Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation and Costs

(Data as of October 9, 2026)

Fiscal Year	Average Participation (Thousands)	Average Benefit Per Person [1] (Dollars)	Total Benefits (Millions of Dollars)	All Other Costs [2] (Millions of Dollars)	Total Costs (Millions of Dollars)
1969	2,878	6.63	228.80	21.70	250.50
1970	4,340	10.55	549.70	27.20	576.90
1971	9,368	13.55	1,522.70	53.20	1,575.90
1972	11,109	13.48	1,797.30	69.40	1,866.70
1973	12,166	14.60	2,131.40	76.00	2,207.40
1974	12,862	17.61	2,718.30	119.20	2,837.50
1975	17,064	21.40	4,385.50	233.20	4,618.70
1976	18,549	23.93	5,326.50	359.00	5,685.50
1977	17,077	24.71	5,067.00	394.00	5,461.00
1978	16,001	26.77	5,139.20	380.50	5,519.70
1979	17,653	30.59	6,480.20	459.60	6,939.80
1980	21,082	34.47	8,720.90	485.60	9,206.50
1981	22,430	39.49	10,629.90	595.40	11,225.20
1982 [3]	21,717	39.17	10,208.30	628.40	10,836.70
1983	21,625	42.98	11,152.30	694.80	11,847.10
1984	20,854	42.74	10,696.10	882.60	11,578.80
1985	19,899	44.99	10,743.60	959.60	11,703.20
1986	19,429	45.49	10,605.20	1,033.20	11,638.40
1987	19,113	45.78	10,500.30	1,103.90	11,604.20
1988	18,645	49.83	11,149.10	1,167.70	12,316.80
1989	18,806	51.71	11,669.78	1,231.81	12,901.59
1990	20,049	58.78	14,142.79	1,304.47	15,447.26
1991	22,625	63.78	17,315.77	1,431.50	18,747.27
1992	25,407	68.57	20,905.68	1,556.66	22,462.34
1993	26,987	67.95	22,006.03	1,646.94	23,652.97
1994	27,474	69.00	22,748.58	1,744.87	24,493.45
1995	26,619	71.27	22,764.07	1,856.30	24,620.37
1996	25,543	73.21	22,440.11	1,890.88	24,330.99
1997	22,858	71.27	19,548.86	1,958.68	21,507.55
1998	19,791	71.12	16,890.49	2,097.84	18,988.32
1999	18,183	72.27	15,769.40	2,051.52	17,820.92
2000	17,194	72.62	14,983.32	2,070.70	17,054.02
2001	17,318	74.81	15,547.39	2,242.00	17,789.39
2002	19,096	79.67	18,256.20	2,380.82	20,637.02
2003	21,250	83.94	21,404.28	2,412.01	23,816.28
2004	23,811	86.16	24,618.89	2,480.14	27,099.03
2005	25,628	92.89	28,567.88	2,504.13	31,072.01
2006	26,549	94.75	30,187.35	2,715.72	32,903.06
2007	26,316	96.18	30,373.27	2,800.25	33,173.52
2008	28,223	102.19	34,608.40	3,031.25	37,639.64
2009	33,490	125.31	50,359.92	3,260.00	53,619.92
2010	40,302	133.79	64,702.16	3,581.30	68,283.47
2011	44,709	133.85	71,810.92	3,875.62	75,686.54
2012	46,609	133.41	74,619.34	3,791.75	78,411.10
2013	47,636	133.07	76,066.32	3,792.71	79,859.03
2014	46,664	125.01	69,998.84	4,061.49	74,060.33
2015	45,767	126.81	69,645.14	4,301.62	73,946.76
2016	44,220	125.40	66,539.27	4,372.87	70,912.14
2017	42,317	125.47	63,711.05	4,463.98	68,175.03
2018	40,776	124.50	60,916.85	4,531.82	65,448.67
2019	35,702	129.83	55,622.28	4,760.41	60,382.69
2020	39,853	154.54	73,905.39	5,006.24	78,911.63
2021	41,604	214.41	107,042.27	5,185.88	112,228.15
2022	41,208	229.01	113,243.42	5,554.31	118,797.73
2023	42,177	210.71	106,645.38	6,053.82	112,699.20
2024	41,709	186.76	93,475.89	6,602.71	100,078.60
2025	42,142	189.36	95,759.23	6,819.81	102,579.04

All data are subject to revision.

1] Represents average monthly benefits per person.

2] Includes the Federal share of State administrative expenses, Nutrition Education, and Employment and Training programs. Also includes other Federal costs (e.g., Benefit and Retailer Redemption and Monitoring, Payment Accuracy, EBT Systems, Program Evaluation and Modernization, Program Access, Health and Nutrition Pilot Projects).

3] Puerto Rico initiated Food Stamp operations during FY 1975 and participated through June of FY 1982. A separate Nutrition Assistance Grant began in July 1982.