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# CHARACTERISTICS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS: FISCAL YEAR 2001 (Advance Report)

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The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is the nation's largest food assistance program. In fiscal year 2001, it served an average of 17.3 million people per month. Over \$15.5 billion was paid out in food stamps that year, with an average benefit of \$75 per person.

Food stamps are available to most low-income households with few resources to supplement their food purchases and help them maintain a healthy diet. In fiscal year 2001, food stamps were over one-fifth of the average participating household's total monthly income (cash plus food stamps). If the value of food stamps were included in gross income, 16.0 percent of food stamp households would move from below to above half the poverty line (Figure 1).

## I. COMPOSITION OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS

In fiscal year 2001, the majority (53.6 percent) of food stamp households contained children (Table 1). Of these households, over two-thirds (67.4 percent) were single-parent households, 14.4 percent were headed by married parents, and 10.1 percent had no members over the age of 17 participating in the FSP (the remaining 8.1 percent were other multiple adult households with children). Households with children had an average size of 3.4 individuals and received an average monthly food stamp benefit of \$242. Single-parent households (3.2 individuals on average) received an average benefit of \$239, and married-couple households with children (4.7 individuals on average) received an average benefit of \$285.

Households containing elderly individuals represented 20.4 percent of all food stamp households. Over four-fifths of them (80.2 percent) lived alone and received an average monthly benefit of \$45. Households containing elderly and other individuals, either elderly or nonelderly, received an average benefit of \$112.

Over one-quarter of food stamp households contained disabled individuals (27.6 percent). Of these households, over half (57.8 percent) lived alone, receiving an average benefit of \$48. Households with disabled individuals and others, either disabled or non-disabled, received an average benefit of \$174.

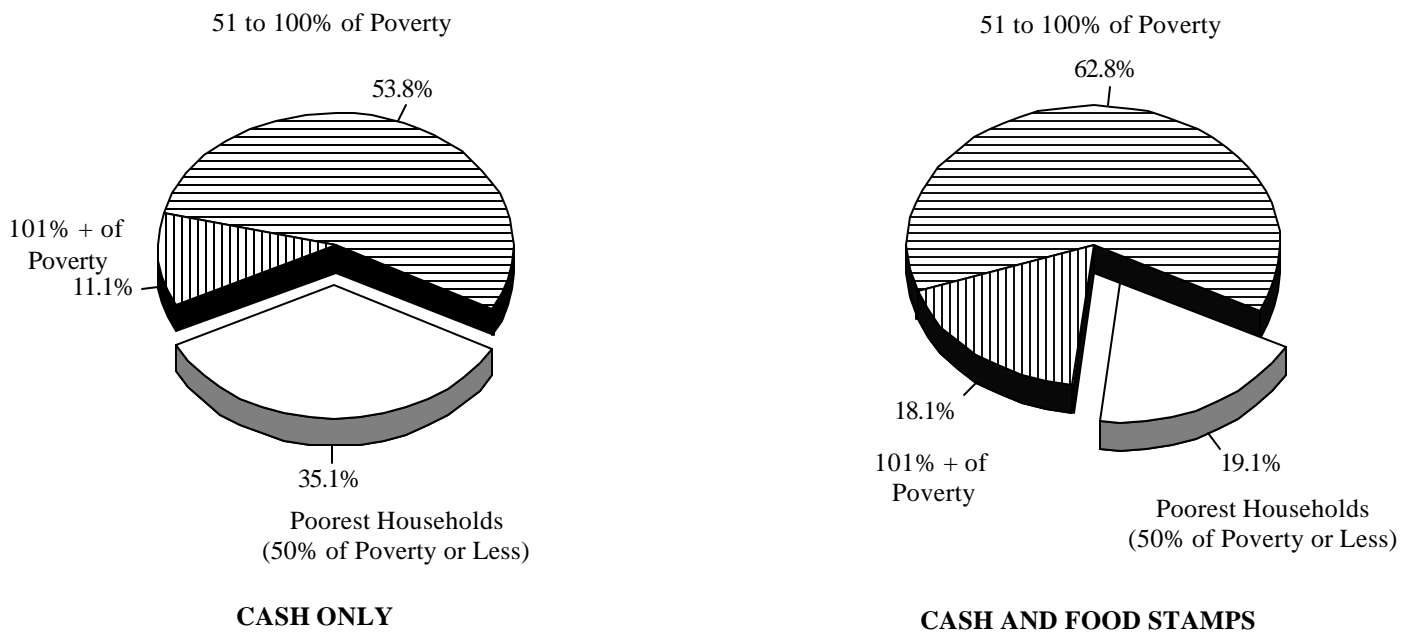
In households without children, elderly, or disabled individuals, 92.0 percent lived alone, receiving an average benefit of \$118. Households with multiple nonelderly, non-disabled adults and no children received an average benefit of \$193.

## II. BENEFITS AND INCOME OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS

The average monthly food stamp benefit in fiscal year 2001 was \$163 per household. Over three-quarters (79.6 percent) of all benefits went to households with children, 17.1 percent went to households with disabled individuals, and 7.3 percent went to households containing elderly individuals. The majority (62.9 percent) of food stamp households received monthly benefits of over \$100, and 33.4 percent received over \$200 (Table 2).

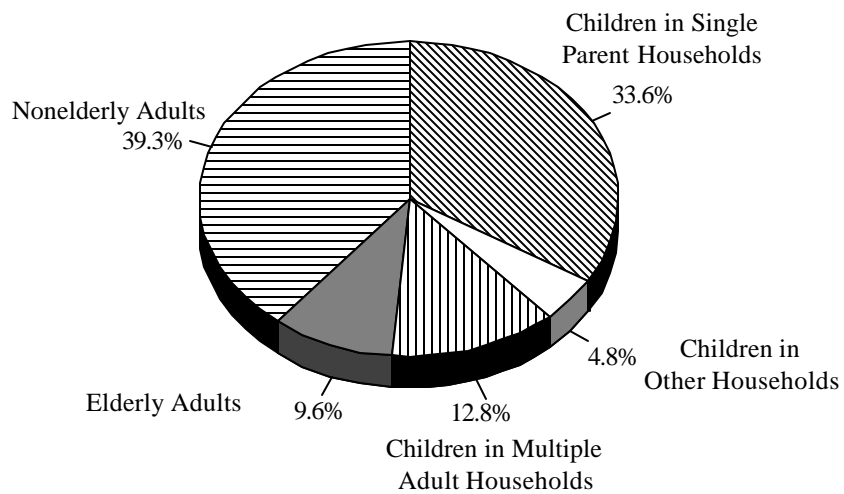
**FIGURE 1**

**POVERTY STATUS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS WITH AND WITHOUT FOOD STAMPS, 2001**



**FIGURE 2**

**DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD STAMP PARTICIPANTS, 2001**



Source: 2001 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

The average monthly gross income of food stamp households was \$624 (Table 3). Over one-quarter of households (26.8 percent) had earnings. Over three-quarters (77.8 percent) received unearned income from one or more sources. The most common forms of unearned income were Supplemental Security Income (SSI), received by 31.9 percent; Social Security, received by 25.4 percent; and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), received by 23.1 percent. Other sources of unearned income included General Assistance (GA), Unemployment Compensation, contributions<sup>1</sup>, and child support. Almost 10 percent of all participating households had no gross income.

The average total of all deductions claimed by participating food stamp households was \$310 (Table 4). The proportion of households claiming a deduction varied from 60.1 percent claiming the excess shelter deduction to 1.1 percent claiming the child support payment deduction.

### III. CHARACTERISTICS OF FOOD STAMP PARTICIPANTS

In fiscal year 2001, slightly over half (51.1 percent) of all food stamp participants were children, most of whom lived in single-parent households (Figure 2); 39.3 percent of all food stamp participants were nonelderly adults and 9.6 percent were elderly adults (age 60 or older).

Among adult participants (age 18 or older), 70.3 percent were women, and 29.7 percent were men (Table 5). Of the participating children, one-third (32.5 percent) were preschool age (0 to 4 years), and two-thirds (67.5 percent) were school age (5 to 17 years).

About one-quarter (25.2 percent) of nonelderly adult participants (18 to 59 years) were disabled. One-third (33.0 percent) of participating nonelderly adult males were disabled, compared to

21.8 percent of participating nonelderly adult females.

Among all food stamp participants, 3.9 percent were non-citizens. Almost two-thirds (63.5 percent) were Permanent Resident Aliens. Nonelderly, nondisabled, childless adults made up 4.4 percent of all participants, and 11.3 percent of all nonelderly adults (9.6 percent of females and 15.3 percent of males).

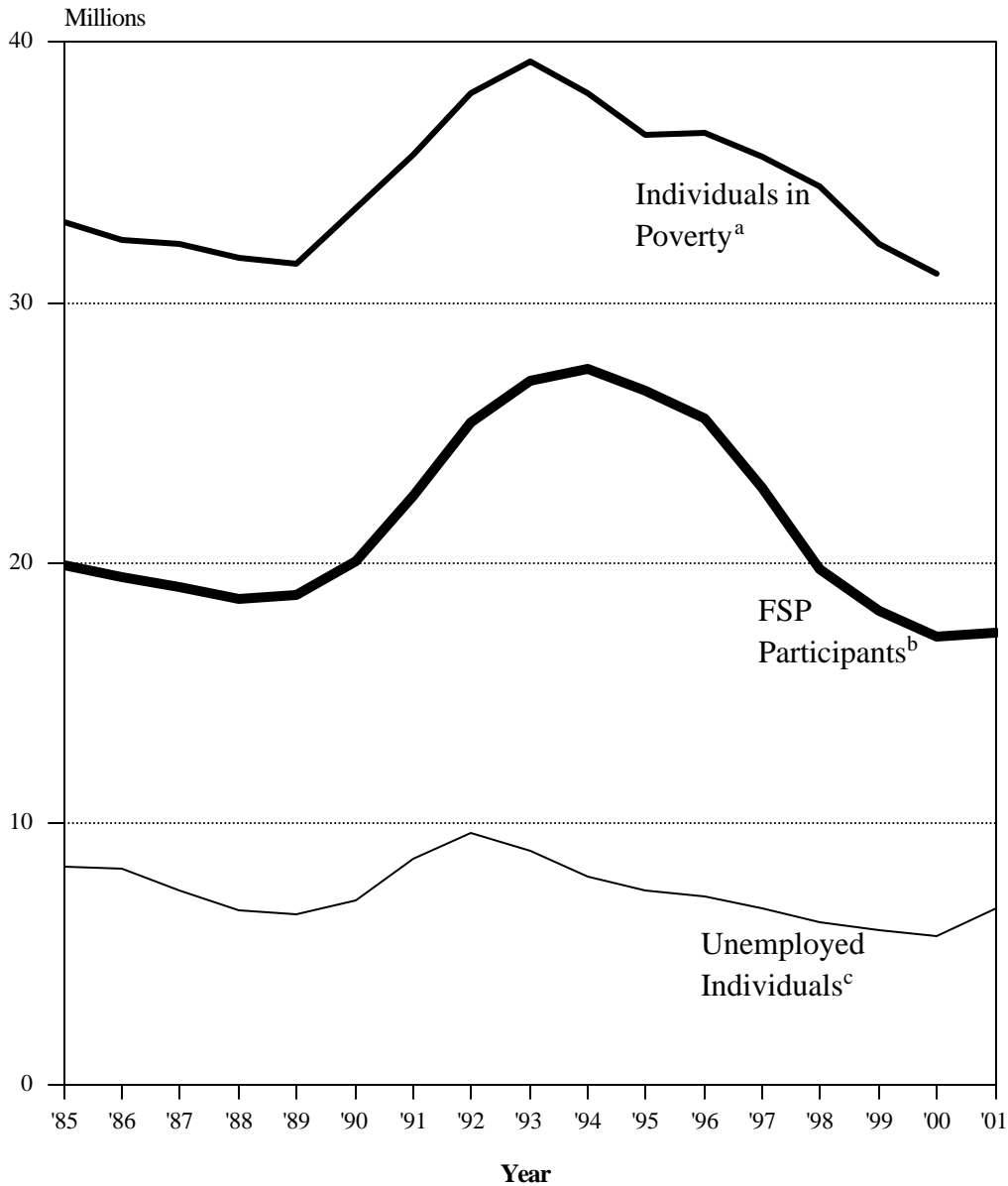
The largest proportion of food stamp participants was white, non-Hispanic (41.0 percent), followed by African-American, non-Hispanic (35.3 percent) and Hispanic (18.3 percent). The remaining participants were Asian, Native American, or of another race or ethnicity (Table 6).

### IV. CHARACTERISTICS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS BY STATE

In fiscal year 2001, almost half (47.2 percent) of all food stamp households were located in eight states: California, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas (Table 7). The average monthly food stamp benefit varied by state, reflecting differences in income, expenses, household size, and composition. Average monthly benefits were largest in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and the Virgin Islands because the maximum allotment is set higher in those areas to accommodate higher costs of living. Within the contiguous United States, food stamp benefits were highest (greater than \$190) in Arizona, Louisiana and Texas—states with above-average household sizes. Conversely, average monthly food stamp benefits were lowest (less than \$130) in Maine and Vermont—states with above-average gross household incomes and below-average household sizes.

FIGURE 3

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS,  
UNEMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS AND INDIVIDUALS IN POVERTY, 2001



<sup>a</sup>Annual values. The number of individuals in poverty in Fiscal Year 2001 was not available when this report went to print. Source: Bureau of the Census, Poverty in the United States: 2000, Series P60-214.

<sup>b</sup>Average monthly values. Source: Food and Nutrition Service, Fiscal Years 1985-2001 FSP Participation and Issuance.

<sup>c</sup>Average monthly values. Source: Economic Report of the President, 2002 Table B-36.

## V. CHANGES OVER TIME

The number of individuals participating in the FSP grew substantially from 1989 to 1994 and then declined steadily through July 2000, before rising again through 2001 (Figure 3). Specifically, the number of food stamp participants rose from 18.9 million individuals in 1989 to a record high of 28.0 million in March 1994 and fell to 16.9 million in July 2000. The number of participants then rose to 17.9 million by September 2001.

The percentage of participants who are children has remained relatively stable over time (Table 8). At the same time, the percentage of households with children has declined steadily from 1992 to 2001, with the most significant decline occurring between 1998 and 2000.

While the percentage of households with children is decreasing, the percentage of households with disabled individuals is increasing—rising from 18.9 percent in 1995 to 27.6 percent in 2001.<sup>2</sup> A similar pattern occurs in households with elderly individuals. A decrease in nonelderly participants resulted in a rise in the proportion of households with elderly from a low of 15.4 percent in 1992 to 21.0 percent in 2000, leveling off to 20.4 percent by 2001.

The proportionate increases in participation by households with disabled and elderly individuals have been accompanied by similar trends in the percentage of households with SSI and Social Security (Table 9). The proportion of households with SSI increased from 18.4 percent in 1992 to 31.9 percent in 2001, and the proportion with Social Security increased from 17.4 percent in 1992 to 25.5 percent in 2000 before decreasing slightly to 25.4 percent in 2001.

The percentage of participating households with AFDC/TANF has declined from 42.0 percent in 1990 to 23.1 percent in 2001. At the same time, the percentage of households with earnings

increased from 19.0 percent in 1990 to 27.2 percent in 2000, before also leveling off to 26.8 percent in 2001.

**ECONOMIC CHANGES.** Changes in the economy are among the factors that affect participation in the FSP. Figure 3 shows that the surge in FSP participation from 1989 through 1994 was associated with a worsening economy, and the drop in participation since 1994 has been accompanied by an improving economy. The number of FSP participants is still below the numbers in the late 1980s; increases in both the number of FSP participants and unemployment from 2000 to 2001 may be evidence of the most recent economic downturn.

**PROGRAM CHANGES.** Changes in legislation also affect participation in the FSP. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), enacted August 1996, disqualified most permanent resident aliens from participation in the FSP, placed time limits on unemployed able-bodied adults without dependents, and replaced the AFDC program with the TANF program. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 allowed states to exempt 15 percent of the unemployed able-bodied, childless adults from the FSP time-limits beginning in FY 1998.

Effective November 1, 1998, the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act restored eligibility to child, elderly, and disabled permanent resident aliens who were present in the United States when welfare reform was enacted in 1996. Additionally, it extended the exemption for refugees, asylees, and deportees from five to seven years. A broader definition of the categorical eligibility regulation also came into effect in November 2000, expanding eligibility for recipients of non-cash assistance funded under TANF.

New regulations regarding vehicle rules for food stamp eligibility were implemented in 2001,

excluding vehicles with equity less than \$1500 and exempting one vehicle per adult from the equity test. The Agriculture Appropriations Act for FY2001 also allowed states to use TANF vehicle rules in place of federal FSP rules, and increased the shelter deduction cap from \$275 to \$340 (indexed to inflation for future changes).

## **VI. DESCRIPTION OF THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM**

The FSP is unique among means-tested assistance programs in two important ways. First, it offers assistance to nearly all financially needy households, regardless of almost any non-financial categorical criteria. Second, instead of cash, it provides benefits in the form of coupons or electronic benefits that can be redeemed for food in any of about 153,000 authorized stores across the nation. The cost of providing food stamps to needy individuals is funded fully by the federal government. Administrative costs are shared by federal, state, and local governments

**ELIGIBILITY.** To be eligible for food stamps, a household's assets, gross income, and net income (which is based on gross income less deductions permitted under the FSP) must not exceed specified levels that vary by household size, composition, and location. Most permanent resident aliens are ineligible to participate in the FSP, and most able-bodied, non-working, childless adults are limited to 3 months of FSP benefits in any 36-month period.

**FOOD STAMP BENEFIT COMPUTATION AND ISSUANCE.** Benefits are computed by subtracting 30 percent of a household's net income from the maximum benefit amount. That maximum is 100 percent of the June cost of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) for a family of four, adjusted for household size and location. The TFP is based on the cost of a market basket of food that provides an economical and nutritious diet. In fiscal year 2001, the maximum benefit for a family of four in the

contiguous United States was \$434 per month. Most program participants receive their monthly benefits through an electronic benefit transfer (which is similar to a bank card).

## **VII. DATA**

The estimates presented here are based on data extracted from the Food Stamp Program Quality Control System (FSPQC), which is an ongoing review of food stamp households designed to measure the accuracy with which eligibility and benefit determinations are made. All estimates are based on a full-year sample of 47,015 households.

Food and Nutrition Service administrative records indicate that the FSP served 17.32 million individuals in fiscal year 2001, and food stamp households received an average benefit of \$174 per month. The figures in the attached tables indicate that there are 17.30 million participants with an average household benefit of \$163. These figures vary from the administrative figures because they are estimates from the FSPQC, which weights data by households rather than individuals or benefits. Administrative figures are based on a monthly census of actual FSP participation and benefit issuance.

## **NOTES**

<sup>1</sup>Contributions include cash contributions, charity, and in-kind income.

<sup>2</sup>The increase in the proportion of households with disabled individuals from 1994 to 1995 is due in part to a change in the definition of households with disabled individuals. However, using the pre-1995 definition, the proportion of households with disabled members still increased from 12.5 percent to 13.3 percent.

**Table 1 -- Selected Characteristics of Participating Food Stamp Households, 2001**

Household type	Participating households		Average monthly values (dollars)			Average household size (persons)	Percent of Total Benefit Dollars
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Food stamp benefit	Gross income	Net income		
<b>Total</b> .....	7,450	100.0	163	624	354	2.3	100.0
<b>Children</b> .....	3,990	53.6	242	731	430	3.4	79.6
Single-adult households .....	2,690	36.1	239	670	380	3.2	52.9
Married-couple households .....	574	7.7	285	1073	696	4.7	13.5
Other multiple-adult households	323	4.3	285	937	608	4.4	7.6
Children only households .....	403	5.4	171	483	242	2.1	5.7
Other .....	1	0.0	250	990	769	4.6	0.0
<b>Elderly</b> .....	1,522	20.4	58	630	368	1.3	7.3
Living alone .....	1,220	16.4	45	577	318	1.0	4.5
Not living alone .....	302	4.1	112	845	569	2.4	2.8
<b>Disabled<sup>a</sup></b> .....	2,056	27.6	101	729	446	2.0	17.1
Living alone .....	1,189	16.0	48	586	304	1.0	4.7
Not living alone .....	867	11.6	174	925	639	3.3	12.4
<b>Other</b> .....	902	12.1	124	192	63	1.1	9.2
Single-person .....	830	11.1	118	170	50	1.0	8.0
Multiple-person .....	72	1.0	193	451	205	2.1	1.1

Source: 2001 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

<sup>a</sup> The definition of disability partly relies on work registration information. The 2001 FSPQC contains conflicting work registration information for New York, listing all participants as registered for work regardless of age. As a result, the number of disabled participants presented here is an underestimate.

**Table 2 -- Monthly Food Stamp Benefits of Participating Food Stamp Households, 2001**

Monthly food stamp benefit	Participating households	
	Number (thousands)	Percent
<b>Total</b> .....	7,450	100.0
\$0-50 .....	1,787	24.0
\$51-100 .....	979	13.1
\$101-150 .....	1,627	21.8
\$151-200 .....	562	7.5
\$201-250 .....	884	11.9
\$251-300 .....	383	5.1
\$301-350 .....	554	7.4
\$351-400 .....	182	2.4
\$401 + .....	493	6.6

Source: 2001 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.



**Table 3 -- Selected Economic Characteristics of Participating Food Stamp Households, 2001**

Income source	Participating households		Persons in households with source		Average income (dollars)		Average food stamp benefit (dollars)	Average household size (persons)
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Gross	From source		
<b>Total</b> .....	7,450	100.0	17,303	100.0	624	(n/a)	163	2.3
<b>Earned income</b> .....	1,996	26.8	6,560	37.9	946	753	202	3.3
Wages and salaries .....	1,838	24.7	6,105	35.3	971	778	200	3.3
Self-employment .....	157	2.1	485	2.8	717	382	236	3.1
Other earned income .....	32	0.4	89	0.5	802	393	173	2.8
<b>Unearned income</b> .....	5,795	77.8	13,034	75.3	661	543	148	2.2
TANF .....	1,717	23.1	5,513	31.9	684	377	233	3.2
General Assistance .....	415	5.6	584	3.4	437	231	119	1.4
Supplemental Security Income	2,374	31.9	4,280	24.7	688	422	92	1.8
Social Security .....	1,894	25.4	3,053	17.6	703	528	73	1.6
Unemployment .....	143	1.9	486	2.8	844	559	210	3.4
Contribution <sup>a</sup> .....	252	3.4	743	4.3	581	194	232	2.9
Child Support .....	580	7.8	2,076	12.0	824	250	239	3.6
Other unearned income <sup>b</sup> .....	606	8.1	1,332	7.7	744	212	125	2.2
<b>No Income</b> .....	703	9.4	1,281	7.4	0	0	215	1.8

Source: 2001 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

<sup>a</sup> Contributions include cash contributions, charity, and in-kind income

<sup>b</sup> Sources of other unearned income include veterans' benefits and educational loans

**Table 4 - Average Values of Deductions for Participating Food Stamp Households, 2001**

Deduction	Households with Deduction		Average Amount of Deduction (Dollars)	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	All Households	With Deduction
Total Deductions .....	7,450	100.0	310	310
Standard .....	7,450	100.0	135	135
Excess Shelter .....	4,477	60.1	123	205
Earned Income .....	1,994	26.8	40	150
Medical .....	307	4.1	5	123
Dependent Care .....	315	4.2	5	117
Child Support Payment .....	85	1.1	2	168

Source: 2001 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

**Table 5 -- Selected Characteristics of Food Stamp Participants, 2001**

Participant Characteristic	All participants		Female Participants		Male Participants	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
Total .....	17,303	100.0	10,346	100.0	6,954	100.0
<b>Age</b>						
Child .....	8,842	51.1	4,403	42.6	4,439	63.8
4 or Less .....	2,875	16.6	1,399	13.5	1,477	21.2
5-17 .....	5,966	34.5	3,004	29.0	2,962	42.6
Nonelderly Adult .....	6,792	39.3	4,751	45.9	2,040	29.3
18-35 .....	3,529	20.4	2,661	25.7	868	12.5
36-59 .....	3,264	18.9	2,090	20.2	1,172	16.9
Elderly (60 or More) .....	1,662	9.6	1,188	11.5	473	6.8
Unknown Age .....	7	0.0	4	0.0	3	0.0
<b>Disabled<sup>a</sup></b>						
Children (0-17) .....	2,214	12.8	1,292	12.5	922	13.3
Nonelderly Adults (18-59) .....	266	1.5	90	0.9	176	2.5
Elderly Adults (60-64) .....	1,712	9.9	1,038	10.0	674	9.7
	235	1.4	164	1.6	71	1.0
<b>Citizenship</b>						
Citizen, Born in U.S. ....	16,023	92.6	9,575	92.5	6,448	92.7
Naturalized Citizen .....	533	3.1	353	3.4	180	2.6
Native American .....	70	0.4	40	0.4	30	0.4
Permanent Resident Alien .....	431	2.5	249	2.4	182	2.6
Refugee .....	218	1.3	118	1.1	99	1.4
Unknown .....	29	0.2	12	0.1	14	0.2
<b>Nonelderly, Non-disabled, Childless Adults<sup>b</sup></b> .....	768	4.4	455	4.4	313	4.5

Source: 2001 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

<sup>a</sup> The definition of disability partly relies on work registration information. The 2001 FSPQC contains conflicting work registration information for New York, listing all participants as registered for work regardless of age. As a result, the number of disabled participants presented here is an underestimate.

<sup>b</sup> The FSPQC reports these individuals to be nonelderly, non-disabled childless adults (sometimes referred to as ABAWDs). Many of them are subject to work registration, unless they live in a waiver area or receive a state exemption. (Whereas past reports in this series have used a simulated definition to identify these individuals, this report uses the FSPQC variable ABWDSTi to identify them.)

**Table 6 -- Race/Ethnicity of Food Stamp Participants, 2001**

Race	Participants	
	Number (thousands)	Percent
<b>Total</b> .....	17,303	100.0
White, Non-Hispanic .....	7,087	41.0
African-American, Non-Hispanic .....	6,102	35.3
Hispanic .....	3,163	18.3
Asian .....	573	3.3
Native American .....	275	1.6
Other .....	104	0.6

Source: 2001 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

**Table 7 -- Selected Characteristics of Participating Food Stamp Households by State, 2001**

State	Total (thousands)	Percent of all households	Average monthly amount					Average house- hold size (persons)
			Food stamp benefit (dollars)	Gross income (dollars)	Net income (dollars)	Total deduction (dollars)	Countable assets (dollars)	
<b>Total</b> .....	7,450	100.0	163	624	354	310	146	2.3
Alabama .....	161	2.2	182	614	357	302	111	2.6
Alaska .....	13	0.2	268	944	598	421	221	2.7
Arizona .....	108	1.4	210	581	322	304	106	2.7
Arkansas .....	103	1.4	188	602	361	291	109	2.6
California .....	623	8.4	175	668	432	266	121	2.7
Colorado .....	69	0.9	147	624	352	314	262	2.2
Connecticut .....	82	1.1	134	576	319	302	136	1.9
Delaware .....	14	0.2	170	609	345	315	26	2.4
Dist. of Col. ....	33	0.4	167	431	256	226	18	2.1
Florida .....	426	5.7	145	611	328	316	270	2.1
Georgia .....	235	3.2	162	600	357	273	176	2.3
Guam .....	7	0.1	435	621	275	409	78	3.2
Hawaii .....	51	0.7	260	695	395	332	275	2.2
Idaho .....	24	0.3	159	699	435	318	168	2.5
Illinois .....	364	4.9	171	562	309	304	122	2.3
Indiana .....	147	2.0	162	635	371	298	207	2.4
Iowa .....	54	0.7	147	641	387	289	279	2.3
Kansas .....	56	0.8	137	652	387	301	146	2.2
Kentucky .....	173	2.3	158	624	396	259	180	2.4
Louisiana .....	198	2.7	194	615	330	325	123	2.6
Maine .....	53	0.7	127	696	381	340	156	2.0
Maryland .....	97	1.3	157	562	306	295	68	2.1
Massachusetts .....	105	1.4	133	715	418	330	143	2.2
Michigan .....	285	3.8	161	667	335	375	55	2.3
Minnesota .....	93	1.2	163	482	290	304	235	2.1
Mississippi .....	116	1.6	166	606	390	252	159	2.5
Missouri .....	195	2.6	155	619	354	307	130	2.3
Montana .....	26	0.4	153	610	346	311	345	2.2
Nebraska .....	35	0.5	152	687	401	316	210	2.4
Nevada .....	32	0.4	169	539	288	318	93	2.2
New Hampshire .....	18	0.2	134	697	374	356	166	2.1
New Jersey .....	144	1.9	157	606	298	337	92	2.1
New Mexico .....	65	0.9	176	643	389	288	142	2.6
New York .....	684	9.2	161	671	287	437	41	2.1
North Carolina .....	213	2.9	152	617	363	290	250	2.2
North Dakota .....	16	0.2	142	708	409	330	4	2.3
Ohio .....	292	3.9	137	639	372	295	181	2.1
Oklahoma .....	113	1.5	159	608	374	278	106	2.3
Oregon .....	137	1.8	147	552	311	300	88	2.0
Pennsylvania .....	343	4.6	141	629	378	282	218	2.2
Rhode Island .....	33	0.4	144	635	379	280	147	2.2
South Carolina .....	130	1.7	166	593	365	262	109	2.4
South Dakota .....	17	0.2	188	603	325	337	174	2.5
Tennessee .....	226	3.0	148	603	369	265	216	2.2
Texas .....	502	6.7	208	585	326	302	104	2.7
Utah .....	33	0.4	168	677	389	335	187	2.5
Vermont .....	19	0.3	121	675	367	344	215	1.9
Virgin Islands .....	4	0.1	327	546	325	256	143	3.0
Virginia .....	149	2.0	138	632	387	271	219	2.2
Washington .....	141	1.9	135	639	381	290	117	2.1
West Virginia .....	95	1.3	153	622	376	281	195	2.3
Wisconsin .....	87	1.2	147	715	450	311	192	2.4
Wyoming .....	9	0.1	163	614	375	291	324	2.4

Source: 2001 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

**Table 8 -- Selected Characteristics of Food Stamp Households Over Time  
Fiscal Year 1990-Fiscal Year 2001**

Fiscal Year	Total		Children		Elderly		Disabled	
	Participants (thousands)	Households (thousands)	Children (percent of all participants)	Households with children (percent of all)	Elderly (percent of all participants)	Households with elderly (percent of all)	Disabled (percent of all participants)	Households with disabled (percent of all)
2001	17,303	7,450	51.1	53.6	9.6	20.4	12.8	27.6 <sup>a</sup>
2000	17,091	7,335	51.2	53.9	10.0	21.0	12.9	27.5
1999	18,149	7,670	51.5	55.7	9.4	20.1	12.0	26.4
1998	19,969	8,246	52.8	58.3	8.2	18.2	10.8	24.4
1997	23,117	9,452	51.4	58.3	7.9	17.6	9.9	22.3
1996	25,926	10,552	51.0	59.5	7.3	16.2	8.8	20.2
1995	26,955	10,883	51.5	59.7	7.1	16.0	8.2	18.9 <sup>b</sup>
1994	28,009	11,091	51.4	61.1	7.0	15.8	5.5	12.5
1993	27,595	10,791	51.5	62.1	6.8	15.5	4.7	10.7
1992	25,775	10,059	51.9	62.2	6.6	15.4	4.1	9.5
1991	22,988	8,863	52.1	60.4	7.0	16.5	3.8	9.0
1990	20,440	7,811	49.6	60.3	7.7	18.1	3.7	8.9

<sup>a</sup> The definition of disability partly relies on work registration information. The 2001 FSPQC contains conflicting work registration information for New York, listing all participants as registered for work regardless of age. As a result, the number of disabled participants presented here is an underestimate.

<sup>b</sup> Beginning in 1995, disabled households are defined as households with at least one member under age 65 who received SSI, or at least one member age 18 to 61 who received Social Security, veterans benefits, or other government benefits as a result of a disability. For years prior to 1995, disabled households are defined as households with SSI but no members over age 59. The substantial increase in the percentage of households with a disabled member between 1994 and 1995 is due in part to the change in the definition of disabled households. Using the previous definition, 13.3 percent of households included a disabled person in fiscal year 1995.

Source: Food Stamp Program Quality Control samples.

Table 9 -- Sources of Income Among Food Stamp Households Over Time Fiscal Year 1990-Fiscal Year 2001

Fiscal Year	Earned Income		AFDC/TANF		GA		SSI <sup>a</sup>		Social Security		No Income	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
2001	1,996	26.8	1,717	23.1	415	5.6	2,374	31.9	1,894	25.4	703	9.4
2000	1,993	27.2	1,891	25.8	395	5.4	2,324	31.7	1,870	25.5	617	8.4
1999	2,058	26.8	2,096	27.3	435	5.7	2,315	30.2	1,897	24.7	649	8.5
1998	2,167	26.3	2,591	31.4	486	5.9	2,263	27.4	1,924	23.3	724	8.8
1997	2,284	24.2	3,270	34.6	588	6.2	2,460	26.0	1,999	21.1	868	9.2
1996	2,379	22.5	3,866	36.6	677	6.4	2,538	24.1	2,034	19.3	1,078	10.2
1995	2,329	21.4	4,171	38.3	786	7.2	2,461	22.6	2,019	18.6	1,053	9.7
1994	2,374	21.4	4,225	38.1	769	6.9	2,371	21.4	1,998	18.0	1,132	10.2
1993	2,226	20.6	4,253	39.4	809	7.5	2,097	19.4	1,908	17.7	1,047	9.7
1992	2,035	20.2	3,972	39.5	871	8.7	1,847	18.4	1,748	17.4	963	9.6
1991	1,757	19.8	3,590	40.5	916	10.3	1,646	18.6	1,585	17.9	733	8.3
1990	1,484	19.0	3,278	42.0	830	10.6	1,530	19.6	1,483	19.0	577	7.4

<sup>a</sup> A portion of the difference in the proportion of households with SSI from 1996 through 1999 is likely due to changes in the identification of SSI recipients.

Source: Food Stamp Program Quality Control samples.