



Characteristics of People and Cases on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

December 2023

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Abbreviations

ABAWD	Able-bodied Adult without Dependents
DWP	Diversionsary Work Program
DHS	Minnesota Department of Human Services (department)
EBT	Electronic Benefits Transfer
FFCRA	Families First Coronavirus Response Act
FPG	Federal Poverty Guidelines
GA	General Assistance
QC	Quality Control
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
TLR	Time-limited Recipients
TOP	Treasury Offset Program

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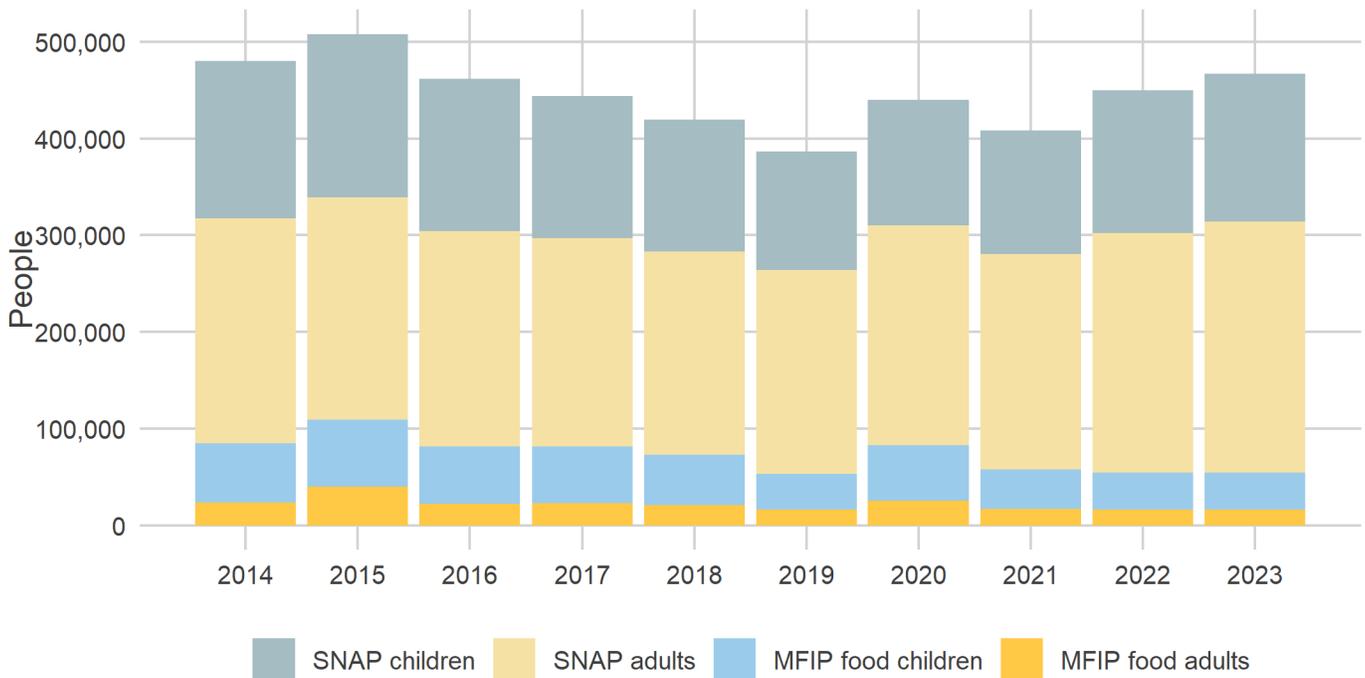
Executive summary

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides monthly benefits to low-income families, seniors, persons with disabilities, and some single adults, for purchasing food. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (department) administers both stand-alone SNAP and the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), combining SNAP with cash grants. SNAP benefits are based on household size and the amount and types of income and expenses. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase nonfood items.

SNAP and MFIP food trends.

In December 2023, 466,790 Minnesotans were enrolled in either stand-alone SNAP or MFIP. This is an increase of 4% from the 449,793 adults and children enrolled in December 2022. Early in the COVID-19 pandemic a record number of households reported food insecurity. In response to this Public Health Emergency Minnesota enacted significant changes to SNAP the program policies (more on pages 11-12 of this report). Both factors likely contributed to this increase. See the [MFIP characteristics](#) report for information on receipt of SNAP through the MFIP food portion.

Figure 1. SNAP participants: December 2014 to December 2023



Persons enrolled in stand-alone SNAP

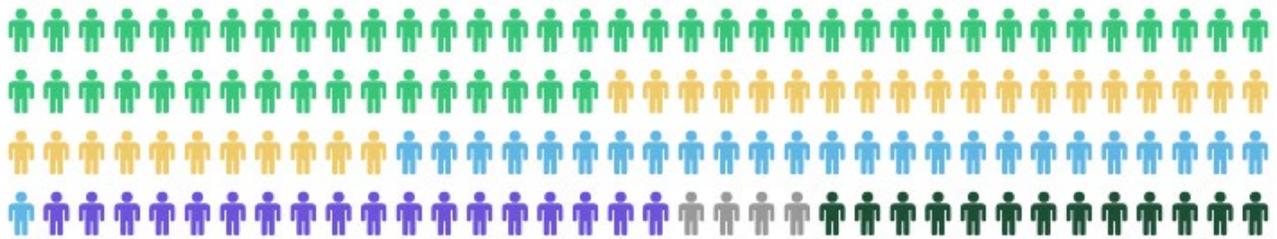
This SNAP Characteristics report provides information on the 411,884 persons enrolled in stand-alone SNAP, focusing on 259,105 adults.

Figure 2. SNAP enrolled adults and children

In December 2023

411,884 people

received stand-alone SNAP benefits



SNAP cases with income from work

Overall, 28% of households receiving SNAP (61,642) reported income from work. Of the households reporting work: 69% are families with children; 18% are other adults; 7% are adults with disabilities; and 6% are seniors.

The average reported earnings for households with workers was \$2,719 per month. Of these, families with children reported the highest earnings, at \$2,915; seniors reported the lowest, with \$1,038, on average.

SNAP cases with no income

For December 2023, 20% of households receiving SNAP (44,948) had no reported income, earned or unearned. Those households included 27,168 adults under age 60 without disabilities and no children. SNAP may be the only safety net available for these *other adults*, as they are not eligible for income supports available to families with children, seniors aged 60 or older, and those with documented disabilities.

Introduction

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), sometimes referred to by its former names, Food Stamps, or Food Support, provides a monthly benefit to low-income families, seniors, people with disabilities, and some single adults for purchasing only food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase hot food or nonfood items like pet food, personal hygiene products, cosmetics, alcohol, tobacco, vitamins or medicines. Households must meet income guidelines that vary by state; in Minnesota, households must have incomes of less than 165% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG). For a household of two that limit is \$3,052 per month.¹ Benefits are based on household size, and the amount and types of income and expenses.

A brief history of SNAP

The first idea of what later would be called the Food Stamp program, appeared in 1939. The next years were filled with research reports and legislative proposals to pass food stamp program legislation.

SNAP was officially created with the Food Stamp Act of 1964 [PL 93-86] introduced under Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman, a Minnesotan. Goals of the original food stamp program were to strengthen the agricultural economy and increase the quality of nutrition in low-income households. The program required that households use food stamps for food purchases only.

States and the federal government share responsibility; states manage certification and issuance, the federal government manages funding and retailer authorization.

The program prohibited discrimination in benefit eligibility by race, creed, national origin and political beliefs. Several legislative acts in the 1960s and '70s increased state accountability, establishing national standards of eligibility, and expanding the program to all states and territories.

The Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 [PL 93-86] created major changes resulting 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 the application processing times; and established 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) [PL 104-193] of 1996, requiring states to eliminate the actual *stamps* by implementing Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) by Oct. 1, 2002.

PRWORA also limited access to SNAP to three months in a three-year period for those that the U.S. Department of Agriculture deems are *able-bodied adults without dependents*. In Minnesota they are called time-limited recipients. These childless adults aged 18 to 49 are only eligible for SNAP if their income is below the gross income limit, and if they work at least 80 hours per month, or participate in SNAP Employment and Training activities. This time limit does not

¹ Combined Manual 0019.06 (Federal Fiscal Year 2023).

apply to those who are unable to work due to physical or mental health reasons, those caring for child/ren or an incapacitated person, or otherwise exempt from general work requirements. States can request to waive [PL 110-234] temporarily this time limit for SNAP recipients who live in areas with high unemployment.

The Farm Bill of 2008 (Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008) (PL 110–234) changed the program’s name to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. It expanded eligibility by indexing asset limits to inflation and excluding 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.²

On Feb. 7, 2014, the SNAP program was reauthorized through 2018, part of the Agricultural Act of 2014. [PL 113-79] On Dec. 20, 2018, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 became law. [PL 115-334] This Farm Bill made changes to program integrity and prioritized job training and other employment-related activities, based on findings from SNAP Employment and Training pilot projects established in the 2014 Farm Bill. It also ended bonuses to states demonstrating significant improvement in program operations.

Tribal nations in Minnesota and SNAP

Three Tribal Nations in Minnesota administered SNAP at the time of this report. In October 2017, White Earth Nation was the first Tribal Nation in the country to meet the Merit system requirement to administer SNAP. It serves tribal members in the counties of Becker, Clearwater and Mahnomon. Red Lake Nation was the second Tribal Nation to meet the Merit system requirement to administer SNAP in 2018, serving tribal members within its boundaries. In September 2022 the Mille Lacs Band began serving its tribal members residing in the counties of: Aitkin, Benton, Chisago, Crow Wing, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison and Pine.

In recognition of tribal sovereignty and self-determination, the department collaborated with the three Tribal Nations to help them meet Merit system requirements. The tribes, department, and county agencies collaborated to develop a transition plan ensuring a smooth transfer of SNAP duties within tribal geographic boundaries.

Important changes affecting Minnesota

Starting on March 1, 2009, SNAP recipients began reporting earned and unearned income every six months for grant awards determination instead of monthly.

Households must report income changes that result in gross earnings that exceed 130 % of the FPG for their household size, although they remain eligible up to 165 % of the FPG.³ Able-bodied adults subject to work requirements must report if their work hours or activities drop below 20 hours a week, or 80 hours a month.

As of December 2020, the gross income limit for SNAP eligibility remained at 165 % of the FPG for most households applying or being recertified.⁴ In July of 2022 the gross income limit was increased to 200 % of FPG for all SNAP households. Minnesota continues to have no asset limit for the SNAP program.

In 2017, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, extended the department’s waiver combining cash and food benefits through September 2022. In September 2022 Minnesota received a waiver extension through

² <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/short-history-snap>.

³ Combined Manual 0007.03.02.

⁴ Combined Manual 0020.12 and 0015.03.

December 2023. Since 1998, the department has been able to provide SNAP to households enrolled in the in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program as a combined benefit.

The department also has a waiver that allows community-based organizations serving newly arrived refugees and asylees and humanitarian parolees to complete the SNAP application interview. The Quick Facts for December trends on page 13 include 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.

COVID-19-related waivers and flexibilities and the end of PHE

The Public Health Emergency (PHE) declared in March 2020 as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic introduced significant changes to SNAP program policies and implementation through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and other federally allowed waivers:

- The FFCRA provision partially suspended the three-month time limit and mandatory work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents on April 1, 2020. From July 1, 2020 – July 1, 2023, Minnesota had a statewide waiver of these requirements.
- From April 2020 – April 2023, Minnesota issued SNAP Emergency Allotments (E-SNAP), made available by the FFCRA. The extra allotment boosts SNAP households' benefits – including Uncle Harry and the MFIP food portion – to the maximum rate (or \$95 above for those already at the maximum rate). As of May 2020 134,000 SNAP households, or 255,290 people benefited from E-SNAP. The average emergency supplement per household was \$149.
- FFCRA authorized a temporary assistance program for households with children affected by school closures during the public health emergency through Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT). The Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Minnesota Department of Education started issuing P-EBT benefits in July 2020 to children eligible for free and reduced-price school meals through the State's SNAP EBT card system if their schools were closed for at least five consecutive days during the emergency designation. In addition, the State issued benefits to children 5 years old and younger as of September 2020, who received SNAP, MFIP or Tribal TANF benefits and did not receive P-EBT school enrollment benefits.
- The Public Health Emergency also provided extended certification periods and waived scheduled periodic reporting. Renewal forms were not sent beginning report month of April 2020. Renewals resumed starting June 2021. While some reporting requirements were still in place, the waivers allowed county and tribal eligibility staff to focus primarily on new applications.
- Adjustment to interview requirements. FNS granted Minnesota a waiver to the requirement to offer interviews to SNAP households at recertification.
- Adjustment to signature requirement. This waiver allows applicants to sign verbally on either application or recertification forms without recording. This waiver began on March 27th 2020.
- Online purchasing options: On March 1, 2020, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture approved Minnesota's request to allow households that receive SNAP to purchase food with their SNAP EBT benefits online [retailers](#). Participants were able to order online starting May 28,

- SNAP overpayments referred to Treasury Offset Program (TOP) were not collected in May, June, July and August 2020.
- SNAP Quality Control: States were allowed to conduct telephone interviews in lieu of face-to face-interviews for SNAP Quality Control (QC) purposes. Minnesota was given an additional 45 days to report the findings of all cases selected for the December 2019, January 2020 and February 2020 sample months without the separate justification that 7 CFR 275.21(b)(4) ordinarily requires.

The COVID-19 public health emergency and national emergency ended on May 11, 2023. Starting June 10, 2023, the temporary student exemptions that allowed college students, who normally wouldn't qualify, to receive SNAP benefits during the public health emergency will begin to phase out. This change will affect students applying for SNAP or undergoing recertification. Students who qualify under a standard student exemption may still be eligible for SNAP benefits.

From July 1, 2023, able-bodied adults without dependents (in Minnesota referred to as time-limited recipients) aged 18-49 will be required to meet the ABAWD work requirements to maintain their SNAP benefits. Failure to meet these requirements could result in a loss of benefits as early as October 2023. As of July 2023, only two counties – Clearwater and Mahanomen – and nine tribal nations are waived from time limits on SNAP.

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 2023. Since some individuals have multiple characteristics such as disability status and age, SNAP caseloads are described according to a hierarchy, so that participants or cases are counted only once: households with children are identified first, then seniors over age 59, next adults with a disability, and then other adults. Most data are reported at the person level; the only case data are the grant amounts and income types in tables 12 to 14. Most of the report is about adults receiving SNAP.

A case consists of people who live and eat together. Not all persons living in a household are necessarily eligible; some may be disqualified and excluded from an assistance unit. These individuals are not included in the person-level data. People living in the same household may be members of separate cases. There is no age requirement for SNAP; those under age 18 may apply as their own case if they are not living with a parent who is a case 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 tables section are the source for information in Quick facts. Detailed policy and data definitions follow the data tables and are important for understanding tables. All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole percent. Therefore, percentages less than 0.5% will be reported as zero, and totals may not equal 100% when summed across subgroups.

⁵ Combined Manual 0014.03.03.

Quick facts for December 2023: Trends

- In December 2023, 466,790 individuals 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, Table 1). The MFIP grant combines food assistance from SNAP with cash assistance. This page reports on all SNAP received, both stand-alone and MFIP food portion.
- The total number of SNAP participants increased by 16,997 (4%) since December 2022. The number of MFIP participants increased by 240 from 2022 to 2023.
- Of participants enrolled in the MFIP food portion in 2023, 16,420 were adults and 38,486 were children. The percentage of MFIP food portion participants who are children (70%) did not change from the prior year. Of the SNAP-only participants enrolled in 2023, 152,779, or 37%, were children.

Table 1. SNAP participants: December 2012 to 2023

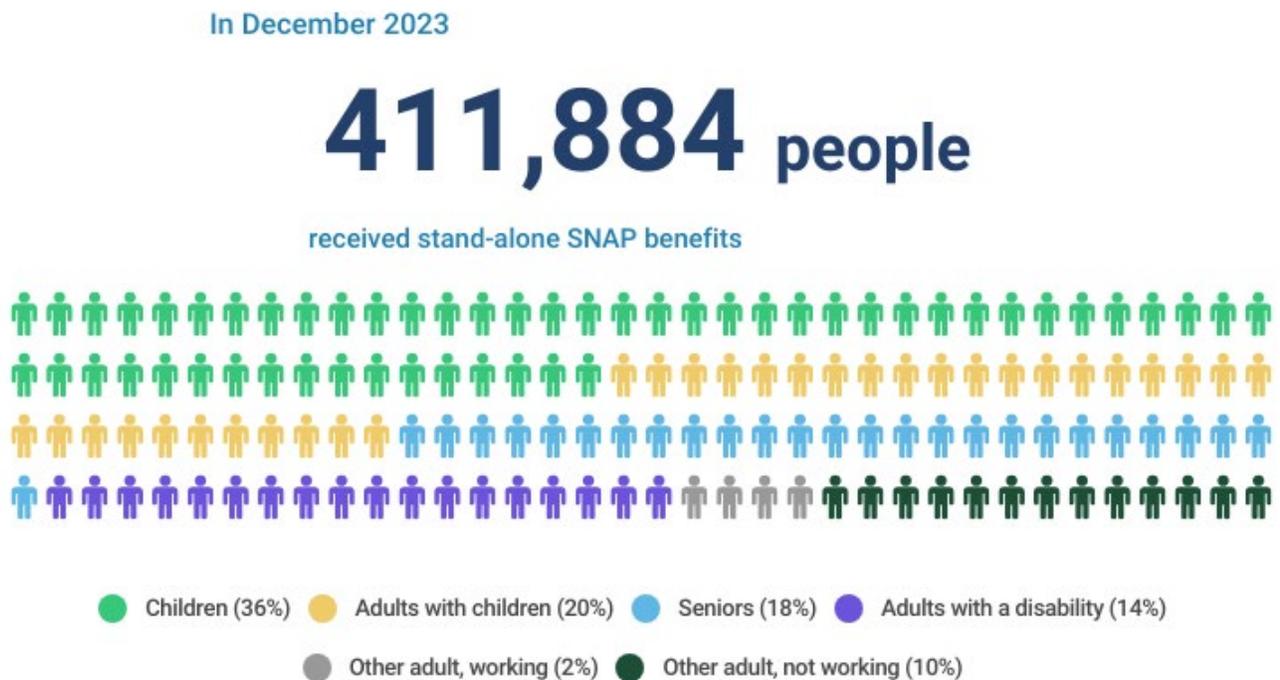
Year	MFIP food adults	MFIP food children	SNAP adults	SNAP children	Total
2023-12-01	16,420	38,486	259,105	152,779	466,790
2022-12-01	16,502	38,164	247,786	147,341	449,793
2021-12-01	17,064	40,548	223,203	127,704	408,519
2020-12-01	25,312	57,715	226,857	130,413	440,297
2019-12-01	16,641	36,739	210,981	121,944	386,305
2018-12-01	20,712	52,669	209,675	136,347	419,403
2017-12-01	23,092	58,451	215,502	146,982	444,027
2016-12-01	22,553	59,071	222,891	157,241	461,756
2015-12-01	39,901	69,579	229,963	168,354	507,797
2014-12-01	23,684	61,043	232,828	162,724	480,279

- Note: The remainder of the report reflects only people receiving stand-alone SNAP, excluding those receiving the MFIP food portion.

Quick facts for December 2023: Populations on SNAP

- This report organizes participants into distinct groups: Adults with children,⁶ seniors, adults with a disability, other adults and children. Other adults are those on SNAP who are under age 60, not part of a case with children, and do not have a disability.
- Figure 3 shows the unduplicated total enrolled adult and child populations. Fifty-six percent of SNAP participants are children and their families, 18% seniors, and 14% adults with a disability.
- Figure 3 separates the *other adults* group into those who are working and those not employed. Much of the current policy debate around work requirements centers on this group. The other adults group constitutes 12% of those receiving SNAP in Minnesota.

Figure 3. SNAP enrolled adults and children

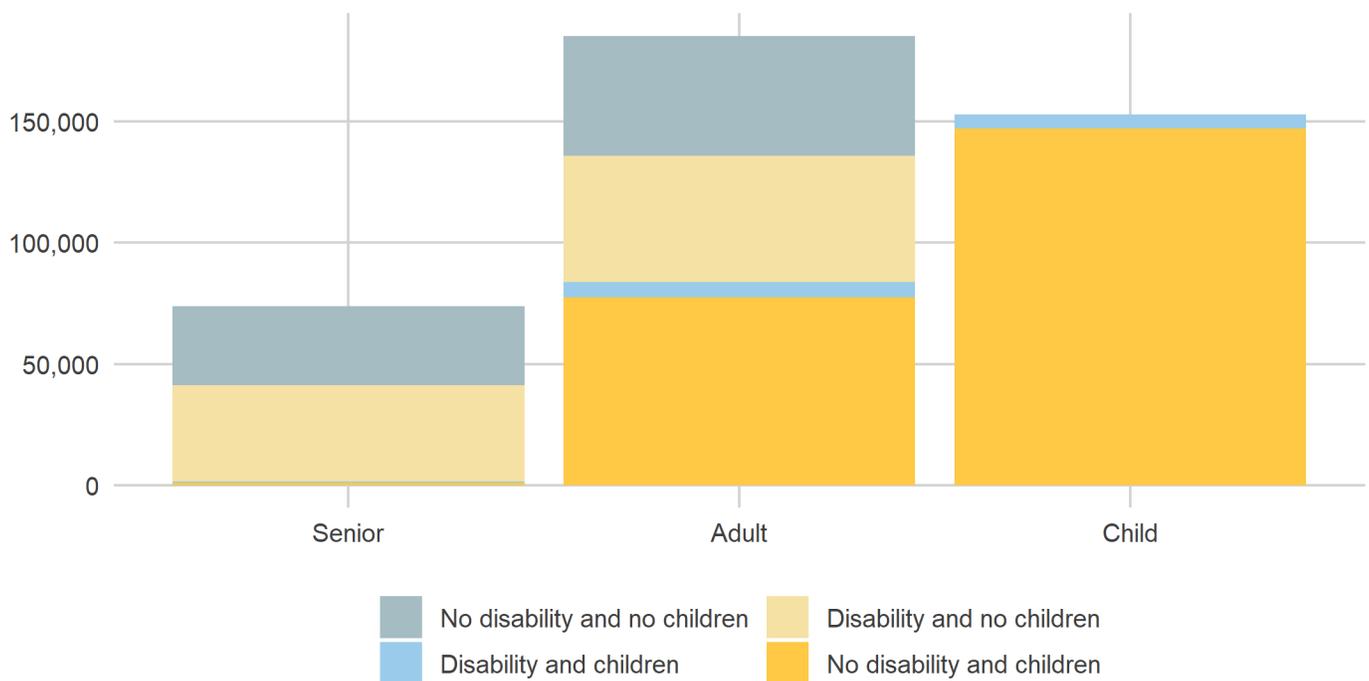


⁶ Most often, those in the adults with children group are parents.

Quick facts for December 2023: Overlapping characteristics

- SNAP participants can meet criteria for multiple characteristic groupings; having a disability or child/ren in the home are not mutually exclusive. Figure 4 shows seniors, non-senior adults; and children by disability status, and whether a child is in a household.
- More than half of seniors (55%) receiving SNAP in December 2023 also had a disability documented in the eligibility system.
- Only 2% of seniors had a child in their household.

Figure 4. Overlapping characteristics of SNAP participants in December 2023

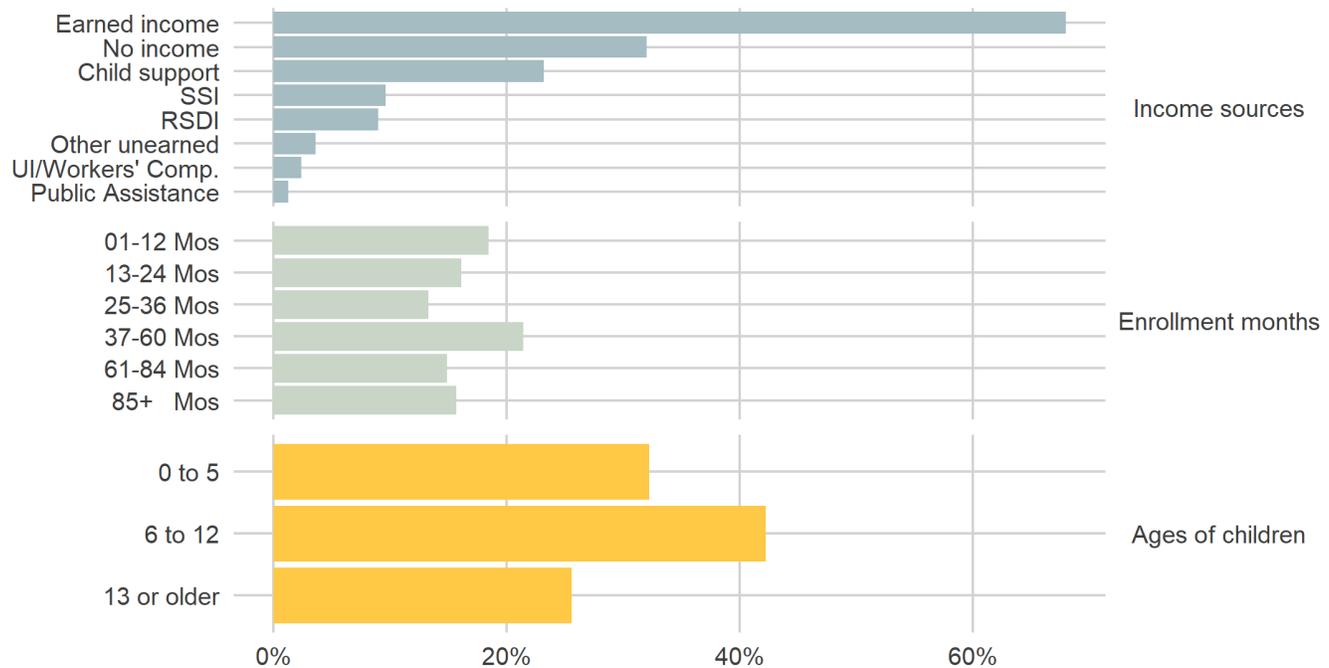


- Twenty-seven percent of adults under age 60 did not have a documented disability or a child in their household and fall into the report category of other adults.
- Thirty-one percent of adults under age 60 had a disability, and 3% had a disability and a child in their household.
- Forty-two percent of adults under age 60 had a child in their household and no disability. Four percent of children receiving SNAP in December 2023 had a documented disability.

Quick facts for December 2023: Families with children

- Thirty-three percent of SNAP adults live in households with minor children (85,321)⁷; 152,779 children receive SNAP⁸ (data from Table 2).
- The average age of adults in cases with children is 36, with 41% in their 30s; 69% are female, 53% have a high school diploma, 51% never married, 31% are married and living with their spouse. Forty-four percent are white (Table 3 to 8).

Figure 5: SNAP families with minor children



- Of the 62,613 family cases, 68% report income from work, with an average income of \$2,915 per month (Table 13).
- For unearned income, out of all cases receiving child support 95% pertain to families with children (Table 14). Out of all family cases with children 23% receive child support; 10% receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and 9% receive Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) (Figure 5).
- Adults in families with children averaged 45 months of SNAP enrollment over the previous nine years. Thirty-five percent of adults in families used 24 months or fewer (Table 10).
- Thirty-two percent of children receiving SNAP are under age six; 53% of family cases have at least one child under age six. Seventeen percent of family cases have at least one person with a disability.

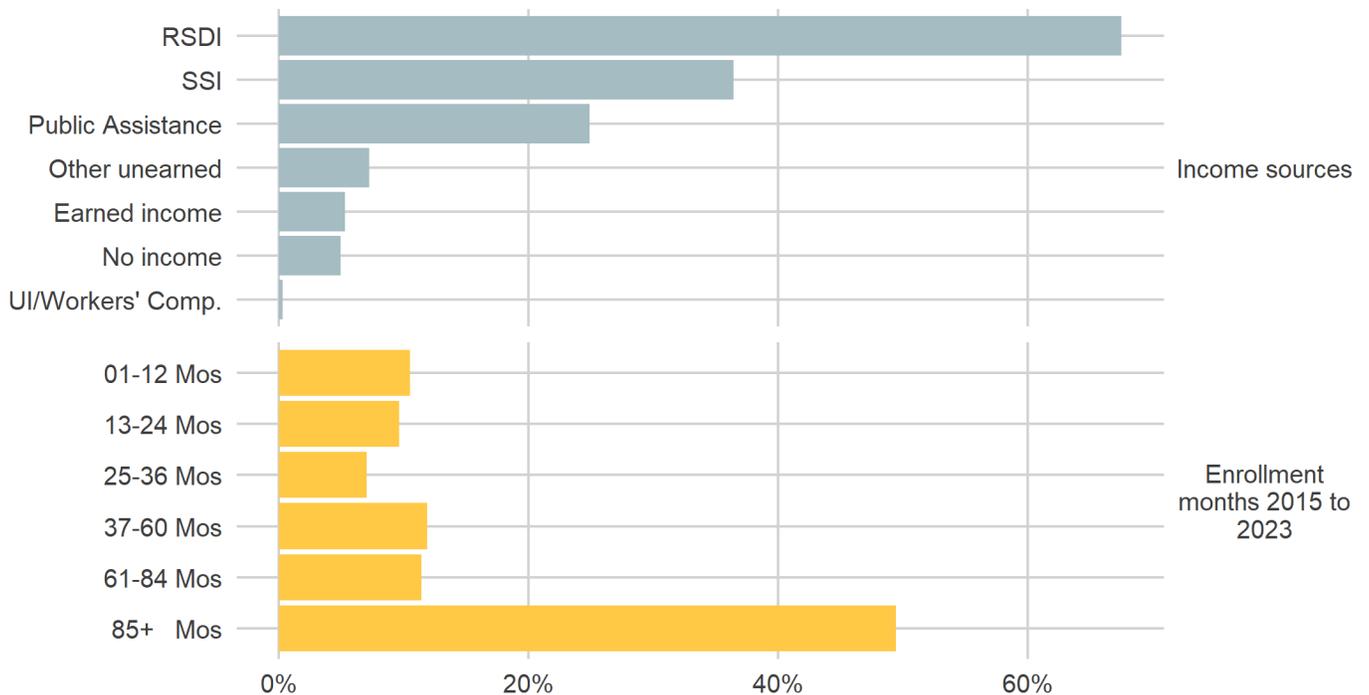
⁷ All SNAP participants in households with minor children fall into the report category of families with minor children.

⁸ This includes 6,672 children in families where a child is the only member to receive stand-alone SNAP; other family members receive the food portion of MFIP or are ineligible for SNAP because of income or other requirements.

Quick facts for December 2023: SNAP seniors

- Twenty-eight percent (72,268) of SNAP adults are age 60 or older, considered seniors according to SNAP policy, and do not have a child in the household (data from Table 2).
- The average age of adults in SNAP senior cases is 69 (with a minimum age of 60); 60% are female, 52% are high school graduates, 14% are married and living with their spouse, 16% are widowed, and 60% are white (Tables 4-8).
- Nearly all senior cases (93%) have unearned income, with RSDI being the most common source (68%), followed by SSI (36%), and public assistance grants (25%). The average amount of unearned income is \$1,257 per month. Six percent reported earned income from work (Figure 6, Table 13).
- Seniors average about 71 months (six years) of SNAP enrollment over the previous 10 years, with 50% enrolled for more than 84 months (seven years) (Figure 6, Table 10).

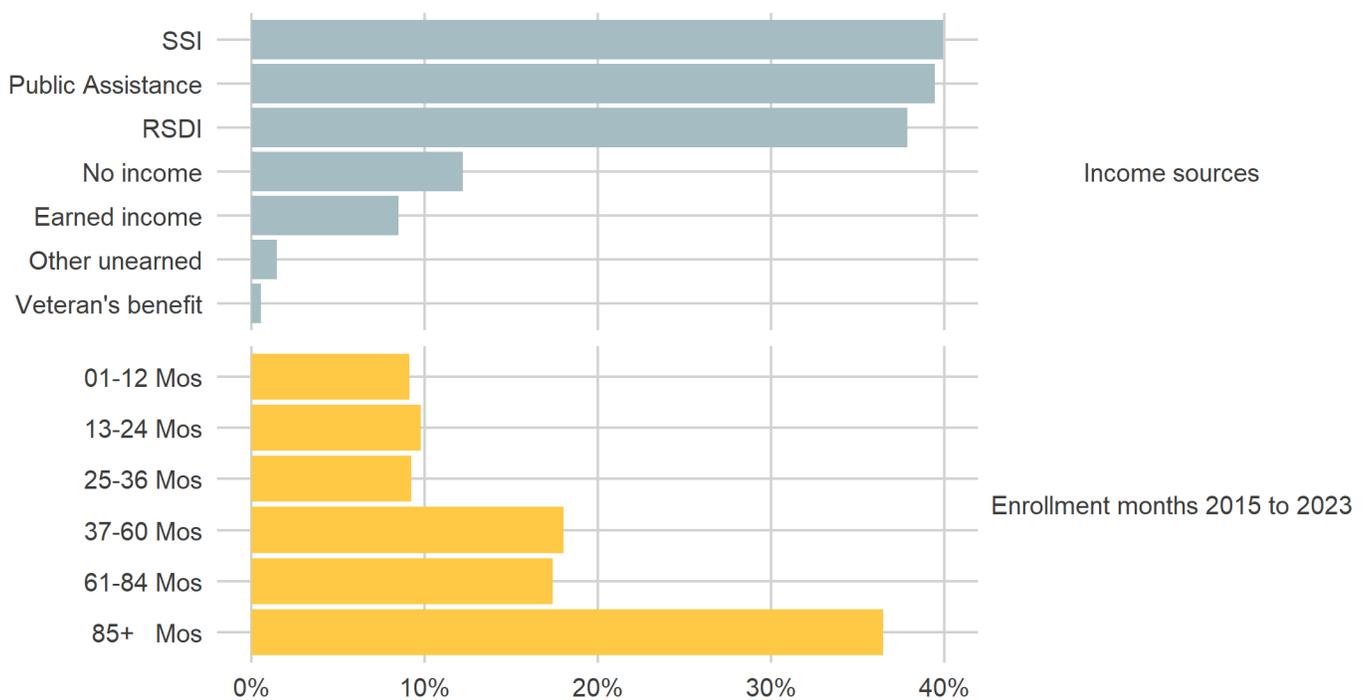
Figure 6: SNAP seniors



Quick facts for December 2023: SNAP adults with disabilities

- The average age of non-senior SNAP adults with a disability who are not on a case with a child is 44. Forty-nine percent are female, 57% have a high school diploma, and 69% never married (Table 3 to 7).
- Fifty-eight percent of SNAP cases with persons who have a disability are white, 26% Black, 5% Asian, 6% American Indian and 4% Hispanic (Table 8).
- Eighty-five percent of SNAP cases with persons who have a disability report unearned income averaging \$955 per month. The most common types are SSI (47%), RSDI (44%), and public assistance (46%), including Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), General Assistance, Refugee Cash Assistance, MFIP and DWP.
- Seven percent of cases with disability have earned income (Table 13).
- Adults with disabilities average about 64 months of SNAP enrollment over a nine-year period; 36% were enrolled in SNAP for more than seven years (Figure 7, Table 10).

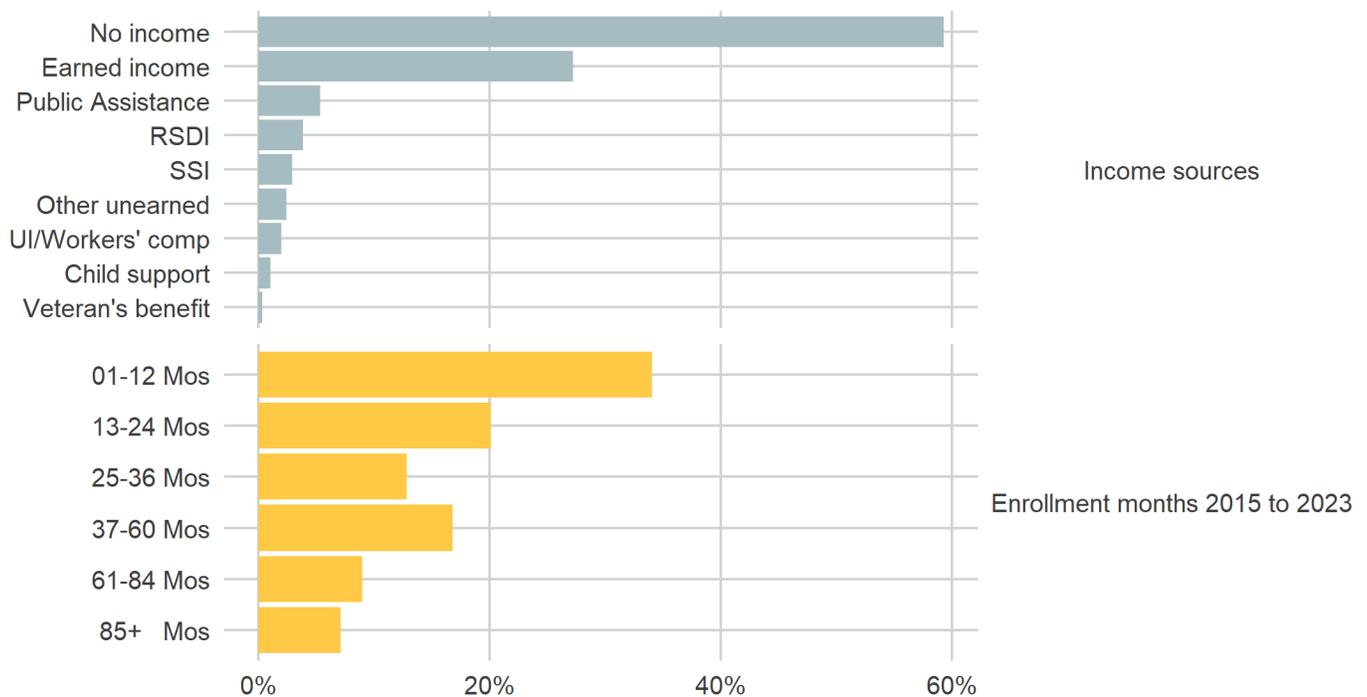
Figure 7: SNAP adults with disabilities



Quick facts for December 2023: SNAP adults without a disability and without children

- Nineteen percent of SNAP adults (49,340) are other adults. Those in this group do not overlap with other groups, as they have no children, do not have a disability, and are younger than age 60 (Table 2).
- Other adults have an average age of 37. They were more likely to be male (55%), and more likely to have never married than other groups (76%) (Tables 4 through 6).
- Consistent with SNAP policy, other adults received SNAP an average of 33 months in the past nine years, the lowest average of the various groups (Figure 8, Table 10).

Figure 8: SNAP adults without a disability and without children

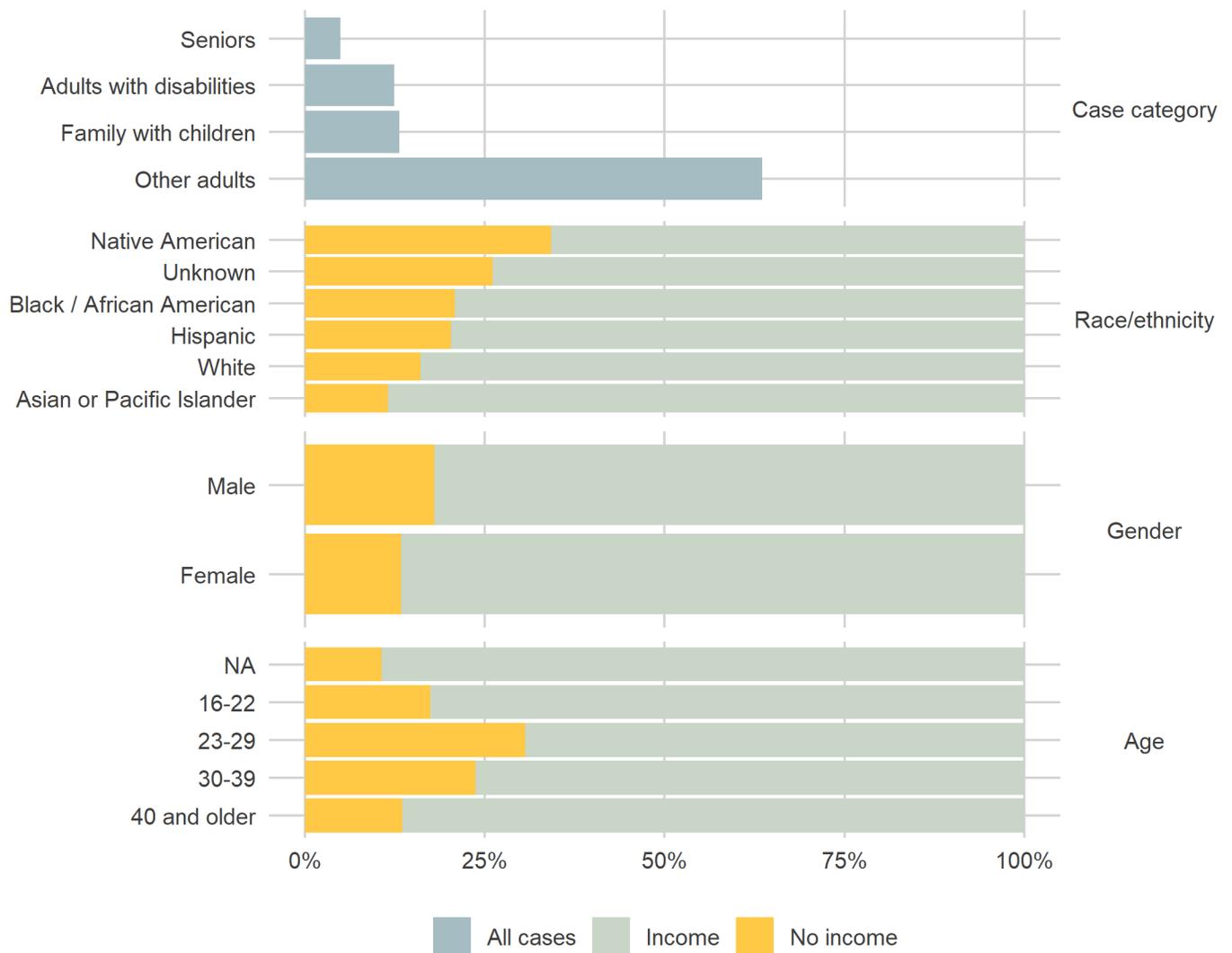


Policy note: Adults in this group include time-limited recipients (previously known as ABAWDS), a specific, federally defined group of adults without a disability between the ages of 18 and 49 who have restricted SNAP eligibility to three months in a 36-month period. Many are not eligible for income supports available to families with children, seniors aged 60 and older, and persons with diagnosed disabilities. These requirements were waived during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Quick facts for December 2023: SNAP enrollees with no other income

- Twenty percent of SNAP cases (44,948) had no income reported (Table 13).
- Sixty percent of cases with adults without a documented disability and no children, and under age 60, had no reported income (27,168) (Figure 9, Table 13).
- In terms of education level, 57% of adults in households with no income had high school education, whereas 55% of adults in households with income had a high school diploma.

Figure 9: SNAP enrollees with no other income

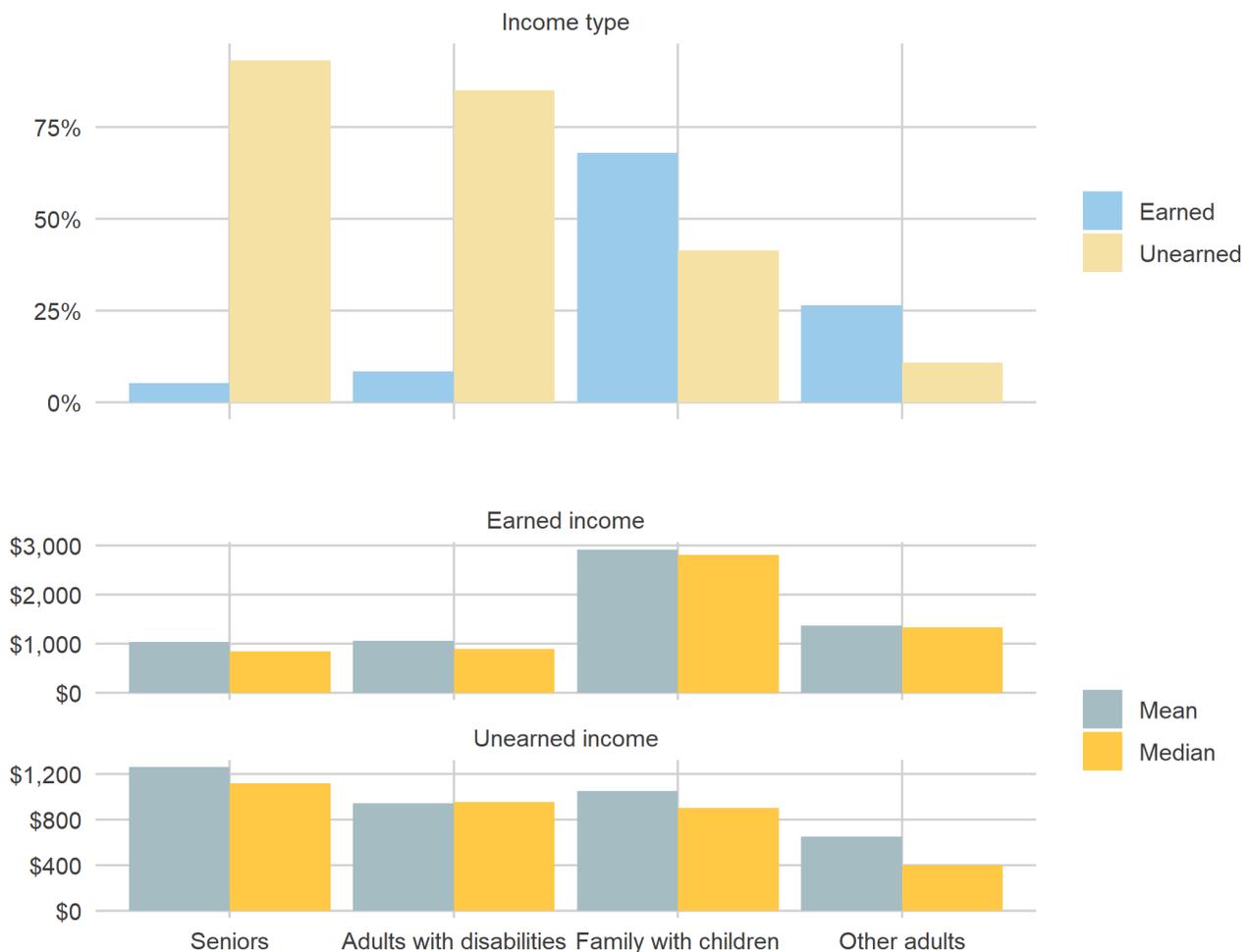


Policy note: Households must report all income types, unearned sources, self-employment and jobs. Income information is collected at application, annual recertification, at six-month intervals, and when income increases significantly. Not all income is used to determine grant amounts for eligibility.

Quick facts for December 2023: Income and earnings of SNAP households

- Overall, 28% of SNAP cases report income from work. This varies by type of case, with 69% of families with children, 18% of other adults, 7% of adults with disabilities, and 6% of senior cases reporting work (Figure 10, Table 13).
- Reported earnings of households with workers averaged \$2,719 per month. Of these, families with children reported the highest earnings, at \$2,915; seniors reported the lowest, with \$1,038, on average (Figure 10). A total of 61% of SNAP cases reported unearned income, with a monthly average of \$1,081 (Table 13).
- The most common types of unearned income vary by case type. Families with children are most likely to have child support (23%), seniors likely to have RSDI (68%), and adults with disabilities likely to have SSI (40%).

Figure 10: Income and earnings of SNAP households



Policy note: Households must report all income types, including unearned, jobs and self-employment. Income information is collected at application, annual recertification, at six-month intervals, and when there is a significant increase. Not all income is used to determine grant amounts for eligibility.

Data tables

Table 2. December 2023 stand-alone SNAP cases and participants categorized by hierarchy ⁹

Case type	Case count	Case percent	Adult count	Adult percent	Children count	Children percent
Total	222,981	100%	259,105	100%	152,779	100%
Adults with disabilities	50,167	22%	52,176	20%		
Family with children	62,613	28%	85,321	33%	152,779	100%
Other adults	42,745	19%	49,340	19%		
Seniors	67,456	30%	72,268	28%		

Table 3. SNAP adults by case types for December 2023

Statistic	Total adults	Adults with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Count	259,105	85,321	75,014	53,446	45,325
Percent	100%	33%	29%	21%	17%

⁹ Persons and cases are assigned in a hierarchical order. 1. Families with children (includes child only cases); 2. Seniors (age >= 60); 3. Adults with disabilities as defined above; and 4. Other adults (everyone else) For example, if a senior has a disability they would be categorized as a senior, because that category comes earlier in the hierarchy. When a case includes both a Senior and a non-Senior adult, the case will be categorized as a Senior type of case.

Table 4. Age characteristics of SNAP adults by case types for December 2023

Statistic	Total	Family with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Mean	47	36	69	44	37
Median	45	35	68	45	36
Max	109	99	109	59	59
Min	18	18	18	18	18
Under 23 - count	18,463	8,975	529	2,639	6,320
Under 23 - percent	7%	11%	1%	5%	14%
23-29 - count	27,264	13,452	306	5,029	8,477
23-29 - percent	11%	16%	0%	9%	19%
30-39 - count	58,462	35,362	331	11,313	11,457
30-39 - percent	23%	41%	0%	21%	25%
40-49 - count	43,443	20,385	290	13,633	9,135
40-49 - percent	17%	24%	0%	26%	20%
50-59 - count	37,567	5,509	1,290	20,832	9,936
50-59 - percent	14%	6%	2%	39%	22%
60-64 - count	23,426	855	22,571		
60-64 - percent	9%	1%	30%		
65 and older - count	50,480	783	49,697		
65 and older - percent	19%	1%	66%		

Table 5. SNAP adults by case type and gender for December 2023

Statistic	Total	Family with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Female - count	151,013	58,785	45,376	26,329	20,524
Female - percent	58%	69%	60%	49%	45%
Male - count	108,092	26,536	29,638	27,117	24,801
Male - percent	42%	31%	40%	51%	55%

Table 6. SNAP adults by case type and education for December 2023

Statistic	Total	Family with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
None or pre-first grade or unknown - count	19,952	5,748	10,023	2,280	1,901
None or pre-first grade or unknown - percent	8%	7%	13%	4%	4%
Grade school - count	6,596	2,075	2,937	971	613
Grade school - percent	3%	2%	4%	2%	1%
Some high school - count	46,151	15,290	10,492	11,296	9,073
Some high school - percent	18%	18%	14%	21%	20%
High school - count	140,234	45,405	38,709	30,656	25,465
High school - percent	54%	53%	52%	57%	56%
Some post-secondary - count	34,471	13,024	8,772	6,434	6,241
Some post-secondary - percent	13%	15%	12%	12%	14%
College graduate - count	7,128	2,614	2,118	1,114	1,282
College graduate - percent	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%
Graduate degree - count	4,573	1,165	1,963	695	750
Graduate degree - percent	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%

Table 7. SNAP adults by case type and marital status for December 2023

Statistic	Total	Family with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Divorced - count	44,477	6,889	23,225	8,857	5,506
Divorced - percent	17%	8%	31%	17%	12%
Legally separated - count	1,383	423	466	257	237
Legally separated - percent	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Married living apart - count	23,377	7,412	8,400	4,482	3,084
Married living apart - percent	9%	9%	11%	8%	7%
Married living with spouse - count	41,263	26,397	11,237	2,122	1,507
Married living with spouse - percent	16%	31%	15%	4%	3%
Never married - count	134,826	43,401	20,303	36,706	34,416
Never married - percent	52%	51%	27%	69%	76%
Widowed - count	13,777	797	11,383	1,022	575
Widowed %	5%	1%	15%	2%	1%

Table 8. SNAP adults by case type and race and ethnicity for December 2023

Statistic	Total	Family with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
American Indian - count	13,887	4,014	1,955	3,469	4,449
American Indian - percent	5%	5%	3%	6%	10%
Asian - count	22,022	8,835	8,737	2,640	1,810
Asian - percent	8%	10%	12%	5%	4%
Black - count	68,011	26,859	15,119	13,928	12,105
Black - percent	26%	31%	20%	26%	27%
Hispanic - count	13,410	6,300	2,725	1,937	2,448
Hispanic - percent	5%	7%	4%	4%	5%
Unknown - count	5,595	2,063	1,368	723	1,441
Unknown - percent	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%
White - count	136,180	37,250	45,110	30,749	23,072
White - percent	53%	44%	60%	58%	51%

Table 9. SNAP adults by case type and citizenship for December 2023

Statistic	Total	Family with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Non U.S - count	13,457	7,147	3,094	1,220	1,996
Non U.S - percent	5%	8%	4%	2%	4%
U.S - count	245,645	78,173	71,920	52,225	43,328
U.S - percent	95%	92%	96%	98%	96%

Table 10. SNAP adults: Months of SNAP enrollment

Statistic	Total	Adults with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Mean	54	45	71	64	33
Median	48	38	84	65	25
1-12 months - count	43,080	15,741	7,496	4,757	15,086
1-12 months - percent	17%	18%	10%	9%	31%
13-24 months - count	35,310	13,774	6,915	5,103	9,518
13-24 months - percent	14%	16%	10%	10%	19%
25-36 months - count	28,002	11,362	5,052	4,815	6,773
25-36 months - percent	11%	13%	7%	9%	14%
37-60 months - count	45,599	18,301	8,482	9,394	9,422
37-60 months - percent	18%	21%	12%	18%	19%
61-84 months - count	35,072	12,731	8,220	9,069	5,052
61-84 months - percent	14%	15%	11%	17%	10%
85 or more months - count	72,042	13,412	36,103	19,038	3,489
85 or more months - percent	28%	16%	50%	36%	7%

Table 11. SNAP adults in cash assistance programs

Statistic	Total	Adults with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
MFIP/DWP - count	259,105	85,321	72,268	52,176	49,340
MFIP/DWP - percent	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 12. December 2023 SNAP adult cases and grant size

Statistic	Total cases	Families with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Cases - count	222,981	62,613	67,456	50,167	42,745
Cases - percent	100%	28%	30%	22%	19%
SNAP grant - mean	434	597	174	207	265
SNAP grant - median	291	535	167	216	291

Table 13. December 2023 SNAP adult cases: Earned and unearned income by case types

Statistic	Total cases	Families with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
No income - count	44,948	8,215	3,325	6,240	27,168
No income - percent	20%	18%	7%	14%	60%
Income from work - count	61,642	42,554	3,575	4,208	11,305
Income from work - percent	28%	69%	6%	7%	18%
Earned income at last report - mean	2,719	2,915	1,038	1,062	1,373
Earned income at last report - median	2,585	2,804	848	893	1,332
December unearned income - count	136,074	25,912	62,843	42,700	4,619
December unearned income - percent	61%	19%	46%	31%	3%
December unearned income - mean	1,081	1,048	1,257	944	650
December unearned income - median	995	902	1,114	952	400

Table 14. December 2023 SNAP adult cases: SNAP grants, earned and unearned income by case types

Statistic	Total cases	Families with children	Seniors	Adults with disabilities	Other adults
Child Support income - count	15,317	14,517	99	334	367
Child Support income - percent	7%	95%	1%	2%	2%
SSI - count	50,572	6,033	24,570	19,852	117
SSI - percent	23%	12%	49%	39%	0%
RSDI - count	70,079	5,639	45,568	18,714	158
RSDI - percent	31%	8%	65%	27%	0%
PA Grant - count	39,738	793	16,788	20,021	2,136
PA Grant - percent	18%	2%	42%	50%	5%
Unemployment insurance workers compensation - count	2,719	1,511	197	129	882
Unemployment insurance workers compensation - percent	1%	56%	7%	5%	32%
Veterans benefit - count	1,821	310	1,132	254	125
Veterans benefit - percent	1%	17%	62%	14%	7%
Other Earned income - count	8,787	2,280	4,887	691	929
Other Earned income - percent	4%	26%	56%	8%	11%

Data notes and definitions

The source of the administrative data in this report is the statewide eligibility and payment system, MAXIS.

Table 1. This table includes historical and recent data on SNAP participation by category.

Table 2. Individuals were enrolled for SNAP in December 2023 if they met eligibility rules, including income, residency, immigrant status and other rules. A SNAP case is any group of people individually enrolled in SNAP, live together, and purchase and prepare food together. A case may have ineligible household members 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. Each month, a portion of individuals transfer between SNAP and MFIP, but only receive a food benefit through one of the two programs. In this report, individuals were included in the program in which they received a food benefit. For example, if a person received SNAP benefits at the start of December and then applied for and approved eligible for only the MFIP cash portion because they already received stand-alone SNAP later in the month, that person would be included in SNAP counts rather than MFIP.

In this report, adults are those ages 18 and older with the exception of those ages 22 and younger living with their parents, and youths living independent of their parents. Anyone under age 22 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. There were 7,341 persons over age 18 categorized as children.

Families with children are households with at least one enrolled member who is a child by the above definition. Note that 6,672 children were in families where a 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.

Persons and cases are assigned in a hierarchical fashion in the following order: 1. Families with children (includes child only cases); 2. Seniors (age \geq 60); 3. Adults with disabilities as defined above; and 4. Other adults (everyone else)

For example, if a senior has a disability they would be categorized as a senior, because that category comes earlier in the hierarchy. In previous reports in this series, people with multiple characteristics of interest were counted in more than one category. The greatest impact of this change is a reduction in the count of people identified as having a disability because many of these individuals are now counted as seniors or adults with children.

Tables 3 to 9 . 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.

Table 10. SNAP months are total months in which an individual was enrolled in SNAP in Minnesota between January 2010 and December 2023. 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.

Table 11. Public assistance eligibility in calendar year 2023 is whether an individual is personally enrolled in the listed program. Emergency Services includes Emergency Assistance and Emergency General Assistance programs.

Tables 12 to 14 are the only case-based table in this report.

All income is from the December 2023 SNAP budget panel for the active budget type (retrospective or prospective). If income is not reported on the budget panel, it is not included. Earned income is gross wages plus self-employment income (gross income less expenses, with a minimum of zero). Mean total income excludes cases with no expected income for the reporting period. Total gross income is earned and unearned income minus farm loss offset.

Cases receiving \$0 in SNAP benefit are excluded from mean/median SNAP grant calculations. In December 2023, there were 2,747 cases receiving \$0 in SNAP benefit. A SNAP recipient may choose to remain eligible for SNAP while receiving \$0 grant to meet eligibility requirements for other assistance programs, such as free or reduced priced school lunch.

Public assistance grant income includes Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), General Assistance (GA), Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA), Minnesota Family Investment Program, 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 and tribal payments.

Cases with no income are those with no earned or unearned income known to MAXIS. Adults are counted as having income if any adults on a case had income in Figure 9.