



Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

December 2015

Information related to this report



For accessible formats of this publication or assistance with additional equal access to human services, write to DHS.info@state.mn.us, call 651-431-3936, toll-free 800-366-7895, or use your preferred relay service. (ADA1 [7-16])

For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.

This report is published on the MFIP Reports page of the Minnesota Department of Human Services website at <http://mn.gov/dhs/>

Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division
P.O. Box 64951
St. Paul, MN 55164-0951
651-431-3251

For information on this report, contact:

Paul Waldhart
Agency Policy Specialist
Research and Evaluation Unit
Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division
paul.waldhart@state.mn.us

As requested by Minnesota Statute 3.197: This report cost approximately \$1,000 to prepare, including staff time, printing and mailing expenses.

Upon request, this material will be made available in an alternative format such as large print, Braille or audio recording.

Contents

- Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program1
- Information related to this report.....2
- Contents3
- Executive Summary5
- Caseload5
- Who is enrolled in SNAP5
- Income from work5
- Cases with no income5
- Introduction.....6
- A short history of SNAP6
- Recent changes affecting Minnesota7
- Report format8
- Quick facts for December trends.....9
- Quick facts for December 2015: Populations on SNAP 10
- Quick facts for December 2015: Families with children..... 11
- Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP seniors..... 12
- Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP adults with disabilities 13
- Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP adults without a disability and without children 14
- Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP enrollees with no other income 15
- Quick facts for December 2015: Income and earnings of SNAP households..... 16
- Data Tables 17
- Data notes and definitions 22

DHS Abbreviations and Acronyms Used in this Report

ABAWD	Able Bodied Adult without Dependents
DWP	Diversionary Work Program
DHS	Minnesota Department of Human Services (department)
EBT	Electronic Benefits Transfer
FPG	Federal Poverty Guidelines
GA	General Assistance
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
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TANF	Temporary Assistance for 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, persons with disabilities, and some single adults for the purchase of food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase any nonfood items.

Caseload

In December 2015, 507,797 people were enrolled, including adults and children in both stand-alone SNAP and in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), the family assistance program for families that combines SNAP with cash grants. This is an increase of 6 percent from the 480,279 adults and children in both stand-alone SNAP and in MFIP in December 2014, but still remained above the number enrolled in 2009. Of the 507,797 people enrolled in December 2015, 78 percent were enrolled in stand-alone SNAP. See the MFIP Characteristics report for information on the receipt of SNAP through the MFIP food portion.

Who is enrolled in SNAP

In December 2015, 229,963 adults were enrolled in stand-alone SNAP in Minnesota. Thirty-nine percent were in families with minor children, 23 percent were seniors aged 60 or older, 43 percent were adults with disabilities, and 13 percent were other adults, with 17 percent in multiple categories. There were 155,331 children enrolled in stand-alone SNAP. Fifteen percent of these children had parents with disabilities.

Income from work

Overall, 30 percent of SNAP cases reported income from work. This varied by case category, with 67 percent of families with children, 33 percent of other adults, 11 percent of adults with disabilities and 7 percent of senior cases reporting work. The average reported earnings for working cases was \$1,497 per month. Of these, families with children reported the highest earnings, with \$1,759, and seniors reported the lowest, with \$797, on average.

Cases with no income

Thirteen percent of SNAP cases (25,278) had no income reported, earned or unearned, reported for December 2015. Those cases included 27,139 adults; 49 percent of these were adults under age 60 without disabilities and without children. SNAP may be the only safety net program available for these adults under age 60 without disabilities and without children, as they are not eligible for income supports available to people with children, seniors aged 60 or older, and people with diagnosed disabilities.

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, persons with disabilities, and some 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, medicines or hot food. Households must meet income guidelines which vary by state; in Minnesota households must have an income of less than 165 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). For a household of two with no senior or adults with a disability, the limit is \$2,191 per month.¹ Benefits are based on household size, and amount and types of other income and expenses.

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 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 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 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

¹ Combined Manual 0019.06 (Federal Fiscal Year 2016)

incentives for healthful foods, and set other provisions meant to simplify administration and strengthen program integrity.²

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. Effective Nov. 1, 2013, the SNAP Employment and Training program and the ABAWD work provisions began, which limit eligibility to three of 36 months if the person is not meeting work requirements. Households enrolled in November through January began losing eligibility in February 2014.

Six-month reporting by SNAP households was implemented on Mar. 1, 2009. Prior 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 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.³ 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.⁴

In September 2017, Minnesota received approval to extend the waiver that it has had since 1998 to combine cash and food benefits in its largest family cash assistance program. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, allows the state to provide SNAP to households enrolled in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Minnesota's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, as a single program. This waiver was extended through September 2020. Minnesota also has waivers to reimburse the state for some Housing Support (formerly known as Group Residential Housing) expenditures, and to allow community-based organizations serving newly arrived refugees to complete the SNAP application interview. To

² <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/short-history-snap> (updated November 2017)

³ Combined Manual 0007.03.02.

⁴ Combined Manual 0020.12 and 0015.03.

report the total number of people that receive assistance through SNAP, the Caseload Data section (starting on page 9) includes both households and people enrolled in 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 enrolled in SNAP through MFIP are included only in Figure 1.

Report format

Data are provided on the SNAP caseload, demographics of enrolled adults, length of SNAP enrollment, use of other public assistance, and economic characteristics of cases in December 2015. Individuals may be included in more than one case category, depending on their characteristics. The “Total” columns in the tables are all eligible adults; adding subgroups will exceed this total due to overlaps. Most data are reported as person-level; the only case data are the grant amounts and income types in Table 4.

A case consists of people who live together and eat together. Not all persons living in a 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 have separate case units. A 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 a child becomes their own unit, if eligible. 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.⁵

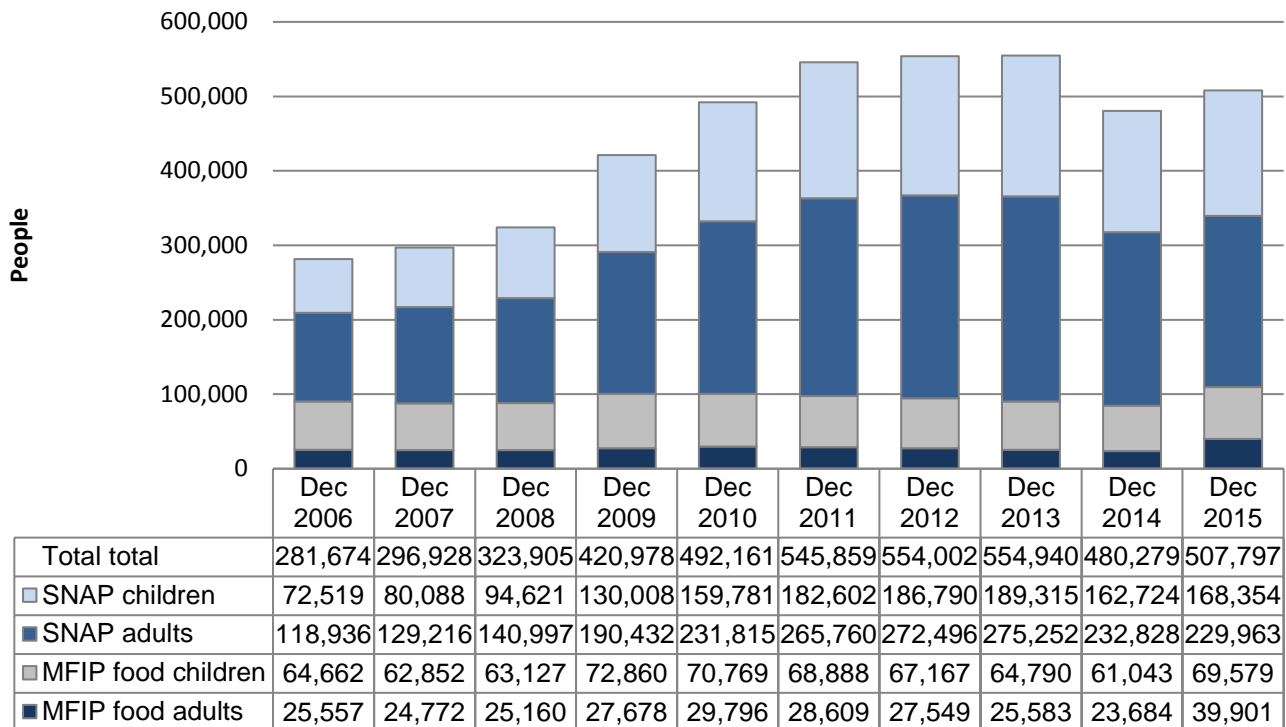
Quick facts highlight important information from the larger tables and provide selected trend data using small charts and bulleted text. Data in the data tables section are the source for data in the quick facts which cite the table where the data are found (Tables 1 to 4). Detailed policy and data definitions follow the data tables and are important in understanding them.

⁵ Combined Manual 0014.03.03

Quick facts for December trends

- In December 2015, 507,797 people were enrolled in Minnesota’s SNAP caseload, including adults and children in the Minnesota Family Investment Program, the state’s largest 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 food portion. The remainder of the report reflects stand-alone SNAP and excludes the MFIP food portion.
- The total number of SNAP participants increased by 27,518 (6 percent) since December 2014. The number of MFIP participants increased by 29 percent since December 2014.
- Of participants enrolled in the MFIP food portion in December 2015, 39,901 were adults and 69,579 were children. The percentage of MFIP food portion participants who are children (64 percent) decreased 8 percent from December 2014. Of the SNAP-only enrolled people in December 2015, 168,354 were children. The percentage of SNAP-only participants who are children (42 percent) is 1 percent more than in December 2014.

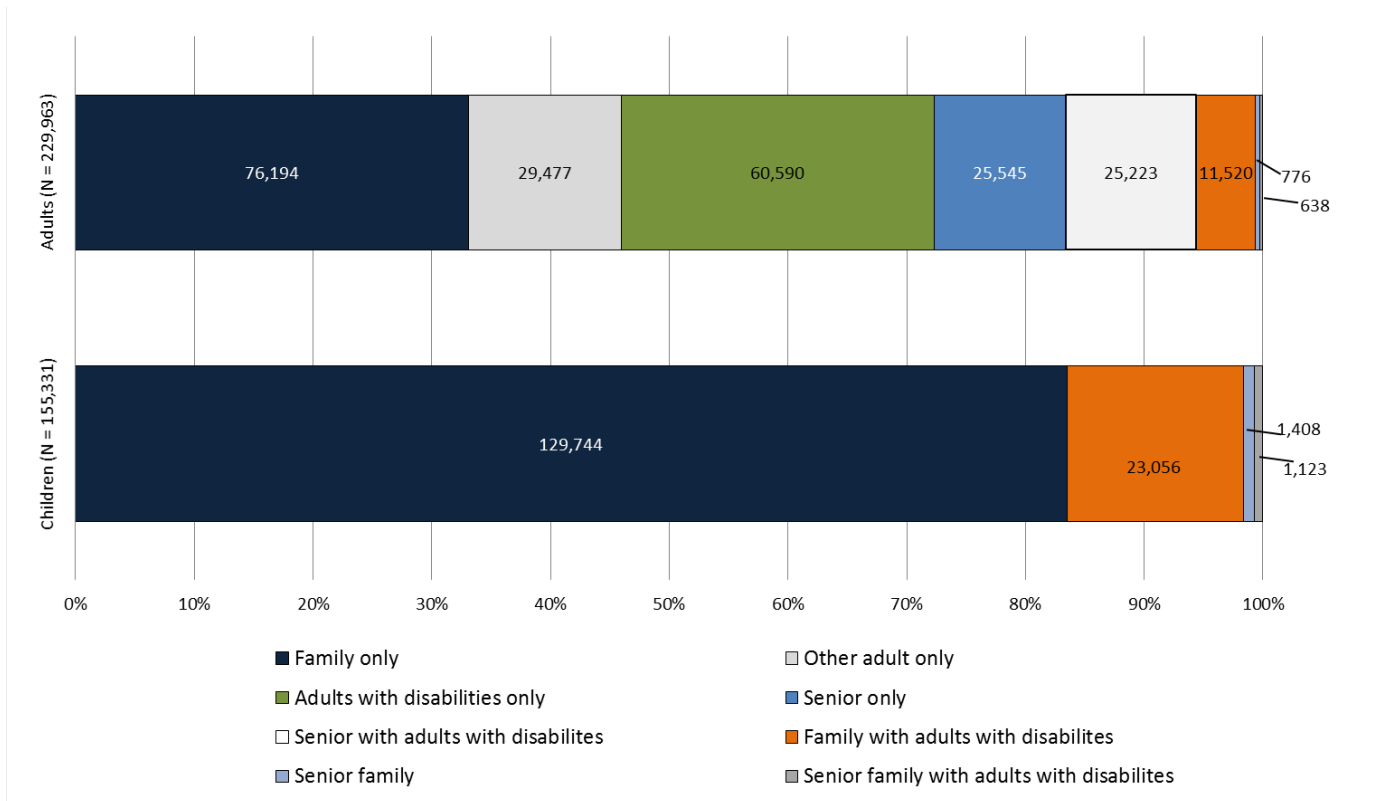
Figure 1. SNAP participants: December 2006 to December 2015



Quick facts for December 2015: Populations on SNAP

- The “Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: December 2015” report divides participants into the three overlapping groups of families with children, seniors, and adults with disabilities, as well as one distinct group, other adults. Families with children can also have members aged 60 and older and adults with disabilities. “Other adults” receive SNAP but are not part of a case with children, are under age 60, and do not have a disability.
- Figure 2 shows the unduplicated total enrolled adult and child populations by 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. For example, the quick fact page “SNAP seniors” only provides information on households that include a senior age 60 or older.

Figure 2. SNAP enrolled adults and children: Types and overlaps



Quick facts for December 2015: Families with children

- Thirty-three percent of SNAP adults live in households with minor children (89,128 adults). There are 155,331 SNAP children. (Data from Table 1)
- Figure 3 shows the overlap of people in family cases with other case types. Thirteen percent of SNAP adults caring for minor children are under age 60 and also have a disability, and fewer than 2 percent of families with children include a senior. (Figure 3 with data from 1)
- The average age of adults with children is 36 years, with 42 percent in their 30s, 70 percent are female, 74 percent have at least a high school diploma, 44 percent never married, 35 percent are married and living with a spouse, and 52 percent are white. (Table 2)
- Of the 65,813 family cases, 67 percent report income from work. Thirty percent have child support, 12 percent income from SSI and 3 percent receive cash public assistance. Of those who reported work, the average income was \$1,759 per month. (Figure 4, Table 4)
- Adults in families averaged 46 months of SNAP enrollment since 2006. Thirty-four percent of adults in families have used 24 months or less. (Figure 5, Table 3)

Figure 3. SNAP enrolled adults with minor children: Overlaps with other SNAP groups

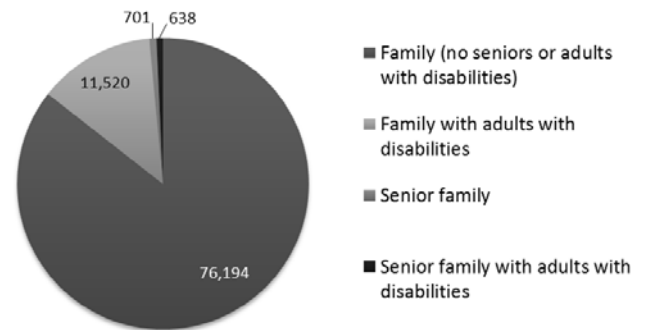


Figure 4. SNAP cases with minor children: Income sources

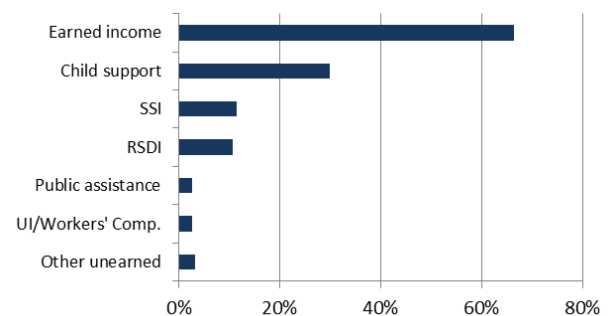
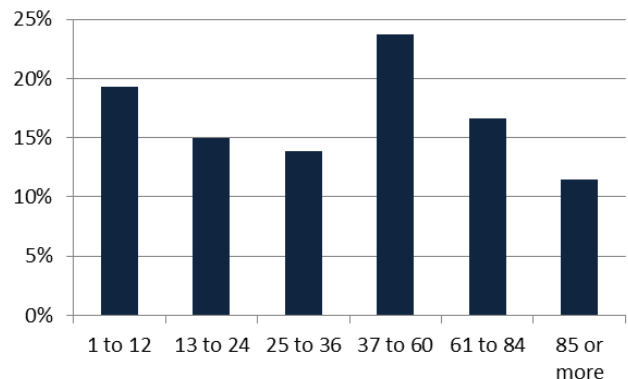


Figure 5. SNAP adult participants with minor children: Enrollment months 2007 to 2015



Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP seniors

- Twenty-four percent (52,182) of SNAP adults are age 60 or older, considered seniors according to SNAP policy. (Data from Table 1)
- Forty-nine percent of SNAP seniors do not have a disability and have no minor children, 49 percent have a disability and no children, and 3 percent have minor children. (Figure 6)
- The average age of seniors is 70 (with a minimum age of 60), 63 percent are female, 63 percent are high school graduates, 17 percent are married and living with a spouse, 19 percent are widowed and 60 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 (42 percent), and public assistance grants (30 percent). The average amount of unearned income is \$943 per month. Seven percent reported earned income. (Figure 7, Table 4)
- Seniors average about five-and-a-half-years of SNAP enrollment over the previous nine years, with 38 percent enrolled for more than seven years. (Figure 8, Table 3)

Figure 6. SNAP seniors: Overlap with other SNAP groups

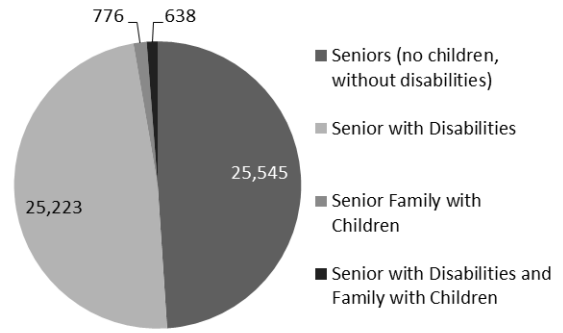


Figure 7. SNAP cases with seniors: Income sources

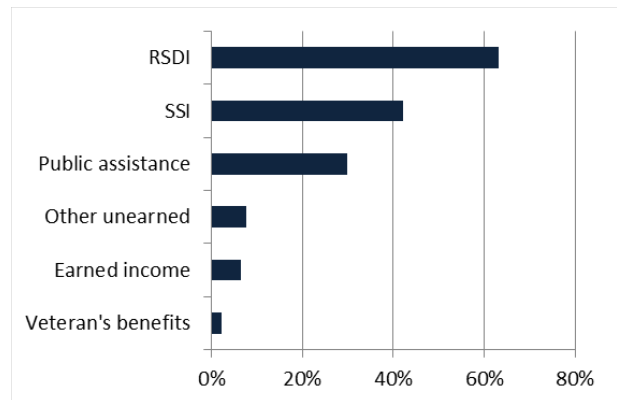
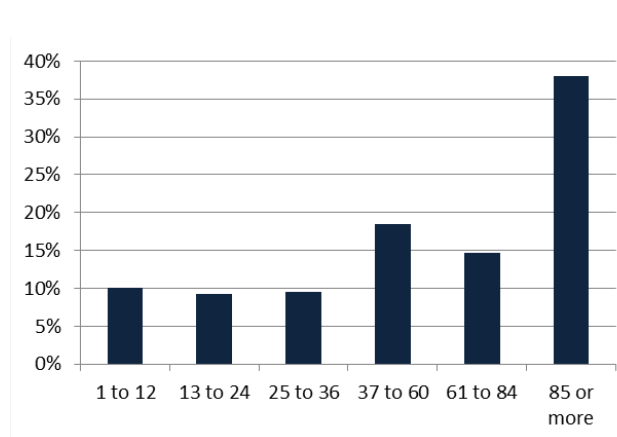


Figure 8. SNAP seniors: Enrollment months 2007 to 2015



Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP adults with disabilities

- Forty-three percent (97,971) of SNAP adults have a disability and the majority do not overlap with another category. Twenty-six percent of these adults are also seniors, 12 percent have minor children, and less than 1 percent are seniors with minor children. (Figure 9 data from Table 1)
- The average age of SNAP adults with a disability is 49; with nearly three-quarters age 40 or older. Fifty-six percent are female, 69 percent have at least a high school diploma, and half never married. (Table 2)
- Fifty-eight percent of SNAP adults with a disability are white, 26 percent black, 8 percent Asian, 4 percent American Indian and 3 percent Hispanic. (Table 2)
- Ninety-one percent of SNAP cases with persons with a disability report unearned income averaging \$830 per month. The most common types are SSI and RSDI (47 percent each), and public assistance (35 percent), mainly Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), but also includes GA, RCA, MFIP and DWP. Eleven percent reported earned income. (Figure 10, Table 4)
- Adults with disabilities average about five-and-a-half-years of SNAP enrollment over a nine-year period. Thirty-four percent have been enrolled in SNAP for more than seven years. (Figure 11, Table 3)

Figure 9. SNAP adults with disabilities: Overlap with other SNAP groups

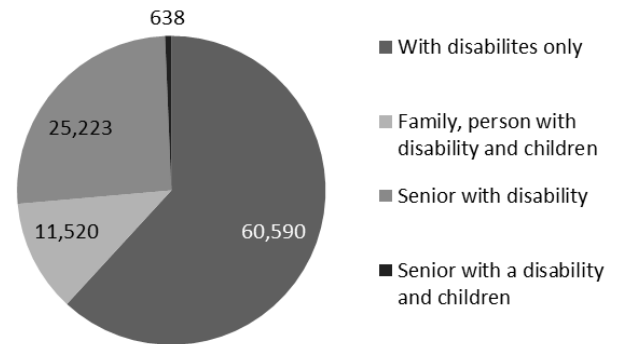


Figure 10. SNAP cases with adults with disabilities: Income source

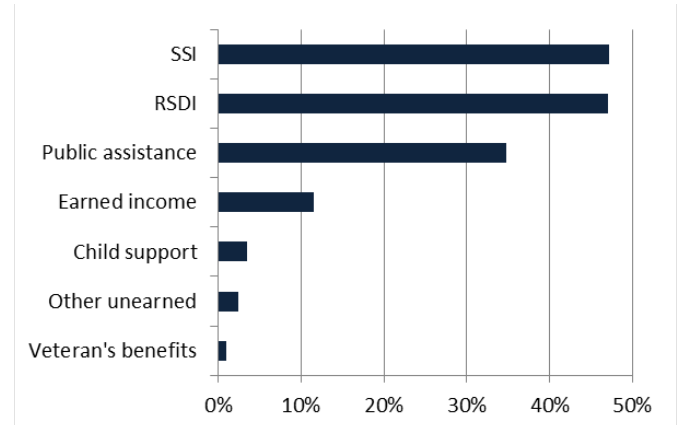
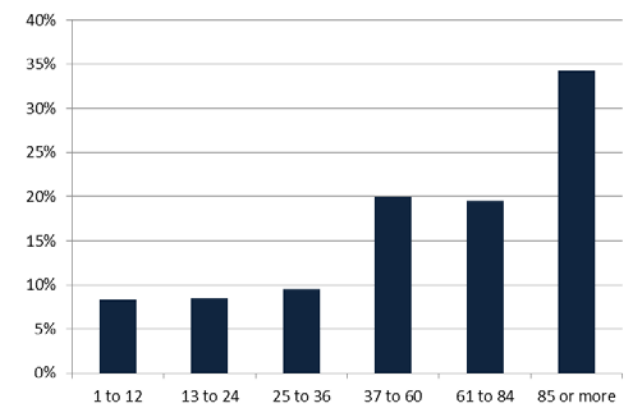


Figure 11. SNAP adults with disabilities: Enrollment months 2007 to 2015



Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP adults without a disability and without children

- Policy note: Adults in this group include ABAWDs, 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 expired in November 2013). Many are not eligible for income supports available to families with children, seniors aged 60 and older, and persons with diagnosed disabilities. For them, SNAP may be the only “safety net” assistance program available.
- Thirteen percent of SNAP adults (29,477) are other adults. People in this other adults group do not overlap with other groups as they have no children, do not have a disability, and are younger than 60. This is less than half as many in this group as in 2013 when Minnesota had a waiver from the three in 36 months restriction for ABAWDs. (Figure 12 data from Table 1)
- Forty-five percent of other adults have no reported income sources other than SNAP, 33 percent reported work and 25 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. (Figures 13 and 14, Tables 3 and 4)
- Other adults have an average age of 41. They were more likely to be male (53 percent), much more likely to have never married (63 percent), and less likely to be on other forms of public assistance. (Table 2)

Figure 12. SNAP adults by category

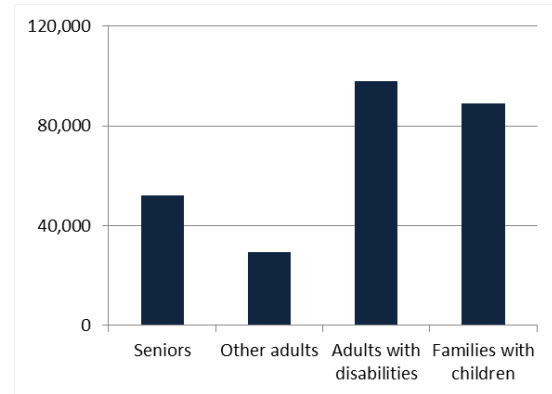


Figure 13. Other adult cases: Income sources

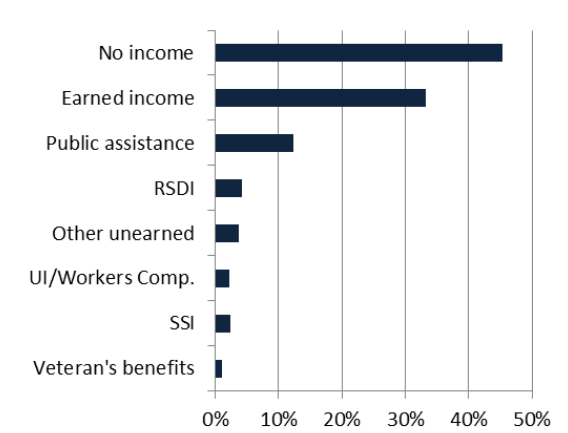
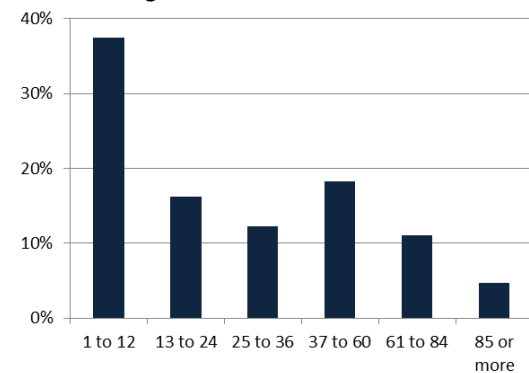


Figure 14. Other SNAP adults: Enrollment months 2007 through 2015.



Quick facts for December 2015: SNAP enrollees with no other income

- 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 for eligibility.
- Thirteen percent of SNAP cases (25,278), including 27,139 adults, had no income reported. (Table 4)
- Forty-five percent of cases with adults without a disability and without children, and under age 60, had no reported income. (Figure 15, Table 4)
- Adults in households with no income had similar education levels to those with income. More than 70 percent of adults in households either with or without income had at least a high school diploma or equivalent.
- People with no income are more likely to be under age 30, male and American Indian or Hispanic. They were also more likely to have never married (66 percent compared to 43 percent). (Figures 16 and 17)

Figure 15. Percent of SNAP cases with no income by category

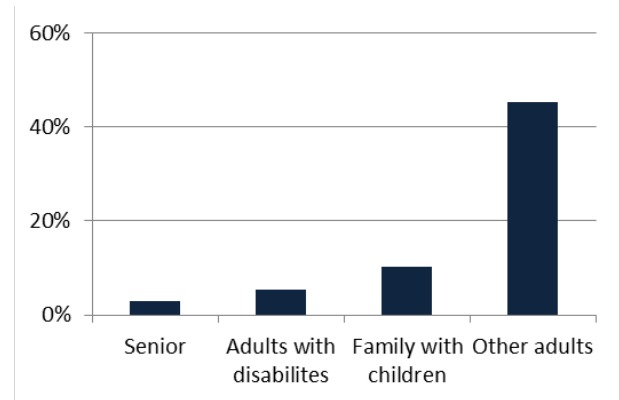


Figure 16. Race/ethnicity of SNAP adults with and without income

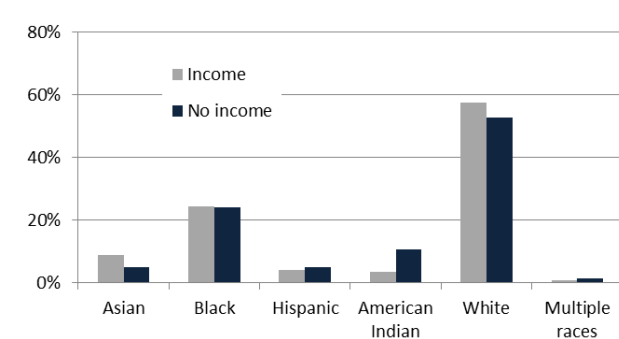
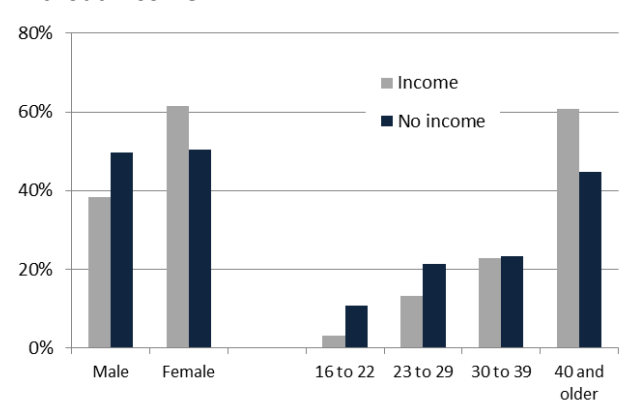


Figure 17. Gender and age of SNAP adults with and without income



Quick facts for December 2015: Income and earnings of SNAP households

- 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 Guidelines, which in December 2015 for a family of 3 is \$2,177. Decreases in income can also be reported. Reported earnings may have been received in any month from July to December 2015.
- Overall, 30 percent of SNAP cases report income from work. This varies by type of case, with 67 percent of families with children, 33 percent of other adults, 11 percent of adults with disabilities, and 7 percent of senior cases reporting work. (Figure 18, Table 4)
- The average of reported earnings for working cases was \$1,497 per month. Families with children reported the highest earnings with \$1,759, and seniors the lowest, with \$797 on average. (Figure 19, Table 4)
- Sixty-nine percent of SNAP cases reported unearned income, with a monthly average of \$788. (Figure 20)
- The most common types of unearned income vary by case type. Families with children are most likely to have child support (30 percent), seniors were most likely to have RSDI (63 percent), and adults with disabilities are most likely to have SSI and RSDI (47 percent for each). (Figure 20)

Figure 18. Percentage of SNAP cases with earned and unearned income by type

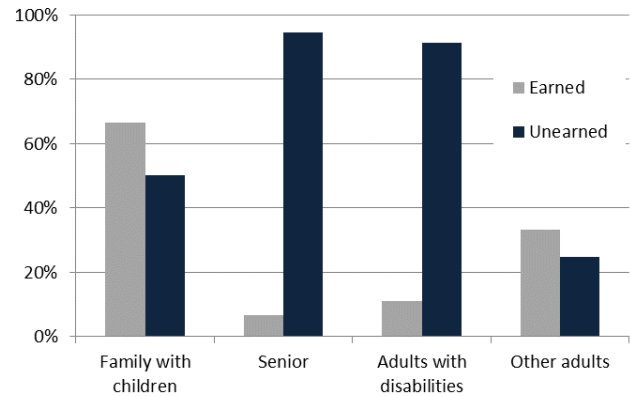


Figure 19. Average monthly earnings of SNAP cases by type for working cases

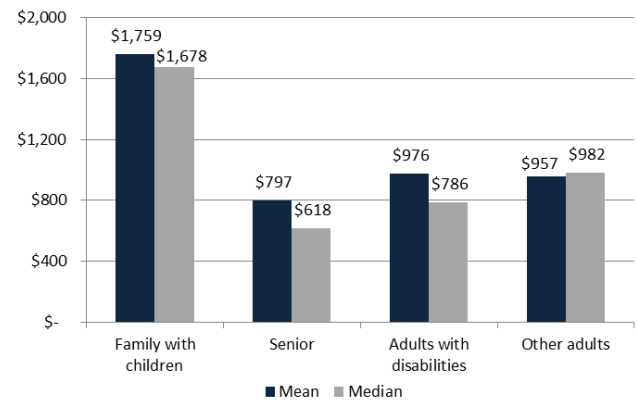
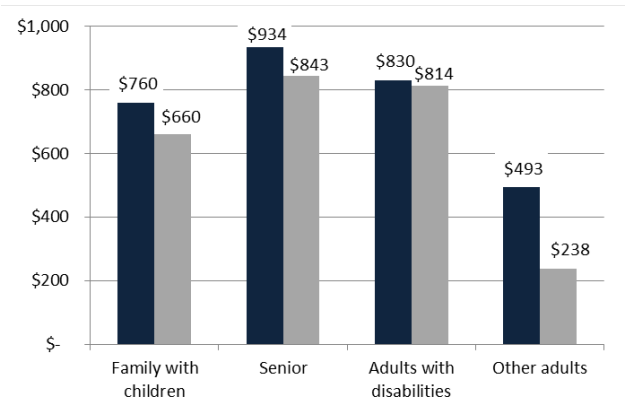


Figure 20. Average monthly unearned income of SNAP cases by type



Data Tables

Table 1. December 2015 stand-alone SNAP cases and participants in overlapping case types

	Total	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Cases	197,787	65,813	48,420	94,815	28,444
	100%	33%	24%	48%	14%
Adults	229,963	89,128	52,182	97,971	29,477
	100%	39%	23%	43%	13%
Children	155,331	155,331	2,531	23,532	0
	100%	100%	2%	15%	0%

Table 2. Demographic characteristics of SNAP adults by overlapping case types for December 2015

		Total Enrollees	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Enrollees	Count	229,963	89,128	52,182	97,971	29,477
	Percent of all enrollees	100.0%	38.8%	22.7%	42.6%	12.8%
Age	Mean	42.6	36	69.8	49	40.9
	Median	39	35	68	50	44
	Minimum	16	16	59	17	16
	Maximum	109	93	109	109	59
	Under 23	9,395	4,052	0	1,682	3,882
	Column percent	4.1%	4.5%	0.0%	1.7%	13.2%
	23 - 29	32,471	20,833	0	8,027	5,084
		14.1%	23.4%	0.0%	8.2%	17.2%
	30 - 39	52,479	37,471	0	14,963	4,326
		22.8%	42.0%	0.0%	15.3%	14.7%
	40 - 49	37,489	18,920	0	18,382	3,743
		16.3%	21.2%	0.0%	18.8%	12.7%
	50 - 59	45,960	6,438	13	29,068	12,442
		20.0%	7.2%	0.0%	29.7%	42.2%
60 - 64	17,548	806	17,548	11,688	0	
	7.6%	0.9%	33.6%	11.9%	0.0%	
65 and over	34,621	608	34,621	14,161	0	
	15.1%	0.7%	66.3%	14.5%	0.0%	
Gender	Female	138,514	62,177	32,588	54,813	13,902
		60.2%	69.8%	62.5%	55.9%	47.2%
	Male	91,449	26,951	19,594	43,158	15,575
		39.8%	30.2%	37.5%	44.1%	52.8%
Education	None or pre-first grade or unknown	19,525	6,553	8,991	7,823	1,423
		8.5%	7.4%	17.2%	8.0%	4.8%
	Grade school	6,169	2,085	2,085	2,758	426
		2.7%	2.3%	4.0%	2.8%	1.4%
	Some high school	41,915	15,003	7,723	20,086	5,855
		18.2%	16.8%	14.8%	20.5%	19.9%
	High school graduate	126,435	50,383	25,061	53,466	16,756
		55.0%	56.5%	48.0%	54.6%	56.8%
	Some post-secondary	26,509	11,863	4,949	10,315	3,504
		11.5%	13.3%	9.5%	10.5%	11.9%
	College graduate	5,031	1,978	1,284	1,751	812
		2.2%	2.2%	2.5%	1.8%	2.8%
	Graduate degree	4,379	1,263	1,534	1,772	701
	1.9%	1.4%	2.9%	1.8%	2.4%	
High school graduate or higher	162,354	65,487	32,828	67,304	21,773	
	70.6%	73.5%	62.9%	68.7%	73.9%	

Table 2: page 2.

		Total Enrollees	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Marital status	Divorced	40,234	8,088	15,324	22,579	4,758
		17.5%	9.1%	29.4%	23.0%	16.1%
	Legally separated	722	256	193	353	81
		0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%
	Married, living with spouse	45,426	31,136	8,958	9,249	2,732
		19.8%	34.9%	17.2%	9.4%	9.3%
	Never married	105,280	39,406	10,822	48,651	18,620
		45.8%	44.2%	20.7%	49.7%	63.2%
	Married, living apart	25,897	9,460	6,929	12,299	2,753
		11.3%	10.6%	13.3%	12.6%	9.3%
	Widowed	12,402	781	9,956	5,057	532
		5.4%	0.9%	19.1%	5.2%	1.8%
Race/ethnicity	Asian	19,439	8,621	7,138	7,737	1,130
		8.5%	9.7%	13.7%	7.9%	3.8%
	Black	55,902	23,219	10,032	25,360	6,935
		24.3%	26.1%	19.2%	25.9%	23.5%
	Hispanic	9,774	5,320	1,756	2,924	1,134
		4.3%	6.0%	3.4%	3.0%	3.8%
	American Indian	9,686	3,348	1,067	4,068	2,471
		4.2%	3.8%	2.0%	4.2%	8.4%
	White	130,790	46,676	31,456	56,512	17,043
		56.9%	52.4%	60.3%	57.7%	57.8%
	Multiple	2,172	1,123	127	809	342
		0.9%	1.3%	0.2%	0.8%	1.2%
Citizenship	Non-U.S.	17,050	9,910	3,542	4,172	1,850
		7.4%	11.1%	6.8%	4.3%	6.3%
	U.S.	212,908	79,217	48,640	93,796	27,626
		92.6%	88.9%	93.2%	95.7%	93.7%

Table 3. December 2015 SNAP adults: Months of SNAP assistance and cash assistance enrollment by overlapping case types

		Total Enrollees	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Enrollees	Count	229,963	89,128	52,182	97,971	29,477
	Percent of all enrollees	100.0%	38.8%	22.7%	42.6%	12.8%
SNAP months in MN:	Mean	49.5	45.6	63.9	62.8	29.8
	2007 - 2015	Median	46	42	64	63
	1 - 12 months	38,800	17,220	5269	8,120	11,048
	Column percent	16.9%	19.3%	10.1%	8.3%	37.5%
	13 - 24 months	28,362	13,326	4837	8,340	4,766
		12.3%	15.0%	9.3%	8.5%	16.2%
	25 - 36 months	26,877	12,395	4,941	9,300	3,617
		11.7%	13.9%	9.5%	9.5%	12.3%
	37 - 60 months	48,743	21,107	9,655	19,580	5,394
		21.2%	23.7%	18.5%	20.0%	18.3%
	61 - 84 months	38,147	14,815	7,656	19,121	3,262
		16.6%	16.6%	14.7%	19.5%	11.1%
	85 or more months	49,034	10,265	19,824	33,510	1,390
		21.3%	11.5%	38.0%	34.2%	4.7%
Public assistance in MN:	MFIP/DWP	34,870	32,924	214	4,654	1,071
	2015	15.2%	36.9%	0.4%	4.8%	3.6%
	MSA	30,553	294	14,528	25,694	29
		13.3%	0.3%	27.8%	26.2%	0.1%
	GA/RCA	23,150	700	2,725	16,110	4,764
		10.1%	0.8%	5.2%	16.4%	16.2%
	Emergency services	22,704	15,689	1,307	7,589	1,550
		9.9%	17.6%	2.5%	7.7%	5.3%

Table 4. December 2015 SNAP adult cases: SNAP grants, earned income, and unearned income by overlapping case types

		Total Cases	Families with Children	Seniors	Adults with Disabilities	Other Adults
Cases	Count	197,787	65,813	48,420	94,815	28,444
	Row percent	100.0%	33.3%	24.5%	47.9%	14.4%
SNAP grant	Mean	\$188	\$344	\$97	\$127	\$156
	Median	\$158	\$333	\$82	\$109	\$194
No income	Count of cases	25,278	6,729	1,425	5,191	12,870
	Column percent	12.8%	10.2%	2.9%	5.5%	45.2%
Income from work	Count of cases	60,098	43,778	3,172	10,575	9,466
		30.4%	66.5%	6.6%	11.2%	33.3%
Earned income at last report	Mean of working cases	\$1,497	\$1,759	\$797	\$976	\$957
	Median	\$1,377	\$1,678	\$618	\$786	\$982
December unearned income	Count of cases	135,835	32,990	45,822	86,686	7,015
		68.7%	50.1%	94.6%	91.4%	24.7%
	Mean of cases receiving	\$788	\$760	\$934	\$830	\$493
	Median	\$806	\$660	\$843	\$814	\$238
Unearned income types	Child support	20,195	19,700	194	3,365	163
		10.2%	29.9%	0.4%	3.5%	0.6%
	SSI	54,078	7,639	20,365	44,742	696
		27.3%	11.6%	42.1%	47.2%	2.4%
	RSDI	61,295	7,132	30,528	44,664	1,226
		31.0%	10.8%	63.0%	47.1%	4.3%
	Public assistance grants	42,980	1,771	14,453	32,959	3,513
		21.7%	2.7%	29.8%	34.8%	12.4%
	Unemployment Insurance/ Workers' Compensation	2,603	1,731	147	340	646
		1.3%	2.6%	0.3%	0.4%	2.3%
	Veteran's benefits	2,066	296	1,050	874	322
		1.0%	0.4%	2.2%	0.9%	1.1%
	Other	7,695	2,176	3,780	2,317	1,008
	3.9%	3.3%	7.8%	2.4%	3.5%	

Data notes and definitions

Table 1. People were enrolled for SNAP in December 2015 if they met eligibility rules, including income, residency, immigrant status and other rules. A SNAP case is any group of people that are individually enrolled in SNAP, live together, and purchase and prepare food together. A case may have ineligible household members who are not included in a grant. This table, and all other tables and graphs, except Figure 1, exclude people enrolled in MFIP who received SNAP as the MFIP food portion.

In 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. Anyone under age 22 who is living with their natural or adoptive parent(s) or step-parent(s) are considered children. All children were, by definition, categorized as being in cases of families with children. If such families also had a senior or adult with disabilities in the case, the children were included in these overlapping case types in Table 1 as well.

Families with children are households with at least one enrolled member that is a child by the above definition. Note that this includes children in families where the child was the only member to receive stand-alone SNAP; other family members receive the food portion of MFIP or are ineligible for SNAP because of other requirements. 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 Supplemental Security Income (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 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 they had no formal education.

There are 2,200 adults missing race/ethnicity data. These people are excluded from those respective sections.

Table 3. SNAP months are total months in which an individual was enrolled in SNAP in Minnesota between January 2007 and December 2015. As eligibility follows an individual, the count includes months in other households or cases, and months as a child in their parents' household. These months do not include MFIP food portion months.

Public assistance eligibility in calendar year 2015 is whether an individual is personally enrolled in the listed program. Emergency Services is the name of the former Emergency Assistance and Emergency General Assistance programs.

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 2015. 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 2015 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.