



Minnesota Department of **Human Services** 

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# **Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program December 2014**

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Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division  
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## Abbreviations

ABAWD	Able-bodied Adult without Dependents
ACS	American Community Survey
DHS	Department of Human Services
DWP	Diversionary Work Program
EBT	Electronic Benefits Transfer
FPG	Federal Poverty Guideline
GED	General Educational Development Equivalency Certificate
MFIP	Minnesota Family Investment Program
MSA	Minnesota Supplemental Aid
PRWORA	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
RCA	Refugee Cash Assistance
RSDI	Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance
SMRT	State Medical Review Team
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TANF	Temporary Aid to Needy Families

## Executive Summary

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is frequently referred to using the former names of Food Stamps nationally, or Food Support in Minnesota, provides a monthly benefit to low-income families, seniors, people with disabilities and some single adults for the purchase of food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase any nonfood items.

**Caseload.** SNAP caseloads fell in 2014 for the first time since 2006. In December 2013, 480,279 people were eligible, including adults and children in both stand-alone SNAP and in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the state's family assistance program for families that combines SNAP with cash grants. The number of eligible people dropped by 13.5 percent from 2013, but still remained above the number eligible in 2009. The drop is the result of both economic improvements and policy changes. A waiver that temporarily suspended mandatory work provisions and the three-out-of-36 months' time limit if not cooperating with SNAP employment and training program for able-bodied adults without a dependent (ABAWDs) expired in 2014. As a result, there was a drop in SNAP cases for childless adults up to and including age 50 without a disability ("Other Adults"). They were the group with the largest drop from 2013, decreasing by nearly one-half. However, the number of children decreased by 14 percent, so the drop in overall numbers was not due to the loss of the ABAWD waiver alone. See the MFIP Characteristics report for information on the receipt of SNAP through the MFIP food portion.

**Who is on SNAP.** In December 2014, 232,828 adults were eligible for stand-alone SNAP in Minnesota. Forty percent were in families with minor children; 20 percent were seniors aged 60 or older; 42 percent were adults with disabilities; and 13 percent were other adults; with 16 percent in multiple categories. There were 162,724 children eligible for stand-alone SNAP; 4 percent of these children had parents with disabilities, and 7 percent had no eligible adult on the case.

**Income from work.** Overall, 32 percent of SNAP cases reported income from work. This varied by case category, with 67 percent of families with children, 35 percent other adults, 12 percent adults with disabilities and 7 percent of senior cases reporting work. The average reported earnings for working cases was \$1,458 per month. Of these, families with children reported the highest earnings, with \$1,709, and seniors reported the lowest, with \$770 on average.

**Cases with no income.** Thirteen percent of SNAP cases (25,750) had no income, earned or unearned, reported for December 2014. Those cases included 27,418 eligible adults; 44 percent were childless, adults without disabilities under age 60 with no reported income. Many of these people are not potentially eligible for income supports available to people with children, seniors aged 60 and older, and people with diagnosed disabilities. For them, SNAP may be the only safety net program available.

## Introduction

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is sometimes referred to by the former names of Food Stamps nationally, or Food Support in Minnesota, provides a monthly benefit to low-income families, seniors, people with disabilities and single adults for the purchase of food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase nonfood items like pet food, personal hygiene products, cosmetics, alcohol or tobacco, vitamins or medicines or hot food. Households must meet income guidelines which vary by state; in Minnesota households must have income of less than 165 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG). For a household of two with no senior or adults with a disability, the limit is \$2,163 per month. Benefits are based on household size and amount and types of other income.

### A Short History of SNAP

SNAP was created with the Food Stamp Act of 1964 (HR 10222) which was introduced under Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman, a Minnesotan. The goals of the original Food Stamp program were to strengthen the agricultural economy and increase nutrition in low-income households. The program required households to purchase their food stamps, and allowed food stamps to be used to purchase items for consumption, excluding alcohol and imported foods. Responsibility for the program was divided between the states and federal government, with states responsible for certification and issuance and the federal government responsible for funding and authorizing retailers. The program prohibited discrimination in benefits eligibility by race, creed, national origin and political beliefs. Several legislative acts in the 1960s and 1970s increased state accountability, established national standards of eligibility, and expanded the program to all states and territories.

The Food Stamp Act of 1977 [P.L. 95-113] made major program changes that resulted in a program that looks more like the SNAP of today. It set income eligibility criteria using the current Federal Poverty Guidelines according to household size; restricted eligibility of students, some immigrants, and people who voluntarily quit jobs; set requirements for states regarding application processing time; and other provisions meant to make access and certification easier for participants.

Other major legislative changes to the program included provisions in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 that required states to implement Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) by Oct. 1, 2002, eliminating the “stamps” in Food Stamps; limited eligibility of able-bodied adults with no dependents (ABAWDs) to three months in any 36-month period if not meeting work requirements; and enacted other provisions relating to how a household’s budget is determined. The Farm Bill of 2002 made changes to the quality control system aimed at improving payment accuracy.

The Farm Bill of 2008 [H.R. 2419, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008] changed the name from Food Stamps to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. It expanded eligibility

by indexing asset limits to inflation and excluded combat pay from calculation of benefits, made money available to test point-of-purchase incentives for healthful foods, and set other provisions meant to simplify administration and strengthen program integrity.<sup>1</sup>

On Feb. 7, 2014, the SNAP program was reauthorized through 2018, part of the Agricultural Act of 2014. [P.L. 113-79]

## **Recent Changes Affecting Minnesota**

In recent years, there have been changes to the SNAP program. Some of these changes were federally mandated, others a result of state legislation, and some as a result of state waiver requests.

In 2009, Minnesota received a waiver that lifted the three-month eligibility limit and mandatory work requirements for ABAWDs due to the nationwide recession and high unemployment rate. As the economy improved and the unemployment rate stabilized, Minnesota was no longer eligible for the ABAWD waiver, effective Oct. 1, 2013. As a result of the federal government shutdown on Oct. 1, 2013, Minnesota received approval to delay implementation of the mandatory work provisions for ABAWDs for one month. Effective Nov. 1, 2013, the SNAP Employment and Training program and the ABAWD work provisions began, which limits eligibility to three of 36 months if the person is not meeting work requirements. Cases eligible in November through January began losing eligibility in February 2014, making the current report the first since 2009 to reflect eligibility without the waiver.

Six-month reporting by SNAP households was implemented on March 1, 2009. Previous to this policy change, households with earned income or recent work history reported income to their county financial worker each month. Now, most households report earned and unearned income once every six months; their SNAP grant amount is calculated using that income amount for the entire following six-month period. Households must report income changes that result in total gross earnings that exceed 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG) for their household size. Households are still required to report income greater than 130 percent of the FPG, although they would remain eligible up to 165 percent of the FPG.<sup>2</sup> ABAWDs must report if their work hours or work activities drop below 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month.

Minnesota continues to have no asset limit for the SNAP program and the gross income limit for SNAP eligibility remains at 165 percent of the FPG for most households applying or being recertified.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/short-history-snap> (updated November 2014)

<sup>2</sup> Combined Manual 0007.03.02.

<sup>3</sup> Combined Manual 0020.12 and 0015.03.

In September 2012, Minnesota received approval to extend the waiver that it has had since 1998. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Family and Nutrition Services allows the state to provide SNAP to households enrolled in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Minnesota’s Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) program (family cash assistance), as a single program. This waiver was extended through Sept. 30, 2017. To report the total number of people that receive assistance through SNAP, the Caseload Data section (starting on page 5) includes both households and people eligible for SNAP, both as a stand-alone program and through MFIP. The combined SNAP and MFIP caseloads are referred to as the total SNAP caseload. Participants eligible for SNAP through MFIP are included only in Figure 1.

## Report Format

This report is the ninth in an annual series that provides a snapshot of the household, demographic, and economic characteristics of SNAP cases and eligible people. Data are provided on the SNAP caseload, demographics of eligible adults, length of SNAP eligibility and use of other public assistance, and economic characteristics of cases in December 2014. This report continues the format shift started with the December 2011 report. Counts reflect the overlap in categories. Previous to the December 2011 report, mutually exclusive groups within a hierarchy were used. The “Total” columns in the tables are all eligible adults; adding the subgroups will exceed this total due to overlaps. Most data are reported as person-level data; the only case data are the grant amounts and income types in Table 4.

The fundamental unit of analysis in the SNAP program is the case. A case consists of people who live together and eat together. Not all persons living in the household are necessarily eligible; some may be disqualified, and therefore excluded from the assistance unit. These people are not included in the person-level data. Additionally, people living in the same household may be on differing case units. The child of a unit member is in the same unit as the parent if they reside together until the child is age 22. At that point the child becomes their own unit, if eligible. However, there is no age requirement for SNAP and persons under age 18 may apply as their own unit if they are not residing with a parent who is a unit member<sup>4</sup>.

Quick Facts highlight important information from the larger tables and provide selected trend data using small charts and bulleted text. Relevant policy information needed for interpreting data are included in text boxes. Quick Facts were designed to be stand-alone, mini-reports so that readers can share topics relevant to their work by copying a single page.

Data in the Data Tables section are the source for data in the Quick Facts which cite the table where the data can be found (Tables 1 to 4). Table 5 gives SNAP data by county. Important detailed policy and data definitions follow the Data Tables and are important in understanding them.

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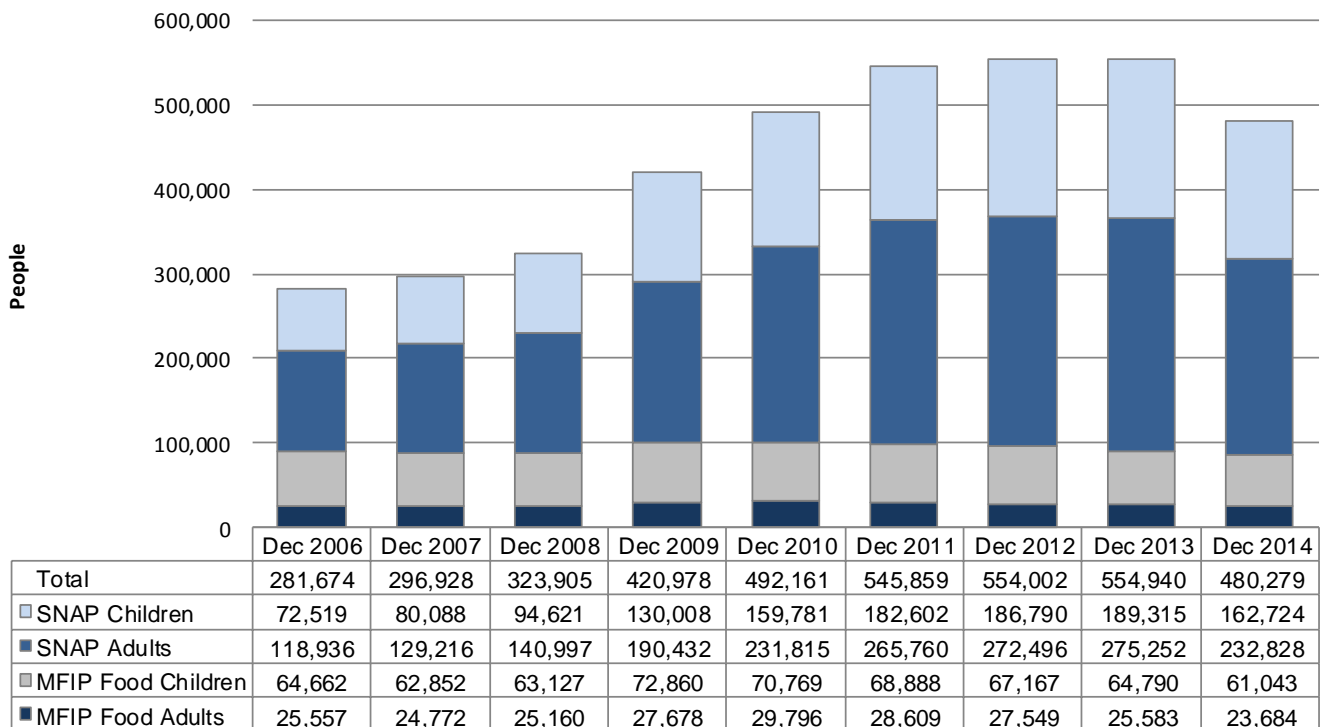
<sup>4</sup> Combined Manual 0014.03.03

# SNAP Caseload and Trends

## Quick Facts for December Trends

- SNAP caseloads are at historic highs in Minnesota and nationwide. In December 2014, 480,279 people were eligible, including adults and children in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the state’s cash assistance program for families (see Figure 1). The MFIP grant includes food assistance from SNAP. This page reports on all SNAP received, both stand-alone SNAP and the MFIP portion. The remainder of the report reflects stand-alone SNAP and excludes the MFIP food portion.
- For the first time in more than a decade, the total number of SNAP-eligible people dropped, decreasing by 15 percent since December 2013. This is still above the number of SNAP-eligible people in 2009, but the first decrease since the inception of the SNAP Characteristics Report.
- In 2013, the number of MFIP-eligible people also dropped, with a decrease of 6 percent. While MFIP-eligible children have been decreasing as a share of people on cash assistance, SNAP-eligible children have been increasing. December 2014 was the first time this report showed a greater increase in the MFIP share, though the increase is small.

**Figure 1. SNAP-eligible People: December 2006 to December 2014**



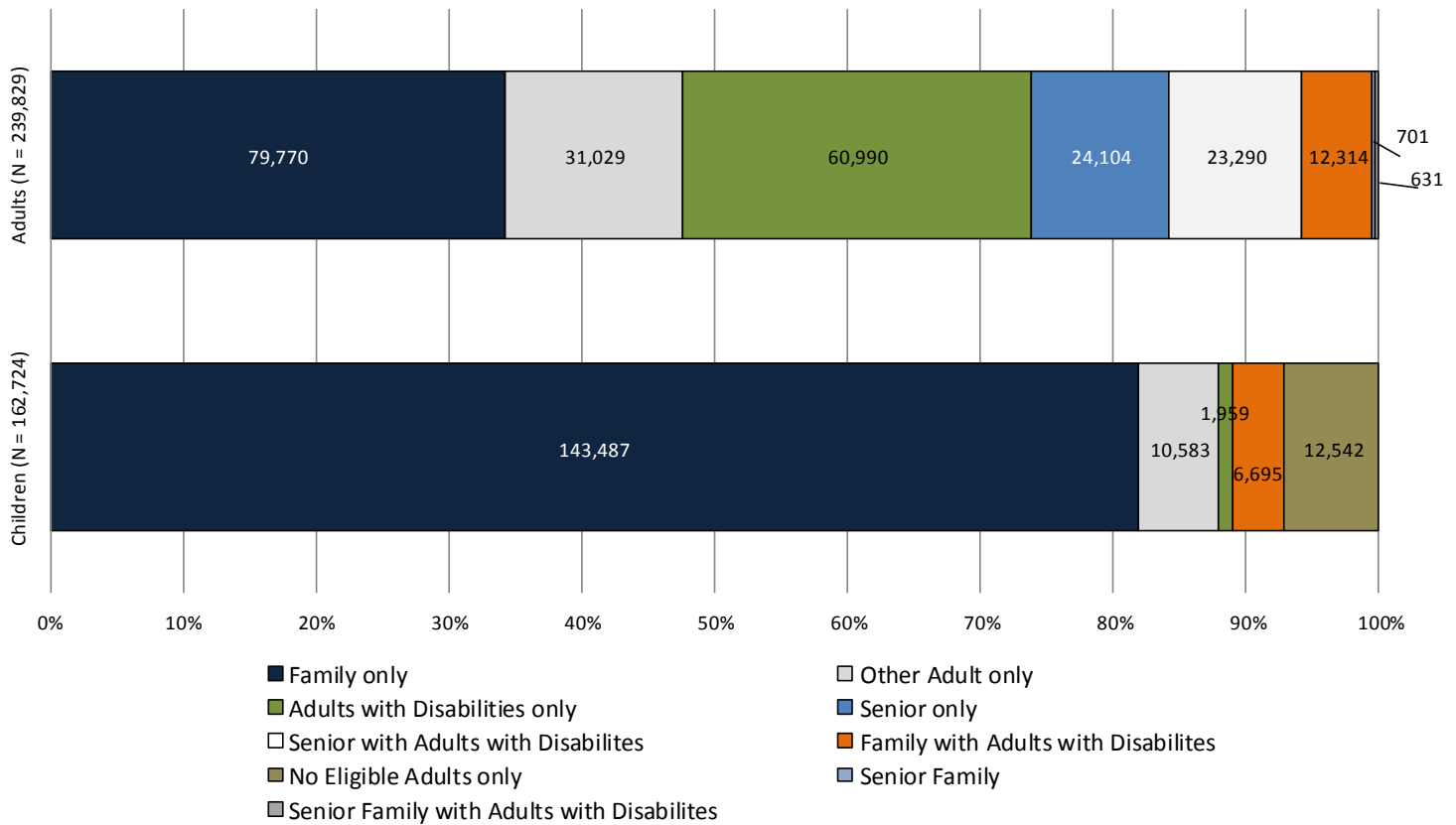


# Populations on SNAP

## Quick Facts for December 2014

- The “Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: December 2014” report divides participants into three overlapping groups -- families with children and seniors and adults with disabilities – and two distinct groups – other adults and children on SNAP cases with not adult members. Families with children can also have members aged 60 and older and members who are adults with disabilities, and so on. “Other adults” receive SNAP but are not part of a case with children, are under age 60, and do not have a disability. Children may be cared for by relatives who do not receive SNAP.
- Figure 2 shows the unduplicated total eligible adult and child populations by the various combinations. Although each Quick Fact related to a group provides the overlaps with other groups, all other tables and figures after figure 2 count each adult in every group they belong to. (Data from Table 1a)

**Figure 2. SNAP-eligible Adults and Children: Types and Overlaps**

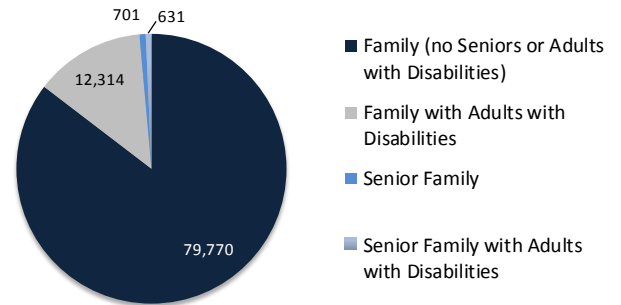


# SNAP Families with Children

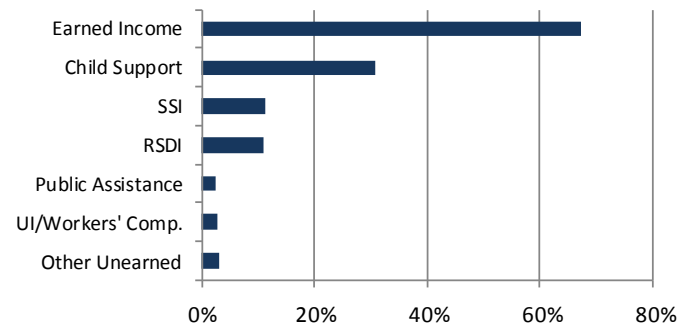
## Quick Facts for December 2014

- Forty percent of SNAP-eligible adults live in households with minor children (93,416 adults). There are 162,724 SNAP-eligible children; 12,542 children are eligible for SNAP in cases with no SNAP-eligible adult. (Data from Table 1a)
- Figure 3 shows the overlap of people in family cases with other case types. Thirteen percent of SNAP-eligible adults caring for minor children are under age 60 and also have a disability. Fewer than 2 percent each is a senior. (Figure 3 with data from Table 1b)
- The average age of adults with children is 35 years, with 41 percent in their 30s, 70 percent are female, 70 percent have at least a high school diploma, 47 percent never married, 33 percent are married and living with a spouse and 55 percent are white. (Table 2)
- Of the 69,284 family cases, 67 percent report income from work. Thirty-one percent have child support, 11 percent income from SSI and 2 percent receive cash public assistance (GA, MSA, RCA, MFIP, or DWP). Of those with reported work, the average income was \$1,709 per month. (Figure 4, Table 3)
- Adults in families averaged 41 months of SNAP eligibility since 2006. Less than 35 percent of adults in families have used 24 months or less. (Figure 5, Table 3)

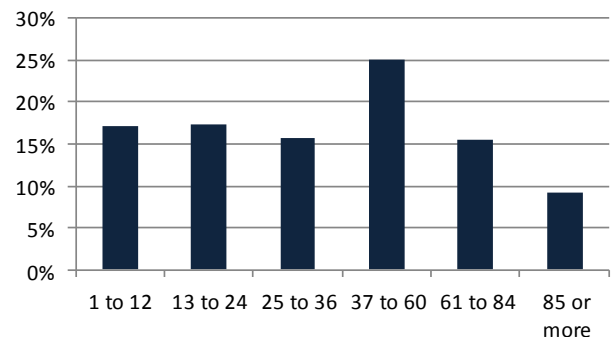
**Figure 3. SNAP-eligible Adults with Minor Children: Overlaps with Other SNAP Groups**



**Figure 4. SNAP Cases with Minor Children: Income Sources**



**Figure 5. SNAP-eligible Adults with Minor Children: Eligibility Months, 2006 to 2014**

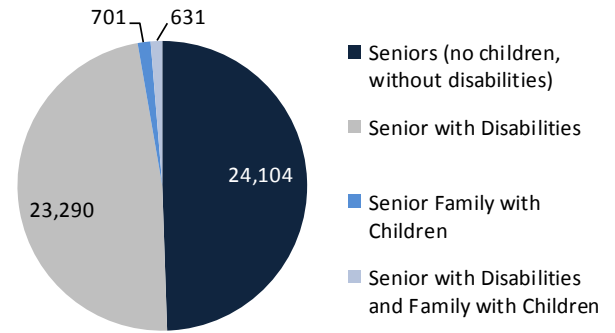


# SNAP-eligible Seniors

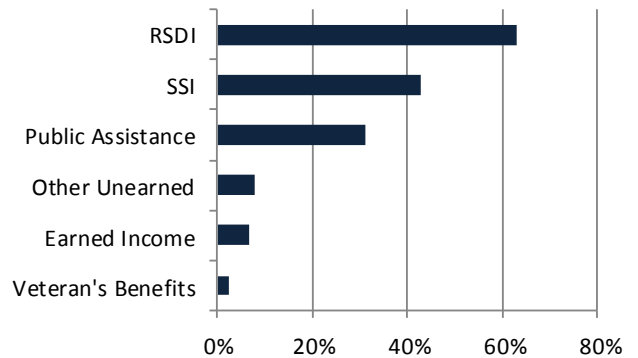
## Quick Facts for December 2014

- Twenty-one percent (48,726) of SNAP-eligible adults are age 60 or older, considered seniors according to SNAP policy. (Data from Table 1a)
- Fifty percent of SNAP-eligible seniors do not have a disability and have no minor children, 48 percent have a disability and no children, 3 percent have minor children. (Figure 6 with data from Table 1b)
- The average age of seniors is 70 (with a minimum age of 60), 63 percent are female, 61 percent are high school graduates, 19 percent are married and living with a spouse, 18 percent are widowed and 61 percent are white. Seniors are more likely to be Asian, widowed or divorced, and have less education than other groups. (Table 2)
- Nearly all cases with seniors have unearned income, with RSDI being the most common source (63 percent), followed by SSI (43 percent), and GA, MSA, RCA, MFIP, or DWP grants (31 percent). The average amount of unearned income is \$917 per month. Seven percent reported earned income. (Figure 7, Table 4)
- Seniors average 63 months of SNAP eligibility over the previous nine years, with 37 percent eligible for more than seven years. (Figure 8, Table 3)

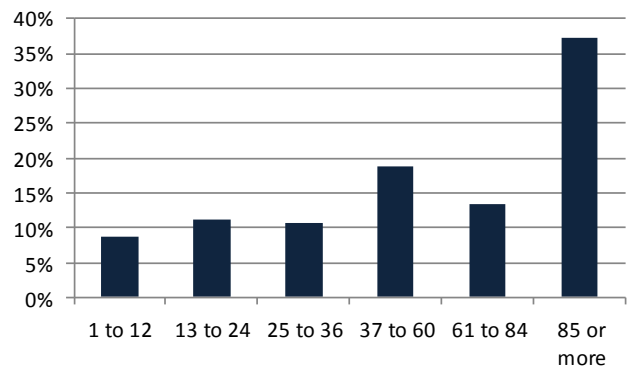
**Figure 6. SNAP-eligible Seniors: Overlap with Other SNAP Groups**



**Figure 7. SNAP Cases with Seniors: Income Sources**



**Figure 8. SNAP-eligible Seniors: Eligibility Months, 2006 to 2014**

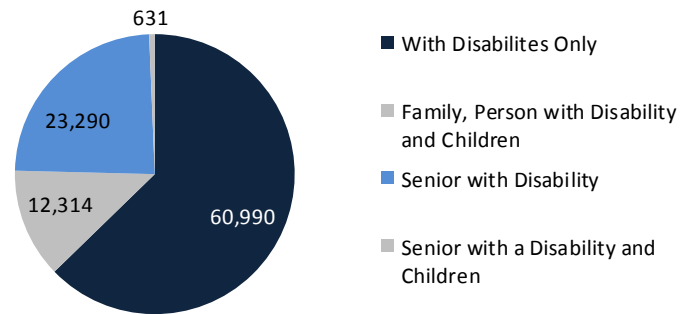


# SNAP-eligible Adults with Disabilities

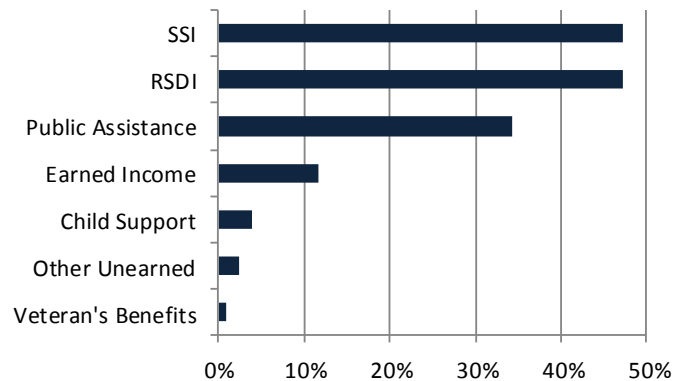
## Quick Facts for December 2014

- Forty-two percent (97,225) of SNAP-eligible adults have a disability and the majority does not overlap with another category. Twenty-four percent of these adults are also seniors, 13 percent have minor children, and less than 1 percent are seniors with minor children. (Figure 9 data from Tables 1a and 1b)
- The average age of SNAP-eligible adults with a disability is 49; with nearly three-quarters age 40 or older. Fifty-six percent are female, 67 percent have at least a high school diploma, and nearly half never married. (Table 2)
- Sixty percent of SNAP-eligible adults with a disability are white, 24 percent black, 8 percent Asian, 4 percent American Indian and 3 percent Hispanic. (Table 2)
- Ninety-one percent of SNAP-eligible cases with people with a disability report unearned income averaging \$826 per month. The most common types are RSDI (47 percent), SSI (47 percent), and public assistance (34 percent), mainly Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), but also include GA, RCA, MFIP and DWP. Twelve percent reported earned income. (Figure 10, Table 4)
- Adults with disabilities average 62 months of SNAP eligibility over a nine year period. Thirty-one percent have been SNAP eligible for more than seven years. (Figure 11, Table 3)

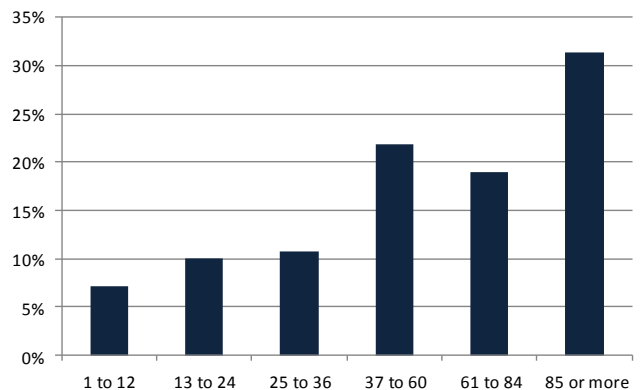
**Figure 9. SNAP-eligible People with Disabilities: Overlap with Other SNAP Groups**



**Figure 10. SNAP Cases with People with Disabilities: Income Sources**



**Figure 11. SNAP-eligible Adults with Disabilities: Eligibility Months from 2006 to 2014**



# SNAP-eligible Childless Adults without a Disability

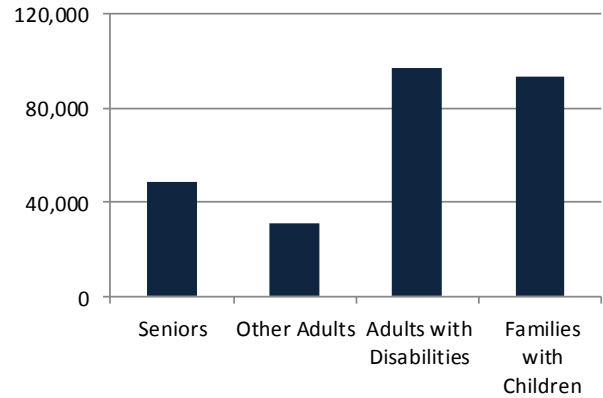
## Quick Facts for December 2014

- Thirteen percent of SNAP-eligible adults (31,029) are other adults. People in this group do not overlap with other groups as they have no children, do not have a disability and are younger than 60. This is nearly half as many in this group as in 2013 (Figure 12 data from Table 1a)

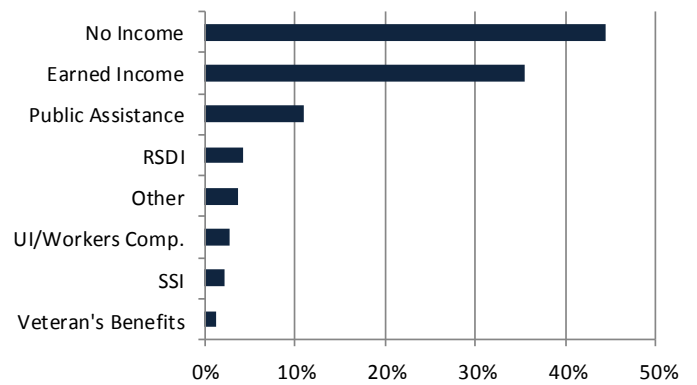
Policy note: Adults in this group include able-bodied adults without dependents, a specific group of adults without a disability between the ages of 18 and 50 who have restricted SNAP eligibility to three in 36 months (which was waived by the USDA for four years in Minnesota until Nov. 2013). Many of them are not eligible for income supports available to people with children, seniors aged 60 and older, and people with diagnosed disabilities. For them, SNAP may be the only safety net available.

- Forty-four percent of other adults have no reported income sources other than SNAP, 35 percent reported work and 24 percent have unearned income. These adults received SNAP for an average of 30 months in the last 9 years. This is the lowest average of the groups (Figure 13 and 14, Table 3 and 4)
- Other adults have an average age of 41. They were more likely to be male (59 percent), much more likely to have never married (64 percent) and less likely to be on other forms of public assistance. (Table 2)

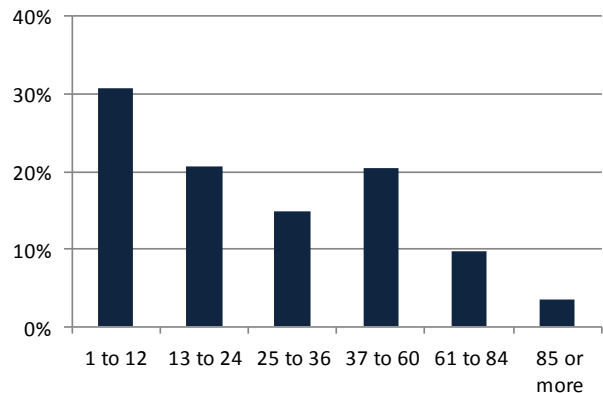
**Figure 12. SNAP-eligible Adults by Category**



**Figure 13. Other Adult Cases: Income Sources**



**Figure 14. Other SNAP-eligible Adults: Eligibility Months from 2006 to 2014**

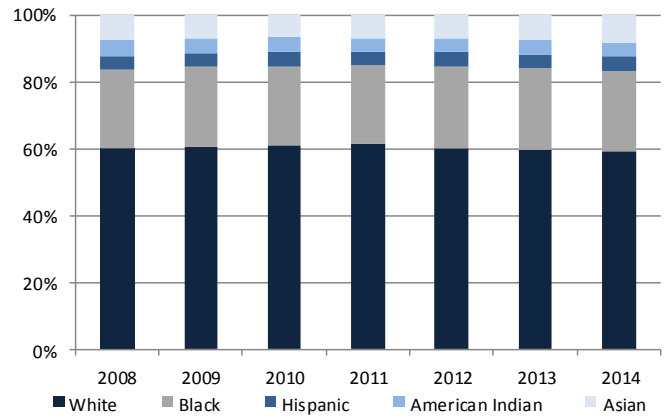


# SNAP-eligible Adults: Demographic Trends

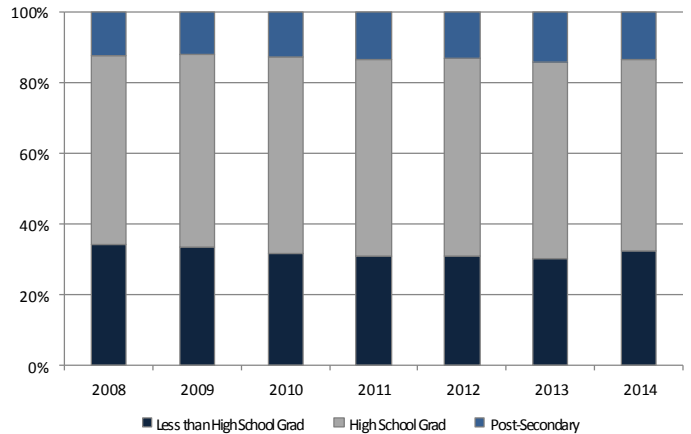
## Quick Facts for 2008 to 2014

- Despite the decreasing size of the SNAP population in 2014 with the end of the ABAWD waiver, most demographic characteristics of the caseload have not changed.
- The racial/ethnic composition of the SNAP caseload has not changed. Whites comprise 58 percent, Blacks 24 percent, Asians 8 percent and Hispanics and American Indians 4 percent each. (Figure 15, Table 2)
- The percentage of adults with less than a high school education has increased slightly from 2013. (Table 2)
- Prior to December 2008, and the start of the recession, males made up about 39 percent of SNAP-eligible adults. From December 2009 to 2013, the percent of males increased slightly to 43 percent. In 2014 it returned to pre-recession levels with 40 percent. (Table 2)
- With the decrease in other adults, age has also changed more than in past years. The proportion of people aged 16-22 decreased by a third, and those ages 60 and over increased by one-fifth. (Figure 17, Table 2)

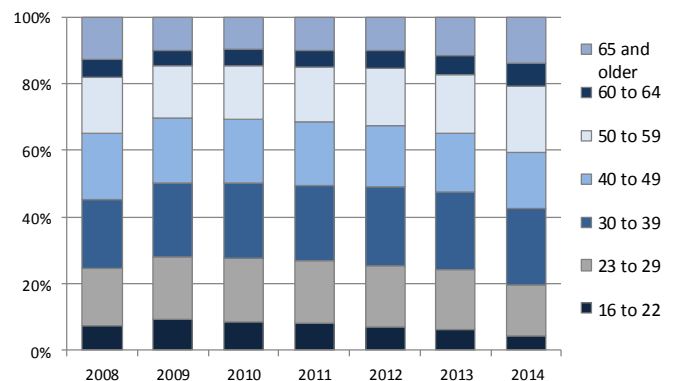
**Figure 15. Race/Ethnicity of SNAP-eligible Adults**



**Figure 16. Education Level of SNAP-eligible Adults**



**Figure 17. Age of SNAP-eligible Adults**



# SNAP as Safety Net: People with No Income

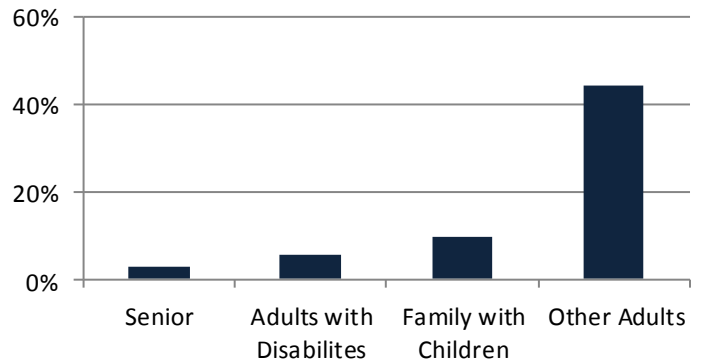
## Quick Facts for December 2014

- Thirteen percent of SNAP cases (25,750), including 27,418 eligible adults, had no income reported. This is a 44 percent drop in no-income adults from 2013. (Table 4)
- Forty-four percent of cases with childless adults without a disability and under age 60 had no reported income. (Figure 18, Table 4)
- People in households with no income had similar education levels to those with income. Two-thirds of each had at least a high school diploma or equivalent.

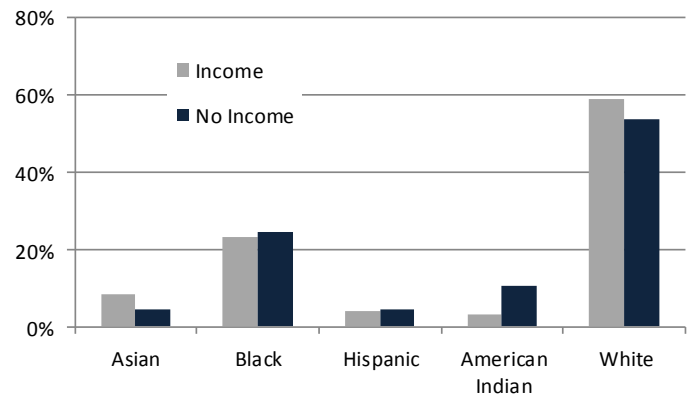
Policy note: Households must report all income types, both from unearned sources and from self-employment and jobs. Income information is collected at application, annual recertification, at six-month intervals, and when there is a reported significant increase. Not all income is used to determine the grant amount or eligibility.

- People with no income are more likely to be under age 30, male and Black or American Indian. They were also more likely to have never married (66 percent compared to 44 percent), which is partly due to younger ages. (Figures 19 and 20)

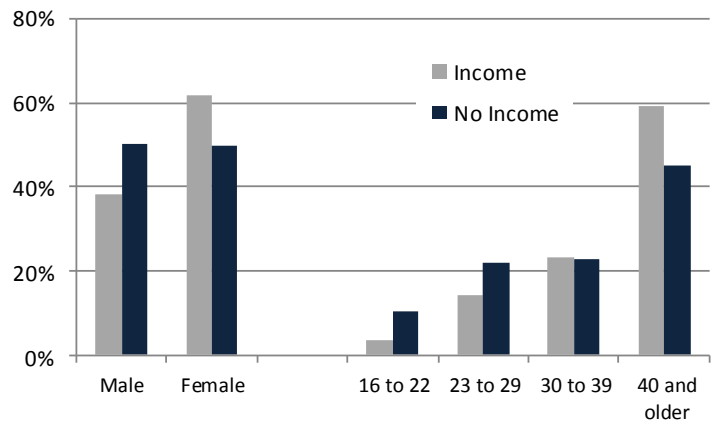
**Figure 18. Percent of SNAP Cases with No Income by Category**



**Figure 19. Race/Ethnicity of SNAP-eligible Adults With and Without Income**



**Figure 20. Gender and Age of SNAP-eligible Adults With and Without Income**



# Income and Earnings of SNAP Households

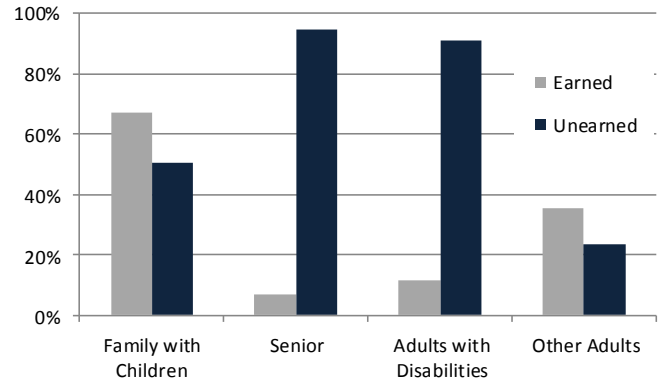
## Quick Facts for December 2014

- Overall, 32 percent of SNAP cases report income from work. This varies by type of case, with 67 percent of families with children, 35 percent of other adults, 12 percent of adults with disabilities and 7 percent of senior cases reporting work. (Figure 21; all data on this page came from Table 4)
- The average of reported earnings for working cases was \$1,458 per month. Families with children reported the highest earnings with \$1,709, and seniors the lowest, with \$770 on average. (Figure 22)

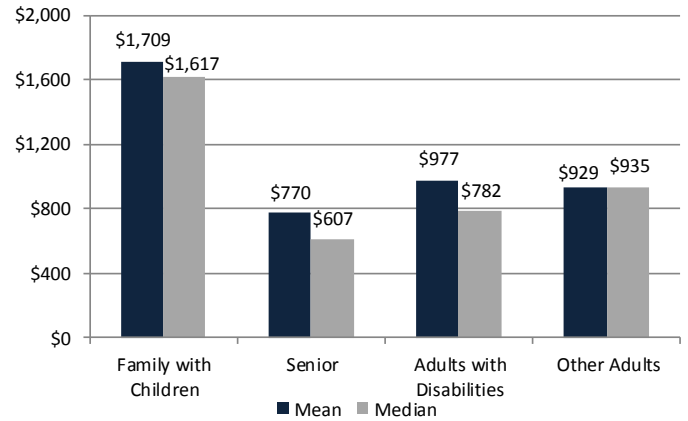
Policy note: Most people receiving SNAP report their income every six months. Income changes during that time period do not have to be reported unless household income goes above 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline. Decreases in income can also be reported. Reported earnings may have been received in any month from July to December 2014.

- Sixty-eight percent of SNAP cases reported unearned income, with a monthly average of \$778. (Figure 21)
- The most common types of unearned income vary by case type. Families with children are most likely to have child support (31 percent); seniors were most likely to have RSDI (63 percent); and adults with disabilities cases most likely to have SSI and/or RSDI (47 percent for each). (Figure 23)

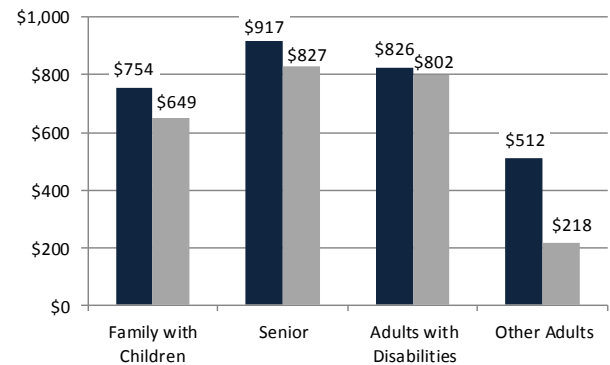
**Figure 21. Percentage of SNAP Cases with Earned and Unearned Income by Type**



**Figure 22. Average Monthly Earnings of SNAP Cases by Type for Working Cases**



**Figure 23. Average Monthly Unearned Income of SNAP Cases by Type for Cases Receiving Unearned Income**





## Data Tables

**Table 1a. December 2014 Stand-alone SNAP Cases and Eligible People in Overlapping Case Types**

	TOTAL	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults	No Eligible Adults
<b>CASES</b>	206,559 100.0%	69,284 33.5%	45,168 21.9%	93,931 45.5%	30,015 14.5%	6,522 3.2%
<b>ADULTS</b>	232,829 100.0%	93,416 40.1%	48,726 20.9%	97,225 41.8%	31,029 13.3%	0 0.0%
<b>CHILDREN</b>	162,724 100.0%	143,487 88.2%	0 0.0%	6,695 4.1%	0 0.0%	12,542 7.7%

**Table 1b. December 2014 Stand-alone SNAP Cases and Eligible People in Non-Overlapping Case Types**

	TOTAL	Families with Children	Senior Family	Family with Adults with Disabilities	Senior Family with Adults with Disabilities	Seniors	Senior with Adults with Disabilities	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults	No Eligible Adults
<b>CASES</b>	206,559 100.0%	56,540 27.4%	582 0.3%	11,502 5.6%	660 0.3%	21,060 10.2%	22,866 11.1%	58,903 28.5%	27,924 13.5%	6,522 3.2%
<b>ADULTS</b>	232,829 100.0%	79,770 34.3%	701 0.3%	12,314 5.3%	631 0.3%	24,104 10.4%	23,290 10.0%	60,990 26.2%	31,029 13.3%	0 0.0%
<b>CHILDREN</b>	162,724 100.0%	143,487 88.2%	0 0.0%	6,695 4.1%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	12,542 7.7%

**Table 2. Demographic Characteristics of SNAP-eligible Adults by Overlapping Case Types, December 2014**

		TOTAL	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
ELIGIBLE ADULTS	Count	232,829	93,416	48,726	97,225	31,029
	Row Percent	100.0%	40.1%	20.9%	41.8%	13.3%
AGE	Mean	45.6	35.3	69.9	49.4	40.9
	Median	44	34	68	51	44
	Minimum	15	16	59	17	15
	Maximum	108	92	108	108	59
	16 - 22	10,094	4,474	0	1,877	3,997
	Column Percent	4.3%	4.8%	0.0%	1.9%	12.9%
	23 - 29	35,313	23,216	0	8,438	5,434
		15.2%	24.9%	0.0%	8.7%	17.5%
	30 - 39	53,579	38,563	0	15,271	4,379
		23.0%	41.3%	0.0%	15.7%	14.1%
	40 - 49	38,966	19,461	0	18,973	4,226
		16.7%	20.8%	0.0%	19.5%	13.6%
	50 - 59	46,161	6,372	11	28,753	12,992
		19.8%	6.8%	0.0%	29.6%	41.9%
	60 - 64	16,492	766	16,492	10,910	0
	7.1%	0.8%	33.8%	11.2%	0.0%	
65 and over	32,223	564	32,223	13,003	0	
	13.8%	0.6%	66.1%	13.4%	0.0%	
GENDER	Female	140,486	65,336	30,463	54,600	14,476
		60.3%	69.9%	62.5%	56.2%	46.7%
	Male	92,343	28,080	18,263	42,625	16,553
	39.7%	30.1%	37.5%	43.8%	53.3%	
EDUCATION	None, <1st, Unknown	23,653	7,981	9,495	8,816	2,678
		10.2%	8.5%	19.5%	9.1%	8.6%
	Grade School	6,480	2,225	2,497	2,792	671
		2.8%	2.4%	5.1%	2.9%	2.2%
	Some High School	45,367	17,414	7,252	20,580	6,871
		19.5%	18.6%	14.9%	21.2%	22.1%
	High School Graduate	126,507	53,134	22,739	52,420	16,821
		54.3%	56.9%	46.7%	53.9%	54.2%
	Some Post-secondary	22,990	10,091	4,233	9,372	2,950
		9.9%	10.8%	8.7%	9.6%	9.5%
	College Graduate	3,950	1,470	1,105	1,575	504
		1.7%	1.6%	2.3%	1.6%	1.6%
Graduate Degree	3,882	1,101	1,405	1,670	534	
	1.7%	1.2%	2.9%	1.7%	1.7%	
High School Grad or Higher	157,329	65,796	29,482	65,037	20,809	
	67.6%	70.4%	60.5%	66.9%	67.1%	

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		TOTAL	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
MARITAL STATUS	Divorced	38,280 16.4%	7,588 8.1%	14,105 28.9%	21,356 22.0%	4,824 15.5%
	Legally Separated	700 0.3%	244 0.3%	192 0.4%	355 0.4%	73 0.2%
	Married, Living with Spouse	46,266 19.9%	31,158 33.4%	9,025 18.5%	10,408 10.7%	2,923 9.4%
	Never Married	109,566 47.1%	43,657 46.7%	9,711 19.9%	47,708 49.1%	19,828 63.9%
	Married, Living Apart	26,967 11.6%	10,116 10.8%	6,824 14.0%	12,940 13.3%	2,904 9.4%
	Widowed	11,050 4.7%	653 0.7%	8,869 18.2%	4,458 4.6%	477 1.5%
	Asian	18,758 8.1%	8,539 9.1%	6,732 13.8%	7,555 7.8%	982 3.2%
	Black	54,898 23.6%	22,624 24.2%	9,106 18.7%	24,848 25.6%	7,292 23.5%
Hispanic	9,669 4.2%	5,512 5.9%	1,569 3.2%	2,785 2.9%	1,097 3.5%	
American Indian	9,931 4.3%	3,591 3.8%	1,023 2.1%	4,132 4.2%	2,461 7.9%	
White	135,696 58.3%	51,308 54.9%	29,706 61.0%	56,701 58.3%	18,563 59.8%	
Multiple	2,120 0.9%	1,152 1.2%	102 0.2%	740 0.8%	335 1.1%	
CITIZENSHIP*	Non-U.S.	18,084 7.8%	10,572 11.3%	3,991 8.2%	4,705 4.8%	1,572 5.1%
	U.S.	214,730 92.2%	82,834 88.7%	44,729 91.8%	92,519 95.2%	29,456 94.9%
	Asian	6,712 35.8%	4,075 47.7%	1,561 23.2%	1,870 24.8%	412 42.0%
RACE/ETHNICITY OF NON-CITIZENS	Black	7,850 14.3%	4,626 20.4%	1,387 15.2%	1,961 7.9%	874 12.0%
	Hispanic	1,720 17.8%	955 17.3%	496 31.6%	423 15.2%	130 11.9%
	American Indian	30 0.3%	9 0.3%	7 0.7%	12 0.3%	8 0.3%
	White	1,623 1.2%	830 1.6%	501 1.7%	409 0.7%	127 0.7%
	Percent of All Asians					
	Percent of All Blacks					
	Percent of All Hispanics					
	Percent of All American Indians					
Percent of All Whites						

\* A total of 1,757 adults have an unknown race/ethnicity. Fifteen people are missing citizenship data

**Table 3. December 2014 SNAP-eligible Adults: Months of SNAP Assistance and Cash Assistance Eligibility by Overlapping Case Types**

		TOTAL	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
ELIGIBLE ADULTS	Count	232,829	93,416	48,726	97,225	31,029
	Row Percent	100.0%	40.1%	20.9%	41.8%	13.3%
SNAP MONTHS IN MN: 2006 -- 2014 CUMULATIVE	Mean	48.9	41.1	63.3	61.8	29.8
	Median	43	36	62	61	23
	1 - 12 Months	34,185	15,942	4,198	6,988	9,564
	Column Percent	14.7%	17.1%	8.6%	7.2%	30.8%
	13 - 24 Months	34,466	16,300	5,467	9,701	6,424
		14.8%	17.4%	11.2%	10.0%	20.7%
	25 - 36 Months	31,207	14,645	5,185	10,365	4,632
		13.4%	15.7%	10.6%	10.7%	14.9%
	37 - 60 Months	52,868	23,308	9,190	21,296	6,352
		22.7%	25.0%	18.9%	21.9%	20.5%
61 - 84 Months	36,179	14,537	6,512	18,464	3,007	
	15.5%	15.6%	13.4%	19.0%	9.7%	
85 or More Months	43,924	8,684	18,174	30,411	1,050	
	18.9%	9.3%	37.3%	31.3%	3.4%	
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN MN: 2014	MFIP/DWP	17,442	15,382	109	2,943	1,176
		7.5%	16.5%	0.2%	3.0%	3.8%
	MSA	30,432	194	14,204	25,491	30
		13.1%	0.2%	29.2%	26.2%	0.1%
	GA/RCA	22,853	475	2,644	15,836	4,873
	9.8%	0.5%	5.4%	16.3%	15.7%	
Emergency Services	15,175	8,012	1,225	6,516	1,630	
	6.5%	8.6%	2.5%	6.7%	5.3%	
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN MN: 2006 -- 2014	MFIP/DWP	70,675	53,664	1,883	17,862	6,547
		30.4%	57.4%	3.9%	18.4%	21.1%
	MSA	40,698	773	18,010	34,533	106
		17.5%	0.8%	37.0%	35.5%	0.3%
	GA/RCA	50,302	3,794	9,671	35,995	7,836
	21.6%	4.1%	19.8%	37.0%	25.3%	
Emergency Services	73,694	35,672	7,319	34,367	8,330	
	31.7%	38.2%	15.0%	35.3%	26.8%	

**Table 4. December 2014 SNAP Adult Cases: SNAP Grants, Earned Income, and Unearned Income by Overlapping Case Types**

		TOTAL	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
CASES	Count	200,037	69,284	45,168	93,931	30,015
	Row Percent	100.0%	34.6%	22.6%	47.0%	15.0%
SNAP GRANT	Mean	\$191	\$341	\$99	\$130	\$156
	Median	\$165	\$329	\$85	\$113	\$194
NO INCOME	Count of Cases	25,750	6,688	1,282	5,455	13,313
	Column Percent	12.9%	9.7%	2.8%	5.8%	44.4%
INCOME FROM WORK	Count of Cases	63,998	46,679	3,052	10,879	10,615
		32.0%	67.4%	6.8%	11.6%	35.4%
EARNED INCOME AT LAST REPORT	Mean of Working Cases	\$1,458	\$1,709	\$770	\$977	\$929
	Median	\$1,330	\$1,617	\$607	\$782	\$935
DECEMBER UNEARNED INCOME	Count of Cases	135,001	34,964	42,772	85,402	7,052
		67.5%	50.5%	94.7%	90.9%	23.5%
	Mean of Cases Receiving	\$778	\$754	\$917	\$826	\$512
UNEARNED INCOME TYPES	Median	\$797	\$649	\$827	\$802	\$218
	Child Support	21,733	21,309	188	3,603	170
		10.9%	30.8%	0.4%	3.8%	0.6%
	SSI	53,633	7,924	19,291	44,312	664
		26.8%	11.4%	42.7%	47.2%	2.2%
	RSDI	60,387	7,639	28,345	44,387	1,271
		30.2%	11.0%	62.8%	47.3%	4.2%
	Public Assistance Grants	41,907	1,640	14,001	32,227	3,285
		20.9%	2.4%	31.0%	34.3%	10.9%
	Unemployment Insurance/ Workers' Compensation	3,018	1,948	143	418	830
	1.5%	2.8%	0.3%	0.4%	2.8%	
Veteran's Benefits	2,094	423	986	844	372	
	1.0%	0.6%	2.2%	0.9%	1.2%	
Other	7,478	2,242	3,528	2,272	1,098	
	3.7%	3.2%	7.8%	2.4%	3.7%	

**Table 5. December 2014 SNAP Eligible People by County: Unduplicated Total Counts and by Overlapping Case Types**

Service Agency	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults	
STATE	400,553	100.0%	93,416 23.3%	48,726 12.2%	97,225 24.3%	31,029 7.7%	167,724 41.9%
AITKIN	1,604	0.4%	613 38.2%	249 15.5%	411 25.6%	144 9.0%	587 36.6%
ANOKA	20,587	5.1%	6,704 32.6%	2,408 11.7%	4,702 22.8%	1,435 7.0%	8,691 42.2%
BECKER	2,600	0.6%	921 35.4%	344 13.2%	557 21.4%	241 9.3%	1,030 39.6%
BELTRAMI	5,404	1.3%	2,138 39.6%	439 8.1%	1,184 21.9%	987 18.3%	1,996 36.9%
BENTON	3,330	0.8%	1,078 32.4%	300 9.0%	774 23.2%	273 8.2%	1,356 40.7%
BIG STONE	305	0.1%	140 45.9%	66 21.6%	86 28.2%	24 7.9%	97 31.8%
BLUE EARTH	4,278	1.1%	1,391 32.5%	395 9.2%	974 22.8%	368 8.6%	1,776 41.5%
BROWN	1,457	0.4%	438 30.1%	169 11.6%	280 19.2%	91 6.2%	633 43.4%
CARLTON	2,599	0.6%	990 38.1%	246 9.5%	599 23.0%	359 13.8%	941 36.2%
CARVER	2,829	0.7%	798 28.2%	291 10.3%	506 17.9%	172 6.1%	1,334 47.2%
CASS	3,656	0.9%	1,307 35.7%	353 9.7%	682 18.7%	533 14.6%	1,416 38.7%
CHIPPEWA	887	0.2%	253 28.5%	92 10.4%	158 17.8%	61 6.9%	393 44.3%
CHISAGO	2,657	0.7%	832 31.3%	319 12.0%	543 20.4%	195 7.3%	1,094 41.2%
CLAY	4,868	1.2%	1,478 30.4%	417 8.6%	1,033 21.2%	366 7.5%	2,073 42.6%
CLEARWATER	794	0.2%	285 35.9%	100 12.6%	162 20.4%	93 11.7%	303 38.2%
COOK	265	0.1%	101 38.1%	44 16.6%	67 25.3%	27 10.2%	98 37.0%
CROW WING	4,987	1.2%	1,656 33.2%	555 11.1%	1,129 22.6%	373 7.5%	1,962 39.3%
DAKOTA	19,802	4.9%	5,702 28.8%	2,189 11.1%	3,907 19.7%	1,196 6.0%	9,114 46.0%
DODGE	1,242	0.3%	278 22.4%	97 7.8%	189 15.2%	70 5.6%	589 47.4%
DOUGLAS	2,302	0.6%	807 35.1%	286 12.4%	553 24.0%	179 7.8%	873 37.9%
DES MOINES VALLEY HS	1,587	0.4%	454 28.6%	196 12.4%	327 20.6%	100 6.3%	660 41.6%
FARIBAULT-MARTIN	3,230	0.8%	885 27.4%	359 11.1%	656 20.3%	231 7.2%	1,335 41.3%

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Service Agency	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults	
FILLMORE	1,399	0.3%	360 25.7%	168 12.0%	219 15.7%	79 5.6%	606 43.3%
FREEBORN	2,697	0.7%	851 31.6%	307 11.4%	509 18.9%	216 8.0%	1,133 42.0%
GOODHUE	2,182	0.5%	676 31.0%	236 10.8%	540 24.7%	146 6.7%	891 40.8%
GRANT	447	0.1%	137 30.6%	49 11.0%	110 24.6%	27 6.0%	175 39.1%
HENNEPIN	97,633	24.4%	41,682 42.7%	14,598 15.0%	28,291 29.0%	8,906 9.1%	37,610 38.5%
HOUSTON	858	0.2%	320 37.3%	129 15.0%	213 24.8%	67 7.8%	327 38.1%
HUBBARD	1,985	0.5%	600 30.2%	221 11.1%	453 22.8%	122 6.1%	825 41.6%
ISANTI	2,656	0.7%	749 28.2%	231 8.7%	517 19.5%	209 7.9%	1,137 42.8%
ITASCA	4,826	1.2%	1,713 35.5%	527 10.9%	1,174 24.3%	456 9.4%	1,853 38.4%
KANABEC	1,676	0.4%	613 36.6%	175 10.4%	314 18.7%	239 14.3%	647 38.6%
KANDIYOHI	4,227	1.1%	1,087 25.7%	371 8.8%	735 17.4%	285 6.7%	2,011 47.6%
KITTSOON	224	0.1%	85 37.9%	38 17.0%	47 21.0%	21 9.4%	85 37.9%
KOOCHICHING	1,307	0.3%	502 38.4%	183 14.0%	374 28.6%	98 7.5%	470 36.0%
LAC QUI PARLE	353	0.1%	147 41.6%	52 14.7%	91 25.8%	34 9.6%	131 37.1%
LAKE	616	0.2%	191 31.0%	66 10.7%	123 20.0%	51 8.3%	255 41.4%
LAKE OF THE WOODS	285	0.1%	103 36.1%	44 15.4%	58 20.4%	25 8.8%	102 35.8%
LE SEUER	1,713	0.4%	403 23.5%	128 7.5%	300 17.5%	90 5.3%	826 48.2%
MCLEOD	1,932	0.5%	570 29.5%	212 11.0%	418 21.6%	114 5.9%	819 42.4%
MAHNOMEN	456	0.1%	123 27.0%	31 6.8%	76 16.7%	54 11.8%	207 45.4%
MARSHALL	406	0.1%	150 36.9%	83 20.4%	81 20.0%	18 4.4%	157 38.7%
MEEKER	1,416	0.4%	483 34.1%	213 15.0%	319 22.5%	88 6.2%	568 40.1%
MILLE LACS	2,309	0.6%	704 30.5%	209 9.1%	427 18.5%	243 10.5%	954 41.3%
MORRISON	2,537	0.6%	860 33.9%	328 12.9%	578 22.8%	179 7.1%	1,007 39.7%

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Service Agency	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults	
MOWER	4,132	1.0%	1,162 28.1%	409 9.9%	747 18.1%	306 7.4%	1,924 46.6%
NICOLLET	1,849	0.5%	514 27.8%	194 10.5%	322 17.4%	120 6.5%	829 44.8%
NOBLES	1,761	0.4%	476 27.0%	209 11.9%	305 17.3%	111 6.3%	877 49.8%
NORMAN	612	0.2%	182 29.7%	67 10.9%	120 19.6%	43 7.0%	257 42.0%
OLMSTED	10,490	2.6%	3,121 29.8%	1,168 11.1%	1,949 18.6%	824 7.9%	4,763 45.4%
OTTER TAIL	3,722	0.9%	1,316 35.4%	550 14.8%	899 24.2%	242 6.5%	1,455 39.1%
PENNINGTON	932	0.2%	326 35.0%	113 12.1%	217 23.3%	79 8.5%	358 38.4%
PINE	3,098	0.8%	1,057 34.1%	364 11.7%	700 22.6%	277 8.9%	1,178 38.0%
POLK	2,718	0.7%	923 34.0%	313 11.5%	692 25.5%	187 6.9%	1,126 41.4%
POPE	767	0.2%	303 39.5%	118 15.4%	187 24.4%	68 8.9%	275 35.9%
RAMSEY	61,413	15.3%	21,797 35.5%	7,973 13.0%	17,200 28.0%	3,843 6.3%	25,690 41.8%
RED LAKE	258	0.1%	89 34.5%	42 16.3%	53 20.5%	15 5.8%	98 38.0%
RENVILLE	1,063	0.3%	323 30.4%	101 9.5%	223 21.0%	76 7.1%	457 43.0%
RICE	3,810	1.0%	934 24.5%	352 9.2%	691 18.1%	203 5.3%	1,863 48.9%
ROSEAU	702	0.2%	239 34.0%	90 12.8%	147 20.9%	57 8.1%	286 40.7%
ST. LOUIS	16,726	4.2%	7,412 44.3%	1,963 11.7%	5,857 35.0%	1,513 9.0%	5,529 33.1%
SCOTT	5,431	1.4%	1,240 22.8%	627 11.5%	819 15.1%	190 3.5%	2,780 51.2%
SHERBURNE	4,292	1.1%	998 23.3%	360 8.4%	713 16.6%	224 5.2%	2,040 47.5%
SIBLEY	839	0.2%	240 28.6%	105 12.5%	141 16.8%	50 6.0%	378 45.1%
STEARNS	10,279	2.6%	3,004 29.2%	975 9.5%	2,167 21.1%	713 6.9%	4,538 44.1%
STEELE	3,074	0.8%	809 26.3%	258 8.4%	615 20.0%	177 5.8%	1,431 46.6%
STEVENS	521	0.1%	183 35.1%	68 13.1%	104 20.0%	60 11.5%	207 39.7%
SWIFT	721	0.2%	247 34.3%	112 15.5%	143 19.8%	54 7.5%	291 40.4%



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Service Agency	Total People	Percent of State	Adults				Children
			Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults	
SOUTHWEST HHS	4,976	1.2%	1,303 26.2%	569 11.4%	970 19.5%	333 6.7%	2,183 43.9%
TODD	1,696	0.4%	693 40.9%	315 18.6%	417 24.6%	132 7.8%	605 35.7%
TRAVERSE	325	0.1%	111 34.2%	50 15.4%	72 22.2%	22 6.8%	133 40.9%
WABASHA	1,029	0.3%	351 34.1%	135 13.1%	215 20.9%	78 7.6%	407 39.6%
WADENA	1,442	0.4%	604 41.9%	229 15.9%	458 31.8%	95 6.6%	507 35.2%
WASECA	1,528	0.4%	486 31.8%	147 9.6%	298 19.5%	134 8.8%	642 42.0%
WASHINGTON	8,422	2.1%	2,633 31.3%	1,041 12.4%	1,936 23.0%	539 6.4%	3,634 43.1%
WATONWAN	722	0.2%	199 27.6%	88 12.2%	108 15.0%	49 6.8%	340 47.1%
WHITE-EARTH TRIBE	1,477	0.4%	697 47.2%	82 5.6%	406 27.5%	335 22.7%	477 32.3%
WILKIN	636	0.2%	205 32.2%	78 12.3%	157 24.7%	37 5.8%	256 40.3%
WINONA	2,747	0.7%	1,001 36.4%	315 11.5%	716 26.1%	238 8.7%	1,053 38.3%
WRIGHT	5,356	1.3%	1,358 25.4%	556 10.4%	898 16.8%	285 5.3%	2,477 46.2%
YELLOW MEDICINE	559	0.1%	187 33.5%	77 13.8%	113 20.2%	35 6.3%	223 39.9%

## Data Notes and Definitions

**Table 1a.** People were eligible for SNAP in December 2014 if they met eligibility rules, including income, residency, immigrant status and other rules. A SNAP case is any group of people that are personally SNAP-eligible, live together, and cook and prepare food together. A case may have ineligible household members who are not included in the grant. This table, and all other tables and graphs, except Figure 1, exclude people eligible on MFIP who received SNAP as the MFIP food portion.

For purposes of this report, adults are those age 18 and older with the exception of those age 22 and older living with their parents and youths living independent of their parents. Young adults ages 18 to 21 who live with their parents are considered children. Children are younger than age 18, or ages 18 to 22 if living with their parents.

Families with children are households with at least one eligible member that is a child by the above definition. Seniors are age 60 or older. Adults with disabilities are those with a SNAP disability status indicated by the MAXIS disability panel (STAT DISA). Adults with disabilities include those who are: temporarily ill or incapacitated for 30 days or more; eligible for Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) due to a disability or blindness; eligible for SSI due to a disability or blindness; or determined to have a disability or blindness by the State Medical Review Team (SMRT). "Other adults" have no children, are younger than age 60, and have no disability information in MAXIS.

In all tables, the total is unduplicated, and is not the sum of the case types. People who met the criteria for more than one category are included in all relevant groups.

**Table 1b.** This table breaks the types of cases down into mutually exclusive types, including all combinations of the basic case types.

**Table 2.** Data not required for program eligibility may not be routinely updated after the initial application. Thus education completion or marital status may be under-reported. If a person's education level is unknown, it is coded as if he or she had no formal education.

Fifteen people are missing citizenship information, and 1,757 people are missing race/ethnicity data. These people are excluded from those respective sections.

**Table 3.** SNAP months are total months in which an individual was eligible for SNAP in Minnesota between January 2006 and December 2014. As eligibility follows the individual, the count includes months in other households or cases, and months as a child in a parent's household. These months do not include MFIP food portion months.

Public assistance eligibility in calendar year 2014, or in the period January 2006 to December 2014, is whether an individual is personally eligible for the listed program. Emergency Services is the name for the former Emergency Assistance and Emergency General Assistance Programs.

**Table 4.** Table 4 is the only case-based table in this report. Individual income is summed to report total income for the case or household.

Total income is the projected income of all adults whose income is deemed for the case. The amount used is prospective income reported at the start of the six-month reporting period, or last reported, which may have been any month between July and December 2014. Income is gross, except for the self-employed and room and board income where it is gross less expenses, with a minimum of zero. Mean total income excluded cases with no expected income for the reporting period.

Unearned income is from the December 2014 SNAP budget panel for the active budget type (retrospective or prospective). If income is not reported on the budget panel, it is not included. Public assistance grants income includes Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), General Assistance (GA), Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), and the Diversionary Work Program (DWP). Other unearned income includes annuity and pension payments, contract for deed income, certain royalties and honoraria, trust disbursements, gambling winnings, severance payments and tribal payments.

Cases with no income are those with no earned or unearned income known to MAXIS.

**Table 5.** County is the county that processed the version of eligibility in effect for December 2014. Data for counties belonging to a county consortium are aggregated into that consortium. Legally established county consortia are treated as a single entity, including Faribault/Martin, Southwest Health and Human Services (Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Pipestone, Redwood and Rock counties) and Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services (Cottonwood and Jackson counties). Starting with this report for December 2014, counts of eligible in Table 5 will report data at the consortium level for county consortia in place of the individual counties. Dodge, Steele and Waseca counties became Minnesota Prairie County Alliance (MNPrairie) as of Jan. 1, 2015, and will be reported as a consortium starting with calendar year 2015 data.