

North Dakota Participants in the Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Formerly the Federal Food Stamp Program): Fiscal Year 2008

An average of 48,412 North Dakotans participated in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) per month in fiscal year 2008 (based on preliminary data as of December 30, 2008), up 7.3 percent when compared to the 45,122 monthly average for 2007. Nationally, participation in SNAP also increased 7.3 percent between 2007 and 2008 (Table 1).

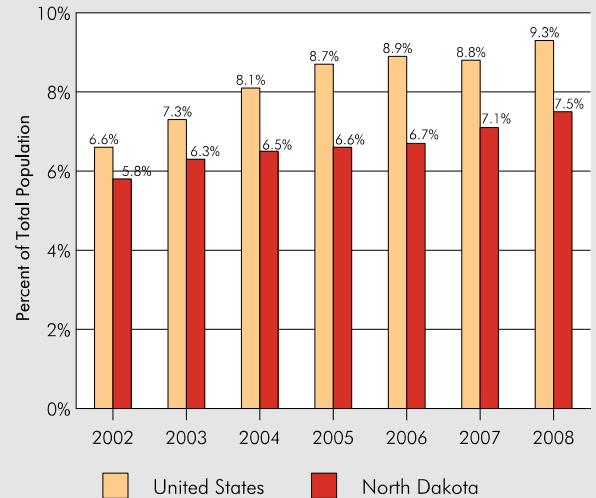
Nearly \$59.3 million in SNAP benefits were distributed to North Dakota participants in fiscal year 2008, up 14.2 percent from 2007.

SNAP participants in North Dakota each received, on average, \$102.02 per month in fiscal year 2008, an increase of 6.5 percent from \$95.83 in 2007. Nationally, participants each received an average of \$101.53 per month in 2008, up 6.2 percent from \$95.63 in 2007 (Table 1).

In an average month, SNAP recipients comprised 7.5 percent of North Dakota's total population in 2008. Nationwide, participants comprised 9.3 percent of the total population in 2008 (Figure 1).

SNAP participation data presented in this publication were obtained from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service and are subject to revision. As of October 1, 2008, SNAP is the new name for the federal Food Stamp Program. For additional information on SNAP, visit www.fns.usda.gov/pd/snapmain.htm.

Figure 1. Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Participants, FY 2002-2008: ND & U.S.



Note: The percentages represent the fiscal year average monthly SNAP participants divided by the July 1 total population estimates. Sources: SNAP Data - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, www.fns.usda.gov/pd/snapmain.htm. POPULATION - U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Vintage July 1, 2008 population estimates, www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php.

Figure 2. Average Monthly Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Benefit Per Participant by State: FY 2008

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, www.fns.usda.gov/pd/snapmain.htm

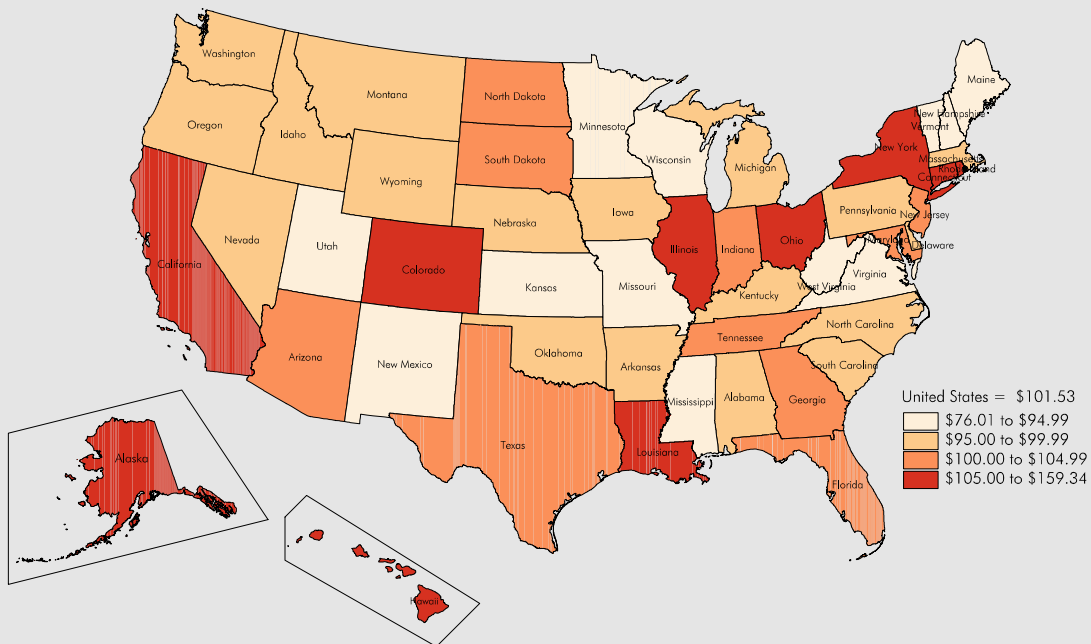


Table 1. Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Data by State: Fiscal Years 2003 to 2008

Notes: ¹Includes Guam and the Virgin Islands. ²Preliminary data as of December 30, 2008. All data are subject to revision.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, www.fns.usda.gov/pd/snapmain.htm

Area	Average Monthly Participation (Persons)						Average Monthly Benefit Per Participant (Dollars)					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 ²	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 ²
United States ¹	21,259,152	23,857,607	25,717,830	26,672,294	26,468,563	28,408,010	\$83.90	\$85.99	\$92.57	\$94.32	\$95.63	\$101.53
Alabama	472,066	497,591	558,596	546,684	545,955	571,591	\$82.28	\$85.85	\$91.91	\$90.50	\$91.80	\$96.79
Alaska	50,687	49,323	55,567	57,153	56,181	56,977	\$108.06	\$108.81	\$120.58	\$125.37	\$127.69	\$137.87
Arizona	466,151	529,556	550,291	540,782	544,688	627,660	\$88.96	\$90.94	\$95.98	\$96.51	\$98.95	\$102.56
Arkansas	310,359	346,441	373,752	384,889	379,768	377,883	\$81.72	\$83.44	\$89.47	\$89.72	\$90.50	\$95.17
California	1,708,522	1,859,486	1,992,024	1,999,656	2,048,185	2,220,127	\$88.07	\$88.79	\$96.83	\$99.05	\$104.56	\$112.54
Colorado	208,053	241,780	245,926	251,385	250,704	252,933	\$81.43	\$87.18	\$106.14	\$106.42	\$103.24	\$107.13
Connecticut	180,512	195,980	204,146	210,288	212,562	225,383	\$76.11	\$83.99	\$91.11	\$94.74	\$99.21	\$105.31
Delaware	46,027	55,642	61,586	65,698	67,185	74,429	\$86.53	\$84.68	\$88.26	\$89.01	\$92.69	\$96.49
Dist. of Colum.	81,777	88,655	88,799	89,168	86,519	89,442	\$91.83	\$91.66	\$96.94	\$97.34	\$100.12	\$104.65
Florida	1,041,315	1,202,227	1,381,804	1,417,749	1,232,803	1,454,928	\$79.05	\$87.93	\$96.37	\$99.00	\$94.65	\$101.87
Georgia	750,208	867,148	921,427	946,812	950,038	1,021,155	\$86.91	\$88.78	\$94.77	\$96.67	\$98.76	\$104.19
Hawaii	100,382	98,589	93,548	87,942	89,629	96,551	\$129.66	\$128.32	\$138.88	\$140.10	\$145.55	\$159.34
Idaho	81,524	91,395	93,441	91,106	87,068	100,198	\$78.28	\$82.95	\$91.83	\$91.62	\$91.88	\$96.95
Illinois	953,929	1,069,596	1,158,271	1,225,093	1,246,400	1,299,443	\$91.97	\$94.38	\$100.73	\$102.25	\$104.65	\$110.19
Indiana	470,183	526,324	556,285	574,696	587,156	623,415	\$85.73	\$87.00	\$93.87	\$93.98	\$96.10	\$103.31
Iowa	153,816	179,179	206,696	225,717	238,349	256,303	\$80.86	\$82.01	\$88.60	\$90.17	\$92.81	\$99.38
Kansas	160,705	169,528	177,782	183,071	182,407	187,569	\$72.80	\$77.68	\$84.37	\$85.72	\$88.10	\$93.86
Kentucky	502,677	544,744	570,277	589,102	602,022	633,194	\$80.61	\$83.03	\$89.36	\$91.29	\$93.33	\$97.66
Louisiana	655,300	705,700	807,896	829,882	650,357	790,733	\$87.14	\$89.03	\$100.96	\$103.59	\$95.60	\$108.04
Maine	132,582	141,929	152,910	160,294	162,602	173,039	\$77.98	\$81.98	\$88.40	\$88.01	\$87.42	\$94.52
Maryland	252,383	273,872	288,943	305,395	317,825	359,985	\$84.83	\$87.24	\$92.33	\$91.71	\$93.67	\$100.01
Massachusetts	292,200	334,939	368,122	431,518	456,192	505,782	\$72.37	\$75.74	\$82.18	\$81.41	\$86.20	\$96.65
Michigan	837,629	943,713	1,047,594	1,133,793	1,204,409	1,256,373	\$77.91	\$79.13	\$87.41	\$91.05	\$94.63	\$99.89
Minnesota	234,631	247,465	259,937	263,986	276,414	293,918	\$80.67	\$83.10	\$88.16	\$89.15	\$89.36	\$93.45
Mississippi	355,783	376,864	434,958	447,710	426,116	447,181	\$78.48	\$79.81	\$88.70	\$94.39	\$86.79	\$92.59
Missouri	591,532	699,616	766,425	796,350	823,915	888,564	\$79.96	\$79.02	\$80.00	\$77.44	\$75.38	\$76.01
Montana	71,320	77,478	80,870	81,567	79,969	80,407	\$80.56	\$85.18	\$91.95	\$91.90	\$93.47	\$97.65
Nebraska	99,243	113,900	117,415	119,683	120,634	120,809	\$74.99	\$79.52	\$84.83	\$86.56	\$87.36	\$97.09
Nevada	111,352	120,275	121,707	117,920	122,224	144,494	\$84.32	\$82.81	\$88.26	\$87.86	\$91.18	\$97.88
New Hampshire	44,783	48,449	52,310	56,338	59,101	63,583	\$74.22	\$74.90	\$80.56	\$85.61	\$88.10	\$93.58
New Jersey	339,047	368,695	392,416	405,667	414,503	437,860	\$83.28	\$85.33	\$92.89	\$93.64	\$97.19	\$101.43
New Mexico	194,795	222,716	240,637	244,672	233,918	239,959	\$78.50	\$81.35	\$87.07	\$86.29	\$88.65	\$93.48
New York	1,435,986	1,598,143	1,754,861	1,785,914	1,801,984	1,952,991	\$97.29	\$97.83	\$101.43	\$104.52	\$107.49	\$109.78
North Carolina	649,426	747,274	799,747	854,407	882,946	946,978	\$82.82	\$83.99	\$89.21	\$89.83	\$91.77	\$97.19
North Dakota	39,663	41,421	42,204	42,576	45,122	48,412	\$77.11	\$81.05	\$88.21	\$90.47	\$95.83	\$102.02
Ohio	855,401	945,435	1,007,172	1,063,920	1,076,764	1,150,928	\$85.61	\$88.96	\$95.59	\$99.18	\$100.04	\$108.22
Oklahoma	380,299	411,840	424,402	435,519	421,316	419,038	\$79.42	\$80.49	\$86.32	\$89.42	\$90.77	\$97.72
Oregon	398,377	419,736	429,358	434,239	438,498	469,315	\$79.70	\$82.45	\$88.49	\$88.91	\$90.73	\$96.27
Pennsylvania	822,696	960,941	1,042,809	1,092,298	1,135,146	1,187,822	\$79.56	\$80.93	\$88.28	\$90.20	\$92.40	\$97.30
Rhode Island	74,068	77,528	76,085	73,195	76,315	84,868	\$77.41	\$79.06	\$86.00	\$92.14	\$97.57	\$105.77
South Carolina	450,556	497,218	521,125	534,294	545,293	589,763	\$82.00	\$84.00	\$90.48	\$91.93	\$94.47	\$99.87
South Dakota	51,176	53,459	56,095	58,466	60,246	62,945	\$82.26	\$84.07	\$91.33	\$94.29	\$97.67	\$103.27
Tennessee	728,305	806,490	849,703	870,416	864,870	911,253	\$82.59	\$83.88	\$92.35	\$93.44	\$96.70	\$101.95
Texas	1,872,473	2,258,951	2,441,975	2,622,548	2,422,198	2,532,047	\$83.71	\$85.10	\$90.75	\$93.40	\$93.52	\$100.98
Utah	105,630	123,411	133,263	131,753	123,475	134,180	\$80.63	\$83.14	\$88.31	\$88.81	\$89.90	\$93.75
Vermont	41,333	42,862	45,218	47,677	52,612	55,847	\$75.87	\$77.92	\$82.93	\$87.55	\$88.16	\$92.77
Virginia	392,515	485,877	488,481	506,656	515,032	545,079	\$77.75	\$81.67	\$85.25	\$86.47	\$89.23	\$93.26
Washington	403,992	453,497	508,472	535,768	536,333	581,001	\$81.35	\$83.66	\$88.34	\$92.48	\$93.33	\$97.65
West Virginia	246,890	255,936	262,442	267,630	269,343	276,800	\$72.93	\$75.45	\$81.94	\$82.95	\$85.05	\$91.56
Wisconsin	296,717	324,047	345,748	367,918	382,770	422,781	\$65.57	\$69.29	\$76.39	\$78.52	\$79.12	\$84.69
Wyoming	25,306	25,648	25,481	24,236	22,608	22,608	\$79.21	\$81.17	\$88.22	\$90.46	\$93.20	\$97.27

Date of Release: February 19, 2009

Federal Food Stamp Program Now Called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

An average of 48,412 North Dakotans participated in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the federal Food Stamp Program, per month in fiscal year 2008 (based on preliminary data as of December 30, 2008). The participation rate is up 7.3 percent from the 45,122 monthly average in 2007. Nationally, participation in SNAP also increased 7.3 percent from 2007 to 2008.

"The rise in food assistance in North Dakota is a sobering reminder that even though our state's economy is relatively robust, there are a lot of people in our state who are struggling with the bare essentials such as food. Many of these people are children," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

This month's "Economic Brief," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on the average monthly participation in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), along with the average monthly benefit per participant. The data were obtained from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. SNAP is the new name for the federal Food Stamp Program as of October 1, 2008. The new name reflects changes made to the program including a focus on nutrition and an increase in benefit amounts.

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program serves individuals in North Dakota of all ages who meet the federal income guidelines. For example, a family of four with gross monthly income of \$2,297 or less would be eligible for program benefits. Benefits help single individuals and families purchase food. Anyone who is struggling to afford groceries should contact their local county social service office as they may qualify for the program.

More than \$59 million in SNAP benefits were distributed to North Dakota participants in fiscal year 2008, up 14.2 percent from 2007. Nationally, \$34.6 billion in SNAP benefits were distributed in 2008, up 14.0 percent from 2007.

On average, SNAP participants in North Dakota each received \$102.02 per month in fiscal year 2008, which is an increase of 6.5 percent from \$95.83 in 2007. Nationally, participants each received an average of \$101.53 per month in 2008, up 6.2 percent from \$95.63 in 2007. Hawaii reported the highest average monthly payment of \$159.34 in 2008 and Missouri had the lowest at \$76.01.

In an average month, SNAP recipients comprised 7.5 percent of North Dakota's total population in 2008; nearly half of all SNAP recipients in North Dakota were children. Nationwide, participants comprised 9.3 percent of the total population in 2008.
