



CABINET FOR HEALTH
AND FAMILY SERVICES

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Overview

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Diet Influences Disease

- “Poor diet is the leading cause of U.S. mortality which is directly related to malnutrition and chronic diseases including type 2 diabetes (T2D), cardiovascular disease (CVD), obesity, and some cancers”

Matthews ED and Kurnat-Thoma EL (2024)
[U.S. food policy to address diet-related chronic disease.](#)

Food and Child Welfare

- Among the strongest predictors of investigated neglect reports
 - **Food Pantry Use**
 - **Cutting Meals**
 - Short Duration of Residence
 - Difficulty Paying Rent
 - Utility Shutoffs
 - Inability to Receive

Slack, 2011

[Risk and protective factors for child neglect during early childhood: A cross-study comparison - ScienceDirect](#)

Food and Child Welfare

States with more generous SNAP policies experienced:

- Large reductions in Child Protection Services (CPS) reports
 - (reduction of 352 reports per 100,000 children*)
- Fewer substantiated reports, particularly for neglect
- Fewer foster care placements
 - (from 2004 to 2016, compared to states with less generous SNAP policies)

Johnson-Motoyama, 2022

[Child Maltreatment and the Ecosystem of Socioeconomic Inequities and Inequalities](#)

Food and Prevention

- Every 5% increase in the number of families receiving SNAP benefits was associated with an 8% to 14% reduction in CPS & foster care caseloads (Chapin Hall)

Johnson-Motoyama et al., 2022

[Association Between State Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Policies, Child Protective Services Involvement, and Foster Care in the US, 2004-2016](#)

SNAP Components

- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program):
 - Provides financial assistance to eligible low-income individuals and families to help them purchase nutritious food.
- SNAP Education
- SNAP Outreach
- SNAP Employment and Training

SNAP Education (SNAP Ed)

- **SNAP-Ed (SNAP Education):**

Delivers nutrition education and resources to SNAP participants, helping them make healthy food choices, stretch their food dollars, and lead active lifestyles.

SNAP Education (SNAP Ed)

- **Nutrition Education:** Teaching participants about healthy eating habits, meal planning, and food safety.
- **Social Marketing:** Using campaigns and media to promote healthy behaviors and increase awareness of nutrition and physical activity.
- **Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) Changes:** Supporting changes in communities, schools, and organizations to make healthy choices easier and more accessible for everyone.

SNAP Outreach

- **SNAP Outreach:** Engages and informs eligible individuals and families about the SNAP program, helping them understand benefits, complete applications, and connect with resources to reduce food insecurity.

SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T):

- **SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T):** Provides job training, education, and support services to SNAP participants, helping them gain skills, find employment, and work toward self-sufficiency.
- USDA reimburses up to 50% of the cost of job training.
- Potential Subsidized Work Based Learning (SWBL)

SNAP by the Numbers

June 2025

- ~280,771 Active SNAP Households
- ~562,105 Individuals
- ~\$96,187,049 SNAP Issuances – Currently 100% Federally Funded
- Average SNAP per Household ~\$343 per Month

SNAP by Age

Age	Individuals	Percentage
Under 18	220,2779	39.28%
18-26	45,959	8.18%
27-34	54,396	9.68%
35-49	92,245	16.41%
50-59	57,419	10.21%
60+	91,307	16.24%

SNAP Retailers in Kentucky

Store Type	Count
Convenience Store	2147
Farmers and Markets	134
Grocery Store	306
Other	1416
Specialty Store	64
Super Store	292
Supermarket	257
Total	4616

Opportunity

- Improve Health of Kentuckians through improved nutrition
- Leverage data to identify and address needs
- Medicaid members with diet sensitive chronic disease
 - Food Resources RX meals, SNAP, WIC
 - MCOs Value Added Benefits
- Incentivize healthy local produce
 - Louisiana pilot with SNAP
 - “Double Dollars”

Fighting Fraud Waste and Abuse

- SNAP National Accuracy Clearinghouse (NAC)
- Established by the 2018 Farm Bill
- The NAC helps states stop duplicate benefits
- Kentucky is one of 9 states to implement the NAC
- Kentucky went live January 2025
- States have until 2027 to implement the NAC

Questions?

Thank you!