are able to download a data table by clicking on the "Export Data" button.

Data Sources

The dashboard uses data collected from the FNA National Data Bank (NDB). The dashboard is updated on a monthly cadence with a 3-month lag as new data becomes available publicly. For example, the data refresh executed in March 2024 will reflect data through December 2023 (FY23 Q1). All program data contained within the dashboard can also be found within Program Data tables on the FNA website. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/pd/overview>

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Data Limitations

This dashboard contains data dating from October 1989 to the most recent publicly available data reported by States. For select programs, such as FDPIR and SSO, data may only be available for more recent years.

- A. FDPIR data dates back to October 2010
- B. SSO data dates back to July 2021
- C. CSFP data dates back to 2000

Due to the partial Federal government shutdown, most of the February 2019 SNAP benefits were issued early in the month of January 2019. This was done to ensure SNAP recipients would receive their February 2019 benefits in a timely manner. As a result, January 2019's benefits will show a significant increase over the previous month and February 2019's benefits will show significantly less than January 2019.

Please note, the latest two months of data displayed in the dashboard are preliminary and subject to significant revision. For example, if the dashboard display data through March 2024, then the latest two months (February 2024 and March 2024) are preliminary and subject to significant revision.

In SY 2020-2021, many schools served meals through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) due to the COVID-19 waivers. The COVID-19 waiver which allowed schools to serve meals through the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and report separately started in SY 2021-2022. FY 2021-2022 data includes meals served through the SSO.

Methods and Key Definitions

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federal program provides nutritious meals and snacks to eligible children and adults in participating day care homes and centers and to children and teenagers in at-risk afterschool care programs and emergency shelters.

<https://www.fna.usda.gov/cacfp>

- **Total Meals Served:** The total number of free, reduced, and paid breakfasts, lunches, suppers and snacks served in Centers. Corresponds to part E (Lines 22-60) of the FNS-44 for all rows.
- **Average Daily Attendance:** The average daily attendance of outlets reported. Corresponds to part C (Lines 13, and 20) of the FNS-44 for all rows.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of low-income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/csfp/commodity-supplemental-food-program>

- **Total Participation:** The total number of participants to whom commodities were issued. Corresponds to FNS-153 columns A through E.

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The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) provides USDA Foods to income-eligible households living on Indian reservations and to Native American households residing in designated areas near reservations or in Oklahoma.

<https://www.fna.usda.gov/fdpiir/food-distribution-program-indian-reservations>

- Total Participation: Report only one household contact per participating household that received program benefits or commodities. Corresponds to Items 6-16 of the FNS-101 for all rows.

National School Lunch Program (NSLP) provides healthy lunches to school children in public and private schools and residential childcare institutions. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/nslp>

- Total Lunches Served: Lunches served in school food authorities that qualify the state for additional payment and Lunches served in school food authorities certified for performance-based reimbursement. Corresponds to Line 5aT column D of the FNS-10 for all rows.

The Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) block grants provide food assistance to low-income households in the U.S. territories of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/nap/nutrition-assistance-program-block-grants>

American Samoa-NAP Persons Participation: The revised estimate of total number of people that participated based on documented issuance. Corresponds to line 3d of the FNS-388 (AS).

- Northern Mariana Islands-NAP Persons Participation: The revised estimate of total number of people that participated based on documented issuance. Corresponds to line 3d of the FNS-388 (CNMI-NAP).
- Puerto Rico NAP Persons Participation: The revised estimate of total number of people that participated based on documented issuance. Corresponds to line 3d of the FNS-388 (PR-NAP).

Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) is part of the U.S. government response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through P-EBT, eligible school children receive temporary emergency nutrition benefits loaded on EBT cards that are used to purchase food.

<https://www.fna.usda.gov/snap/state-guidance-coronavirus-pandemic-ebt-pebt>

- Persons Participation: The revised estimate of total number of people that participated based on documented issuance. Corresponds to line 3E of the FNS-388.
- Household Participation: The revised estimate of households that participated in the previous month based on documented issuance. Corresponds to line 4E of the FNS-388

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- Please note the following data: 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.
- States issue P-EBT benefits to individual children in cases when they are unable to group children into household units. This is sometimes an issue where P-EBT beneficiaries are not SNAP recipients. Because these children are counted as separate households, the household count in this table overstates the number of unique household beneficiaries.
- More information on P-EBT data can be found on the SNAP Data Tables page: <https://www.fna.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

The School Breakfast Program (SBP) provides healthy breakfasts to school children in public and private schools and residential childcare institutions. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/sbp/school-breakfast-program>

Total Breakfasts Served: The actual or estimated total breakfast served in schools, Including schools with severe need. Corresponds to Line 6T column D of the FNS-10 for all rows.

Seamless Summer Option (SSO) allows schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program to more easily feed children during the traditional summer vacation periods and, for year-round schools, long school vacation periods. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/summer/options>

- Total Lunches and Breakfasts: The actual or estimated total breakfast and lunches served in schools, Including schools with severe need. Corresponds to Line 6T column D and Line 5aT column D of the FNS-10 for all rows.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, breastfeeding support, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant and postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/wic>

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- **Women:** The number of women who received WIC food instruments or food designed for a postpartum woman and are not breastfeeding their infants. Non-breastfeeding postpartum women are eligible to receive WIC food instruments or food up to six months postpartum. Corresponds to the sum of lines 15a through 15d of the FNS-798 for all rows.
- **Infants:** The number of infants who are not being breastfed by their mothers and who received at least one WIC food instrument or food for the month. Corresponds to the sum of rows 16a through 16c of the FNS-798 for all rows.
- **Children:** The number of children who received WIC food instruments or food for the month. Corresponds to line 17 of the FNS-798 for all rows.

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) provides healthy meals and snacks to children and teens in low-income areas and in residential camps during the summer months and other times when school is not in sessions. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program>

- **Average Daily Attendance:** The average daily attendance for each type of sponsor entered on Line 30 for the month. This is the sum of the average daily attendance figures reported by each type of sponsor. Corresponds part D - (Lines 30-33) of the FNS-418 for all rows.
- **Total Meals Served:** The actual, estimated, and total number of breakfasts, lunches, suppers, and supplements served in self-prep and/or rural sites operating under all sponsor types. Corresponds part A - (Lines 5-19), columns A and B of the FNS-418 for all rows.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides EBT benefits to low-income families to supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health and well-being. <https://www.fna.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program>

Persons Participation: The revised estimate of total number of people that participated based on documented issuance. Corresponds to line 3A of the FNS-388.

- **Household Participation:** The revised estimate of households that participated in the previous month based on documented issuance. Corresponds to line 4a of the FNS-388.
- Please note that these values only include Regular Ongoing SNAP participation.
- Due to the partial Federal government shutdown, most of the February 2019 SNAP benefits were issued early in the month of January 2019. This was done to ensure SNAP recipients would receive their February 2019 benefits in a timely manner. As a result, January 2019's

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benefits will show a significant increase over the previous month and February 2019's benefits will show significantly less than January 2019.

Policy Milestones showcased in the dashboard encompass key points in time and legislative actions that may have had a direct or indirect impact on participation and meals served data shown. For more information on each of these milestones, please see the below table and the associated links:

Date	Milestone	Links
May 2002	Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002	House Bill
May 2008	Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 enacted	House Bill
February 2009	American Recovery & Reinvestment Act	House Bill
December 2010	Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010	Senate Bill; FNA Fact Sheet
March 2012	Nutrition Standards take effect	FNA Website: Proposed updates to Nutrition Standards
February 2014	Agricultural Act of 2014	House Bill
December 2018	Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018	House Bill
January 2020	COVID-19 Public Health Emergency declared	Federal Register: PHE Announcement
March 2021	American Rescue Plan Act	House Bill
May 2023	Federal PHE Declaration Ended	HHS End of PHE Fact-Sheet
June 2023	Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023	House Bill

Contact Information

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