

Feeding America Over The Last Forty Years – Highlights

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Food Stamp Program [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP]

- The Food Stamp Program served an average of 2.9 million people per month in 1969.
- Forty years later in April 2009, FNS estimates SNAP participation at over 33.7 million.
- Since 1969 the Food Stamp Program has issued over \$554 billion dollars in program benefits and matched \$51 billion in state administrative money.

National School Lunch Program [NSLP]

- President Truman signed the National School Lunch Act in 1946 in response to claims that many American men had been rejected for World War II military service because of diet-related health problems.
- Since 1969 the National School Lunch Program has served over 169 billion meals. In April 2009, FNS estimates the NSLP serves nearly 31.3 million children each day in over 100,000 schools.
- Over the course of 40 years the NSLP has provided over \$141 billion in reimbursement to school districts.

School Breakfast Program [SBP]

- Since 1969 the School Breakfast program has served over 33 billion meals.
- In April 2009, FNS estimates the SBP serves nearly 11.3 million children per day in over 88,000 schools.
- Since 1969, the SBP has provided over \$30 billion in reimbursements to school districts.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

- The CACFP has served over 37 billion meals since 1969.
- In April 2009, FNS estimates the CACFP served over 174 million meals per month in child and adult care centers and homes.
- Over the past 40 years the CACFP has issued over \$36 billion in meal benefits to providers.

Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children [WIC]

- The WIC Program served an average of 88,000 participants each month in 1974 when it became a permanent program. The most recent average monthly participation in 2009 is over 9.1 million.
- Since its beginning in 1974 the WIC program has issued almost \$67 billion in food benefits and \$22 billion in administrative funds.

USDA Foods

- Since 1969, the Commodity Distribution Programs have issued \$27 billion in food benefits for schools and \$23 billion dollars in food benefits for household and emergency feeding programs (the dollar figures include administrative costs).
- The \$50 billion worth of food would have been delivered by 1,261,531 trucks, enough to form a convoy 14,336 miles long (average capacity for truck is 40,000 lbs, average length is 60 feet). Δ

Source: USDA FNS

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