

9.H Food Stamps

Table 9.H1—Number of participants, total annual benefits, and average benefit, fiscal years 1962–2004

Year	Average number of participants (thousands)	Total annual benefits (thousands of dollars)	Average monthly benefit ^a (dollars)
1962	143	13,153	7.66
1963	226	18,639	6.87
1964	367	28,643	6.50
1965	424	32,494	6.39
1966	864	64,781	6.25
1967	1,447	105,455	6.07
1968	2,211	172,982	6.52
1969	2,878	228,587	6.62
1970	4,340	550,806	10.58
1971	9,368	1,522,904	13.55
1972	11,103	1,794,875	13.47
1973	12,190	2,102,133	14.37
1974	12,896	2,725,988	17.62
1975	17,063	4,386,144	21.42
1976	18,557	5,310,133	23.85
1977	17,058	5,057,700	24.71
1978	16,044	5,165,209	26.83
1979	17,710	6,484,538	30.51
1980	21,077	8,685,521	34.34
1981	22,430	10,615,964	39.44
1982 ^b	21,716	10,205,799	39.18
1983	21,630	11,153,867	42.98
1984	20,858	10,696,100	42.74
1985	19,910	10,744,200	44.99
1986	19,428	10,604,950	45.49
1987	19,113	10,500,344	45.78
1988	18,644	11,149,051	50.00
1989	18,766	10,676,436	51.85
1990	20,038	14,184,028	59.01
1991	22,629	17,307,235	63.89
1992	25,403	20,899,531	68.57
1993 ^c	26,982	22,006,031	67.96
1994 ^c	27,468	22,748,559	69.01
1995 ^c	26,619	22,765,478	71.27
1996	25,533	22,440,298	73.23
1997	22,851	19,555,263	71.31
1998	19,787	16,879,929	71.09
1999	18,123	15,761,615	72.23
2000	17,155	14,985,093	72.79
2001	17,313	15,546,941	74.83
2002	19,094	18,257,136	79.68
2003	21,260	21,411,981	83.93
2004	23,858	24,629,729	86.03

SOURCE: Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

NOTE: Between 1974 and 1979, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients were made ineligible for food stamps in California, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and selected counties in New York and Virginia because those areas supplemented SSI payments in amounts that included the value of food stamps. As of 1983 and 1992, SSI recipients were returned to the Food Stamp program in Massachusetts and Wisconsin, respectively, when those states chose to stop including a value for food stamps in the SSI supplement.

- a. That portion of the food stamp allotment, before the elimination of the purchase requirement, represented the government's share of total food stamps received. Since January 1979, only the bonus portion of the total food stamp allotment is received by participants.
- b. Excludes participants and benefits under the Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Program after July 1, 1982.
- c. Revised data.

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