

# Protect **SNAP** to Reduce Hunger and Strengthen Local Economies

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation's first line of defense against hunger, helping **42.6 million people in the U.S. put food on the table**. As food insecurity and food prices continue increasing, protecting and strengthening SNAP is more important than ever.



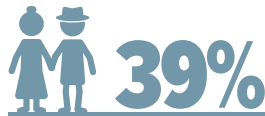
## **TAKE ACTION: REJECT PROPOSALS THAT CUT OR RESTRICT ACCESS TO SNAP BENEFITS OR SHIFT COSTS TO THE STATES.**

Proposed cuts mean fewer federal funds supporting local economies, children losing free school meals, and decreased Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) participation for babies and toddlers ages 0–4. These cuts would increase hunger by taking food away from Americans in need, decrease local revenue, and overwhelm already strained food pantries because **FOR EVERY MEAL A PANTRY PROVIDES, SNAP OFFERS NINE.**

## **SNAP'S IMPACT IN THE U.S.**



Veterans  
participating in SNAP



SNAP households  
with older adults

▶ Between 2018–2023, 12 percent of households in the U.S. participated in SNAP. SNAP participants reside throughout the country: **one in 7 rural and one in 7 small-town households** and **one in 8 households in metro areas in the U.S.**

▶ In fiscal year (FY) 2024, SNAP participants in the U.S. received an average of \$187.54 per month in SNAP benefits. This averages **\$6.16 per person per day**.

▶ SNAP helped **nearly 16 million children in FY 2023**. It also provided these children with eligibility for free school meals. Cuts to SNAP would mean that children in families with low incomes would **lose automatic eligibility for free school meals and Summer EBT**.



SNAP households  
with children



SNAP households  
with a person with a  
disability

## **KEY ECONOMIC FACTS**

▶ **SNAP SUPPORTS WORKING FAMILIES.** Between 2018–2023, 80 percent of SNAP households in the U.S. included someone who was working.

▶ **SNAP STIMULATES THE ECONOMY AND CREATES JOBS.** Each SNAP dollar has up to a \$1.80 impact during economic downturns, supporting the supply chain from farmer to store.

▶ **SNAP SUPPORTS LOCAL BUSINESSES,** including 261,066 retailers in the U.S., which redeemed a total of \$114 billion from SNAP purchases in FY 2023. Retailers include grocery stores and farmers' markets, which contribute to local taxes that fund services like schools and health care. Any cuts to SNAP will have a ripple effect, impacting more than the SNAP participants.

SOURCES FOR THIS FACT SHEET CAN BE FOUND IN THE [TECHNICAL NOTES](#).

## **SNAP IS A PROVEN, COST-EFFECTIVE PROGRAM**

that reduces food insecurity and supports the health of children, older adults, people with disabilities, and veterans. **SNAP** reduces health care costs, improves educational outcomes, and supports local economies. Support families by opposing any cuts to **SNAP**.

# **STRENGTHEN SNAP, STRENGTHEN AMERICA**