United States Department of Agriculture

Food and Nutrition Service **January 2017**

PROFILE OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS

Tennessee Congressional District 5

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net. Benefits are available to most people who meet the financial and nonfinancial requirements, and the program serves a broad spectrum of low income people. In Fiscal Year 2015, SNAP provided about $1.88 billion dollars in food benefits to a monthly average of 1,229,391 people in Tennessee. The program served 99 percent of those eligible for benefits in Tennessee in 2014. 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 2015 for each Congressional District.[1] More detailed information for the Nation and each State is presented in *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2015*, available at http://www.fns.usda.gov/ops/research-and-analysis.

Tennessee Congressional District 5

Characteristic	Households Receiving SNAP	Households not Receiving SNAP	Total
Households	45,184	258,887	304,071
With one or more people 60 years and over	23.3%	31.0%	29.8%
With Children under 18 years	56.4%	23.4%	28.3%
Poverty Status in the past 12 Months[2]			
Below poverty level	49.6%	8.5%	14.6%
Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin of Householder			
White	47.1%	74.1%	70.1%
Black or African American	44.3%	20.6%	24.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.7%	0.3%	0.4%
Asian	1.6%	2.2%	2.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A
Some other race	3.6%	1.1%	1.5%
Two or more races	2.7%	1.6%	1.8%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	12.0%	4.6%	5.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	38.9%	70.4%	65.7%
Household Income in the Past 12 Months (in 2015 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)			
Median income (dollars)	$20,713	$58,680	$51,554
Work Status			
Families	32,053	143,563	175,616
No workers in the past 12 months	17.8%	10.0%	11.4%
1 worker in the past 12 months	50.8%	30.1%	33.9%
2 or more workers in the past 12 months	31.4%	60.0%	54.7%

Source: USDA FNS SNAP Program Data (downloaded December 2016), Reaching Those in Need: Estimates of State SNAP Participation Rates (forthcoming); U.S. Census Bureau 2015 American Community Survey (ACS), using 114th Congressional District boundaries.

[1] The ACS employs yearly sampling to produce statistical estimates. The descriptive statistics presented here are, therefore, subject to year-on-year measurement variations due to margins of error in the estimates.

[2] The ACS bases poverty status on annual household income; SNAP eligibility is based on monthly income. Due to this difference in reference periods, poverty status in the ACS may differ from poverty status at the time of SNAP certification.

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