

**CHARACTERISTICS OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS**  
**Massachusetts Congressional District 10**

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net. SNAP touches the lives of over one in seven Americans. Benefits are available to most people who meet the financial requirements, and the program serves a broad spectrum of low income people. In Fiscal Year 2011, SNAP provided about \$1.3 billion dollars in food benefits to a monthly average of 813,631 people in Massachusetts. The program served 87 percent of those eligible for benefits in Massachusetts in 2010. SNAP also has an economic multiplier effect; every dollar in new SNAP benefits results in \$1.80 in total economic activity.

The American Community Survey provides a snapshot of SNAP participants in 2009-2011 for each Congressional District. More detailed information for the Nation and each State is presented in *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2011*, available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/research-and-analysis>.

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Characteristics	Households Receiving SNAP	Households Not Receiving SNAP	Total
Households	17,591	246,882	264,473
With one or more people 60 years and over	33.4%	42.8%	42.2%
With children under 18 years	42.3%	26.3%	27.4%
<b>POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS</b>			
Below poverty level	40.4%	5.9%	8.2%
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN OF HOUSEHOLDER</b>			
White	83.3%	93.3%	92.6%
Black or African American	4.2%	2.0%	2.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.5%	0.2%	0.3%
Asian	7.2%	3.0%	3.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Some other race	2.2%	0.5%	0.6%
Two or more races	1.5%	1.0%	1.1%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	3.8%	1.4%	1.5%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	81.5%	92.3%	91.6%
<b>HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2011 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)</b>			
Median income (dollars)	\$18,993	\$71,296	\$67,209
<b>WORK STATUS</b>			
Families	10,578	158,762	169,340
No workers in past 12 months	24.8%	14.9%	15.5%
1 worker in past 12 months	45.8%	27.0%	28.2%
2 or more workers in past 12 months	29.4%	58.1%	56.3%

Sources: National Data Bank Version 8.2 Public Use, Annual FY 2011 Final (April 2013 download). Empirical Bayes Shrinkage Estimates of State Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation Rates in 2008-2010 for All Eligible People and the Working Poor (February 2013). Available <http://www.fns.usda.gov/research-and-analysis> U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey, using 112<sup>th</sup> Congressional District boundaries.