

DOUGLAS COUNTY

HUNGER AND SNAP PARTICIPATION

18,730 residents lack consistent access
to nutritious, healthy food

Food insecurity rate	15.9% (18,730 individuals)
Child food insecurity rate	27.4% (3,860 children)
Avg. meal cost	\$3.31
Total households receiving SNAP	6.7%
Avg. SNAP benefit per meal in KS	\$1.86

Annual food budget shortfall: \$10,566,000

WHAT IS THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)?

Formerly known as food stamps, SNAP is a federally funded program that provides monthly food assistance to those with household incomes at or below 130% of the federal poverty level. In Kansas, the program is known as the Food Assistance Program.

BENEFITS OF SNAP:

SNAP offers nutrition assistance to millions of eligible low-income individuals & provides economic benefits to communities.

Additional benefits include:

- SNAP is linked with improved health outcomes & lower overall
- health care expenditures.
- SNAP is one of the most responsive federal programs in assisting
- families & communities during economic downturns.
- One dollar in SNAP generates \$1.70 in economic activity.
- SNAP is efficient. In fiscal year 2017, 93% of federal spending went
- directly to households purchasing food.
- According to all available data and reports, SNAP fraud is rare.

SNAP AT WORK IN KANSAS:

In fiscal year 2017, SNAP reached 234,000 Kansans, or 8% of the state population (1 in 12).

- 72% were in families with children.
- 34% were in families with members who were elderly or disabled.
- 82% of families had at least one working adult in the last 12 months.
- Kansas retailers received \$325 million in SNAP benefits.
- Between 2009-2012, **SNAP kept 73,000 Kansans out of poverty, including 38,000 children.**

GAPS IN ASSISTANCE:

Kansas ranks 45th in the country for eligible individuals' participation.

According to Feeding America, over \$185 million in food resources

- are necessary to eliminate hunger in Kansas.
- For every meal food banks provide, SNAP provides 12.
- Two in three eligible Kansas seniors do not receive food benefits.
- In fiscal year 2017, 64% of eligible workers received SNAP.
- During the 2015 & 2016 legislative sessions, the Kansas legislature
- passed two bills restricting SNAP eligibility. Immediately following
- implementation, thousands of Kansans lost food assistance.



KANSAS APPLESEED
Justice for all.

Information compiled by Kansas Appleseed using data from Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Feeding America, and Food Research & Action Center.
For additional information or to apply for SNAP, visit www.growstrongks.org.



KANSAS POLICY IMPACTS HUNGER

Able-bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs): Kansas Department for Children & Families (DCF) is prohibited from requesting the USDA to waive the three-month food assistance time limit for ABAWDs during economic downturns.

Broad Based Categorical Eligibility: DCF is prohibited from adopting a policy that expands categorical eligibility to those receiving other anti-poverty benefits.

Child support: Applicants are required to pay or pursue child support. Studies show this is unlikely to increase child support payments substantially & puts children at greater risk of food insecurity.

Non-citizen income: DCF is required to count the income of non-citizens in a household when determining SNAP eligibility.

Drug felony conviction: Kansans with drug felony convictions are banned from receiving food assistance until completing an approved treatment program. Kansans with two drug felonies are banned for life.