

2026 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

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PREFACE

This publication summarizes the fiscal year (FY) 2026 Budget for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Throughout this publication any reference to the "Budget" is regarding the 2026 Budget, unless otherwise noted. All references to years refer to fiscal year, except where specifically noted. The budgetary tables throughout this document show actual amounts for 2023 and 2024, Full-Year Continuing Resolution levels for 2025, and the President's Budget request for 2026. Amounts for 2025 estimated levels include: non-enacted amounts such as Full-Time Equivalent levels, information technology investment levels, recovery levels, transfers in and out, balances available end of year, and obligation levels.

Throughout this publication, the "2018 Farm Bill" is used to refer to the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. Most programs funded by the 2018 Farm Bill are funded through 2025, as extended by the American Relief Act, 2025 (P.L. 118-158, Division D). Amounts shown in 2025 and 2026 for most Farm Bill programs reflect those confirmed in the baseline.

Pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, sequestration is included in the numbers for mandatory programs in 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026.

In tables throughout this document, amounts equal to zero (0) are displayed as dashes (-). Amounts less than 0.5 and greater than zero are rounded and shown as a zero (0). This display treatment is used to prevent the masking of non-zero amounts that do not round up to one (1).

The Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS) 2026 budget requests a total of \$161.9 billion in mandatory and discretionary funding to support the Agency's mission in administering the 16 domestic nutrition assistance programs in 2026. Maintaining the longstanding commitment to fully fund WIC, the budget includes \$7.69 to support an estimated 6.8 million women, infants and children seeking benefits in 2026. To ensure that all eligible participants can be served, it returns WIC Cash Value Benefit (CVB) levels for the purchase of fruits and vegetables to levels established prior to the 2014 food package rule, adjusted for inflation, i.e., \$13 per month for pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, and \$10 per month for children in calendar year 2026. The budget focuses limited discretionary funding on key initiatives, eliminates funding for duplicative services, and support efficiencies found in 2025.

AGENCY-WIDE**PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) was established August 8, 1969, by Secretary's Memorandum No. 1659 and Supplement 1 pursuant to the authority contained in 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953. FNS is the Federal agency responsible for managing the 16 domestic nutrition assistance programs. Its mission is to increase food security and reduce hunger in partnership with cooperating organizations by providing children and other low-income Americans access to food, a healthful diet, and nutrition education.

Over the past 80 years – beginning with the National School Lunch Program in 1946 – the Nation developed nutrition assistance programs to help the most vulnerable populations meet their food needs. These essential programs promote food and nutrition security among children and income-eligible individuals and families to promote optimal health and well-being, while building a more resilient food system. Currently, the programs administered by FNS touch the lives of one in four Americans annually.

FNS leads food, nutrition, and economic analyses that inform Federal and State programs; translates science into actionable food and nutrition guidance for all Americans; and leads national communication initiatives that help educate consumers and inform their dietary choices.

The nutrition assistance programs described below work both individually and in concert with one another to improve the nutrition and health of the Nation's children and other low-income Americans.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net, touching the lives of millions of Americans each month. The majority of SNAP participants are children, the elderly, or people with disabilities. Program benefits can be redeemed only at authorized food retailers. The program promotes long-term self-sufficiency and responsible use of taxpayer resources by providing participants with the tools to find and retain employment while supporting families during times of need. State agencies are responsible for administering the program according to national eligibility and benefit standards set by Federal law and regulations. FNS is responsible for authorizing and monitoring participating retailers. Benefits are 100 percent federally financed, while administrative costs are shared between the Federal and State Governments.

SNAP provides the basic nutrition assistance benefits for low-income people in the United States of America. Other FNS programs supplement this program with benefits targeted to special populations, dietary needs, and delivery settings. (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands receive grant funds to provide food and nutrition assistance in lieu of SNAP).

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

FDPIR is authorized by section 4(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, to provide USDA Foods to income-eligible households living on Indian reservations, and to American Indian households residing in approved areas near reservations or in Oklahoma. Many households participate in FDPIR as an alternative to SNAP because they do not have easy access to SNAP offices or authorized food stores. Dual participation in SNAP and FDPIR is not permitted. State agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) operating the program are responsible for eligibility certification, nutrition education, local warehousing and transportation of food, distribution of food to recipient households, and program integrity. USDA purchases and ships the nutritious, domestic food, known as USDA Foods, distributed through the program. USDA also provides ITOs and State agencies administering the program with funds for program administrative expenses.

Child Nutrition Programs (CNP)

The Child Nutrition Programs include the National School Lunch (NSLP), School Breakfast (SBP), Special Milk (SMP), Child and Adult Care Food (CACFP), Summer Food Service (SFSP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP), and the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (Summer EBT) Programs.

The NSLP, SBP, SMP, CACFP, and SFSP are authorized by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended. These programs provide reimbursement to State and local governments for nutritious meals and snacks served to children in schools, childcare institutions, summer sites, and after school care programs. CACFP also supports meal service in adult day care centers and emergency shelters. For each of these programs, FNS provides funds and USDA-purchased foods on a per-meal basis to offset the cost of food service at the local level and a significant portion of State and local administrative expenses, and provides training, technical assistance, and nutrition education. Payments are higher for meals served free or at a reduced price to children from low-income families.

The FFVP, also authorized by the National School Lunch Act, provides access to fresh fruits and vegetables for students in low-income elementary schools in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. States select schools to participate based on criteria in the law, and participating students receive between \$50 and \$75 worth of fresh produce over the course of the school year.

Summer EBT provides summer grocery benefits to school children in low-income families for purchasing food and beverages at authorized retailers across the country. Summer grocery benefits are a proven strategy for helping dramatically reduce child hunger when schools are out of session for summer.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, WIC addresses the supplemental nutritional needs of at-risk, low-income pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to five years of age. WIC is one of the most powerful, evidence-based public health programs available, with a long history of improving health and developmental outcomes for children. WIC provides participants with monthly supplemental food packages tailored to their dietary needs, breastfeeding support to nursing mothers, nutrition education, and referrals to a range of health and social services – benefits that promote a healthy pregnancy for mothers and a healthy start for their children. Appropriated funds are provided to State agencies for food package costs, nutrition services, and program administration; State agencies operate the program pursuant to plans approved by FNS.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

Authorized by The Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 and The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, TEFAP helps supplement the diets of people with low-income by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. FNS administers TEFAP at the federal level; and all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam administer the program at the state level.

Through TEFAP, FNS purchases a variety of nutritious, high-quality USDA Foods, and makes those foods available to state distributing agencies. State agencies provide the food to local agencies, usually food banks, which distribute the food to local organizations that directly serve the public, such as soup kitchens and food pantries. State agencies also receive administrative funds through TEFAP to support the storage and distribution of USDA Foods. The amount of food and administrative funding each state agency receives is based on the number of unemployed people and the number of people living below the poverty level in the state/territory.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

Authorized under sections 4(a) and 5 of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973, CSFP is designed to improve the health of people with low-income who are at least 60 years of age, by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. Through CSFP, FNS distributes both food and administrative funds to participating state agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs), which work to provide CSFP food packages to eligible participants. CSFP operates in parts of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and by seven ITOs.

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)

Authorized by section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, the SFMNP is designed to: provide low-income seniors with access to locally grown fruits, vegetables, honey, and herbs; increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities through farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs; and aid in the development of new and additional farmers markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs.

WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

As authorized by section 17(m) of Child Nutrition Act of 1966, the WIC FMNP provides eligible WIC participants – pregnant and postpartum women, infants older than 4 months, and children up to the age of five – with FMNP coupons to purchase fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs directly from farmers, farmers' markets, and roadside stands that have been approved by the state agency to accept FMNP coupons.

Pacific Island and Disaster Assistance

Authorized under the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-188), Pacific Island Assistance provides the nuclear-affected islands of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) assistance in the form of cash-in-lieu of food and administrative funds through the Special Food

Assistance Program. Disaster relief in the form of USDA Foods can also be provided to the RMI and Federated States of Micronesia for use in Presidential Disaster Declaration.

Federal nutrition assistance programs operate as partnerships between FNS and the State and local organizations that interact directly with program participants. States voluntarily enter into agreements with the Federal Government to operate programs according to Federal standards in exchange for program funds that cover all benefit costs, and a significant portion, if not all, of administrative expenses.

Under these agreements, FNS is responsible for implementing statutory requirements that set national program standards for eligibility and benefits, providing Federal funding to State and local partners, and for conducting monitoring and evaluation activities to make sure that program structures and policies are properly implemented and effective in meeting program missions. State and local organizations are responsible for delivering benefits efficiently, effectively, and in a manner consistent with federal regulations.

FNS Staff

FNS employees are a vital resource for advancing the mission of the Federal nutrition assistance programs. The agency staff serves to ensure and leverage the effective use of program appropriations.

The agency employment level represents approximately two percent of the total employment within USDA and is similarly small in proportion to the total State-level staff needed to operate the programs. The agency employs people from a variety of disciplines, including policy and management analysts, nutritionists, computer experts, communication experts, accountants, investigators, and program evaluators. Because of the small size of the agency's staff relative to the resources it manages, FNS has created clear and specific performance measures and must focus its management efforts on a limited number of high-priority areas.

In 2024, program operations are managed through FNS's national office, seven regional offices, one sub-regional office, and 4 field offices/satellite locations. A Regional Administrator directs each regional office. These offices maintain direct contact with State agencies that administer the FNS programs and conduct on-site management reviews of State operations. In addition, the Retailer Operations Division monitors the 266,827 and other outlets authorized to redeem SNAP benefits as of September 30, 2024.

As of September 2024, there were approximately 1,737 full-time permanent employees in the agency. This included 351 employees in the Washington headquarters office and 1,386 in the field.

OIG AND GAO REPORTS

Table FNS-1. Closed, Implemented OIG Reports*

Area	Number	Issuance Date	Title	Status
SNAP	27601-0019-10	9-2018	Consolidated Report on 7 CFR Part 274 – Issuance and Use of Program Benefits	Closed as of 7-2024
CN	27601-0005-41	9-2020	Consolidated Report of FNS and Selected State Agencies' Controls Over Summer Food Service Program	Closed as of 9-2024
SNAP	27601-0006-41	1-2023	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Waiver Process	Closed as of 3-2024
SNAP, CN	27801-0001-23	2-2024	COVID-19: Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)	Closed as of 2-2024
SNAP	27801-0002-23	4-2025	FNS Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Disbursement of SNAP Benefits Using the EBT System	Closed as of 4-2025

*Includes only those audits where FNS is the lead agency.

Table FNS-2. Closed, Implemented GAO Reports

Area	Number	Issuance Date	Title	Status
CN	GAO-18-369	5-2018	Summer Meals: Actions Needed to Improve Participation Estimates and Address Program Challenges	Closed as of 8-2024
CN	GAO-20-18	11-2019	Nutrition Assistance Programs: Agencies Could Do More to Help Address the Nutritional Needs of Older Adults	Closed as of 8-2024
CN, SNAP, SNAS	GAO-22-105291	1-2022	COVID-19: Significant Improvements are Needed for Overseeing Relief Funds and Leading Responses to Public Health Emergencies	Closed as of 8-2024
CNPP	GAO-23-105450	12-2022	Thrifty Food Plan: Better Planning and Accountability Could Help Ensure Quality of Future Reevaluations	Closed as of 4-2025
CN	GAO-23-105884	4-2023	School Meal Programs: USDA Could Enhance Implementation of the Buy American Provision	Closed as of 8-2024
CN, SNAS	GAO-23-105697	7-2023	School Meals: USDA Should Address Challenges in Its "Foods in Schools" Program	Closed as of 2-2025
FM, SNAP	GAO-24-107482	6-2024	Improper Payments: USDA's Oversight of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Closed as of 6-2024
AO, SNAS	GAO-24-106632	6-2024	Federal Customer Experience: OMB Has Taken Actions to Implement Cross-Agency Priority Goals	Closed as of 6-2024
SNAS	GAO-25-106503	1-2025	WIC Infant Formula: Single-Supplier Competitive Contracts Reduce Program Costs and Modestly Increase Retail Prices	Closed as of 1-2025

*Includes only those audits where FNS is the lead agency.

AVAILABLE FUNDS AND FTEs**Table FNS-3. Available Funds and FTEs (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program:								
Discretionary Appropriations.....	\$7,998	-	\$6,998	-	\$6,998	-	\$3,000	-
Mandatory Appropriations.....	153,361,725	494	122,375,523	552	113,035,094	552	118,132,343	394
Other Supplemental Appropriations	3,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pandemic EBT.....	31,500,000	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total SNAP	187,869,723	499	122,382,521	552	113,042,092	552	118,135,343	394
Child Nutrition Programs:								
Discretionary Appropriations.....	109,162	33	34,004	29	34,004	29	18,004	21
Mandatory Appropriations.....	3,236,503	279	4,950,493	283	10,013,782	283	36,251,398	203
Section 32 Transfer	25,199,767	-	28,281,369	-	22,392,516	-	-	-
Permanent Appropriations	210,250	32	214,250	30	224,250	30	231,250	22
Supplemental Appropriations	3,417,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total CN.....	32,172,682	344	33,480,116	342	32,664,552	342	36,500,652	246
WIC:								
Discretionary Appropriations.....	6,000,000	85	7,030,000	88	7,597,000	88	7,697,000	94
Mandatory Appropriations.....	1,000	-	1,000	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Rescission	-315,000	-	-	-	-	-	-391,000	-
Total WIC	5,686,000	85	7,031,000	88	7,598,000	88	7,307,000	94
Commodity Assistance Program								
Discretionary Appropriations.....	457,710	3	480,070	4	516,070	4	91,070	2
Mandatory Appropriations.....	24,600	-	24,600	-	20,600	-	20,600	-
Supplemental Appropriations	-	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	-
Total CAP.....	482,310	3	504,670	4	561,670	4	111,670	2
Nutrition Programs Administration.....								
Discretionary Appropriations.....	187,348	807	175,348	751	175,348	751	164,684	507
Congressional Hunger Center.....	2,000	-	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	-
Total NPA	189,348	807	177,348	751	177,348	751	164,684	507
Total Discretionary Appropriations.....	6,447,218	928	7,726,420	872	8,329,420	872	7,582,758	624
Total Mandatory Appropriations	181,823,595	773	155,632,985	835	145,462,992	835	154,405,341	597
Total Supplemental Appropriations.....	37,919,000	5	2,000	-	27,000	-	-	-
Total Permanent Appropriations.....	210,250	32	214,250	30	224,250	30	231,250	22
Total Offsetting Collections.....	118,225	-	125,000	-	130,000	-	130,000	-
Total Adjusted Appropriation	226,518,288	1,738	163,700,655	1,737	154,173,662	1,737	162,349,349	1,243
Balance Available, SOY	10,545,108	-	10,394,681	-	10,303,955	-	9,611,946	-
Balances Interchanges.....	2,193	-	2,261	-	2,199	-	2,199	-
Rescinded Balances	423,000	-	-	-	-	-	421,000	-
Sequestration	-94,699	-	-20,840	-	-22,374	-	-22,772	-
Recoveries, Other.....	3,332,049	-	3,022,587	-	2,260,000	-	2,300,000	-
Total Available	240,725,939	1,738	177,099,344	1,737	166,717,442	1,737	174,661,722	1,243
Lapsing Balances.....	36,448,684	-	18,145,260	-	3,000,158	-	3,058,832	-
Balance Available, EOY	10,394,681	-	10,303,955	-	9,611,946	-	11,843,664	-
Total Obligations, FNS	193,882,574	1,738	148,650,129	1,737	154,105,338	1,737	159,759,226	1,243
Other USDA:								
Office of Hearing and Appeals	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	12	-	43	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Agriculture Service	-	-	120	-	-	-	-	-
National Institute of Food and Agriculture.....	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	-
Food Safety and Inspection Service	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agricultural Marketing Service.....	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farm Production and Conservation	-	-	225	-	-	-	-	-
Rural Development.....	-	-	46	-	-	-	-	-
Forest Service.....	-	-	121	-	-	-	-	-
Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service ..	-	-	120	-	-	-	-	-
Office of Civil Rights.....	225	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Homeland Security	750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Miscellaneous.....	150	-	844	-	-	-	-	-
Total, Other USDA	1,240	-	1,556	-	-	-	-	-
Total, Agriculture Available.....	240,727,179	1,738	177,100,900	1,737	166,717,442	1,737	174,661,722	1,243
Other Federal Funds:								
Dept. of Health and Human Svcs.....	750	-	185	-	-	-	-	-
Dept. of Defense/Navv.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total, Other Federal	750	-	186	-	-	-	-	-
Total Available, Food and Nutrition Svc.	240,727,929	1,738	177,101,086	1,737	166,717,442	1,737	174,661,722	1,243

PERMANENT POSITIONS BY GRADE AND FTEs**Table FNS-4. Permanent Positions by Grade and FTEs**

Item	2023 Actual			2024 Actual			2025 Estimated			2026 Estimated		
	D.C.	Field	Total	D.C.	Field	Total	D.C.	Field	Total	D.C.	Field	Total
SES.....	11	8	19	4	11	15	4	11	15	3	6	11
GS-15.....	71	44	115	50	65	115	50	65	115	35	47	82
GS-14.....	147	163	310	93	208	301	93	208	301	67	149	216
GS-13.....	274	410	684	175	566	742	175	566	742	125	405	529
GS-12.....	57	414	471	17	455	471	17	455	471	12	326	337
GS-11.....	22	69	92	7	52	59	7	52	59	5	38	43
GS-9.....	6	9	14	2	11	13	2	11	13	1	8	9
GS-8.....	4	-	4	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2
GS-7.....	3	6	9	-	8	8	-	8	8	-	6	6
GS-6.....	3	2	5	1	3	4	1	3	4	1	2	3
GS-5.....	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GS-4.....	1	-	1	2	6	8	2	6	8	1	4	5
GS-3.....	4	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Permanent	603	1,129	1,732	351	1,386	1,737	351	1,386	1,737	251	992	1,243
Unfilled, EOY.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Perm. FT EOY .	603	1,129	1,732	351	1,386	1,737	351	1,386	1,737	251	992	1,243
FTE*.....	713	1,025	1,738	351	1,386	1,737	351	1,386	1,737	251	992	1,243

VEHICLE FLEET**Motor Vehicle Fleet**

The FNS General Services Administration (GSA) vehicles consist largely of sedans and minivans. Fleet vehicles are used by the National Office and Regional Offices. Vehicles assigned to the Regional Offices are shared vehicles and used for travel within their area of responsibility. The four (4) fleet vehicles at the National Office in Alexandria, Virginia are used for shuttle service to transport employees to/from the Department and to transport the FNCS Deputy Under Secretary and FNS Administrator.

Replacement Criteria

Leased vehicles are replaced according to the respective GSA guidelines for years and/or miles driven. Vehicles are not automatically replaced without evaluating use/benefits and cost effectiveness in support of the mission. Utilization rates are also reviewed prior to requesting replacements.

Reductions to Fleet

In 2024 there were no reductions to the fleet. FNS currently has 21 GSA leased vehicles.

Table FNS-5. Size, Composition, and Annual Costs of Motor Vehicle Fleet

Item	Sedans and Station Wagons	Vans	SUVs	Light Trucks 4X2	Light Trucks 4X4	Medium Duty Vehicles	Buses	Heavy Duty Vehicles	Total Vehicles	Annual Operating Costs
2018 End of Year Operating Inventory.....										
2023 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	11	6	1	-	-	3	-	-	21	\$124,884
2024 Actual Acquisitions.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
2024 Actual Disposals.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
2024 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	11	6	1	-	-	3	-	-	21	\$137,022
2025 Planned Acquisitions.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2025 Planned Disposals.....	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	5	
2025 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	9	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	16	\$102,695
2026 Planned Acquisitions.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2026 Planned Disposals.....	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
2026 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	6	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	\$74,078

Note: Number of vehicles by type include vehicles owned by the agency and leased from commercial sources or GSA.
Annual Operating Costs excludes acquisition costs and gains from sale of vehicles as shown in FAST.

Table FNS-6. Statement of Proposed Acquisition of Passenger Motor Vehicles

Fiscal Year	Net Active Fleet, SOY	Disposals	Replacements	Additions	Total Acquisitions	Net Active Fleet, EOY
2023	11	3	3	-	-	11
2024	11	2	-	-	2	11
2025	11	2	-	-	-	9
2026	9	3	-	-	-	6

SHARED FUNDING PROJECTS**Table FNS-7. Shared Funding Projects (thousands of dollars)**

Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Working Capital Fund:				
Administrative Services:				
Material Management Service	\$99	\$96	\$94	\$96
Mail and Reproduction Services	142	155	150	152
Ask USDA Contact Center	1,223	1,248	1,175	1,175
Integrated Procurement Systems	220	214	215	216
Procurement Operations Services	422	406	714	1,040
General Counsel Legal Compliance	-	-	68	843
Human Resources Enterprise Management Systems	20	249	260	263
Subtotal	2,126	2,368	2,676	3,785
Communications:				
Creative Media & Broadcast Center	4,950	3,297	1,075	1,806
Finance and Management:				
National Finance Center	405	497	508	510
Financial Shared Services	1,695	1,911	1,780	1,787
Internal Control Support Services	174	130	148	148
Personal and Document Security	72	83	90	90
Subtotal	7,296	5,918	3,601	4,341
Information Technology:				
Client Experience Center	8,635	9,611	9,522	10,352
Department Administration Information Technology Office	1,740	3,057	2,640	2,651
Digital Infrastructure Services Center	15,103	12,829	12,284	12,283
Enterprise Network Services	836	3,124	2,207	2,368
Enterprise Cybersecurity Services	532	1,255	1,470	1,470
Enterprise Data and Analytics Services	2,953	3,404	897	919
Subtotal	29,799	33,280	29,020	30,043
Correspondence Management Services:				
Office of the Executive Secretariat	422	441	494	539
Total, Working Capital Fund	39,643	42,007	35,791	38,708
Department-Wide Shared Cost Programs:				
Agency Partnership Outreach	108	132	143	143
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility	29	47	11	-
National Capital Region Interpreting Services	56	90	95	95
Office of Customer Experience	47	54	58	58
Physical Security	66	85	110	110
Security Detail	74	96	152	152
Security Operations Program	102	134	141	141
Talent Group	53	60	63	63
TARGET Center	24	29	30	30
Employee Experience	50	67	54	54
Total, Department-Wide Reimbursable Programs	609	794	857	846
E-Gov:				
Budget Formulation and Execution Line of Business	8	13	13	13
Disaster Assistance Improvement Plan	13	13	13	13
E-Rulemaking	193	172	230	208
Financial Management Line of Business	1	2	2	2
Geospatial Line of Business	13	13	13	13
Benefits.gov	95	65	-	-
Grants.gov	26	25	30	37
Human Resources Line of Business	4	5	5	5
Integrated Acquisition Environment	54	51	50	51
Total, E-Gov	407	359	356	342
Agency Total	40,659	43,160	37,004	39,896

NOTE: In alignment with the current Administration's priorities, the 2025 amounts reflect expenses incurred prior to January 20, 2025.

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ACCOUNT 1: CHILD NUTRITION**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored):

Child Nutrition Programs (Including Transfers of Funds)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; \$36,269,402,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, of which such sums as are made available under section 14222(b)(1) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246), as amended by this Act, shall be merged with and available for the same time period and purposes as provided herein: *Provided, That* of the total amount available, \$18,004,000 shall be available to carry out section 19 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.): *Provided further, That* of the total amount available, \$21,918,000 shall be available to carry out studies and evaluations and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further, That* notwithstanding section 18(g)(3)(C) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(g)(3)(c)), the total grant amount provided to a farm to school grant recipient in fiscal year 2026 shall not exceed \$500,000: *Provided further, That* section 26(d) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769g(d)) is amended in the first sentence by striking "2010 through 2026" and inserting "2010 through 2027": *Provided further, That* section 9(h)(3) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(h)(3)) is amended in the first sentence by striking "For fiscal year 2025" and inserting "For fiscal year 2026": *Provided further, That* section 9(h)(4) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(h)(4)) is amended in the first sentence by striking "For fiscal year 2025" and inserting "For fiscal year 2026".

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT***Table FNS-8. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)***

Item	Amount
Current Law Estimate, 2026	<u>\$36,269,402,000</u>

PROJECT STATEMENTS**Table FNS-9. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations, CN Funding (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated*	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec	Chg Key
Discretionary Approp:											
Team Nutrition.....	\$20,162	33	\$18,004	29	\$18,004	29	\$18,004	21	-	-8	
Summer Demonstration.....	40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
School Meal Equipment Grants	30,000	-	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-	-\$10,000	-	(1)
School Breakfast Expansion Grants ..	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Institute of Child Nutrition.....	2,000	-	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-	-1,000	-	(2)
Farm to School Grants.....	14,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-	-5,000	-	(3)
Subtotal	109,162	33	34,004	29	34,004	29	18,004	21	-16,000	-8	
Mandatory Approp:											
National School Lunch Program.....	15,404,530	-	16,625,141	-	14,611,000	-	17,183,209	-	+2,572,209	-	(4)
School Breakfast Program	5,453,240	-	6,140,966	-	6,208,034	-	6,675,168	-	+467,134	-	(5)
Child and Adult Care Food Prog.....	4,659,778	-	4,244,181	-	4,289,454	-	4,484,213	-	+194,759	-	(6)
Summer Food Service Program.....	655,333	16	859,291	16	818,786	16	888,956	11	+70,170	-5	(7)
Special Milk Program**.....	7,817	-	6,651	-	4,707	-	4,655	-	-52	-	(8)
Summer EBT (Benefits)	-	-	2,522,000	-	3,611,587	-	4,046,066	-	+434,479	-	(9)
Summer EBT (50% Admin)	-	-	252,000	-	260,400	-	283,225	-	+22,825	-	(10)
State Administrative Expenses.....	339,000	-	491,591	-	497,490	-	509,927	-	+12,437	-	(11)
Commodity Procurement.....	1,788,389	28	1,948,518	28	1,960,069	33	2,028,385	23	+68,316	-10	(12)
Food Safety Education**.....	4,196	8	4,196	8	4,288	8	4,378	6	+90	-2	(13)
Coordinated Review**.....	10,000	60	10,000	48	10,000	48	10,000	34	-	-14	
Computer Support**.....	28,238	-	33,738	-	34,480	-	35,204	-	+724	-	(14)
Training and Technical Assist**.....	45,996	68	50,996	88	52,118	88	53,212	62	+1,094	-26	(15)
CN Studies**.....	21,005	15	21,005	16	21,467	16	21,918	11	+451	-5	(16)
CN Payment Accuracy**.....	12,315	55	15,515	51	15,856	51	16,189	36	+333	-15	(17)
Farm to School Team**.....	6,433	29	6,433	28	6,562	28	6,693	20	+131	-8	(18)
Sequestration	-4,484	-	-4,481	-	-5,853	-	-5,853	-	-	-	
Subtotal	28,431,786	279	33,227,381	283	32,400,445	288	36,245,545	203	+3,845,100	-85	
Supplemental Approp:											
CN Support for Local Food**.....	1,300,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Keep Kids Fed Act	2,117,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sequestration	-74,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal, Supplemental	3,342,900	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Adjusted Appropriation.....	31,883,848	312	33,261,385	312	32,434,449	317	36,263,549	224	+3,829,100	-93	
Add back:											
Sequestration.....	78,584	-	4,841	-	5,853	-	5,853	-	-	-	
Total Appropriation	31,962,432	312	33,266,226	312	32,440,302	317	36,269,402	224	+3,829,100	-93	
Sequestration	-78,584	-	-4,841	-	-5,853	-	-5,853	-	-	-	
Recoveries, Other	1,582,318	-	1,940,344	-	1,400,000	-	1,200,000	-	-200,000	-	
Rescinded Balances.....	-80,000	-	-	-	-	-	-30,000	-	-30,000	-	
Bal. Available, SOY	2,662,664	-	3,645,287	-	3,587,541	-	2,141,834	-	-1,445,707	-	
Total Available.....	36,048,830	312	38,847,016	312	37,421,990	317	39,575,383	224	+2,153,393	-93	
Lapsing Balances	-738,000	-	-536,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Bal. Available, EOY.....	-3,645,287	-	-3,587,541	-	-2,141,834	-	-2,392,893	-	-251,059	-	
Total Obligations	31,665,543	312	34,722,975	312	35,280,156	317	37,182,490	224	+1,902,334	-93	

* Section 1109 of Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4) provides the Child Nutrition Program the mandatory amounts necessary to maintain program levels under current law. The 2025 column reflects estimated levels.

**Budget lines are subject to sequestration.

Table FNS-10. Appropriations Project Statement Permanent Funding (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec
Mandatory Approp: ^a										
Information Clearinghouse	\$250	-	\$250	-	\$250	-	\$250	-	-	-
Institute of Child Nutrition.....	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Fresh Fruit and Veg. Prog.....	191,000	2	195,000	2	205,000	5	212,000	4	+\$7,000	-1
Tech. Assist. Prog. Integrity	4,000	27	4,000	25	4,000	20	4,000	14	-	-6
Administrative Review	4,000	2	4,000	2	4,000	4	4,000	3	-	-1
Prof. Standards - Foodservice..	1,000	1	1,000	1	1,000	1	1,000	1	-	-
Farm to School Grants.....	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Subtotal, Mandatory.....	210,250	32	214,250	30	224,250	30	231,250	22	+7,000	-8
Total Adj Approp	210,250	32	214,250	30	224,250	30	231,250	22	+7,000	-8
Add back:										
Transfers In/Out, Rescissions.....	-191,000	-	-195,000	-	-205,000	-	-212,000	-	-7,000	-
Total Appropriation	19,250	32	19,250	30	19,250	30	19,250	22	-	-8
Transfers In:										
AMS Transfer	191,000	-	195,000	-	205,000	-	212,000	-	+7,000	-
Total Transfers In.....	191,000	-	195,000	-	205,000	-	212,000	-	+7,000	-
Recoveries, Other.....	55,682	-	65,656	-	60,000	-	60,000	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	321,336	-	335,713	-	334,673	-	321,197	-	-13,476	-
Total Available	587,268	32	615,619	30	618,923	30	612,447	22	-6,476	-8
Bal. Available, EOY	-335,713	-	-334,673	-	-321,197	-	-296,857	-	+24,340	-
Total Obligations	251,555	32	280,946	30	297,726	30	315,590	22	+17,864	-8

^a The program lines in this table are not subject to appropriation.

Table FNS-11. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations, CN Funding (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/Dec
Discretionary Obligations:										
Team Nutrition/HUSSC	\$21,122	33	\$20,389	29	\$18,004	29	\$18,004	21	-	-8
Summer Demonstration	16,955	-	5,814	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
School Meals Equip Grants	32,142	-	9,979	-	10,000	-	-	-	-\$10,000	-
School Breakfast Expansion Grants ..	5,447	-	2,234	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Institute of Child Nutrition	2,000	-	1,333	-	1,000	-	-	-	-1,000	-
Farm to School Grants	8,103	-	8,629	-	5,000	-	-	-	-5,000	-
Subtotal Disc Obligations	85,769	33	48,378	29	34,004	29	18,004	21	-16,000	-8
Mandatory Obligations:										
Natl. School Lunch Program	16,475,420	-	18,150,000	-	17,450,854	-	18,096,297	-	+645,443	-
School Breakfast Program	4,989,640	-	5,914,000	-	6,208,034	-	6,675,168	-	+467,134	-
Child and Adult Care Food Prog	3,713,638	-	4,061,000	-	4,289,454	-	4,484,213	-	+194,759	-
Summer Food Service Prog	511,681	16	612,000	16	818,786	16	888,956	11	+70,170	-5
Special Milk Program	5,046	-	5,032	-	4,707	-	4,655	-	-52	-
Summer EBT (Benefits)	-	-	3,097,761	-	3,611,587	-	4,046,066	-	+434,479	-
Summer EBT (50% Admin)	-	-	162,710	-	260,400	-	283,225	-	+22,825	-
State Administrative Expenses	346,916	-	483,613	-	497,490	-	509,927	-	+12,437	-
Commodity Procurement	1,932,225	28	2,012,896	28	1,960,069	33	2,028,385	23	+68,316	-10
Food Safety Education	4,371	8	2,894	8	4,288	8	4,378	6	+90	-2
Coordinated Review	10,242	60	8,676	48	10,000	48	10,000	34	-	-14
Computer Support	28,411	-	28,522	-	34,480	-	35,204	-	+724	-
Training and Tech Assist	44,796	68	76,421	88	52,118	88	53,212	62	+1,094	-26
CN Studies	15,843	15	40,498	16	21,467	16	21,918	11	+451	-5
CN Payment Accuracy	10,818	55	12,106	51	15,856	51	16,189	36	+333	15
Farm to School Team	6,163	29	6,468	28	6,562	28	6,693	20	+131	-8
Subtotal Mand Obligations	28,095,210	279	34,674,597	283	35,246,152	288	37,164,486	203	+1,918,334	-85
Supplemental Obligations:										
CN Support for Local Food										
Procurement	1,696,866	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Keep Kids Fed Act	1,787,698	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal Supp Obligations	3,484,564	312								
Subtotal Obligations	31,665,543	312	34,722,975	312	35,280,156	317	37,182,490	224	+1,902,334	-93
Add back:										
Lapsing Balances:	738,000	-	536,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balances Available, EOY:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CN Meal Reimbursements	3,406,612	-	3,211,245	-	1,917,190	-	2,046,151	-	+128,961	-
Summer EBT (50% Admin)	-	-	89,213	-	53,259	-	82,206	-	+28,947	-
State Administrative Expenses	1,721	-	17,361	-	10,364	-	15,997	-	+5,633	-
Commodity Procurement	159,768	-	135,449	-	80,861	-	124,811	-	+43,950	-
Mandatory Other Program Costs	77,186	-	134,273	-	80,160	-	123,728	-	+43,568	-
Total Bal. Available, EOY	3,645,287	-	3,587,541	-	2,141,834	-	2,392,893	-	+251,059	-
Total Obligations	36,048,830	312	38,847,016	312	37,421,990	317	39,575,383	224	+2,153,393	-93
Less:										
Sequestration	78,584	-	4,841	-	5,853	-	5,853	-	-	-
Recoveries, Other	-1,582,318	-	-1,940,344	-	-1,400,000	-	-1,200,000	-	+200,000	-
Rescinded Balances	80,000	-	-	-	-	-	30,000	-	+30,000	-
Bal. Available, SOY	-2,662,664	-	-3,645,287	-	-3,587,541	-	-2,141,834	-	1,445,707	-
Total Appropriation	31,962,432	312	33,266,226	312	32,440,302	317	36,269,402	224	+3,829,100	-93

NOTE: The details associated with Supplemental appropriations provided to the Office of the Secretary, but implemented in this account, are found in the USDA Budget Summary and is not reflected above.

Table FNS-12. Obligations Project Statement Permanent Funding (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/Dec
Permanent Obligations:										
Info Clearinghouse	\$250	-	\$250	-	\$250	-	\$250	-	-	-
Institute of Child Nut	5,000	-	7,000	-	7,000	-	7,000	-	-	-
Fresh Fruit & Veg Prog	237,738	2	257,610	2	273,404	5	290,217	4	+16,814	-1
Tech Assist Prog Integ	4,641	27	4,868	25	5,166	20	5,484	14	+318	-6
Grants to States (Admin Review)	440	2	1,829	2	1,941	4	2,061	3	+119	-1
Pro. Std Foodservice	592	1	1,131	1	1,200	1	1,274	1	+74	-
Farm to School Grants	2,894	-	8,258	-	8,764	-	9,303	-	+539	-
Subtotal Perm Obs	251,555	32	280,946	30	297,726	30	315,590	22	+17,864	-8
Total Obligations	251,555	32	280,946	30	297,726	30	315,590	22	+17,864	-8
Add back:										
Balances Available, EOY:	335,713	-	334,673	-	321,197	-	296,857	-	-24,340	-
Total Bal. Available, EOY	335,713	-	334,673	-	321,197	-	296,857	-	-24,340	-
Total Available	587,268	32	615,619	30	618,923	30	612,447	22	-6,476	-8
Less:										
Total Transfers Out	-191,000	-	-195,000	-	-205,000	-	-212,000	-	-7,000	-
Recoveries, Other	-55,682	-	-65,656	-	-60,000	-	-60,000	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	321,336	-	-335,713	-	-334,673	-	-321,197	-	+13,476	-
Total Appropriation	19,250	32	19,250	30	19,250	30	19,250	22	-	-8

^a The program lines in this table are not subject to appropriation.

Table FNS-13. Direct Appropriations Authorities

Direct Appropriation and Transfer Activities	Authorization
Information Clearinghouse.....	NSLA Sect. 26(d)
Institute of Child Nutrition	NSLA Sect. 21(e)(1)(A)
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (transfer).....	NSLA Sect. 19(i)(1)
Technical Assistance Program Integrity	NSLA Sect. 21(g)(1)(A)
Grants to States (Administrative Review)	CNA Sect. 7(h)(1)
Professional Standards – Foodservice.....	CNA Sect. 7(g)(3)(A)
Farm to School Grants	NSLA Sect. 18(g)(8)(A)

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES**Child Nutrition Programs**

The 2026 current law estimate is \$36,269,402,000. This funding level will maintain current services for the core nutrition assistance programs.

Project Statement programmatic details:

1. School Meal Equipment Grants

The Budget does not continue the School Meals Equipment Grants, due to constrained discretionary resources and because these discretionary grants are no longer necessary. Maintaining equipment is funded through other line items.

2. Institute of Child Nutrition

The Budget does not continue funding for the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN), part of the School of Applied Sciences at The University of Mississippi, due to constrained discretionary resources, and the limited impact provided through this small initiative that is redundant of other CN training and technical assistance.

3. Farm to School Grants

The Budget does not continue the discretionary Farm to School Grants as program receives permanently authorized funding through sect 18 of the National School Lunch Act.

4. National School Lunch Program

The 2026 current law estimate is \$18,096,297,000 to fund NSLP. In 2026, FNS estimates that nearly 5.181 billion lunches and 174 million snacks will be served to children, representing an approximate 0.3 percent increase above projected participation in 2025. In addition, meal reimbursement rates are projected to increase by about three percent due to projected changes in the Consumer Price Index for Food Away from Home.

Table FNS-14. National School Lunch Program Performance Measure

NSLP Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Lunches Served (millions):				
Above 185% of poverty	1,356	1,336	1,389	1,435
130% - 185% of poverty.....	180	151	155	161
Below 130% of poverty.....	3,094	3,369	3,471	3,585
Total Lunches.....	4,630	4,856	5,015	5,181
Average Daily Participation (millions)	28.5	29.7	30.7	31.7
Lunch Rate per meal (blended, cents):				
Above 185% of poverty	46	41	42	43
130% - 185% of poverty.....	366	391	406	418
Below 130% of poverty.....	407	431	446	458
Snacks Served (millions):				
Above 185% of poverty	5	6	2	2
130% - 185% of poverty.....	0	0	0	0
Below 130% of poverty.....	140	165	173	174
Total Snacks.....	145	171	175	176
Snack subsidy per meal (blended)(cents):				
Above 185% of poverty	9	10	11	11
130% - 185% of poverty.....	55	59	61	63
Below 130% of poverty.....	109	118	122	126
Total Lunches and Snacks.....	4,775	5,027	5,190	5,357
Total Meal Reimbursement (millions) ..	\$16,475	\$18,150	\$14,611	\$17,183

Other information: Income Eligibility

Eligibility for rates of payment in the Child Nutrition Programs is tied to family income with free meal eligibility set at 130 percent of the Federal poverty level and reduced-price meals at 185 percent. The pertinent income levels for a family of four are shown below (rates are higher for Alaska and Hawaii):

Table FNS-15. Income Eligibility for a Family of Four

Poverty Level (Family of 4)	2024-2025 School Year	2025-2026 School Year
100 Percent	\$31,200	\$32,150
130 Percent	\$40,560	\$41,795
185 Percent	\$57,720	\$59,478

5. School Breakfast Program

The 2026 current law estimate is \$6,675,168,000 for SBP, based on FNS estimate that approximately 2.723 billion breakfasts will be served through the SBP, representing an approximately 1.5 percent increase in meals served through the program compared to 2025. As in the Lunch program, meal reimbursement rates are projected to increase by about three percent due to projected changes in the Consumer Price Index for Food Away from Home.

Table FNS-16. School Breakfast Program Performance Measure

SBP Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Meals Served (millions):				
Above 185% of poverty	487	508	515	543
Reduce Price, Regular	13	12	13	13
Reduce Price, Severe Need	67	55	56	59
130%-185% of poverty, Total	80	67	69	72
Free, Regular	98	97	98	103
Free, Severe Need	1,702	1,876	1,904	2,005
Below 130% of poverty, Total	1,800	1,973	2,002	2,108
Total Meals	2,367	2,548	2,586	2,723
Average Daily participation (millions)....	14.5	15.5	15.7	16.6
Average Subsidy Per Meal (cents):				
Paid	36	39	40	41
Reduced Price, Regular	183	208	215	220
Reduced Price, Severe Need	225	256	263	269
Free, Regular	214	238	245	250
Free, Severe Need	256	286	293	300
Program Total (millions)	\$4,990	\$4,990	\$6,141	\$6,410

6. Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The 2026 current law estimate is \$4,484,213,000 to fund the estimated 1.793 billion meals served in childcare centers, family day care homes, and adult care centers in 2026, an increase of 29 million meals (or 1.6 percent) above 2025. In addition, as in the other Child Nutrition programs, meal reimbursement rates are projected to increase by about three percent.

Table FNS-17. Child and Adult Care Program Performance Measure

CACFP Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Meals Served Centers (millions):				
Above 185% of poverty	340	343	349	356
130% - 185% of poverty	78	80	76	78
Below 130% of poverty	942	986	1,012	1,032
Total, Centers	1,360	1,409	1,437	1,466
Meals Served Homes (millions):				
Tier 1 Homes (Low Income)	328	297	297	297
Tier 2 Homes (Upper Income)	7	30	30	30
Total, Family Day Care Homes	335	327	327	327
Total Child & Adult Care Program Meals	1,695	1,736	1,764	1,793
Average Subsidy Per Meal (cents) ^{1/} :				
Centers:				
Above 185% of poverty	28	28	30	31
130% - 185% of poverty	201	215	230	237

CACFP Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Below 130% of poverty.....	242	291	300	308
Family Day Care Homes:				
Tier 1 (Low Income)	182	201	201	206
Tier 2 (Upper Income)	87	95	96	98
Funding (millions):				
Meal Reimbursement.....	\$3,555	\$3,767	\$3,937	\$4,109
Sponsor Admin.....	86	88	90	92
Audits.....	73	75	72	79
Program Total (millions).....	\$3,714	\$3,930	\$4,099	\$4,280

^{1/} Rates are a blend of all meal types.

7. Summer Food Service Program

The 2026 current law estimate is \$888,956,000 for SFSP to support a projected total of nearly 174 million summer meals served in 2026, an increase of 9 million meals (or 5.5 percent) from 2025. This reflects the ongoing expansion of non-congregate meal delivery options for children in rural areas authorized in the Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328). Consistent with other nutrition programs, meal reimbursement rates are projected to increase by almost three percent.

Table FNS-18. Summer Food Service Program Performance Measure

SFSP Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Meals Served (millions):				
Summer Food Service Program.....	141	162	165	174
Average Subsidy Per Meal (cents):				
Lunch.....	490	531	552	568
Breakfast.....	279	302	314	323
Supplements.....	166	125	131	134
Program Total (millions)	\$512	\$612	\$819	\$889

8. Special Milk Program

The 2026 current law estimate is \$4,655,000 participation in the Special Milk Program FNS projects approximately 17.0 million total half pints will be served. The cash reimbursement rate for milk served is adjusted annually on July 1 to reflect changes in the Producer Price Index for fresh processed milk.

Table FNS-19. Special Milk Program Performance Measure

SMP Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Half Pints Served (millions):				
Paid (Above 130% of poverty)	17	16	15	15
Free (130% of poverty or below)	2	2	2	2
Total, half pints.....	19	18	17	17
Reimbursement Rates (cents):				
Paid	27	27	27	27
Free.....	28	28	28	29
Program Total (millions)	\$5	\$5	\$7	\$7

9. Summer EBT (Benefits)

The Budget assumes \$4,046,066,000 based on projections that approximately 32 million children will have access to Summer EBT in 2026, with a monthly summer benefit of \$126.15.

10. Summer EBT (50 percent Admin)

The Budget assumes \$283,225,000 for Summer EBT State Admin reimbursement. Section 13A(d) of Richard B. Russell School Lunch Act provides Federal reimbursement to States and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITO) for 50 percent of the administrative expenses incurred in operating Summer EBT. The increase is estimated based on historic administrative spending relative to benefits.

11. State Administrative Expenses

The Budget assumes \$509,927,000 for SAE. The formula for State Administrative Expenses (SAE) as set forth in Section 7 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 specifies the formula for State Administrative Expenses (SAE) as "an amount equal to not less than 1 ½ percent of the Federal funds expended under sections 4, 11, and 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch

Act (42 U.S.C. 1753, 1759a, and 1766) and sections 3 and 4 of this Act during the second preceding fiscal year.” This counts meal reimbursement funding for lunch, breakfast and child and adult care meals, and the special milk program. Increases in meal reimbursement funding during school year 2023-2024 is driving the requested increase in SAE funding for 2026.

12. Commodity Procurement

The Budget assumes \$2,028,385,000 to support States procure commodities for the NSLP, CACFP, and SFSP programs. The increase is due to programmatic increases and inflation. The decrease in FTEs is focused on restructuring the workforce and seeking efficiencies in operations.

Table FNS-20. Commodity Performance Measure

Commodity Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
CN Appropriation:				
AMS/CCC Commodities*	\$485	\$485	\$485	\$485
Section 6 Commodities/Cash/Procurement Costs** ..	1,614	1,764	1,768	1,753
School Lunch Total	2,099	2,249	2,253	2,238
Child & Adult Care Food Program:				
Commodities/Cash.....	174	184	200	206
Summer Food Service Program:				
Commodities	1	1	1	1
Program Total (millions)	2,274	2,434	2,434	2,445
Appropriation (millions)	\$1,788	\$1,949	\$1,960	\$2,028

* The AMS/CCC Commodities is authorized by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1935.

** Section 6 Commodities/Cash/Procurement Costs is authorized by the National School Lunch Act.

13. Food Safety Education

The Budget assumes \$4,378,000 in Food safety education funds. These funds are used to reinforce and expand FNS’s efforts to provide Child Nutrition Programs operators with continuous, effective training and technical assistance in food safety and food defense for schools, summer feeding sites, childcare centers, family day care homes and adult care centers. FNS develops materials, ensures their delivery at all appropriate levels, makes training available at all possible levels, and facilitates the implementation of food safety requirements into the operators’ food service operations. These funds provide resources to help ensure the safety of foods served to school children, including training for state and local staff. The increase is due to inflation. The decrease in FTEs is focused on restructuring the workforce and seeking efficiencies in operations.

14. Computer Support

The Budget assumes \$35,204,000 for Computer Support. This funding supports the essential systems needed to administer the Child Nutrition Programs, including the federal staff required to operate and maintain those systems. The increase is due to inflation.

15. Training and Technical Assistance

The Budget assumes \$53,212,000 for Training and Technical Assistance. Effective and continual training and technical assistance are necessary to help states properly administer the Child Nutrition Programs and to ensure states are equipped to identify and prevent fraud and abuse. The increase is due to inflation. The decrease in FTEs is focused on restructuring the workforce and seeking efficiencies in operations.

16. CN Studies

The Budget assumes \$21,918,000 to conduct a variety of studies, evaluations, and related activities that respond to the needs of policy makers and managers and help ensure that nutrition assistance programs achieve their goals effectively, which include improving public health, and nutrition. This program line supports the critical evaluations needed for the Child Nutrition Programs, including the Federal staff needed to oversee this vital work. The increase is due to inflation. The decrease in FTEs is focused on restructuring the workforce and seeking efficiencies in operations.

17. CN Payment Accuracy

The Budget assumes \$16,189,000 to support FNS's robust Federal oversight, monitoring, and technical assistance, which are essential to the identification, prevention and resolution of erroneous payments. The increase is due to inflation. The decrease in FTEs is focused on restructuring the workforce and seeking efficiencies in operations.

18. Farm to School Team

The Budget assumes \$6,693,000 to support the Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program is an effort to connect schools with local farms to serve healthy, delicious meals using locally produced foods. USDA recognizes the growing interest among school districts and communities to incorporate regionally and locally produced foods into the Child Nutrition Programs.

The Farm to School Team supports local and regional food systems by facilitating alliances between program operators and their local food producers. Working with local and state authorities, school districts, farmers, and community partners, the Farm to School Team provides guidance to and develops mechanisms for assisting program operators in accessing local markets, enabling food producers to effectively service their local schools and communities, and facilitating communication between interested stakeholders. The increase is due to inflation. The decrease in FTEs is focused on restructuring the workforce and seeking efficiencies in operations.

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS

Table FNS-21. Classification by Objects for Appropriated Funds (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
11.0	Total personnel compensation	\$34,388	\$36,545	\$36,545	\$25,077
12.0	Personal benefits.....	14,738	13,151	13,151	14,727
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits	49,126	49,696	49,696	39,804
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	200	2,062	2,094	2,231
23.2	Rental payments to others	10	-	-	-
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	21	-	-	-
24.0	Printing and reproduction	2,600	1,110	1,127	1,201
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	6,800	59,381	60,293	64,261
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources	14,000	-	-	-
26.0	Supplies and materials	1,932,225	2,012,896	2,043,798	2,178,326
31.0	Equipment	90	-	-	-
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	29,660,421	32,597,830	33,123,148	35,283,666
42.0	Insurance Claims and Indemnities.....	50	-	-	-
	Total, Other Objects.....	31,616,417	34,673,279	35,230,460	37,529,686
99.9	Total, new obligations	31,665,543	34,722,975	35,280,156	37,182,490

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-22. Classification by Objects for Permanent Funding (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
11.0	Total personnel compensation	\$3,668	\$3,609	\$3,551	\$2,479
12.0	Personal benefits	1,572	1,357	1,171	1,457
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits	5,240	4,966	4,722	3,936
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	-	57	61	63
	Other services from non-Federal sources.....	600	1,269	1,347	1,408
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources	350	-	-	-
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	245,365	274,654	291,596	310,183
	Total, Other Objects	246,315	275,980	293,004	311,654
99.9	Total, new obligations	251,555	280,946	297,726	315,590

STATUS OF PROGRAMS

The Child Nutrition Programs provide funding for the following nutrition programs: National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer Program, and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program.

The Child Nutrition Programs improve the food and nutrition security of children through nutritious meals and snacks consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and since 2024, through direct funding to families with eligible children for grocery benefits during the summer months. The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs provide benefits in public and nonprofit private elementary, middle, and secondary schools, and in residential childcare institutions. The Special Milk Program provides fluid milk to any participating public or nonprofit private school or childcare institution that does not participate in other federally subsidized meal programs. The Child and Adult Care Food Program provides food for the nutritional well-being of young children and adults in day care homes and non-residential centers, and for children and teenagers in afterschool care programs and in emergency shelters. The Summer Food Service Program provides nutritious meals to children in low-income areas and residential camps during the summer months, and at other times when school is not in session. In Summer 2024, the newly authorized Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer Program for Children (Summer EBT) program enabled States to provide cash benefits to be used by households to purchase nutritious foods for eligible children during the summer months when school is not in session. In participating elementary schools, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program provides fresh fruits and vegetables outside of the regular meal service to all students. These programs are administered in most States by the State education agency, and in some States, by the State agriculture or health agencies; the Summer EBT program is typically coordinated among multiple agencies within a State, with the Education agency or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) agency as the lead. Summer EBT may also be directly administered by Indian Tribal Organizations (ITO) that operate the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

The Child Nutrition Programs were reauthorized by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA, P.L. 111-296) on December 13, 2010. The HHFKA amended the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (CNA) in the areas of program access, improved school meals, healthy school nutrition environments, and integrity. While the HHFKA reauthorization technically expired at the end of 2015, most Child Nutrition Programs and provisions are permanently authorized or have continued operating via annual appropriations. The Summer EBT program was authorized in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, P.L. 111-328, and is codified in the NSLA.

National School Lunch Program**Current Activities**

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) reimburses States for lunches served to students during lunch periods at school and for snacks served to children participating in after school care programs. The lunches and snacks must comply with nutrition standards, that are consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, though decisions about the specific foods to serve and how the foods are prepared are made by local school food authorities.

States are reimbursed based on the number of qualifying lunches and snacks served to children in participating schools at designated reimbursement rates, adjusted annually. These reimbursement rates reflect three categories: free (children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty level (FPL)), reduced price (children from families with incomes between 130 and 185 percent of the FPL), or paid meals. Section 4 of the NSLA, 42 USC 1753, authorizes a base reimbursement for all qualifying meals served. In addition, Section 11 of the NSLA, 42 USC 1759a, authorizes additional reimbursement for free and reduced-price meals served to children. In

accordance with Section 17A of the NSLA, reimbursement for snacks served by schools in eligible areas is paid at the free snack rate.

The cash reimbursement for a free or reduced-price lunch is the sum of the Section 4 (base) and Section 11 (supplemental) reimbursement rates. School food authorities (SFAs) that served 60 percent or more free and reduced-price lunches during the second preceding school year receive an increase in assistance at the rate of 2 cents per meal served. In addition, SFAs that demonstrated that the meals offered met the nutrition standards receive an additional 9 cents per lunch served.

In addition to the cash reimbursements described above, Section 6 of the NSLA (42 UC 1755) provides base funding for the purchase of USDA Foods to be used in the meal service. The amount of funding received is calculated based on the number of lunches served in the previous year.

Facts in Brief

On average, schools and residential childcare institutions (RCCIs) served more than 29.6 million children each day through the NSLP in 2024. This represents a three and a half percent increase from 28.6 million children served through the NSLP in 2023.

In 2024, 4.8 billion lunches were served through NSLP, a 3.6 percent increase over 2023. In 2024, 72 percent of total lunches served through the NSLP were provided for free or at a reduced price to students.

A total of 95,811 schools and RCCIs participated in the NSLP in 2024, compared to 95,376 in 2023; 560 more schools and 125 fewer RCCIs operated the NSLP in 2024 compared to 2023.

On April 25, 2024, USDA published a final rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Through the final rule, USDA updated school meals in a few key areas to make them even more nutritious, including through reductions in added sugars and sodium, which will phase in over several years beginning in SY 2025-2026 to give schools, students, and the food industry time to adjust.

School Breakfast Program

Current Activities

The School Breakfast Program (SBP) reimburses States for qualifying breakfasts served to students at or close to the beginning of their day at school. Like school lunches, the breakfasts must be consistent with statutory and regulatory nutrition standards, which are based on the goals of the Dietary Guidelines *for Americans*. All school breakfasts must meet Federal nutrition requirements, though decisions about the specific foods to serve and how the foods are prepared are made by local school food authorities. The SBP is available to the same schools and institutions that are eligible to participate in the NSLP, has the same income eligibility guidelines. And the same reimbursement rate categories.

Schools in which a specified percentage of lunches served to students during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price receive higher “severe need” reimbursements for breakfasts served free or at a reduced price.

Facts in Brief

On average, schools and residential childcare institutions (RCCIs) served more than 15.7 million children each day through the SBP in 2024. This represents an eight percent increase from 14.6 million children in 2023.

In 2024, the SBP was available in 93,862 schools and RCCIs with a total enrollment of 49.1 million students. Compared to the number of outlets participating in the SBP and the total

number of students enrolled in SBP schools during 2023, this represents a 2.4 percent increase in outlets and a half percent reduction in students enrolled in schools operating the SBP. In 2024, 80 percent of total breakfasts served through the SBP were provided for free or at a reduced price to students, compared to 79 percent in 2023.

In addition to the changes detailed above, the final rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, has made it easier for schools to offer meats and meat alternates at breakfast. This change, which took effect in July 2024, is expected to help schools serve more appealing, filling, and protein-rich breakfast foods, including vegetarian options such as yogurt, tofu, eggs, and nuts and seeds. The final rule also continues to allow schools to substitute vegetables for fruits at breakfast and simplified the vegetable variety requirement compared to prior regulations.

Special Milk Program

Current Activities

The Special Milk Program (SMP) has encouraged consumption of fluid milk since 1955. Any public or nonprofit private school or childcare institution may participate in the SMP, provided it does not participate in other Federal meal programs, such as NSLP, SBP, or the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). However, schools participating in the NSLP or SBP may also participate in the SMP to provide milk to children in half-day pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs where these children would not otherwise have access to the school meal programs. Participating schools and childcare institutions are reimbursed for part of the cost of milk served to children.

Facts in Brief

In 2024, the SMP saw a decrease of nearly seven percent in the total number of half pints served compared to 2023.

The number of half pints served through the SMP decreased from 18.8 million in 2023 to 17.6 million in 2024. Overall, the number of half pints served has decreased from 181 million in 1990.

A total of 1,292 schools, RCCIs, and non-residential childcare institutions, and summer camps participated in the SMP in 2024, a 16 percent decrease from the 2023 level of 1,543.

The portion of half pints served free during 2024 was approximately 12 percent, compared to 11 percent in 2023.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Current Activities

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides reimbursement to child and adult care centers and family or group day care homes for the provision of nutritious foods that contribute to the wellness, healthy growth, and development of young children, and the health and wellness of older adults and chronically impaired persons with disabilities. To reach local child and adult care centers, States contract with sponsoring organizations, such as a public or nonprofit private organization or for-profit organization that serve as an intermediary between States and local care providers.

CACFP meals and snacks may be served in child care centers, day care homes, at-risk afterschool care centers, outside-school-hours care centers, adult day care centers, and emergency shelters. Child and adult care centers must be either public or private nonprofit. For-profit child care centers are also eligible if at least 25 percent of their enrollment or licensed capacity either receive funds through Title XX of the Social Security Act or are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. For-profit adult day care centers are also

eligible if at least 25 percent of the adults enrolled in care benefit from Title XIX or Title XX of the Social Security Act. All participating centers and child care homes must be licensed or approved according to Federal, state, or local standards. Funds are made available to States for audit expenses associated with the administration of the CACFP.

Centers, except for at-risk afterschool care centers and emergency shelters, receive reimbursements based on a free, reduced price, or paid meal rate for each eligible meal type they serve. CACFP facilities may serve various combinations of breakfasts, lunches, snacks, and suppers. Centers receive applications from parents or adult participants and make eligibility determinations based on family size and income, essentially following the same guidelines used in the NSLP. Child care homes receive reimbursement under a two-tier system intended to target program funds to support low-income children and providers, while requiring less paperwork than would be necessary if the NSLP guidelines were used. Under this system, a higher reimbursement rate is paid to child care homes located in areas where at least 50 percent of the children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals or a child care home that is operated by a provider whose household meets the income standards for free or reduced price meals based on a completed free and reduced price application. The higher rate of reimbursement may also be paid to providers whose enrolled children are in households that receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. All other homes receive reimbursement at a lower rate, except where meals served to individual children who are enrolled for care in the home are determined to be eligible for the higher rate.

FNS provides guidance, resources, best practices, and training to support centers and day care homes in providing healthy, balanced meals and snacks to the infants, children, and adults they serve.

In 2024, FNS published a final rule that updated CACFP meal pattern requirements to be consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and factored in robust stakeholder input and provided trainings and guidance to State agencies and Program operators on implementing the final rule's provisions. Meals and snacks served in CACFP must meet the meal pattern requirements. FNS also published updated guidance to extend crediting of tofu and soy yogurt products for infants 6-11 months of age, allowing Programs to further diversify their menus and better meet the dietary needs of participants. In addition, FNS continued to work with States to ensure that sponsoring organizations, centers, and day care homes meet high standards of program effectiveness and integrity. FNS has proposed a series of improvements to target systemic and significant violations to further safeguard the integrity of the Child Nutrition Programs and help ensure that taxpayer dollars are being invested as intended.

In 2024, FNS entered into a new contract for States to continue maintenance of the CACFP training program. The CACFP training program equips State agencies with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide training to their CACFP sponsoring organizations in key areas of CACFP program administration, operation, accounting, and financial management. The training, CACFP Operational Resources & Education (CORE), is geared toward State agency staff who develop State agency policy related to the CACFP and provide training and technical assistance directly to sponsoring organizations. State agencies, CACFP sponsoring organizations, and local partners, including child care centers and home-based providers, continue to engage in the online training tools developed and maintained as part of the CORE project. In addition to training, the CORE project produced several resource guides to assist Program operators. Online training and mobile app usage continue to increase, and the CORE training has received outstanding reviews from stakeholders and continues to be requested as a tool for both new and experienced program operators.

The enhanced oversight and enforcement tools included in the 2023 final rule, Child Nutrition Program Integrity, improved the financial management of CACFP by increasing

State resources, strengthening review timeframes, and establishing other requirements, such as the review of a sponsoring organization's bank activity, designed to improve oversight by State agencies and sponsoring organizations. FNS provided resources and technical assistance to States to ensure proper implementation of the final rule provisions throughout 2024.

In 2024, FNS published a proposed rule to update the serious deficiency (SD) process in CACFP and extend the process to SFSP. The proposed SD process offers a systematic way for State agencies and sponsoring organizations to take actions to correct issues of non-compliance in the operations of their program with the goal to promote positive outcomes (full corrections of all serious management problems) while enhancing program integrity. The public comment period for the proposed rule ended on May 21, 2024. FNS has reviewed the comments received and intends to publish a final rule in 2025.

Facts in Brief

The total number of meals served through the CACFP increased from 1.708 billion meals in 2023 to 1.733 billion meals in 2024. In 2024, average daily attendance in CACFP was approximately 4.5 million children and adults, a 3.45 percent reduction compared to the average daily attendance of 4.7 million children and adults reported in 2023.

In 2024, the average daily attendance reported in day care homes and childcare centers was 4.4 million children. Of the total, 3.8 million were children in child care centers and approximately 617,154 were in home-based providers. Compared to 2023, these data show a 3.7 percent total decrease in average daily attendance reported across both provider types, a 5.9 percent decrease in average daily attendance reported by day care homes, and a 3.3 percent decrease in average daily attendance reported by child care centers participating in the CACFP.

On average, in 2024, CACFP child care center outlets received \$2.94 billion in meal reimbursements for the year (compared \$2.74 billion in 2023).

In 2024, home-based child care received \$624.4 million in meal reimbursements (compared to \$658.6 in 2023).

In 2024, approximately 80.3 percent of total meals served in CACFP were provided free or at a reduced price, an increase from 79.9 percent in 2023.

In 2024, 27,709 At-Risk Childcare Center outlets provided a total of 254.5 million meals and snacks to children (compared to the 27,296 At-Risk Childcare Centers operating in 2023 that served a total of 245.2 million meals and snacks). This is a 1.5 percent increase in the number of outlets operating At-Risk sites and a 3.8 percent increase in the number of meals and snacks served to children during 2024.

In 2024, CACFP At-Risk Childcare Centers served an average of 2.736 million children daily, an increase from approximately 2.514 million children each day during 2023.

Summer Food Service Program

Current Activities

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) was established to provide children with access to nutritious meals when school is not in session. Meals meeting Federal nutrition guidelines are served at no cost to all children 18 years old and under at approved SFSP sites in areas in which at least 50 percent of children are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals during the school year. Local organizations sponsoring the Program must be public or private nonprofit schools, government agencies, private nonprofit organizations that meet certain criteria, or residential camps. Meal sites are limited to two meals (which cannot include both lunch and supper) or one meal and one snack daily. However, summer camps

and sites that primarily serve migrant children may be reimbursed for up to three meals or two meals and one snack served to every eligible child each day. Sponsoring organizations receive reimbursement for each eligible meal served through SFSP and may receive USDA Foods for use in their meals. Funds also are made available to conduct health inspections and to defray State and local administrative costs.

On December 29, 2023, FNS published the Interim Final Rule: Establishing the Summer EBT Program and Rural Non-Congregate Option in the Summer Meal Programs, as required by statute within one year after the date of enactment of the statutory rural non-congregate option in SFSP. Through the Interim Final Rule, the non-congregate meal service option was codified in part 225 of Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations. FNS released five memoranda on a variety of key operational topics to assist State agencies and Program operators with the implementation of the non-congregate meal service option in summer 2024.

The rural non-congregate meal service option enables sponsors to provide grab-and-go or delivered meals in the SFSP for children in rural areas where accessing summer meals is a challenge. This marks a significant shift from previous regulations, which required that SFSP meals be consumed on-site in a group setting.

Congress provided permanent authority for non-congregate summer meals in rural communities as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, P.L. 111-328. In summer 2024, 52 states/territories adopted the rural non-congregate option; 1,058 program sponsors provided meals-to-go or home-delivered meals at approximately 3,976 rural meal sites across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, including sites in roughly 600 rural zip codes that previously had no access to summer meals. This demonstrates the growing reach and widespread utilization of non-congregate meal sites. Additionally, in summer 2024, in addition to the 5 memos published, FNS has provided guidance on rural pocket designations and updated the SFSP Administration Guide to include the latest information about non-congregate meal service.

Throughout 2024, FNS also utilized authority under Section 12(I) of the NSLA, 42 U.S.C. 1760(I), to issue waivers that allowed State agencies and sponsors to quickly respond to school closures by allowing flexibilities for non-congregate meal service in SFSP and NSLP SSO when congregate meal service operations were limited due to natural disasters, unscheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes, or similar unanticipated causes. Additionally, FNS introduced a streamlined process for soliciting and handling commonly requested waivers for summer 2024 operations, such as non-congregate meal service for outdoor sites impacted by excessive heat or poor air quality. This process greatly reduced waiver processing and approval time from several hours to potentially less than one hour.

Facts in Brief

During 2024, over 159 million breakfast, lunches, suppers, and snacks were served through the SFSP. This represents a 27 percent increase from 2023 meal service levels when over 125 million meals were served through the program.

During 2024, 36,156 SFSP meal sites served children through a mix of meal types . During 2024, approximately 50 percent of SFSP meals served were lunches, 37 percent were breakfasts, and the remaining 13 percent were suppers and supplements.

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children Program (Summer EBT)

Congress established the Summer EBT Program, also known as SUN Bucks, for the purpose of providing nutrition assistance through EBT during the summer months for eligible school-aged children, to ensure continued access to food when school is not in session for the

summer. This new program is important for children who face food insecurity during the summer and do not have consistent access to USDA summer meal programs.

Current Activities

FNS launched the Summer EBT program in 2024.

On December 29, 2023, FNS completed and published an Interim Final Rule (IFR entitled: Establishing the Summer EBT Program and Rural Non-Congregate Option in the Summer Meal Programs. This rule codified the Summer EBT Program in a new part 292 of Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Throughout 2024, FNS staff provided extensive technical assistance and policy guidance to support State, Tribal, and Territory implementation of Summer EBT. As part of this effort, FNS published memoranda, guidance, charts, an implementation, outreach, and promotional toolkits. FNS also offered continuous engagement with States, ITOs, and Territories that elected to administer the Program through webinars, town hall meetings, attendance at conferences, and individualized one-on-one technical assistance. FNS also developed and launched a Summer EBT online application to ensure that all States and ITOs have an option for a high-quality, no-cost Summer EBT application.

Facts in Brief

In 2024 FNS approved 45 State and ITOs plans for operations and management (POM) from 38 States, five Territories, and two ITOs.

In 2024, FNS provided \$120 in EBT benefits to an estimated 21 million children.

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), authorized by the NSLA (42 USC 1769a), provides fresh fruits and vegetables to all children in participating elementary schools located in low-income areas as snacks outside of the regular meal service.

Funding is allocated among States using a statutory formula that provides base funding equally to each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia and provides additional funding to all States operating a school lunch program (including Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) based on population. In 2024, a total of \$253.2 million was awarded to program operators.

USDA Foods Program in Child Nutrition Programs

Current Activities

Eight nutrition assistance programs incorporate USDA Foods as part of the overall assistance. AMS and FNS work together to procure and deliver USDA Foods to these programs in the types, forms, and quantities needed to meet planned levels of assistance. USDA Foods supports American agriculture by distributing high quality, 100 percent American-grown and produced USDA Foods to schools. In addition to providing food to people who need it, purchases of USDA Foods support domestic agricultural markets, including domestic farmers and ranchers.

USDA Foods entitlement for the NSLP and CACFP is authorized by the NSLA in Sections 6(c) and 17(h), respectively, 42 USC 1755(c) and 1766(h) and is based on a "rate per meal" concept which is adjusted each July 1 to reflect changes in the Producer Price Index for food used in schools and institutions. Similarly, Section 13(h) of the NSLA, 42 USC 1761, authorizes USDA Foods for the SFSP. NSLP is statutorily required to provide not less than 12 percent of all Federal nutrition assistance in the form of USDA Foods. When available, USDA

also provides bonus foods acquired through the price support and surplus removal programs (Section 32).

For SY 2024-2025, schools, daycare centers and residential institutions were authorized to receive an average of 30.00 cents worth of USDA Foods per lunch/supper served. This is an increase from the prior SY rate of 29.50 cents.

The distribution of USDA Foods to schools is managed by a State agency, which works with local school districts to ensure the effective use of these foods in school meal programs. USDA offers over 200 different products to schools that are low in added sugar, sodium, and fat and support the meal pattern requirements for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. Product inventory is available in the USDA Foods Database.

In 2024, FNS continued to closely monitor USDA Foods inventories and orders for national processors to help ensure efficient inventory utilization, reduction of inventory balances and storage costs.

On April 25, 2024, USDA published a final rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The final rule strengthens the Buy American provision and institutes a phased-in cap on non-domestic food purchases. Through the final rule's expansion of the geographic preference option, Child Nutrition Program operators may now use local (e.g., "locally grown," "locally raised," or "locally caught") as a specification for local unprocessed agricultural products purchased for program meals, snacks, and milk.

USDA Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

FNS and the Department of Defense (DoD) Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) work together to enable school districts to use their USDA Foods entitlement to order fresh produce through DoD's contracting and distribution network. DoD uses its large-scale buying power to help meet the demand for consistent deliveries of a wide variety of fresh produce to school cafeterias, central kitchens, SFSP sponsors, and State and Tribal organizations. This program has grown steadily since its beginning in SY 1994-1995, when eight States spent \$3.2 million for produce. In 2024, 4 States, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and Guam, participated, spending over \$486 million in USDA Foods entitlement funds on fresh fruits and vegetables through this program. Additionally, 29 States used \$815,000 of their SFSP funds to order fresh fruits and vegetables through the USDA DoD Fresh program. FNS continues to work with the DLA to improve the USDA DoD Fresh program, including encouraging vendors to provide local produce items when in season.

The Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Orders Receipt System (FFAVORS) web application offers participating agencies in NSLP, SFSP, and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) the ability to order and receive shipments of fresh produce to their location. In support of Farm to School initiatives, vendors are required to report State of Origin information so customers can see where the produce is from. Vendors are also able to identify produce sourced locally.

Section 4202 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-79, the 2014 Farm Bill) authorized a Pilot Project for Procurement of Unprocessed Fruits and Vegetables. States applied through a competitive process in September 2014 based on criteria outlined in the 2014 Farm Bill. Consistent with 2014 Farm Bill requirements, California, Connecticut, Michigan, New York, Oregon, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin were selected for participation in the pilot. Wisconsin chose to discontinue participation in the pilot. In 2024, the remaining eight States allocated approximately \$7.8 million in USDA Foods entitlement funds to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables.

Web Based Supply Chain Management System (WBSCM) is the demand-driven food ordering system used by State Agencies and their Recipient Agencies to place USDA Foods

requests in support of the programs run within the State Agency. Demand requests are reviewed by FNS and forwarded to Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) for procurement activities. FNS funds WBSCM operational costs as part of a partnership with AMS.

Cash in Lieu of USDA Foods

Section 6 of the NSLA authorizes funds to be used to provide cash in lieu of USDA Foods, in accordance with Sections 16, 17(h), and 18(b) of the NSLA. The State of Kansas is permanently receiving cash payments in lieu of USDA Foods as a result of the NSLA and Child Nutrition Act amendments of 1975. Cash is also being received by school districts that began participating during the 1980s and early 1990s in alternative demonstration projects that provided cash or Commodity Letters of Credit in lieu of USDA Foods. Some nonresidential childcare institutions participating in CACFP have also elected to receive their USDA Foods entitlements in cash.

Training and Technical Assistance

FNS provides ongoing technical assistance to State agencies, school districts, and industry to ensure effective use of USDA Foods in schools and improve knowledge of best practices for USDA Foods utilization. FNS released monthly updates of the USDA Foods Database, a resource that provides stakeholders with vendor-specific nutrition, allergen, and ingredient information for direct delivered USDA Foods for Child Nutrition Programs.

State Administrative Expense (SAE) Funds

Section 7 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 USC 1776, authorizes FNS to fund program administration and oversight and technical assistance in local school districts and child and adult care institutions. FNS distributes SAE funds through a statutory formula and are available to States for obligation over a 2-year period.

Child Nutrition Program Integrity

Current Activities

Ensuring integrity and minimizing improper payments is a key priority for FNS. As stewards of the Federal funds, the Agency has a responsibility to maintain the public's trust while guaranteeing that program benefits are available to the eligible households who rely on them. FNS's efforts to enhance program integrity in the Child Nutrition Programs fall under three categories: research, process improvements, and monitoring/compliance.

Research

In 2024, data collection continued for the fourth Access, Participation, Eligibility, and Certification Study (APEC-IV). APEC-IV builds on the methodologies employed by APEC-III and will provide updated, nationally representative estimates of program errors and improper payments in the school meal programs. The APEC findings help direct integrity work in the school meal programs, which is currently being informed by APEC-III.

FNS is developing a measure of improper payments in SFSP to meet the requirements of the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA). In summer 2024, FNS conducted site-level data collections, gathering data to help identify meal counting and claiming error in the program. In the next phase of this study, site-level data will be combined with sponsor- and/or state-level data to begin the process of establishing certification, aggregation, and meal counting and claiming error rates in SFSP.

Monitoring and Compliance

FNS and State agencies conduct reviews to assess the operation of the Child Nutrition Programs (Programs), evaluate the accuracy of local meal service data, and provide training

and technical assistance to help ensure Programs are operated in line with Federal requirements.

Funds allocated for these activities support the identification of errors that threaten program integrity and may result in improper claims. When reviews identify errors, corrective action plans are developed to assist State agencies and Program operators with compliance and to improve the implementation of Program regulations and operations. Implementation of corrective action plans results in more accurate and efficient distribution of Program benefits to eligible children and helps ensure public trust in the Programs.

Regulations require State agencies to review Programs to evaluate compliance with requirements. To evaluate compliance, State agencies will review, but are not limited to, the following: certification and benefit issuance, meal counting and claiming, and Program meal requirements.

Review and oversight activities are not only helpful in recovering Federal funds but also can inform technical assistance and other initiatives FNS creates to improve Program compliance and operations. Based on information gleaned from State agencies and findings discovered, FNS develops technical assistance on Program regulations and provides guidance to State agencies and Program operators through a variety of formats.

As required by statute, for the school meal programs, FNS developed a unified accountability system for State agency oversight, referred to as the Administrative Review. Through the Administrative Review, State agencies conduct comprehensive evaluations of Program operations by SFAs participating in NSLP and SBP and other Federal meal programs. FNS provides forms, instructions, and guidance to State agencies to standardize the review process. If State agencies identify any errors during the Administrative Review, they must provide technical assistance, require corrective action, and when applicable, assess fiscal action to recover Federal funds that have been paid erroneously to SFAs.

In 2024, State agencies continued to implement provisions from the final Child Nutrition Program Integrity Rule published in 2023, which strengthens the monitoring and oversight activities in Child Nutrition Programs. These provisions impact oversight processes such as the timing of reviews, how they are conducted, and the ability for State agencies to issue fines for severe Program mismanagement. Based on these provisions, FNS has provided new guidance and is updating existing guidance and technical assistance to assist State agencies in their oversight activities.

FNS is responsible for oversight of the Programs administered through State and local agencies and conducts management evaluations to assess State agency implementation and oversight of the Programs. In 2024, FNS Regional Offices conducted 45 management evaluations of states.

Through both competitive and non-competitive grants to States administering the Child Nutrition Programs, FNS provides funding for States implementing technology improvements that demonstrate an ability to decrease administrative and operational errors and improve program integrity. Since 2011, FNS has convened a workgroup made up of State agencies and FNS representatives to assist in identifying State agency technical assistance needs related to technology systems and software used to operate and manage the Child Nutrition Programs. Based on identified needs from this workgroup, FNS holds a periodic national training event for State agencies administering the Child Nutrition Programs which aims to build State agency capacity in project management, system and software procurement and contract management, system development lifecycle management, and other aspects of system and software development and maintenance to support State program and technical staff in improving Child Nutrition Program access and integrity.

Direct Certification

Direct certification is the process of the school and State matching data from other federal, means-tested programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, TANF, and others, to automatically certify students as eligible for free or reduced-price school meals, without the need for families to submit applications. Direct certification is a key error-reduction strategy for school meal programs. By eliminating school meal applications, direct certification not only reduces program errors, but also reduces burden on families and schools. As established in statute, State agencies administering SNAP and those administering the school nutrition programs must directly certify at least 95 percent of eligible children. States that do not reach and maintain the direct certification benchmark are required to develop and implement continuous improvement plans to ensure that eligible children are directly certified for school meals.

To support states' direct certification efforts, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-80) provides funding for grants to State agencies that administer the NSLP. FNS plans to release additional funding for grants to support these efforts in the first quarter of 2025.

For SY 2018-2019, 40 of the 52 States achieved a direct certification rate at or above 95 percent. The COVID-19 related waivers impacted the ability to complete more recent reports. Due to these waivers and resulting data quality issues, FNS postponed direct certification reporting until after the pandemic-waivers were lifted to collect data that more accurately reflects direct certification performance. FNS is currently working on updated data and continuing robust technical assistance efforts with State agencies to help them improve their direct certification performance.

Direct Certification with Medicaid Demonstration Projects

Section 9(b)(15) of the NSLA, 42 USC 1758(b)(15), authorizes FNS to conduct demonstration projects in selected States and LEAs to evaluate the effectiveness of using Medicaid data to directly certify students for school meals. The original demonstrations launched in SY 2016-2017. A rigorous evaluation provided evidence that direct certification using Medicaid data has the potential for reducing error and increasing efficiency in school meals administration. Currently, 43 States participate in the demonstration projects – accounting for 94 percent of the NSLP-participating population. Additional States have the opportunity to start this project in SYs, 2025-2026, or 2026-2027. The study found State administrative costs decreased over the course of the demonstration.

Special Provision Options

To reduce paperwork and other administrative burdens at the local level, Section 11(a)(1) of the NSLA, 42 USC 1759a includes alternative provisions to the traditional requirements for annual determinations of eligibility for free and reduced-price school meals and daily meal counts by type. These alternatives are commonly referred to as Provision 1, Provision 2, Provision 3, and the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Provisions 1, 2, 3, and CEP were enacted to decrease administrative and household burden from completing and processing school meal applications for districts and schools with high portions of students eligible for free and reduced priced meals.

Provisions 1, 2, and 3

Provision 1 reduces application burdens by allowing eligibility to be certified for a 2-year period for each child eligible for free meals in schools where at least 80 percent of the children enrolled are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. To elect Provision 1, a school must notify their State agency of their intent to elect before implementing the provision. This option reduces annual notification of program availability and certification of children eligible for free meals to once every two years. All other households must be provided a

meal application to apply for meal benefits each school year. There is no requirement to offer meals at no charge to all students. Meals are reimbursed at the free, reduced price, or paid rates based on students' eligibility statuses.

Provision 2 reduces application burdens and simplifies meal counting and claiming procedures by allowing schools to establish claiming percentages and to serve all meals at no charge for a 4-year period. To elect Provision 2, a school must notify their State agency of their intent to elect before implementing the provision. During the first year (or base year), although meals are served at no charge, the school makes eligibility determinations and takes daily counts of reimbursable meals by type (free, reduced price, paid) at the point of service. These meals counts are used to establish the claiming percentages that will be used for the following three years. During the next three years, households do not need to submit applications, and the school makes no new eligibility determinations and counts only the total number of reimbursable meals served each day. Reimbursement during these years is determined by applying the percentages of free, reduced price, and paid meals served during the corresponding month of the base year to the total meal count for the claiming month.

Provision 3 also reduces application burdens and simplifies meal counting and claiming procedures by allowing schools to receive the same level of Federal cash and commodity assistance paid to them during the last year in which eligibility determinations were made and meals were counted by type (the base year). To elect Provision 3, a school must notify their State agency of their intent to elect before implementing the provision. Provision 3 schools serve meals to all children in attendance at the school at no charge for a period of four years following the base year. Households do not submit applications and schools do not make additional eligibility determinations during the 4-year period, even though the individual children enrolled in the school may change. Instead, reimbursement is determined by using the amount of Federal cash and commodity assistance received in the base year with adjustments to reflect changes in enrollment and inflation.

Schools electing Provision 2 or 3 must pay any difference between Federal reimbursement and the cost of providing all meals at no charge. The funds to pay for this difference must be from non-Federal sources. Also, Provision 2 and 3 allow the State agency to approve 4-year extensions if the socioeconomic status of the school's population remains stable, declined, or has had only negligible improvement since the most recent base year.

In SY 2023-2024 there were 4,471 schools operating Provision 1, 2, 3 and other non-pricing programs (not including CEP), representing 5 percent of eligible schools.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

CEP allows schools and local educational agencies (LEAs) serving low-income areas to provide breakfast and lunch at no cost to students, without the burden of distributing and collecting household applications to determine eligibility for free school meals. CEP is a Federal-local cost sharing option that allows eligible schools to provide meals at no cost to all students. In lieu of household applications, CEP streamlines program administration by using direct certification data from means-tested programs with comparable eligibility to establish a school, group, or LEA-wide meal claiming percentage. Through direct certification, schools access income data already collected and verified through other Federal assistance programs and apply it to the school meals certification process, rather than duplicating data collection efforts.

If a minimum percentage (at least 25 percent) of students qualify for free meals without an application, such as via direct certification, the school, group of schools, or LEA is eligible for CEP. For CEP, students who are certified for free meals without a household application, such as those directly certified through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), are "identified students." The identified student percentage (ISP) is calculated by

dividing the total number of identified students by the total number of enrolled students. The ISP is multiplied by 1.6 (the CEP multiplier) to determine the percentage of meals reimbursed at the free rate; remaining meals are reimbursed at the lower, paid rate.

Like Provision 2 or 3 schools, CEP schools must pay any difference between Federal assistance and the cost of providing all meals at no charge. The money to pay for this difference must be from non-Federal sources. Using an established equation, the LEA can estimate the amount of Federal assistance it will receive under CEP and can estimate any non-Federal funding that may be needed to cover operational costs. The LEA compares its estimated funding contribution to anticipated savings through administrative cost and burden reductions. If it determines that CEP is more efficient than the traditional NSLP administrative structure (specific to local circumstances), the LEA can choose to implement CEP in schools under its jurisdiction.

To elect CEP, LEAs must notify their State agency of their election by June 30 and provide documentation that demonstrates the electing schools meet the minimum ISP requirement. The ISP is verified by the State agency prior to the start of the school year. Once established, the CEP claiming percentages are used for the next four years.

As of May 2024, 47,776 schools serving almost 24 million students are operating CEP, which represents about half of eligible schools.

Child Nutrition Grants

Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative

The Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative (HMI) is designed to improve the nutritional quality of school meals. It includes four components: competitive sub-grants for small and/or rural SFAs, a recognition awards program for all SFAs, three Healthy Meals Summits, and challenge grants to stimulate innovation in the K-12 school food marketplace. FNS is leading this initiative.

During 2024, the following activities took place as part of this initiative:

The four cooperators of the Healthy Meals Incentives School Food System Transformation Challenge Sub-Grants each released funding opportunities and awarded sub-grants to support collaborative projects between school districts, food producers, suppliers, distributors, and/or community partners to stimulate the creation of a resilient, equitable, and nutritious school food system. Boise State University's Center for School and Community Partnerships awarded 12 rural school districts with up to \$150,000 each during its first round of funding. Chef Ann Foundation's Partnerships for Local Agriculture and Nutrition Transformation in Schools (PLANTS) awarded eight recipients up to \$600,000 each. Full Plates Full Potential awarded seven recipients of its School Food System Innovation Grant with up to \$1,500,000 each. The Illinois Public Health Institute and the Lake Michigan School Food System Innovation Hub announced their first round of 16 recipients for the Spark and Innovation Collaborative Awards. Grant awards were up to \$75,000 each for Spark Awards recipients and up to \$250,000 each for Innovation Collaborative Awards recipients.

As part of the cooperative agreement awarded to Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK) for the Development and Implementation of Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Awards and Sub-Grants for Small and/or Rural School Food Authorities, AFHK awarded 203 recognition awards to celebrate SFAs that have made improvements to the nutritional quality of their school meals. The non-monetary recognition awards spotlight innovative practices, student and community engagement activities, and strategies schools have used to provide meals that are consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. In 2024, USDA and AFHK hosted spring and fall Healthy Meals Summits that convened all HMI grantees to

celebrate their awards, discuss grantee projects, and share innovative ideas for improving the nutritional quality of school meals.

Supporting the Use of Traditional Indigenous Foods in the Child Nutrition Programs Cooperative Agreement

In 2024, FNS announced the awardees for the Supporting the Use of Traditional Indigenous Foods in the Child Nutrition Programs Cooperative Agreement. Over \$2 million was awarded to the following five organizations: Center for Popular Research, Education and Policy; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; North American Traditional Indigenous Food Systems; Powhatan Confederacy; and the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and the Fond du Lac Ojibwe School to provide training and technical assistance to school nutrition professionals on procurement, preparation, and crediting of traditional Indigenous foods. The cooperators, with FNS guidance and approval, will also develop culturally relevant nutrition education materials for students to accompany the traditional Indigenous foods that are served, and the cooperators will train school nutrition professionals and other school staff on providing nutrition education to students. The awardee organizations are led and staffed primarily by members of Federally Recognized Tribes and/or Native Hawaiians. The period of performance for this funding opportunity is two years.

Non-Competitive Technology Innovation Grants

In 2024, FNS distributed \$50 million through Non-Competitive Technology Innovation Grant (nTIG) to all eligible State agencies and territories for the purposes of developing, improving, and maintaining automated information technology systems used to operate and manage all CN Programs. These grants amounted to \$746,268 per State agency to continue development of their system projects.

Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grants

Current Activities

The goal of the Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grants is to increase access to local foods through the Child Nutrition Programs, and to strengthen local and regional food systems that support community health and well-being, along with economic opportunities for producers.

The Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grants funds grants to school districts and other institutions participating in Child Nutrition Programs, as well as state and local agencies, tribal communities, agricultural producers, and non-profit organizations to support efforts that increase local foods served through the Child Nutrition Programs, to teach children about food and agriculture through garden and classroom education, and develop schools' and farmers' capacities to participate in farm to school activities. In July 2024, FNS awarded more than \$14.3 million in grants to 154 grantees, bringing the total awards to approximately \$100 million in grants for more than 1,200 projects impacting all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Guam, and reaching nearly 30 million students.

In October 2024, FNS simplified the grant process for applicants by allowing organizations to select the type of Farm to School Grant (Implementation, State Agency, and Turnkey) that best fits their needs.

Team Nutrition Activities and Initiatives

Team Nutrition is a cross-cutting initiative that supports all Child Nutrition Programs by 1) providing job skills training and technical assistance to food service staff who prepare meals for the programs; 2) developing nutrition education resources that help children learn about agriculture and become self-sufficient in making informed food choices; and 3) providing the

programs with resources to support healthy school and childcare environments. The Team Nutrition initiative helps States and local program operators apply meal pattern requirements to their school and childcare menus, while accommodating local and regional food preferences and optimizing the use of USDA Foods as well as locally produced foods.

FNS announced the selected grantees for the 2024 Team Nutrition Training Grants for Meal Pattern Modernization and Retention and Mentorship Opportunities. Eleven State agencies received grants. These 3-year grants will help state agencies build capacity for implementation of the Final Rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and to address residual COVID-19 effects on staff retention in school meal programs.

FNS and ICN created or updated more than 142 resources, to include those that were created or revised to reflect the Final Rule, "Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Summer EBT Non-Competitive Technology Grants

On August 1, 2024, FNS released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for \$100 million for Summer EBT Technology Grants. The funding was offered noncompetitively through an equitable allocation to all Summer EBT coordinating agencies that implemented Summer EBT in summer 2024 and plan to continue the Program in summer 2025, as well as those Summer EBT coordinating agencies which plan to newly implement the Program in summer 2025. The funding is specifically for technology costs associated with establishing the Summer EBT program to ensure it is stood up with strong integrity; the funds are not subject to any administrative match requirements. Grantees have until September 30, 2028, to obligate funds.

Food Safety

Current Activities

FNS uses its food safety education funds to develop education, instruction, and technical assistance resources to facilitate the implementation of food safety requirements in Child Nutrition Programs and to support the food safety needs of program operators at every level of program administration. These resources are supported by science-based food safety research as well as continuous collaboration with federal, academic, and other leading food safety partnering institutions and include, food safety education, resources, and training, rapid responses to emerging issues such as food recalls.

FNS continues to support Federal partners on the FDA's Closer to Zero initiative to ensure the needs of USDA's nutrition program operators and participants are considered in efforts to reduce exposure to heavy metals from food.

In 2024, FNS delivered more than 100 food safety trainings through a cooperative agreement with the ICN reaching more than 3,000 child nutrition professionals through a variety of modalities to meet program operators' needs including virtual instructor led training and e-learning. In 2024, FNS developed and delivered twelve webinars for child nutrition program stakeholders including: Allergen Management in Schools; Understanding Roles and Partnerships Working to Keep USDA Foods Safe; Destination Specification; Safe Food Starts With Safe Shopping; SNAS Food Safety Branch (CDC EHS-NET 2024); Hidden in Plain Sight; Keeping School Foods Safe Starts With Science; USDA Food Safety for the Dominican Republic and US Virgin Islands; Safe Meals, Healthy Kids: Food Safety Tips for Summer Meals; USDA Foods in School Regional Office Training; and Food Safety and Farm to School: Establishing Relationships Beyond the Cafeteria that Change the Game. These delivered webinars included collaborations with members of USDA Agricultural Research Service, Environmental Microbial and Food Safety Laboratory; USDA Agricultural Marketing

Service (AMS); Food Allergy and Research Education (FARE); USDA-FNS CN Community Meals Policy Division; and the ICN.

FNS continued to guide the development of research-based educational resources that address the importance of safe food practices in the management of food allergies in Child Nutrition Programs. In 2024, the ICN, in collaboration with FNS, launched three online courses on the ICN's eLearning portal, Learn, for school nutrition professionals. The new trainings include Accommodating Food Allergies in Schools, Food Allergies in School Nutrition-Avoiding Cross Contact, and Food Allergies in School Nutrition-General Food Allergies. These courses aim to provide school nutrition professionals with tips and tools for safely preparing and serving food for students with food allergies.

In partnership with the AMS, FNS delivered Produce Safety University (PSU) as both in-person and virtual experiences while maintaining the quality and reach of the program. The program supports nutrition security by promoting the use of fresh fruits and vegetables in school meal programs by teaching best practices for procuring high-quality produce and ensuring food safety from farm to fork. In 2024, five in-person and one virtual multi-day trainings were delivered to approximately 150 school nutrition professionals and State agency staff. FNS will continue its PSU offerings in 2025 by offering 4 in-person sessions in addition to one virtual session. PSU is far-reaching; approximately 2,100 participants have graduated since 2010, and graduates have gone on to train nearly 75,000 additional people. Following graduation, 85 percent of PSU graduates reported making changes to improve receiving, storage, preparation, or service practices.

Child Nutrition Studies and Evaluations

FNS published five reports related to the Child Nutrition Programs during 2024, which are available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/research-analysis>. These reports include:

- Evaluation of the USDA Summer EBT Demonstrations: Lessons Learned From More Than a Decade of Research (March 12, 2024). With the creation of the new Summer EBT program (also known as SUN Bucks) as a permanent Federal nutrition assistance entitlement program, this summary describes lessons learned from evaluations of Summer EBT Demonstration Projects since 2011. The findings from these evaluations played an important role in shaping program operations for the new SUN Bucks program.
- Child Nutrition Program Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic, July 2020 – December 2021 (April 30, 2024). This study is part of an ongoing study series examining child nutrition program operations. This report – which describes trends in program participation during the COVID-19 pandemic from July 2020 through December 2021 – was repurposed to collect data on waiver usage by all States. This data collection fulfills the requirement under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that States report the use of each waiver and whether and how it improved services for child nutrition program participants. A previous report in the series described waiver usage and trends in program participation and operations during the early months of the pandemic (March – September 2020).
- CACFP Participation Among U.S. Child Care Providers (June 26, 2024). This study used data from the 2019 National Survey of Early Care and Education to compare the general characteristics of childcare providers, both centers and day care homes, by CACFP participation status and eligibility. The report also provides the first known estimates of provider participation rates in CACFP. In addition, the analysis uses a follow-up data set to help understand how the COVID-19 pandemic affected provider operations and CACFP participation.
- CACFP Family Child Care Home Participation Study (June 26, 2024). This study focuses on family day care home (FDCH) providers who were currently or previously

participating in CACFP. The study uses a nationally representative survey to examine reasons FDCHs left CACFP; provider perceptions of the benefits of participating in the program; challenges current and former providers experienced with CACFP; and providers' recommendations for changes to address these challenges. The study also examines differences by urbanicity (urban/rural) and program size (large/small) among the former and current CACFP providers.

- Evaluation of the Team Nutrition E-STAR Training Program (July 30, 2024). This evaluation examined E-STAR (the Enhanced Strategies, Training, Action Plans, and Resources program), a two-year program that offers intensive training for school nutrition managers and ongoing support from a mentor to help managers develop and implement action plans to improve both meal quality and student perception of meal quality. The study focused on understanding the extent to which the grantee (Michigan Department of Education) was able to implement key program components as intended, the extent to which managers were actively engaged in the program, and facilitators of and barriers to implementation and engagement.

Table FNS-23. Child and Adult Care Food Program Participation and Meals Served 2024

STATE OR TERRITORY	# of Centers /Homes	Participation Peak Month	Reduced Price				Day Care	
			Paid	Price	Free	Total	Homes	Total
Alabama	1,348	50	4,209	1,226	15,484	20,919	2,081	23,000
Alaska	339	8	870	109	916	1,895	571	2,466
Arizona	2,774	64	5,744	1,414	15,903	23,060	5,984	29,044
Arkansas.....	1,394	62	5,835	2,839	17,792	26,466	1,199	27,665
California	20,362	746	17,392	4,753	127,929	150,074	54,505	204,579
Colorado	1,480	40	4,666	504	8,024	13,195	2,666	15,861
Connecticut	1,196	24	1,563	534	4,770	6,867	3,135	10,003
Delaware.....	651	43	2,097	338	5,090	7,525	1,186	8,710
District of Columbia.	291	19	744	182	2,768	3,694	101	3,795
Florida	6,917	333	31,268	10,905	105,371	147,543	6,726	154,270
Georgia.....	3,243	152	17,016	3,765	44,126	64,907	3,546	68,453
Hawaii	347	9	2,376	222	1,063	3,661	416	4,077
Idaho	226	9	1,346	203	1,827	3,376	246	3,622
Illinois	6,688	144	13,135	3,006	39,650	55,791	22,084	77,875
Indiana	2,299	95	6,115	1,281	12,155	19,551	9,872	29,423
Iowa.....	1,729	36	8,406	634	4,617	13,658	5,808	19,465
Kansas.....	2,638	43	5,334	658	4,273	10,264	8,683	18,947
Kentucky.....	1,700	81	7,747	1,301	17,777	26,824	737	27,562
Louisiana.....	5,547	99	3,330	910	15,395	19,635	16,228	35,863
Maine	597	10	794	132	1,371	2,297	1,942	4,239
Maryland.....	2,758	91	3,478	316	12,489	16,282	5,797	22,079
Massachusetts.....	4,282	76	3,154	793	16,112	20,059	12,459	32,519
Michigan	4,156	63	6,330	824	14,642	21,797	12,211	34,008
Minnesota	5,067	95	6,725	537	11,785	19,047	19,063	38,110
Mississippi.....	1,161	46	3,590	1,381	14,833	19,804	895	20,698
Missouri.....	2,150	233	7,588	832	17,668	26,088	3,780	29,868
Montana.....	555	11	1,416	180	1,898	3,494	1,928	5,422
Nebraska	1,763	34	5,399	529	4,870	10,797	5,775	16,572
Nevada	584	24	1,197	271	4,585	6,053	367	6,420
New Hampshire.....	203	8	1,478	83	1,078	2,640	163	2,803
New Jersey.....	1,759	110	5,191	2,686	34,594	42,471	1,069	43,540
New Mexico.....	1,952	44	3,775	1,009	8,878	13,662	3,136	16,798
New York	11,037	278	13,741	3,000	48,766	65,508	41,007	106,515
North Carolina.....	3,195	133	18,556	3,695	31,065	53,316	3,907	57,223
North Dakota	835	15	2,763	174	1,198	4,135	3,610	7,745
Ohio	3,453	109	12,480	2,525	28,645	43,650	4,650	48,299
Oklahoma.....	2,313	65	5,156	1,226	16,993	23,376	5,534	28,909
Oregon	1,767	34	1,094	149	4,889	6,132	5,255	11,387
Pennsylvania.....	4,044	131	14,277	3,480	38,396	56,154	3,244	59,398
Rhode Island	328	20	816	171	2,011	2,997	545	3,542
South Carolina	1,175	10	3,575	1,102	11,351	16,028	1,872	17,900
South Dakota.....	462	50	1,793	93	1,202	3,088	1,617	4,705
Tennessee.....	2,432	83	6,734	2,019	18,825	27,578	3,025	30,604
Texas	11,647	1,402	39,571	13,737	135,443	188,751	13,988	202,739
Utah.....	1,456	32	3,105	345	5,585	9,035	6,649	15,684
Vermont.....	379	12	633	94	993	1,720	755	2,475
Virginia.....	3,319	114	9,639	1,412	15,813	26,863	5,762	32,625
Washington	2,279	60	7,650	954	11,453	20,056	5,073	25,129
West Virginia	1,093	27	2,629	318	4,962	7,909	1,460	9,369
Wisconsin.....	2,024	46	7,179	1,127	7,137	15,444	4,005	19,449
Wyoming.....	272	8	996	168	806	1,970	764	2,734
Guam	23	1	213	10	139	362	-	362
Puerto Rico.....	958	20	124	65	8,248	8,437	171	8,608
Virgin Islands.....	23	1	7	8	244	259	-	259
TOTAL	142,670	5,554	342,036	80,230	983,896	1,406,162	327,254	1,733,416

NOTES: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-24. School Breakfast Program Schools, Participation and Enrollment 2024

STATE OR TERRITORY	Number of Schools and Institutions	Enrollment	Peak Participation
Alabama	1,433	735	306
Alaska	372	95	21
Arizona	1,741	1,009	284
Arkansas	1,071	470	198
California	9,843	5,965	1,820
Colorado	1,628	768	204
Connecticut	960	472	127
Delaware	251	152	53
District of Columbia	276	113	46
Florida	3,926	2,933	828
Georgia	2,269	1,476	679
Hawaii	283	163	33
Idaho	649	293	50
Illinois	3,567	1,563	443
Indiana	1,957	1,069	321
Iowa	1,263	546	121
Kansas	1,258	506	130
Kentucky	1,260	681	325
Louisiana	1,393	705	294
Maine	569	172	67
Maryland	1,423	924	244
Massachusetts	1,982	907	273
Michigan	3,190	1,403	494
Minnesota	1,979	902	307
Mississippi	868	481	192
Missouri	2,277	898	278
Montana	746	148	38
Nebraska	803	320	83
Nevada	590	402	127
New Hampshire	427	157	18
New Jersey	2,277	1,120	280
New Mexico	881	296	144
New York	4,787	2,673	842
North Carolina	2,562	1,522	492
North Dakota	376	126	32
Ohio	3,245	1,635	441
Oklahoma	1,815	664	194
Oregon	1,233	536	133
Pennsylvania	3,160	1,631	552
Rhode Island	327	137	31
South Carolina	1,178	792	289
South Dakota	600	145	30
Tennessee	1,775	1,016	393
Texas	8,587	5,435	1,924
Utah	969	654	73
Vermont	314	89	33
Virginia	1,944	1,261	1,860
Washington	2,028	1,027	224
West Virginia	677	249	138
Wisconsin	3,555	1,296	205
Wyoming	285	87	14
Guam	42	24	8
Puerto Rico	890	298	45
Virgin Islands	43	12	3
TOTAL	93,862	49,191	16,790

NOTES: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-25. School Breakfast Program, Breakfasts Served 2024

STATE OR TERRITORY	Paid (000)	Regular (000)	Severe Need (000)	Free Regular (000)	Free Severe Need (000)	Total (000)
Alabama	4,009	61	569	759	40,864	46,262
Alaska	757	13	125	55	2,504	3,455
Arizona	6,427	173	1,686	1,102	35,798	45,187
Arkansas	7,235	171	3,298	798	19,507	31,008
California	95,472	2,339	2,874	17,615	206,420	324,719
Colorado	11,834	180	482	2,170	15,575	30,240
Connecticut	7,047	367	252	1,738	16,500	25,905
Delaware.....	2,904	55	95	471	4,784	8,309
District of Columbia.....	1,007	13	20	254	5,153	6,447
Florida	15,945	161	1,677	1,879	119,116	138,778
Georgia.....	17,139	414	4,926	2,653	82,090	107,221
Hawaii	1,279	73	217	246	3,258	5,073
Idaho	2,590	96	700	351	3,894	7,630
Illinois	6,389	183	801	2,099	62,400	71,873
Indiana	9,122	302	1,601	1,914	38,809	51,748
Iowa.....	5,015	261	569	2,113	11,474	19,433
Kansas.....	4,416	181	1,162	1,090	12,522	19,372
Kentucky.....	4,727	24	154	143	44,089	49,136
Louisiana.....	3,424	42	225	270	38,717	42,678
Maine	6,508	244	232	1,369	2,956	11,309
Maryland.....	9,819	156	1,268	1,379	28,813	41,435
Massachusetts.....	12,953	223	137	3,035	32,890	49,238
Michigan	18,974	161	390	4,993	56,817	81,335
Minnesota	22,736	980	1,962	4,111	19,479	49,267
Mississippi	3,812	21	1,737	169	23,917	29,656
Missouri	12,882	502	2,841	2,672	24,359	43,257
Montana.....	1,656	105	179	651	3,636	6,226
Nebraska	2,752	183	608	823	8,405	12,771
Nevada	4,382	30	45	758	15,832	21,047
New Hampshire.....	1,968	136	177	590	1,092	3,962
New Jersey.....	16,002	552	3,955	2,116	37,933	60,558
New Mexico	5,116	18	119	229	18,057	23,539
New York	18,158	143	166	5,715	127,649	151,830
North Carolina.....	9,202	67	848	989	66,551	77,656
North Dakota	2,614	297	159	908	1,477	5,454
Ohio	15,695	618	2,830	4,210	50,055	73,408
Oklahoma.....	5,790	78	1,756	491	21,589	29,705
Oregon	6,258	63	185	954	13,846	21,305
Pennsylvania.....	21,924	223	915	3,936	65,535	92,532
Rhode Island	1,607	31	235	196	3,629	5,698
South Carolina	3,829	60	259	891	42,122	47,161
South Dakota.....	1,510	208	226	639	2,205	4,789
Tennessee.....	11,635	217	1,339	2,199	44,006	59,396
Texas	35,528	608	7,074	4,910	253,663	301,784
Utah.....	3,842	308	712	1,425	5,801	12,088
Vermont.....	2,398	129	24	1,291	1,741	5,583
Virginia.....	13,098	236	733	2,362	49,385	65,814
Washington	11,429	181	756	-	27,442	39,809
West Virginia	2,991	4	74	169	18,046	21,283
Wisconsin.....	9,557	371	1,015	2,224	20,693	33,860
Wyoming.....	791	79	162	316	1,073	2,420
Guam	23	-	-	-	1,106	1,129
Puerto Rico.....	814	5	467	7	5,005	6,299
Virgin Islands.....	57	-	-	-	358	415
DOD Army/AF/USMC/Navy ...	281	108	-	252	-	641
TOTAL	505,330	12,453	55,017	96,379	1,860,636	2,529,816

NOTES: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding. Breakfasts served through the Seamless Summer Option are included in the Free Regular statistic.

Table FNS-26. National School Lunch Program Lunches Served for 2024

STATE OR TERRITORY	REDUCED		FREE (000)	TOTAL (000)
	PAID (000)	PRICE (000)		
Alabama	11,499	1,394	70,225	83,118
Alaska	1,804	321	4,582	6,707
Arizona	22,211	4,561	68,938	95,710
Arkansas	13,930	5,742	29,978	49,651
California	173,324	9,591	382,652	565,567
Colorado	35,005	1,794	34,148	70,946
Connecticut	16,095	1,398	32,206	49,699
Delaware	6,093	316	8,300	14,710
District of Columbia	1,830	166	6,375	8,371
Florida	42,764	5,340	249,012	297,116
Georgia	40,701	9,592	134,591	184,883
Hawaii	5,669	1,014	8,614	15,297
Idaho	8,742	2,047	8,617	19,406
Illinois	31,371	3,723	117,461	152,556
Indiana	38,527	5,188	74,124	117,839
Iowa	26,679	2,489	27,992	57,161
Kansas	19,848	3,167	25,211	48,226
Kentucky	9,982	412	66,743	77,137
Louisiana	10,596	778	66,454	77,828
Maine	11,401	719	6,358	18,478
Maryland	21,278	2,910	50,849	75,037
Massachusetts	40,417	963	60,813	102,194
Michigan	45,134	1,312	96,964	143,410
Minnesota	55,705	6,077	41,283	103,065
Mississippi	9,575	3,551	37,903	51,030
Missouri	33,352	6,095	40,352	79,799
Montana	4,634	687	6,818	12,139
Nebraska	16,132	2,568	18,957	37,657
Nevada	9,672	249	28,945	38,865
New Hampshire	7,938	706	3,474	12,118
New Jersey	44,275	8,862	62,978	116,115
New Mexico	8,186	241	25,268	33,694
New York	50,210	1,002	231,322	282,533
North Carolina	22,807	2,054	111,833	136,694
North Dakota	9,884	996	4,223	15,103
Ohio	52,620	7,785	90,307	150,713
Oklahoma	14,565	4,008	39,275	57,848
Oregon	14,418	630	27,897	42,946
Pennsylvania	44,558	2,292	115,654	162,504
Rhode Island	4,907	667	6,312	11,885
South Carolina	10,626	791	71,862	83,279
South Dakota	8,879	1,230	5,527	15,636
Tennessee	25,885	3,221	71,971	101,077
Texas	105,516	17,116	426,910	549,542
Utah	29,491	3,915	19,339	52,746
Vermont	4,116	257	4,444	8,818
Virginia	33,887	2,164	78,878	114,929
Washington	31,158	2,630	54,673	88,461
West Virginia	4,117	103	22,141	26,362
Wisconsin	31,979	3,381	41,493	76,853
Wyoming	3,155	655	2,913	6,723
Guam	190	34	1,903	2,128
Puerto Rico	3,285	1,650	16,101	21,037
Virgin Islands	117	-	713	830
DOD Army/AF/USMC/Navy	2,097	557	771	3,426
TOTAL	1,332,837	151,111	3,343,652	4,827,599

NOTES: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-27. National School Lunch Program Schools, Enrollment, and Participation for 2024

STATE OR TERRITORY	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	ENROLLMENT (000)	PEAK PARTICIPATION (000)
Alabama	1,451	739	523
Alaska	398	102	44
Arizona	1,791	1,030	573
Arkansas	1,073	471	322
California	9,899	5,967	3,334
Colorado	1,799	852	440
Connecticut	1,024	490	301
Delaware	251	152	96
District of Columbia	276	113	51
Florida	3,976	2,957	1,797
Georgia	2,242	1,640	1,142
Hawaii	288	165	98
Idaho	674	301	131
Illinois	4,044	1,722	946
Indiana	2,083	1,101	726
Iowa	1,339	560	372
Kansas	1,325	520	322
Kentucky	1,293	690	504
Louisiana	1,450	732	524
Maine	579	173	117
Maryland	1,435	930	452
Massachusetts	2,106	946	631
Michigan	3,286	1,426	936
Minnesota	1,974	902	662
Mississippi	891	503	326
Missouri	2,371	907	524
Montana	789	155	77
Nebraska	937	353	245
Nevada	609	411	243
New Hampshire	450	162	77
New Jersey	2,643	1,285	720
New Mexico	895	298	204
New York	4,977	2,767	1,714
North Carolina	2,585	1,532	840
North Dakota	405	142	95
Ohio	3,549	1,759	970
Oklahoma	1,819	667	404
Oregon	1,262	541	281
Pennsylvania	3,249	1,662	1,002
Rhode Island	334	138	74
South Carolina	1,179	792	494
South Dakota	664	152	103
Tennessee	1,791	1,023	643
Texas	8,542	5,430	3,441
Utah	982	660	324
Vermont	318	83	56
Virginia	1,945	1,263	734
Washington	2,110	1,067	549
West Virginia	682	251	171
Wisconsin	2,352	845	492
Wyoming	299	90	43
Guam	45	27	14
Puerto Rico	965	302	161
Virgin Islands	43	12	5
DOD/ Army/AF/USMC/Navy	73	44	21
TOTAL	95,811	50,003	30,090

NOTE: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-28. Special Milk Participating Outlets and Obligations 2024

State or Territory	Schools	Institution	Summer Camp	Total	Obligations (000)
Alabama	1	-	-	1	\$13
Arizona	20	-	-	20	19
California	27	1	3	31	94
Colorado	20	-	-	20	56
Connecticut	20	-	3	23	64
Florida	-	-	1	1	2
Georgia	2	-	-	2	6
Idaho	6	-	1	7	21
Illinois	329	-	6	335	1,339
Indiana	20	-	2	22	106
Iowa	27	-	3	30	42
Kansas	51	-	-	51	39
Kentucky	3	-	-	3	17
Maine	3	-	-	3	2
Maryland	22	23	3	48	136
Massachusetts	19	5	-	24	37
Michigan	6	-	12	18	135
Minnesota	138	55	28	221	575
Mississippi	1	-	-	1	4
Missouri	34	-	5	39	133
Montana	10	-	-	10	6
Nebraska	30	-	2	32	42
Nevada	4	2	-	6	26
New Hampshire	13	-	-	13	15
New Jersey	41	-	-	41	91
New York	73	40	27	140	240
North Carolina	6	-	7	13	97
North Dakota	12	-	1	13	12
Ohio	66	1	3	70	234
Oklahoma	4	-	2	6	6
Oregon	15	-	6	21	55
Pennsylvania	26	9	16	51	180
Rhode Island	1	-	1	2	21
South Dakota	20	-	-	20	12
Tennessee	1	-	1	2	6
Utah	14	-	6	20	32
Vermont	1	-	2	3	13
Virginia	7	-	-	7	30
Washington	24	11	-	35	113
West Virginia	4	-	-	4	10
Wisconsin	168	13	4	185	579
Wyoming	3	5	1	9	15
Anticipated Adjustment	-	-	-	-	357
TOTAL	1,292	165	146	1,603	\$5,032

NOTES: These data are based on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-29. Special Milk Half Pints Served 2024

State or Territory	Avg. Daily Free served (000)	Avg. Daily Paid Served (000)	Total Avg. Daily (000)	Total Free (000)	Total Paid (000)	Total (000)
Alabama	2	294	295	27	4,686	4,713
Arizona	-	345	345	-	6,016	6,016
California	56	916	972	898	14,712	15,610
Colorado	127	1,092	1,219	2,186	18,770	20,956
Connecticut	61	1,088	1,149	1,099	19,641	20,740
Georgia	-	130	130	-	2,124	2,124
Idaho	11	444	455	172	7,238	7,410
Illinois	6,854	22,112	28,967	123,306	397,799	521,105
Indiana	264	1,919	2,182	4,842	35,241	40,083
Iowa	18	856	874	328	15,737	16,065
Kansas	96	865	961	1,668	15,048	16,716
Kentucky	-	448	448	-	7,908	7,908
Maine	16	41	57	288	713	1,001
Maryland	-	2,672	2,672	-	47,881	47,881
Massachusetts	60	471	532	1,070	8,358	9,428
Michigan	550	1,591	2,141	9,817	28,392	38,209
Minnesota	169	5,790	5,959	3,112	106,530	109,642
Mississippi	-	114	114	-	1,938	1,938
Missouri	111	2,542	2,653	1,924	44,101	46,025
Montana	47	99	146	853	1,818	2,671
Nebraska	31	622	653	550	11,201	11,751
Nevada	-	453	453	-	8,008	8,008
New Hampshire	12	379	390	202	6,559	6,761
New Jersey	185	1,828	2,013	3,143	31,077	34,220
New York	1,022	3,040	4,062	18,660	55,508	74,168
North Carolina	-	779	779	-	13,907	13,907
North Dakota	4	169	173	72	3,104	3,176
Ohio	234	4,888	5,122	4,103	85,830	89,933
Oklahoma	-	94	94	-	1,565	1,565
Oregon	27	761	788	399	11,364	11,763
Pennsylvania	169	1,038	1,207	2,945	18,107	21,052
Rhode Island	3	21	25	57	386	443
South Dakota	94	171	265	1,707	3,111	4,818
Tennessee	-	27	27	-	478	478
Utah	114	537	651	2,145	10,061	12,206
Vermont	-	16	16	-	276	276
Virginia	-	670	670	-	11,324	11,324
Washington	20	1,696	1,716	361	30,135	30,496
West Virginia	4	235	239	63	3,743	3,806
Wisconsin	213	10,720	10,933	3,890	195,815	199,705
Wyoming	-	65	65	-	1,167	1,167
TOTAL	10,572	72,039	82,611	189,887	1,287,377	1,477,264

NOTES: These data are based on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-30 Summer Food Service Program Sites, Participation and Meals Served 2024

State or Territory	Number of Sites	Participation (July) (000)	Total Meals Served (000)
Alabama	289	72	2,065
Alaska	87	32	775
Arizona	336	20	1,632
Arkansas	181	11	886
California	1,025	49	2,647
Colorado	498	28	1,943
Connecticut	422	27	1,284
Delaware	271	20	728
District of Columbia	177	8	407
Florida	2,369	155	9,187
Georgia	828	53	3,299
Hawaii	115	5	1,098
Idaho	229	25	919
Illinois	1,542	80	4,329
Indiana	829	76	2,414
Iowa	446	33	2,993
Kansas	424	66	2,656
Kentucky	1,619	108	8,115
Louisiana	345	54	6,356
Maine	406	18	753
Maryland	1,296	162	19,574
Massachusetts	1,088	58	2,619
Michigan	1,341	104	7,117
Minnesota	699	49	2,870
Mississippi	213	19	1,253
Missouri	573	40	4,584
Montana	252	28	1,044
Nebraska	173	12	950
Nevada	247	14	1,069
New Hampshire	105	13	317
New Jersey	1,228	97	4,755
New Mexico	247	12	719
New York	2,646	436	16,277
North Carolina	1,781	69	3,632
North Dakota	93	5	442
Ohio	1,262	63	4,790
Oklahoma	471	21	2,612
Oregon	542	30	1,484
Pennsylvania	1,507	61	3,799
Rhode Island	159	5	230
South Carolina	565	35	1,559
South Dakota	67	17	915
Tennessee	1,138	169	4,956
Texas	1,277	57	4,145
Utah	113	10	320
Vermont	255	28	1,299
Virginia	1,097	88	3,913
Washington	753	51	1,061
West Virginia	373	19	1,213
Wisconsin	747	49	2,984
Wyoming	71	4	322
Puerto Rico	1,270	14	1,855
Virgin Islands	69	1	67
TOTAL	36,156	2,780	159,233

NOTE: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-31 Commodities to States for Entitlement for 2024

State or Territory	Entitlement Commodities	Bonus Commodities	Total State Commodities
Alabama.....	\$33,019,794	-	\$33,019,794
Alaska.....	3,154,344	-	3,154,344
Arizona.....	43,611,134	\$56,783	43,667,918
Arkansas.....	22,455,150	-	22,455,150
California.....	242,575,198	718,803	243,294,000
Colorado.....	24,926,045	112,273	25,038,318
Connecticut.....	27,208,807	-	27,208,807
Delaware.....	6,606,014	-	6,606,014
District of Columbia.....	3,757,270	-	3,757,270
Florida.....	111,795,815	-	111,795,815
Georgia.....	70,732,498	-	70,732,498
Hawaii.....	5,474,414	-	5,474,414
Idaho.....	7,906,993	55,864	7,962,857
Illinois.....	58,173,249	-	58,173,249
Indiana.....	62,750,506	-	62,750,506
Iowa.....	24,788,836	-	24,788,836
Kansas*.....	-	-	-
Kentucky.....	36,280,059	-	36,280,059
Louisiana.....	34,877,642	233,671	35,111,313
Maine.....	8,013,786	-	8,013,786
Maryland.....	33,355,566	-	33,355,566
Massachusetts.....	49,256,196	58,732	49,314,928
Michigan.....	60,612,312	78,065	60,690,376
Minnesota.....	47,162,250	-	47,162,250
Mississippi.....	11,112,916	-	11,112,916
Missouri.....	45,998,875	218,041	46,216,916
Montana.....	6,374,525	-	6,374,525
Nebraska.....	16,304,720	-	16,304,720
Nevada.....	19,820,059	-	19,820,059
New Hampshire.....	6,057,483	-	6,057,483
New Jersey.....	58,867,866	81,975	58,949,841
New Mexico.....	14,357,735	3,979	14,361,714
New York.....	113,956,439	6,187,523	120,143,962
North Carolina.....	55,037,093	118,226	55,155,319
North Dakota.....	6,377,993	-	6,377,993
Ohio.....	54,048,598	-	54,048,598
Oklahoma.....	22,652,125	-	22,652,125
Oregon.....	17,591,741	45,557	17,637,297
Pennsylvania.....	74,594,596	-	74,594,596
Puerto Rico.....	7,461,651	-	7,461,651
Rhode Island.....	5,790,441	-	5,790,441
South Carolina.....	35,212,708	65,604	35,278,312
South Dakota.....	6,325,439	-	6,325,439
Tennessee.....	41,761,981	123,488	41,885,469
Texas.....	233,861,036	-	233,861,036
Utah.....	20,282,172	-	20,282,172
Vermont.....	4,103,476	-	4,103,476
Virginia.....	51,856,894	179,369	52,036,263
Washington.....	38,178,135	-	38,178,135
West Virginia.....	12,784,814	35,288	12,820,101
Wisconsin.....	35,730,697	-	35,730,697
Wyoming.....	2,515,494	-	2,515,494
Virgin Islands.....	503,402	-	503,402
AAFES.....	2,319,166	-	2,319,166
Unassigned to States.....	39,334,033	-	39,334,033
TOTAL.....	\$2,079,668,180	\$8,373,241	\$2,088,041,421
AMS/WBSCM Admin Expenses.....	27,188,814.00	-	27,188,814
Anticipated Adjustment.....	-93,960,994	-	-93,960,994
TOTAL.....	\$2,012,896,000	-	\$2,021,269,241

*Kansas received all assistance as cash in lieu. In addition to Kansas, some school districts across the U.S. also receive cash in lieu.
Data Source: WBSCM sales orders and contract information.

Table FNS-32 Commodities to States for Entitlement and Bonus for 2024

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	Pounds	Value
ALASKA POLLOCK, BULK FOR PROCESSING	1,148,400	\$2,041,776
ALASKA POLLOCK, BREADED STICKS, FROZEN.....	1,254,000	3,102,337
APPLES, CANNED, UNSWEETENED	4,801,680	4,851,862
APPLE, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED.....	39,600	38,729
APPLES, FRESH	1,387,386	707,693
APPLES, BULK FOR PROCESSING	43,635,349	16,720,446
APPLESAUCE, CANNED, UNSWEETENED.....	14,432,400	8,548,562
APPLESAUCE, CUPS, UNSWEETENED	26,384,400	18,573,730
APRICOTS, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	443,232	505,440
APRICOTS, CUPS, FROZEN	1,552,320	2,685,736
BEANS, CANNED, BABY LIMA, LOW-SODIUM	139,968	113,864
BEANS, CANNED, BLACK TURTLE, LOW-SODIUM	3,534,192	1,898,182
BEANS, CANNED, BLACK-EYED PEAS, LOW-SODIUM	419,904	290,435
BEANS, CANNED, GARBANZO, LOW-SODIUM	2,659,392	1,334,906
BEANS, CANNED, GREAT NORTHERN, LOW-SODIUM	769,824	386,726
BEANS, CANNED, GREEN, LOW-SODIUM.....	13,966,368	6,848,323
BEANS, CANNED, PINK, LOW-SODIUM.....	174,960	108,536
BEANS, CANNED, PINTO, LOW-SODIUM.....	7,033,392	3,686,809
BEANS, CANNED, RED KIDNEY, LOW-SODIUM.....	1,364,688	774,032
BEANS, CANNED, REFRIED, LOW-SODIUM	2,540,160	2,468,003
BEANS, CANNED, SMALL RED, LOW SODIUM.....	279,936	152,194
BEANS, CANNED, VEGETARIAN, LOW-SODIUM	5,528,736	2,888,238
BEANS, DRY, GREAT NORTHERN	40,000	27,872
BEANS, DRY, PINTO	120,960	80,420
BEANS, DRY, PINTO, BULK FOR PROCESSING	440,000	266,240
BEANS, FROZEN, GREEN, NO SALT ADDED	4,292,640	3,390,362
BEEF, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	65,126,000	244,325,944
BEEF, CANNED.....	468,000	2,017,465
BEEF, CRUMBLES, WITH SOY PROTEIN, COOKED, FROZEN	3,600,000	14,119,398
BEEF, FINE GROUND, 85/15, FROZEN	17,592,000	68,214,926
BEEF, FINE GROUND, 85/15, FROZEN, LFTB OPTIONAL	480,000	1,824,956
BEEF, PATTIES, 85/15, FROZEN	1,710,000	7,081,627
BEEF, PATTIES, 85/15, WITH SOY PROTEIN, FROZEN.....	722,000	2,637,439
BEEF, PATTIES, 90/10, FROZEN	760,000	3,423,678
BEEF, PATTIES, COOKED, FROZEN	3,534,000	18,309,270
BEEF, PATTIES, COOKED, WITH SOY PROTEIN, FROZEN	1,558,000	6,323,823
BEEF, PATTIES, LEAN, FROZEN	608,000	2,858,645
BLUEBERRIES, HIGHBUSH, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	3,088,800	3,892,527
BLUEBERRIES, WILD, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	2,237,760	3,775,727
BROCCOLI, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED.....	8,845,200	16,206,165
CARROTS, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	2,161,440	1,236,052
CARROTS, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED	4,625,280	3,013,374
CATFISH, WHOLE GRAIN-RICH BREADED, FILLET STRIPS, FROZEN	360,000	2,143,363
CHEESE, AMERICAN	7,880,400	18,975,531
CHEESE, AMERICAN, REDUCED FAT	7,009,200	13,630,657
CHEESE, CHEDDAR, BULK FOR PROCESSING	61,730,400	129,362,475
CHEESE, CHEDDAR, REDUCED FAT	3,033,600	6,880,640
CHEESE, CHEDDAR	3,376,320	7,720,137
CHEESE, MOZZARELLA, BULK FOR PROCESSING	61,481,875	112,397,432
CHEESE, MOZZARELLA, INDIVIDUAL, LOW MOISTURE, PART SKIM.....	3,981,915	11,809,547
CHEESE, MOZZARELLA, LITE	1,249,920	2,474,696
CHEESE, MOZZARELLA, LOW MOISTURE, PART SKIM	8,547,840	16,306,397
CHEESE, PEPPER JACK.....	77,600	195,009
CHERRIES, DRIED	325,248	1,550,435
CHERRIES, DRIED, INDIVIDUAL PORTION.....	774,180	3,996,285
CHERRIES, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	237,600	431,855
CHICKEN, BREAST FILLET, COOKED, FROZEN	1,287,000	3,551,965
CHICKEN, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	194,868,000	271,264,648
CHICKEN, CUT UP, FROZEN.....	1,449,200	2,889,718
CHICKEN, DICED, COOKED, FROZEN.....	9,840,000	28,325,292
CHICKEN, FAJITA STRIPS, COOKED, FROZEN	5,460,000	13,835,708
CHICKEN, KOSHER LEG QUARTERS, FROZEN	76,000	225,340
CHICKEN, OVEN ROASTED, COOKED, FROZEN	3,060,000	14,591,554
CHICKEN, UNSEASONED STRIPS, COOKED, FROZEN.....	3,861,000	8,941,015
CORN, CANNED, NO SALT ADDED	11,854,404	7,379,560
CORN, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED	11,602,800	8,538,333
CRANBERRIES, DRIED, INDIVIDUAL PORTION.....	3,229,875	7,182,792
EGGS, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	2,976,000	4,923,456
EGGS, COOKED PATTY, FROZEN	3,237,450	6,500,123
EGGS, LIQUID WHOLE, FROZEN	1,893,420	2,667,808
FLOUR, ALL-PURPOSE, ENRICHED	514,080	151,444
FLOUR, BULK	23,018,400	6,820,499
FLOUR, WHITE WHOLE WHEAT/ENRICHED BLEND	1,028,520	308,937
FLOUR, 100% WHOLE WHEAT	848,000	221,518
MILK, 1%, UHT	1,106,139	829,494

2026 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	Pounds	Value
MIXED BERRY CUPS, FROZEN.....	8,232,000	13,565,540
MIXED FRUIT, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP.....	21,496,442	23,760,644
MIXED VEGETABLES, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED.....	2,455,200	2,222,365
OATS, ROLLED.....	163,800	127,276
OIL, VEGETABLE.....	2,690,400	2,138,961
ORANGE JUICE, INDIVIDUAL, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED.....	3,210,240	5,223,206
PANCAKES, WHOLE GRAIN-RICH.....	1,338,120	1,494,654
PASTA, ENRICHED.....	320,000	686,923
PASTA, WHOLE GRAIN-RICH.....	1,427,400	3,264,153
PEACHES, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP.....	26,843,493	30,155,940
PEACHES, CUPS, FROZEN.....	15,190,560	25,222,472
PEACHES, FROZEN.....	367,392	572,477
PEANUT BUTTER.....	960,960	1,367,577
PEANUT BUTTER, INDIVIDUAL PORTION.....	405,405	777,804
PEANUTS, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	8,228,000	5,298,920
PEARS, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP.....	30,214,024	33,162,716
PEAS, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM.....	1,368,912	969,748
PEAS, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED.....	2,930,400	2,590,125
PEPPER/ONION BLEND, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED.....	990,000	1,601,992
PORK, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	9,804,900	13,847,628
PORK, CANNED.....	432,000	911,974
PORK, HAM, FROZEN.....	4,740,000	11,598,704
PORK, LEG ROAST, FROZEN.....	428,000	814,543
PORK, PULLED, FROZEN.....	4,080,000	9,381,688
POTATOES, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	143,688,958	24,209,836
POTATOES, DICED, FROZEN.....	831,600	749,773
POTATOES, OVEN FRIES, LOW-SODIUM, FROZEN.....	5,583,600	7,436,564
POTATO WEDGES, FAT FREE, LOW-SODIUM, FROZEN.....	1,069,200	1,265,960
POTATO WEDGES, LOW-SODIUM, FROZEN.....	3,405,600	4,885,308
RAISINS, INDIVIDUAL PORTION, UNSWEETENED.....	2,632,032	5,383,892
RICE, BROWN.....	3,360,000	2,884,921
RICE, WHITE.....	588,000	358,243
SPAGHETTI SAUCE, CANNED/POUCH, LOW-SODIUM.....	5,116,938	3,306,987
SPINACH, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED.....	684,720	621,364
STRAWBERRIES, CUPS, FROZEN.....	24,607,800	42,464,672
STRAWBERRIES, SLICED, FROZEN.....	2,534,400	3,433,201
STRAWBERRIES, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED.....	5,306,400	8,157,087
SUNFLOWER SEED BUTTER.....	406,560	609,523
SWEET POTATOES, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	9,476,185	1,780,575
SWEET POTATOES, CANNED, LIGHT SYRUP.....	997,272	695,883
SWEET POTATOES, CRINKLE FRIES, FROZEN, LOW-SODIUM.....	1,584,000	2,296,285
SWEET POTATOES, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED.....	435,600	335,399
TOMATO PASTE, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	10,533,600	8,413,932
TOMATO PASTE, CANNED/POUCH, NO SALT ADDED.....	607,319	537,143
TOMATO SALSA, CANNED/POUCH, LOW-SODIUM.....	3,302,748	2,517,075
TOMATO SAUCE, CANNED/POUCH, LOW-SODIUM.....	2,186,568	1,411,904
TOMATOES, CANNED, NO SALT ADDED.....	2,197,692	1,263,056
TORTILLAS, WHOLE GRAIN- RICH.....	567,000	545,393
TURKEY HAM, FROZEN.....	1,680,000	4,628,400
TURKEY, BULK FOR PROCESSING.....	24,444,000	38,527,200
TURKEY, DELI BREAST, FROZEN.....	6,040,000	19,219,211
TURKEY, ROAST, FROZEN.....	3,920,000	11,281,400
TURKEY, TACO FILLING, COOKED, FROZEN.....	4,329,000	7,628,736
UNPROCESSED FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PILOT.....	-	7,870,077
USDA DoD FRESH PRODUCE.....	304,982,655	471,867,711
YOGURT, CUP, BLUEBERRY, HIGH PROTEIN.....	778,302	1,289,517
YOGURT, CUP, STRAWBERRY, HIGH PROTEIN.....	875,604	1,457,561
YOGURT, CUP, VANILLA, HIGH PROTEIN.....	270,114	450,852
YOGURT, TUB VANILLA, HIGH PROTEIN.....	204,168	349,416
TOTAL -- ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES.....	1,424,322,036	\$2,079,668,221
Cash-In-Lieu of Commodities.....	-	\$235,197,011
AMS/WBSCM Admin Expenses.....	-	\$27,188,814
Anticipated Adjustments.....	-	-\$329,158,045
TOTAL COMMODITY ENTITLEMENT.....	1,424,322,036	\$2,012,896,000
BONUS COMMODITIES.....	-	-
APPLES FRESH VARIOUS TYPE CTN-37-40 LB.....	15,652,560	8,373,241
TOTAL -- BONUS COMMODITIES.....	15,652,560	\$8,373,241
GRAND TOTAL- CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS.....	1,439,974,596	\$2,021,269,241

ACCOUNT 2: SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored):

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), \$7,697,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 17(h)(10) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(h)(10)), not less than \$90,000,000 shall be used for breastfeeding peer counselors and other related activities, and \$14,000,000 shall be used for infrastructure: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other Federal Government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That upon termination of a federally mandated vendor moratorium and subject to terms and conditions established by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive the requirement at 7 CFR 246.12(g)(6) at the request of a State agency.

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**Table FNS-33. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)**

Item	Amount
Enacted, 2025	\$7,597,000,000
Change in Appropriation	+100,000,000
Budget Estimate, 2026	<u>7,697,000,000</u>

PROJECT STATEMENTS**Table FNS-34. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTE s	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec	Chg Key
Discretionary Approp:											
Grants to States (Food & NSA)	\$5,527,346	-	\$6,882,042	-	\$7,448,410	-	\$7,157,410	-	-\$291,000	-	(1)
Infrastructure Grants	13,600	-	13,600	-	13,600	-	13,600	-	-	-	-
Technical Assistance	400	1	400	2	400	2	400	2	-	-	-
Program Eval & Monitoring	22,000	9	12,000	9	12,000	9	12,000	9	-	-	-
Breastfeeding Peer Counselors.....	90,000	-	90,000	-	90,000	-	90,000	-	-	-	-
Federal Admin, Oversight and Infrastructure	31,654	75	31,958	77	32,590	77	32,590	83	-	-	+6
Emergency Contingency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, Discretionary Approp	5,685,000	85	7,030,000	88	7,597,000	88	7,306,000	94	-291,000	+6	
Mandatory Approp:											
UPC Database (Direct Approp.)	943	-	943	-	943	-	943	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, Mandatory Approp.....	943	-	943	-	943	-	943	-	-	-	
Total Adjusted Approp.....	5,685,943	85	7,030,943	88	7,597,943	88	7,306,943	94	-291,000	+6	
Add back:											
Transfers In and Out, Rescissions.....	315,000	-	-	-	-	-	391,000	-	+391,000	-	-
Sequestration	57	-	57	-	57	-	57	-	-	-	-
Total Appropriation	6,001,000	85	7,031,000	88	7,598,000	88	7,698,000	94	+100,000	+6	
Rescission	-315,000	-	-	-	-	-	-391,000	-	-391,000	-	-
Sequestration	-57	-	-57	-	-57	-	-57	-	-	-	-
Balances Interchange.....	503,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recoveries, Other	1,527,000	-	963,171	-	800,000	-	1,100,000	-	+300,000	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY.....	794,000	-	258,391	-	266,434	-	320,000	-	+53,566	-	-
Total Available	8,509,943	85	8,252,505	88	8,664,377	88	8,726,943	94	+62,566	+6	
Lapsing Balances	-4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, EOY.....	-258,391	-	-266,434	-	-1,039,377	-	-1,992,831	-	-953,454	-	-
Total Obligations	8,247,552	85	7,986,071	88	7,625,000	88	6,734,112	94	-890,888	+6	

Table FNS-35. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec
Discretionary Obligations:										
Grants to States (Food & NSA)	\$7,802,199	-	\$7,789,490	-	\$7,475,410	-	\$6,584,522	-	-\$890,888	-
Infrastructure Grants	10,535	-	9,713	-	13,600	-	13,600	-	-	-
Technical Assistance	576	1	424	2	400	2	400	2	-	-
Program Eval & Monitoring	10,575	9	29,158	9	12,000	9	12,000	9	-	--
Breastfeeding Peer Counselors	90,000	-	89,800	-	90,000	-	90,000	-	-	-
Fed Admin, Oversight & Infrastructure	28,685	75	21,975	77	32,590	77	32,590	83	-	+6
WIC MIS	4,557	-	12,558	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WIC Contingency Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Emergency Contingency Reserve.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal Disc Obligations.....	7,947,127	85	7,953,118	88	7,624,000	88	6,733,112	94	-890,888	+6
Mandatory Obligations:										
UPC Database (Direct Approp.) ...	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-
Subtotal Mand Obligations	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-
Supplemental Obligations:										
WIC ARPA Innovation Fund.....	299,425	-	32,953	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal Supp Obligations.....	299,425	-	32,953	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Obligations	8,247,552	85	7,986,071	88	7,625,000	88	6,734,112	94	-890,888	+6
Add back:										
Lapsing Balances.....	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balances Available, EOY:										
WIC Grants to States.....	258,391	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Bal. Available, EOY.....	262,391	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Available	8,509,943	85	7,986,071	88	7,625,000	88	6,734,112	94	-890,888	+6
Less:										
Rescission	315,000	-	-	-	-	-	391,000	-	+391,000	-
Sequestration	57	-	57	-	57	-	57	-	-	-
Balances Interchange	-503,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recoveries, Other.....	-1,527,000	-	-963,171	-	-583,244	-	-1,112,210	-	-528,966	-
Rescinded Balances	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	-794,000	-	8,043	-	556,187	-	1,685,041	-	+1,128,854	-
Total Appropriation	6,001,000	85	7,031,000	88	7,598,000	88	7,698,000	94	+100,000	+6

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES**Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)**

FNS makes funds available to participating State health agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) that, in turn, distribute the funds to participating local agencies. State and local agencies use WIC funds to pay the costs of specified supplemental foods provided to WIC participants, and to pay for specified nutrition services and administration (NSA) costs, including the cost of nutrition assessments, blood tests for anemia, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion, and health care referrals.

The numbered justifications items are keyed to the Change Key (Chg Key) column on the Project Statement.

1. A decrease of \$291,000 for the Grants to States programs (\$7,448,410,000 available in 2025).

The funds requested will support benefits for all eligible women, infants, and children who seek WIC benefits in 2026 – currently estimated at about 6.8 million participants. As shown in the table below, the average monthly food package cost is estimated to decrease to \$52.65 in 2026 due to a general provision that returns the Cash Value Benefit (CVB) for fruits and vegetables to the level set in 2014 WIC Food Package rule, adjusted for inflation. The CVB value will continue to promote the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables; while expanding WIC's reach to allow more women, infants, and children access to supplemental foods, nutrition education, and health and social services referrals.

The average Nutrition Services and Administrative (NSA) cost per person is estimated to increase to \$30.89 in 2026. NSA funds are used by State agencies to provide non-food benefits to participants, including nutrition education, health screenings and referrals, and breastfeeding support; to manage the infant formula rebate system, monitor and manage relationships with retail vendors; screen applicants for nutritional risk and income eligibility; and includes a small portion for other administrative work.

Table FNS-36. Program Performance (thousands of dollars, FTE)

Program Performance	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated	Inc or Dec
Average Participation Per Month (in thousands).....	6,574	6,704	6,789	6,754	-35
Average Food Cost Per Person Per Month	\$55.95	\$61.08	\$63.20	\$52.65	-\$10.55
Average Admin. Cost Per Person Per Month	28.51	28.29	29.11	30.89	+1.78
Total Benefit Costs.....	84.46	89.37	92.31	83.54	-8.77

Projections based on program data released December 2024.

*Estimated participation in 2025 under a full year continuing resolution. The Administration believes it is critical for the 2025 appropriation to support all women, infants, and children seeking benefits.

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**Table FNS-37. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)**

Item No.	Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Personnel Compensation:					
11	Total personnel compensation.....	\$9,795	\$9,806	\$9,806	\$10,797
12	Personal benefits	4,198	3,805	3,805	6,341
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits	13,993	13,611	13,611	17,138
Other Objects:					
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	135	135	135	200
22.0	Transportation of things	3	3	3	4
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	13,574	11,922	11,922	10,202
26.0	Supplies and materials.....	400	400	400	400
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	8,219,450	7,960,000	7,598,929	6,706,168
	Total, Other Objects.....	8,233,562	7,972,460	7,611,389	6,716,974
99.9	Total, new obligations	8,247,555	7,986,071	7,625,000	6,734,112

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STATUS OF PROGRAMS

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides nutritious supplemental foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, and health care referrals at no cost to low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, to infants, and to children up to their fifth birthday, who are determined by health professionals to be at nutritional risk. "Low-income" is defined as at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines. For the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, this represented \$57,720 for a family of four.

FNS makes funds available to participating State agencies, including Indian Tribal Organizations and U.S. Territories. These State agencies, in turn, distribute the funds to participating local agencies. State and local agencies use WIC funds to pay for specified nutrition services and administration (NSA) costs. This includes costs related to staffing, maintaining physical and digital infrastructure, and maintenance of management information systems (MIS) and electronic benefits transfer (EBT) systems. Key WIC services are also funded through NSA, including nutrition assessments, blood tests for anemia, nutrition education, substance abuse education, breastfeeding promotion, and health care referrals.

Table FNS-38. Average Monthly Participation and Costs (thousands of dollars)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024
Women	1,379	1,400	1,485	1,511
Infants	1,465	1,429	1,470	1,487
Children <5	3,400	3,431	3,619	3,704
Total Participation	6,244	6,260	6,574	6,704
Change from Prior Year	-0.05%	0.26%	5.01%	2.00%
Food Cost Total (Million \$)	\$2,666	\$3,587	\$4,424	\$4,897
Avg./Person/Month (\$).....	\$35.58	\$47.74	\$56.06	\$60.88
Change in Per Person Food Cost	-7.50%	34.219%	17.243%	8.80%
Total Monthly Cost Per Person (Food & Admin)	\$62.20	\$74.63	\$84.46	\$89.37

Source: Program Information Reports, October 23, 2024, National Data Bank, KD21 US 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021. Updates may be received in future reporting periods.

WIC Food Package

Every WIC participant receives a monthly food benefit from one of seven science-based food packages, according to their nutritional needs. WIC food packages are supplemental and build on what participants already consume to provide a balanced and nutritious diet that supports healthy growth and development.

Federal regulations specify the amounts of specific types of food in each food package, as well as nutrient requirements and other relevant minimum specifications for the types of foods offered. WIC State agencies develop lists of WIC authorized foods for participants to purchase and are encouraged to include WIC foods that maximize flexibility, variety, and choice for participants while also considering product availability, cost, and other factors.

Once a food package is prescribed, WIC participants, are issued monthly benefits through an EBT card, which can be used at participating vendor, such as a grocery store, to purchase food items prescribed in the food package and included on the State authorized list.

In April 2024, FNS published a final rule to align WIC food packages with the latest nutrition science, providing foods in amounts more consistent with the supplemental nature of the Program; encouraging fruit and vegetable consumption; addressing key nutritional needs to support healthy dietary patterns; and providing greater flexibility, variety, and choice to accommodate personal and cultural food preferences and special dietary needs.

Nutrition Education

Nutrition education, including breastfeeding promotion and support, is an integral part of the WIC benefit package. Statute requires that one-sixth of the amounts State agencies spend for NSA must

be utilized for nutrition education and breastfeeding promotion. Program regulations require State agencies to offer at least two nutrition education opportunities for each participant during each six-month certification period, or quarterly for participants certified for a period longer than six months.

Nutrition education is provided through individual and group counseling sessions. In addition, participants receive resources designed to help achieve a positive change in dietary and physical activity habits and improve health status. Participants also are counseled on the importance of WIC foods in preventing and overcoming specific nutrition risk conditions identified during the nutrition assessment. For pregnant and postpartum participants, special emphasis is given to appropriate infant feeding practices, prenatal nutrition, and breastfeeding support and promotion. Program legislation requires clinics to provide information on drug and other harmful substance abuse to all pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding participants, and to parents or caregivers of infants and children.

FNS supports WIC State and local agencies as they work to provide high-quality nutrition education services to WIC participants. In 2024, FNS:

- Held six listening sessions with 21 WIC State agencies to inform revisions to WIC's Nutrition Education Guidance, expected to be released in 2026. These listening sessions were conducted as part of a multi-year contract, executed in 2023, to update this guidance using a customer-centered approach.
- Awarded a cooperative agreement to the University of North Dakota (UND) titled Substance Use Prevention Education in the WIC Program. Over three years, UND will develop trainings and an online training course for WIC staff, revise the WIC Substance Use Prevention Guide, and create participant education materials.
- Executed an Inter-Agency Agreement with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to advance food safety and nutrition education; the primary objective for year one is the development of a WIC-focused continuing medical education program for health care providers on WIC, its public health impact, modernization and data sharing, and infant feeding. The program will be part of an effort to increase awareness of WIC among healthcare providers.

The WIC Works Resource System ("WIC Works") is an online education, training, and resource center for State, local, and clinic staff administering WIC. In 2024, FNS created new content related to WIC's 50th Anniversary, resources related to the revisions to the WIC food packages, and additional participant resources as part of the "What Do I Do With" series. In 2024, the "WIC Works" online resource center webpage saw a 10 percent increase in views and a 17 percent increase in visits.

WIC Breastfeeding Support

Program regulations also require clinics to promote breastfeeding to all pregnant participants, unless medically contraindicated. WIC supports breastfeeding by providing comprehensive, up-to-date and culturally appropriate breastfeeding information and counseling. WIC program staff offer support, anticipatory guidance, and encouragement to new mothers and the benefits of breastfeeding are explained to participants in the nutrition education information provided during pregnancy.

"WIC Breastfeeding Support - Learn Together. Grow Together." is the USDA's national breastfeeding campaign, which provides key messaging, original photography, graphics, videos, social media resources and posters via a mobile-friendly website. The WIC Peer Counseling Program provides mother-to-mother support to address the barriers to breastfeeding that WIC mothers face. WIC State agencies continue to implement breastfeeding peer counseling as a core WIC service. In 2024, FNS awarded \$88 million in grants to 81 State agencies to support breastfeeding peer counseling services.

In 2024, FNS provided \$2 million in WIC Breastfeeding Bonus Awards to recognize fifteen State agencies with the greatest improvement in rates of fully breastfed infants: Cheyenne River Sioux, Maine, Northern Arapaho, Minnesota, Ute Mountain, Eight Northern Indian Pueblos, Chickasaw Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Utah, Otoe-Missouria, Cherokee Nation, Pueblo of Isleta, Five Sandoval, Oklahoma, and California.

All WIC local agencies are required to implement policies and procedures to provide breastfeeding support and assistance throughout the prenatal and postpartum period. The WIC Breastfeeding Award of Excellence recognizes local agencies that provide exemplary breastfeeding programs and support services. In 2024, FNS awarded one Elite, 20 Premiere, and 82 Gold awards to local agencies that demonstrated excellence in breastfeeding promotion and support.

FNS continues to collaborate with other Federal agencies and non-profit organizations to promote breastfeeding surrounding the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding and the Healthy People 2030 objectives on breastfeeding. FNS participates in a Federal Breastfeeding Workgroup, which focuses on interagency coordination of breastfeeding support efforts. FNS is a government liaison to the United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC), a national breastfeeding committee composed of representatives from relevant government departments, non-governmental organizations, and health professional associations who strategically work to support breastfeeding efforts and initiatives across the country. FNS also continues to partner with the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) through an interagency collaboration workgroup with WIC, Healthy Start, and the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV).

In 2024, FNS expanded the reach of "WIC Picks", a monthly e-newsletter of curated nutrition education content, to a total of 142,185 recipients (a 45 percent increase over 2023) while also seeing an increase in the average open rate of newsletter articles. WIC Picks features updates from WIC Works and the WIC Breastfeeding Support website as well as information from other agencies such as CDC and FDA. WIC Picks delivers the latest information on important topics such as revisions to the WIC food packages, WIC Breastfeeding Support translation, vaccination information, and more.

Program Oversight and Monitoring

FNS oversight and monitoring of WIC program operations is critical to ensuring program integrity. Each year, with guidance from the National Office, FNS's seven Regional Offices monitor and evaluate their State agencies for compliance with WIC regulatory requirements. This oversight is conducted primarily through WIC Management Evaluations (MEs), which involve an in-depth review of high risk or targeted components of program administration. WIC MEs include on-site reviews of state and local agency operations, clinic and vendor observations, as well as a thorough review of state and local agency documentation. The eight functional areas that are reviewed through WIC MEs include: Funding and Participation; Information Systems Management; Nutrition Services; Civil Rights; Certification, Eligibility and Coordination; Food Delivery/Vendor Management; Organization and Management; and Monitoring and Audits. Some items that are reviewed during the WIC ME process include management information system (MIS) reports, financial reports, internal records, internal and external contracts, training documents, and participant and vendor files.

Information gathered through the ME process provides a basis for FNS to develop strategic goals to improve service delivery and program integrity. Additionally, MEs provide an opportunity for FNS staff to focus technical assistance to State agencies on any deficiencies or areas of noncompliance that are identified during the ME process. All ME findings are addressed through a corrective action process. The WIC ME process also allows for identification of best practices and recognition of noteworthy initiatives by State agencies. FNS often shares the identified practices across the country as ideas for implementation.

FNS regularly assesses its WIC ME processes and makes improvements to ensure effective and efficient federal oversight. In 2024, FNS continued its ongoing efforts to strengthen WIC ME procedures and guidance to ensure compliance with program requirements and improve oversight and integrity. FNS updated several WIC ME guidance documents to increase standardization and promote consistency and continued to enhance its ME management system, MEMs NextGen, which tracks ME schedules, findings, and corrective action processes.

WIC MEs examine a specific functional area throughout a two- or three-year cycle. FNS issues an annual WIC ME target area Memorandum outlining the functional area for program integrity and

oversight efforts. In addition, FNS performs an annual risk assessment to identify State agencies that require attention through the WIC ME process outside of the focus area.

In 2024, FNS finished a WIC nutrition services target area cycle. Between 2020 and 2024, FNS conducted 89 nutrition services MEs in addition to 20 MEs conducted based on FNS' internal risk assessment process. The nutrition services ME examines how State agencies plan for and deliver high-quality nutrition services, including nutrition and breastfeeding education. FNS analyzes ME target area data to identify nationwide trends and develop a plan to address the most cited findings and observations, often through technical assistance materials and guidance.

Cost Containment and Vendor Management Strategies

WIC State agencies are required to implement certain cost containment strategies to keep food costs down. Strategies include using a competitive bidding process to award cost containment contracts for infant formula, authorizing competitively priced vendors, and setting limitations on the amount WIC reimburses for specific foods.

Rebates received from competitively bid infant formula rebate contracts, as required by the Child Nutrition Act, totaled approximately \$1.6 billion in 2024. This amount represents the cost of providing benefits to an average of 1.25 million participants each month, or 19 percent of WIC participants.

State agencies use savings generated by these kinds of strategies to provide benefits to more participants within the same total budget.

FNS monitors State agencies' WIC vendor management activities, including the transition to and maintenance/upgrades to WIC EBT. Updates are included below.

The Food Delivery Portal

- The Food Delivery Portal (FDP) is a web-based system where WIC State agencies report their vendor monitoring and compliance efforts. FDP improves program oversight and integrity in all areas of WIC food delivery and vendor management. It streamlines the reporting process and supports State agencies in meeting key regulatory requirements. In 2024, FNS continued to enhance the application and provide technical assistance to State agency users.

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT)

- EBT systems enhance benefit delivery and improve accountability of food benefits and vendor payment systems. As of the end of 2024, the transition from paper vouchers to EBT was completed and all 88 WIC State agencies are delivering benefits via EBT. Of these, 17 implemented offline EBT technology when they initially transitioned to WIC EBT. In 2023, as a part of WIC's large-scale modernization effort, FNS awarded grants to support necessary upgrades to online for those offline EBT WIC State agencies. Grants were provided to ensure that these State agencies could switch to online technology, which supports a modern program including the provision of virtual WIC services and remote EBT benefit issuance. The offline State agencies will work to make the transition to online technology over the next several years. By the end of 2024, two offline state agencies, Utah and Wyoming, transitioned to providing benefits via online EBT.

Value Enhanced Nutrition Assessment in WIC (VENA)

The VENA initiative was implemented in 2006 and updated in 2021 with the purposes of improving the WIC nutrition assessment process and more closely aligning WIC nutrition risk determination with WIC nutrition interventions. In January 2024, FNS released new VENA training materials to WIC State agencies including an independent online learning course and a VENA training toolkit. Throughout 2024, FNS provided guidance on accessing and using the new training tools for State and local agency staff.

Outreach, Innovation, and Modernization

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2, ARPA) provided \$390 million to WIC and WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) to carry out outreach, innovation, and program modernization efforts. ARPA also provided waiver authority, which was used to support WIC and FMNP modernization, including through the continuation of virtual services in WIC and to support State agencies as they pilot and implement online shopping in WIC.

FNS used input from partners and interested parties, targeted research, and FNS program experience and subject matter expertise to develop an investment strategy for ARPA funds. The investment strategy sought to improve health equity, reduce maternal mortality and morbidity, and improve child health outcomes by focusing on projects that improve program participation and retention, increase redemption of benefits, and reduce disparities in program delivery.

Between 2022 and 2024, FNS implemented the investment strategy using ARPA funds. FNS provided about \$200 million in grants directly to State agencies to work on modernization efforts across the priority areas included in the investment strategy (as outlined below). FNS invested the rest of the funds in longer-term contracts, grants, and interagency agreements to advance WIC modernization over the next 3-5 years.

Summaries of the five priority areas included in the investment strategy and selected examples of recent progress follow:

1) Prioritize Outreach

FNS invested about \$20 million to develop and implement a WIC National Outreach Campaign and branding for the program. The campaign is expected to launch in Spring 2025 and will include a new, user-friendly public facing WIC webpage, as well as materials for WIC State agencies and partners to use to reach eligible non-participants.

To support local level outreach, FNS also invested about \$44 million in a cooperative agreement with the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC). Through this Community Innovation and Outreach (CIAO) project, FRAC awarded \$16 million to 36 subgrantees in 2023 to test innovative outreach strategies. FRAC received 196 applications for a second, \$15 million round of subgrants to be announced in January 2025. Funding under this agreement will also be used to identify and promote promising practices for reaching underserved communities at the local level.

2) Modernize Technology and Service Delivery

In 2022 and 2023, FNS partnered with the U.S. Digital Service (USDS) to conduct research and create a vision for modernizing the WIC certification process using technology tools, including streamlining the application process, allowing applicants and participants to submit documentation remotely, offering more virtual and text-based experiences, and focusing more appointment time on providing direct client services. FNS used this vision to develop grants for WIC State agencies (as noted above), and to initiate federal projects. Examples are outlined below.

FNS is also developing resources for State agencies to use as they modernize their WIC programs. Resources, including toolkits for developing and improving online WIC applications and using text messaging as a communication tool, 2025. FNS is also exploring how best to help State agencies as they optimize virtual WIC appointments, which save participants time and travel costs, and how to streamline enrollment and outreach activities through data sharing agreements with other programs, such as SNAP and Medicaid.

In 2024, FNS awarded about \$15 million via cooperative agreement to the National WIC Association (NWA), with partners Nava PBC and Code for America, to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for modernizing WIC management information systems (MIS). Over the next four years, NWA will conduct detailed landscape and capacity analyses; develop a near-term transitional plan for State agency-level MIS improvements; develop a long-term MIS product and market strategy; and help FNS start to implement that strategy, in collaboration with interested parties.

In 2024, FNS awarded over \$15 million in WIC General Infrastructure grants to 13 State agencies to work on projects that will support WIC infrastructure, including technological, digital, partnership, and outreach infrastructure. Projects funded include enhancing MIS, EBT systems, and other technology used to provide WIC benefits and services. Enhancements include those to update MIS and/or EBT systems to meet new federal requirements, provide a better user experience for WIC applicants, participants, and staff, and/or to improve longevity, flexibility, program integrity, and/or cost efficiency of a system.

In 2024, FNS continued its cooperative agreement with Tufts University for the USDA WIC Telehealth Innovations Project. Through this agreement, Tufts tested and evaluated the use of telehealth innovations in delivery of nutrition education, including breastfeeding support, to pregnant women and caregivers of young children participating in the WIC Program. Seven WIC State agencies (District of Columbia, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Vermont) conducted projects. Preliminary findings indicate that WIC participant satisfaction with telehealth services is high. A final report on the findings is expected to be published in early 2025.

3) Improve the Shopping Experience

FNS continues to support cooperative agreements with the Center for Nutrition and Health Impact (CNHI, formerly known as the Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition) to develop and test models for online shopping in WIC via research and State agency pilots funded by sub-grants. In 2021, CNHI developed and released the Blueprint for WIC Online Shopping Projects (the Blueprint). The Blueprint is a resource for State agencies and their partners that are working towards online shopping, and suggests activities to successfully plan, implement, and maintain WIC online shopping projects.

In 2024, CNHI announced five new WIC State agencies as sub-grantees, with two additional State agency partners, to plan for online shopping projects. Additionally, in 2024, one sub-grant project implemented online shopping throughout three WIC State agencies and is currently wrapping up final evaluation efforts. The remaining sub-grant projects are in the planning, developing, and testing phases, and some projects plan to go live with soft launches in 2025. Best practices and lessons learned from WIC online shopping sub-grant projects will be documented in the updated versions of the Blueprint to assist future State agencies as they also begin to work toward online shopping. CNHI is also working with FNS to develop resources to expand online shopping to other State agencies in the coming years.

In 2024, FNS developed the WIC Online Ordering and Transactions and Food Delivery Revisions to Meet the Needs of a Modern, Data-Driven Program final rule, analyzing and incorporating public comments received during the prior proposed rulemaking stage. This rule will address key regulatory barriers to online ordering in the WIC Program by making changes to the provisions that prevent online transactions and types of online capable stores from participating in the Program. The rule will also make changes to modernize WIC vendor regulations to reflect current technology. FNS anticipates a final rule publication in 2025.

FNS is also working on a project to identify ways to improve the in-store shopping experience and provided grants to State agencies to work on improvements such as the implementation of self-checkout and the enhancement of WIC shopping apps.

4) Expand Access to Farmers' Markets

The WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) continued transitioning from paper coupons to eSolutions in 2024. Since 2022, FNS has provided over \$9 million, including \$1.7 million in 2024, in funding to 37 FMNP State agencies to support the transition to eSolutions. FNS provides ongoing support to all WIC and FMNP State agencies working to transition to eSolutions.

5) Develop and Support the WIC Workforce

WIC clinic staff work with families to enroll them in the Program, provide advice on healthy eating, support their breastfeeding journeys, and refer them to other services. To support WIC staff at the State and local levels as the program modernizes, FNS invested \$31.5 million from 2022 to 2024 in a project with USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The WIC Workforce

Development Initiative will run through 2029. The work under this initiative is based on the recommendations from the National WIC Workforce Strategy, which was developed as the first step in this project in 2023 by the University of Minnesota with input from WIC staff at all levels (i.e., federal, state agency, and local agency/clinic).

In 2024, NIFA awarded \$29 million in cooperative agreements to support WIC workforce development by addressing the workforce needs of WIC agencies, and increasing the uptake of WIC benefits and services. Grant activities include assessing and developing WIC staffing models; providing scholarships for the training and credentialing of WIC staff; developing training models and paraprofessional/career ladder development strategies; and creating a WIC Workforce Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center to assess all projects and disseminate learnings.

American Rescue Plan Act Waivers

ARPA waiver flexibilities support State agency efforts to develop and test innovative and modern ideas intended to increase WIC and FMNP enrollment, retention, redemption of benefits, and equity in program access. From November 2021 through September 2024, FNS issued over 1,000 waivers to WIC and FMNP State agencies under ARPA authority. Importantly, these waivers support online shopping projects and enhancing WIC virtual services.

While FNS' authority to issue ARPA waivers ended on September 30, 2024, most approved waivers will remain in effect until September 30, 2026, or until FNS ends evaluation efforts, whichever is later. During this period, FNS will continue to provide State agencies with technical assistance and support to implement their waivers, with the goal of effectively and efficiently providing WIC and FMNP services to eligible families. FNS will review all required new or updated policies and procedures from State agencies prior to a waiver's implementation.

To understand how waiver flexibilities impact program participation and benefit redemption, FNS is conducting evaluation efforts of waivers as a part of its effort to evaluation all ARPA-funded modernization activities. In the coming year, FNS will work with State agencies to clearly define participation expectations for evaluation efforts and begin data collection.

Cross Program Collaboration

In 2024, FNS continued participating in collaboration efforts with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), specifically with the HHS Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Administration for Children & Families' Office of Head Start (OHS), to improve program coordination and service delivery to families with young children with the goal of increasing WIC participation among children one through four years of age. In 2024, quarterly collaborative calls held between FNS and OHS also included staff administering SNAP, CACFP, childcare facilities, Head Start and Early Head Start.

Responding to Disasters and Supply Chain Disruptions

In 2024, FNS issued waivers to support the continuation of WIC services and benefits in response to several emergencies and supply chain disruptions. FNS responded to two disruptions of infant formula by issuing a supply chain disruption declaration on the FNS public website and allowing affected State agencies to offer additional WIC infant formula sizes and brands. FNS routinely communicated with State agencies and infant formula manufacturers to assess the need for extensions, as necessary, for the duration of the disruption. FNS also issued waivers to support State agencies impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton with the ability to offer additional WIC infant formula and food package options FNS is currently developing a web-based application to streamline the submission and review of waiver requests.

Additionally, to support implementation of the WIC: Implementation of the Access to Baby Formula Act of 2022 and Related Provisions final rule (ABFA), which requires State agencies to develop a plan to address disasters and other service disruptions as part of their annual State Plan, FNS published WIC Policy Memorandum #2024-3: Implementing ABFA Requirements in WIC State Plans. The policy memo outlines the requirements for alternate operating procedures with suggestions on how to meet

these new requirements. To further support the rollout of this new requirement, FNS also held webinars and informational sessions at the National WIC Association's 2024 conference.

WIC Studies and Evaluations

FNS published several reports related to WIC during 2024, which are available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/research-analysis>. These include:

WIC Nutrition Assessment and Tailoring Study (WIC NATS)

- This report is the first to provide a comprehensive account of the WIC nutrition assessment and tailoring process, which is critical to the delivery of individualized nutrition services and to meeting WIC's mission. This report summarizes findings about variation in nutrition assessment and tailoring processes at the State and local agency level and the differences between virtual and in-person nutrition assessment processes and benefit tailoring services and staff and participant perceptions of WIC services.

WIC Infant and Toddler Feeding Practices Study-2, Sixth Year Report

- This is the only national study to capture data on caregivers and their children over the first nine years of the child's life after enrollment in WIC, regardless of their continued participation in the program. This report, the seventh in the series generated from this study, focuses on children's dietary intake patterns, eating behaviors, and weight status during the child's 6th year, after WIC eligibility has ended. The report also explores whether patterns of WIC participation in early childhood are associated with dietary behaviors and nutrient intakes after WIC eligibility ends.

National and State Level Estimates of WIC Eligibility and Program Reach in 2022:

- This report, the latest in a series of annual reports on WIC eligibility, presents 2022 national and State estimates of the number of people eligible for WIC benefits, percentage of eligible population, and the U.S. population covered by the program, including estimates by participant category. The report also provides estimates by region, state, U.S. territory, and race and ethnicity.

WIC Participant and Program Characteristics 2022:

- This report, the latest in a series of biennial reports produced since 1988, summarizes demographic, income, and health-related characteristics of participants with active certifications in April 2022. The data for this report are based on WIC administrative records collected from all 89 WIC state agencies (50 states, the District of Columbia, five U.S. territories, and 33 Indian Tribal Organizations). WIC PC 2022 represents information on a census of WIC participants with active certifications in April 2022, including individuals who were not issued food benefits in April.

Table FNS-39 WIC Participation and Program Financing, 2024

State/Territory	Women	Infants	Children	Total	Program Grant ^{2/} (000)
Alabama.....	24,857	28,520	58,325	111,702	\$115,252
Alaska.....	3,070	2,986	8,264	14,319	25,324
Arizona ^{1/}	31,643	33,650	87,668	152,961	172,639
Arkansas.....	15,125	16,748	31,077	62,949	81,209
California.....	210,263	177,464	607,742	995,469	1,198,091
Colorado ^{1/}	20,794	19,395	31,077	62,949	81,209
Connecticut.....	10,733	11,404	28,442	50,579	52,830
Delaware.....	4,601	4,883	12,969	22,453	17,914
District of Columbia.....	3,053	3,091	6,222	12,365	16,337
Florida.....	95,713	95,776	228,794	420,283	459,688
Georgia.....	52,172	58,977	120,325	231,474	248,892
Hawaii.....	5,471	5,194	14,431	25,096	34,555
Idaho.....	7,105	6,640	17,606	31,350	30,277
Illinois.....	38,962	44,133	85,712	168,807	241,975
Indiana.....	33,865	34,911	82,983	151,760	155,937
Iowa.....	13,218	14,199	34,266	61,683	61,700
Kansas.....	10,743	10,704	26,775	48,221	51,445
Kentucky.....	23,430	25,448	57,569	105,447	112,776
Louisiana.....	25,870	28,609	44,298	98,777	120,256
Maine ^{1/}	3,710	3,819	10,679	18,208	21,012
Maryland.....	28,209	27,240	65,737	121,185	139,673
Massachusetts.....	25,163	24,009	73,974	123,147	124,394
Michigan.....	38,594	42,011	108,351	188,956	217,522
Minnesota.....	21,899	21,035	58,356	101,291	117,515
Mississippi ^{1/}	13,481	18,388	28,701	60,570	92,837
Missouri.....	22,992	24,464	46,173	93,629	93,100
Montana.....	2,881	2,972	7,799	13,651	18,519
Nebraska ^{1/}	7,795	7,940	20,756	36,491	38,590
Nevada ^{1/}	11,944	13,132	30,327	55,403	58,420
New Hampshire.....	2,342	2,316	7,822	12,481	13,476
New Jersey.....	35,413	33,245	93,641	162,300	211,309
New Mexico ^{1/}	9,909	9,804	21,063	40,776	55,242
New York.....	93,451	89,322	254,733	437,506	557,976
North Carolina ^{1/}	53,883	54,877	129,340	238,100	238,990
North Dakota ^{1/}	2,074	2,329	5,935	10,338	17,509
Ohio.....	41,477	43,515	93,847	178,839	191,587
Oklahoma ^{1/}	23,491	23,811	52,432	99,733	125,547
Oregon.....	16,991	15,344	45,607	77,942	86,403
Pennsylvania.....	39,830	41,178	101,377	182,385	226,403
Rhode Island.....	3,886	3,908	10,193	17,986	20,793
South Carolina.....	21,562	23,706	54,127	99,395	98,201
South Dakota ^{1/}	3,048	3,405	8,324	14,778	27,122
Tennessee.....	33,725	34,298	70,066	138,089	148,282
Texas.....	208,804	186,968	387,737	783,508	778,151
Utah.....	11,000	10,773	24,661	46,434	58,195
Vermont.....	2,120	1,832	6,363	10,315	15,166
Virginia.....	23,832	25,620	57,539	106,991	112,296
Washington.....	29,148	25,592	79,891	134,631	156,286
West Virginia.....	7,322	8,212	20,437	35,971	43,061
Wisconsin.....	18,997	19,603	53,589	92,188	100,986
Wyoming ^{1/}	1,702	1,768	4,316	7,785	12,859
American Samoa.....	774	673	2,449	3,897	8,756
Guam.....	1,216	1,322	3,769	6,307	11,077
North Mariana Island.....	545	448	1,665	2,658	5,626
Puerto Rico.....	18,752	14,738	54,257	87,747	214,626
Virgin Islands.....	623	581	1,329	2,533	7,352
Anticipated adjustment.....	-	-	-	-	14,970
Total,.....	1,512,271	1,486,928	3,703,798	6,702,997	\$7,789,490

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ACCOUNT 3: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored):

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), \$118,135,343,000 of which \$3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2028, shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: *Provided*, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, shall be used to carry out section 4003(b) of Public Law 115-334 relating to demonstration projects for tribal organizations: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: *Provided further*, That funds made available for Employment and Training under this heading shall remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for section 28(d)(1), section 4(b), and section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 shall remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be obligated or expended in contravention of section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1183A): *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to enter into contracts and employ staff to conduct studies, evaluations, or to conduct activities related to program integrity provided that such activities are authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT***Table FNS-40. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)***

Item	Amount
Current Law Estimate, 2026	<u>\$118,135,343,000</u>

PROJECT STATEMENTS**Table FNS-41. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/Dec	Chg Key
Discretionary Approp:											
FDPIR Nutrition Education	\$998	-	\$998	-	\$998	-	-	-	-\$998	-	(1)
FDPIR Demonstration	3,000	-	3,000	-	3,000	-	\$3,000	-	-	-	
Healthy Fluid Milk (GP)	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Healthy Fluid Milk	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-	-3,000	-	(2)
Subtotal, Discretionary	7,998	-	6,998	-	6,998	-	3,000	-	-3,998	-	
Mandatory Approp:											
Participant Benefits:											
SNAP Benefits	103,879,000	-	108,355,623	-	98,751,803	-	103,545,886	-	+4,794,083	-	(3)
EA Payments	35,779,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal, Participant Benefits	139,658,000	-	108,355,623	-	98,751,803	-	103,545,886	-	+4,794,083	-	
State Administrative Costs	5,707,550	-	5,874,192	-	6,019,547	-	6,197,133	-	+177,586	-	(4)
Nut. Ed. & Obesity Prevention Grants	506,000	-	521,000	-	536,000	-	550,000	-	+14,000	-	(5)
Employment and Training:											
E&T: Federal Funds 100%	123,900	-	123,900	-	123,900	-	123,900	-	-	-	
E&T Federal Funds and Part 50%	525,935	-	539,565	-	555,695	-	572,366	-	+16,671	-	(6)
Subtotal, E&T	649,835	-	663,465	-	679,595	-	696,266	-	+16,671	-	
Subtotal, State Admin Funding	6,863,385	-	7,058,657	-	7,235,142	-	7,443,399	-	+208,257	-	
Mandatory - Other Program Costs:											
Benefit & Retail Redemption & Monitoring	73,509	151	74,856	150	76,975	150	79,169	106	+2,194	-44	(7)
Certification of SSI Recipients for SNAP	21,045	-	21,226	-	21,553	-	21,870	-	+317	-	(8)
Payment Accuracy & Cooperative Services	77,837	105	79,362	113	81,608	113	83,752	81	+2,144	-32	(9)
Web-Based Automation of Systems	7,898	4	8,027	4	8,255	4	8,490	3	+235	-1	(10)
Retailer Integrity and Trafficking	35,879	60	36,684	87	37,722	87	38,798	62	+1,076	-25	(11)
Computer Support	21,105	14	21,287	15	21,890	15	22,514	11	+624	-4	(12)
Electronic Benefit Transfer Systems	19,167	40	19,494	40	20,045	40	20,617	29	+572	-11	(13)
Nut. Ed. and Program Information	65,378	22	66,699	125	68,586	125	70,540	89	+1,954	-36	(14)
Program Evaluation and Modernization	42,162	16	42,545	16	43,749	16	44,996	11	+1,247	-5	(15)
FMMI	3,682	-	3,737	-	3,795	-	3,851	-	+56	-	(16)
IT Modernization and Support	23,090	-	23,435	-	23,796	-	24,146	-	+350	-	(17)
Longitudinal Data Study	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sequestration	-14,656	-	-14,900	-	-15,290	-	-15,688	-	-398	-	
Subtotal, Mandatory OPC	381,096	412	382,452	550	392,685	550	403,055	392	+10,371	-158	
TEFAP Commodities ^{1/}	445,500	2	461,500	2	462,500	2	473,750	2	+11,250	-	(18)
FDPIR	162,150	2	165,001	-	233,000	-	235,000	-	+2,000	-	(19)
Community Food Project	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-	
Program Access	5,000	78	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-	
Nutrition Assistance for Puerto Rico	2,815,630	-	2,915,680	-	2,922,936	-	2,993,543	-	+70,607	-	(20)
American Samoa	11,308	-	11,710	-	11,739	-	12,022	-	+283	-	(21)
Contingency Reserve	3,000,000	-	3,000,000	-	3,000,000	-	3,000,000	-	-	-	
Subtotal, Mandatory Appropriations	153,347,069	494	122,360,623	552	113,019,805	552	118,116,655	394	+5,096,851	-158	
ARP: P-EBT Benefits	30,000,000	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ARP: P-EBT Admin	1,500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ARP: Ext. of SNAP Waiver Authority	3,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	34,500,000	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Adjusted Approp	187,855,067	499	122,367,621	552	113,026,802	552	118,119,655	394	+5,092,853	-158	
Add back:											
Transfers In and Out, Rescissions	511,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sequestration	14,656	-	14,900	-	15,290	-	15,688	-	+398	-	
Total Appropriation	188,380,723	499	122,382,521	552	113,042,092	552	118,135,343	394	+5,093,251	-158	

2026 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/Dec	FTE Inc/Dec	Chg Key
Sequestration	-14,656	-	-14,900	-	-15,290	-	-15,688	-	-398	-	-
Collections/Reimbursable Obligations	118,225	-	125,000	-	130,000	-	130,000	-	-	-	-
Balances Interchange.....	-503,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recoveries, Other	138,000	-	21,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rescinded Balances.....	-8,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	6,719,000	-	6,144,998	-	6,108,698	-	6,109,538	-	+840	-	-
Total Available	194,830,292	499	128,658,619	552	119,265,500	552	124,359,193	394	+5,093,693	-158	
Lapsing Balances	-35,706,688	-	-17,608,760	-	-3,000,158	-	-3,058,832	-	-58,674	-	-
Bal. Available, EOY	-6,144,998	-	-6,108,698	-	-6,109,538	-	-6,050,707	-	+58,831	-	-
Total Obligations	152,978,606	499	104,941,161	552	110,155,804	552	115,249,654	394	+5,093,851	-158	

1/ Up to 20 percent of the funding provided for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for the procurement of commodities may be used for TEFAP administrative costs.

NOTE: Section 1109 of Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4) provides the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program the mandatory amounts necessary to maintain program levels under current law. The 2025 column reflects estimated levels under current law.

2026 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

Table FNS-42. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Enacted	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/ Dec	FTE Inc/Dec
Discretionary Obligations:										
Discretionary Other Program Costs:										
FDPIR Nutrition Education	\$973	-	\$752	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FDPIR Demonstration	5,950	-	-	-	\$3,000	-	\$3,000	-	-	-
Healthy Fluid Milk	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Healthy Fluid Milk (GP)	-	-	2,790	-	3,000	-	-	-	-\$3,000	-
Subtotal Discretionary Other Program Costs	10,923	-	3,542	-	6,000	-	3,000	-	-3,000	-
Mandatory Obligations:										
Participant Benefits:										
SNAP Benefits	119,177,970	-	94,316,317	-	98,751,803	-	103,545,886	-	+4,794,083	-
Subtotal, Participant Benefits	119,177,970	-	94,316,317	-	98,751,803	-	103,545,886	-	+4,794,083	-
State Administrative Costs	5,024,206	-	5,415,569	-	6,019,547	-	6,197,133	-	+177,586	-
Nut. Ed. & Obesity Prevention Grant Prog.	504,389	-	519,666	-	536,000	-	550,000	-	+14,000	-
Employment and Training:										
Federal Funds 100%	113,279	-	123,675	-	123,900	-	123,900	-	-	-
Federal Funds and Participant Costs 50%	484,150	-	473,051	-	555,695	-	572,366	-	+16,671	-
Subtotal, Employment and Training	597,429	-	596,726	-	679,595	-	696,266	-	+16,671	-
Subtotal, State Administrative Funding	6,126,024	-	6,531,961	-	7,235,142	-	7,443,399	-	+208,257	-
Mandatory - Other Program Costs:										
Benefit & Retailer Redemption & Monitoring	62,167	151	68,319	150	73,740	150	75,842	106	+2,102	-44
Certification of SSI Recipients for SNAP	17,798	-	20,548	-	20,647	-	20,951	-	+304	-
Payment Accuracy and Cooperative Services	65,828	105	73,003	113	79,987	113	82,088	81	+2,101	-32
Web-Based Automation of Systems	6,679	4	7,325	4	7,908	4	8,133	3	+225	-1
Retailer Integrity and Trafficking	30,343	60	29,016	87	36,006	87	37,033	62	+1,027	-25
Computer Support	17,849	14	19,391	15	20,970	15	21,568	11	+598	-4
Electronic Benefit Transfer Systems	16,210	40	14,400	40	19,096	40	19,641	29	+545	-11
Nut Ed and Program Information	55,291	22	54,736	125	66,106	125	67,989	89	+1,883	-36
Program Eval and Modernization	35,657	16	35,030	16	42,206	16	43,409	11	+1,203	-5
FMMI	3,466	-	2,671	-	3,579	-	3,631	-	+53	-
IT Modernization and Support	20,419	-	22,077	-	22,440	-	22,770	-	330	-
Longitudinal Data Study	4,224	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, Mandatory Other Prog Costs	335,931	412	346,516	550	392,684	550	403,055	392	+10,371	-158
TEFAP Commodities ^{1/}	478,228	2	454,687	2	462,500	2	473,750	2	+11,250	-
FDPIR	155,576	2	213,810	-	233,000	-	235,000	-	2,000	-
Community Food Project	-	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Program Access	5,000	78	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Nutrition Assistance for Puerto Rico	2,815,630	-	2,915,632	-	2,922,936	-	2,993,543	-	70,607	-
American Samoa	11,308	-	11,710	-	11,739	-	12,022	-	283	-
Subtotal Mandatory Obligations	129,105,667	494	104,800,633	552	110,019,804	552	115,116,655	394	+5,096,851	-158
Supplemental Obligations:										
ARP: P-EBT Benefits & Admin	20,706,769	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARP: SAE Mass Change	607,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARP: SNAP Online Purchasing & Tech Improvements ..	7,422	-	12,547	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARP: Am Sam Supplemental	22,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARP: Extension of SNAP Waiver Authority	2,400,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal Supplemental Obligations	23,743,791	5	12,547	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Offsetting Collections:										
Collections/Reimbursable Obs	118,225	-	124,439	-	130,000	-	130,000	-	-	-
Subtotal Offsetting Collections	118,225	-	124,439	-	130,000	-	130,000	-	-	-
Total Obligations	152,978,606	499	104,941,161	552	110,155,804	552	115,249,655	394	+5,093,851	-158
Add back:										
Lapsing Balances	35,706,688	-	17,608,760	-	3,000,158	-	3,058,831	-	+58,674	-
Balances Available, EOY										

2026 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Enacted	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/ Dec	FTE Inc/Dec
E&T 100% Admin	2,343	-	15,234	-	15,352	-	7,107	-	-8,254	-
Retailer Food and Recipient Tracking.....	623	-	4,937	-	4,975	-	2,303	-	-2,672	-
FDPIR Tribal Administration Study	2	-	11	-	11	-	5	-	-6	-
Puerto Rico Cash Benefit Study.....	4	-	30	-	30	-	14	-	-16	-
Online Purchasing & Technology Improvements	691	-	4,862	-	4,900	-	2,268	-	-2,631	-
Employment & Training 100%	2,000	-	2,563	-	2,583	-	1,196	-	-1,387	-
Nutrition Education	218	-	2,819	-	2,841	-	1,315	-	-1,526	-
TEFAP	11,417	-	20,988	-	21,150	-	9,791	-	-11,359	-
FDPIR Commodities	13,594	-	39,827	-	40,135	-	18,579	-	-21,556	-
Tribal Orgs Demo Projects.....	3,000	-	25	-	25	-	12	-	-14	-
Contingency Fund Unallocated	6,000,000	-	6,000,000	-	6,000,000	-	6,000,000	-	-	-
SNAP Administrative Funding.....	63,885	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SNAP - Online Purchasing & Tech Improvement	24,721	-	17,402	-	17,536	-	8,118	-	-9,419	-
CNMI Additional COVID Funds	22,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Bal. Available, EOY	6,144,998	-	6,108,698	-	6,109,538	-	6,050,707	-	-58,840	-
Total Available	194,830,292	499	128,658,619	552	119,265,500	552	124,359,193	394	+5,093,694	-158
Collections from Reimbursable Obs.	-118,225	-	-125,000	-	-130,000	-	-130,000	-	-	-
Sequestration.....	14,656	-	14,900	-	15,290	-	15,688	-	+398	-
Balance Interchange.....	503,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recoveries, Other.....	-138,000	-	-21,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rescinded Balances.....	8,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	-6,719,000	-	-6,144,998	-	-6,108,698	-	-6,109,538	-	-840	-
Total Appropriation	188,380,723	499	122,382,521	552	113,042,092	552	118,135,343	394	+5,093,252	-158

¹⁷ Up to 20 percent of the funding provided for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for the procurement of commodities may be used for TEFAP administrative costs.

NOTE: Section 1109 of Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4) provides the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program the mandatory amounts necessary to maintain program levels under current law. The 2025 column reflects estimated levels under current law.

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

The 2026 current law estimate is \$118,135,343,000. This funding level will maintain current services for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

The numbers of the following listing relates to values in the Change (Chg) Key column of the Project Statement:

The discretionary level assumes the following:

(1) FDPIR Nutrition Education

The Budget does not continue discretionary funding for FDPIR nutrition education, which provides grants to a relatively small number of ITOs each year that apply for these funds. However, mandatory FDPIR administrative funding is distributed to all ITO's participating in the program on a formula basis, which includes resources for FDPIR nutrition education for all ITOs.

(2) Healthy Fluid Milk

The Budget does not continue funding authorized by Section 4208 of the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018, P.L. 115-334, due to constrained discretionary resources.

(3) SNAP Benefits

The 2026 current law estimate is \$103,545,886,000 for SNAP benefits. SNAP provides eligible low-income recipients with monthly allotments of benefits to purchase food at authorized retail stores. The current law estimate assumes an average monthly benefit per person of \$202 for 42.6 million participants. Totals include funds for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Nutrition Assistance Program.

Table FNS-43. SNAP Performance Measure

SNAP Performance Measure	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Average Participation per month (millions):	42.2	41.7	42.7	42.6
Maximum Allotment (four-person hh) ¹ :	\$939	\$973	\$976	\$999
Average Monthly Benefit per person	\$211	\$188	\$192	\$202

^{1/} Based on the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP)

(4) State Administrative Expenses

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$6,197,133,000 for State Administrative Expenses (SAE), which are Federal matching funds for such expenses as certification, quality control, IT systems, and fraud control. This increase is based on estimated increases in state and local government costs and expected investment in EBT chip card technologies planned by some states.

(5) Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Program

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$550,000,000 for the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Program. These funds support the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program, established by Section 241 of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (P.L.111-296). The funding is allocated to States through a statutory formula and provides 100 percent Federal funding through two-year grants. This change is based on estimated inflation as provided by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) per the statute.

(6) Employment and Training

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$696,266,000 for Employment and Training. These matching funds provide grants to States to conduct employment and training (E&T) programs to assist SNAP participants to prepare for and find work. States use flexible SNAP E&T funding to serve lower-skilled, vulnerable adults who often have limited access to employment services or job training otherwise. SNAP E&T programs are designed to promote self-sufficiency. The E&T grants allow State agencies to choose the components that make up their unique E&T programs and meet the specific needs of their SNAP recipients, including job search and job search training; basic education or vocational training; job retention services, and other workforce opportunities. This increase is due to estimated inflationary increases in State and local government costs, as well as increased State investment in programs.

Mandatory other program costs

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$418,743,000 for mandatory other program costs, which support a variety of investments aimed at strengthening program integrity and payment accuracy, preventing, and combating program fraud, modernizing operations, and supporting other system improvements. The current law estimate assumes an increase due to estimated inflation.

(7) Benefit & Retailer Redemption and Monitoring

This funding provides resources to support compliance specialists, investigators, quality assurance and data mining experts, as well as administrative reviewers. Funding for contracts will support benefit redemption activity, as well as most of the systems development and maintenance associated with retailer management.

(8) Certification of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Recipients for SNAP

These funds are used for certifying SSI recipients for SNAP and utilizing Social Security Administration (SSA) data to ensure accurate SNAP benefit determinations. These funds are also available for data exchange and data mining efforts related to SSA and FNS data, as well as FNS oversight and technical assistance for State Agency SSA activities provided for SNAP certification and data analysis efforts.

(9) Payment Accuracy and Cooperative Services

This line supports a wide range of activities aimed at increasing payment accuracy and promoting integrity and efficiency in State administration of the program by promoting a State exchange of ideas and information. This line also provides funding for the Federal Quality Control (QC) system and computer systems designed to provide states with greater access to SNAP integrity tools. These activities are a core part of USDA's program integrity investments.

(10) Web-Based Automation of Systems

This line provides funding for IT, automation, and technology-based process improvement resources to improve SNAP recipient program integrity.

(11) Retailer Integrity and Trafficking

This line provides funding for a "strike force" of retailer investigators for oversight of the more than 250,000 retailers authorized to redeem SNAP benefits, and for other activities that promote retailer integrity efforts.

(12) Computer Support

This line supports the essential systems needed to administer SNAP, including the Federal staff required to operate and maintain those systems. These systems include SNAP-specific systems, and FNS's internal computer systems that support the activities of Federal staff.

(13) Electronic Benefit Transfer Systems

This line supports efforts associated with nationwide EBT, including staff responsible for the oversight of EBT systems and staff and systems associated with the collection and review of EBT data. Funds strengthen oversight efforts promoting integrity and efficiency in State administration of SNAP by enabling States to travel, interact, and exchange ideas and information. Funds are also available to support the participation of farmers' markets in SNAP by providing equipment and support grants to new markets and those currently participating in the program.

(14) Nutrition Education and Program Information

This line supports Federal costs for SNAP nutrition education initiatives, and supports national projects, including program information and educational efforts to increase awareness of the nutrition benefits of SNAP.

(15) Program Evaluation and Modernization

FNS conducts a variety of studies, evaluations, and related activities that respond to the needs of policy makers and managers and help ensure that nutrition programs achieve their goals. This line supports efforts for programs funded in the SNAP account, including the Federal staff needed to oversee this vital work.

(16) Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI)

The Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI) is an on-going project to enhance financial system transparency and reporting capabilities in advance of new OMB and Treasury initiatives to improve financial management and reporting government wide. This transparency and advanced functionality supports ensuring integrity in SNAP.

(17) IT Modernization and Support

This line provides for the operations, maintenance, and enhancement costs associated with Federal systems and equipment.

(18) The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$437,750,000 for TEFAP. Section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 requires the Secretary to purchase USDA Foods for distribution through TEFAP. The section establishes a baseline funding level and a formula for annual adjustments based on food price inflation. The change is due to the estimated changes in the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP.)

(19) Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$233,000,000 for FDPIR. The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides for an alternative program to SNAP for low-income individuals living on or near qualifying Indian reservations or service areas in Oklahoma. This line provides for the food costs and administration of this program. The requested level will support estimated food cost increases for the projected participation of approximately 65,000 individual per month.

(20) Nutrition Assistance Program for Puerto Rico

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$2,993,543,000 for the Nutrition Assistance Program for Puerto Rico. Section 19(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides a block grant to Puerto Rico to administer NAP benefits. The change is due to the estimated increase in the TFP used to adjust the block grant annually.

(21) American Samoa

The 2026 current law estimate assumes \$12,022,000 for American Samoa. Section 19(c) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides a block grant to American Samoa to administer SNAP benefits. The change is due to the estimated increase in the TFP used to adjust the block grant annually.

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**Table FNS-44. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)**

Item No.	Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
	Personnel Compensation:				
11	Total Personnel Compensation	\$60,734	\$77,034	\$81,867	\$42,994
12	Personal benefits	26,029	24,567	26,108	25,251
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits	86,763	101,601	107,975	68,245
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	2,785	3,423	3,638	3,792
22.0	Transportation of things	265	-	-	-
23.3	Communications, utilities and misc. charges	332	-	-	-
24.0	Printing and reproductions	928	81,694	86,819	90,491
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	-	131,993	140,273	146,207
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources	108,722	59,815	63,567	66,256
26.0	Supplies and materials	633,804	534,462	567,991	592,017
31.0	Equipment	1,326	1,443	1,534	1,598
41.0	Grants, subsidies and contributions	152,025,456	103,901,730	109,054,007	114,151,049
	Total, other objects	152,773,618	104,714,560	109,917,829	115,051,410
	Reimbursable obligations				
41.0	Grants, subsidies and contributions	118,225	125,000	130,000	130,000
99.9	Total, new obligations	152,978,606	104,941,161	110,155,804	115,249,655

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STATUS OF PROGRAMS

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) works to improve the food and nutrition security of low-income households by ensuring access to a healthful eating pattern through nutrition assistance. SNAP provides eligible low-income recipients with monthly allotments of benefits to purchase food at authorized retail stores and farmers markets.

The Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (Public Law 118-5, enacted in June 2023) revised the purpose statement of SNAP as follows: SNAP works to raise nutrition levels of low-income households by ensuring access to a healthful diet through nutrition assistance and increasing earnings of SNAP households through employment.

Eligibility and allotment amounts are based on household size, income, expenses, assets, citizenship or legal immigration status, and other factors. Maximum allotment amounts are adjusted annually to reflect changes in the June cost of the Thrifty Food Plan (a low-cost market basket of foods that meet the recommendations of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans for a four-person reference family). The Federal Government pays the full cost of benefits and funds approximately half of the expenses incurred by the States to administer the program.

The SNAP account also includes the Nutrition Assistance Programs (NAP) for Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR); and the funding for USDA Foods used in The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**Program Participation**

SNAP participation for 2024 averaged 41.7 million persons per month, representing approximately a 1.1 percent decrease from the average monthly participation in 2023. The following table displays data on benefit costs and participation for years 2020 through 2024.

Table FNS-45. SNAP Benefits, Costs, and Participation

Item	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Avg. Participation (Millions)	39.85	41.60	41.21	42.17	41.70
Benefit Costs (Billions)	\$74.10	\$107.93	\$113.97	\$119.144	\$94.282
Average Benefit/Person/Month	\$154.94	\$216.19	\$230.48	\$211.45	\$187.20
Percent of Population Participating .	12.0	12.5	12.3	12.6	12.4
Persons Unemployed (Millions).....	11.7	9.6	6.2	6.0	6.6

The most recent figures from Trends in SNAP Participation Rates: 2020 and 2022 shows that in 2022, 88 percent of all those who were eligible for SNAP participated in the program, which is the highest rate in the nearly 50-year history of estimating SNAP participation rates. This indicates that the program is serving those most in need of nutrition assistance.

Characteristics of SNAP Households

The most recent analysis of household characteristics data, examining 2023, indicates that:

- 79 percent of SNAP households included a child, an elderly (age 60 or older) person, or a person with disabilities;
- 28 percent of SNAP participants lived in households with earnings;
- The gross monthly income of 73 percent of SNAP households was at or below the Federal poverty level;
- 47 percent of SNAP households had income at or below 75 percent of poverty; and
- 35 percent of SNAP households had income at or below 50 percent of poverty.

Participant Characteristics

The following data describes general characteristics of SNAP recipients during an average month in the fiscal year, in terms of both individuals and households:

Table FNS-46. Characteristics of SNAP Recipients

Characteristics of SNAP Recipients	2018	2019	2020	2021
Individuals:				
Average Number (in Millions)	39.3	35.7	36.4	39.2
% Children	43.6	43.0	42.0	39.5
% Elderly	14.2	16.0	16.2	18.3
% Disabled Nonelderly Adults	9.5	10.0	11.8	10.5
% Female	57.4	57.4	57.3	57.3
% Nonelderly Adults Registered for Work	28.8	28.8	25.9	29.9
Average Household Size	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9
Households:				
Average Number (in Millions)	19.7	19.7	18.7	20.7
% Receiving Maximum Benefit	37	37	37	37
% Certified 12 Months or More	75	75	77	81
% with Earned Income	30	30	28	26
% with AFDC/TANF Income	4	4	4	3
Average Gross Monthly Income	\$844	\$844	\$890	\$969
Average Net Monthly Income	\$383	\$383	\$408	\$489
% With Zero Gross Income	19	19	19	21
% with Zero Net Income	36	36	35	36
% with Gross Monthly Incomes Less than \$400	28	28	27	28
% Gross Income Below Poverty Guidelines	81	81	81	75
% Gross Income Below 50% of Poverty Guideline	38	38	36	36
Average Shelter Deduction	\$418	\$418	\$441	\$466
Average Shelter Expense	\$635	\$635	\$671	\$717
% at Shelter Cap (Maximum shelter deduction)	14	14	13	14

Source: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Quality Control Sample – Data may not match data from other sources.

Program Integrity

Recent data demonstrates that the program integrity efforts of FNS and its State partners are yielding results and continue to trend in the right direction. Trafficking continues to be very low. The latest trafficking rate was 1.6 percent in the period from 2015 to 2017.

Trafficking most typically occurs when SNAP benefits are traded for cash or are not used for their intended purpose. Despite holding trafficking to a low level, more work remains. In 2024, FNS again increased efforts to prevent and identify fraud, including emerging crimes such as EBT card skimming, and hold bad actors accountable for misuse of the program.

FNS is responsible for monitoring retailers participating in SNAP and holding them accountable for abiding by the rules. Efforts to support retailer integrity included: continued training of compliance staff; studying 28,245 authorized stores and data to determine which warrant further investigation; imposing sanctions against 2,711 retailers determined to have committed violations against SNAP; and disqualifying 789 retailers permanently from SNAP due to trafficking or falsifying an application.

By law, SNAP State agencies are responsible for identifying and holding accountable recipients who break the rules. In 2024, FNS continued to support recipient integrity through awarding 10 SNAP Fraud Framework Implementation Grants totaling approximately \$4.9 million to support State agency efforts to improve and expand recipient fraud prevention, detection, and investigation efforts using the procedures, ideas and practices outlined in the SNAP Fraud Framework (Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Texas, and West Virginia). This assistance is a continuation of FNS's efforts surrounding the SNAP Fraud Framework, a collection of procedures, innovative ideas, and best practices that FNS issued to State agencies in May 2018.

National Accuracy Clearinghouse

In 2024 and 2025, FNS launched the National Accuracy Clearinghouse (NAC) in five States (Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, Utah). This real-time data matching tool is intended to reduce improper payments by preventing duplicate participation across States.

FNS also began working with additional State agencies to prepare for NAC implementation in 2025 including Kentucky and Illinois that launched in January. States will implement the NAC on an ongoing basis, with the system implemented nationwide by October 4, 2027, as required by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the 2018 Farm Bill).

The new NAC system builds on lessons learned from the NAC pilot. It also incorporates enhanced security measures to protect participant personally identifiable information (PII) through a system design that eliminates the need to retain the most sensitive PII of SNAP participants and applicants.

The NAC is estimated to produce a net reduction in Federal SNAP spending of approximately \$463 million over five years, and a decrease in improper SNAP benefit payments of nearly \$498 million over five years due to detection and prevention of duplicate participation.

General Activities Regulations Issued in 2024

During 2024, three significant SNAP rulemaking actions were published in the Federal Register:

- 1) November 18, 2024: SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) Program Monitoring, Oversight and Reporting Measures. This final rule implements the SNAP E&T provisions of section 4022(a)(2) of the Agricultural Act of 2014.
- 2) November 18, 2024: SNAP: Standardization of State Heating and Cooling Standard Utility Allowances. This final rule changes SNAP regulations for calculating standard utility allowances (SUAs) and expand allowable shelter expenses to include basic internet costs. This rule also finalizes updates proposed April 20, 2016, regarding the treatment of Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program or other similar energy assistance program payments, in accordance with amendments made to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 by the Agricultural Act of 2014.
- 3) December 17, 2024: SNAP: Program Purpose and Work Requirement Provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023. This final rule implements three provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 by adding to the program purpose language assisting low-income adults in obtaining employment and increasing their earnings; updating and defining the exceptions from the able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) time limit; and adjusting the number of discretionary exemptions available to State agencies each year.

Online Purchasing Pilots

The 2014 Farm Bill mandated a pilot to test the feasibility and implications of allowing SNAP authorized retailers to accept SNAP benefits through online transactions. The Online Purchasing Pilot is required to be secure, private, easy to use, and provide similar support to that found for SNAP transactions in a retail store. Benefits cannot be used to pay for fees of any type, such as delivery, service, or convenience fees. The goal is to ensure that the foundational infrastructure necessary for running SNAP transactions online operates in a safe and secure manner.

As of September 2024, SNAP online purchasing is currently operational in all 50 States and the District of Columbia, throughout which, more than 390 retailer chains are live with SNAP online purchasing, representing thousands of actual stores. The expansion of SNAP online purchasing to independently owned and operated retail stores continues to be a priority for the Agency. SNAP is providing customer service and technical assistance to all interested

parties.

Under a \$5 million grant to the National Grocers Association Foundation, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, awarded in December 2022, FNS established the SNAP EBT Modernization Technical Assistance Center (SEMTAC). The SEMTAC is a technical assistance center that provides guidance and technical expertise to retailers, especially, smaller independent stores, offers SNAP online purchasing and increases client access to SNAP Online Purchasing. This work has increased the Agency's capacity to provide technical assistance tailored to the needs of small retailers. As of September 2024, SEMTAC has worked to provide technical assistance calls to over 80 different retailers/businesses. As such, FNS expects numerous additional smaller retailers to implement online purchasing in 2025.

Electronic Benefit Theft

Beginning in 2023, reports from State agencies of SNAP EBT benefit theft resulting from card skimming and cloning went from few and sporadic to a regular occurrence. While most States have not systematically collected skimming metrics, States reported that the call volume about this crime began to increase in scope and consistency during 2022. Card skimming occurs when thieves place physical devices on automatic teller machines (ATMs) and retail point of sale (POS) devices to obtain card number and PIN information.

Information obtained from card skimming may be used to make fraudulent online transactions or may be used for card cloning, where thieves copy stolen card information onto blank cards.

These losses have a devastating effect on SNAP households. In many States, both cash (i.e., Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)) and SNAP benefits are loaded on the same EBT card, which means that all benefits are at risk once an EBT card has been compromised. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328), provided for the replacement of some stolen benefits with Federal funds and required FNS to issue guidance to State agencies and promulgate regulations to project and replace benefits. In January 2023, FNS issued guidance to State agencies outlining the requirements for replacement of stolen benefits plans and by October 2023, FNS approved all 53 State agencies' plans to replace stolen benefits. The Act also required that FNS establish standard reporting methods for States to collect and share data with FNS on SNAP EBT theft. Whereas prior to 2023 FNS had limited information on the frequency or location of SNAP benefit theft, States' reports on their replacement of stolen benefits provide some insight on the scope of this issue.

Using the data FNS has been collecting from States on their replacements of stolen SNAP benefits, FNS launched a publicly available dashboard on its website in October 2023. This dashboard was updated quarterly. There are caveats in interpreting the data displayed in the dashboard, and FNS has created a data guide and instructions for dashboard users to help contextualize the SNAP stolen benefit data.

For the past two years, FNS has engaged with States, partners, and industry through an independent governing body (the Accredited Standards Committee X9) to align Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) technology with credit and debit industry standards. The goal of this engagement has been to protect SNAP recipient families from benefit theft by moving EBT transactions to more secure technology, including chip cards and mobile wallet payments, and to enhance security for online purchases. In late August 2024, the X9 Committee ratified and published revised EBT standards. Finalizing these standards is a significant step towards modernizing SNAP EBT technology, combating benefit theft, and facilitating the ability for States to implement EBT cards with chip technology.

In November 2024, FNS submitted to Congress, as directed by Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, a report which contains information on SNAP EBT theft, comparisons of replacement of stolen SNAP benefit policies across States, a summary of FNS efforts to

coordinate with key stakeholders, steps FNS has taken to incorporate industry standards into its SNAP EBT theft prevention efforts, and a comparison of State plans related to reimbursement, prevention and other relevant procedures.

In December 2024, FNS published a policy memo directed to all SNAP State agencies which provided information on the sunset of replacement of stolen SNAP benefits as enacted by The American Relief Act, 2025 (P.L. 118-83). Within the memo, FNS provides details on the notifying households of the end of the Federal replacements program, and the continued reporting requirements for all replacement issuances using Federal funds.

Grants to Improve Program Access and Eligibility Determination

FNS awarded Process and Technology Improvement Grants (PTIGs) to local and State SNAP agencies. The grants are authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, which provides FNS the authority to award \$5 million dollars in funds each year. The 2024 PTIG awarded projects focused on modernizing SNAP customer service and client communication to improve accessibility, transparency, and responsiveness in processing applications and determining eligibility; improving administrative infrastructure and day-to-day SNAP operations in processing applications and determining eligibility; and investing in technology and systems to encourage cross collaboration and cross enrollment between SNAP and other Federal, State, and local assistance programs.

For 2024, FNS awarded eight grants:

- Maine Department of Health and Human Services – \$605,950
- Larimer County Department of Human Services (CO) – \$653,226
- Oklahoma Department of Human Services – \$1,165,907
- Jefferson County Department of Social Services (NY) – \$140,491
- Arkansas Department of Human Services – \$874,076
- Washington State Department of Social and Health Services – \$597,748
- Dallas County Health and Human Services (TX) – \$398,371
- Illinois Department of Human Services – \$564,231

Earnings Verification System

In 2024, FNS took action to implement the SNAP Earnings Verification Service (EVS) through contracts with two providers of third-party income databases. The SNAP EVS provided State agencies with access to two commercial databases of employment and earnings records. State agencies administering SNAP could use the SNAP EVS to obtain real-time verification of earned income sources and amounts for SNAP applicants and recipients. For 2025, FNS shifted its approach to provide funding support for income verification directly to State agencies through noncompetitive grants. Forty-three eligible applicants received over \$37 million in SNAP Earnings Verification Support Grants for 2025. To support payment accuracy and program integrity, this grant funding allows SNAP State agencies to continue the use of third-party income database services under their own State contracts, to procure new State contracts to support electronic verification of employment and earnings, or to explore and test alternative methods to electronically verify employment and earnings.

Treasury Offset Program

FNS continues efforts to collect debts owed to SNAP. For example, current and former recipients who are delinquent in their repayment of SNAP over issuances are referred to the Treasury Offset Program (TOP) to initiate collection activity. TOP is the collection mechanism by which Federal payments to individuals, such as tax refunds and Federal salary payments, are offset to pay outstanding debts. Approximately \$172 million in delinquent debt was collected through TOP in 2024. About \$3.3 billion has been collected through TOP (and its predecessor, the Federal Tax Refund Offset Program) since FNS began this effort as a pilot project in 1992. These claims may not have been collected without Federal collection programs being made available to the State agencies that manage these

debts.

SNAP Outreach

As part of their program operations, States have the option of providing outreach as part of their program operations, and FNS reimburses up to 50 percent of the allowable administrative costs for these activities. During 2024, 48 State agencies had approved outreach plans.

SNAP Administration Performance Improvement Initiatives

Systems Improvement Support and Technical Assistance for States: FNS works with States throughout their integrated eligibility system development and implementation to provide oversight and technical assistance to mitigate system-rollout challenges and ensure customer service and integrity in SNAP administration. In surveys conducted by FNS, States report that the technical assistance is helpful, insightful, and invaluable for ensuring compliance with SNAP policy. Training participants also consistently report that the trainings are informative and useful.

To provide more proactive technical assistance on the front end of new system development, In 2024, USDA continued work on a 5-year contract on system technical assistance to strengthen FNS' capacity to ensure that State eligibility systems fully meet SNAP certification policy requirements. Direct technical assistance was provided to targeted States in various phases of an eligibility system upgrade, and associated trainings delivered to FNS staff. SNAP is working with regional offices and States interested in technical assistance to fill the remaining slots and plans to rotate other States into slots as each State completes their project. D-SNAP eligibility systems development will also be covered under this contract. The contractor focused on strengthening FNS's capacity to ensure that State eligibility systems fully meet SNAP certification policy requirements, direct technical assistance to targeted States in various phases of an eligibility system upgrade and delivered associated trainings to FNS staff.

System Implementation Monitoring for State Agencies: Failed eligibility system efforts result in high costs to State agencies, FNS, and clients in terms of lost productivity, decreased access to benefits for eligible households, and poor customer service. FNS provides robust oversight and technical assistance to States that implement new eligibility systems that fail to fully meet the SNAP certification policy requirements. FNS also works closely with States that previously received warning letters as they implement corrective actions.

SNAP Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program (SNAP-Ed)

In 2024, SNAP-Ed funding was approximately \$521 million. The 2025 SNAP-Ed Plan Guidance, released in May 2024, provided updated information on FNS priorities and policies for SNAP-Ed. For example, FNS updated guidance to reflect recently released final rules that indirectly impact SNAP-Ed, and provided clarification on topics such as participant compensation, plan amendments, and allowable costs items.

SNAP-Ed Data Improvement: To address provisions of the 2018 Farm Bill, in 2024, FNS continued efforts to implement the National Program Evaluation and Reporting System (N-PEARS) for SNAP-Ed electronic data collection and reporting. Specifically, FNS launched the annual report modules and continued review of the first round of State plans submitted in the system. N-PEARS improves SNAP-Ed's ability to collect, manage, and aggregate data to measure program effectiveness and accountability at the national level.

FNS also created SNAP-Ed Connection, an online clearinghouse, required by the 2018 Farm Bill, which serves as a resource center for SNAP-Ed providers.

Incentive Programs to Increase Healthy Food Purchases in SNAP

Encouraging SNAP families to purchase more healthy foods remains an important priority for FNS. In 2024, FNS continued to work with program partners to provide flexibilities to help

improve access to healthy food options for SNAP families through incentive programs.

Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP): GusNIP was established by the 2014 Farm Bill to incentivize the purchase of fruits and vegetables by SNAP participants. It replaces the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive pilots initiated by the 2008 Farm Bill.

GusNIP is collaboratively administered by FNS and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). In 2024, grant awards for GusNIP totaled \$36.3 million, and went to 14 organizations in 10 States, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

FNS works collaboratively with NIFA and the GusNIP Technical Assistance Center to support GusNIP grant awardees.

Retailer Incentives

As defined in 7 U.S.C. 2018 (j), authorized SNAP retailers may incentivize the purchase of fruits, vegetables, fat-free or low-fat dairy, or whole grain products with SNAP benefits in accordance with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Incentives funded by retailers, non-profit organizations, or local/State governments, can follow a multitude of models. The most common models allow SNAP customers to either receive the incentive as: 1) an automatic dollar-for-dollar match up to a capped amount in the form of a paper or loyalty card coupon to use on a future purchase of additional healthy foods at the partnering store, 2) a percentage discount at the point of sale for the purchase of SNAP-eligible incentive foods, or 3) an automatic rebate back onto the SNAP customer's EBT card for use on any SNAP-eligible purchase at any authorized retailer.

In 2024, 11 entities were approved to operate incentive projects to encourage the purchase of healthy foods among SNAP families.

Table FNS-47. 2024 SNAP Incentive Projects

Retailer/Non-Profit Funded	Local Government Funded	State Funded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albertson's Alaska - Statewide, Alaska • Albertson's SoCal - Southern California Region, California • Hackensack Meridian Health - Hackensack, NJ • Schnucks - Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment- Seattle, Washington <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Seattle grocery stores • Marion County Public Health Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 independently owned Safeway's • 1 local bodega • 1 local fresh market 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California EBT Incentive Program • Delaware Incentive Program • Rhode Island Healthy Incentive Program (HIP)

Electronic Healthy Incentives Pilot

Under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, USDA authorized \$25 million to enter into cooperative agreements with State agencies on a competitive basis to carry out Electronic Healthy Incentive Projects (eHIP) under USDA's Framework to Transform the Food System. eHIP is intended to streamline incentives and make it easier for SNAP households to access the healthy foods necessary for lifelong health and well-being.

In June 2023, FNS announced that Colorado, Louisiana, and Washington were selected to receive grants and federal support to establish and operate eHIP. Each of the States will upgrade its SNAP Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system so incentive dollars can be loaded directly onto participants' EBT cards at the point of purchase. The eHIP delivery method aims to reduce administrative costs, allowing more incentive dollars to reach SNAP participants.

Colorado's project went live in August 2024 and targets a variety of small and independent stores, farmers markets, and retail chains. SNAP participants who purchase qualifying fruits

and vegetables using their SNAP benefits will receive 100 percent of the dollars spent on the qualifying purchase back on their EBT card to be subsequently redeemed on the purchase of any SNAP eligible food, up to \$60 per month, per household.

Louisiana's project will target low-income communities where residents suffer from diet-related diseases. SNAP participants will receive \$0.30 for every dollar of SNAP benefits spent on fruits and vegetables back onto their EBT card to be redeemed during a subsequent purchase for any SNAP eligible food, up to \$25 per month. Louisiana launched their program in April 2025.

Washington's project went live in May 2024., and SNAP participants who purchase a qualifying fruit or vegetable using SNAP benefits will receive 100 percent of the qualifying purchase back onto their EBT card which can be redeemed for a subsequent purchase of any SNAP eligible food, up to \$50 per month.

Elderly Access

In 2024, FNS continued operation of three demonstration project types (Combined Application Projects, Elderly Simplified Application Projects, and Standard Medical Deductions) to improve access to SNAP for the elderly. All FNS approved demonstration projects must maintain cost neutrality and include a rigorous evaluation component.

Combined Application Projects (CAPs) are a partnership between the Social Security Administration (SSA), FNS, and State and local agencies to streamline application procedures for individuals receiving SSI benefits. The projects strengthen access to nutrition benefits for the elderly and people with disabilities while improving the administration of SNAP. The combination of standardized benefits or standardized shelter deductions, reduced recertification requirements and eliminating the need for SSI recipients to visit the local SNAP office has significantly increased participation among the elderly and people with disabilities. In 2024, 17 States operated CAP demonstration projects: Arizona, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

Elderly Simplified Application Projects (ESAPs) are demonstration projects that utilize a shorter SNAP application, waive the recertification interview, allow longer certification periods, and utilize data-matching for verification. In 2024, Indiana and Kentucky implemented new ESAPs. In addition, 22 other States continued to operate ESAPs: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

Standard Medical Deductions (SMDs) are demonstration projects that ease verification requirements for senior and disabled households with out-of-pocket medical expenses over \$35 per month. In 2024, 25 States operated SMD projects: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming.

Payment Accuracy

The SNAP payment error rate is a measure of how accurately States determine eligibility and benefit amounts. In June 2024, FNS issued the national and State SNAP payment error rates for 2023. The national overpayment error rate for 2023 was 10.03 percent and the underpayment error rate was 1.64 percent. States are assigned a financial liability if they have high payment error rates for two consecutive fiscal years. Based on the 2022 and 2023 rates, FNS assessed a financial liability for seven States. These penalties can be paid immediately to USDA or settled by investing 50 percent of the amount in activities that are focused on improving the state's administration of SNAP. The remaining 50% is held at-risk

for future payment to USDA if the State continues to have a high error rate.

FNS is committed to supporting States in improving payment accuracy in SNAP to ensure the program effectively and efficiently serves those who need it and promotes good stewardship of taxpayer dollars. To that end, FNS has continued to work with State agencies throughout the fiscal year to support their efforts. For example, FNS provided States with targeted technical assistance, access to third-party income databases to support employment and earnings verification, improved data analysis tools to analyze root causes of payment errors, an updated Keys to Payment Accuracy guide of best practices, peer-to-peer information sharing opportunities, and additional training. In 2025, FNS plans to continue supporting efforts to help States analyze their root causes of error and target corrective action plans to address identified causes. For example, FNS Regional Offices work directly with State agencies to assist them in developing effective corrective action plans to reduce payment errors. Regional Offices provide technical assistance to States through data analysis, policy interpretation, training, development, and monitoring of corrective action plans, while also facilitating information exchange with and among States through annual payment accuracy conferences and State exchange funding. Regional Offices review and validate that States complete corrective actions as required.

Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)

FNS's role in D-SNAP operations include analyzing and responding to State agency requests to operate D-SNAP, waiving applicable certification and issuance policies for ongoing SNAP households to ease program administration, providing on-site monitoring of State operations to ensure timely and accurate delivery of benefits, and providing operational guidance to States as needed. The D-SNAP review process allows FNS to provide individualized technical assistance to help States most effectively serve the nutrition assistance needs of its disaster-impacted populations. In addition, FNS assists States in planning for future disasters by reviewing D-SNAP guidance and sharing best practices through webinar and conference presentations throughout the year. FNS also requires each State agency to submit and annually review a D-SNAP plan.

The following table summarizes State reported disaster assistance provided in calendar year 2024.

Table FNS-48. 2024 SNAP Disaster Assistance

State	Time	Disaster	Total Households (New cases and ongoing HHs)	Total Issuance (D-SNAP benefits and supplements)
CA	Mar	Severe Storms and Flooding	13,622	\$6,165,438
OK	May	Severe Storms and Tornadoes	1,470	\$903,076
IA	Jun	Severe Storms and Tornadoes	15	\$9,579
AR	Jun	Severe Storms and Tornadoes	1,726*	\$1,645,914*
OK	Jul	Severe Storms and Tornadoes	145	\$107,759
NM	Jul, Aug	Wildfires and Flooding	11,726*	\$3,386,428*
IA	Jul	Severe Storms and Flooding	1,006*	\$703,904*
LA	Sept, Oct	Hurricane Francine	52,254*	\$20,815,838*
TN	Oct, Nov	Tropical Storm Helene	1,477*	\$2,111,542*
NC	Oct, Nov	Tropical Storm Helene	141,397*	\$61,846,259*
GA	Oct, Nov, Dec	Hurricane Helene	266,599*	\$123,124,902*
FL	Oct, Nov, Dec	Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton	625,355*	\$265,238,088*
SC	Nov, Dec	Hurricane Helene	222,846*	\$86,536,797*
VA	Nov	Hurricane Helene	18,641*	\$5,547,448*
Total			1,358,270	\$578,142,972

* Values in Table FNS-48. 2024 SNAP Disaster Assistance that are noted with an asterisk are not final. States provide final numbers via the FNS-292B form. These numbers are derived from States' final D-SNAP daily reports as an estimate.

Employment and Training (E&T)

The Food Security Act of 1985 required States to establish an E&T Program to help able-

bodied SNAP recipients find work or gain the skills, training, and experience that lead to employment. SNAP participants who are not specifically exempted by statute are subject to work requirements as a condition of eligibility. Work requirements include:

- Registering for work;
- Participating in a SNAP E&T program or workfare program if assigned;
- Not voluntarily quitting a job or reducing work hours to less than 30 hours per week.

In addition to the work requirements, able-bodied adults without dependents

(ABAWDs)

must comply with additional requirements to receive benefits for more than three months in a 36-month period. ABAWDs in non-waived areas must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Work at least 20 hours a week;
- Participate for at least 20 hours a week in qualifying education or training activities; or
- Participate in workfare to receive benefits for more than 3 months in a 36-month period.

FNS is currently analyzing data on SNAP participants subject to SNAP work requirements in 2024. An update on the number of individuals subject to these work requirements and registered for work, as reported to FNS on the FNS-583, will be available at a later date.

SNAP E&T is a Federally funded, State administered program. States use flexible E&T funding to design programs that help SNAP recipients gain skills, education, or experience to help them obtain regular employment. States have a great deal of flexibility in designing E&T programs that meet the needs of their participants and local economy.

States submit an annual plan to FNS that details what E&T services, called components, the State plans to offer, including supervised job search and job search training, workfare, basic education or vocational training, and job retention services. States also submit expenditure, quarterly participation, and annual outcome reporting measures that reflect job entry, retention, and earnings. These national reporting measures are broken down by key characteristics that reflect the diversity of the SNAP population. States are required to establish reporting measures for each E&T activity designed to serve more than 100 participants.

In 2023, States served an estimated 315,203 participants through their E&T programs. At the time of publication, participation data for 2024 were not yet available.

SNAP E&T is funded under four funding streams:

Table FNS-49. SNAP E&T Funding Streams (in thousands)

Item	Description	2024 Enacted
100 Percent Federal Grant	Base funding for E&T administration, allocated annually to States based on the percentage of work registrants and ABAWDs in each State	\$103,900
ABAWD 100 percent Federal Grant	Additional grants for States that guarantee certain activities aimed at the ABAWD population	20,000
Federal 50 percent Administrative Grants	50 percent reimbursement for States that exceed their 100 percent Federal grant	393,756
Federal 50 percent Participation Grants	50 percent reimbursement for transportation and childcare costs to ensure successful participation in E&T programs. States are not allowed to use 100 percent grants for participant reimbursement	81,508
Total		599,164

In 2024, FNS awarded approximately \$3 million in three-year SNAP E&T National Partnership Grantees are national non-profit organizations with broad member or affiliate networks that provide direct workforce development services to low-income and low-skilled

individuals, including SNAP participants. Grant funds will be used to increase organizational capacity to provide technical assistance to network members or affiliates to become third-party SNAP E&T providers, ultimately increasing States' ability to provide high-quality E&T services to SNAP participants.

Since 2015, FNS has operated the SNAP to Skills Project (S2S), a technical assistance (TA) effort that provides States tools and resources to develop skills-based SNAP E&T programs. Through S2S, FNS offers direct technical assistance to States. In 2024, S2S operated a two-day SNAP to Skills State Institute for 20 States in Tysons Corner, Virginia. The participating States included Alaska, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wyoming. The State Institute included speakers, breakout sessions and dedicated worktime designed to help States take their SNAP E&T vision to action. Additionally, S2S offered a series of three publicly offered virtual trainings that provided States practical steps for casting a vision, developing a strategy, and creating a culture of continuous improvement. These technical assistance initiatives are central to FNS's efforts to improve the quality of State SNAP E&T programs and to help SNAP recipients move towards economic self-sufficiency.

In addition to direct technical assistance, S2S creates new tools and resources each year, which are made publicly available on the FNS and S2S websites. In 2025, FNS anticipates releasing new S2S resources focused on helping States and SNAP E&T providers adopt and implement SNAP E&T operational and financial management best practices. FNS also expects to host a 2025 State Academy, which will be an in-person event for up to 20 States.

Additionally, FNS launched a national SNAP E&T campaign, *More Than a Job*, in 2024 to raise awareness about SNAP E&T services and opportunities and encourage enrollment among eligible SNAP participants. Materials, such as posters and flyers, are available for State agencies to customize and place in local communities and on agency websites. In October 2024, FNS hosted the 2024 SNAP E&T National Forum, in Tysons Corner, Virginia. This bi-annual event convenes SNAP E&T stakeholders from across the country to learn about SNAP E&T policy and operations, share best practices, and discover innovative ideas for increasing skills and employment among SNAP households through State SNAP E&T programs.

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Systems

Eligible SNAP households are issued a plastic benefit card, like a debit card, to make food purchases. In most States, EBT cards are also used for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and other cash benefit programs. These systems are interoperable, which means that recipients may shop at FNS-authorized food retailers in any State.

FNS continues oversight of States as their EBT contracts end and they procure EBT services through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. This process includes State RFP approvals and contract approvals, as well as oversight of States' conversions from one EBT vendor's system to a new vendor's system. In 2024, FNS approved five RFPs, five contracts, and 39 EBT contract amendments. The number of contract amendments was lower in 2024 than in 2023, but still higher than the historical norm of about 10. Following the implementation of the new Summer EBT (SEBT) program, most of the amendments were states amending their SNAP EBT contracts to include SEBT issuance.

Retailer File System (RFS): This system is built using multi-tier application architecture on a single platform, providing users with the ability to 1) safeguard the integrity, content, and original image of retailers' documents, 2) reduce paper retention, 3) eliminate the need for creating and tracking physical folders, 4) mitigate security risk of transfer of physical files, and 5) reduce costs associated with storing and transferring files. The system allows users to upload documents using a scanning application and via the Store Tracking and Redemption System (STARS). Additionally, RFS is now integrated with the Store Visit

Contract (SVC) Webservice which enables uploading of retailer store visit deliverables directly into RFS. This integration helps reduce storage and on-going maintenance costs for approximately 8TB worth of retailer store visit data. While in the RFS system, users can perform document quality control tasks, view electronic records, and download files as needed.

Anti-fraud Locator using EBT Retailer Transactions (ALERT): During 2024, FNS released several updates to ALERT, the system for fighting SNAP retailer fraud. The updates ensure continuity of system operations as well as enhancements using the best-suited prevalent architectures and technologies available in the IT industry. These updates enhance FNS's ability to identify fraudulent activity by implementing updates to existing scans; updating algorithms and Watch List qualifications; creating new patterns to identify suspect retailers; and data mining studies using various statistical tools to identify suspicious behavior.

Store Tracking and Redemption System (STARS): Four releases of STARS were completed in 2024. STARS is the system used by FNS to manage retailer participation in SNAP. Several system enhancements were made in 2024 to ensure the system remains aligned with the needs of end-users and supports financial reconciliation activities. Work on a new, modern STARS also began in 2023; work to transition to this modern system will continue through 2025.

Studies and Evaluations

FNS published six major reports related to SNAP during 2024. The reports are available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/research-analysis>.

Community Food Projects

The Community Food Projects program is authorized under Section 25 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008. The Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program supports the development of Community Food Projects with a one-time infusion of Federal dollars to make such projects self-sustaining. Currently funding is set at \$5 million per fiscal year. This grant program is administered by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

Farmers' Markets and Direct-Marketing Farmers

In 2024, FNS continued work through a grant to a non-profit organization to increase the participation of farmers and markets in SNAP, thereby improving access to fresh fruits and vegetables by SNAP recipients. This grant was awarded in 2019 and again from 2021 to 2024, with approximately \$4 million provided to the grantee over 4 years each time. FNS's goal is to continue to move farmers to a cost-efficient mobile payment application-based solution that enables processing via smart phones owned by a farmer.

In 2021, FNS awarded a multi-year grant to a non-profit organization to support the participation of farmers in the online purchasing program. In 2022, an ecommerce platform was developed and tested for use by farmers to accept SNAP benefits online. In 2023, farmers began using this ecommerce platform to accept SNAP payments online. This grant will continue to provide a subsidized ecommerce platform to assist SNAP authorized farmers in their ability to accept online SNAP payments.

The number of SNAP-authorized farmers markets and direct marketing farmers totaled 6,699 in 2023. While the number of SNAP-authorized farmers markets for 2024 has not yet been determined, the value of SNAP benefits redeemed at farmers markets and direct marketing farmers in 2023 totaled \$71 million.

Nutrition Assistance Program for Puerto Rico (NAP) Program Mission

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 added a new Section 19 to the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, which replaced SNAP in Puerto Rico with a block grant, effective July 1, 1982. Section 19 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, retains the authority for the Puerto Rico nutrition assistance block grant. The block grant requires that Puerto Rico submit and gain approval from the Secretary for a program plan each year. The plan must assess the food and nutrition needs of the island's neediest residents, describe the assistance needed, describe how it would be provided to the neediest residents, describe the amount of administrative expense needed, and meet such other requirements as the Secretary might prescribe by regulation. The Secretary is required to provide for the review of programs for assistance under Section 19 and is allowed to provide appropriate technical assistance for such programs. As of 2021, no benefits are provided in the form of cash.

Facts in Brief

- On average, an estimated 1.28 million people were served monthly during 2024.
- In 2024, total benefit costs were about \$2.86 billion for the NAP in Puerto Rico.
- Puerto Rico spent an estimated \$35 million of Federal funds on administrative activities in 2024, which are matched by an equivalent amount of State funds.

Table FNS-50. Nutrition Assistance for Puerto Rico Summary of Funding (\$ in Thousands)

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024
Benefits Costs	\$1,953,578	\$2,446,987	\$2,784,333	\$2,863,870
Administrative Costs.....	30,532	\$29,413	\$30,633	35,217
Nutrition Education Program	35	41	39	42
Total Federal Funds	1,984,145	2,476,441	2,815,005	2,899,129
State Administrative Costs.....	30,567	\$29,454	\$30,672	35,259
Total Program Costs	2,014,712	2,505,895	2,845,513	2,934,388

Table FNS-51. NAP 2021-2023 Supplemental Relief (in thousands)

Item	20/21 FFCRA/ CARES	2021 ARPA	2021 COVID	2021 NAP PEBT	2022 NAP PEBT	2023 NAP PEBT
Benefits Costs	\$292,678	\$942,080	\$585,151	\$710,648	\$276,922	\$35,629
Administrative Costs.....	2,293	12,208	922	1,551	550	307
Total Federal Funds	294,971	954,888	586,073	712,199	277,472	35,936
Total Program Costs	294,971	954,888	586,073	712,199	277,472	35,936

Table FNS-52. Nutrition Assistance for Puerto Rico Summary of Participation

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024
Average # of Persons (millions)	1.53	1.48	1.38	1.28
Average # of Households.....	858,345	784,168	785,998	740,351
Average Household Size (persons)	1.79	1.89	1.76	1.73
Average Benefit per Household	\$292	\$262	\$304	\$240

Nutrition Assistance for American Samoa Program Mission

The American Samoa Nutrition Assistance Program (AS NAP) was authorized by Public Law 96-597 (December 24, 1980) and began on July 1, 1994. The program is now operating under the authority of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, Section 19.

Facts in Brief

- A monthly average of 4,628 persons, or about 9 percent of American Samoa's total estimated population of 49,710 (based on 2020 Census) was

served and issued AS NAP benefits during 2024.

- In 2024, average monthly benefits cost \$789,683 or \$170.63 per person. American Samoa spent \$2,081,760 for administrative activities for 2024. The block granting provides for 100 percent of administrative and benefit costs.
- The program serves the low-income elderly, blind, and disabled population.
- American Samoa utilizes printed food coupons.
- For 2024 American Samoa's NAP block grant increased to \$11,710,000 due to the estimated increase in the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP); \$9,628,240 of the budget consisted of funding for benefits.

Nutrition Assistance Program for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Program Mission

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' (CNMI) nutrition assistance program began on July 2, 1982. The program was authorized by Public Law 96-597 (December 24, 1980), which allowed USDA to extend programs administered by the Department to CNMI and other territories. Annual NAP funding is provided to the CNMI based on an approved Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Facts in Brief

- In 2024, CNMI's annual NAP block grant was increased from \$34 million to \$34.812 million. Combined with existing carryover and ARPA funds, this increase provided CNMI NAP with a total operating budget of nearly \$50.168 million in 2024, allowing CNMI to implement upward adjustments to the NAP income eligibility standards and maximum monthly allotments, consistent with SNAP's annual adjustments for 2024.
- In 2024, CNMI NAP served an average of 5,341 households per month at an average total benefit cost of \$3,806,440 per month or \$712.75 per household.
- CNMI NAP utilized printed food coupons in 2024, however, CNMI NAP has a signed contract with Fidelity National Information Services (FIS) for the implementation of the EBT system. Conversion from the paper coupons to the EBT is scheduled to begin in 2025.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Program Mission

FDPIR is an alternative nutrition assistance program to SNAP for income-eligible households residing on Indian reservations and income-eligible Indian Tribal households in designated areas near reservations or in designated service areas in Oklahoma. FDPIR is authorized by Section 4(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, to allow Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) or an agency of the State government to operate a food distribution program for households who prefer USDA Foods to SNAP benefits. Each month, participating households receive a food package to help them maintain a nutritionally balanced diet.

Participants may select from approximately 130 products including a wide selection of fresh produce as well as offerings of traditional foods. The variety of foods available in the FDPIR food package includes:

- Fresh, frozen, and canned fruits and vegetables, as well as dried fruits and unsweetened juices
- Frozen and canned beef, chicken, pork, fish, turkey deli meat, and traditional proteins such as bison, walleye, catfish, and wild salmon
- Pasta, cereal, rice, flour, bakery mix, yellow cornmeal, blue cornmeal, traditionally harvested wild rice, and other enriched and whole grains

- Dried and canned beans and soups
- Peanut butter and peanuts
- Shell eggs and dried egg mix
- Cheese, low-fat milk, nonfat dry milk, and evaporated milk
- Extra virgin olive oil, vegetable oil and butter

Facts in Brief

Federal administrative funding is provided to ITOs and State agencies to support the administrative cost of operating the program. Administrative funding is also provided for nutrition education related activities, which can include individual nutrition counseling, group cooking demonstrations, nutrition classes, and the dissemination of resources including recipes using USDA Foods. Households may not participate in FDPIR and SNAP in the same month.

Table FNS-53. FDPIR Participation and Costs

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024
Average Participation (in thousands)	47.9	45.2	49.3	53.5
Per Person Per Month Cost (Entitlement).....	\$81.28	\$99.08	\$102.52	136.49
Total FNS Food Cost (\$ in millions).....	\$30.44	\$47.20	\$51.80	\$114.43

Note: Total Per Person Food Costs differ from Table FNS-78 (commodity procurement obligations) due to inventory level changes.

National Warehouse Transition and Supply Chain Disruptions

In 2024, through a competitive procurement process, USDA transitioned to a new contract for the storage and distribution of USDA Foods to FDPIR administering agencies and CSFP State agencies (see CAP 2026 USDA Explanatory Notes). Following the contract award to one national warehouse, delays in the delivery of USDA Foods to FDPIR administering agencies began impacting available inventories and the ability to issue complete food packages to program participants. The delivery delays began in May 2024, and further escalated throughout June 2024, and continued to impact program operators throughout the remainder of 2024.

USDA deployed all available resources in response to the supply chain disruptions to resolve the contractor delays and resume regular, on-time deliveries for program operators and participants. In the immediate response, USDA worked with the contracted warehouse to target delivery of USDA Foods to sites with the lowest inventory, while putting in place several temporary delivery and funding options to support food access.

To support increased capacity at the national warehouse and address the delivery delays, USDA executed an emergency contract for additional warehousing services in August 2024. The additional warehouses contracted to provide receiving, storage and distribution services supported USDA's return to on-time deliveries of USDA Foods to program sites nationwide. After executing the emergency contract and managing inventory concerns and priority orders between June and September 2024, in October 2024, USDA worked with the contracted warehouses to return to on-time deliveries, while maintaining a focus on accuracy and quality of the foods delivered.

USDA also began activity to support a resilient food delivery system in the long-term, beginning the process for the next contract for FDPIR and CSFP warehousing services with activity continuing in 2025.

Throughout this response, USDA engaged with Tribal leaders and FDPIR partners, including through regular virtual meetings, to provide updates and discuss issues and through formal consultation on the national warehouse delays in September and October 2024.

Self-Determination Demonstration Project

During 2024, FNS continued to implement the FDPIR Self-Determination Demonstration Project authorized under the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-334). The demonstration project allows for FNS to enter self-determination contracts with Tribes to purchase food for distribution to their FDPIR participants, in lieu of USDA purchasing the food. The FDPIR Self-Determination Demonstration Project supports the inclusion of preferred traditional foods, adds flexibility in delivery schedules and storage, and supports Tribal choice of food procurement. The contracts awarded through the Demonstration Project also support Tribal producers through agricultural, husbandry, and fishing operations.

To date, FNS has received a total of \$15 million in combined appropriations to carry out this demonstration project (\$3 million in each of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024); approximately \$12 million of this funding has been used to support sixteen (16) FDPIR Tribes participating in Round 1 and Round 2 of the projects.

During 2024, a portion of available appropriations was applied to support contract extensions for Round 1 Tribes. These contracts had a previous expiration date of September 2024, but now all Round 1 contracts (except for one) will run through June 2026 – the same date as Round 2 Tribes. One Round 1 Tribe opted to not extend past the original contract termination date of September 2024.

In 2024, FNS continued to work closely with the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), to support and manage the contracts for the demonstration project, including extensions, and continued to work on a third-party evaluation of all demonstration projects. FNS also awarded a cooperative agreement to Chickasaw Nation to collaborate with FNS in developing web and print materials to promote the projects. Additionally, FNS engaged in four Tribal consultation meetings with Tribal leaders in 2024 to receive input and feedback on project criteria and expansion.

For additional information about the FDPIR Self-Determination Demonstration Project, please visit: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/self-determination>. Feedback from participating Tribes is positive overall, with many highlighting the benefits to Tribal economies and appreciation from FDPIR participants.

USDA DoD Fresh Innovation

In 2024, FNS and the Department of Defense (DoD) Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) continued to work together to improve product quality, customer service, and program oversight for ITOs administering FDPIR to order fresh produce and shell eggs through USDA DoD Fresh. In response to feedback from Tribal leaders, FNS and DLA have jointly developed and implemented a series of program innovations. These innovations include increased vendor oversight and inspections conducted by DLA and USDA to ensure contract compliance; enhanced data collection and analysis to identify trends in vendor noncompliance and provide greater transparency to FDPIR operators; revised Inter Agency Agreement (IAA) provisions that focus on the needs of Tribal and school customers; and, new vendor contract provisions to be used in future contracts that address the unique needs and challenges associated with Tribal locations. These innovations will benefit all FNS programs that utilize USDA DoD Fresh, including schools. We also developed and implemented new features and functionality in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Order and Receipt System (FFAVORS) web-based USDA DoD Fresh ordering system specific for ITOs. The new features make it convenient for ITOs to request redelivery, report issues and ask for assistance.

FDPIR Bison Pilot

In September 2023, USDA initiated a pilot aimed at offering more localized ground bison meat for Tribal communities through FDPIR. The pilot will look at changes to how USDA purchases bison to better support buying the meat from local, small, and mid-sized bison herd managers and delivering it directly to their local Tribal communities. These local purchases will reduce the time and distance the meat travels to the consumer, increase economic development market opportunities for Tribal and local bison operations, and provide high quality, nutritious foods for nutrition assistance programs. Four Tribal and local producers were awarded contracts to provide bison to FDPIR programs in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Contracts were awarded to:

- Akicita Consulting (owned by the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe)
- Brownotter Buffalo Ranch (operating on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation)
- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Buffalo Authority Corporation (owned by the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation)
- Dakota Pure Bison (operating on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation)

Deliveries through the pilot occurred between September 2023 and December 2024.

Food Package

FNS continues its commitment to improve the food package offered under FDPIR through the FDPIR Food Package Review Work Group. The Work Group, consisting of National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations (NAFDPIR)-appointed representatives, including nutritionists, and FNS, Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) staff, is focusing on ways to better meet the nutritional needs and cultural food preferences of program participants nationwide. The Work Group seeks to enhance the food package by exploring ways to increase the variety, flexibility and acceptability of products offered while maintaining its high nutritional value. Since 2015, FNS and its procurement partner, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), have awarded contracts to deliver a selection of traditional foods including blue cornmeal, ground bison and bison stew meat, frozen wild salmon, catfish, traditionally harvested wild rice, and walleye. These traditional foods are among the wide variety of nutrient-dense options offered in the FDPIR Food Package, with items available from each food group (fruit, vegetables, grains, protein foods, dairy) to support a healthy dietary pattern as recommended by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. In support of enhanced variety in the FDPIR food package, frozen strawberries and bison stew meat were made available in 2023, and in 2024, turkey deli meat, extra virgin olive oil, and frozen vegetable stir fry blend were added as additional options for program recipients to select each month.

Nutrition Education Activities

In 2020, FNS awarded a two-year cooperative agreement to the Oklahoma Tribal Engagement Partners (OKTEP) to develop and implement a nutrition paraprofessional pilot project. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its disproportionate impact on Tribal partners, implementation of in-person paraprofessional training was delayed. In 2022, OKTEP conducted an in-person training in Minnesota for 11 FDPIR local agency staff and developed additional nutrition education turn-key resources that are publicly made available to FDPIR programs. Since 2022, OKTEP has trained 122 FDPIR local agency staff from 72 Tribes. Five trainings are scheduled for 2025.

In response to Tribal Leaders' requests for a non-competitive and simplified process to receive dedicated funding for nutrition education activities that support cultural practices, FNS provides mandatory administrative funding for nutrition education, giving Tribes more flexibility for allowable expenses that promote culturally appropriate approaches to nutrition education. FNS consulted with Tribal leaders and Tribal nutrition and health professionals on how funds should be allocated and on culturally appropriate approaches to nutrition

education and technical assistance needed to empower Tribes to determine and build their capacity to utilize additional funds. Each Tribe can receive a baseline allocation of \$20,000 and can also request additional funding above the baseline allocation non-competitively as needed. FNS also released an updated guide for allowable expenses that provides Tribes more flexibility to utilize the funds in a way that better supports their cultural needs and preferences when delivering nutrition education.

In 2023, FNS distributed \$3,977,040 in administrative funds for nutrition education to 85 ITOs to support nutrition security in Tribal communities. In 2024, FNS distributed \$3,977,212 in administrative funds for nutrition education to 68 Tribes for their nutrition education projects.

To further support nutrition education efforts in Tribal communities, FNS developed a series of culturally responsive nutrition education resources specific for FDPIR. In 2023, these resources were made available, free of charge, to FDPIR program operators across the country through the US Government Printing Office Distribution and Fulfillment Service. In 2024, almost 185,000 resources were ordered, printed, and delivered to Tribes.

In 2023, FNS awarded a cooperative agreement to the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Institute (IFAI) to develop a produce handling training. This activity responds to NAFDPIR's requests for additional training using a culturally responsive curriculum administered by an organization who has an established relationship with Tribal communities. The curriculum is currently in development and the pilot training will be held in 2025.

FDPIR Automated Inventory System

FNS continued the transition of FDPIR's legacy food inventory management system, Automated Inventory System (AIS), to the cloud-based Integrated Food Management System (IFMS). In 2024, FNS continued work on IFMS, a food ordering, inventory management, and certification system, which supports FDPIR operations, including eligibility determinations. Additionally, FNS developed a module to allow FDPIR participants to complete an application and order USDA Foods in the system. A process was developed for Tribes to acquire an alternate system to the IFMS.

Table FNS-54. Summary of Benefit Costs, Participation and State Administration Funding 2024

State or Territory	Persons (000)	Households (000)	Total Value of Benefits Issued (000)	Average Monthly Benefits Per Person	SAE, Nut Ed and E&T Funding (000)
Alabama	752	376	\$1,733,694	\$192.08	\$61,455
Alaska	76	39	309,198	338.93	8,616
Arizona	923	454	2,008,196	181.23	69,688
Arkansas	240	127	551,945	191.38	48,358
California	5,381	3,129	12,217,689	189.22	1,382,642
Colorado	585	313	1,304,222	185.72	107,117
Connecticut	391	230	894,216	190.48	86,865
Delaware.....	123	64	264,818	178.85	23,801
District of Columbia	138	84	319,183	193.40	57,302
Florida	2,971	1,646	6,644,466	186.37	100,577
Georgia.....	1,424	695	3,189,127	186.58	137,464
Hawaii	162	87	732,472	377.70	27,242
Idaho	131	65	281,241	179.11	10,908
Illinois	1,939	1,064	4,476,144	192.39	184,920
Indiana	611	292	1,437,332	195.98	87,688
Iowa.....	259	129	528,906	169.96	23,451
Kansas.....	194	96	418,412	179.95	32,865
Kentucky.....	646	322	1,237,873	159.74	102,033
Louisiana	847	418	1,905,036	187.33	109,391
Maine	172	101	364,813	176.43	19,961
Maryland.....	697	382	1,508,310	180.39	109,118
Massachusetts	1,115	679	2,618,846	195.81	113,700
Michigan	1,475	785	3,061,550	173.02	135,372
Minnesota	454	235	857,621	157.47	127,707
Mississippi	385	192	843,691	182.71	37,283
Missouri	658	323	1,518,411	192.34	83,331
Montana.....	81	42	169,447	173.27	11,191
Nebraska	156	77	333,265	178.40	30,843
Nevada	505	270	1,006,694	165.97	45,741
New Hampshire.....	80	44	158,266	165.56	11,230
New Jersey.....	831	437	1,931,581	193.76	188,703
New Mexico	451	242	1,028,128	189.82	40,371
New York	2,965	1,746	7,430,292	208.86	409,668
North Carolina	1,416	706	2,946,205	173.41	173,255
North Dakota	49	25	111,449	190.73	13,815
Ohio	1,387	716	3,180,998	191.14	166,839
Oklahoma	689	336	1,512,813	183.05	62,233
Oregon	759	437	1,641,211	180.15	227,608
Pennsylvania	2,003	1,083	4,286,397	178.30	233,443
Rhode Island	144	90	343,507	198.52	22,492
South Carolina.....	582	277	1,297,312	185.88	36,111
South Dakota	75	37	180,196	200.00	12,200
Tennessee.....	712	354	1,622,142	189.98	132,513
Texas	3,193	1,466	7,210,897	188.20	237,142
Utah	169	85	382,661	188.37	26,622
Vermont.....	67	40	147,355	184.62	60,698
Virginia	887	461	1,762,638	165.69	199,054
Washington	888	514	1,920,577	180.15	147,822
West Virginia	277	148	565,648	169.91	28,263
Wisconsin.....	705	371	1,365,124	161.27	94,517
Wyoming	29	14	56,823	162.98	9,346
American Samoa and CNMI ^{1/}	-	-	-	-	-
Guam	36	15	137,149	320.73	2,273
Virgin Islands.....	22	11	72,099	274.98	2,784
Anticipated Adjustment.....	-	-	253,219	-	616,331
TOTAL.....	41,906	22,372	\$94,281,505	\$187.20	\$6,531,961

NOTE: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and Local agencies subject to change as revised reports are received. Total may not add due to rounding.

^{1/} These entities receive a fixed grant and do not report participation.

**Table FNS-55. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
Participation and Funding 2024**

State or Territory	Average Monthly Participation	Food Costs ^{1/}	Admin Funding ^{2/}	Total
Alaska	403	\$656,169	\$420,321	\$1,076,490
Arizona	4,954	7,965,996	3,087,892	11,053,888
California	2,337	3,724,039	3,735,636	7,459,675
Colorado	145	265,449	213,590	479,039
Idaho	806	1,426,570	679,799	2,106,369
Kansas.....	419	572,385	75,644	648,029
Maine	22	31,781	190,314	222,095
Michigan	1,227	2,040,575	1,595,836	3,636,411
Minnesota	1,212	2,106,200	2,266,340	4,372,540
Mississippi	1,152	1,251,932	422,413	1,674,345
Montana.....	2,752	4,509,707	3,019,491	7,529,198
Nebraska	1,004	1,120,636	351,865	1,472,501
Nevada	608	781,558	525,027	1,306,585
New Mexico	1,196	1,869,152	1,279,037	3,148,189
New York	193	250,048	450,498	700,546
North Carolina	539	948,733	225,555	1,174,288
North Dakota	4,437	6,916,136	3,174,363	10,090,499
Oklahoma	18,330	31,313,147	12,240,971	43,554,118
Oregon	382	802,991	754,996	1,557,987
South Dakota	6,923	12,157,229	4,851,672	17,008,901
Texas	62	72,024	351,583	423,607
Utah	260	400,117	77,913	478,030
Washington	2,100	3,293,668	2,723,525	6,017,193
Wisconsin.....	1,477	2,317,127	1,901,565	4,218,692
Wyoming	543	806,115	178,661	984,776
AMS/WEBSCM/Comp Supp	-	1,536,744	-	1,536,744
Anticipated Adjustment.....	-	46,028,140	33,851,125	79,879,265
TOTAL	53,483	135,164,368	78,645,632	213,810,000

Source: FPRS FNS-152 data - Food distributed to participants in 2024.

^{1/} Total value of entitlement foods. Costs do not include bonus commodities, food losses, storage, and transportation for certain items (Group A fruits and vegetables, all Group B commodities), the value of food used for nutrition education, or the Department of Defense Regional Pilot.

^{2/} Administrative funding represents the total of Federal outlays and unliquidated obligations.

Note: These data are based in part on preliminary reports submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revisions are received. Totals reflect Federal obligations and differ from State reported data.

Table FNS-56. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Quantity and Value of Commodities 2024

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	Pounds	Value
Applesauce, Unsweetened, Cup	524,160	\$397,816
Apricots, Canned, Extra Light Syrup	218,700	361,519
Beans, Canned, Black, Low-Sodium	142,290	85,925
Beans, Canned, Green, Low-Sodium	897,971	469,243
Beans, Canned, Light Red Kidney, Low-Sodium	391,298	228,414
Beans, Canned, Pinto, Low-Sodium	249,008	142,657
Beans, Canned, Refried, Low-Sodium	367,200	234,671
Beans, Canned, Vegetarian, Low-Sodium	220,320	130,190
Beans, Dry, Pinto, No Salt Added	564,480	400,680
Beans, Dry, Great Northern, No Salt Added	120,960	90,182
Beef, Fine Ground, 85/15, Frozen	2,888,000	11,309,539
Beef, Round Roast, Frozen	1,000,000	5,506,796
Beef, Canned	612,000	2,650,165
Beef, Stew, Canned	864,000	2,014,330
Bison, Ground, Frozen	714,960	6,949,289
Bison, Stew Meat, Frozen	840,000	11,811,760
Blueberries, Wild, Frozen, Unsweetened	320,000	869,810
Butter, Salted	287,280	978,804
Buttery Spread, Light, Zero Grams Trans Fat	260,820	605,102
Carrots, Canned, Low-Sodium	364,500	255,037
Carrots, Frozen, No Salt Added	79,200	59,895
Catfish, Fillets, Frozen	380,000	1,711,524
Cereal, Corn Flakes	252,720	566,093
Cereal, Oat Circles	136,080	255,864
Cereal, Rice Crisps	226,800	470,934
Cereal, Wheat Bran Flakes	201,600	451,584
Cereal, Wheat Farina	153,000	244,349
Cereal, Wheat Shredded	177,120	272,025
Cheese, American	1,623,600	3,705,863
Cheese, American, Reduced Fat	554,400	1,072,800
Chicken, Boneless Breast, Frozen	1,788,960	4,367,569
Chicken, White Meat, Canned	371,250	919,026
Chicken, Whole, Frozen	594,000	623,177
Corn, Canned, Cream Style, Low-Sodium	255,150	189,540
Corn, Canned, No Salt Added	935,076	502,039
Cornmeal, Blue	76,032	119,902
Cornmeal, Yellow	299,880	139,487
Crackers, Unsalted	408,240	807,635
Cranberry Sauce, Canned	73,440	73,165
Egg Noodles	391,680	1,074,675
Egg Mix, Dried	251,730	3,258,494
Flour, 100% White Whole Wheat	80,000	21,500
Flour, All Purpose, Enriched	2,384,160	691,609
Flour, Bakery Mix, Low fat	421,200	777,862
Fruit And Nut Mix, Dried	139,776	344,867
Hominy, Canned	323,595	346,052
Juice, Apple, Unsweetened	1,551,280	740,315
Juice, Cherry Apple, Unsweetened	690,884	432,454
Juice, Cranberry Apple, Unsweetened	820,410	621,294
Juice, Grape, Unsweetened	606,390	385,000
Juice, Orange, Unsweetened	1,284,120	1,165,487
Juice, Tomato, Low-Sodium	214,020	91,727
Macaroni And Cheese	323,901	251,226
Milk, Skim, Evaporated, Canned	446,148	450,438
Milk, Nonfat, Dry	149,760	530,165
Milk, 1%, Uht	6,681,065	2,889,477
Mixed Fruit, Canned, Extra Light Syrup	567,203	709,372
Mixed Vegetables, Canned, Low-Sodium	364,500	369,133
Mixed Vegetables, Frozen, No Salt Added	248,832	379,515
Oats	332,640	274,361
Oil, Extra Virgin Olive	221,760	2,620,800
Oil, Vegetable	673,596	533,630
Pasta, Enriched	1,304,580	881,155
Pasta, Whole Grain-Rich	32,400	65,140
Peaches, Canned, Extra Light Syrup	994,545	1,427,285

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	Pounds	Value
Peanut Butter	345,600	510,524
Peanuts, Roasted, No Salt Added	77,760	127,293
Pears, Canned, Extra Light Syrup.....	546,750	765,013
Peas, Canned.....	549,990	388,752
Peas, Frozen, No Salt Added	79,200	84,400
Plums, Dried, Unsweetened	72,000	142,410
Pork Chops, Frozen	836,000	2,364,037
Pork, Ham, Frozen	440,000	1,238,000
Potatoes, Canned, Low-Sodium	257,040	178,444
Potatoes, Dehydrated Flakes.....	240,000	391,915
Pumpkin, Canned, Low-Sodium	36,450	41,472
Raisins, Unsweetened.....	155,520	252,893
Rice, White.....	443,520	232,933
Rice, Wild	60,000	1,500,000
Salmon, Wild Fillets, Frozen.....	288,000	2,467,793
Soup, Cream of Chicken, Canned, Reduced Sodium	287,025	243,386
Soup, Cream of Mushroom, Canned, Reduced Sodium	248,325	210,386
Soup, Tomato, Canned, Low-Sodium	141,900	117,084
Soup, Vegetable, Canned, Low-Sodium	35,475	28,820
Spaghetti Sauce, Canned, Low-Sodium	765,450	580,462
Spinach, Canned, Low-Sodium	135,660	205,929
Strawberries, Frozen, Unsweetened	489,216	819,029
Sweet Potatoes, Canned, Light Syrup	68,850	67,504
Tomatoes, Canned, No Salt Added	547,426	409,581
Tomato Sauce, Canned, Low-Sodium	860,625	606,982
Tortillas, Whole Grain-Rich.....	108,000	95,936
Turkey, Breast, Deli, Frozen	1,080,000	3,646,060
USDA DoD FRESH PRODUCE	10,163,740	11,734,002
Walleye, Fillets, Frozen.....	180,000	2,398,680
SUBTOTAL COMMODITY ENTITLEMENT.....	61,474,189	\$115,227,150
Anticipated Transportation and Storage	-	\$11,976,264
AMS/WBSCM Admin Expenses.....	-	1,195,015
Anticipated Adjustment.....	-	85,411,571
TOTAL COMMODITY ENTITLEMENT.....	61,474,189	\$213,810,000
GRAND TOTAL FDPIR	61,474,189	\$213,810,000

Source: WBSCM -- Sales Order and contract information.

Table FNS-57. Firms Authorized to Receive & Redeem Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits 2024

State	Retailers	Drug and/or Alcohol Treatment Program	Shelter for Battered Women & Children	Communal Dining Facility	Group Living Arrangement	Homeless Meal Provider
Alabama	5,156	27	1	-	17	1
Alaska	536	10	-	-	1	-
Arizona	3,860	5	1	-	-	1
Arkansas	2,677	12	-	1	-	1
California	25,195	66	3	2	-	13
Colorado	3,205	4	-	1	1	2
Connecticut	2,483	15	-	3	-	-
Delaware.....	829	1	-	-	-	2
District of Columbia	410	-	-	1	-	-
Florida	15,203	52	-	-	18	2
Georgia.....	9,963	5	-	2	3	-
Guam	253	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	926	10	-	-	1	-
Idaho	1,174	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois	9,467	4	-	8	9	2
Indiana	5,744	2	1	-	-	3
Iowa.....	3,064	10	-	-	-	1
Kansas.....	2,125	10	-	7	7	1
Kentucky.....	4,661	75	-	-	-	-
Louisiana	4,448	6	-	-	-	7
Maine	1,448	6	-	7	3	-
Maryland.....	3,830	4	-	4	17	4
Massachusetts	5,525	11	1	3	95	3
Michigan	9,725	10	-	13	27	4
Minnesota	3,705	-	-	3	-	-
Mississippi	3,214	2	-	-	-	-
Missouri	5,097	10	-	-	-	2
Montana.....	805	3	-	8	9	-
Nebraska	1,426	11	-	-	-	-
Nevada	1,995	5	-	1	-	3
New Hampshire.....	1,060	3	-	-	1	1
New Jersey.....	5,743	6	-	-	1	2
New Mexico	1,686	1	-	-	-	-
New York	17,148	96	-	15	174	6
North Carolina	9,418	3	-	-	-	1
North Dakota	568	-	-	16	1	-
Ohio	10,119	24	-	1	2	-
Oklahoma	3,917	14	-	-	-	1
Oregon	3,430	25	-	3	28	5
Pennsylvania	10,429	16	1	1	14	14
Rhode Island	941	2	-	2	5	-
South Carolina	5,278	2	-	-	1	1
South Dakota	770	3	-	8	15	-
Tennessee.....	6,798	25	-	-	17	-
Texas	22,362	23	-	-	5	2
Utah	1,595	6	-	2	-	-
Vermont.....	709	2	-	-	-	-
Virgin Islands	94	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia	6,374	8	-	-	2	2
Washington	5,029	19	1	2	6	2
West Virginia	2,153	14	-	-	-	1
Wisconsin.....	4,517	-	-	17	-	2
Wyoming	400	3	-	1	-	-
Grand Total	258,687	672	9	132	480	92

Table FNS-58. Firms Authorized to Receive & Redeem Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits 2024

State	Meal Delivery Service	Private Restaurant/Meal Delivery	Sr Citizens Center/Resident Building	Total Firms
Alabama	-	-	-	5,202
Alaska	1	-	-	548
Arizona	3	877	-	4,747
Arkansas	1	-	-	2,692
California	4	5,294	-	30,577
Colorado	1	-	-	3,214
Connecticut	-	-	-	2,501
Delaware.....	-	-	-	832
District of Columbia	-	-	-	411
Florida	2	-	-	15,277
Georgia.....	-	-	1	9,974
Guam	-	-	-	253
Hawaii	2	-	-	939
Idaho	-	-	-	1,174
Illinois	10	8	-	9,508
Indiana	7	-	1	5,758
Iowa.....	2	-	-	3,077
Kansas.....	3	-	-	2,153
Kentucky.....	-	-	-	4,736
Louisiana	-	-	-	4,461
Maine	1	-	-	1,465
Maryland.....	1	30	1	3,891
Massachusetts	-	17	3	5,658
Michigan	17	247	3	10,046
Minnesota	4	-	-	3,712
Mississippi	-	-	-	3,216
Missouri	2	-	-	5,111
Montana.....	-	-	2	827
Nebraska	-	-	-	1,437
Nevada	-	-	-	2,004
New Hampshire.....	1	-	1	1,067
New Jersey.....	-	-	-	5,752
New Mexico	1	-	-	1,688
New York	27	106	5	17,577
North Carolina	1	-	-	9,423
North Dakota	1	-	-	586
Ohio	5	-	-	10,151
Oklahoma	-	-	-	3,932
Oregon	1	-	1	3,493
Pennsylvania	11	-	-	10,486
Rhode Island	-	9	-	959
South Carolina.....	1	-	-	5,283
South Dakota	3	-	-	799
Tennessee.....	-	-	1	6,841
Texas	-	-	-	22,392
Utah	-	-	-	1,603
Vermont.....	-	-	-	711
Virgin Islands	-	-	-	95
Virginia	3	20	-	6,409
Washington	4	-	-	5,063
West Virginia	-	-	-	2,168
Wisconsin.....	8	-	-	4,544
Wyoming	-	-	-	404
Grand Total	128	6608	19	266,827

ACCOUNT 4: COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored):

Commodity Assistance Program

For necessary expenses to carry out disaster assistance and special assistance for the nuclear affected islands, as authorized by section 103(f)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–188); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983; and the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, \$91,070,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective with funds made available in fiscal year 2026 to support the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, such funds shall remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)), the Secretary may use up to 20 percent for costs associated with the distribution of commodities.

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**Table FNS-59. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)**

Item	Amount
Enacted, 2025	\$516,070,000
Change in Appropriation	- 425,000,000
Budget Estimate, 2026.....	<u>91,070,000</u>

PROJECT STATEMENTS**Table FNS-60. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/ Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec	Chg Key
Discretionary Approp:											
Commodity Supplemental Food Program	\$338,640	3	\$389,000	4	\$425,000	2	-	-	-\$425,000	-2	(1)
Farmer's Market Nutrition Program	26,000	-	10,000	-	10,000	-	\$10,000	-	-	-	-
The Emergency Food Assistance Program	92,000	-	80,000	-	80,000	-	80,000	-	-	-	-
Nuclear Affected Islands	574	-	574	-	574	-	574	-	-	-	-
Disaster Assistance Program	496	-	496	-	496	1	496	1	-	-	-
Nutrition Services Incentives Program ^{1/}	2,193	-	2,261	-	2,199	1	2,199	1	-	-	-
Subtotal, Discretionary	459,903	3	482,331	4	518,269	4	93,269	2	-425,000	-2	
Mandatory Non-Approp:											
Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program ^{2/}	19,426	-	19,426	-	19,426	-	19,426	-	-	-	-
TEFAP Farm Bill Projects	3,772	-	3,772	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, Mandatory Non-Approp.....	23,198	-	23,198	-	19,426	-	19,426	-	-	-	
Supplemental Approp:											
TEFAP Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	-	-25,000	-	(2)
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	-	-25,000	-	
Total, Adjusted Approp	483,101	3	505,529	4	562,695	4	112,695	2	-450,000	-2	
Add back:											
Transfers In and Out, Rescissions	-26,793	-	-26,861	-	-22,799	-	-22,799	-	-	-	-
Sequestration	1,402	-	1,402	-	1,174	-	1,174	-	-	-	-
Total Appropriation	457,710	3	480,070	4	541,070	4	91,070	2	-450,000	-2	
Transfers In:											
Nutrition Services Incentives Program ^{1/}	2,193	-	2,261	-	2,199	-	2,199	-	-	-	-
Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program ^{2/}	20,600	-	20,600	-	20,600	-	20,600	-	-	-	-
TEFAP Farm Bill Projects	4,000	-	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfers In	26,793	-	26,861	-	22,799	-	22,799	-	-	-	-
Sequestration	-1,402	-	-1,402	-	-1,174	-	-1,174	-	-	-	-
Recoveries, Other	29,049	-	32,416	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY.....	48,108	-	10,292	-	6,609	-	-	-	-10,309	-	-
Total Available	560,258	3	548,237	4	569,304	4	112,695	2	-460,309	-2	
Lapsing Balances	-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, EOY.....	-10,292	-	-6,609	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Obligations.....	549,962	3	541,628	4	569,304	4	112,695	2	-460,309	-2	

^{1/} Section 311(d)(3) of the Older Americans Act (42 USC 3030a) authorizes the transfer of NSIP funds from HHS for the purchase of USDA Foods and related expenses for the elderly. The NSIP amount for 2026 will be determined at a later date.

^{2/} Section 4402(a) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007(a)) authorizes the transfer of \$20,600,000 from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) for the SFMNP.

Table FNS-61. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Estimated	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/ Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec
Discretionary Obligations:										
CSFP Commodities	\$312,051	1	\$326,596	4	\$357,371	2	-	-	-\$358,773	-2
CSFP Admin	70,976	-	\$72,970	-	\$73,160	-	-	-	-73,160	-
Farmer's Market Nutrition Program	41,313	-	32,744	-	10,000	-	\$10,000	-	-2,298	-
TEFAP Admin	94,694	-	80,882	-	80,003	-	80,000	-	-3	-
Nuclear Affected Islands.....	574	-	574	-	574	-	574	-	-	-
Disaster Assistance Program	353	1	423	-	992	1	496	1	-496	-
Nutrition Services Incentive Program	2,259	1	2,066	-	2,709	1	2,199	1	-510	-
Subtotal Disc Obligations	522,220	3	516,255	4	524,809	4	93,269	2	-435,240	-2
Mandatory Non-Approp:										
TEFAP Farm Bill Projects.....	3,772	-	3,772	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Senior Farmers' Market Program	23,710	-	21,601	-	19,495	-	19,426	-	-69	-
Subtotal Mand Obligations	27,482	-	25,373	-	19,495	-	19,426	-	-69	-
Supplemental Obligations:										
FFCRA & CARES Act Supplements	117	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TEFAP COVID (Division N)	143	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TEFAP Infrastructure.....	-	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	-	-25,000	-
Subtotal Supp Obligations	260	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	-	-25,000	-
Total Obligations	549,962	3	541,628	4	569,304	4	112,695	2	-460,309	-2
Add back:										
Lapsing Balances.....	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balances Available, EOY:										
CSFP Commodities	5,997	-	5,531	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farmer's Market Nutrition Program	2,983	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TEFAP Admin	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disaster Assistance Program	496	-	496	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nutrition Services Incentive Program	380	-	510	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Senior Farmers' Market Program	436	-	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Bal. Available, EOY	10,292	-	6,609	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Available	560,258	3	548,237	4	569,304	4	112,695	2	-460,309	-2
Less:										
Total Transfers In.....	-26,793	-	-26,861	-	-22,799	-	-22,799	-	-	-
Sequestration	1,402	-	1,402	-	1,174	-	1,174	-	-	-
Recoveries, Other	-29,049	-	-32,416	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY.....	-48,108	-	-10,292	-	-6,609	-	-	-	+10,309	-
Total Appropriation	457,710	3	480,070	4	541,070	4	91,070	2	-450,000	-2

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES**Commodity Assistance Program**

The numbered justifications items are keyed to the Change Key (Chg Key) column on the Project Statement.

The Commodity Assistance Program (CAP) account combines administrative funding for The Emergency Food Assistance Program, the Farmer's Market Nutrition Programs, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and assistance to the six Nuclear Affected Islands of The Republic of the Marshall Islands and Disaster Relief.

Guidance Level Justification of Changes:

The numbers and letters of the following listing relates to values in the Change (Chg) Key column of the Project Statement at Guidance Level:

1) **Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)**

This program is eliminated in the Budget. The administration is focused on approaches that will support seniors through other channels. The Budget eliminates CSFP and replaces it with Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) food boxes, that would be filled with commodities sourced from domestic farmers and will provide higher-quality food directly to seniors.

2) **TEFAP Infrastructure**

This funding is provided by the Congress under the American Relief Act of 2025, P.L. 118-158 (138 STAT 1730) for expenses pertaining to any consequences of a major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in calendar years 2023 and 2024. This was a one-time increase of supplemental funding.

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**Table FNS-62. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)**

Item No.	Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
11	Total personnel compensation.....	\$383	\$467	\$467	\$230
12	Personal benefits	164	173	173	135
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits	547	640	640	365
	Other Objects:				
25.3	Other goods and services from Fed sources ...	-	2,873	-	-
26.0	Supplies and materials.....	347,935	343,944	372,433	17,199
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	201,480	194,171	196,231	95,131
	Total, Other Objects	549,415	540,988	568,664	112,330
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	549,962	541,628	569,304	112,695

STATUS OF PROGRAMS

The Commodity Assistance Program (CAP) account combines funding for the Administrative expenses for The Emergency Food Assistance Program, assistance to the six Nuclear Affected Islands of The Republic of the Marshall Islands, Disaster Relief, the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, and the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program**Program Mission**

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) supplements the diets of people in need through donations of nutritious USDA Foods to States. States provide food to local agencies for distribution to households for home consumption and to organizations that prepare meals for people in need. Recipients of USDA Foods for household consumption must meet program eligibility criteria set by the States. USDA also provides TEFAP administrative funding to States to support storing and distributing USDA Foods and foods from other sources, including private donations.

Facts in Brief

TEFAP foods and administrative funds are allocated to States based on a formula that considers the number of unemployed people in each State and the number of persons in each State with incomes below the federal poverty level.

States may direct their TEFAP foods to 1) distribution to needy households, 2) provision of meals to the needy at emergency feeding sites, or 3) a combination of the two.

Each State is responsible for selecting organizations to participate in the program, allocating food and administrative funds among such organizations, and establishing eligibility criteria. Many local TEFAP agencies depend significantly on volunteers

Administrative Funding

TEFAP administrative funds are provided to States under the CAP account for costs associated with the transportation, processing, storage, and distribution of USDA. The 2024 appropriations permitted each State to convert up to 20 percent of TEFAP food funds to administrative funds. Additionally, unless expressly prohibited by appropriations legislation, States can convert any amount of their administrative funds to food funds to purchase additional USDA Foods. States can also use administrative funds to support food rescue activities such as gleaning or other food rescue initiatives. In these ways, administrative funds are efficiently leveraged to increase the total flow of food, from all sources, through the TEFAP network.

Entitlement Foods

A variety of healthy, domestically produced foods were purchased specifically for distribution in TEFAP in 2024 including fresh, frozen, canned fruits and vegetables as well as dried fruit and unsweetened juice; lean protein items such as meat, poultry, fish, eggs, nuts, and beans; whole grains and enriched grains; and low-fat and non-fat dairy products such as milk and cheese. Several of the USDA Foods available through TEFAP require commercial kosher or halal certification, and many more may be acceptable to kosher or halal observant communities without certification. In 2024, four types of kosher-certified high protein yogurt were made available in TEFAP and the specification for low-fat bakery mix was updated to require a kosher certification. Wild-caught catfish fillets were also added and may be acceptable to halal observant participants without a certification.

Bonus Food

In 2024, USDA purchased additional food items under its market support authorities and provided them for distribution through TEFAP outlets. The total amount of bonus products purchased in 2024 for distribution through TEFAP outlets was \$753 million. Bonus USDA Foods included: fresh grapefruit, oranges, mandarins, peaches, nectarines, apples, pears, potatoes and plums; hazelnuts, walnuts, pistachios, pecans and almonds; apple products and peach products; prunes,

figs, dried sweet cherries and dates; frozen strawberries and raspberries; canned pears, and concord grape juice; asparagus products; navy, pinto, and kidney beans; shrimp, rockfish, whiting, salmon, and catfish; pork products; milk and Swiss cheese.

Farm to Food Bank Projects

The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-334, the 2018 Farm Bill) provided State agencies the opportunity to pay for Farm to Food Bank projects to harvest, process, package, or transport donated commodities for use by TEFAP emergency feeding organizations (EFOs). In 2024, FNS received additional funding for the projects via the one-year Farm Bill extension (P.L. 118-22). With these funds, FNS allocated \$3.77 million among 27 TEFAP State agencies that submitted plans to implement Farm to Food Bank projects. Projects included diverting unused agricultural products at risk of going to waste to emergency feeding organizations for distribution to people in need, streamlining the processes for gleaning leftover produce for donation to EFOs, and increasing the capacity of EFOs to distribute fresh produce.

2024 TEFAP Spending

In 2024, \$80 million was appropriated for TEFAP administrative funds. In addition, the Secretary was authorized to make available up to twenty percent of TEFAP food funds to support administrative costs. The 2024 appropriation for TEFAP entitlement food, provided in the SNAP account, was \$461.5 million, which included the funding authorized by Section 27(a)(2) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 as amended by Section 4018 of the 2018 Farm Bill.

2024 CCC Spending

In 2024, \$943 million in additional food and administrative resources announced in October 2023 were provided to emergency feeding organizations under the statutory authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Of the \$943 million, FNS provided \$53 million in funding to support the storage and distribution of additional CCC foods; the remaining \$820 million was used for CCC food purchases.

Table FNS-63. TEFAP Summary (Including Other Funds for Emergency Food Providers, in millions)

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024
State Administrative Expenses	158.4	136.2	156.3	\$156.2
CCC Administrative Expenses.....	-	-	32.8	\$53
Bonus Foods ^{1/}	701.0	517.0	954.8	\$753
Entitlement Foods ^{2/}	319.9	465.4	405.1	\$455.1
Trade Mitigation Foods.....	-	-	-	-
CCC Foods ^{3/}	-	-	901.5	\$820.1
Total	\$1,179.3	\$1,118.6	\$2,450.5	\$2,237.4
Supplemental Funding via CARES Act (Food & Admin)	-	500.0	-	-
COVID Division N Funding (Food & Admin funds).....	397.3	-	-	-
Total, Including Disaster Funding	\$1,576.6	\$1,618.6	\$2,450.5	\$209.2

Note: Funding includes new authority and prior year resources.

^{1/} Includes barter foods

^{2/} From SNAP Account

^{3/} CCC Foods were procured through the TEFAP network, to support emergency feeding organizations under the statutory authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation

The State Administrative Expenses shown in the table above include administrative funds, food funds converted to administrative funds, and administrative funds recovered from the previous year. In 2024, of the \$92.3 million eligible for conversion, States chose to convert \$67 million into administrative funds.

The entitlement foods line also includes administrative funds that States chose to use instead to increase their food entitlements. In 2024, \$138,000 in administrative funds were converted to food funds.

WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) provides a direct link between nutrition and the Nation's small resource farmers by providing women, infants older than four months, and children up to the age of five participating in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), benefits to purchase and consume fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs directly from farmers, farmers' markets, and roadside stands. As a result, the FMNP has enhanced local agricultural economies by promoting the development of farmers' markets, which has increased the customer base for small local farmers. During 2024, the FMNP was operated by 49 State agencies, including U.S. Territories and federally recognized ITOs.

In 2023, the most recent year for which participation data is available, the FMNP provided benefits to 1,422,637 WIC participants. The participants redeemed their benefits at 4,254 authorized farmers' markets and roadside stands, providing revenue to 13,025 farmers.

Table FNS-64. WIC Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024
Funding (\$ in thousands)	\$29,829	\$40,409	\$41,313	\$31,100
WIC Recipients	1,197,470	1,330,746	1,422,637	*
Farmer's' Markets**	4,928	5,015	4,254	*
Farmers	14,956	14,582	13,025	*

Note: Funding includes new authority and prior year resources.

* 2024 Data not yet available, anticipated in Spring 2025

** Farmer's' Market data includes roadside stands

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) awards grants to States, U.S. Territories, and federally recognized ITOs to provide low-income seniors with benefits that can be exchanged for fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, and honey directly from farmers, farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community-supported agriculture programs (CSAs).

Farmers' markets play a key role in developing local and regional food systems that support farmers and help grow rural economies. In 2024, the SFMNP was operated by 56 State agencies, including U.S. Territories and ITOs. In 2023, the last year for which data are available, the SFMNP provided benefits to 812,057 low-income older Americans. The participants redeemed their benefits at 4,607 authorized farmers' markets, roadside stands and CSAs providing revenue to 13,576 farmers. The SFMNP supports local farmers by increasing the sustainability of the land and of the local economy through bringing additional customers to their markets.

The 2018 Farm Bill (P.L. 115-334) and its extension through the Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act of 2024 (P.L. 118-22) reauthorized SFMNP through fiscal year 2024 at a funding level of \$20.6 million per year.

Table FNS-65. SFMNP Summary

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024
Funding (\$ in thousands)	\$23,718	\$24,358	\$22,960	\$21,299
SFMNP Recipients	780,012	757,751	812,057	*
Farmers	15,568	15,089	13,576	*
Farmers' Markets	2,860	2,816	2,790	*
Roadside Stands	2,438	2,212	1,800	*
Community Supported Ag Programs...	69	20	17	*

Note: Funding includes new authority and prior year resources.

*/ 2024 Data not yet available, anticipated in Spring 2025

Pacific Islands

Certain islands in nuclear-affected zones of the Republic of the Marshall Islands receive nutrition assistance as authorized by the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2024 (P.L. 118-

42). Under the terms of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between USDA and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the assistance is currently provided as cash in-lieu of USDA Foods and administrative funds. USDA previously provided nutrition assistance under this account to the former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Disaster Assistance

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288) assigns certain responsibilities relating to disaster food assistance to the Secretary of Agriculture. Other duties have been assigned to the Secretary by Executive Order 12673, Delegation of Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Functions. These include using, pursuant to the authority of the Act, funds appropriated under Section 32 to purchase USDA Foods for assistance in major disasters or emergencies when other food supplies are not readily available.

In 2024, FNS supported congregate feeding in Puerto Rico due to Tropical Storm Ernesto. In May 2024, USDA Foods were used to support disaster household distributions in Texas due to severe flooding caused by severe weather. Due to severe flooding in Texas caused by Hurricane Beryl a request to use USDA Foods for disaster household distribution was approved in July 2024.

Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)

NSIP provides cash and USDA Foods to States and ITOs for distribution to local organizations that prepare nutritionally sound meals served through meals-on-wheels programs or in senior citizen centers and similar settings where seniors participate in social and rehabilitative activities. The program promotes good health through nutrition assistance and by reducing the isolation experienced by older adults.

In 2003, Congress transferred NSIP funding and the allocation of resources in this program from USDA to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). However, State Units on Aging, including ITOs, could still choose to receive all or part of their NSIP allotments as USDA Foods. They are also eligible to receive bonus food, as available. USDA's role is to purchase and deliver food to States that elect to receive it. DHHS provides funding to USDA for purchases of USDA Foods and related administrative expenses. FNS and DHHS' Administration for Community Living enter into an agreement annually to ensure the effective provision of USDA Foods to State Units on Aging.

WIC Farmer's Market Nutrition Program, Participation and Costs**Table FNS-66. WIC Farmer's Market Participation and Costs 2023 and 2024**

State or Territory	Women	Infants	Children	Total	2023 Program Grant	2024 Program Grant
Alabama ^{2/}	-	-	1	1	\$167,394	\$125,760
Alaska	35,987	35,554	94,135	165,676	304,403	228,692
Arizona	1,286	507	2,264	4,057	286,346	215,126
Arkansas	2,132	-	4,524	6,656	279,278	209,816
California	60,828	25,854	177,008	263,690	3,257,739	2,447,470
Colorado	4,216	-	12,646	16,862	717,475	539,024
Connecticut	10,171	-	29,951	40,122	441,926	332,010
Delaware	3,169	-	7,974	11,143	387,079	290,804
District of Columbia	2,773	2,662	4,565	10,000	428,606	322,003
Florida	7,968	0	13,928	21,896	588,253	441,942
Georgia	6,107	3,256	15,641	25,004	2,778,169	2,087,180
Illinois	4,138	1,837	8,050	14,025	537,072	403,491
Indiana	962	920	2,317	4,199	391,594	294,196
Iowa	6,579	3,390	20,268	30,237	691,461	519,480
Kentucky	2,555	822	6,641	10,018	273,755	205,666
Louisiana	1,114	561	1,929	3,604	105,428	79,206
Maine	4,910	605	12,344	17,859	354,322	266,195
Maryland	5,960	3,062	15,325	24,347	746,450	560,792
Massachusetts	6,795	3,735	18,136	28,666	1,164,605	874,943
Michigan	6,037	4	17,758	23,799	673,943	506,319
Minnesota	11,570	5,477	32,099	49,146	554,990	416,952
Mississippi ^{1/}	1,510	164	3,636	5,310	172,793	138,028
Missouri	3,013	1,483	6,343	10,839	373,730	280,775
Montana	758	532	1,990	3,280	120,707	90,685
Nebraska Omaha Tribe ^{3/}	-	-	-	-	-	10,844
Nevada	3,644	1,350	7,487	12,481	508,220	381,815
New Hampshire ^{4/}	-	-	-	-	136,768	102,751
New Jersey	18,866	-	31,026	49,892	1,560,993	1,172,741
New Mexico ^{1/}	2,945	1,469	6,129	10,543	393,696	301,449
New York	44,384	14,869	125,741	184,994	5,858,776	4,401,574
North Carolina	2,373	-	4,665	7,038	344,999	259,190
Ohio	7,312	3,577	19,282	30,171	700,831	526,520
Oklahoma Chickasaw	920	971	2,337	4,228	214,039	160,803
Oklahoma Osage Tribe	49	29	244	322	78,040	76,010
Oklahoma Choctaw Nation	988	1,159	3,553	5,700	314,039	235,931
Oklahoma Cherokee	1,764	792	2,970	5,526	458,528	344,482
Oregon	13,281	7,605	30,896	51,782	2,086,986	1,567,908
Pennsylvania	17,782	2,868	36,710	57,360	3,975,953	2,987,049
Puerto Rico	16,410	5,739	36,618	58,767	2,896,226	2,175,873
Rhode Island	2,571	-	5,114	7,685	185,772	139,567
South Carolina	1,365	-	2,919	4,284	187,415	140,801
Tennessee	1,347	-	3,256	4,603	184,608	138,692
Texas	4,702	2,182	11,887	18,771	1,557,583	1,170,179
Vermont	640	275	1,765	2,680	111,182	83,529
Virginia	1,707	784	4,061	6,552	180,714	135,767
Virgin Islands	473	-	1,192	1,665	114,886	86,311
Washington	9,977	-	27,595	37,572	1,220,344	916,819
West Virginia	4,138	2,974	11,716	18,828	532,307	399,911
Wisconsin	14,949	3,149	38,185	56,283	1,739,796	1,307,072
Anticipated Adjustment	-	-	-	-	-26,855	1,644,097
6/ TOTAL	363,125	140,217	924,821	1,428,163	\$41,313,364	\$32,744,240

1/ Includes Indian Tribal Organizations.

2/ Received funding but not operate the program in 2023 due to delayed E-Solution rollout. Most funds were recovered.

3/ New Program in 2024.

4/ Received funding but did not operate the program in 2023. All funds were recovered.

5/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

NOTE: These data are based in part on preliminary data submitted by State and local agencies and are subject to change as revised reports are received.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program**Table FNS-67. TEFAP Administrative Funding 2024**

State or Territory	TEFAP Admin Funds	CCC Admin Funds	Total Admin Funding
Alabama	\$1,488,843	\$696,000	\$2,184,843
Alaska	211,360	140,000	351,360
Arizona	3,765,501	1,245,000	5,010,501
Arkansas	1,394,854	495,000	1,889,854
California	21,150,903	6,735,000	27,885,903
Colorado	1,107,920	834,000	1,941,920
Connecticut	792,625	459,000	1,251,625
Delaware	370,422	483,000	853,422
District of Columbia	419,627	144,000	563,627
Florida	8,974,759	3,315,000	12,289,759
Georgia	3,905,958	1,638,000	5,543,958
Hawaii	287,356	296,000	583,356
Idaho	789,319	177,000	966,319
Illinois	3,194,128	2,076,000	5,270,128
Indiana	1,532,094	957,000	2,489,094
Iowa	655,122	432,000	1,087,122
Kansas	1,076,816	261,000	1,337,816
Kentucky	2,678,540	816,000	3,494,540
Louisiana	2,894,487	948,000	3,842,487
Maine	264,713	384,000	648,713
Maryland	2,402,981	321,000	2,723,981
Massachusetts	2,618,257	615,000	3,233,257
Michigan	5,488,651	1,983,000	7,471,651
Minnesota	1,544,329	681,000	2,225,329
Mississippi	962,997	561,000	1,523,997
Missouri	1,340,647	744,000	2,084,647
Montana	489,272	144,000	633,272
Nebraska	506,307	234,000	740,307
Nevada	1,009,957	567,000	1,576,957
New Hampshire	361,673	147,000	508,673
New Jersey	4,114,039	999,000	5,113,039
New Mexico	1,281,269	519,000	1,800,269
New York	11,077,101	3,213,000	14,290,101
North Carolina	5,404,453	1,572,000	6,976,453
North Dakota	311,735	132,000	443,735
Ohio	6,302,031	1,986,000	8,288,031
Oklahoma	1,256,733	621,000	1,877,733
Oregon	3,145,522	807,000	3,952,522
Pennsylvania	6,732,396	1,950,000	8,682,396
Rhode Island	252,288	192,000	444,288
South Carolina	1,232,633	831,000	2,063,633
South Dakota	379,970	156,000	535,970
Tennessee	3,524,890	993,000	4,517,890
Texas	12,950,103	5,865,000	18,815,103
Utah	1,157,644	366,000	1,523,644
Vermont	262,572	66,000	328,572
Virginia	3,762,427	996,000	4,758,427
Washington	16,957,190	1,119,000	18,076,190
West Virginia	1,087,099	441,000	1,528,099
Wisconsin	2,467,583	699,000	3,166,583
Wyoming	151,365	132,000	283,365
Northern Mariana Islands 1/	78,764	-	78,764
Guam	68,258	-	68,258
Puerto Rico	4,099,054	956,000	5,055,054
Virgin Islands	67,586	-	67,586
Anticipated Adjustment	-13,983,195	-	-13,983,195
TOTAL	\$147,821,928	\$53,139,000	\$200,960,928

NOTE: Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Resources were provided to TEFAP in 2024, as a larger initiative under the USDA to provide support for American producers, School Meal Providers and Emergency Food Operations.

NOTE: States with a zero indicates no food orders were purchased using the specified food dollars or the state declined the administrative funds.

1/ Cash in-Lieu of commodities are provided to the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program
Table FNS-68. TEFAP Entitlement Funding 2024

State or Territory	Entitlement Commodities	CCC Commodities ^{1/}	Bonus Commodities	Total Food
Alabama	\$3,896,934	\$10,690,673	\$10,687,772	\$25,275,379
Alaska	1,325,533	1,809,749	1,457,853	4,593,134
Arizona	9,018,456	19,301,709	20,537,352	48,857,516
Arkansas	3,497,062	7,672,782	8,841,902	20,011,745
California	45,472,586	102,983,294	88,762,410	237,218,289
Colorado	5,977,549	11,544,162	10,769,540	28,291,251
Connecticut	6,954,804	7,455,238	6,047,800	20,457,842
Delaware.....	1,157,490	6,720,183	5,634,573	13,512,246
District of Columbia	885,022	2,358,695	1,754,315	4,998,032
Florida	22,876,393	50,909,099	49,647,906	123,433,398
Georgia.....	11,500,524	25,092,718	22,282,235	58,875,477
Hawaii	1,133,160	4,100,994	3,875,924	9,110,077
Idaho	1,619,882	3,186,856	2,661,236	7,467,974
Illinois	14,387,056	31,497,266	27,702,358	73,586,681
Indiana	6,070,811	14,282,064	14,474,687	34,827,562
Iowa.....	3,743,667	6,652,001	6,016,398	16,412,066
Kansas.....	2,977,659	4,218,180	2,805,581	10,001,420
Kentucky.....	5,590,290	12,527,859	12,048,007	30,166,156
Louisiana.....	7,019,599	14,639,790	13,193,874	34,853,263
Maine	2,076,054	6,012,631	4,387,184	12,475,869
Maryland.....	5,196,322	5,803,315	3,570,528	14,570,165
Massachusetts	7,111,777	10,758,996	7,943,565	25,814,338
Michigan	11,043,036	29,375,517	25,660,788	66,079,341
Minnesota	5,475,873	10,467,766	10,805,583	26,749,222
Mississippi	4,689,820	8,241,311	8,758,266	21,689,397
Missouri	7,330,728	11,557,217	11,627,486	30,515,432
Montana.....	1,060,859	2,406,665	1,919,838	5,387,361
Nebraska.....	1,963,952	3,623,668	3,098,514	8,686,134
Nevada	5,568,755	8,201,024	7,978,875	21,748,655
New Hampshire.....	1,007,726	2,427,404	1,989,398	5,424,528
New Jersey.....	7,934,922	17,161,696	11,747,150	36,843,769
New Mexico	2,426,082	7,996,577	6,528,159	16,950,818
New York	23,439,605	49,021,876	50,613,725	123,075,206
North Carolina.....	11,187,894	23,571,590	25,065,727	59,825,212
North Dakota	645,453	2,151,010	1,502,894	4,299,357
Ohio	12,102,280	29,762,398	29,578,334	71,443,011
Oklahoma.....	4,868,864	9,689,009	10,662,472	25,220,345
Oregon	3,301,818	12,634,114	9,499,446	25,435,378
Pennsylvania	13,730,579	32,096,737	27,783,266	73,610,582
Rhode Island	1,107,096	4,305,291	3,381,699	8,794,086
South Carolina	6,648,195	13,135,115	11,437,384	31,220,694
South Dakota.....	728,829	2,306,404	1,784,221	4,819,454
Tennessee.....	6,570,885	15,100,403	15,646,083	37,317,371
Texas	39,875,648	88,981,138	84,959,569	213,816,354
Utah.....	2,630,543	6,039,651	5,244,921	13,915,115
Vermont.....	850,940	1,014,652	743,356	2,608,948
Virginia	7,546,359	16,764,394	13,430,672	37,741,425
Washington	7,710,099	18,529,581	15,419,689	41,659,370
West Virginia	2,346,303	7,083,128	7,464,241	16,893,671
Wisconsin.....	4,880,889	10,543,397	7,263,591	22,687,877
Wyoming.....	644,595	2,167,590	1,015,160	3,827,345
Northern Mariana Islands ^{2/}	-	-	-	-
Guam	593,001	201,447	47,749	842,196
Puerto Rico.....	9,321,229	12,981,057	15,026,252	37,328,538
Virgin Islands.....	171,895	373,932	266,978	812,805
AMS/WBSCM Admin Exp.....	5,276,790	-	-	5,276,790
Anticipated Adjustment	71,017,202	-	-	3,735,326
TOTAL	\$455,187,374	\$820,131,010	\$753,054,485	\$2,028,372,869

Source: WBSCM -- Sales Order and contract information

NOTE: Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Resources were provided to TEFAP in 2024, as a larger initiative under the USDA to provide support for American producers, School Meal Providers and Emergency Food Operations.

^{1/} CCC foods were provided through emergency food provider networks to support emergency feeding organizations under the statutory authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

^{2/} Cash in-Lieu of commodities are provided to the Northern Mariana Islands

Table FNS-69. TEFAP Entitlement Commodities 2024

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	Pounds	Value
ALASKA POLLOCK, FILLETS, FROZEN	114,000	\$286,938
ALASKA POLLOCK, BREADED STICKS, FROZEN	266,000	604,580
ATLANTIC POLLOCK, FILLETS, FROZEN	108,000	686,070
ALMONDS, WHOLE	36,960	114,140
APPLES, FRESH	1,486,170	686,456
APPLES, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	237,600	304,088
APPLESAUCE, CANNED, UNSWEETENED	3,758,333	3,022,443
APPLESAUCE, CUPS, UNSWEETENED	2,268,000	1,589,574
APRICOTS, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	2,578,838	4,218,298
BEANS, CANNED, BLACK, LOW-SODIUM	5,512,831	3,383,952
BEANS, CANNED, BLACK-EYED PEAS, LOW-SODIUM	1,529,618	1,081,389
BEANS, CANNED, GARBANZO, LOW-SODIUM	1,280,610	773,675
BEANS, CANNED, GREEN, LOW-SODIUM	13,415,661	8,477,972
BEANS, CANNED, LIGHT RED KIDNEY, LOW-SODIUM	2,701,697	1,632,017
BEANS, CANNED, PINTO, LOW-SODIUM	4,249,589	2,533,032
BEANS, CANNED, REFRIED, LOW-SODIUM	2,717,280	1,816,120
BEANS, CANNED, VEGETARIAN, LOW-SODIUM	2,468,040	1,458,594
BEANS, DRY, BLACK-EYED PEAS, NO SALT ADDED	483,840	571,603
BEANS, DRY, GREAT NORTHERN, NO SALT ADDED	1,532,160	1,171,297
BEANS, DRY, LIGHT RED KIDNEY, NO SALT ADDED	1,008,000	813,050
BEANS, DRY, BABY LIMA, NO SALT ADDED	483,840	558,616
BEANS, DRY, PINTO, NO SALT ADDED	6,733,440	4,631,307
BEANS, DRY, SPLIT PEA, GREEN	604,800	337,468
BEANS, FROZEN, GREEN, NO SALT ADDED	660,960	554,978
BEEF, CANNED	1,035,000	4,479,316
BEEF, CANNED, STEW	3,221,568	6,757,436
BEEF, FINE GROUND, 85/15, FROZEN	4,512,000	18,760,292
BEEF, FINE GROUND, 85/15, FROZEN, LFTB OPTIONAL	800,000	3,533,828
BLUEBERRIES, Highbush, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	237,600	310,134
CARROTS, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	6,976,418	5,134,495
CARROTS, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED	1,127,520	794,335
CATFISH, FILLETS, FROZEN	114,000	507,338
CEREAL, CORN FLAKES	1,111,968	2,490,808
CEREAL, CORN FLAKES WITH OAT CLUSTERS	481,140	956,062
CEREAL, OAT CIRCLES	1,108,800	2,840,747
CEREAL, RICE CRISP	151,200	311,670
CEREAL, WHEAT, BRAN FLAKES	423,360	948,326
CEREAL, WHEAT, FARINA	791,550	1,198,929
CEREAL, WHEAT, SHREDDED	1,152,166	2,191,811
CHEESE, AMERICAN, REDUCED FAT	334,608	768,753
CHEESE, CHEDDAR	1,209,600	2,801,679
CHICKEN, BONELESS BREAST, FROZEN	2,045,520	5,020,627
CHICKEN, DRUMSTICKS, FROZEN	5,890,000	4,666,565
CHICKEN, SPLIT BREAST, FROZEN	39,000	194,610
CHICKEN, WHITE MEAT, CANNED/POUCHED	5,319,281	10,992,401
CHICKEN, WHOLE, FROZEN	14,770,800	15,368,574
CORN, CANNED, CREAM, LOW-SODIUM	1,968,300	1,464,539
CORN, CANNED, NO SALT ADDED	11,676,733	7,609,547
CORN, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED	554,400	475,344
CORNMEAL, YELLOW	428,400	193,024
CRACKERS, UNSALTED	703,080	1,374,862
CRANBERRIES, DRIED, INDIVIDUAL PORTION	130,500	287,111
EGG NOODLES	1,497,600	4,053,219
EGGS, FRESH	8,032,500	8,425,883
EGG MIX, DRIED	72,000	960,120
FLOUR, 100% WHITE WHOLE WHEAT	1,560,000	460,340
FLOUR, ALL-PURPOSE, ENRICHED	6,997,800	2,139,032
FLOUR, BAKERY MIX, LOWFAT	35,100	63,903
FRUIT AND NUT MIX, DRIED	1,048,320	2,932,931
GRITS	2,063,232	1,577,093
JUICE, APPLE, UNSWEETENED	7,276,750	3,356,287
JUICE, CHERRY APPLE, UNSWEETENED	1,803,858	1,132,013
JUICE, CRANBERRY APPLE, UNSWEETENED	1,872,658	1,328,123

2026 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	Pounds	Value
JUICE, GRAPE, UNSWEETENED	3,107,710	2,036,710
JUICE, GRAPEFRUIT, UNSWEETENED	71,340	68,675
JUICE, ORANGE, UNSWEETENED	2,496,900	2,466,127
JUICE, TOMATO, LOW-SODIUM	784,740	372,766
LENTILS, DRY, NO SALT ADDED	2,298,240	1,387,999
MACARONI AND CHEESE	11,504,097	9,298,832
MILK, 1%, FRESH	11,574,936	4,727,408
MILK, 1%, UHT	12,297,116	6,357,956
MILK, SKIM, FRESH	2,765,052	1,043,817
MIXED PRODUCE, FRESH	393,342	3,074,575
MIXED FRUIT, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	13,443,233	16,943,452
MIXED VEGETABLES, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	6,441,120	6,466,014
OATS, ROLLED	4,561,326	4,065,665
OIL, VEGETABLE	10,178,784	8,411,467
ORANGES, FRESH	936,225	589,019
PASTA, ENRICHED	20,394,400	14,818,216
PASTA, WHOLE GRAIN-RICH	1,500,000	3,313,696
PEACHES, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	6,325,335	9,026,926
PEACHES, FROZEN	174,240	317,964
PEANUT BUTTER	16,117,152	22,977,056
PEANUT BUTTER, INDIVIDUAL PORTION	249,480	481,356
PEANUTS, ROASTED, NO SALT ADDED	311,040	513,433
PEARS, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	5,874,998	7,984,091
PEARS, FRESH	517,440	373,050
PEAS, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	4,661,145	3,769,100
PEAS, FROZEN, NO SALT ADDED	673,200	637,454
PORK, CANNED	2,016,000	4,328,849
PORK CHOPS, FROZEN	988,000	2,658,442
PORK, HAM, FROZEN	1,908,000	4,235,040
POTATOES, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	6,609,600	4,567,490
POTATOES, DEHYDRATED FLAKES	3,185,460	4,829,823
POTATOES, FRESH	3,080,000	868,718
PUMPKIN, CANNED, NO SALT ADDED	947,700	1,106,444
RAISINS, UNSWEETENED	338,243	567,570
RAISINS, INDIVIDUAL PORTION, UNSWEETENED	391,248	812,996
RICE, BROWN	966,000	837,098
RICE, WHITE	17,472,000	8,798,677
SALMON, PINK, CANNED	1,572,756	3,407,978
SOUP, CREAM OF CHICKEN, REDUCED SODIUM	3,225,000	2,772,532
SOUP, CREAM OF MUSHROOM, REDUCED SODIUM	2,305,875	1,997,804
SOUP, TOMATO, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	3,228,225	2,852,658
SOUP, VEGETABLE, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	5,300,126	4,665,368
SPAGHETTI SAUCE, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	13,276,710	10,394,197
SPINACH, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	1,914,948	2,863,267
SWEET POTATOES, FRESH	418,000	224,870
TOMATO SAUCE, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	6,196,500	4,878,823
TOMATOES, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	7,068,881	5,415,463
TORTILLAS, WHOLE GRAIN-RICH	1,512,000	1,409,047
TURKEY, BREAST, FROZEN	600,000	2,041,528
WALNUTS, PIECES	278,208	666,109
SUBTOTAL COMMODITY ENTITLEMENT	381,262,662	\$378,893,382
Cash-In-Lieu of Commodities – CNMI		207,426
AMS/WBSCM Admin Expenses		5,276,790
Anticipated Adjustment		70,809,776
TOTAL COMMODITY ENTITLEMENT	381,262,662	455,187,374

Table FNS-70. TEFAP Bonus Commodities 2024

BONUS COMMODITIES	POUNDS	VALUE
ALMONDS, WHOLE.....	19,108,320	\$58,978,085
APPLES, FRESH	127,271,034	67,293,362
APPLES, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	3,366,000	4,452,109
APPLESAUCE, CANNED, UNSWEETENED.....	18,589,500	14,667,983
APPLESAUCE, CUPS, UNSWEETENED	23,058,000	16,686,837
ASPARAGUS, CANNED	1,451,250	2,003,235
ASPARAGUS, FROZEN.....	720,000	1,264,164
BEANS, CANNED, PINTO, LOW-SODIUM.....	13,481,978	8,282,863
BEANS, DRY, DARK RED KIDNEY, NO SALT ADDED	5,402,880	4,980,240
BEANS, DRY, LIGHT RED KIDNEY, NO SALT ADDED	5,725,440	4,726,541
BEANS, DRY, NAVY, NO SALT ADDED	7,338,240	4,897,252
BEANS, DRY, PINTO, NO SALT ADDED.....	13,789,440	11,555,263
CATFISH, FILLETS, FROZEN.....	6,460,000	29,438,605
CHEESE, SWISS	2,114,010	7,859,282
CHERRIES, DRIED.....	884,736	4,377,404
DATES, PIECES, DRIED	3,611,520	9,418,646
FIGS, PIECES, DRIED	1,444,608	4,223,625
GRAPEFRUIT, FRESH	16,811,900	13,259,240
HAZELNUTS	1,774,080	9,789,969
JUICE, APPLE, UNSWEETENED	9,737,910	4,671,253
JUICE, GRAPE, UNSWEETENED.....	66,167,850	41,424,350
MANDARIN, TANGERINE, FRESH.....	17,316,000	17,829,343
MILK, 1%, UHT	9,442,800	5,279,640
MILK, NONFAT, DRY	4,492,800	16,005,265
NECTARINES, FRESH	11,819,520	17,615,470
ORANGES, FRESH	24,454,197	15,800,979
PACIFIC ROCKFISH, FILLETS, FROZEN.....	1,440,000	5,749,842
PACIFIC WHITING FILLETS, FROZEN	3,888,000	13,555,980
PEACHES, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	10,461,150	9,401,952
PEACHES, FRESH.....	12,114,960	16,937,105
PEACHES, FROZEN.....	5,876,640	9,479,654
PEARS, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	7,107,750	7,521,152
PEARS, FRESH.....	1,254,400	664,812
PECANS, PIECES.....	4,650,048	22,772,422
PISTACHIOS, ROASTED	6,920,000	34,936,206
PLUMS, DRIED, UNSWEETENED.....	4,932,000	9,598,685
PLUMS, FRESH	13,442,240	15,918,200
PORK, HAM, FROZEN.....	2,736,000	6,529,440
PORK, LOIN ROAST, FROZEN	2,732,800	6,668,032
PORK, PATTY	4,256,000	10,553,208
POTATOES, DEHYDRATED FLAKES	5,850,000	8,191,903
POTATOES, FRESH.....	94,480,000	28,081,110
RASPBERRY, PUREE, FROZEN.....	422,400	933,888
SALMON, PINK, CANNED.....	30,418,335	66,419,095
SHRIMP, PEELED & DVND.....	7,770,000	33,133,616
STRAWBERRIES, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	12,355,200	19,357,645
WALNUTS.....	15,460,416	29,869,535
TOTAL BONUS COMMODITIES.....	664,402,352	\$753,054,485

NOTE: CCC foods were provided through emergency food provider networks to support emergency feeding organizations under the statutory authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-71. TEFAP CCC Commodities 2024

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION (CCC) COMMODITIES	POUNDS	VALUE
ALASKA POLLOCK, BREADED STICKS, FROZEN	11,400,000	\$24,638,622
ALASKA POLLOCK, FILLETS, FROZEN	8,360,000	20,986,629
ALASKA POLLOCK, NUGGETS, FROZEN	5,700,000	12,359,895
ATLANTIC POLLOCK, FILLETS, FROZEN	396,000	2,013,973
BEANS, CANNED, BLACK, LOW-SODIUM	10,671,750	6,750,913
BEANS, CANNED, DARK RED KIDNEY, LOW-SODIUM	14,229,000	8,757,424
BEANS, CANNED, GARBANZO, LOW-SODIUM	5,335,875	3,313,135
BEANS, CANNED, GREEN	30,424,848	19,235,589
BEEF, CANNED, CHILI WITHOUT BEANS	10,800,000	17,358,769
BEEF, CANNED, STEW	10,800,000	21,039,680
BLUEBERRIES, DRIED	1,389,696	7,630,274
BLUEBERRIES, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	6,256,800	8,985,106
BLUEBERRIES, WILD, FROZEN	6,912,000	9,497,944
CATFISH, FILLETS, FROZEN	5,700,000	26,601,000
CHEESE, AMERICAN, REDUCED FAT	4,752,000	11,682,933
CHEESE, CHEDDAR	16,197,360	40,819,585
CHICKEN, BONELESS BREAST, FROZEN	14,164,800	36,809,064
CHICKEN, DRUMSTICKS, FROZEN	12,160,000	8,957,344
CHICKEN, LEG QUARTERS, FROZEN	16,340,000	11,474,876
CHICKEN, WHITE MEAT, CANNED/POUCHED	27,573,750	54,795,724
COLLARDS, CANNED	16,253,748	25,514,815
CORN, CANNED	28,848,150	17,661,947
CRANBERRIES, DRIED, INDIVIDUAL PORTION	8,640,000	14,297,393
GRAPES, FRESH	55,315,650	64,040,442
HADDOCK, FILLET, FROZEN	612,000	4,162,816
HAZELNUTS	3,696,000	15,973,922
MILK, 1%, FRESH	7,975,224	3,161,529
MILK, 2%, FRESH	72,141,642	30,314,215
MIXED VEGETABLES, CANNED	11,533,664	13,453,587
OCEAN PERCH, FILLETS, FROZEN	396,000	3,285,000
PEACHES, FRESH	10,296,000	13,919,934
PEACHES, FROZEN	6,969,600	12,280,095
PEARS, FRESH	4,468,800	5,181,330
PEAS, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	7,155,000	6,108,963
PLUMS, DRIED, UNSWEETENED	3,600,000	7,315,140
PORK CHOPS, FROZEN	9,500,000	26,965,700
PORK, PULLED, FROZEN	12,000,000	25,979,712
PORK, TACO FILLING, FROZEN	12,000,000	24,606,184
POTATOES, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	7,267,500	4,862,532
POTATOES, FRESH	6,800,000	1,801,461
RAISINS, UNSWEETENED	5,832,000	9,553,193
SALMON, RED, CANNED	6,513,000	29,123,045
SOUP, VEGETABLE, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	4,257,000	3,512,036
SPAGHETTI SAUCE, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	5,467,500	4,060,914
STRAWBERRIES, FROZEN, UNSWEETENED	7,920,000	12,484,100
TOMATOES, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	17,934,615	12,978,029
TOMATOES, FRESH	4,211,250	3,634,241
TOMATO SAUCE, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM	12,048,750	9,027,759
TURKEY, BREAST, COOKED, FROZEN	9,177,000	29,784,743
TURKEY, BREAST, DELI, FROZEN	9,160,000	31,377,752
TOTAL CCC COMMODITIES	587,553,972	\$820,131,009
GRAND TOTAL - TEFAP COMMODITIES	1,633,218,985	\$2,028,372,869

NOTE: CCC foods were provided through emergency food provider networks to support emergency feeding organizations under the statutory authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Nutrition Services Incentive Program**Table FNS-72. NSIP Entitlement and Bonus Funding 2024**

State or Territory	Entitlement Commodities	Bonus Commodities	Total
Delaware.....	\$220,866	\$288,992	\$509,858
Kansas.....	153,291	199,672	352,962
Massachusetts	1,219,066	0	1,219,066
Montana.....	256,319	261,330	517,649
Total NSIP	1,849,541	749,994	2,599,535
AMS/WBSCM Admin Expenses.....	-	-	235,174
Anticipated Adjustment	-	-	-769,065
TOTAL.....	\$1,849,541	\$749,994	\$2,065,644

Source: WBSCM -- Sales Order and contract information.

NOTE: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table FNS-73. NSIP Entitlement and Bonus Commodities 2024

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	Pounds	Value
APPLES, CANNED, UNSWEETENED	71,136	\$69,659
BEANS, CANNED, BLACK TURTLE, LOW-SODIUM	34,992	18,818
BEANS, CANNED, GREAT NORTHERN, LOW-SODIUM	34,992	15,163
BEANS, CANNED, GREEN, LOW-SODIUM.....	69,312	37,693
BEEF, FINE GROUND, 85/15, FROZEN	128,000	520,001
CARROTS, CANNED, LOW-SODIUM.....	36,024	18,596
CHICKEN, CUT UP, FROZEN.....	108,800	220,866
CHICKEN, BREAST FILLET, COOKED, FROZEN	78,000	245,575
CHICKEN, UNSEASONED STRIPS, COOKED, FROZEN	117,000	301,977
MIXED FRUIT, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	145,008	162,400
PORK, HAM, FROZEN	20,000	49,400
PORK, LEG ROAST, FROZEN	12,000	25,417
RICE, WHITE.....	42,000	32,621
TOMATO SAUCE, CANNED/POUCH, LOW-SODIUM	36,252	24,423
SUBTOTAL ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	933,516	\$1,742,609
AMS / WBSCM Admin Expenses	-	235,174
Anticipated Adjustment	-	87,861
TOTAL ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES	933,516	\$2,065,644
BONUS COMMODITIES		
APPLESAUCE, CUPS, UNSWEETENED	302,400	217,980
JUICE, GRAPE, UNSWEETENED	178,350	118,921
PEACHES, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	109,350	97,459
PEARS, CANNED, EXTRA LIGHT SYRUP	109,350	115,052
POTATOES, DEHYDRATED FLAKES.....	90,000	124,825
SALMON, PINK, CANNED	84,075	182,689
TOTAL BONUS COMMODITIES	873,525	\$856,926
GRAND TOTAL NSIP	1,807,041	\$2,922,570

Source: WBSCM -- Sales Order and contract information.

Disaster Assistance**Table FNS-74. Disaster Assistance Funding 2024**

State or Territory	Disaster Name	Disaster Type	People Served	Pounds	Total Value
Puerto Rico	Tropical Storm Ernesto	Tropical Storm	1,272	1,450	\$2,203
Texas	Severe Storms	Flooding, Tornadoes	196,374	1,238,453	1,709,794
Texas	Hurricane Beryl	Hurricane	317,160	2,447,194	3,461,102
Vermont.....	Severe Storms	Flooding	123	214	\$802
Anticipated Adjustment.....			-	-	-4,750,815
GRAND TOTAL.....			514,929	3,687,311	\$423,086

Source: National Data Base and Food Programs Reporting System NOTE: Totals may not add due to rounding.

ACCOUNT 5: NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored):

Nutrition Programs Administration

For necessary administrative expenses of the Food and Nutrition Service for carrying out any domestic nutrition assistance program, \$164,684,000.

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**Table FNS-75. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)**

Item	Amount
Enacted, 2025.....	\$177,348,000
Change in Appropriation	-12,664,000
Budget Estimate, 2026.....	<u>164,684,000</u>

PROJECT STATEMENTS**Table FNS-76. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Enacted	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/ Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec	Chg Key
Discretionary Appropriations:											
FNS Salaries & Expenses.....	\$187,348	807	\$175,348	751	\$175,348	751	\$164,684	507	-\$10,664	244	(1)
Congressional Hunger Ctr.....	2,000	-	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	-	-2,000	-	(2)
Subtotal	189,348	807	177,348	751	177,348	751	164,684	507	-12,664	-244	
Total Appropriation	189,348	807	177,348	751	177,348	751	164,684	507	-12,664	-244	

Table FNS-77. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Enacted	FTEs	2026 Estimated	FTEs	Inc/ Dec	FTE Inc/ Dec
Discretionary Obligations:										
FNS Salaries and Expenses	\$177,963	807	\$169,814	751	\$175,348	751	\$164,684	507	-\$10,664	-244
Congressional Hunger Center ...	2,000	-	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	-	-2,000	-
Subtotal Disc Obligations	179,963	807	171,814	751	177,348	751	164,684	507	-12,664	-244
Transfers In:										
Misc. Reimbursements.....	-913	-	-466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, Transfers In	-913	-	-466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, Discretionary Funding...	179,050	807	171,348	751	177,348	751	164,684	507	-12,664	-244
Obligations from Prior Years:										
X Year Funds	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rescission of X Year Funds (non-add)	-	-	-8,000	-	-510	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, Carryover Obligations	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers Out (Working Capital Fund Cont.)	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance Lapsing.....	8,225	-	6,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Available	189,348	807	177,348	751	176,348	751	164,684	507	-12,664	-244

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES**Nutrition Programs Administration**

The Nutrition Programs Administration (NPA) funds operating expenses for administering the nutrition assistance programs of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). Funds support the Agency's rent, working capital fund charges, shared cost charges, audit, human resources systems, and approximately one-third of the Agency's staff. In addition to the activities and functions specifically described in the budget request, current year and budget year base funds will be used to carry out activities and functions consistent with the full range of authorities and activities delegated to the Agency.

The numbers of the following listing relates to values in the Change (Chg) Key column of the Project Statement:

1) FNS Salaries and Expenses

During 2025, FNS focused on restructuring the workforce and seeking efficiencies in operations. The Budget requests a \$10.6 million decrease in 2026 to right-size the workforce.

2) Congressional Hunger Center

The Congressional Hunger Center (CHC) was established in 1993 with the purpose of combating hunger and poverty at the community, national, and international levels. The CHC is a 501(c)(3) foundation that receives donations from a variety of individuals and corporate sponsors. Funding is not being requested in the 2026 President's Budget.

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**Table FNS-78. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)**

Item No.	Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Enacted	2026 Estimated
11.0	Total personnel compensation.....	\$92,454	\$95,919	\$101,430	\$64,722
12.0	Personal benefits	36,615	36,822	37,000	35,662
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	4		20	50
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits ...	129,073	132,741	138,450	100,434
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	2,090	2,209	2,000	2,000
22.0	Transportation of things.....	147	140	-	-
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	12,040	12,346	12,040	15,000
23.2	Rental payments to others	5	1	-	-
23.3	Comms, utilities, & misc. charges	56	31	-	-
24.0	Printing and reproduction.....	386	338	-	-
25.2	Other services from non-Fed sources.....	28,328	17,604	18,000	31,000
25.3	Other goods & services from Fed sources.....	3,476	3,833	3,510	20,566
25.6	Medical Care	-	-	-	-
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equip	429	8	-	-
25.8	Subsistence & support of persons	228	-	-	-
26.0	Supplies and materials	585	246	-	-
31.0	Equipment	100	91	-	-
32.0	Land and structures	-	-	-	-
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	2,000	2,000	2,000	-
42.0	Insurance Claims and Indemnities	107	14	-	-
	Total, Other Objects	49,977	38,861	37,550	64,566
99.9	Total, new obligations	179,050	171,602	176,000	165,000
	Position Data:				
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position.....	\$195,140	\$202,140	\$205,940	\$209,740
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position	\$113,724	\$120,724	\$124,524	\$128,324
	Average Grade, GS Position	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.7

STATUS OF PROGRAMS

The Nutrition Programs Administration (NPA) appropriation funds operating expenses for administering the nutrition assistance programs of FNS.

FNS Administrative Resources – A Critical Program Management and Oversight Tool

FNS employees play a central role in managing the Federal nutrition assistance programs. While the agency partners with State agencies and local service providers, FNS is solely responsible for developing program policies and regulations as well as monitoring State compliance through Management Evaluations and Financial Management reviews. FNS disburses and accounts for Federal funds provided to those who operate the programs. In addition, FNS monitors program operations, provides technical assistance, and conducts oversight and evaluation to maximize programs' effectiveness and value to clients and taxpayers, and ensures they are managed and operated in a way consistent with the law.

Meeting these responsibilities is central to accomplishing core program objectives, including ensuring access to benefits for eligible individuals, improving the nutrition of program recipients, and strengthening program integrity. While funding is also provided to States and tribes and territories to operate these programs, strong Federal policy and oversight are fundamental to ensuring effective levels of program accountability. For example, funds management in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is crucial to the Agency's mission and requires intensive Federal staff focus, as well as travel funding.

Although information technology improvements have resulted in large productivity gains in the past decade, many of FNS's mission-critical functions are inherently labor-intensive and require ongoing attention. Since the NPA appropriation funds a significant part of FNS's administrative expenses, it is integral to effectively using other program appropriations. Administrative funding for FNS accounts for two-tenths of one percent of the total investment in nutrition assistance.

Commodity Assistance Program

The NPA appropriation funds the staff administrative expenses of the Commodity Assistance Program (CAP). In addition to providing domestic commodities, also known as USDA Foods, for the Child Nutrition Programs, FNS makes nutritious foods available to State agencies for distribution to low-income people through the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and makes administrative resources available to States to support the distribution of these USDA Foods. The Agency may also provide USDA Foods to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, The Federated States of Micronesia, and survivors of Presidentially declared disasters and situations of distress.

Financial Management Initiatives**Debt Collection Activity in 2024**

For federally managed Federal debt, FNS continued its vigorous pursuit of debt owed to the Agency by billing \$494 million in new receivables in 2024. Year-end outstanding debts for the fiscal year increased from the previous year by \$296 million. While the overall debt resolution rate achieved was about 172 percent.

In its accounts receivable, FNS also records the Federal share of the value of recipient overpayments established by SNAP State agencies. State agencies are allowed to retain a portion of the claims collected. The receivable consists of the total claims established less the States' share.

For Federal debts managed by SNAP State agencies, such agencies establish claims against households for errors in issuing program benefits to these households. These overpayments can result from the client's incorrect reporting of household circumstances, through client fraud, or by State administrative error.

SNAP Recipient Claims Activity

Table FNS-79. 2021–2024 (millions of dollars; preliminary results)

Claims Activity	2021	2022	2023	2024
Claims Established.....	\$490	\$494	\$401	\$599
Claims Collected	389	431	318	381
Ending Balance	3,092	3,780	3,624	2,418

Financial Management (FM) Regional Office Reviews

The FM organization conducts assessments of regional offices to ensure the propriety of financial operations and transactions within FNS. Reviews have helped raise the confidence level of Agency management officials over the past several fiscal years.

Financial Management Reviews (FMRs)

In addition to National Office reviews staff conduct on regional offices, regions also conduct FMRs of participating State agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations to obtain reasonable assurance that financial information reported by grantees is correct, complete, and in compliance with Federal standards and regulations.

FNS has implemented a risk assessment process that assists the Agency in selecting for review those State agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations who pose the greatest financial management risk.

Financial Statements Audit

FNS received a qualified opinion for 2024.

Administrative Management Initiatives

Project and Program Management Implementation Initiative

To incorporate project and program management requirements to improve Agency capabilities, FNS applies an incremental, phased implementation approach to transform its culture while utilizing program and project management best practices. The approach helps address the Agency's programs portfolio reviews and reporting, applicable project and program management governance development and implementation, and Program and Project Managers talent management.

In 2024, FNS leveraged the existing Agency's Annual Priorities Planning and Operational Plans tools to facilitate and integrate additional project and program management concepts, continue developing FNS project and program managers, and re-enforce project and program management related activities and accountability across the enterprise. FNS provided staff with a toolkit of project management templates and facilitated access to training and knowledge libraries.

FNS collaborated with all impacted program offices to facilitate, train, and implement a new automated process for procurement forecast data collection and maintenance by using the USDA Integrated Acquisition System directed by the USDA Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration and the USDA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Director. A total of 113 procurement requirements across all FNS program areas were identified and shared with USDA industry partners. This new process will increase small business awards by making procurement forecast data more accurate, user-friendly, available, and projected in advance.

FNCS Central Analytics Team

In 2024, the FNCS Central Analytics Team (FCAT) focused on the implementation of USDA's Data Strategy which covers opportunities, challenges, and potential actions over three fiscal years, 2024–2026, related to data governance and stewardship, workforce enablement, data collection and open data.

As part of USDA Data Strategy's (2021-2023) Goal 3, "to develop and leverage technology, infrastructure, and analytics tools to enable shared access and use of data to achieve our mission and drive innovation," FCAT along with FNCS programmatic and operational partners developed internal and external dashboards and data engineering projects. The tactics enhance performance, customer service, and accountability, which include projects for both internal and external audiences.

Internal-facing tools include:

- A SNAP "Health of States Report" was developed for internal use to analyze data from multiple SNAP data systems (e.g., National Data Bank and SNAP Quality Control System) to identify opportunities to support State administration of SNAP. The report examined State participation trends and customer service, pre- and post-pandemic. This report was originally built in R-Markdown programming language but is in the process of transitioning to a fully-fledged dashboard using Tableau data analytics software in early 2024.
- Regional offices are using the new, automated Bluesheets to facilitate the creation of this executive report. The Bluesheet is a State- or territory-specific executive report compiled for FNCS Leadership that contains key metrics related to all FNCS programs. Historically, this report had to be manually compiled in Excel that required a time-consuming exercise of copying and pasting reports to generate the final Bluesheet. Over the past three months, the FCAT, in partnership with ROS, developed an automated process for the development of the Bluesheets. FCAT data engineers developed a Python script that populates standard reports for all State agencies and places it in a designated SharePoint folder, all in roughly five minutes. The script saves FNCS staff significant time and effort and ensures accurate and consistent reporting.
- The SNAP Quality Control Ad-Hoc Query Tool was released on the authenticated FNCS Open Data Platform, averaging at least 1,000 views per month since the update in July. The tool is accessible by SNAP Quality Control State Agency staff, forming a user group of over 1,000 people. The tool empowers both State Agency and National Office staff, in a version hosted on the Mission Data Platform, to query and extract the latest quality control data available nationwide and for their respective, State or region. Updated daily, the data contains over 350 fields for download and filtering.

External-facing tools include:

- FNCS' first Nutrition Education and Local Food Access Dashboard provides national to county-level map display of public data related to nutritious foods, the food environment, and individual health. The Nutrition Education and Local Food Access Dashboard provides State- and county-level insights into nutrition assistance programs and their relationships with other measures linked to hunger and nutritional health. By bringing together USDA's Food Environment Atlas with farm to school intensity measures in one robust tool, the dashboard enables State and local governments, tribal leaders, policymakers, researchers, practitioners, and others to inform cross-program nutrition technical assistance and support States' nutrition action planning.
- The SNAP Community Characteristics: Congressional District Explorer dashboard was also released on FNCS's Open Data Platform in late June 2023. This exploratory tool shares information about Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation, income, and household demographics within each congressional district. Users may select their own district, along with any others of interest, and can contrast two districts within a given State.
- The SNAP Retailer Year End Summaries Report is a dashboard that was released on FNCS's Open Data Platform in late June 2023. The dashboard was created to share information about Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) retailer participation during fiscal year 2022. The dashboard was designed to provide an annual State-level visualization of SNAP retailer management, including metrics related to authorizations, redemptions, and compliance. Users may select specific measures to compare across States or specific retailer types for key metrics. The dashboard can also be used by the public to gain insight on SNAP through retailer activity.

Acquisition Strategies

FNS's 2024 procurement strategy is a continuation of the Agency's commitment to increase contracting opportunities for small businesses to provide customers and taxpayers the benefit of creativity, innovation, and technical expertise. The Agency has leveraged its support in driving the U.S. economy forward by helping small businesses create jobs. The Agency has continued to exercise innovative methods to maximize Small Business opportunities. In 2024, FNS made a total of 178 awards to small businesses, valued at nearly \$45 million. Impressively, 52.79 percent of all FNS contracts were awarded to small businesses, and the Contracts Management Division exceeded its small business goals in several categories.

Human Capital

In 2024, FNS continued improving the hiring process by implementing data-informed human capital management strategies and a full expansion of the talent acquisition flexibilities in accordance with Departmental and the Office of Personnel Management guidance and Federal regulations. In 2024, more than 200 hiring actions were completed with an average time to hire of 89 days. FNS implemented a priority action decision process to ensure hiring approvals were strategically aligned with both Agency priorities and budgetary resources.

The HR Helps customer center continued to provide service to stakeholders and maximize the efficient use of FNS staff time. HR Helps provided dedicated support to all HR customers to address current employee needs, applicant inquiries, and new hire questions (onboarding). During 2024, over 2,400 inquiries were received with more than 95 percent resolved in less than one day. The HR Helps customer center was able to resolve 94 percent of inquiries without escalating to subject matter experts, which enabled Agency HR experts to dedicate more time to accomplish complex human resources goals, objectives, and priorities supporting the Agency's mission.

In 2024, the Agency continued challenging employees to improve professional proficiencies and close employee competency gaps to develop future leaders. To achieve this goal, the Agency invested in the collective growth of the workforce through continued implementation of the FNS Executive Candidate Development Readiness Program, as well as an increased number of participation opportunities within the FNS Employee Learning Continuum (Leadership Institute, Management Excellence Program, and Federal Executive Institute).

Civil Rights Division

The FNS Civil Rights Division (CRD) utilizes mainly NPA appropriation funds to perform various essential functions in support of the Agency's mission of administering 16 nutrition assistance programs in accordance with numerous laws and related departmental rules, regulations, policies, and instructions. CRD also facilitates equal and timely access to FNS programs and services for all customers.

In 2024, CRD processed 120,449 pieces of correspondence and accepted and adjudicated 271 program complaints of prohibited discrimination for investigation and resolution. These complaints often involve State and local agencies, nonprofits, and institutions (such as schools) that receive Federal financial assistance either directly or indirectly. CRD processed complaints in an average of 164 days and took appropriate actions to mitigate any issues of compliance identified.

In support of FNS programs and activities, CRD issues policy guidance and provides technical assistance and guidance to national and regional program offices, employees, State agencies, and other recipients of federal financial assistance, including all nutrition assistance programs throughout the nation. In 2024, CRD developed ten Civil Rights Impact Analyses of Proposed Rules, Final Rules, and Agency reorganizations to help the Agency ensure impacts on protected groups were properly mitigated. In addition, CRD closed a total of eight compliance reviews and addressed deficiencies, offered technical assistance, and issued corrective actions, as appropriate, through voluntary resolution actions.

CRD works with national and regional program offices, and other Federal agencies to develop and ensure consistency in civil rights policy. In 2023 and 2024 FNS collaborated with nine other Federal

agencies under the leadership of the Interagency Working Group on Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Partnerships to amend in 7 C.F.R. 16, "Equal Opportunity for Religious Organizations" to strengthen and ensure protections against discrimination based on religion. FNS collaborated across program areas to develop appropriate guidance, notice, and model documents for state agencies and nonprofits participating in FNS programs.

CRD routinely collaborates with national and regional program offices and employees, State agencies, and other recipients of Federal financial assistance to help broaden understanding of their civil rights responsibilities in the administration of FNS programs. In 2024, FNS conducted 103 program trainings to State agencies, Indian Tribal Organizations and at national conferences on various civil rights topics. CRD delivers these training opportunities for internal and external customers to provide expert technical assistance and guidance through various oversight and monitoring activities and to ensure program beneficiaries receive timely and accurate service by working with State agencies and other entities to resolve concerns during program administration.

CRD conducts compliance reviews of regional areas annually, where the focus is on the assessment of hiring, promotions, separations and award practices, as well as the provision of training to ensure FNS is a model EEO agency. In 2024, CRD conducted 12 EEO supplemental training sessions for staff to ensure they are aware of their EEO rights and responsibilities and to help to correct EEO deficiencies and remove barriers. As a result, CRD reports that 15 EEO counsel sessions were conducted, which resulted in the filing of 14 formal complaints for the year.

Center For Nutrition Policy and Promotion

The Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion (CNPP) works to improve the health and well-being of Americans by developing and promoting dietary guidance that links scientific research to the nutrition needs of consumers. It carries out its mission to improve the health of Americans by serving as the Federal authority on evidence-based food, nutrition and economic analyses that inform policy and programs; translating science into actionable food and nutrition guidance for all Americans; and leading national communication initiatives that apply science-based messages to advance consumers' dietary and economic knowledge and behaviors.

Major initiatives include the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, the Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review (NESR), MyPlate, the Healthy Eating Index, USDA Food Plans (including the Thrifty Food Plan), and food pattern modeling. These initiatives support USDA's goal to improve food and nutrition security for all Americans.

CNPP makes key contributions to USDA's priority of ensuring America's children and families have access to nutritious, balanced meals. CNPP does this by translating nutrition guidance into innovative, consumer-focused nutrition initiatives to provide the public with information on healthy eating. CNPP's mission, vision, goals, priorities, and values exemplify its commitment to performance that meet the needs of the American public - driving greater integration and collaboration for greater impact. CNPP resources are widely used by consumers, health professionals, nutrition educators, Federal agencies, and other stakeholders serving the public.

Development and Promotion of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans

The National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 requires the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Health of Human Services (HHS) to jointly publish the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (Dietary Guidelines) at least every five years. The Dietary Guidelines provide a science-based foundation to help inform Federal nutrition programs and education activities. The Dietary Guidelines is also widely adopted in the private sector, mainly by education and health professionals. Within USDA, the Dietary Guidelines is used by the Child Nutrition Programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to guide nutrition standards and/or benefit levels for participants ages 2 years and older. The Dietary Guidelines also serves as the basis for MyPlate, which is the major vehicle for implementing the Dietary Guidelines.

During 2024, CNPP worked jointly with HHS to promote the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2020-2025 and continued the process to develop the next edition, the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030, to be released by the end of 2025.

The 2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee, a 20-person committee of scientific experts who were nominated by the public, continued its work reviewing the current body of science on key nutrition topics and developing a scientific report that includes its independent assessment of the evidence and advice for HHS and USDA as the Departments develop the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030. The Committee was tasked with examining the relationship between diet and health across all life stages, answering scientific questions that the Departments posted for public comment in 2022, and ensuring factors such as socioeconomic position, race, ethnicity, and culture are described and considered to the greatest extent possible based on the information provided in the scientific literature and data.

On an ongoing basis, HHS and USDA have encouraged the public to participate in the process by attending the Committee meetings and submitting public comments. During the 18-month period for public comments to the Committee, from January 2023 to October 2024, approximately 9,900 comments were received from the public, all of which are available to view via a link at DietaryGuidelines.gov.

Simultaneous to the Committee's work, in 2024, the scientific reviews and modeling on adult alcohol consumption and health conducted by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) and a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) committee continued working on complementary tracks. Both projects included opportunities for public participation and will include external scientific peer review. Both projects are slated to be completed by early 2025. Each will result in a report with findings, not recommendations, on alcohol consumption, and will be posted for public comment.

USDA and HHS will consider the Scientific Report of the 2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee, the NASEM Committee and HHS Committee reports on adult alcohol consumption, and all comments received from the public and federal agencies on the three reports as the Departments develop the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030*, expected to be released by December 2025.

Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review (NESR)

Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review (NESR) is a team of scientists from FNS's Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. NESR scientists have a unique combination of experience and expertise in systematic review methodology, nutrition science, public health, and library science. NESR scientists answer nutrition questions of public health importance by conducting high-quality systematic reviews, rapid reviews, and evidence scans using up-to-date methods and technology. NESR supports CNPP's mission to improve the health of Americans by developing and promoting dietary guidance that links scientific research to the nutrition needs of consumers. NESR's work also helps the agency uphold the Data Quality Act, which mandates that Federal agencies ensure the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of the information used to form Federal guidance.

A NESR systematic review is a gold-standard evidence synthesis project that answers a nutrition question of public health importance using systematic, transparent, rigorous, and protocol-driven methods to search for, evaluate, synthesize, and grade the strength of the eligible body of evidence. This approach allows the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee to answer high priority scientific questions by reviewing the total body of scientific evidence that has been published on a particular topic. The Committee used NESR's rigorous and transparent methodology to conduct and/or update 28 systematic reviews. NESR's systematic review methodology involves: developing a systematic review protocol (all of which are posted on NESR's website to provide transparency to the Committee's work and to facilitate public comment: <https://nesr.usda.gov/protocols>), searching for and screening articles, extracting data from and assessing the risk of bias of each included article, synthesizing the evidence, developing the conclusion statement(s), grading the evidence underlying the conclusion statement(s), and recommending future research.

The Committee also conducted one evidence scan that described the available evidence on culturally tailored dietary interventions. A NESR evidence scan is an exploratory evidence description project in which systematic methods are used to search for and describe the volume and characteristics of evidence available on a nutrition question or topic of public health importance. The results of this evidence scan can be used to inform future rapid or systematic reviews on this topic.

Also, during 2024, NESR provided support to the Joint US-Canada Working Group for the Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs), a set of reference values used to plan and assess the energy and nutrient intakes of individuals and groups. This working group collaborates to plan and fund updates to the DRIs. The Working Group prioritized updating the macronutrients and energy DRIs, aiming to have updates to the DRI completed in time for the 2030-2035 edition of the Dietary Guidelines. Nutrition Guidance and Analysis Division (NGAD), including NESR, staff participated on the Working Group, assisting with strategic planning and with coordinating evidence scans to identify qualified existing systematic reviews that can be used by a future NASEM panel in updating the DRIs. In addition, NESR served as a sponsor liaison to the HHS Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Evidence Practice Centers who have been commissioned to conduct a series of systematic reviews on topics related to protein, digestible carbohydrate, fiber, and fats.

Food Pattern Modeling Informs USDA Dietary Patterns

Food pattern modeling is one of three scientific approaches (along with systematic reviews and data analysis) that the 2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee used to conduct its rigorous review of the evidence to inform the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030. Food pattern modeling is a methodology used to illustrate how changes to the amounts or types of foods and beverages in a dietary pattern might affect meeting nutrient needs. It is used to develop quantitative dietary patterns that reflect health-promoting patterns identified in systematic reviews and meet energy and nutrient needs. This approach allowed the Committee to provide advice to USDA and HHS related to the existing USDA Dietary Patterns, which were developed to help individuals carry out Dietary Guidelines recommendations. Three USDA Dietary Patterns are included in the current Dietary Guidelines: Healthy U.S.-Style, Healthy Vegetarian, and Healthy Mediterranean-Style Dietary Patterns.

In 2024, the federal Food Pattern Modeling Team supported the work of the Committee by conducting specific food pattern modeling analyses identified by the Committee to answer the overarching question shown below. The interagency team includes nutrition scientists and data analysts from USDA and HHS with doctoral (PhD, DrPH, ScD, and MD) or master's degrees (MS, MPH) in nutrition science, public health, economics, or related fields and expertise in food pattern modeling methodology. Some are registered dietitian nutritionists (RDN).

The 2025 Committee is using food pattern modeling to answer the following overarching scientific question, which was developed after a public comment period in 2022: Considering each life stage, should changes be made to the USDA Dietary Patterns (Healthy U.S.-Style, Healthy Mediterranean-Style, and/or Healthy Vegetarian), and should additional Dietary Patterns be developed/proposed based on:

- Findings from systematic reviews, data analysis, and/or food pattern modeling analyses; and/or
- Population norms (e.g., starchy vegetables are often consumed interchangeably with grains), preferences (e.g., emphasis on one staple grain versus another), or needs (e.g., lactose intolerance) of the diverse communities and cultural foodways within the U.S. population?

This overarching question was informed by goals for the Committee's food pattern modeling analyses to use enhanced food pattern modeling methodology to better reflect intake variability and the range of possible healthful diets based on our diverse populations. The Committee completed 11 Food Pattern Modeling protocols, each with numerous analyses, with support from the federal team.

New for 2024 was the addition of diet simulation methodology, a systems science approach, which allowed the Committee to evaluate and consider refinement of its proposed dietary pattern(s). The addition of diet simulation to the Dietary Guidelines process was a continuous quality advancement led by the federal Food Pattern Modeling Team to consider dietary intake variability of diverse population groups, as recommended by NASEM. This work included simulations that accounted for a range of foods and beverages reported as consumed across the U.S. population, as well as simulations that randomly selected foods and beverages identified as included in select American Indian and Alaska Native diets through a pilot study.

USDA Food Plans Inform SNAP and Summer EBT and Serve the Military

The four USDA Food Plans (Thrifty, Low-Cost, Moderate-Cost, and Liberal) are national standards for nutritious diets at various cost levels. Each plan represents a set of market baskets containing a selection of foods in quantities that reflect dietary recommendations and are applicable to one of 15 age-sex groups. Each food plan has an associated cost based on national average prices of the foods and beverages in each food plan at the time of publication plus adjustments each month to reflect inflation using the Consumer Price Index.

Federal law specifies that the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in June serves as the basis for setting maximum SNAP benefit allotments in the following fiscal year and that the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in November serves as the basis for updating Summer EBT benefit allotments in the following calendar year. In 2024, CNPP published monthly costs of the Thrifty Food Plan to support SNAP and Summer EBT in updating benefit amounts to reflect food price inflation.

The Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (P.L. 115–334, the 2018 Farm Bill) established a requirement for USDA to reevaluate the Thrifty Food Plan by 2022 and every 5 years thereafter. The reevaluation must be based on food prices, food composition data, consumption patterns, and dietary guidance that are current at the time of the reevaluation. In 2024, the CNPP undertook significant steps in support of upcoming reevaluations of the Thrifty Food Plan.

In 2024, CNPP coordinated with the Agency Scientific Integrity Officer and FNS Peer Review Panel to develop, approve, and publish peer review plans to the FNS peer review agenda webpage for projects that support the USDA Food Plans that the Agency can reasonably determine will have or do have a clear and substantial impact on important public policies or private sector decisions, including the contracts initiated in 2024.

Each year, as required by Congress, the Department of Defense uses the year-over-year increase in the value of the Liberal Food Plan to determine the increase in Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS), a component of servicemember compensation that is meant to offset the cost of food. In 2024, CNPP supported nutrition security among servicemembers by calculating an updated value of the Liberal Food Plan to account for food price inflation, resulting in a 1.5 percent increase in the BAS for calendar year 2025.

MyPlate: Meeting Consumers Where They Are to Help Them Eat Healthy on a Budget

MyPlate is the symbol and guide that translates the Dietary Guidelines for Americans into consumer-friendly advice and resources to help individuals, families, and communities achieve a healthy dietary pattern.

For more than 13 years, CNPP has promoted MyPlate while also leveraging technology to link scientific research to the nutritional and budgetary needs of consumers through tools such as the MyPlate.gov website, Start Simple with MyPlate App, MyPlate on Alexa, and Shop Simple with MyPlate. MyPlate.gov consistently ranks in the top five most visited among all USDA websites. In 2024, CNPP efforts for MyPlate focused on launching a national consumer education campaign. MyPlate.gov had a total of 9.3 million visitors and more than 57 million page views in 2024, a 14 percent increase over the previous fiscal year.

MyPlate Campaigns

In 2024, CNPP executed on an integrated marketing communication campaign to increase awareness and use of MyPlate with consumer outreach activities as follows:

- Launched a brief *Pyramid to MyPlate* digital advertising push to de-position the still-iconic Food Pyramid and jump-start MyPlate visibility. The results: 221 million+ impressions; 107 million+ video views (video starts); 62 million+ completed video views; 740,000+ clicks on MyPlate ads; 700,000+ views of the effort's hub page on MyPlate.gov.
- Launched the What's On MyPlate campaign with a community-based and national level stakeholder approach that leveraged trusted messengers to advance the reach of MyPlate and MyPlate promotion. This featured a listening tour via national professional association conference listening sessions, seven FNS regional town halls with 170 health educators, and the MyPlate National Strategic Partner Convening with more than 125 current and prospective partners representing national organizations focused on cross-collaboration to lift up MyPlate through their channels.
- Launched the What's On MyPlate campaign Digital Hub, Social Media Toolkit, and ads to amplify MyPlate's benefits and key messaging that MyPlate is budget-friendly and adaptable to various cultures, cuisines, and preferences. The *What's On MyPlate* campaign drives consumers and health educators to the Digital Hub, myplate.gov/whatsonmyplate, which features family stories and an interactive component that spotlights the journey and functions of MyPlate tools. The *What's on MyPlate* Social Media Toolkit includes animated GIFs, frames, and social media cards, and content for use by trusted messengers, including partners, federal agencies, cultural experts, and nutrition educators.
- These campaign efforts are expected to increase awareness and use of MyPlate resources, which will be measured through a post-campaign survey, FNS program evaluation research, and CDC's National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).

MyPlate Public-Private Partnerships

CNPP leveraged the power of partnerships in promoting healthy eating with MyPlate as part of a comprehensive strategy to increase awareness.

With the public-private MyPlate National Strategic Partnership, national-level partners have a large reach as key MyPlate and healthy eating message multipliers. Comprised of organizations that are national in scope, the MyPlate National Strategic Partnership ended 2024 with a total membership of 148 organizations ranging from leading health professional and educational organizations to food associations, manufacturers, healthcare corporations, media outlets, grocery retailers, health professional associations, and food manufacturers, among others.

In 2024, CNPP executed on a partnership strategy that involved the following:

- Rolled out the MyPlate National Strategic Partnership Recognition Program, which honors partners lifting up MyPlate through their various communication channels. The program recognizes partners at three levels: MyPlate Promoter (Bronze), MyPlate Leader (Silver), and MyPlate Champion (Gold). This program serves to acknowledge the contributions of partners.
- Recognized 102 partners with bronze level awards. Advancement of nearly 30 partners from Bronze to Silver or Gold recognition levels indicated even greater and deeper levels of engagement and collaboration. Partners were recognized for activities such as podcasts, innovative resources, and web content that promoted MyPlate, increasing its reach and inspiring others.
- Activated a partnership with Amazon, leading to a successful MyPlate National Strategic Partners' Convening in July 2024, attracting 127 attendees, including 10 prospective partners. This event facilitated collaboration among existing partners and effectively underscored the importance of partners' engagement in amplifying MyPlate messages to

reach the public. Altogether, the comprehensive strategy that included a nationwide campaign, community-based outreach, and national-level partnerships enabled CNPP to accelerate progress on raising the visibility and utilization of MyPlate tools and resources that can be built upon for years to come.

AGENCY-WIDE PERFORMANCE

Introduction

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) was established August 8, 1969, by Secretary's Memorandum No. 1659 and Supplement 1 pursuant to the authority contained in 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953. FNS is responsible for managing the 16 domestic nutrition assistance programs. Its mission is to increase food security and reduce hunger in partnership with cooperating organizations by providing children and other low-income Americans access to food, a healthful diet, and nutrition education.

Alignment to USDA Strategic Plan

FNS activities contribute to the success of USDA's overall mission to provide leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition, and related issues using sound public policy, the best available science, and effective management, to the benefit of all Americans. USDA is currently developing the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan and will report alignment in the 2027 Explanatory Notes.

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE

USDA is currently developing the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan, including new KPIs. A more detailed report of the performance plan can be found at <https://www.usda.gov/our-agency/about-usda/performance>.