

9.H Food Stamps

Table 9.H1—Number of participants, total annual benefits, and average benefit, fiscal years 1962–2003

| 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 |

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.

CONTACT: Jenny Genser (703) 305-2152.