



Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

December 2016

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Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division
P.O. Box 64951
St. Paul, MN 55164-0951
651-431-3251

For information on this report, contact:

Paul Waldhart
Agency Policy Specialist
Research and Evaluation Unit
Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division
paul.waldhart@state.mn.us

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Upon request, this material will be made available in an alternative format such as large print, Braille or audio recording.

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DHS Abbreviations and Acronyms Used in this Report

ABAWD	Able Bodied Adult without Dependents
DWP	Diversionary Work Program
DHS	Minnesota Department of Human Services (department)
EBT	Electronic Benefits Transfer
FPG	Federal Poverty Guidelines
GA	General Assistance
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
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Executive summary

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

Caseload

In December 2016, 461,756 people were enrolled, including adults and children in both stand-alone SNAP and in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the state's assistance program for families that combines SNAP with cash grants. This is a decrease of 9 percent from the 507,797 adults and children in both stand-alone SNAP and in MFIP in December 2015, but still remained above the number enrolled in 2009. Of the 461,756 people enrolled in December 2016, 82 percent were enrolled in stand-alone SNAP. See the MFIP Characteristics report for information on the receipt of SNAP through the MFIP food portion.

Who is enrolled in SNAP

In December 2016, 222,891 adults were enrolled in stand-alone SNAP in Minnesota. Thirty-seven percent were in families with minor children, 24 percent were seniors aged 60 or older, 44 percent were adults with disabilities, and 13 percent were other adults, with 18 percent in multiple categories. There were 157,241 children enrolled in stand-alone SNAP. Fourteen percent of these children had parents with disabilities.

Income from work

Overall, 30 percent of SNAP cases reported income from work. This varied by case category, with 67 percent of families with children, 30 percent of other adults, 11 percent of adults with disabilities and 7 percent of senior cases reporting work. The average reported earnings for working cases was \$1,514 per month. Of these, families with children reported the highest earnings, with \$1,820, and seniors reported the lowest, with \$821, on average.

Cases with no income

Fourteen percent of SNAP cases (27,340) had no income, earned or unearned, reported for December 2016. Those cases included 28,583 adults; 49 percent of these were adults under age 60 without disabilities and without children. SNAP may be the only safety net program available for these adults under age 60 without disabilities and without children, as they are not eligible for income supports available to people with children, seniors aged 60 or older, and people with diagnosed disabilities.

Introduction

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is sometimes referred to by the former names of Food Stamps nationally, or Food Support in Minnesota, provides a monthly benefit to low-income families, seniors, persons with disabilities, and some single adults for the purchase of food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase nonfood items like pet food, personal hygiene products, cosmetics, alcohol or tobacco, vitamins, medicines or hot food. Households must meet income guidelines which vary by state; in Minnesota households must have an income of less than 165 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). For a household of two with no senior or adults with a disability, the limit is \$2,203 per month.¹ Benefits are based on household size, and amount and types of other income and expenses.

A short history of SNAP

SNAP was created with the Food Stamp Act of 1964 [HR 10222] which was introduced under 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 to purchase their food stamps to be used to purchase items for consumption, excluding alcohol and imported foods. Responsibility for the program was divided between the states and federal government, with states responsible for certification and issuance and the federal government responsible for funding and authorizing retailers. The program 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 changes that resulted in a program that looks more like the SNAP of today. It set income eligibility criteria using the current Federal Poverty Guidelines according to household size; 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 that required states to implement Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) by Oct. 1, 2002, eliminating the “stamps” in Food Stamps; limited eligibility of able-bodied adults with no dependents (ABAWDs) to three months in any 36-month period if not meeting work requirements; and enacted other provisions relating to how a household’s budget is determined.

The Farm Bill of 2008 [H.R. 2419, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008] changed the name from Food Stamps to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. It expanded eligibility by indexing asset limits to inflation and excluded combat pay from calculation of benefits, made money available to test point-of-purchase

¹ Combined Manual 0019.06 (Federal Fiscal Year 2017)

incentives for healthful foods, and set other provisions meant to simplify administration and strengthen program integrity.²

On Feb. 7, 2014, the SNAP program was reauthorized through 2018, part of the Agricultural Act of 2014. [P.L. 113-79]

Recent changes affecting Minnesota

In recent years, there have been changes to the SNAP program; some were federally mandated, others a result of state legislation, and some as a result of state waiver requests.

In 2009, Minnesota received a waiver that lifted the three-month eligibility limit and mandatory work requirements for ABAWDs due to the nationwide recession and high unemployment rate. As the economy improved and the unemployment rate stabilized, Minnesota was no longer eligible for the ABAWD waiver, effective Oct. 1, 2013. Effective Nov. 1, 2013, the SNAP Employment and Training program and the ABAWD work provisions began, which limit eligibility to three of 36 months if a person is not meeting work requirements. Households enrolled in November through January began losing eligibility in February 2014.

Six-month reporting by SNAP households was implemented on Mar. 1, 2009. Prior 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; their SNAP grant amount is calculated using that income amount for the following six-month period. Households must report income changes that result in total gross earnings that exceed 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline for their household size. Households are still required to report income greater than 130 percent of the FPG, although they would remain eligible up to 165 percent of the FPG.³ ABAWDs must report if their work hours or work activities drop below 20 hours per week, or 80 hours per month.

Minnesota continues to have no asset limit for the SNAP program and the gross income limit for SNAP eligibility remains at 165 percent of the FPG for most households applying or being recertified.⁴

In September 2017, Minnesota received approval to extend the waiver that it has had since 1998 to combine cash and food benefits in its largest family cash assistance program. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, allows the state to provide SNAP to households enrolled in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Minnesota's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, as a single program. This waiver was extended through September 2020. Minnesota also has waivers to reimburse the state for some Housing Support (formerly known as Group Residential Housing) expenditures, and to allow community-based organizations serving newly arrived refugees to complete the SNAP application interview. To

² <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/short-history-snap> (updated November 2017)

³ Combined Manual 0007.03.02.

⁴ Combined Manual 0020.12 and 0015.03.

report the total number of people that receive assistance through SNAP, the Caseload Data section (starting on page 9) includes both households and people enrolled in SNAP, both as a stand-alone program and through MFIP. The combined SNAP and MFIP caseloads are referred to as the total SNAP caseload. Participants enrolled in SNAP through MFIP are included only in Figure 1.

Report format

Data are provided on the SNAP caseload, demographics of enrolled adults, length of SNAP enrollment, use of other public assistance, and economic characteristics of cases in December 2016. Individuals may be included in more than one case category, depending on their characteristics. The “Total” columns in the tables are all enrolled adults; adding subgroups will exceed this total due to overlaps. Most data are reported as person-level; the only case data are the grant amounts and income types in Table 4.

A case consists of people who live together and eat together. Not all persons living in a household are necessarily eligible; some may be disqualified, and therefore excluded from the assistance unit. These people are not included in the person-level data. Additionally, people living in the same household may have separate case units. A child of a unit member is in the same unit as the parent if they reside together until the child is age 22. At that point a child becomes their own unit, if eligible. There is no age requirement for SNAP, and persons under age 18 may apply as their own unit if they are not residing with a parent who is a unit member.⁵

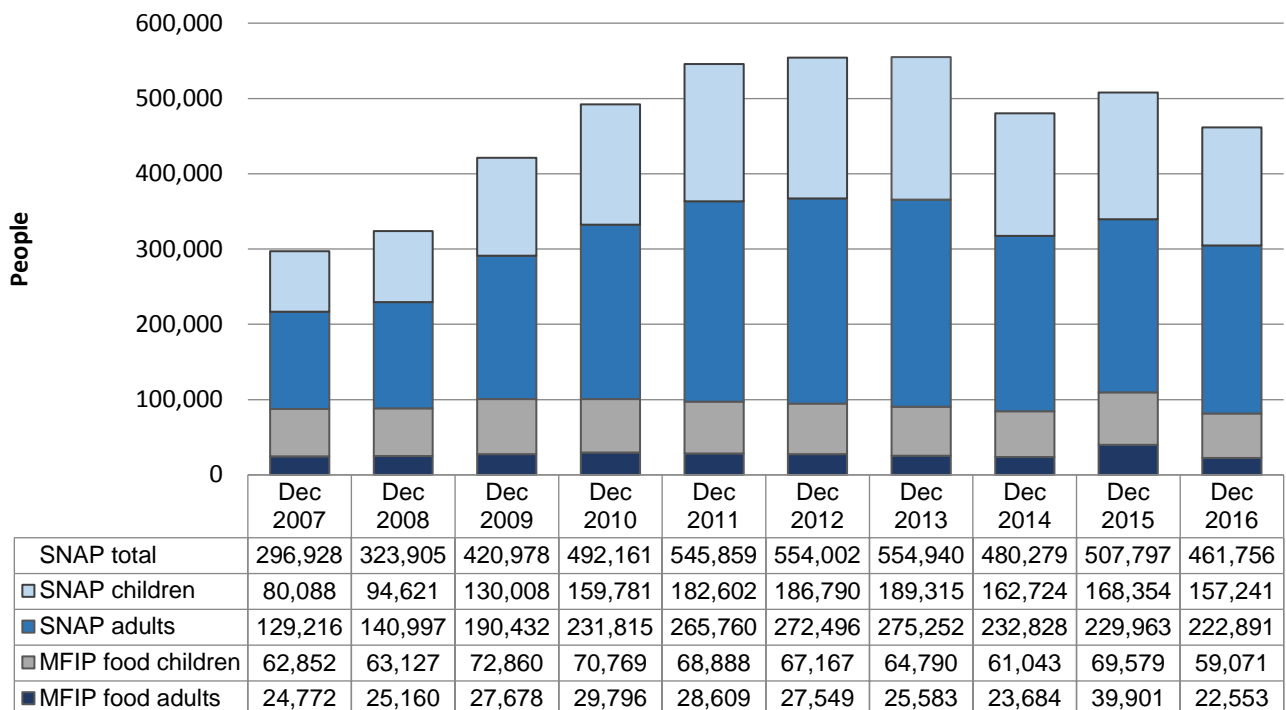
Quick facts highlight important information from the larger tables and provide selected trend data using small charts and bulleted text. Data in the data tables section are the source for data in the quick facts which cite the table where the data are found (Tables 1 to 4). Detailed policy and data definitions follow the data tables and are important in understanding them.

⁵ Combined Manual 0014.03.03

Quick facts for December trends

- In December 2016, 461,756 people were enrolled in Minnesota’s SNAP caseload, including adults and children in the Minnesota Family Investment Program, the state’s largest cash assistance program for families (see Figure 1). The MFIP grant includes food assistance from SNAP. This page reports on all SNAP received, both stand-alone SNAP and the MFIP food portion. The remainder of the report reflects stand-alone SNAP and excludes the MFIP food portion.
- The total number of SNAP participants dropped by 46,041 (9 percent) since December 2015. The number of MFIP participants also dropped by 25 percent since December 2015, reaching its lowest point since 2007.
- Of participants enrolled in the MFIP food portion in December 2016, 22,553 were adults and 59,071 were children. The percentage of MFIP food portion participants who are children (72 percent) increased by 9 percent from December 2015, but was equal to the percentage in December 2014. Of the SNAP-only participants enrolled in 2016, 157,241 were children. The percentage of SNAP-only participants who are children (41 percent) is 1 percent less than in December 2015.

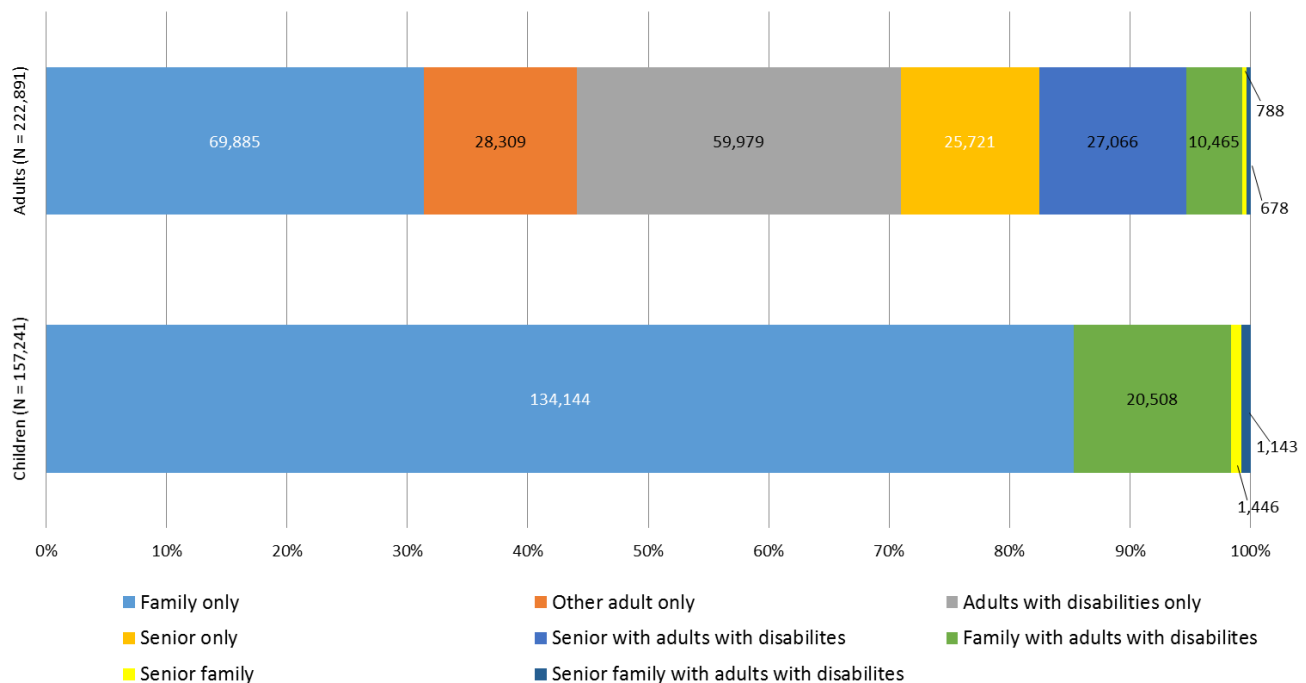
Figure 1. SNAP participants: December 2007 to December 2016



Quick facts for December 2016: Populations on SNAP

- The “Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: December 2016” report divides participants into the three overlapping groups of families with children, seniors, and adults with disabilities, as well as one distinct group, other adults. Families with children can also have members aged 60 and older and adults with disabilities. “Other adults” receive SNAP but are not part of a case with children, are under age 60, and do not have a disability.
- Figure 2 shows the unduplicated total enrolled adult and child populations by various combinations. Although each quick fact related to a group provides the overlaps with other groups, all other tables and figures after figure 2 count each adult in every group they belong to. For example, the quick fact page “SNAP seniors” only provides information on households that include a senior age 60 or older.

Figure 2. SNAP enrolled adults and children: Types and overlaps



Quick facts for December 2016: Families with children

- Thirty-seven percent of SNAP adults live in households with minor children (81,816 adults). There are 157,241 SNAP children.⁶ (Data from Table 1)
- Figure 3 shows the overlap of people in family cases with other case types. Thirteen percent of SNAP adults caring for minor children are under age 60 and also have a disability, and fewer than 2 percent of families with children include a senior. (Figure 3 with data from Table 1)
- The average age of adults with children is 36 years, with 43 percent in their 30s, 70 percent are female, 73 percent have at least a high school diploma, 44 percent never married, 35 percent are married and living with a spouse, and 50 percent are white. (Table 2)
- Of the 60,189 family cases, 67 percent report income from work. Twenty-nine percent have child support, 12 percent income from SSI and 3 percent receive cash public assistance. Of those who reported work, the average income was \$1,820 per month. (Figure 4, Table 4)
- Adults in families averaged 45 months of SNAP enrollment since 2008. Less than 34 percent of adults in families have used 24 months or less. (Figure 5, Table 3)

Figure 3. SNAP enrolled adults with minor children: Overlaps with other SNAP groups

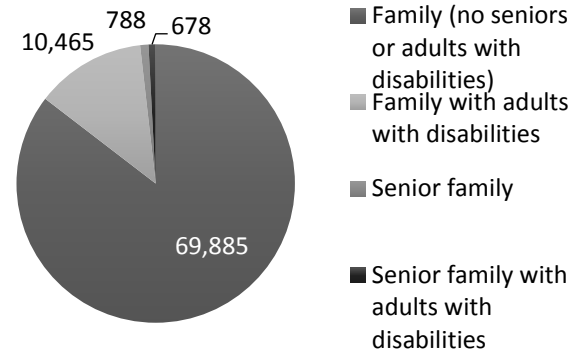


Figure 4. SNAP cases with minor children: Income sources

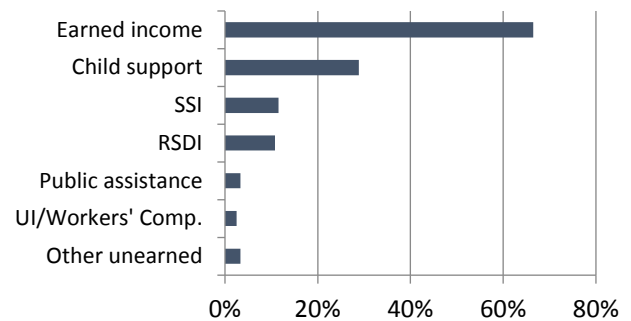
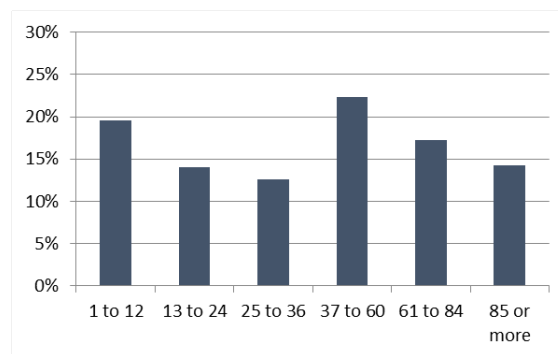


Figure 5. SNAP adult participants with minor children: Enrollment months 2008 to 2016



⁶ This includes 11,794 children in families where a child is the only member to receive stand-alone SNAP; other family members receive the food portion of MFIP or are ineligible for SNAP because of income or other requirements.

Quick facts for December 2016: SNAP seniors

- Twenty-four percent (54,253) of SNAP adults are age 60 or older, considered seniors according to SNAP policy. (Data from Table 1)
- Forty-seven percent of SNAP seniors do not have a disability and have no minor children, 50 percent have a disability and no children, and 3 percent have minor children. (Figure 6)
- The average age of seniors on SNAP is 70 (with a minimum age of 60), 62 percent are female, 64 percent are high school graduates, 17 percent are married and living with a spouse, 19 percent are widowed and 60 percent are white. Seniors are more likely to be Asian, widowed or divorced, and have less education than other groups. (Table 2)
- Nearly all cases with seniors have unearned income, with RSDI being the most common source (63 percent), followed by SSI (42 percent), and public assistance grants (30 percent). The average amount of unearned income is \$935 per month. Seven percent reported earned income. (Figure 7, Table 4)
- Seniors average about five-and-a-half-years of SNAP enrollment over the previous nine years, with 41 percent enrolled for more than seven years. (Figure 8, Table 3)

Figure 6. SNAP seniors: Overlap with other SNAP groups

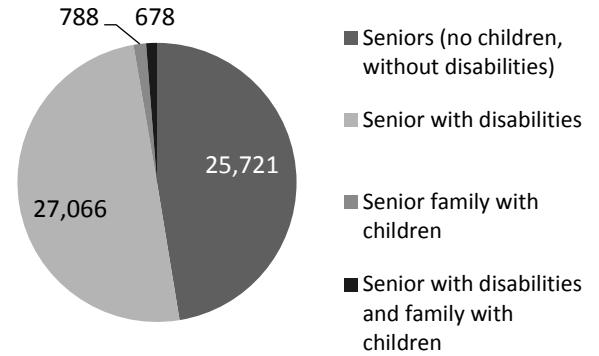


Figure 7. SNAP cases with seniors: Income sources

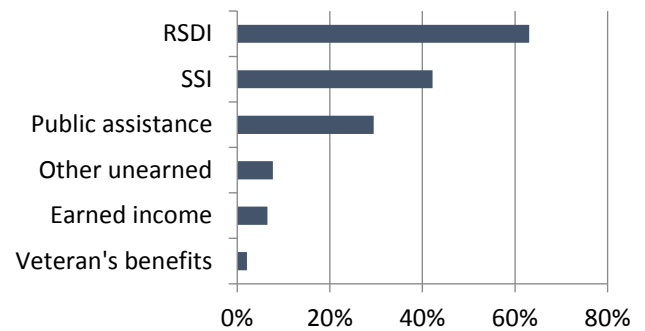
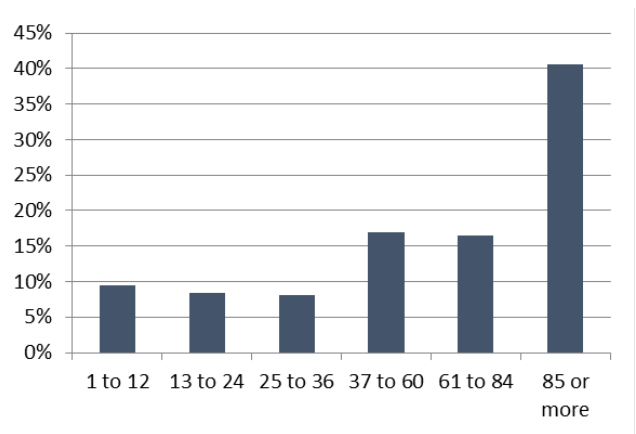


Figure 8. SNAP seniors: Enrollment months 2008 to 2016



Quick facts for December 2016: SNAP adults with disabilities

- Forty-four percent (98,188) of SNAP adults have a disability and the majority do not overlap with another category. Twenty-eight percent of these adults are also seniors, 11 percent have minor children, and less than 1 percent are seniors with minor children. (Figure 9 data from Table 1)
- The average age of SNAP adults with a disability is 51; with more than three-quarters age 40 or older. Fifty-six percent are female, 69 percent have at least a high school diploma, and half never married. (Table 2)
- Fifty-seven percent of SNAP adults with a disability are white, 26 percent black, 8 percent Asian, 4 percent American Indian and 3 percent Hispanic. (Table 2)
- Ninety-one percent of SNAP cases with persons who have a disability report unearned income averaging \$822 per month. The most common types are SSI (47 percent), RSDI (46 percent), and public assistance (36 percent), mainly Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), but also includes GA, RCA, MFIP and DWP. Eleven percent reported earned income. (Figure 10, Table 4)
- Adults with disabilities average about five-and-a-half-years of SNAP enrollment over a nine-year period. Thirty-eight percent have been enrolled in SNAP for more than seven years. (Figure 11, Table 3)

Figure 9. SNAP adults with disabilities: Overlap with other SNAP groups

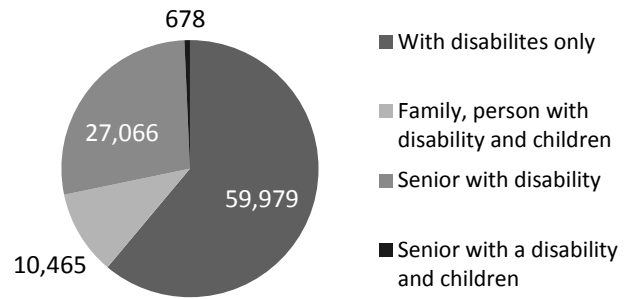


Figure 10. SNAP cases with adults with disabilities: Income source

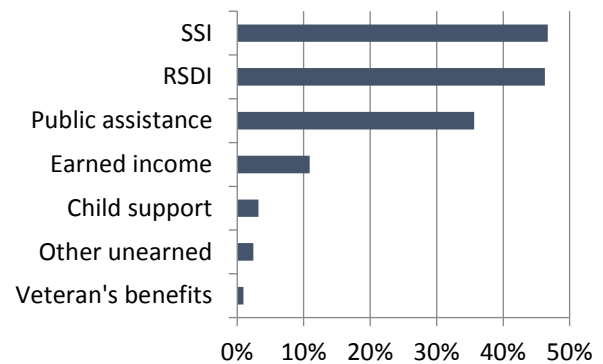
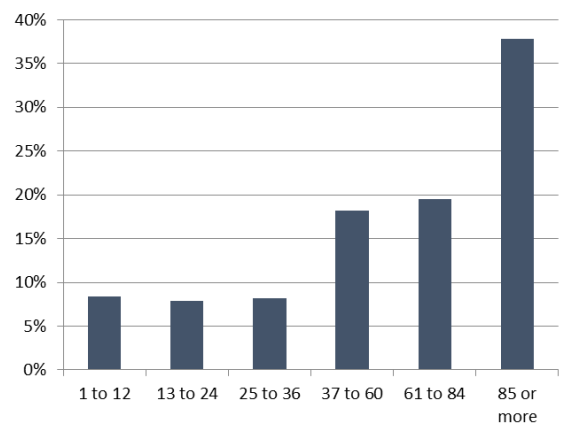


Figure 11. SNAP adults with disabilities: Enrollment months 2008 to 2016



Quick facts for December 2016: SNAP adults without a disability and without children

- Policy note: Adults in this group include ABAWDs, a specific group of adults without a disability between the ages of 18 and 50 who have restricted SNAP eligibility to three in 36 months (which expired in November 2013). Many are not eligible for income supports available to families with children, seniors aged 60 and older, and persons with diagnosed disabilities. For them, SNAP may be the only “safety net” assistance program available.
- Thirteen percent of SNAP adults (28,309) are other adults. People in this other adults group do not overlap with other groups as they have no children, do not have a disability, and are younger than 60. This is less than half as many as in 2013 when Minnesota had a waiver from the three in 36 months restriction for ABAWDs. (Figures 12 data from Tables 1)
- Fifty-two percent of other adults have no reported income sources other than SNAP, and 30 percent reported work. These adults received SNAP for an average of 30 months in the last 9 years. This is the lowest average of the groups. (Figures 13 and 14, Tables 3 and 4)
- Other adults have an average age of 40. They were more likely to be male (54 percent), more likely to have never married (65 percent), and less likely to be on other forms of public assistance. (Table 2)

Figure 12. SNAP adults by category

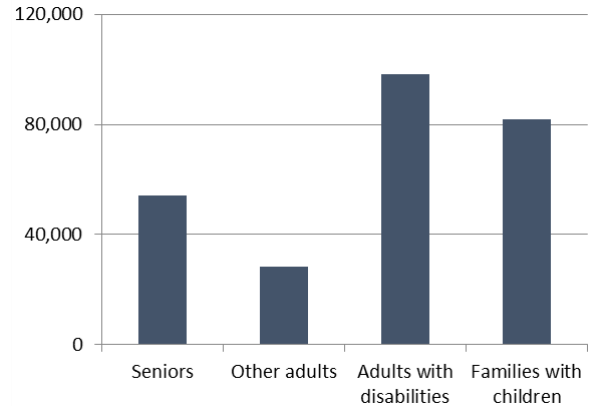


Figure 13. Other adult cases: Income sources

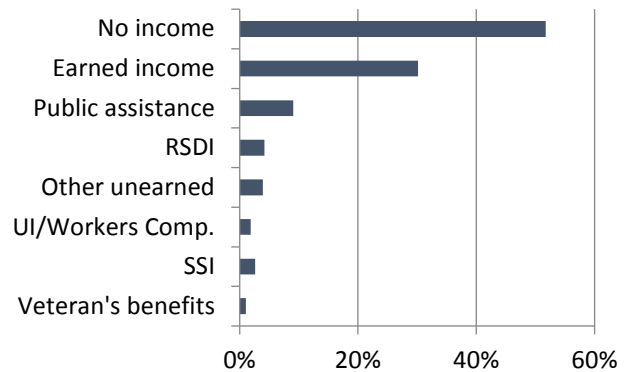
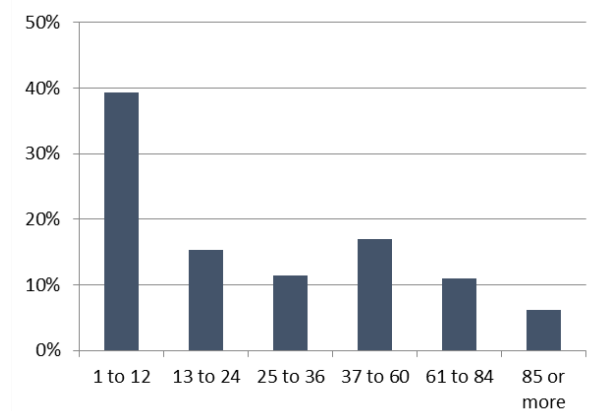


Figure 14. Other SNAP adults: Enrollment months 2008 to 2016



Quick facts for December 2016: SNAP enrollees with no other income

- 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, at six-month intervals, and when there is a reported significant increase. Not all income is used to determine grant amounts for eligibility.
- Fourteen percent of SNAP cases (27,340), including 28,583 adults, had no income reported. (Table 4)
- Fifty-two percent of cases with adults without a disability and without children, and under age 60, had no reported income. (Figure 15, Table 4)
- Adults in households with no income had similar education levels to those with income. More than 70 percent of adults in households, either with or without income, had at least a high school diploma or equivalent.
- People with no income are more likely to be under age 30, male and Black or American Indian. They were also more likely to have never married (66 percent compared to 43 percent of participants with income). (Figures 16 and 17)

Figure 15. Percent of SNAP cases with no income by category

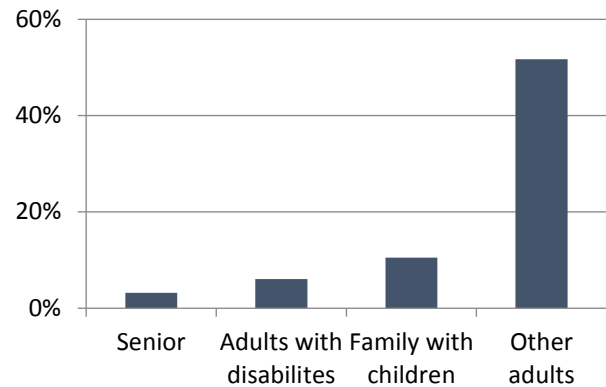


Figure 16. Race/ethnicity of SNAP adults with and without income

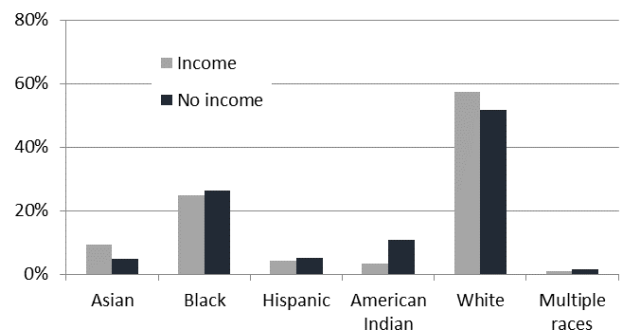


Figure 17. Gender and age of SNAP adults with and without income



Quick facts for December 2016: Income and earnings of SNAP households

- Policy note: Most people receiving SNAP report their income every six months. Income changes during that time period do not have to be reported unless household income goes above 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, which in December 2016 for a family of three is \$2,184. Decreases in income can also be reported. Reported earnings may occur in any month from July to December 2016.
- Overall, 30 percent of SNAP cases report income from work. This varies by type of case, with 67 percent of families with children, 30 percent of other adults, 11 percent of adults with disabilities, and 7 percent of senior cases reporting work. (Figure 18, Table 4)
- The average of reported earnings for working cases was \$1,514 per month. Families with children reported the highest earnings with \$1,820, and seniors the lowest, with \$821, on average. (Figure 19, Table 4)
- Sixty-eight percent of SNAP cases reported unearned income, with a monthly average of \$793. (Figure 20)
- The most common types of unearned income vary by case type. Families with children are most likely to have child support (29 percent), seniors were most likely to have RSDI (63 percent), and adults with disabilities are most likely to have SSI (47 percent). (Figure 20)

Figure 18. Percentage of SNAP cases with earned and unearned income by type

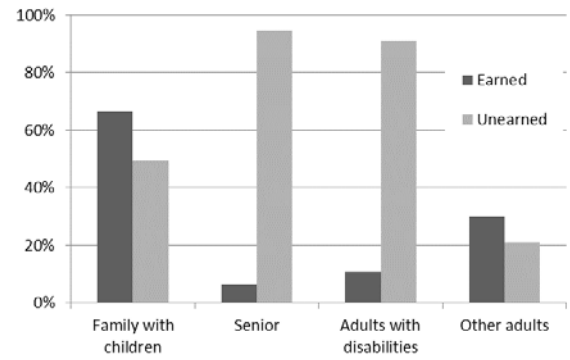


Figure 19. Average monthly earnings of SNAP cases by type for working cases

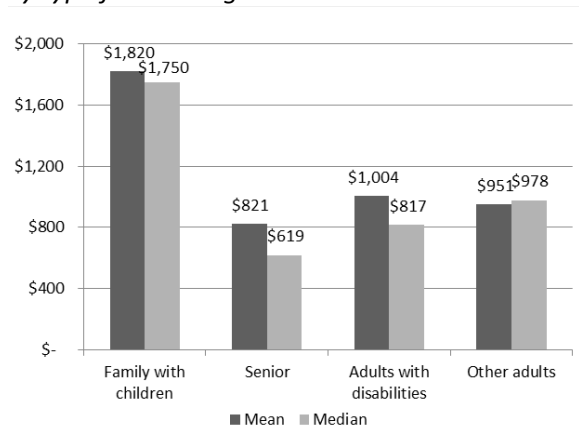
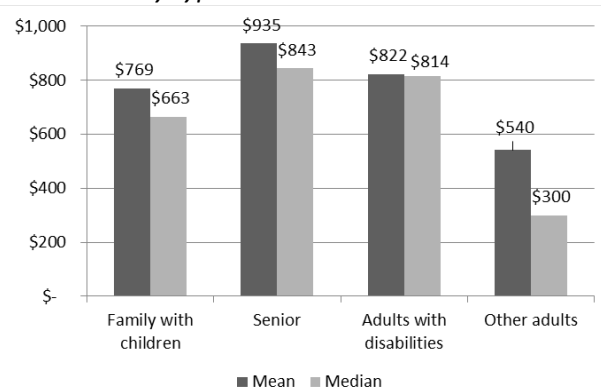


Figure 20. Average monthly unearned income of SNAP cases by type



Data Tables

Table 1. December 2016 stand-alone SNAP cases and participants in overlapping case types

	Total	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Cases	198,455	60,189	50,425	95,081	27,295
	100%	30%	25%	48%	14%
Adults	222,891	81,816	54,253	98,188	28,309
	100%	37%	24%	44%	13%
Children	157,241	157,241	2,589	21,651	0
	100%	100%	2%	14%	0%

Table 2. Demographic characteristics of SNAP adults by overlapping case types for December 2016

		Total Enrollees	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Enrollees	Count	222,891	81,816	54,253	98,188	28,309
	Percent of all enrollees	100.0%	36.7%	24.3%	44.1%	12.7%
Age	Mean	47	36	70	51	40
	Median	46	35	68	53	41
	Minimum	15	15	59	16	16
	Maximum	110	90	110	110	59
	Under 23	8,251	3,381	0	1,437	3,607
	Column percent	3.7%	4.1%	0.0%	1.5%	12.7%
	23 - 29	29,856	18,354	0	7,582	5,221
		13.4%	22.4%	0.0%	7.7%	18.4%
	30 - 39	50,405	34,772	0	14,703	4,764
		22.6%	42.5%	0.0%	15.0%	16.8%
	40 - 49	35,855	17,768	0	17,652	3,740
		16.1%	21.7%	0.0%	18.0%	13.2%
	50 - 59	44,282	6,073	13	29,081	10,977
		19.9%	7.4%	0.0%	29.6%	38.8%
60 - 64	17,881	807	17,881	12,299	0	
	8.0%	1.0%	33.0%	12.5%	0.0%	
65 and over	36,359	659	36,359	15,434	0	
	16.3%	0.8%	67.0%	15.7%	0.0%	
Gender	Female	133,104	56,900	33,755	54,717	12,959
		59.7%	69.5%	62.2%	55.7%	45.8%
	Male	89,787	24,916	20,498	43,471	15,350
	40.3%	30.5%	37.8%	44.3%	54.2%	
Education	None or pre-first grade or unknown	18,989	6,353	8,948	7,851	1,261
		8.5%	7.8%	16.5%	8.0%	4.5%
	Grade school	6,126	2,041	2,696	2,779	387
		2.7%	2.5%	5.0%	2.8%	1.4%
	Some high school	40,542	13,791	7,968	19,945	5,689
		18.2%	16.9%	14.7%	20.3%	20.1%
	High school graduate	121,334	45,147	26,369	53,314	16,033
		54.4%	55.2%	48.6%	54.3%	56.6%
	Some post-secondary	26,369	11,289	5,302	10,601	3,525
		11.8%	13.8%	9.8%	10.8%	12.5%
	College graduate	5,182	1,985	1,364	1,899	765
		2.3%	2.4%	2.5%	1.9%	2.7%
	Graduate degree	4,349	1,210	1,606	1,799	649
	2.0%	1.5%	3.0%	1.8%	2.3%	
High school graduate or higher	157,234	59,631	34,641	67,613	20,972	
	70.5%	72.9%	63.9%	68.9%	74.1%	

Table 2: page 2.

		Total Enrollees	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Marital status	Divorced	39,561	7,390	16,052	22,579	4,380
		17.7%	9.0%	29.6%	23.0%	15.5%
	Legally separated	692	225	210	353	77
		0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%
	Married, living with spouse	42,803	28,898	9,085	9,249	2,503
		19.2%	35.3%	16.7%	9.4%	8.8%
	Never married	102,702	35,935	11,767	48,651	18,391
		46.1%	43.9%	21.7%	49.5%	65.0%
	Married, living apart	24,614	8,556	7,004	12,299	2,484
		11.0%	10.5%	12.9%	12.5%	8.8%
	Widowed	12,518	811	10,135	5,057	474
		5.6%	1.0%	18.7%	5.2%	1.7%
Race/ethnicity	Asian	19,293	8,350	7,440	7,840	1,021
		8.7%	10.2%	13.7%	8.0%	3.6%
	Black	55,195	22,318	10,617	25,574	6,599
		24.8%	27.3%	19.6%	26.0%	23.3%
	Hispanic	9,583	5,003	1,865	2,937	1,209
		4.3%	6.1%	3.4%	3.0%	4.3%
	American Indian	9,466	2,987	1,116	4,035	2,589
		4.2%	3.7%	2.1%	4.1%	9.1%
	White	124,946	41,261	32,478	56,334	16,126
		56.1%	50.4%	59.9%	57.4%	57.0%
	Multiple	2,251	1,123	143	857	361
		1.0%	1.4%	0.3%	0.9%	1.3%
Citizenship	Non-U.S.	16,902	9,767	3,598	4,239	1,826
		7.6%	11.9%	6.6%	4.3%	6.5%
	U.S.	205,989	72,047	50,655	93,947	26,482
		92.4%	88.1%	93.4%	95.7%	93.5%

Table 3. December 2016 SNAP adults: Months of SNAP assistance and cash assistance enrollment by overlapping case types

		Total Enrollees	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Enrollees	Count	222,891	81,816	54,253	98,188	28,309
	Percent of all enrollees	100.0%	36.7%	24.3%	44.1%	12.7%
SNAP months in MN:	Mean	52.9	44.6	66.8	66.1	30.1
2008 - 2016	Median	50	40	70	70	20
	1 - 12 months	37,716	16,034	5,128	8,213	11,114
	Column percent	16.9%	19.6%	9.5%	8.4%	39.3%
	13 - 24 months	25,448	11,493	4,576	7,758	4,347
		11.4%	14.0%	8.4%	7.9%	15.4%
	25 - 36 months	23,067	10,321	4,388	8,024	3,221
		10.3%	12.6%	8.1%	8.2%	11.4%
	37 - 60 months	43,695	18,238	9,219	17,910	4,798
		19.6%	22.3%	17.0%	18.2%	16.9%
	61 - 84 months	38,156	14,087	8,959	19,123	3,108
		17.1%	17.2%	16.5%	19.5%	11.0%
	85 or more months	54,809	11,643	21,983	37,160	1,721
		24.6%	14.2%	40.5%	37.8%	6.1%
Public assistance in MN:	MFIP/DWP	15,713	13,852	99	2,315	1,124
2015		7.0%	16.9%	0.2%	2.4%	4.0%
	MSA	30,485	209	14,930	25,687	21
		13.7%	0.3%	27.5%	26.2%	0.1%
	GA/RCA	22,507	484	2,613	16,899	3,769
		10.1%	0.6%	4.8%	17.2%	13.3%
	Emergency services	11,581	5,320	1,202	5,680	1,246
		5.2%	6.5%	2.2%	5.8%	4.4%

Table 4. December 2016 SNAP adult cases: SNAP grants, earned income, and unearned income by overlapping case types

		Total Cases	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Cases	Count	198,455	60,189	50,425	95,081	27,295
	Row Percent	100.0%	30.3%	25.4%	47.9%	13.8%
SNAP Grant	Mean	\$193	\$351	\$110	\$136	\$161
	Median	\$169	\$339	\$105	\$128	\$194
No Income	Count of Cases	27,340	6,320	1,622	5,731	14,123
	Column Percent	13.8%	10.5%	3.2%	6.0%	51.7%
Income from Work	Count of Cases	58,706	40,031	3,276	10,340	8,231
		29.6%	66.5%	6.5%	10.9%	30.2%
Earned Income at Last Report	Mean of Working Cases	\$1,514	\$1,820	\$821	\$1,004	\$951
	Median	\$1,386	\$1,750	\$619	\$817	\$978
December Unearned Income	Count of Cases	134,508	29,733	47,641	86,492	5,755
		67.8%	49.4%	94.5%	91.0%	21.1%
	Mean of Cases Receiving	\$793	\$769	\$935	\$822	\$541
	Median	\$810	\$663	\$843	\$814	\$300
Unearned Income Types	Child Support	18,704	17,379	207	3,024	172
		9.4%	28.9%	0.4%	3.2%	0.6%
	SSI	55,351	6,948	21,261	44,428	713
		27.9%	11.5%	42.2%	46.7%	2.6%
	RSDI	60,710	6,486	31,790	43,987	1,137
		30.6%	10.8%	63.0%	46.3%	4.2%
	Public Assistance Grants	42,787	1,987	14,853	33,879	2,475
		21.6%	3.3%	29.5%	35.6%	9.1%
	Unemployment Insurance/ Workers' Compensation	2,234	1,489	127	294	499
		1.1%	2.5%	0.3%	0.3%	1.8%
	Veteran's Benefits	2,011	369	1,069	884	290
		1.0%	0.6%	2.1%	0.9%	1.1%
Other	7,604	2,022	3,870	2,317	1,065	
	3.8%	3.4%	7.7%	2.4%	3.9%	

Data notes and definitions

Table 1. Individuals were enrolled for SNAP in December 2016 if they met eligibility rules, including income, residency, immigrant status and other rules. A SNAP case is any group of people that are individually enrolled in SNAP, live together, and purchase and prepare food together. A case may have ineligible household members who are not included in a grant. This table, and all other tables and graphs, except Figure 1, exclude people enrolled in MFIP who received SNAP as the MFIP food portion.

In this report, adults are those age 18 and older with the exception of those age 22 and older living with their parents, and youths living independent of their parents. Anyone under age 22 who is living with their natural or adoptive parent(s) or step-parent(s) are considered children. All children were, by definition, categorized as being in cases of families with children. If such families also had a senior or adult with disabilities in the case, the children were included in these overlapping case types in Table 1 as well.

Families with children are households with at least one enrolled member that is a child by the above definition. Note that 11,794 children were in families where a child was the only member to receive stand-alone SNAP; other family members receive the food portion of MFIP or are ineligible for SNAP because of other requirements. Seniors are age 60 or older. Adults with disabilities are those with a SNAP disability status indicated by the MAXIS disability panel (STAT DISA). Adults with disabilities include those who are 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 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) due to a disability or blindness; or determined to have a disability or blindness by the State Medical Review Team (SMRT). "Other adults" have no children, are younger than age 60, and have no disability information in MAXIS.

In all tables, the total is unduplicated, and is not the sum of the case types. Participants who met criteria for more than one category are 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 marital status may be under-reported. If a person's education level is unknown, it is coded as if they had no formal education.

Five adults are missing citizenship information, and 2,157 adults are missing race/ethnicity data. These people are excluded from those respective sections.

Table 3. SNAP months are total months in which an individual was enrolled in SNAP in Minnesota between January 2008 and December 2016. As eligibility follows an individual, the count includes months in other households or cases, and months as a child in their parents' household. These months do not include MFIP food portion months.

Public assistance eligibility in calendar year 2016 is whether an individual is personally enrolled in the listed program. Emergency Services is the name of the former Emergency Assistance and Emergency General Assistance programs.

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

Total income is the projected income of all adults whose income is deemed for the case. The amount used is prospective income reported at the start of the six-month reporting period, or last reported, which may have

been any month between July and December 2016. Income is gross, except for the self-employed and room and board income where it is gross less expenses, with a minimum of zero. Mean total income excluded cases with no expected income for the reporting period.

Unearned income is from the December 2016 SNAP budget panel for the active budget type (retrospective or prospective). If income is not reported on the budget panel, it is 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 are those with no earned or unearned income known to MAXIS.