

2009-2012 Farm Bill Spending for Nutrition and Food Assistance: US and California

Farm bill funding for nutrition and food assistance steadily increased from 2009 to 2012 as more people relied on aid to meet their food needs during a difficult economy. SNAP accounts for 98 percent of farm bill nutrition funding, which increased from \$49.2 billion in 2009 to \$75 billion in 2012. Some of the increase was the result of additional funding provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. That boost has now expired and SNAP spending will likely decline. The number of individuals served by SNAP increased from 37.7 million in 2009 to 46.6 million in 2012, when one in seven Americans relied on the program. The average per-person benefit is \$133, or \$4.40 per day. California receives 9.5 percent of the farm bill's nutrition and food assistance funding. In October 2013, [4.2 million](#) California residents received SNAP assistance.

	2009		2010		2011		2012		2009-2012	
	US	CA	US	CA	US	CA	US	CA	US	CA
Program Totals (in millions)	\$50,656	\$4,811	\$59,124	\$5,686	\$64,796	\$6,226	\$76,312	\$7,444	\$250,886	\$24,166
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	49,208.7	4,569.4	57,576.6	5,395.0	63,327.6	6,027.8	74,904.3	7,206	245,017	23,198
SNAP	48,956.6	4,459.0	57,280.3	5,276.1	62,983.6	5,902.7	74,619.3	7,090	243,839.9	22,728
SNAP Ed	252.1	110.4	296.4	118.9	344.0	125.0	285	116	1,177.4	470.4
Food Distribution Programs	1,344.7	233.8	1,402.4	281.6	1,263.8	185.1	1210.5	225.1	5221.3	925.6
Emergency Food Assistance Program	616.7	77.8	630.8	81.6	531.7	72.7	547	74.6	2326.2	306.7
Purchase of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Distribution (section 32)*	422.8	128.5	446.1	169.7	389.6	81.4	357.2	126.5	1615.7	506.1
Department of Defense Fresh Program	50.0	5.0	65.0	5.2	50.0	6.2	50.0	7.6	215.0	24
Commodity Supplemental Food Program	155.1	15.9	165.1	18.9	198.5	18.7	208.9	18	727.6	71.5
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations	100.1	6.6	95.4	6.2	94.0	6.1	97.4	6	386.8	24.9
Fruit and Vegetable Promotion	72.5	5.0	110.3	7.7	158.0	10.8	165.0	11.2	505.8	34.7
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	72.5	5.0	110.3	7.7	158.0	10.8	165.0	11.2	505.8	34.7
Community Food Promotion	27.6	2.2	27.5	1.5	43.6	1.7	26.7	1.8	125.3	7.0
Senior Farmers Market Program	22.4	0.8	22.5	0.8	22.2	0.8	21.9	.9	89.0	3.4
Healthy Incentives Pilot	0.1	0.0	0	0.0	16.2	0	.1	0	16.2	0
Community Food Projects	5.0	1.3	4.5	0.6	4.5	0.9	4.7	.9	18.8	3.7
Healthy Urban Food Enterprise Development Center	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.8	0	0	0	1.3	.1
Other	2.8	0.1	7.5	0.5	2.9	0.2	2.8	0	16.1	.3
National and International Hunger Fellows	2.8	0.1	2.5	0.2	2.9	0.2	2.8	0	11.1	0
Hunger-Free Community Grants	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.3	0	0	0	0	5	.3

Source: EWG analysis of USDA documents, websites, awards information and communication with USDA staff

*2012 California data is estimated based on prior three-year average of purchases from California specialty crop vendors