



Minnesota Department of **Human Services** _____

Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program December 2011

August 2012

Transition to Economic Stability Division
Minnesota Department of Human Services

Abbreviations Used in this Report

ABAWD	Able-Bodied Adult without Dependents
ACS	American Community Survey
DHS	Department of Human Services
DWP	Diversionsary Work Program
EBT	Electronic Benefits Transfer
FPG	Federal Poverty Guideline
GED	General Educational Development Equivalency Certificate
MFIP	Minnesota Family Investment Program
MSA	Minnesota Supplemental Aid
PRWORA	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
RCA	Refugee Cash Assistance
RSDI	Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance
SMRT	State Medical Review Team
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TANF	Temporary Aid to Needy Families

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION.....	2
QUICK FACTS SHEETS	
SNAP Caseload and Trends	5
SNAP Families with Children.....	6
SNAP-eligible Seniors.....	7
SNAP-eligible Adults with Disabilities.....	8
SNAP-eligible Childless, Non-disabled Adults	9
SNAP-eligible Adults: Demographic Trends	10
SNAP as Safety Net: People with No Income.....	11
Income and Earnings of SNAP Households	12
DATA TABLES	13
Table 1. December 2011 SNAP Cases and Eligible People	13
Table 2. Demographic Characteristics of SNAP-eligible Adults, December 2011	14
Table 3. December 2011 SNAP-eligible Adults: Months of SNAP Assistance and Cash Assistance Eligibility	16
Table 4. December 2011 SNAP Cases: SNAP Grants, Earned Income, and Unearned Income ...	17
Table 5. December 2011 SNAP Eligible People by County	18
DATA NOTES AND DEFINITIONS.....	22

Executive Summary

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is frequently referred to using its former names of Food Stamps nationally or Food Support in Minnesota, provides a monthly stipend to low-income families, seniors, disabled people, and some single adults for the purchase of food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase any nonfood items.

Caseload. SNAP caseloads are at historic highs in Minnesota and nationwide. In December 2011, 545,859 people were eligible including adults and children in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the state's cash assistance program for families. The number of eligible people has nearly doubled since December 2006. While 49 percent of the December 2011 caseload is SNAP-eligible adults, the fastest growth in the last 6 years has been SNAP-eligible children. The number of children eligible for SNAP increased by 150 percent since December 2006. There are more than 2.5 times more children eligible for SNAP than MFIP.

Who is on SNAP. In December 2011, 265,760 adults were eligible for stand-alone SNAP in Minnesota. Forty percent were in families with minor children, 15 percent were seniors aged 60 or older, 33 percent were disabled adults, and 24 percent were childless, non-disabled adults. There were 182,602 children eligible for stand-alone SNAP. Fifteen percent of these children had disabled parents and 1 percent lived with a senior.

Income from work. Overall, 32 percent of SNAP cases had reported income from work. This varied by case category with 64 percent of families with children, 26 percent of other adults, 13 percent of disabled, and 8 percent of senior cases reporting work. The average reported earnings for working cases were \$1,315 per month. Families with children reported the highest earnings with \$1,596 and childless, non-disabled adult reported the lowest with \$806 on average.

Cases with no income. Twenty percent of SNAP cases (44,925) had no income reported for December 2011. Those cases include 47,020 eligible adults. Fifty-five percent of cases with childless, non-disabled adults under age 60 had no reported income. Many of these people are not eligible for income supports available to people with children, seniors aged 60 and older, and people with diagnosed disabilities. For them, SNAP may be the only safety net program available.

Report format. This report is formatted differently from previous years; the largest change, and one that precludes data comparisons with old reports, is the replacement of the mutually exclusive household types with overlapping groups of people. While the groups are the same – families with children, seniors, people with disabilities, and other adults – the new report format recognizes the intersections between these groups.

Introduction

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is frequently referred to using its former name of Food Stamps or Food Support in Minnesota, provides a monthly stipend to low-income families, seniors, disabled people, and single adults for the purchase of food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase any nonfood items like pet food, personal hygiene products, or cosmetics; alcohol or tobacco; vitamins or medicines; or hot food. Households must meet income guidelines which vary by state; in Minnesota households must have income of less than 165 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG). For a household of two people that is currently \$2,004 per month. Grants are based on household size and amount and types of income.

A Short History of SNAP

SNAP was created with the Food Stamp Act of 1964 (HR 10222) which was introduced by Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman, a Minnesotan. The goals of the original Food Stamp program were to strengthen the agricultural economy and increase nutrition in low-income households. The program required households purchase their food stamps, allowed food stamps to be used to purchase items for consumption excluding alcohol and imported foods, divided responsibility for the program between the states and federal government with the states responsible for certification and issuance and the federal government responsible for funding and authorizing retailers, and prohibited discrimination in benefits eligibility by race, creed, national origin, and political beliefs. Several legislative acts in the 1960s and 1970s increased state accountability, established national standards of eligibility, and expanded the program to all states and territories.

The Food Stamp Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-113) made major program changes that resulted in a program that looks more like the SNAP of today. It eliminated the purchase requirement; set income eligibility guidelines according the poverty line; restricted eligibility of students, some immigrants, and people who voluntarily quit jobs; set requirements for states regarding application processing time; and other provisions meant to make access and certification easier for participants.

Other major legislative changes to the program included provisions in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 which required states implement Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) by October 1, 2002 eliminating the “stamps” in Food Stamps; limited eligibility of able-bodied adults with no dependents to three months in any 36-month period; and other provisions relating to how a household’s budget is determined. The Farm Bill of 2002 made changes to the Quality Control system that were aimed at improving payment accuracy.

Most recently, the Farm Bill of 2008 (H.R. 2419, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008) changed the name from Food Stamps to SNAP, expanded eligibility by indexing asset limits to inflation and excluding combat pay from calculation of benefits, made money available to test point-of-purchase incentives for healthful foods, and other provisions meant to simplify administration and strengthen program integrity.¹

Important Policy Changes in Minnesota

¹ <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/rules/Legislation/about.htm> (downloaded March 2012)

In recent years Minnesota has also made changes to its SNAP program, formerly called Food Support, to increase access and simplify administration. Some of these changes were federally mandated, others a result of state legislation and some as a result of state waiver requests. In 2009, Minnesota implemented simplified reporting, received a waiver that lifts the 3-month eligibility limit and mandatory work requirements for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD), began allowing eligibility and recertification interviews to be conducted over the phone rather than in person, and, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, SNAP grants increased by 13.6 percent.

Six-Month Reporting for certain income types and amounts went into effect March 1, 2009. Previous to this policy change households with earned income or recent work history reported income to their county financial worker each month. Now most households report earned and unearned income once every six months and their SNAP grant amount is calculated using that income amount for the entire six-month period following. Households must report income changes that result in total gross earnings that exceed 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG) for their household size. Households are still required to report income greater than 130 FPG, although they would remain eligible up to 165 percent FPG.²

Effective January 1, 2009, the three-month time limit and mandatory work requirements for Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) were waived.³ Previously, most unemployed ABAWDs were eligible for SNAP for only three months in any 36-month period and were required to participate in SNAP Employment and Training (FSET) services. Under this change, ABAWDs can continue to receive SNAP so long as they meet the other eligibility criteria. Prior to this waiver, ABAWDs were required to report if their work hours fell below 20 hours per week. This reporting requirement has also been waived. This waiver was extended to September 30, 2013.

On November 1, 2010, asset limits were eliminated and the gross income limit for SNAP eligibility was increased from 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG) to 165 percent of the FPG for most households applying or being recertified.⁴

Finally, Minnesota has received a waiver from the US Department of Agriculture Family and Nutrition Services since 1998 that allows the state to provide SNAP to households enrolled in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Minnesota's Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) program (cash assistance), as a single program. To report the total number of people that receive assistance through SNAP, the Caseload Data section (starting on page 5) includes both households and people eligible for SNAP both outside MFIP and those through MFIP. The combined SNAP and MFIP caseloads are referred to as the total SNAP caseload. Participants eligible for SNAP through MFIP are only in Table 1 and Figure 1.

Report Format

² Combined Manual 0007.03.02.

³ Combined Manual 0011.24.

⁴ Combined Manual 0020.12 and 0015.03.

This report is the sixth in a series that provides a snapshot of the household, demographic, and economic characteristics of SNAP cases and eligible people in December 2011. Data are provided on the SNAP caseload, demographics of eligible adults, length of SNAP-eligibility and use of other public assistance, and economic characteristics of cases, or households. This report is formatted quite differently from previous years, toward the continuing goal of making data more accessible to policy-makers and the public. The largest change, and one that precludes data comparisons with old reports, is the replacement of the mutually exclusive household types with overlapping groups of people. While the groups are the same – families with children, seniors, people with disabilities, and other adults – the new report format recognizes the intersections between these groups by not forcing people into artificial groupings. The “Total” columns in the tables are all eligible adults;⁵ adding the subgroups will exceed this total due to the overlaps. Much of the data that were previously aggregated and reported as case or household data are now reported as person-level data. The only case data are the grant amounts and income types found in Table 4.

Most of the large data tables of previous years are still included, now at the back of the report in the Data Tables section. Table 3 Household Composition and Residence of SNAP Households and Table 4 Relationship to Applicant and Disability Status of Eligible and Suspended People in SNAP Households were eliminated. Data found in Table 6 Economic Characteristics of SNAP Households were split into two tables, one with person-level data and the other with case-level data.

What are also new are eight Quick Facts sheets that highlight important information from the larger tables and provide selected trend data using small charts and bulleted text. Relevant policy information needed for interpreting data are included in blue text boxes. Quick Facts sheets were designed to be stand-alone, mini-reports so that readers can share topics relevant to their work by copying a single page.

Important detailed policy and data definitions follow and are important in understanding the tables at the end of the report.

Questions about the data or suggestions for future reports can be directed to:

Dana DeMaster
Senior Research Analysis Specialist
Research Unit - Transition to Economic Stability Division
651-431-3963
Dana.demaster@state.mn.us

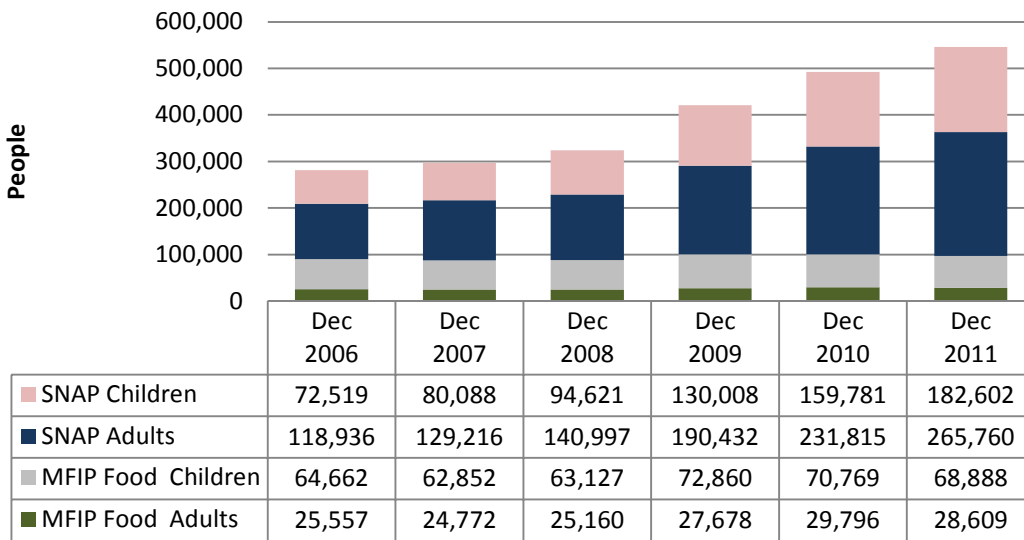
⁵ Adult children, ages 18 to 21 that are living with a parent or guardian, are considered children and are included in their parent’s SNAP case per SNAP policy. Minors that are applicants in their own case, separate from their parents, are considered adults.

SNAP CASELOAD AND TRENDS

Quick Facts for December Trends

- SNAP caseloads are at historic highs in Minnesota and nationwide. In December 2011, 545,859 people were eligible including adults and children in Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the state’s cash assistance program for families.
- The number of people eligible increased by 30 percent between December 2008 and 2009, by 17 percent between December 2009 and 2010, and by 11 percent between December 2010 and 2011. The number of eligible people has nearly doubled since December 2006.
- While 49 percent of the December 2011 caseload is SNAP-eligible adults, the fastest growth in the last 6 years has been SNAP-eligible children. The number of children eligible for SNAP increased by 150 percent since December 2006 and yearly increases surpassed those of SNAP adults. There are more than 2.5 times more children eligible for SNAP than MFIP.
- While the economy is the underlying reason for these caseload increases, DHS has found that the waiver that temporarily ended limits on Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD) to 3-months in any 36-month period has been an important driver in the increase in SNAP-eligible adults.*

Figure 1. SNAP-eligible People: December 2006 to December 2011



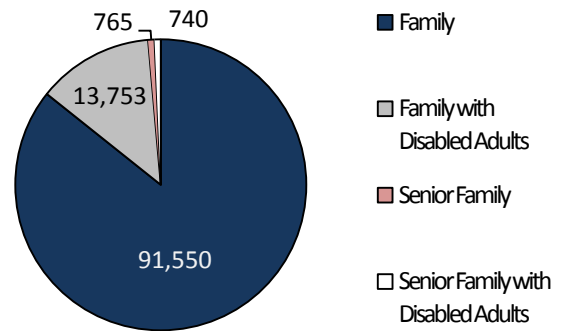
* Evaluation Notes Issue 21: The Growing SNAP Caseload. DHS January 2010.

SNAP FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Quick Facts for December 2011

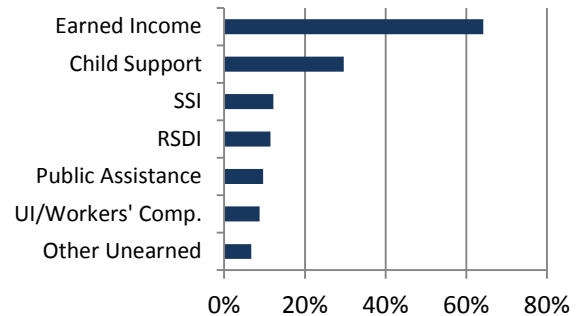
- Forty percent of SNAP-eligible adults lived in households with minor children (106,808 adults). There were 182,602 SNAP-eligible children and 68,888 MFIP-eligible children that received SNAP through MFIP's Food Portion. (Figure 1)

Figure 2. SNAP-eligible Adults with Minor Children: Overlaps with Other SNAP Groups



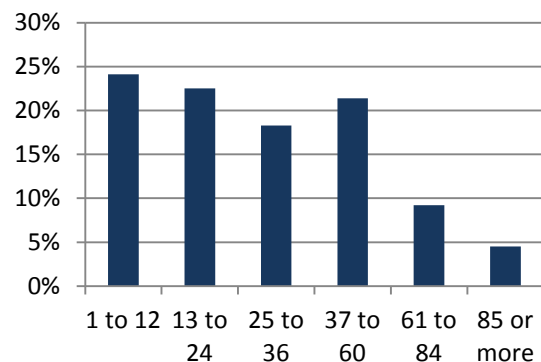
- Figure 2 shows the overlaps between groups in this report. Thirteen percent of SNAP-eligible adults caring for minor children were also disabled. Less than 1 percent were disabled and aged 60 or older or aged 60 or older and non-disabled. (Figure 2)

Figure 3. SNAP Cases with Minor Children: Income Sources



- The average age of adults with children was 35 years with nearly 40 percent in their 30s, 68 percent were female, 74 percent had at least a high school diploma, 42 percent had never married and 35 percent were married and living with a spouse, and 61 percent were white. (Table 2)

Figure 4. SNAP-eligible Adults with Minor Children: Eligibility Months, 2003 to 2011



- Of the 76,757 family cases, 64 percent reported income from work. Thirty percent had child support, 12 percent had income from SSI, and 10 percent received cash public assistance. The average reported income from work was \$1,569 per month. (Figure 3)
- Adults in families averaged 32 months of SNAP eligibility since 2003. Half of adults in families had used 24 months or less. (Figure 4)

SNAP-ELIGIBLE SENIORS

Quick Facts for December 2011

- Fifteen percent (36,587 adults) of SNAP-eligible adults are aged 60 or older. SNAP policy defines Senior as age 60 or older.
- Fifty-eight percent of SNAP-eligible seniors are not disabled and have no minor children, 47 percent are disabled with no children, 2 percent have minor children, and 2 percent have minor children and a disability. (Figure 5)
- The average age of seniors was 70 years (with a minimum of 60), 63 percent were female, 57 percent were high school graduates, about 20 percent were married and living with a spouse and 20 percent were widowed, 62 percent were white. Seniors were more likely to be Asian, more likely to have been married, and had less education than other groups. (Table 2)
- Nearly all cases with seniors had unearned income with RSDI being the most common source (61 percent), followed by SSI (46 percent) and public assistance grants (39 percent). The average amount of unearned income was \$891 per month. Eight percent reported earned income. (Figure 6)
- Seniors averaged 58 months of SNAP eligibility over the previous nine years with just more than one-third eligible for more than seven years. (Figure 7)

Figure 5. SNAP-eligible Seniors: Overlap with Other SNAP Groups

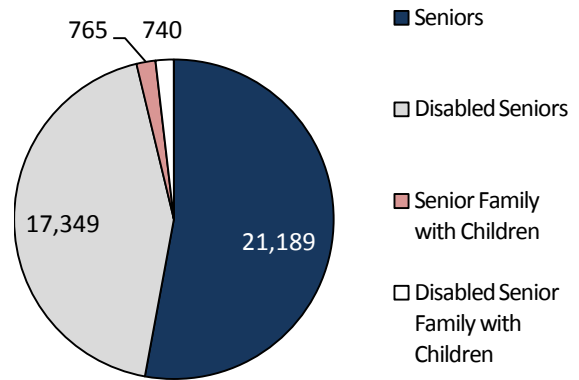


Figure 6. SNAP Cases with Seniors: Income Sources

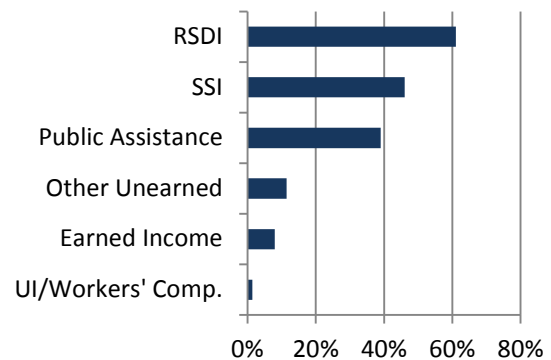
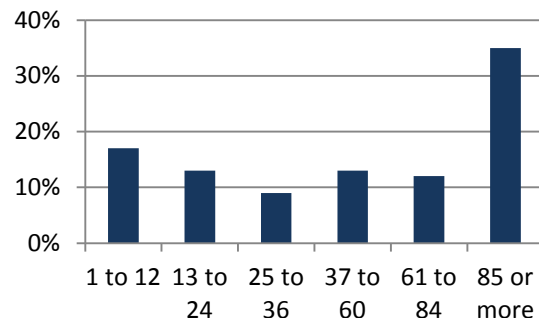


Figure 7. SNAP-eligible Seniors: Eligibility Months, 2003 to 2011



SNAP-ELIGIBLE ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

Quick Facts for December 2011

- Thirty-three percent (85,499 adults) of SNAP-eligible adults have a disability. Twenty percent of these adults are also seniors, 15 percent have minor children, and 1 percent are seniors with minor children. (Figure 8)
- The average age of SNAP-eligible adults with a disability was 48 years, with three-quarters age 40 or older. Fifty-six percent were female, 67 percent had at least a high school diploma, and nearly half had never married. (Table 2)
- Fifty-nine percent of SNAP-eligible adults with a disability were white, 25 percent black, 8 percent Asian, 4 percent American Indian, and 3 percent Hispanic. (Table 2)
- Ninety percent of SNAP-eligible cases with disabled people reported unearned income which averaged \$801 per month. The most common type was SSI (48 percent), followed by RSDI (46 percent), and public assistance (43 percent), mainly Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA). Six percent reported earned income. (Figure 9)
- Adults with disabilities averaged 56 months of SNAP-eligibility over a nine year period. Twenty-seven percent had been SNAP eligible for more than seven years. (Figure 10)

Figure 8. SNAP-eligible People with Disabilities: Overlap with Other SNAP Groups

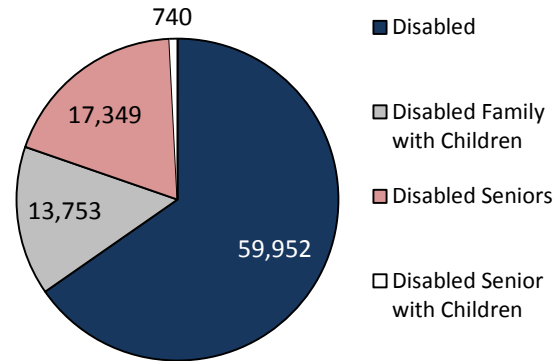


Figure 9. SNAP Cases with People with Disabilities: Income Sources

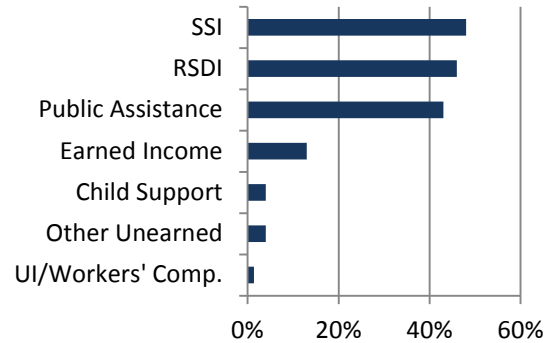
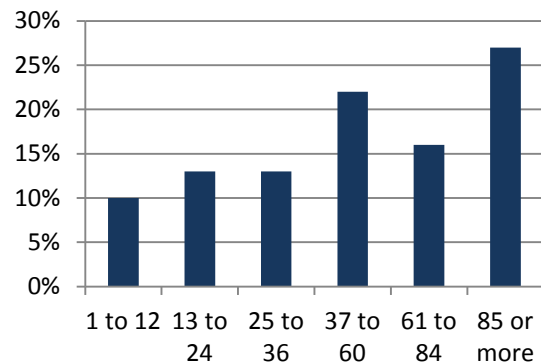


Figure 10. SNAP-eligible Adults with Disabilities: Eligibility Months from 2003 to 2011



SNAP-ELIGIBLE CHILDLESS, NON-DISABLED ADULTS

Quick Facts for December 2011

- Twenty-four percent of SNAP-eligible adults (63,292 adults) were Other Adults which do not overlap with other groups as they have no children, are not disabled, and are younger than age 60. (Figure 11)

Policy Note: Adults in this group include Able-bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD), which are a specific group of non-disabled adults between the ages of 18 and 50 that have restricted SNAP eligibility (which is currently waived by the USDA). Other adults in this group include participants in cash assistance programs like General Assistance (GA), adults aged 51 to 59, and working-poor adults with income within program guidelines.

- These people are disconnected compared to other SNAP participants. Over half have no other reported income sources than SNAP. Only 26 percent have reported work and 21 percent have unearned income. Most are not receiving other public assistance. (Figure 12)
- These adults received SNAP for an average of 22 months in the last 9 years, with 38 percent using a year or less. (Figure 13)
- Other Adults had an average age of 36, 60 percent were male, 69 percent had at least a high school diploma, 71 percent had never married, and 58 percent were white. (Table 4)

Figure 11. SNAP-eligible Adults by Category

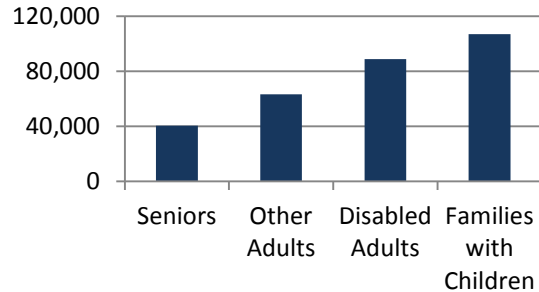


Figure 12. Other Adult Cases: Income Sources

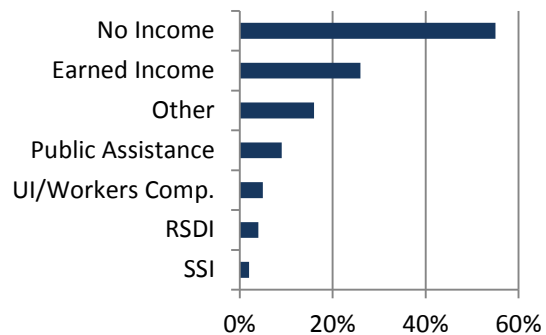
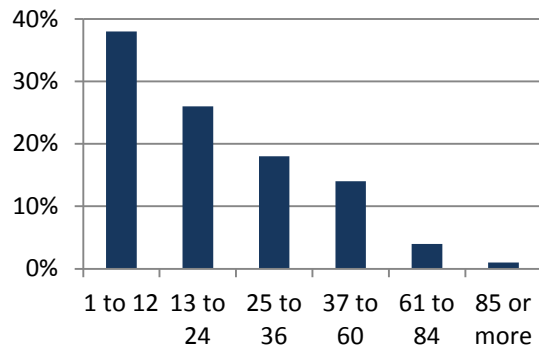


Figure 13. Other SNAP-eligible Adults: Eligibility Months from 2003 to 2011



SNAP-ELIGIBLE ADULTS: DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Quick Facts for 2006 to 2011

- Although the number of SNAP-eligible adults has increased by 123 percent since December 2006, most demographic characteristics of the caseload have not changed.
- The racial/ethnic composition of the SNAP caseload has not changed. White people make up about 60 percent, black people 25 percent, Asian people 7 percent, and Hispanics and American Indians 4 percent each. (Figure 14)
- Prior to December 2008, and the start of the recession, males made up about 39 percent of SNAP-eligible adults. From December 2009 onward the percent of males increased slightly to 43 percent. This increase is due to the growth of childless, non-disabled adults who are more likely to be male.
- A larger proportion of SNAP-eligible adults had graduated high school in 2011 than 2006. The proportion of high school graduates increased by 5 percentage points. The proportion of adults with post-secondary education did not change. (Figure 15)
- While the average age of about 42 has not changed in the last 6 years, the proportion of younger people has increased. The proportion of people ages 23 to 29 increased by 3 percentage points and the proportion of people ages 30 to 39 increased by 4 percentage points. The proportion of people ages 65 and older decreased by a similar amount. (Figure 16)

Figure 14. Race/Ethnicity of SNAP-eligible Adults

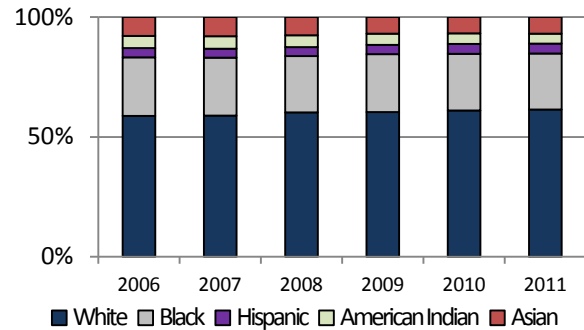


Figure 15. Education Level of SNAP-eligible Adults

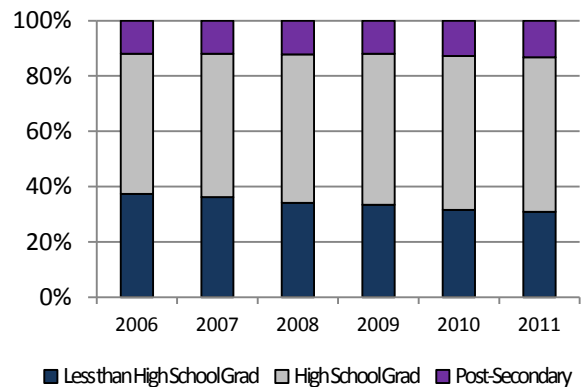
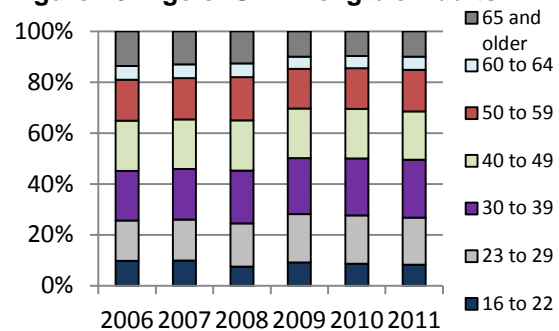


Figure 16. Age of SNAP-eligible Adults



SNAP AS SAFETY NET: PEOPLE WITH NO INCOME

Quick Facts for December 2011

- Twenty percent of SNAP cases (44,925) had no income reported for December 2011. Those cases include 47,020 eligible adults.
- Fifty-five percent of cases with childless, non-disabled adults under age 60 had no reported income. Many of these people are not eligible for income supports available to people with children, seniors aged 60 and older, and people with diagnosed disabilities. For them, SNAP may be the only safety net program available. (Figure 17)

Policy Note: Households must report all income types, both from unearned sources and from self-employment and jobs. Income information is collected at application, annual recertification, and at either monthly or 6-month intervals. Not all income is used to determine the grant amount or eligibility.

- People in households with no income had similar education levels to those with income. About 30 percent of each did not have a high school diploma or equivalent, 56 percent of each had a high school diploma, and about 13 percent of each had at least some post-secondary education.
- People with no income were more likely to be young, male, and black or American Indian. They were also more likely to have never been married, which is mostly due to age. (Figures 18 and 19)

Figure 17. SNAP Cases with No Income by Category

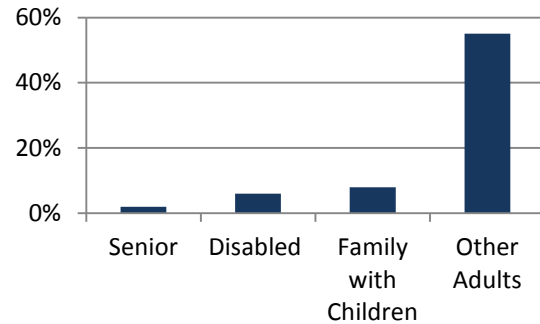


Figure 18. Race/Ethnicity of SNAP-eligible Adults With and Without Income

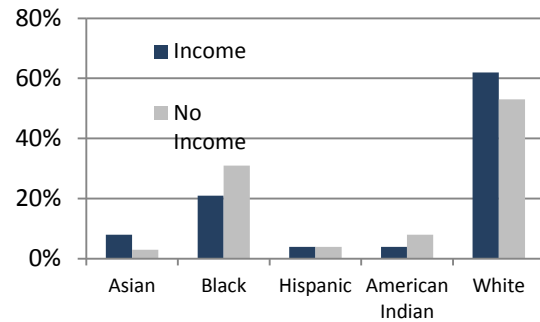
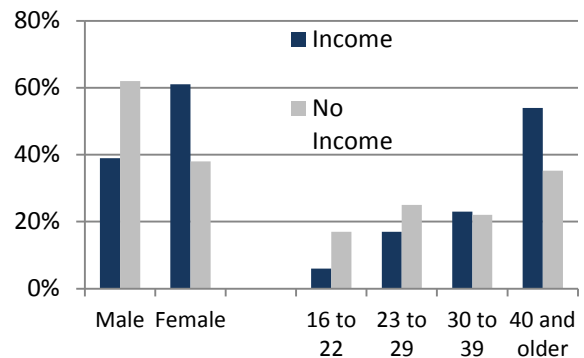


Figure 19. Gender and Age of SNAP-eligible Adults With and Without Income



INCOME AND EARNINGS OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS

Quick Facts for December 2011

- Overall, 32 percent of SNAP cases had reported income from work. This varied by case category with 64 percent of families with children, 26 percent of other adults, 13 percent of disabled, and 8 percent of senior cases reporting work. (Figure 20)
- The average reported earnings for working cases were \$1,315 per month. Families with children reported the highest earnings with \$1,596 and other adults reported the lowest with \$806 on average. (Figure 21)

Policy Note: Most people report their income every 6 months. Income changes during that time period do not have to be reported unless household income goes above 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline. Reported earnings may have been in any month from June to December 2011.

- Sixty-one percent of SNAP cases reported unearned income with a monthly average of \$755. More than 90 percent of senior and disabled cases reported unearned income. (Figures 20 and 21)
- The most common types of unearned income varied by case type. Families with children were most likely to have child support (30 percent), seniors most likely to have Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Income (RSDI) (61 percent), and disabled cases most likely to have Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (48 percent).

Figure 20. Percentage of SNAP Cases with Earned and Unearned Income by Category

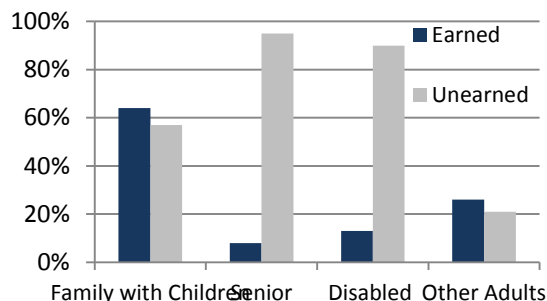


Figure 21. Average Monthly Earnings of SNAP Cases by Type for Working Cases

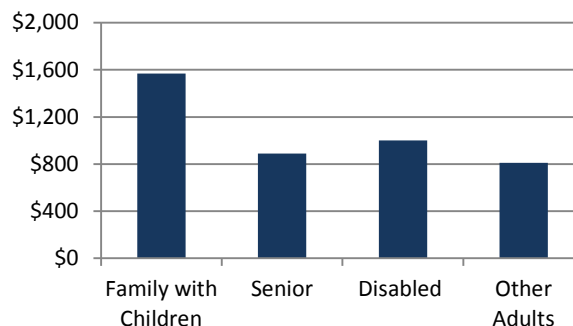
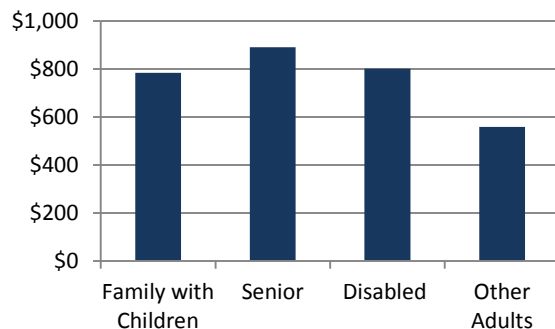


Figure 22. Average Monthly Unearned Income of SNAP Cases by Type for Cases Receiving



Data Tables

Table 1. December 2011 SNAP Cases and Eligible People

	TOTAL	Families with			
		Children	Seniors	Disabled Adults	Other Adults
CASES	224,113 100.0%	76,757 34.2%	36,587 16.3%	85,499 38.1%	60,424 27.0%
ADULTS	265,760 100.0%	106,808 40.2%	40,513 15.2%	88,794 33.4%	63,292 23.8%
CHILDREN	182,602 100.0%	170,039 93.1%	2,319 1.3%	26,846 14.7%	0 0.0%

12,397 children are Uncle Harries on a caregiver's MFIP case. There is no SNAP-eligible adult on the case.

Table 2. Demographic Characteristics of SNAP-eligible Adults, December 2011

		TOTAL	Families with		Disabled	
			Children	Seniors	Adults	Other Adults
ELIGIBLE ADULTS	Count	265,760	106,808	40,513	88,794	63,292
	Row Percent	100.0%	40.2%	15.2%	33.4%	23.8%
AGE	Mean	42.1	34.8	69.8	47.9	35.9
	Median	40	33	68	49	33
	Minimum	16	16	60	17	16
	Maximum	105	93	105	105	59
	16 - 22	22,070	7,453	0	2,566	12,389
	Column Percent	8.3%	7.0%	0.0%	2.9%	19.6%
	23 - 29	49,099	28,445	0	8,541	14,192
		18.5%	26.6%	0.0%	9.6%	22.4%
	30 - 39	60,462	40,029	0	14,116	10,916
		22.8%	37.5%	0.0%	15.9%	17.2%
	40 - 49	50,503	22,304	0	20,641	11,961
		19.0%	20.9%	0.0%	23.2%	18.9%
	50 - 59	43,583	7,072	0	24,841	13,834
		16.4%	6.6%	0.0%	28.0%	21.9%
60 - 64	13,734	859	13,734	8,444	0	
	5.2%	0.8%	33.9%	9.5%	0.0%	
65 and over	26,309	646	26,309	9,645	0	
	9.9%	0.6%	64.9%	10.9%	0.0%	
GENDER	Female	151,075	72,979	25,335	49,626	25,419
		56.8%	68.3%	62.5%	55.9%	40.2%
	Male	114,685	33,829	15,178	39,168	37,873
		43.2%	31.7%	37.5%	44.1%	59.8%
EDUCATION	None, <1st, Unknown	22,214	7,389	8,063	7,586	4,149
		8.4%	6.9%	19.9%	8.5%	6.6%
	Grade School	6,472	2,012	2,361	2,644	1,111
		2.4%	1.9%	5.8%	3.0%	1.8%
	Some High School	53,297	18,783	6,831	19,550	14,517
		20.1%	17.6%	16.9%	22.0%	22.9%
	High School Graduate	148,704	63,616	17,996	47,455	35,870
		56.0%	59.6%	44.4%	53.4%	56.7%
	Some Post-Secondary	26,005	11,883	3,149	8,555	5,544
		9.8%	11.1%	7.8%	9.6%	8.8%
College Graduate	4,399	1,689	912	1,418	973	
	1.7%	1.6%	2.3%	1.6%	1.5%	
Graduate Degree	4,669	1,436	1,201	1,586	1,128	
	1.8%	1.3%	3.0%	1.8%	1.8%	
High School Grad or Higher	183,777	78,624	23,258	59,014	43,515	
	69.2%	73.6%	57.4%	66.5%	68.8%	

Table 2 – Page 2

		TOTAL	Families with Children	Seniors	Disabled Adults	Other Adults
MARITAL STATUS	Divorced	41,279 15.5%	10,466 9.8%	11,419 28.2%	19,832 22.3%	7,877 12.4%
	Legally Separated	803 0.3%	334 0.3%	145 0.4%	327 0.4%	138 0.2%
	Married, Living with Spouse	53,538 20.1%	37,526 35.1%	8,457 20.9%	10,711 12.1%	4,648 7.3%
	Never Married	130,236 49.0%	45,832 42.9%	6,690 16.5%	41,980 47.3%	44,878 70.9%
	Married, Living Apart	28,966 10.9%	11,691 10.9%	5,521 13.6%	11,757 13.2%	5,064 8.0%
	Widowed	10,936 4.1%	958 0.9%	8,281 20.4%	4,187 4.7%	686 1.1%
	RACE/ETHNICITY	Asian	18,173 6.8%	8,517 8.0%	5,865 14.5%	7,033 7.9%
Black		61,169 23.0%	21,733 20.3%	6,972 17.2%	22,118 24.9%	17,673 27.9%
Hispanic		10,547 4.0%	5,852 5.5%	1,281 3.2%	2,414 2.7%	2,127 3.4%
American Indian		11,016 4.1%	3,878 3.6%	833 2.1%	3,922 4.4%	3,519 5.6%
White		160,693 60.5%	64,961 60.8%	25,174 62.1%	52,401 59.0%	36,900 58.3%
Multiple		2184 0.8%	1095 1.0%	85 0.2%	579 0.7%	601 0.9%
CITIZENSHIP		Non-U.S.	20,030 7.5%	10,221 9.6%	4,126 10.2%	4,791 5.4%
	U.S.	245,728 92.5%	96,586 90.4%	36,387 89.8%	84,003 94.6%	59,398 93.8%
RACE/ETHNICITY OF NON-CITIZENS	Asian	6,791 37.4%	3,839 45.1%	1,523 26.0%	1,971 28.0%	783 44.2%
	Black	9,522 15.6%	4,427 20.4%	1,654 23.7%	2,010 9.1%	2,586 14.6%
	Hispanic	1,904 18.1%	1,079 18.4%	418 32.6%	394 16.3%	269 12.6%
	American Indian	49 0.4%	15 0.4%	10 1.2%	17 0.4%	15 0.4%
	White	1,643 1.0%	805 1.2%	474 1.9%	382 0.7%	204 0.6%
	Percent of All Asians					
	Percent of All Blacks					
Percent of All Hispanics						
Percent of All American Indians						
Percent of All Whites						

Table 3. December 2011 SNAP-eligible Adults: Months of SNAP Assistance and Cash Assistance Eligibility

		TOTAL	Families with		Disabled	
			Children	Seniors	Adults	Other Adults
ELIGIBLE ADULTS	Count	265,760	106,808	40,513	88,794	63,292
	Row Percent	100.0%	40.2%	15.2%	33.4%	23.8%
SNAP MONTHS IN MN: 2003 - 2011 CUMULATIVE	Mean	38.1	32.2	58.4	55.8	22.2
	Median	29	27	56	51	17
	1 - 12 Months	62,663	25,719	6,938	9,265	24,017
	Column Percent	23.6%	24.1%	17.1%	10.4%	37.9%
	13 - 24 Months	52,861	24,071	5,095	11,272	16,343
		19.9%	22.5%	12.6%	12.7%	25.8%
	25 - 36 Months	41,984	19,526	3,454	11,406	11,257
		15.8%	18.3%	8.5%	12.8%	17.8%
	37 - 60 Months	49,969	22,832	5,408	19,306	8,679
		18.8%	21.4%	13.3%	21.7%	13.7%
61 - 84 Months	25,726	9,802	4,792	13,912	2,254	
	9.7%	9.2%	11.8%	15.7%	3.6%	
85 or More Months	32,557	4,858	14,356	23,633	724	
	12.3%	4.5%	35.4%	26.6%	1.1%	
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN MN: 2011	MFIP/DWP	23,501	20,391	116	3,363	2,069
		8.8%	19.1%	0.3%	3.8%	3.3%
	MSA	31,377	344	13,792	25,728	88
		11.8%	0.3%	34.0%	29.0%	0.1%
	GA/RCA	24,210	564	2,308	15,109	7,027
	9.1%	0.5%	5.7%	17.0%	11.1%	
Emergency Services	22,189	12,813	1,039	7,843	3,260	
	8.3%	12.0%	2.6%	8.8%	5.2%	
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN MN: 2003 - 2011	MFIP/DWP	87,692	61,785	1,944	19,481	14,652
		33.0%	57.8%	4.8%	21.9%	23.1%
	MSA	40,050	1,013	16,664	33,263	264
		15.1%	0.9%	41.1%	37.5%	0.4%
	GA/RCA	52,684	4,275	7,696	13,062	33,078
	19.8%	4.0%	19.0%	14.7%	52.3%	
Emergency Services	90,334	43,828	6,425	34,943	17,240	
	34.0%	41.0%	15.9%	39.4%	27.2%	

Table 4. December 2011 SNAP Cases: SNAP Grants, Earned Income, and Unearned Income

		TOTAL	Families with		Disabled	
			Children	Seniors	Adults	Other Adults
CASES	Count	224,113	76,757	36,587	85,499	60,424
	Row Percent	84.3%	28.9%	13.8%	32.2%	22.7%
SNAP Grant	Mean	\$207	\$354	\$102	\$142	\$172
	Median	\$192	\$341	\$85	\$119	\$200
NO INCOME	Count of Cases	44,925	5,845	881	5,380	33,457
	Column Percent	20.0%	7.6%	2.4%	6.3%	55.4%
INCOME FROM WORK	Count of Cases	70,831	49,259	2,903	11,083	15,822
		31.6%	64.2%	7.9%	13.0%	26.2%
EARNED INCOME AT LAST REPORT	Mean of Working Cases	\$1,315	\$1,569	\$889	\$1,000	\$806
	Median	\$1,186	\$1,478	\$662	\$798	\$772
DECEMBER UNEARNED INCOME	Count of Cases	135,783	43,450	34,875	77,298	12,556
	Mean of Cases Receiving	\$755	\$784	\$891	\$801	\$559
	Median	\$755	\$674	\$775	\$755	\$400
UNEARNED INCOME TYPES	Child Support	23,153	22,716	154	3,595	263
		10.3%	29.6%	0.4%	4.2%	0.4%
	SSI	51,042	9,373	16,702	41,206	1,255
		22.8%	12.2%	45.7%	48.2%	2.1%
	RSDI	53,291	8,830	22,135	39,439	2,119
		23.8%	11.5%	60.5%	46.1%	3.5%
	Public Assistance Grants	52,400	7,401	14,129	36,387	5,494
		23.4%	9.6%	38.6%	42.6%	9.1%
	Unemployment Insurance/ Workers' Compensation	10,550	6,717	526	1,156	3,120
		4.7%	8.8%	1.4%	1.4%	5.2%
Veteran's Benefits	2,348	536	965	878	579	
	1.0%	0.7%	2.6%	1.0%	1.0%	
Other	7,970	2,599	3,085	2,236	1,766	
	5.9%	6.0%	8.8%	2.9%	14.1%	

Table 5. December 2011 SNAP Eligible People by County

	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Disabled Adults	Other Adults	
PEOPLE	448,362	100.0%	106,808	40,513	88,794	63,292	182,602
			23.8%	9.0%	19.8%	14.1%	40.7%
AITKIN	1952	0.4%	526	213	405	242	745
ANOKA	23,390	5.2%	6,005	1,925	3,993	2,927	10,174
BECKER	3,987	0.9%	1,034	328	723	613	1,557
BELTRAMI	6,243	1.4%	1,524	372	1,152	1,321	2,330
BENTON	3,491	0.8%	926	227	654	527	1,365
BIG STONE	405	0.1%	108	55	69	39	169
BLUE EARTH	4,925	1.1%	1,247	348	972	735	1,960
BROWN	1,790	0.4%	497	179	261	209	744
CARLTON	2,967	0.7%	763	188	554	514	1,137
CARVER	3,172	0.7%	852	226	435	341	1,459
CASS	3,890	0.9%	1,064	306	602	561	1,601
CHIPPEWA	872	0.2%	223	81	126	104	382
CHISAGO	3,239	0.7%	951	249	475	409	1,346
CLAY	5,688	1.3%	1,558	360	979	656	2,475
CLEARWATER	1,071	0.2%	280	89	209	139	441
COOK	288	0.1%	73	27	67	44	105
COTTONWOOD	1,037	0.2%	253	128	212	110	435
CROW WING	6,572	1.5%	1,854	537	1,118	904	2,575
DAKOTA	21,511	4.8%	5,560	1,728	3,299	2,127	10,109
DODGE	1,486	0.3%	446	106	161	119	719
DOUGLAS	3,063	0.7%	844	256	508	463	1,188
FARIBAULT	1,504	0.3%	451	134	216	142	673
FILLMORE	1,587	0.4%	461	172	225	169	660
			29.0%	10.8%	14.2%	10.6%	41.6%

Table 5 – page 2

	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Disabled Adults	Other Adults	
PEOPLE	448,362 100.0%	100.0%	106,808 23.8%	40,513 9.0%	88,794 19.8%	63,292 14.1%	182,602 40.7%
FREEBORN	2,970	0.7%	812 27.3%	230 7.7%	467 15.7%	323 10.9%	1,300 43.8%
GOODHUE	2,723	0.6%	766 28.1%	206 7.6%	519 19.1%	306 11.2%	1,168 42.9%
GRANT	541	0.1%	164 30.3%	51 9.4%	95 17.6%	66 12.2%	209 38.6%
HENNEPIN	108,054	24.1%	19,304 17.9%	11,897 11.0%	25,605 23.7%	20,287 18.8%	39,294 36.4%
HOUSTON	1,144	0.3%	327 28.6%	106 9.3%	198 17.3%	114 10.0%	482 42.1%
HUBBARD	2,353	0.5%	646 27.5%	195 8.3%	434 18.4%	324 13.8%	942 40.0%
ISANTI	3,385	0.8%	1,056 31.2%	151 4.5%	412 12.2%	421 12.4%	1,532 45.3%
ITASCA	5,268	1.2%	1,407 26.7%	397 7.5%	1,078 20.5%	773 14.7%	2,009 38.1%
JACKSON	712	0.2%	231 32.4%	40 5.6%	97 13.6%	62 8.7%	330 46.3%
KABABEC	2,110	0.5%	609 28.9%	154 7.3%	329 15.6%	287 13.6%	878 41.6%
KANDIYOHI	4,869	1.1%	1,298 26.7%	284 5.8%	644 13.2%	661 13.6%	2,238 46.0%
KITSON	224	0.0%	59 26.3%	29 12.9%	43 19.2%	20 8.9%	88 39.3%
KOOCHICHING	1,564	0.3%	409 26.2%	149 9.5%	358 22.9%	189 12.1%	589 37.7%
LAC QUI PARLE	482	0.1%	109 22.6%	68 14.1%	92 19.1%	46 9.5%	210 43.6%
LAKE	830	0.2%	222 26.7%	55 6.6%	138 16.6%	93 11.2%	370 44.6%
LAKE OF THE WOODS	340	0.1%	86 25.3%	33 9.7%	60 17.6%	39 11.5%	137 40.3%
LE SEUER	1,829	0.4%	550 30.1%	109 6.0%	238 13.0%	165 9.0%	869 47.5%
LINCOLN	308	0.1%	90 29.2%	31 10.1%	54 17.5%	22 7.1%	127 41.2%
LYON	2,048	0.5%	512 25.0%	134 6.5%	333 16.3%	243 11.9%	927 45.3%
MCLEOD	2,596	0.6%	775 29.9%	160 6.2%	323 12.4%	292 11.2%	1,192 45.9%
MAHNOMEN	1,083	0.2%	260 24.0%	57 5.3%	227 21.0%	181 16.7%	439 40.5%
MARSHALL	591	0.1%	146 24.7%	99 16.8%	73 12.4%	64 10.8%	234 39.6%
MARTIN	2,117	0.5%	620 29.3%	146 6.9%	361 17.1%	235 11.1%	891 42.1%
MEEKER	1,714	0.4%	447 26.1%	181 10.6%	287 16.7%	223 13.0%	705 41.1%
MILLE LACS	2,621	0.6%	762 29.1%	153 5.8%	380 14.5%	301 11.5%	1,161 44.3%
MORRISON	2,877	0.6%	783 27.2%	275 9.6%	507 17.6%	333 11.6%	1,169 40.6%
MOWER	4,476	1.0%	1,146 25.6%	325 7.3%	693 15.5%	502 11.2%	2,103 47.0%

Table 5 – page 3

	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Disabled Adults	Other Adults	
PEOPLE	448,362 100.0%	100.0%	106,808 23.8%	40,513 9.0%	88,794 19.8%	63,292 14.1%	182,602 40.7%
MURRAY	497	0.1%	138 27.8%	46 9.3%	91 18.3%	49 9.9%	218 43.9%
NICOLLET	2,208	0.5%	614 27.8%	158 7.2%	304 13.8%	247 11.2%	1,001 45.3%
NOBLES	1,864	0.4%	438 23.5%	166 8.9%	274 14.7%	197 10.6%	918 49.2%
NORMAN	748	0.2%	226 30.2%	64 8.6%	128 17.1%	47 6.3%	331 44.3%
OLMSTED	10,988	2.5%	2,696 24.5%	968 8.8%	1,775 16.2%	1,436 13.1%	4,902 44.6%
OTTER TAIL	4,563	1.0%	1,227 26.9%	486 10.7%	804 17.6%	477 10.5%	1,870 41.0%
PENNINGTON	1,338	0.3%	371 27.7%	95 7.1%	223 16.7%	173 12.9%	556 41.6%
PINE	3,700	0.8%	1,044 28.2%	262 7.1%	592 16.0%	543 14.7%	1,486 40.2%
PIPESTONE	846	0.2%	229 27.1%	89 10.5%	142 16.8%	84 9.9%	354 41.8%
POLK	3,578	0.8%	936 26.2%	316 8.8%	743 20.8%	425 11.9%	1,443 40.3%
POPE	892	0.2%	219 24.6%	88 9.9%	152 17.0%	143 16.0%	344 38.6%
RAMSEY	64,070	14.3%	14,144 22.1%	6,467 10.1%	15,866 24.8%	8,300 13.0%	25,713 40.1%
RED LAKE	420	0.1%	122 29.0%	43 10.2%	44 10.5%	31 7.4%	195 46.4%
REDWOOD	1,223	0.3%	349 28.5%	109 8.9%	183 15.0%	123 10.1%	539 44.1%
RENVILLE	1,471	0.3%	418 28.4%	87 5.9%	210 14.3%	149 10.1%	684 46.5%
RICE	4,123	0.9%	1,103 26.8%	255 6.2%	584 14.2%	454 11.0%	1,990 48.3%
ROCK	658	0.1%	182 27.7%	53 8.1%	99 15.0%	58 8.8%	303 46.0%
ROSEAU	942	0.2%	243 25.8%	91 9.7%	155 16.5%	102 10.8%	414 43.9%
ST. LOUIS	21,498	4.8%	4,953 23.0%	1,532 7.1%	5,894 27.4%	3,633 16.9%	7,295 33.9%
SCOTT	5,960	1.3%	1,604 26.9%	534 9.0%	707 11.9%	495 8.3%	2,981 50.0%
SHERBURNE	4,997	1.1%	1,507 30.2%	264 5.3%	634 12.7%	454 9.1%	2,404 48.1%
SIBLEY	977	0.2%	282 28.9%	72 7.4%	96 9.8%	89 9.1%	480 49.1%
STEARNS	11,859	2.6%	3,113 26.3%	826 7.0%	1,967 16.6%	1,684 14.2%	5,049 42.6%
STEELE	3,488	0.8%	927 26.6%	238 6.8%	533 15.3%	389 11.2%	1,600 45.9%
STEVENS	514	0.1%	131 25.5%	56 10.9%	83 16.1%	60 11.7%	220 42.8%
SWIFT	836	0.2%	214 25.6%	101 12.1%	134 16.0%	113 13.5%	326 39.0%
TODD	2,162	0.5%	529 24.5%	264 12.2%	423 19.6%	278 12.9%	833 38.5%

Table 5 – page 4

	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Disabled Adults	Other Adults	
PEOPLE	448,362 100.0%	100.0%	106,808 23.8%	40,513 9.0%	88,794 19.8%	63,292 14.1%	182,602 40.7%
TRAVERSE	332	0.1%	85 25.6%	43 13.0%	58 17.5%	33 9.9%	137 41.3%
WABASHA	1,307	0.3%	361 27.6%	112 8.6%	184 14.1%	157 12.0%	555 42.5%
WADENA	1,877	0.4%	479 25.5%	207 11.0%	430 22.9%	207 11.0%	722 38.5%
WASECA	1,794	0.4%	493 27.5%	117 6.5%	251 14.0%	218 12.2%	797 44.4%
WASHINGTON	9,736	2.2%	2,742 28.2%	845 8.7%	1,665 17.1%	914 9.4%	4,355 44.7%
WATONWAN	1,038	0.2%	276 26.6%	94 9.1%	127 12.2%	87 8.4%	517 49.8%
WILKIN	756	0.2%	229 30.3%	60 7.9%	120 15.9%	81 10.7%	315 41.7%
WINONA	3,368	0.8%	845 25.1%	311 9.2%	707 21.0%	539 16.0%	1,268 37.6%
WRIGHT	7,151	1.6%	2,079 29.1%	518 7.2%	836 11.7%	777 10.9%	3,289 46.0%
YELLOW MEDICINE	594	0.1%	154 25.9%	56 9.4%	111 18.7%	55 9.3%	256 43.1%

Data Notes and Definitions

Table 1. People were eligible for SNAP in December 2011 if they met the eligibility rules, including income, residence, immigrant status, and other rules. A SNAP case is any group of people that are personally SNAP-eligible, live together, and cook and prepare food together. A case may have ineligible household members who are not included in the grant.

Adults were people ages 23 and older and people ages 16 to 22 living independent of their parents. Young adults ages 18 to 22 that lived with their parents were considered children. Children were people younger than age 18 or ages 18 to 22 living with their parents.

Families with children were households with at least one eligible member that was a child. Seniors were people ages 60 or older. Disabled people were those with a SNAP disability status indicated by the MAXIS Disability panel (STAT DISA). Disabled people were temporarily ill or incapacitated for 30 days or more; eligible for Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) due to a disability or blindness; eligible for SSI due to a disability or blindness; or determined to have a disability or blindness by the State Medical Review Team (SMRT). Other Adults had no children, were younger than age 60, and had no disability information in MAXIS.

In all tables the total is unduplicated, and is not the sum of the four adult categories. People who met the criteria for more than one category were included in all relevant groups.

Table 2. Data not required for program eligibility may not be routinely updated after the initial application, thus education completion or marriage may be under-reported. If a person's education level is unknown it is coded the same as if he or she had no formal education.

One person was missing marital status information, one person was missing citizenship information, and 1,381 people were missing race data. These people were excluded from those respective sections.

Table 3. SNAP months are total months in which an individual was eligible for SNAP in Minnesota between January 2003 and December 2011. As this follows the individual, the count includes months in other households or cases and months as a child in a parent's household. These months do not include MFIP Food Portion months.

Public assistance eligibility in calendar year 2011 or in the period January 2003 to December 2011 is whether an individual was personally eligible for the listed program. Emergency Services is the new name for the Emergency Assistance and Emergency General Assistance Programs.

Table 4. Table 4 is the only case-based table in this report. Individual income was summed to report total income for the case or household.

Total income was projected income of all adults whose income was deemed for the case. The amount used was prospective income that was reported at the start of the six-month reporting period or last reported, which may have been any month between July and December 2011. Income was gross except for the self-employed and room and board income where it was gross less

expenses, with a minimum of zero. Mean total income excluded cases with no expected income for the reporting period.

Unearned income was from the December 2011 SNAP budget panel for the active budget type (retrospective or prospective). If income was not reported on the budget panel, it was not included. Public Assistance grants income includes Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), General Assistance (GA), Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), and the Diversionary Work Program (DWP). Other Unearned Income includes annuity and pension payments, contract for deed income, certain royalties and honoraria, trust disbursements, gambling winnings, severance payments, and tribal payments.

Cases with no income were those with no earned or unearned income known to MAXIS.

Table 5. County was the county that processed the version of eligibility in effect for December 2011.