

Table 558. Federal Food Programs: 1990 to 2008

[20.0 represents 20,000,000, except as noted. For years ending September 30. Program data include Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Marianas, and the former Trust Territory when a federal food program was operated in these areas. Participation data are average monthly figures except as noted. Participants are not reported for the commodity distribution programs. Cost data are direct federal benefits to recipients; they exclude federal administrative payments and applicable state and local contributions. Federal costs for commodities and cash in-lieu of commodities are shown separately from direct cash benefits for those programs receiving both]

Program	Unit	1990	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Food Stamp:									
Participants	Million	20.0	17.2	21.3	23.9	25.7	26.7	26.5	28.4
Federal cost	Mil. dol.	14,143	14,983	21,404	24,619	28,568	30,187	30,373	34,611
Monthly average coupon value per recipient	Dollars	58.78	72.62	83.90	85.99	92.57	94.32	95.63	101.53
Nutrition assistance program for Puerto Rico:									
Federal cost	Mil. dol.	937	1,268	1,395	1,413	1,495	1,518	1,551	1,623
National school lunch program (NSLP):									
Free lunches served	Million	1,662	2,205	2,335	2,397	2,478	2,494	2,506	2,609
Reduced-price lunches served	Million	273	409	453	465	478	488	502	521
Children participating ¹	Million	24.1	27.3	28.4	29.0	29.6	30.1	30.5	31.0
Federal cost	Mil. dol.	3,214	5,493	6,341	6,663	7,055	7,389	7,707	8,258
School breakfast (SB):									
Children participating ¹	Million	4.1	7.6	8.4	8.9	9.4	9.8	10.1	10.6
Federal cost	Mil. dol.	596	1,393	1,652	1,776	1,927	2,043	2,164	2,364
Special supplemental food program (WIC): ²									
Participants	Million	4.5	7.2	7.6	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.7
Federal cost	Mil. dol.	1,637	2,853	3,230	3,562	3,603	3,598	3,880	4,535
Child and adult care (CAC): ³									
Participants ⁴	Million	1.5	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2
Federal cost	Mil. dol.	719	1,500	1,726	1,812	1,904	1,944	2,024	2,167
Federal cost of commodities donated to—⁵									
Child nutrition (NSLP, CACFP, SFS, and SBP)	Mil. dol.	644	704	909	1,028	1,045	875	1,110	1,138
Emergency feeding ⁶	Mil. dol.	282	182	396	361	314	243	198	227

¹ Average monthly participation (excluding summer months of June through August). Includes children in public and private elementary and secondary schools and in residential child care institutes. ² WIC serves pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5. ³ CACFP provides year-round subsidies to feed preschool children in child care centers and family day care homes. Certain care centers serving disabled or elderly adults also receive meal subsidies. ⁴ Average quarterly daily attendance at participating institutions. ⁵ Includes the federal cost of commodity entitlements, cash-in-lieu of commodities, and bonus foods. ⁶ Provides free commodities to needy persons for home consumption through food banks, hunger centers, soup kitchens, and similar nonprofit agencies. Includes the Emergency Food Assistance Program, the commodity purchases for soup kitchens/food banks program (FY 1989-96), and commodity disaster relief.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, "Food and Nutrition Service, Program Data"; <<http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/>>; updated monthly.