



ESAP State Enrollment Data Collection Project

FINAL REPORT

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Andrew Gothro, Kelsey Chesnut, Mindy Hu, and Ronette Briefel

Submitted to:

Lisa Lanier, PhD, MPH
Director, Research
AARP Foundation
601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20049

Submitted by:

Mathematica
1100 1st Street, NE, 12th Floor
Washington, DC 20002-4221
Phone: (202) 484-9220
Fax: (202) 863-1763

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Executive Summary

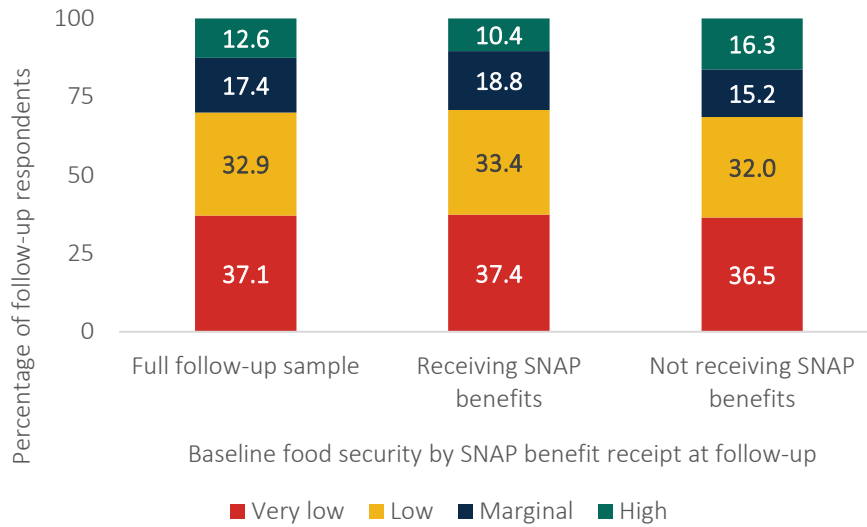
The purpose of AARP Foundation’s Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP) State Enrollment Data Collection Project is to provide critical information to AARP Foundation about the effect of receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits on food security among low-income older adults who apply for these benefits through ESAP. AARP Foundation awarded grants to organizations to enroll households with low-income older adults in SNAP through the ESAP process, as applicable, and participate in the ESAP State Enrollment Data Collection Project. This project uses a pre-post survey design to collect food security data at two points in time from low-income older adults who volunteer to participate. Grantees administered the pre food security survey (referred to as baseline) in person or over the phone by using an online tool after helping older adults apply for SNAP. Mathematica administered the post food security survey (referred to as follow-up) over the phone approximately six months after baseline survey completion. AARP Foundation provided grantees with initial training and ongoing support in baseline survey administration to help ensure data integrity.

Baseline data used in this report were collected between March 2019 and May 2020; follow-up data were collected between September 2019 and November 2020. Grantees helped interested and eligible low-income households with older adults apply for SNAP through the ESAP process. To be eligible to apply for SNAP through this process, all members of a household must be at least 60 years of age (or with a disability and at least 50 years of age) with no earned income. Low-income older adults were eligible to participate in the data collection project if they applied for SNAP through the ESAP process and had not received SNAP benefits in the last six months. Grantees obtained consent from older adult SNAP applicants for participation in the data collection project and administered the 10-minute baseline survey.

Mathematica conducted the follow-up survey five to seven months after baseline completion, notifying respondents in advance via mail shortly after the baseline survey and again about one week before the follow-up survey. After respondents completed the follow-up survey, Mathematica mailed them a \$10 gift card as a thank you. The response rate for the follow-up survey was 57.8 percent.

Among follow-up survey respondents (993 individuals), 30.0 percent were food secure at baseline (including 12.6 percent with high food security and 17.4 percent with marginal food security). Most respondents (61.7 percent) reported receiving SNAP benefits at follow-up, receiving a median SNAP benefit of \$59 a month. Respondents who received SNAP benefits had lower rates of baseline food security than those not receiving benefits (Figure 1).

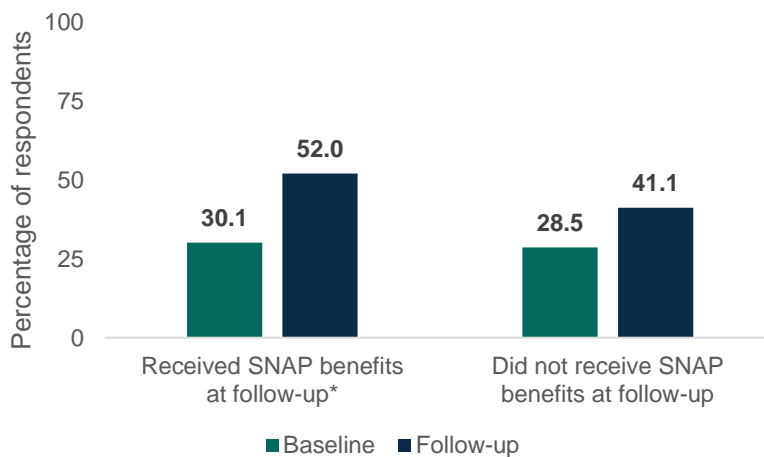
Figure 1. Baseline food security for SNAP benefit recipients and nonrecipients



Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Rates of food security improved from baseline to follow-up for both SNAP participants and nonparticipants, but the increase was much greater for SNAP participants (21.9 percentage points compared to 12.5 percentage points for nonparticipants) when holding constant demographic and other characteristics (Figure 2). This difference of 9.3 percentage points was statistically significant. Differences in marginal and very low food security were not statistically significant in the overall sample, although both SNAP participants and nonparticipants reported decreases in very low food security.

Figure 2. Percentage of follow-up respondents who reported being food secure at baseline and follow-up, by SNAP benefit receipt at follow-up



Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

These effects were likely driven in part by the federal government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic, which spread across the United States beginning in March 2020, prompted Congress to pass the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) on March 18, 2020. This law temporarily increased SNAP benefits for all participating households to the maximum benefit level for each household size. Beginning in April 2020, SNAP benefits increased to \$194 a month for one-person households and \$355 a month for two-person households. We compared outcomes for respondents interviewed before the extra benefits went into effect to those interviewed after they were in place. SNAP benefits for the first group were quite low, with a median benefit of \$20 a month. The effect of these benefits on food security was modest. The evidence suggests that these benefits largely moved respondents from low to marginal food security. There was no effect on very low food security. By contrast, respondents who likely received the extra benefits reported much higher benefit levels—a median of \$92 a month. They saw much greater effects on food security, including declines in the incidence of very low food security and increases in the incidence of high food security.

These results underscore the importance of the *amount* of SNAP benefits received when seeking improvements to food security. The evidence this study provides is consistent with prior research showing that improvements in food security due to SNAP benefit receipt depend on the amount of the benefits. The proportion of the sample whose follow-up data collection likely occurred before respondents received the extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits might better reflect the effect of these benefits on food security in a typical policy environment for the target population of this study. The amount of SNAP benefits participants receive depends on their circumstances. Applicants—and organizations assisting them—can maximize the benefits they receive by claiming all income deductions available to them. Beyond that, further permanent increases in benefit levels would require action from Congress.

This analysis, which uses a difference-in-differences design and statistical controls, isolates the effect SNAP benefit receipt had on changes in food security. Because the comparison group (respondents who did not receive SNAP benefits) was not randomly determined, the study cannot demonstrate that SNAP participation *caused* changes in outcomes, but it does provide strong suggestive evidence that receiving these benefits improved recipients’ food security.

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I. Background

This final report for the Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP) Data Collection Project examines the baseline and follow-up data from survey Waves 1–8, presenting the effects of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit and other food assistance receipt on changes in food security. Section I of the report provides background on the data collection project and grantees. Section II describes the data collection and analysis methods for the baseline and follow-up surveys. Section III provides results of analyses of survey Waves 1–8. Section IV discusses implications for future research. The appendices include technical details and supplemental data tables.

AARP Foundation’s ESAP State Enrollment Data Collection Project provides critical information about the effect of receiving federal SNAP benefits on the food security among low-income older adults who apply for these benefits through ESAP. ESAP allows states that have requested and been approved for a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) SNAP waiver to streamline the SNAP application and recertification process specifically for households comprising only members who are at least age 60 years of age (or have a disability and at least 50 years of age) and with no earned income (Benefits Data Trust and National Council on Aging 2017). The streamlined process helps more people benefit from SNAP, which could improve their nutrition, health, and economic security (Food Research & Action Center 2019).

ESAP includes several policies states can choose to implement, including a streamlined SNAP application form, using data matching to verify applicant information, allowing applicants to self-declare certain income or expense information rather than verifying the information through electronic sources or documentation, waiving the recertification interview, and lengthening the certification period to up to 36 months. Table A.1 in Appendix A indicates which ESAP components have been implemented by each state included in this study.

To increase enrollment in SNAP and better understand the effect of receiving SNAP benefits on the food security of low-income older adults who apply for these benefits through the ESAP process, AARP Foundation awarded grants to community organizations to enroll households with low-income older adults in SNAP and participate in the data collection project. Grantee participation in the project involved administering the baseline food security survey, which included obtaining respondent consent and contact information, either in person or over the phone, using an online tool. Grantee staff who administered the survey were required to participate in survey administration training provided by AARP Foundation. AARP Foundation evaluation team provided initial training on administration of the baseline survey and ongoing data collection support to help ensure fidelity to the data collection process and data reliability.

Low-income older adults were eligible to participate in the data collection project if (1) grantees screened them as likely eligible for SNAP, (2) they applied for SNAP through the ESAP process (with assistance from grantees), and (3) they had not received benefits in the six months before the baseline survey. Grantees informed prospective survey respondents about the data collection project using consent language approved by AARP Foundation’s Office of General Counsel. Respondents were required to provide consent to participate in the baseline survey and be contacted by Mathematica for the follow-up survey approximately six months after completing the baseline survey. Respondents who completed a baseline and follow-up survey received a \$10 gift card to thank them for their participation in the data collection project.

Grantees administered baseline surveys in English and Spanish¹ in person or over the phone from March 5, 2019 through May 29, 2020. Mathematica administered follow-up surveys in English and Spanish by phone from September 2019 through November 2020.

Results from analyses of baseline and follow-up survey responses will provide AARP Foundation with answers to the following questions:

- Do older adults show an increase in food security six months after first receiving SNAP benefits?
- Does receipt of additional food services affect food security among older adults?
- Do SNAP benefits influence food security differently among certain populations?

This report covers findings from all eight waves of the baseline and follow-up surveys. Table I.1 shows the sample sizes of Waves 1–8 by grantee.

Table I.1. Grantee sample sizes for survey Waves 1–8

Grantee	Location	Baseline sample size (Mar–Oct 2019)	Follow-up sample size (Sept 2019–Nov 2020)
INFO LINE of San Diego (2-1-1 San Diego)	San Diego, CA	39	20
Alameda County Community Food Bank	Oakland, CA	224	126
Benefits Data Trust	Philadelphia, PA	227	137
Feeding South Florida	Pembroke Park, FL	54	31
Feeding the Gulf Coast (serving AL and MS)	Theodore, AL	457	284
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank	Los Angeles, CA	138	71
Maryland Hunger Solutions	Baltimore, MD	13	11
Mexican American Opportunity Foundation	Montebello, CA	290	149
Project Bread – The Walk for Hunger	Boston, MA	16	11
Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services	Sacramento, CA	68	43
San Diego Hunger Coalition	San Diego, CA	65	30
San Francisco Marin Food Bank	San Francisco, CA	18	12
SC Thrive	Columbia, SC	105	67
Step Up Savannah ^a	Savannah, GA	3	1
Total sample size		1,717	993

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019 Baseline (n = 1,717) and 2019–2020 Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Sample sizes reflect the number of surveys determined to be complete (five cases were incomplete in the baseline survey, and six were dropped for being under 50 years of age; all follow-up surveys were determined to be complete).

^a Step Up Savannah only participated in grantee Cohort 1.

¹ Waves 1–8 included 181 respondents (10.5 percent) at baseline and 155 respondents (15.6 percent) at follow-up interviewed in Spanish.

II. Methods

In this section, we describe the data collection and analysis methods used to produce the findings described in this report.

A. Data collection methods

1. Baseline survey

The baseline sample consisted of older adults seeking assistance applying for SNAP benefits from community organizations receiving grants from AARP Foundation. Respondents learned about a grantee organization’s SNAP application assistance service either through a mailing from AARP Foundation or through the grantees’ outreach efforts. Grantees screened older adults for SNAP eligibility; if a respondent appeared potentially eligible, the grantee helped that respondent complete an application for SNAP. After the application was completed, grantee staff determined eligibility for the baseline survey. Respondents were eligible if they spoke English or Spanish and had not received SNAP benefits in the previous six months. Grantee staff told eligible respondents about the data collection project and asked them to provide consent to participate in the baseline and follow-up surveys. Table II.1 shows the number of individuals who were eligible and ineligible to participate in the ESAP process and the survey and the number among those eligible who did not consent to take part in the survey.

Table II.1. Number and percentage of individuals eligible for and consenting to study participation, Waves 1–8

	Number (%)
Screened for study eligibility	3,661 (100.0)
Ineligible for study	1,499 (40.9)
Currently receiving SNAP	735 (20.1)
Not eligible to apply for SNAP via ESAP process	611 (16.7)
Does not speak English or Spanish	153 (4.2)
Eligible for study	2,162 (59.1)
Did not provide consent to participate in the study	675 (18.4)
Provided consent to participate in the study	1,487 (40.6)
Completed a baseline survey	1,260 (34.4)
Did not complete a baseline survey	227 (6.2)

Note: Table excludes individuals served by Feeding the Gulf Coast because that grantee recorded screening and consent outcomes only for individuals who completed the baseline survey; therefore, numbers of ineligible and non-consented individuals were not available.

After respondents provided consent, grantee staff administered the 10-minute survey using Qualtrics, an online data collection system.² The survey included questions on demographic characteristics, food security, and participation in nutrition program services. The 10 food security questions were from the

² AARP Foundation and Mathematica learned at the end of the baseline survey data collection period that Feeding the Gulf Coast had altered its baseline survey procedures. The grantee mailed respondents paper versions of the survey approximately four weeks after the client submitted the SNAP application. Once the instrument was returned, grantee staff entered the data into the online data collection system.

U.S. Household Food Security Module adult module (USDA Economic Research Service [ERS] 2019c). Grantee staff also asked participants to provide contact information for a six-month follow-up survey.³ See Appendix D.1 for a copy of the baseline survey instrument.

Mathematica cleaned the baseline survey data to remove duplicate records and then assessed the level of missing data for each survey item (Appendix Table B.1). We used respondents' answers to survey questions to construct variables for respondent age group, race/ethnicity (Office of Management and Budget 2016), household size, and food security. Because ESAP households contain adults only, the food security status reflects the household overall as well as the food security among adults living in the household. The measure is not the status of a specific adult living in the household except in the case of one-person households. We defined the baseline survey as complete if the respondent answered at least two of the first three household-level food security questions. Of the 1,728 baseline surveys included in this report's analysis, 5 cases were incomplete and thus dropped from the baseline survey analysis file. An additional 6 cases were dropped because the respondents reported ages in their 30s or 40s and were apparently not eligible for the ESAP process. These dropped cases resulted in a total sample size of 1,717. In cases in which the respondent did not answer some of the questions about food security, we followed the federal guidelines for data imputation for the 10-item household and adult-referenced food security module (Bickel et al. 2000) to assign values to these items when possible. We imputed answers to food security questions with missing data for 131 cases in the baseline file. See Table B.2 in Appendix B for definitions and coding of the food security questions.

Survey eligibility

Low-income households that did the following:

- Applied for SNAP benefits through the ESAP process (and had not received SNAP benefits in the last six months)
- Spoke English or Spanish
- Provided consent for the baseline and follow-up surveys.▲

2. Follow-up survey

Each month during the baseline survey period, AARP Foundation provided a file of baseline survey participant contact information and a file of baseline survey data to Mathematica through a secure file transfer site. Mathematica matched cases between the two files using the participant phone number, which is the unique ID associated with each case. We reviewed records that appeared in one file but not the other to determine if there were sufficient other data to match the records. If not, we excluded the case from the follow-up survey. Once this process was complete, we mailed a letter on AARP Foundation letterhead to the respondents thanking them for participating in the baseline survey. This mailing also included a copy of the Agreement to Participate in a Survey, which grantee staff explained to respondents verbally before they took part in the baseline survey.

We grouped individuals into waves composed of those who completed the baseline survey over a two-month period and began fielding the follow-up survey five to seven months after baseline completion. We trained telephone interviewers in September 2019 to conduct interviews and repeated this training in March 2020 to accommodate larger follow-up sample sizes and Spanish-speaking respondents. Before fielding each wave of the survey, we compared sample contact information to a database of public records

³ Grantees obtained the participating household's address and at least two telephone numbers, if possible, for the follow-up survey.

to identify potential updated phone numbers. We also trained a subset of interviewers to conduct individual searches if after multiple call attempts we were still unable to reach the individuals for the follow-up survey. The week before we began attempting to contact respondents for the follow-up survey, we mailed an advance letter on AARP Foundation letterhead and another copy of the Agreement to Participate to baseline survey respondents. After respondents completed the follow-up interview, we mailed them a \$10 gift card as a thank you. Table II.2 shows the distribution of follow-up survey dispositions for those who completed the baseline survey.

Table II.2. Follow-up survey dispositions among those who completed baseline interview (N = 1,728)

	Number of baseline survey participants (%)
Follow-up interview completed	995 (57.6%)
Unlocatable	481 (27.8%)
Refusal	104 (6.0%)
Effort ended/unavailable during field period	128 (7.4%)
Ineligible ^a	20 (1.2%)

Note: Table includes two complete follow-up cases that were not paired with a baseline case. The individuals, who did not complete the baseline survey but did complete a follow-up survey, were excluded from the analysis.

^a “Ineligible” includes individuals who were deceased, needed a proxy (a member of the household to answer on behalf of the individual if unable to respond for him/herself) but none was available, or moved from the state where they had completed the baseline interview.

We used the same data cleaning procedures described in the baseline data section to clean the follow-up data. There were no incomplete records in the follow-up survey. We imputed missing food security data for 22 follow-up cases. See Appendix D.2 for a copy of the follow-up survey instrument.

B. Analysis methods

1. Analytical techniques

We produced descriptive statistics using Stata, Version 15.1; we show means and percentages with a standard error for each estimate for sample sizes of 30 cases or more. Descriptive results show baseline and follow-up results and the change in food security experienced by respondents, including how these experiences differed based on whether the respondent received SNAP in the follow-up period.

To isolate the role that SNAP or other types of food assistance played in changes in food security, we conducted difference-in-differences analyses. These analyses compared the change in food security among respondents who received SNAP benefits or other assistance in the follow-up period to the change experienced by respondents who did not. This approach controls for other factors possibly present even in the absence of receiving SNAP benefits—provided that those factors affect SNAP recipients and nonrecipients equally. We further isolated SNAP’s role in changes in food security by controlling for other measurable factors (such as demographic characteristics, whether the participant had ever participated in SNAP, and the timing of the baseline survey) that could affect food security in the follow-up period. We conducted a similar analysis to show the relationship between food security and receiving other sources of food assistance. See Appendix B for additional details on the analysis methods.

2. Analytical considerations

The analyses in this report isolate the relationships between SNAP and other sources of food assistance and changes in food security. However, they do not show a causal relationship between food assistance and changes in food security. The relationship can run in either direction: food assistance can increase a person's food security, but lower food security can also prompt someone to seek assistance. Additionally, receipt of SNAP benefits or other assistance was not randomly determined. All respondents applied for SNAP benefits. Those who ultimately received SNAP benefits are likely to be systematically different than those who did not. They might have lower income, more access to community or other resources, or higher levels of organization or motivation that caused them to successfully enroll in SNAP. If these differences are also correlated with food security outcomes, then the analyses in this report would pick up the role of those characteristics in addition to that of SNAP benefits.

As mentioned above, AARP Foundation and Mathematica learned at the end of baseline data collection that Feeding the Gulf Coast altered its baseline survey procedures, administering it by mail four weeks after the clients submitted their SNAP applications. The intention was to avoid interfering with the SNAP application process. The result was that many respondents knew the disposition of their SNAP applications when responding to the baseline survey, and some may have begun receiving benefits. The latter presents a potential challenge because it could depress the effect SNAP benefits have on food security. We assessed the effect of the altered baseline survey procedures through a sensitivity analysis in which we dropped Feeding the Gulf Coast cases from the difference-in-differences model and examined changes in the results. Based on this analysis, it appears that including respondents who may have received SNAP benefits at baseline dampened the effect of SNAP benefits on food security in the full sample. See Section III.C.2 for more details.

This pre-/post-study encompasses the time period in which the COVID-19 pandemic spread across the United States. The pandemic resulted in widespread quarantines and lockdowns, historic economic damage, and changes to many aspects of daily life, and could have affected respondents' food security. In addition to the direct effects of the pandemic, federal responses also could have affected food security. Two federal responses likely increased the financial resources available to most respondents included in this study:

- First, through the **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)**, passed on March 18, 2020, Congress authorized states to increase the SNAP benefits to all SNAP households eligible to receive less than the maximum benefit level for their household size (U.S. Congress 2020b; Shahin 2020).⁴ These increases—in many states distributed as separate emergency benefit allotments—brought all participating households up to the maximum benefit level. All 10 of the states involved in the ESAP State Enrollment Data Collection Project implemented emergency SNAP allotments starting in April 2020. Extra benefits were retroactive to March 2020 in all states except Maryland. All 10 states

⁴ USDA calculates SNAP benefits based on the department's Thrifty Food Plan, which identifies the amount of money families of different household sizes would require to obtain thrifty, nutritious meals for a month. These amounts correspond to the maximum SNAP benefit amounts participating households can receive. In fiscal year 2020, the maximum SNAP benefits were \$194 for single-person households, \$355 for two-person households, and larger amounts for larger households. Maximum benefit levels increased on October 1, 2020 to \$204 for single-person households, \$374 for two-person households, and larger amounts for larger households.

except Pennsylvania requested extensions of the approval to issue emergency allotments through November 2020.⁵

- Second, through the **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)**, passed on March 27, 2020, Congress provided economic impact payments to individual taxpayers with an adjusted gross income of less than \$75,000 (U.S. Congress 2020a). Payments were \$1,200 (or \$2,400 for married couples filing jointly with income less than \$150,000) and an additional \$500 for each eligible child. For adults receiving Social Security retirement or Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits, or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) began issuing automatic economic impact payments electronically on April 15, 2020, and by mail on a staggered basis starting in late April 2020 (U.S. Social Security Administration 2020).

Both policies could have increased food security for individuals in our sample. The increased SNAP benefits would have affected SNAP participants but not nonparticipants. Collecting data on SNAP benefit receipt and food security spanning a period that includes a substantial increase in SNAP benefit levels provides the opportunity to conduct a natural experiment assessing the relationship between SNAP benefit levels and changes in food security. To assess this relationship, we ran separate difference-in-differences analyses based on whether respondents' follow-up interviews occurred before or after states began issuing the extra emergency SNAP benefit allotments in April 2020. The results suggest that SNAP benefit receipt in either time period improved food security overall. However, SNAP benefits received before the COVID-19 response might have been insufficient to reduce very low food security and might have primarily moved recipients from low to marginal food security. By contrast, the extra COVID-19 benefits appeared sufficient to reduce very low food security and raise many more participants to high food security. See Section III.C.2 for additional details of that analysis.

The second policy—the economic impact payments—presumably affected low-income SNAP participants and nonparticipants equally, so the difference-in-differences analysis should control for it.

⁵ States submitted initial requests to USDA to start issuing emergency allotments in March or April 2020. To continue issuing emergency allotments each month, states must submit information on emergency allotment issuance dates, estimated number of affected households and estimated emergency allotment amounts, and confirmation of ongoing COVID-19 impacts. Information on state waivers authorizing these policies is available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/covid-19-emergency-allotments-guidance>.

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III. Findings from Survey Waves 1–8

In this section, we describe the findings from all eight survey waves, including demographics, descriptive outcomes, and regression-adjusted difference-in-differences results.

A. Sample demographics

As shown in Table III.1, the average age in the baseline sample for survey Waves 1–8 was 71.8 years of age. Most respondents were at least 70 years of age, with 33.8 percent ages 70–79 and 21.8 percent at least 80 years of age. Smaller numbers were at least 90 years of age or 50–59 years of age with a disability. Most respondents were female (71.6 percent). Nearly a third of the sample was Hispanic, with non-Hispanic White and non-Hispanic Black respondents making up about 30 percent of the sample, respectively (30.3 and 29.9 percent). Table C.1 in Appendix C shows additional race and ethnicity demographics by follow-up survey status. Most households contained only one member (69.6 percent). Just under half (49.0 percent) of the baseline sample lived in California, with Mississippi and Alabama as the next two most common states (13.8 and 12.8 percent).⁶

Table III.1. Baseline sample demographics, by follow-up survey status, Waves 1–8

Respondent characteristic	Mean (SE) or percentage (SE)		
	Full baseline sample	Sample with follow-up data	Sample with no follow-up data
Age (years) (n = 1,638)	71.8 (0.22)	72.2 (0.29)	71.3 (0.36)
Age group (n = 1,638)			
50–59 years of age ^a	4.8 (0.01)	3.7 (0.01)	6.3 (0.01)
60–69 years of age	39.6 (0.01)	38.9 (0.02)	40.6 (0.02)
70–79 years of age	33.8 (0.01)	35.3 (0.02)	31.8 (0.02)
80–89 years of age	18.9 (0.01)	19.2 (0.01)	18.5 (0.01)
90+ years of age	2.9 (0.01)	2.9 (0.01)	2.9 (0.01)
Gender (n = 1,706)			
Female	71.6 (0.01)	72.2 (0.01)	70.9 (0.02)
Male	28.1 (0.01)	27.5 (0.01)	29.0 (0.02)
Transgender or self-described	0.2 (0.00)	0.3 (0.00)	0.1 (0.00)
Race/ethnicity^b (n = 1,487)			
Hispanic	31.9 (0.01)	28.8 (0.02)	36.0 (0.02)
Non-Hispanic White	30.3 (0.01)	33.4 (0.02)	26.0 (0.02)
Non-Hispanic Black	29.9 (0.01)	31.9 (0.02)	27.1 (0.02)
Non-Hispanic multiracial/other	8.0 (0.01)	5.9 (0.01)	10.9 (0.01)
Household size^c (n = 1,697)			
1 member	69.6 (0.01)	69.9 (0.01)	69.1 (0.02)
2 or more members	30.4 (0.01)	30.1 (0.01)	30.9 (0.02)

⁶ See Table C.2 in Appendix C for baseline characteristics for respondents who provided follow-up data, by grantee, for grantees with at least 30 respondents in the follow-up survey.

Table III.1. (continued)

Respondent characteristic	Mean (SE) or percentage (SE)		
	Full baseline sample	Sample with follow-up data	Sample with no follow-up data
Household SNAP application state (n = 1,717)			
Alabama	12.8 (0.01)	14.0 (0.01)	11.2 (0.01)
California ^d	49.0 (0.01)	45.4 (0.02)	54.0 (0.02)
Florida	3.1 (0.00)	3.1 (0.01)	3.2 (0.01)
Georgia	0.2 (0.00)	0.1 (0.00)	0.3 (0.00)
Maryland	5.9 (0.01)	6.3 (0.01)	5.2 (0.01)
Massachusetts	0.9 (0.00)	1.1 (0.00)	0.7 (0.00)
Mississippi	13.8 (0.01)	14.6 (0.01)	12.7 (0.01)
Pennsylvania	8.1 (0.01)	8.6 (0.01)	7.5 (0.01)
South Carolina	6.1 (0.01)	6.7 (0.01)	5.2 (0.01)
North Carolina	0.0 (0.00)	0.0 (0.00)	0.0 (0.00)
Total sample size	1,717	993	724

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

^a Individuals can qualify for ESAP if they are 50–59 years of age with a disability.

^b Respondents could select one or more race categories. See Table C.1 in Appendix C for statistics on the separate Hispanicity and race variables.

^c Household size refers to the respondent and number of people financially supported by the household's income.

^d Seven of the 14 grantees were based in California.

SE = standard error.

We completed follow-up surveys for 993 of 1,717 Wave 1–8 respondents, resulting in a response rate of 57.8 percent. Demographic characteristics of respondents who completed the follow-up survey were similar to those who did not complete it, with a few exceptions. Follow-up survey respondents were more likely to be at least 70 years of age and female than respondents without follow-up data. Hispanic respondents made up a smaller share of the sample with follow-up data (28.8 percent) than they did of the sample without follow-up data (36.0 percent). Non-Hispanic Black and Non-Hispanic White respondents made up larger shares of respondents with follow-up data. A smaller proportion of follow-up survey respondents lived in California (45.4 percent) than those who did not respond to the follow-up survey (54.0 percent).

Baseline food security levels were quite low. A little more than a quarter of households were classified as highly or marginally food secure (11.3 and 16.3 percent, respectively, Table III.2). The remaining 72.5 percent of respondents were classified as having low or very low food security (33.6 and 38.9 percent, respectively). Baseline food security was higher among those who responded to the follow-up survey (30.0 percent showed high or marginal food security) than among those who did not (24.2 percent showed high or marginal food security).⁷ Although low, these baseline food security levels are consistent with findings from the Hunger in America 2014 study by Feeding America, in which 76 percent of Feeding America client households with older adults were food insecure (Weinfield et al. 2014). The population

⁷ See Tables C.3a and C.3b in Appendix C for food security prevalence at baseline and follow-up, by grantee, for grantees with at least 30 follow-up survey respondents participating in SNAP.

for this project is similar, in that it consists of households seeking assistance from community-based organizations.

Table III.2. Baseline food security, by follow-up survey status

Food security category	Percentage (SE)		
	Full sample	Sample with follow-up data	Sample with no follow-up data
High	11.3 (0.01)	12.6 (0.01)	9.5 (0.01)
Marginal	16.3 (0.01)	17.4 (0.01)	14.7 (0.01)
Low	33.6 (0.01)	32.8 (0.01)	34.7 (0.02)
Very low	38.9 (0.01)	37.2 (0.02)	41.1 (0.02)
Total sample size	1,703	988	715

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

SE = standard error.

This population likely is not representative of low-income older adults overall, or even all people applying to SNAP through ESAP. The population was selected from low-income older adults who approached community organizations for assistance applying to SNAP—in some cases in response to outreach from AARP Foundation or the grantees. These individuals could differ from other individuals applying to SNAP through ESAP using other methods. For example, people who apply online might be more comfortable with computers or have friends or relatives who can assist them. People who apply directly with the SNAP office (either in person or over the phone) might differ from people who seek application assistance from community organizations. If any of these differences correlate with food security, the findings from this study might not be completely generalizable to other ESAP-eligible populations.

B. Food assistance receipt at follow-up

Among follow-up survey respondents, 61.7 percent reported receiving SNAP in the previous six months (Table III.3). The follow-up survey asked respondents to voluntarily report their SNAP benefit amount. The median reported SNAP benefit was \$59 a month. However, reported SNAP benefit amounts varied considerably based on whether follow-up interviews were conducted before or after the extra COVID-19 benefits were implemented. Reported SNAP benefits rarely aligned exactly with the expected values under the FFCRA (under which all households should receive the maximum SNAP benefit level for their household size), but they were substantially higher during months in which states provided the extra COVID-19 benefits.⁸ The percentage of respondents who reported receiving SNAP benefits was similar

⁸ The universal policy of providing the maximum SNAP benefit to all households provides a rare opportunity to compare reported SNAP benefit receipt to actual SNAP benefit receipt. The lack of consistency between reported values and expected values based on state policies under FFCRA may be explained by several factors: First, the extra SNAP benefits were not distributed with the regular SNAP benefit in all states. Many states distributed them separately and at different times in the month. Second, the benefits in most states were retroactive to March 2020. Therefore, respondents could have received multiple payments that were inconsistent from month to month.

across both follow-up periods (62.2 percent during non-COVID-19 benefit months and 61.5 percent during COVID-19 benefit months), but the median reported SNAP benefit was much higher during COVID-19 benefit months (\$92) compared to non-COVID-19 benefit months (\$20). About half (48.3 percent) of respondents in COVID-19 benefit months reported receiving at least \$100 per month, compared to just 15.6 percent of respondents during non-COVID-19 benefit months. Only about one-fourth (26.9 percent) of respondents in COVID-19 benefit months reported receiving \$16 or less per month, compared to nearly half (45.9 percent) of respondents receiving less than \$16 per month in non-COVID-19 benefit months.⁹

Table III.3. SNAP benefit receipt at follow-up

	Percentage (SE) or dollars		
	Full sample (n = 987)	Non-COVID-19 benefit months (n = 249)	COVID-19 benefit months (n = 738)
Percentage of follow-up respondents reporting receiving SNAP benefits since baseline	61.7 (0.02)	62.2 (0.03)	61.5 (0.02)
Percentage of SNAP participants reporting receiving (n = 529):			
\$16 or less ^a	31.8 (0.02)	45.9 (0.04)	26.9 (0.02)
\$17–\$49	15.6 (0.02)	28.9 (0.04)	10.9 (0.02)
\$50–\$99	12.9 (0.01)	9.6 (0.03)	14.0 (0.02)
\$100–\$199	33.1 (0.02)	11.9 (0.03)	40.4 (0.02)
\$200 or more	6.8 (0.01)	3.7 (0.02)	7.9 (0.01)
Minimum benefit amount received (\$)	6	13	6
Median benefit amount received (\$)	59	20	92
Maximum benefit amount received (\$)	509	480	509

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Non-COVID-19 benefit months were included in follow-up surveys conducted from September 2019 through March 2020 for all states except Maryland. For Maryland, they also included April 2020. COVID-19 benefit months began in April 2020 for most states (May 2020 for Maryland) and ran through October 2020 for this report. Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

^a Some respondents in one or two-person households reporting less than \$16—which is the minimum SNAP benefit level for households containing one or two people—likely reported approximate benefit amounts.

SE = standard error.

The remaining 38.3 percent of follow-up respondents reported not participating in SNAP in the previous six months (Table III.4). Of these, more than half (52.6 percent) reported that they did not qualify for SNAP, most commonly because their income was too high (28.9 percent of respondents who did not receive SNAP). A few respondents mentioned not qualifying because they were employed.

Respondent uncertainty about their benefit levels is understandable under these circumstances. Reported SNAP benefit levels in this report should be interpreted cautiously.

⁹ Sixteen dollars is the minimum benefit level for households containing one or two people and is a common benefit level for older adult SNAP participants. Some respondents in one or two-person households reporting less than \$16 likely reported approximate benefit amounts. Fifteen dollars was a common response.

Table III.4. Reasons for not participating in SNAP

	Percentage (SE)
Percentage of follow-up respondents reporting not receiving SNAP benefits since baseline (n =869)	38.3 (0.02)
Among those who have not received SNAP benefits since baseline, reported reasons why not ^a (n = 291)	
Did not complete eligibility interview	5.5 (0.01)
Did not submit required documentation	21.3 (0.02)
Other ^b	77.7 (0.02)
Did not hear back from SNAP office	11.7 (0.02)
Benefit not high enough ^c	1.4 (0.01)
Transportation barriers	0.7 (0.00)
Did not qualify	52.6 (0.03)
Income too high to qualify	28.9 (0.03)
Employed	1.7 (0.01)
Other or unspecified	22.3 (0.02)

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

^a Respondents could select more than one reason. Therefore, percentages sum to more than 100.

^b Respondents were prompted to specify a reason when they selected “other.” We back-coded most of these responses to the four reasons indented under the “other” row.

^c Respondents provided responses such as, “bunch of paper work only gave \$16 so stopped” and “when I saw how much it was, it would only buy ramen noodles and it wasn't worth it, so I canceled it,” suggesting it was not worth completing the process for only a small benefit amount.

SE = standard error.

Other follow-up respondents reported not completing the application process. Among respondents not receiving SNAP benefits, 21.3 percent did not submit the required documentation and 5.5 percent did not complete the eligibility interview. Additionally, 11.7 percent said they did not hear back from the SNAP office regarding their application. Finally, a very small number of respondents said they did not receive SNAP benefits due to transportation barriers. It is possible they believed they needed to travel to the SNAP agency or back to the grantee location to complete the application process. Cases of applicants not completing the process could be opportunities for providing additional application assistance. Community organizations assisting individuals in applying for SNAP could reduce the incidence of incomplete application processes by following up with the applicant and confirming that the process was completed. If it was not, additional assistance might help applicants complete the process.

Table III.5 shows the number and type of services respondents included in the follow-up sample reported receiving through three types of food assistance in the 30 days before taking the baseline or follow-up survey. Patterns were similar from baseline to follow-up, although respondents were slightly less likely to access community food assistance at follow-up. Most respondents did not receive assistance through these programs at either timepoint (58.6 percent at baseline and 60.9 percent at follow-up). Most who did receive assistance used only a single source (30.5 percent at baseline and 27.3 percent at follow-up), with smaller shares using multiple services. Respondents who received SNAP benefits at follow-up used other sources of food assistance at slightly lower rates than did those who did not receive SNAP benefits—63.2 percent of SNAP participants used no other community food assistance compared to 57.3 percent of respondents who did not participate in SNAP. This finding suggests that, to some degree, respondents

used SNAP and other services as substitutes for each other. However, the patterns were broadly similar across the two groups.

Table III.5. Number and type of food assistance receipt at baseline and follow-up for respondents in the follow-up sample

	Percentage (SE)			
	Food assistance receipt at baseline	Food assistance receipt at follow-up		
		Full follow-up sample	Follow-up respondents receiving SNAP benefits	Follow-up respondents not receiving SNAP benefits
Number of community food assistance services received				
0	58.6	60.9	63.2	57.3
1	30.5	27.3	25.4	30.2
2	9.6	10.6	10.1	11.4
3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.1
Type of community food assistance services received				
Households that got food from a food pantry, food bank, soup kitchen, or shelter (in last 30 days) (n = 985)	32.9 (0.02)	29.9 (0.01)	28.7 (0.02)	32.0 (0.02)
Households that went to a community program or senior center to eat prepared meals (in last 30 days) (n = 986)	11.6 (0.01)	6.3 (0.01)	6.2 (0.01)	6.4 (0.01)
Households that received meals delivered to the home from community programs such as Meals on Wheels or any other program (in last 30 days) (n = 986)	8.8 (0.01)	15.8 (0.01)	14.6 (0.01)	17.7 (0.02)
Sample size	961	986	609	378

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

SE = standard error.

Patterns of the types of other food assistance use varied from baseline to follow-up. Getting food from a food pantry, food bank, soup kitchen, or shelter was the most common type of assistance respondents reported using (32.9 percent at baseline and 29.9 percent at follow-up). Patterns of using the other two types of assistance (eating prepared meals at a community program or senior center and getting meals delivered through Meals on Wheels or a similar program) varied notably across the two timepoints, however. At baseline, eating prepared meals at a community program or senior center was more common (11.6 percent versus 8.8 percent). At follow-up, however, respondents were more likely to report receiving meals delivered to their home (15.8 percent) than eating prepared meals at a community program or senior center (6.3 percent). This difference is likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which began between the baseline and follow-up surveys for many respondents.

At follow-up, patterns of the types of assistance used were similar across SNAP participants and nonparticipants, but slightly higher for the latter. Among SNAP participants, 28.7 percent reported getting food from a food pantry, food bank, soup kitchen, or shelter, compared to 32.0 percent of SNAP nonparticipants. SNAP participants and nonparticipants reported eating prepared meals at a community program or senior center at similar rates (6.2 percent compared to 6.4). Finally, 14.6 percent of SNAP participants reported getting meals delivered through Meals on Wheels or a similar program, compared to 17.7 percent of SNAP nonparticipants.

C. Changes in food security

In this section, we describe changes in food security from baseline to follow-up associated with receipt of SNAP benefits and other sources of food assistance. We begin by examining baseline food security by SNAP benefit receipt and then describe the changes each group experienced at follow-up.

1. Descriptive changes

Follow-up respondents who received SNAP benefits reported lower levels of food security at baseline compared to those who did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up. About 29 percent of respondents who received SNAP benefits at follow-up were food secure at baseline (including 10.4 percent with high food security and 18.8 percent with marginal food security, Table III.6). By comparison, just under a third of respondents who did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up were food secure at baseline (including 16.3 percent with high food security and 15.2 percent with marginal food security). Because respondents who participated in SNAP at follow-up had lower food security at baseline, they had more scope to improve their food security at follow-up.

Table III.6. Baseline food security for respondents with follow-up survey data, by SNAP benefit receipt at follow-up

Baseline food security category	Percentage (SE)		
	Full follow-up sample	Follow-up respondents receiving SNAP benefits	Follow-up respondents not receiving SNAP benefits
High	12.6 (0.01)	10.4 (0.01)	16.3 (0.02)
Marginal	17.4 (0.01)	18.8 (0.02)	15.2 (0.02)
Low	32.9 (0.02)	33.4 (0.02)	32.0 (0.02)
Very low	37.1 (0.02)	37.4 (0.02)	36.5 (0.02)
Total sample size	982	607	375

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages also exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

SE = standard error.

Descriptive analysis shows that respondents who participated in SNAP at follow-up were more likely to see improved food security from baseline to follow-up than those who did not receive SNAP benefits (43.2 percent versus 34.1 percent, based on the four categories of food security measures; Table III.7). They were also more likely to remain constant at either marginal or low food security than respondents

who did not receive SNAP benefits (18.5 percent versus 16.5 percent). Respondents who did not receive SNAP benefits were more likely to remain at high or very low food security. See Table C.4 in Appendix C for a more detailed breakout of these results.

Table III.7. Change in food security category from baseline to follow-up, by SNAP benefit receipt

Percentage of respondents whose food security was as follows:	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up		Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up	
	Number	Percentage (SE)	Number	Percentage (SE)
High at both baseline and follow-up	41	6.8 (0.01)	42	11.2 (0.02)
Improved in at least one category	262	43.2 (0.02)	128	34.1 (0.02)
Stayed the same, at marginal or low	112	18.5 (0.02)	62	16.5 (0.02)
Declined in at least one category	81	13.3 (0.01)	62	16.5 (0.02)
Was very low at both baseline and follow-up	111	18.3 (0.02)	81	21.6 (0.02)
Total	607		375	

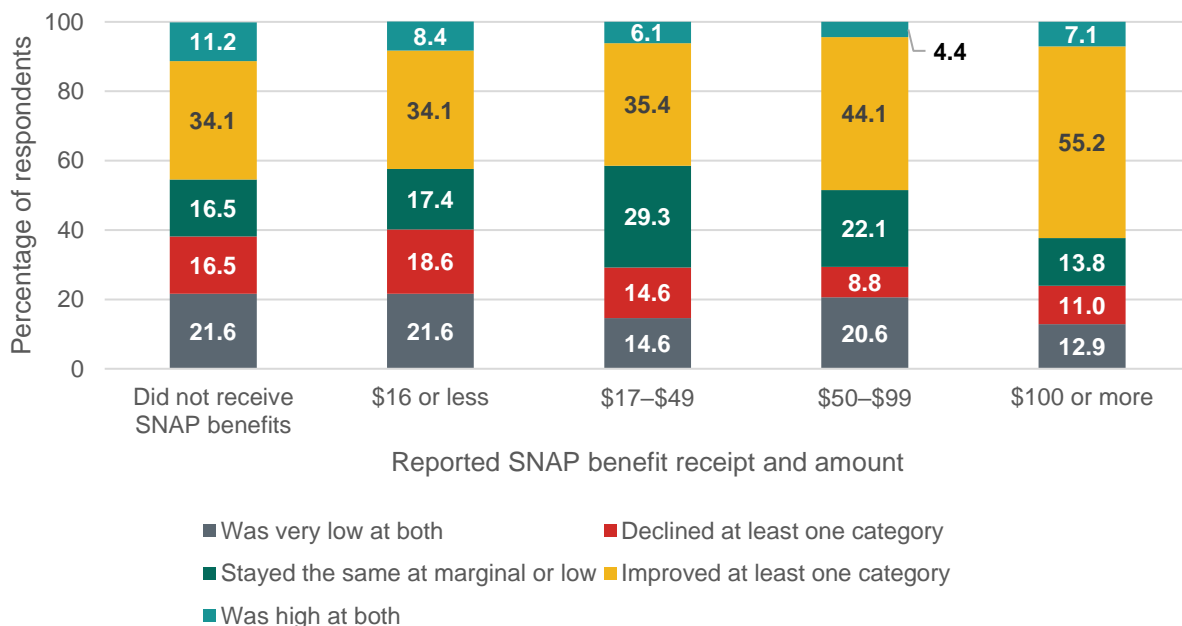
Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

SE = standard error.

Among follow-up respondents who received SNAP benefits, changes in food security correlated strongly with the amount of SNAP benefits they reported receiving (Figure III.1). Respondents who reported receiving \$16 or less in SNAP benefits had similar patterns in food security changes to respondents who reported not receiving SNAP benefits. Among both groups, 34.1 percent reported improved food security at follow-up. Similar shares of each group reported a decline in food security (16.5 percent for those not receiving SNAP benefits and 18.6 percent for those reporting receiving \$16 or less). Over a fifth of respondents in these two groups reported very low food security at both baseline and follow-up. Patterns were similar for respondents receiving SNAP benefit amounts between \$17 and \$49 a month, although a smaller share reported declining food security and a greater share reported remaining constant at a marginal or low food security level. See Appendix Table C.5 for respondent counts and standard errors associated with these percentages.

Figure III.1. Change in food security from baseline to follow-up, by SNAP receipt and benefit amount at follow-up



Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8. See Appendix Table C.5 for respondent counts and standard errors associated with these percentages.

Respondents reporting higher levels of SNAP benefits had much more positive changes in food security. Among those reporting receiving SNAP benefits between \$50 and \$99 a month, 44.1 percent reported improved food security and only 8.8 percent reported declining food security. About a fifth of this group reported very low food security at both time points, however. Among respondents reporting receiving \$100 or more in SNAP benefits, more than half (55.2 percent) reported improved food security, 11.0 percent reported declining food security, and 12.9 percent reported very low food security at both time points.

An important caveat on this descriptive analysis is that the respondents who reported larger SNAP benefits were more likely to have been interviewed during the months in which the extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits were available—that is how many of them received such large benefits. Because of the later timing, they therefore were also more likely to have received the \$1,200 economic impact payments. Some of the improvement in food security for this group could be due to the economic impact payments in addition to receiving higher SNAP benefits. The difference-in-difference analysis presented in the next section isolates the role of SNAP benefits from the economic impact payments other external factors.

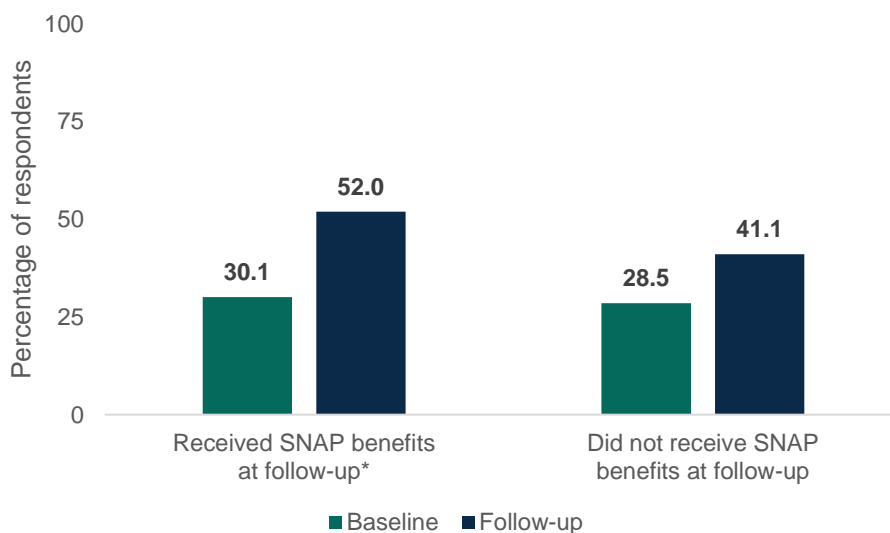
2. Effects of SNAP benefit receipt on food security

As the descriptive results above demonstrate, SNAP participants and nonparticipants both experienced substantial changes in food security from baseline to follow-up. The best method for assessing the role of SNAP participation in those changes is to compare changes among respondents who received SNAP benefits at follow-up to those who did not, using a difference-in-differences analysis. This technique

isolates SNAP’s role by subtracting changes experienced by a comparison group that did not receive SNAP benefits.

Figure III.2 shows regression-adjusted food security outcomes at baseline and follow-up for SNAP participants and nonparticipants. Both groups experienced increases in food security. However, the change was much larger for SNAP participants than nonparticipants (21.9 percentage points versus 12.5). This difference of 9.3 percentage points was statistically significant at the 0.1 level. Differences in marginal and very low food security were not statistically significant in the overall sample, although both SNAP participants and nonparticipants reported decreases in very low food security (Table III.8).

Figure III.2. Percentage of follow-up respondents who reported being food secure at baseline and follow-up, by SNAP benefit receipt at follow-up



Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

Table III.8. Effect of SNAP benefit receipt on food security

	Percentage (n = 899)						Difference
	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up			Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up			
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
Food secure ^a	30.1	52.0	21.9	28.5	41.1	12.5	9.3*
Marginal food security	18.6	22.5	3.9	14.4	15.2	0.8	3.0
Very low food security	37.4	26.3	-11.1	39.7	32.4	-7.3	-3.7

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don’t know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

Table III.8. (continued)

^a Includes high and marginal food security.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the federal government’s response to it, as described in Section II.B.2, might have affected these results. We ran difference-in-differences analyses separately based on whether respondents’ follow-up interview reference periods likely reflected the increase to the maximum SNAP benefit states enacted in March or April 2020. The relationship between SNAP benefit receipt and food security overall was similar for these two groups: the effect was 9.5 percentage points for respondents not affected by the COVID-19 response and 9.3 percentage points for the group that likely received the extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits (Table III.9).¹⁰ These effects are similar in size to that of the overall sample (9.3 percentage points, Table III.8), but only the group receiving the extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits had a statistically significant effect (at the 0.1 level).

Table III.9. Effect of SNAP benefit receipt on food security, by receipt of emergency SNAP allotments due to Families First Coronavirus Response Act

	Percentage of respondents						
	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up			Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up			Difference
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
COVID-19 SNAP benefit policies not in place during follow-up (n = 224); Median reported SNAP benefit = \$20							
Food secure ^a	29.9	46.2	16.3	33.3	40.0	6.7	9.5
Marginal food security	16.5	24.6	8.2	18.8	14.3	-4.5	12.6*
Very low food security	34.8	28.2	-6.5	38.4	25.7	-12.7	6.2
COVID-19 SNAP benefit policies in place during follow-up (n = 675); Median reported SNAP benefit = \$92							
Food secure ^a	30.3	54.0	23.7	26.9	41.3	14.4	9.3*
Marginal food security	19.3	21.8	2.5	12.8	15.4	2.6	-0.1
Very low food security	38.4	25.9	-12.6	39.9	34.4	-5.5	-7.1**

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don’t know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Household size used to construct subgroups reflects characteristics at baseline.

^a Includes high and marginal food security.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

** Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

There were notable differences between these groups in the effects on marginal and very low food security, however. For the respondents who likely did not receive extra SNAP benefits due to COVID-19 before the follow-up survey, SNAP benefit receipt was associated with a 12.6 percentage-point increase

¹⁰ In addition to the extra SNAP benefits, the \$1,200 federal economic impact payments that went out to nearly all Americans in spring and summer 2020 also could have affected food security. Increases in food security were greater for both SNAP participants and nonparticipants during the COVID-19 policy period (23.7 and 14.4 percentage points, respectively) compared to the earlier period (16.3 and 6.7 percentage points, respectively). However, because the stimulus policy likely affected SNAP participants and nonparticipants equally, the difference-in-differences analysis controls for it when isolating the effect of SNAP benefits on food security.

in marginal food security (statistically significant at the 0.1 level, Table III.9). By contrast, there was no effect on marginal food security for respondents who likely received extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits before completing the follow-up survey. Additionally, among respondents not receiving extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits, SNAP participation had no statistically significant effect on very low food security. For respondents receiving extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits, there was a 7.1 percentage-point reduction in very low food security (statistically significant at the 0.05 level).

These two groups reported substantially different SNAP benefit levels, with respondents not receiving extra COVID-19 benefits reporting a median \$20 a month and those who likely received the extra benefits reporting a median \$92 a month.¹¹ The results of this analysis suggest that the SNAP benefits respondents received before the COVID-19 response were insufficient to reduce very low food security and might have primarily moved recipients from low to marginal food security. By contrast, the extra COVID-19 benefits appeared sufficient to reduce very low food security and raise many more participants to high food security.

A final complication in interpreting SNAP benefits' effects on food security is the divergent data collection procedures that one grantee—Feeding the Gulf Coast—used when administering the baseline survey. As described above, Feeding the Gulf Coast waited approximately four weeks after clients submitted their SNAP applications to administer the survey, with the goal of waiting until the applications had been finalized. Therefore, many or most respondents might already have known whether their applications had been approved by the time they completed the survey—and some might have begun receiving SNAP benefits. We conducted a sensitivity analysis to see to what extent respondents from Feeding the Gulf Coast might have affected the overall results.

Table III.10 shows the effects of reported SNAP benefit receipt on food security separately for Feeding the Gulf Coast respondents and all other grantees. When excluding Feeding the Gulf Coast from the analysis, the effects of SNAP benefit receipt on food security increase slightly relative to the findings for the overall sample. The effect on food security is 11.1 percentage points (Table III.10), compared to 9.3 percentage points in the full sample (Table III.8). The result also has a higher level of statistical significance (at the 0.05 level rather than 0.1). Finally, when excluding respondents from Feeding the Gulf Coast, SNAP benefit receipt was associated with a 5.9 percentage-point reduction in very low food security (statistically significant at the 0.1 level). It seems likely that including baseline data collected at a time when some respondents might already have begun receiving SNAP benefits dampened the effect of SNAP benefits on improving food security apparent in the full sample. Dropping cases from Feeding the Gulf Coast would have eliminated a large proportion of the sample. The results of the sensitivity analysis suggest that the effect on food security described in this study represent a conservative estimate of the true effect of SNAP benefit receipt.

¹¹ As described in footnote 8, there was likely some uncertainty on respondents' part regarding exactly how much they received in SNAP benefits, especially during the COVID-19 benefit months. If the policies were enacted as intended, in April–September 2020 all SNAP participants would have received \$194 a month for one-person households, \$355 a month for two-person households, and higher amounts for larger households. Maximum benefits amounts increased slightly beginning October 1, 2020.

Table III.10. Effect of SNAP benefit receipt on food security, by grantee

	Percentage of respondents						
	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up			Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up			Difference
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
Feeding the Gulf Coast (n = 238)							
Food secure ^a	28.1	45.3	17.2	19.7	32.8	13.1	4.1
Marginal food security	13.6	20.3	6.8	8.8	11.0	2.2	4.6
Very low food security	42.3	34.0	-8.3	48.6	37.7	-10.9	2.6
All other grantees (n = 661)							
Food secure ^a	30.6	54.1	23.5	31.7	44.2	12.5	11.1**
Marginal food security	20.3	23.0	2.8	16.5	16.9	0.4	2.4
Very low food security	36.0	24.0	-12.0	36.0	29.9	-6.1	-5.9*

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Household size used to construct subgroups reflects characteristics at baseline.

^a Includes high and marginal food security.

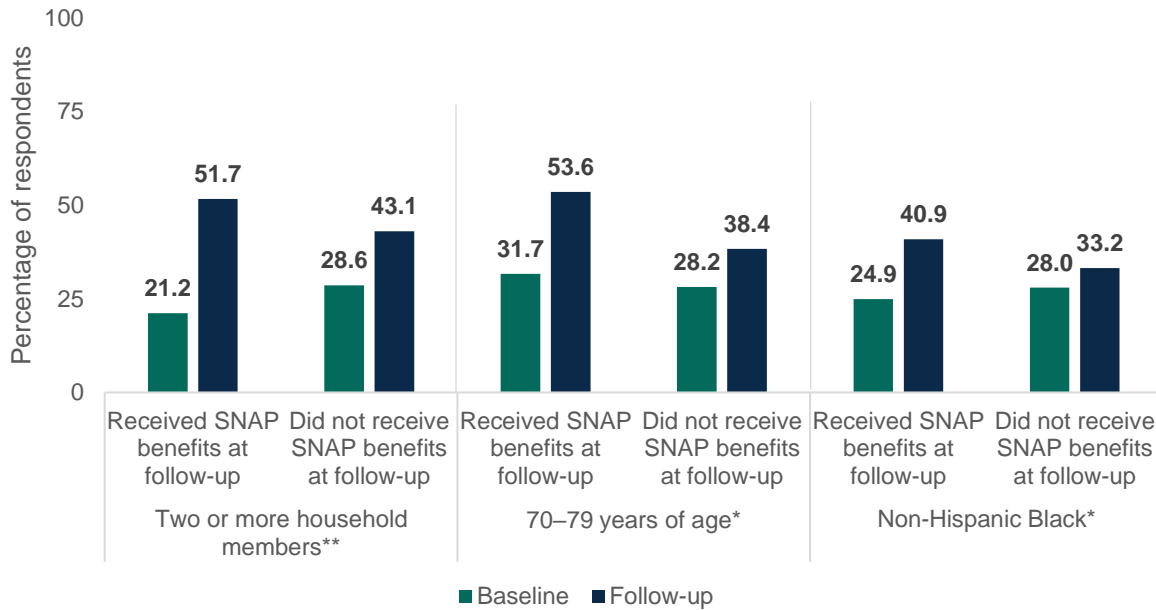
* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

** Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

We performed additional difference-in-differences analyses to isolate SNAP's role in changes in food security by demographic subgroup. Differences were not statistically significant for most subgroups, perhaps due to relatively small sample sizes. There were statistically significant differences for a few groups, however.

Three demographic subgroups saw statistically significant differences in the effect of SNAP benefit receipt on food security: households containing two or more members, respondents with 70–79 years of age, and non-Hispanic Black respondents. For all three groups, both SNAP participants and nonparticipants reported increases in food security prevalence. However, the increases were greater among SNAP participants than nonparticipants (Figure III.3). The difference between SNAP participants and nonparticipants was 16.1 percentage points among households containing two or more members and was statistically significant at the 0.05 level. The difference was 11.7 percentage points among respondents with 70–79 years of age and 10.8 percentage points among non-Hispanic Black households (both statistically significant at the 0.1 level).

Figure III.3. Selected subgroup results on the effects of SNAP benefit receipt on food security



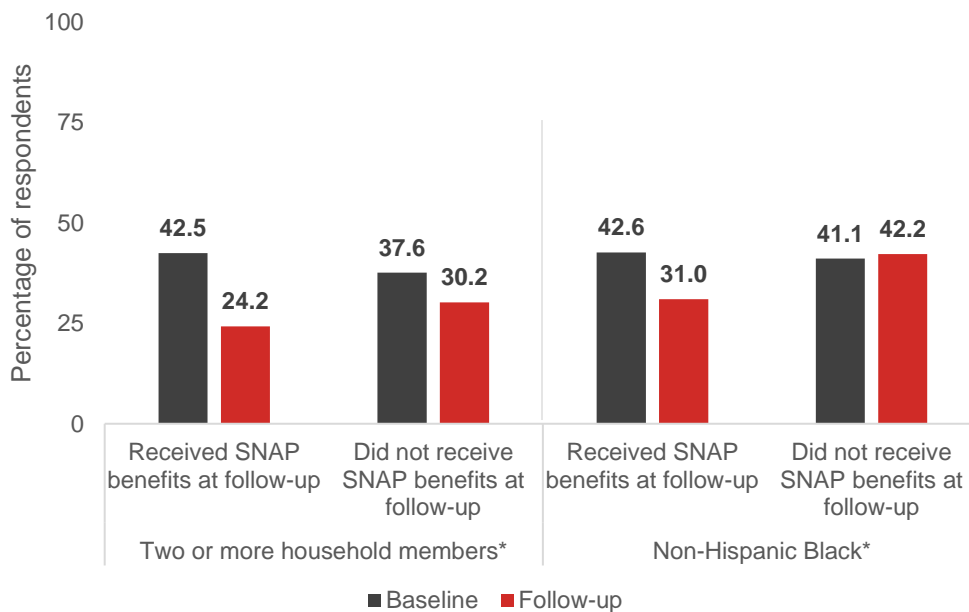
Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

** Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

For two of these groups, there were also statistically significant differences in the effect of SNAP benefit receipt on very low food security. Among households containing two or more members, SNAP participants reported much larger decreases in the incidence of very low food security than nonparticipants (Figure III.4). This difference was 10.9 percentage points and was statistically significant at the 0.1 level. Among non-Hispanic Black households, the rate of very low food security decreased for SNAP participants but increased slightly for nonparticipants. The difference between these groups was 12.7 percentage points and was statistically significant at the 0.1 level. See Tables C.6a through C.6c in Appendix C for additional details on subgroup analyses.

Figure III.4. Selected subgroup results on the effects of SNAP benefit receipt on very low food security



Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

Analytical discussion

This analysis does not provide causal evidence of SNAP’s role in changes in food security. The primary limitation of the analysis is that the comparison group (those who did not participate in SNAP at follow-up) was not randomly determined and could systematically differ from the treatment group (those who did participate in SNAP) in both measurable and unmeasurable ways. See Section II above for additional discussion of this caveat.

In the follow-up sample used in this analysis, there were measurable baseline differences that could be contributing to the results. We mention above that respondents who received SNAP benefits had lower levels of food security at baseline than those who did not receive SNAP benefits (Table III.6). There were demographic differences between the groups as well. Participants who received SNAP benefits at follow-up were younger on average, less likely to be Hispanic, and more likely to be non-Hispanic Black or live alone. See Table C.7 in Appendix C for demographic characteristics of the follow-up sample by SNAP benefit receipt.

Our regression model controls for age and household size but it was not feasible to control for baseline food security levels because baseline food security was used in calculating the dependent variable in the regression analysis. Additionally, the extent of missing data on the race and ethnicity variables prevented us from controlling for those characteristics, although it would have been desirable to do so, given the differences at baseline. These baseline differences could be contributing to the results to some degree. See Appendix B for technical details on the regression models.

The study was conducted during unusual policy circumstances, in which the federal government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic increased the financial resources available to study participants—particularly those receiving SNAP benefits. The proportion of the sample whose follow-up data collection occurred before respondents received the extra COVID-19 SNAP benefits might better reflect the effect of these benefits on food security in a typical policy environment for the target population of this study. SNAP benefits for this group were quite low, with a median reported benefit of \$20 a month. The effect of these benefits on food security was modest. The evidence suggests that they largely moved respondents from low to marginal food security. By contrast, respondents reporting much higher benefit levels—a median of \$92 a month—saw much greater effects on food security, including declines in the incidence of very low food security and increases in the incidence of high food security.

The federal response to COVID-19 has functioned as a natural experiment. The results underscore the importance of the *amount* of SNAP benefits received when seeking improvements to food security. The evidence this study provides is consistent with prior research showing that improvements in food security due to SNAP benefit receipt depend on the amount of the benefits. For example, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased SNAP benefits for all participants by 13.6 percent of the maximum benefit level for each household (for two-person households, the increase was \$44 in 2009 dollars; increases were higher for larger household sizes). Research on the effects of those increases shows statistically significant increases in households’ food security and decreases in very low food security (Nord and Prell 2011). Other work has similarly shown that receipt of a low level of SNAP benefits might not be enough to affect food security. In an evaluation of a demonstration project in rural Kentucky intended to reduce food insecurity among households with children, Mathematica found no statistically significant effects. The demonstration provided an extra \$20 a month in SNAP benefits on average, which appeared to be too small to affect food security (Gothro et al. 2019). The amount of SNAP benefits participants receive depends on their circumstances. Applicants—and organizations assisting them—can maximize the SNAP benefits they receive by claiming all income deductions available to them. Beyond that, further permanent increases in SNAP benefit levels would require action from Congress.

3. Relationship between other food assistance and food security

We used difference-in-differences analysis to assess the relationship between food security and receipt of food assistance other than SNAP at follow-up. Both groups of respondents—those receiving other food assistance and those not receiving it—reported substantial increases in food security. However, the increase in food security prevalence was much greater for respondents not reporting receipt of other sources of food assistance at follow-up (24.2 percentage points compared to 10.1, Table III.11). The difference between the two groups (14.1 percentage points) was statistically significant at the 0.05 level. Additionally, although very low food security decreased for both groups of respondents, the decrease was larger for respondents not receiving other food assistance at follow up. The difference between the two groups (5.0 percentage points) was statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

This analysis reveals a clear link between receipt of other food assistance and food security, but it likely does not shed light on the *effect* food assistance has on food security. The causality likely runs in the opposite direction: It seems likely that people either began using other sources of food assistance or continued using them if they faced food insecurity during the follow-up period. Similarly, people may have discontinued using other sources of food assistance if their sense of food security improved—either by enrolling in SNAP or for any other reason.

Table III.11. Relationship between other food assistance and food security

	Percentage of respondents (n = 901)						
	Received other food assistance at follow-up			Did not receive other food assistance at follow-up			Difference
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
Food secure ^a	30.1	40.2	10.1	28.9	53.1	24.2	-14.1**
Marginal food security	16.8	16.0	-0.8	17.1	21.9	4.8	-5.6
Very low food security	39.8	32.7	-7.1	37.6	25.6	-12.1	5.0*

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

^a Includes high and marginal food security.

* Difference in outcome between other food assistance recipients and nonrecipients is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

** Difference in outcome between other food assistance recipients and nonrecipients is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

Analytical discussion

The analysis of receipt of other food assistance differs from the analysis of SNAP benefit receipt in several important respects. First, respondents could receive other food assistance in both the baseline and follow-up periods, whereas they could have participated in SNAP only during the follow-up period. Second, the measure used for SNAP participation reflected any participation within the previous six months. By contrast, the measure for receipt of other food assistance covered only the previous 30 days. Finally, it is possible that people use other food assistance on an ad hoc basis as needed. That is, they may be more likely to use these services when facing food insecurity.

Given these considerations, it is important to refrain from viewing these results as illustrating the effect of food assistance on food security. Instead, the results may provide useful information on how changes in food security relate to uses of community food assistance.

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IV. Implications for Future Research

The findings from this study point to a range of opportunities for future research. The timing of the data collection effort—which began prior to COVID-19 and extended more than six months into the pandemic—offers an opportunity to examine how the pandemic affected respondents in areas covered by the surveys. The analysis in this report describes how the pandemic and the federal response to it affected food security. It also indirectly highlighted changes in community food assistance use (by showing different patterns at baseline and follow-up on use of prepared meals versus home delivery of meals). Additional analysis could pinpoint these shifts more directly.

Second, additional research could shed light on the interaction of food security, SNAP participation, and use of other sources of food assistance. This study identified strong correlations between these. However, the likely causal mechanisms the evidence pointed to differed sharply between SNAP participation and use of community food assistance. This was due the study design: All respondents expressed interest in participating in SNAP by applying at baseline, but only some ultimately received benefits. Because all applied, these two groups constituted a reasonable comparison for the effect of SNAP participation on food security. By contrast, respondents self-selected into the group who received other sources of community food assistance. As a result, receipt of those services was strongly negatively correlated with improved food security—because people used them when they faced food insecurity. Additional descriptive analysis using the data collected for this study could provide additional indications of the relationship between these factors. Such analysis could also inform new data collection efforts that could help disentangle these relationships.

Finally, many households participate in SNAP and yet still face food insecurity. Examining the characteristics of these households could help community assistance organizations target additional assistance that might be needed to improve their food security. Many households in this study who received SNAP benefits but whose food security did not improve received only the minimum SNAP benefit available to one or two-person households (\$16 a month). Households receiving very low SNAP benefits are less likely to see substantial improvements to their food security as a result. The incidence of receiving low SNAP benefits—and the accompanying modest effects on food security—will likely return as the federal response to COVID-19 ends.

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Appendix A:

State Elderly Simplified Application Project Policies

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Table A.1. State Elderly Simplified Application Project policies

State	Most recent renewal date	36-month certification period	Recertification interview waiver	Simplified application	Simplified verification
Alabama	2017	X	X	X	X
California	2017	X	X		X
Florida	2018		X	X	X
Georgia	2017		X		X
Massachusetts	2018	X	X		
Maryland	2016	X	X		X
Mississippi	2017	X	X		X
North Carolina	2019	X	X	X	X
Pennsylvania	2016	X	X	X	X
South Carolina	2017		X		X

Sources: Information for Alabama, Florida, and Pennsylvania is based on Levin et al. 2020. Information for California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina is based on data from state websites (see references list) and Benefits Data Trust and National Council on Aging 2017.

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Appendix B:
Additional Methods Details

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Table B.1. ESAP baseline and follow-up surveys (Waves 1–8), missing data by variable

Survey question or constructed variable	Baseline survey		Follow-up survey	
	Don't know or refusal	Missing	Don't know or refusal	Missing
Age (calculated from reported birth year)	0	79	n.a.	n.a.
Currently receiving SNAP	n.a.	n.a.	0	7
Food from a food pantry, food bank, soup kitchen, or shelter in last 30 days	38	15	2	0
Food security status	14 ^a	0	0	0
Gender	3	8	n.a.	n.a.
Hispanicity	156	45	n.a.	n.a.
Home-delivered meals from community programs such as Meals on Wheels or any other program in last 30 days	35	17	1	0
Household size	6	14	3	0
Race	213	161	n.a.	n.a.
Race/ethnicity (constructed from race and Hispanicity)	173	57	n.a.	n.a.
Reason not receiving SNAP	n.a.	n.a.	97	0
Received SNAP in previous 6 months	n.a.	n.a.	6	0
SNAP benefit level	n.a.	n.a.	31	6
Went to community program or senior center to eat prepared meals in last 30 days	36	18	1	0

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

^a Don't know, refusal, and missing responses were coded using the guidelines described by Bickel et al. (2000). This number represents the number of cases with imputed responses used for the food security classification.

n.a. = not applicable.

Table B.2. Food security measures: Definitions and coding

Food security classification	Definition	Scoring (number of reported food-insecure conditions out of 10 questions)
High food security	Households had no problems, or anxiety about, consistently accessing adequate food.	0
Marginal food security	Households had problems at times, or anxiety about, accessing adequate food, but the quality, variety, and quantity of their food intake were not substantially reduced.	1–2
Low food security	Households reduced the quality, variety, and desirability of their diets, but the quantity of food intake and normal eating patterns were not substantially disrupted.	3–5
Very low food security	At times, eating patterns of one or more household members were disrupted and food intake reduced because the household lacked money and other resources for food.	6–10

Source: Bickel et al. 2000; USDA Economic Research Service 2019a, 2019b.

Note: Food security status may also be categorized as food secure, meaning that the scoring indicated high food security or marginal food security (less than three reported food-insecure conditions) or food insecure (three or more reported food-insecure conditions) out of 10 questions. Food security was assessed for the 30 days before the baseline and follow-up interviews.

A. Additional details on regression methods

In our difference-in-differences analyses, we controlled for measurable baseline characteristics to the extent feasible to improve the precision of the estimated results. We used logistic regressions to estimate changes in binary outcomes using the following model:

$$(Y_{snap,1} - Y_{snap,0}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * Post + \beta_2 * SNAP + \beta_3 * POST * SNAP + \beta_4 Covariates + \varepsilon$$

In this model, Y represents the binary outcome being assessed (for example, the percentage of respondents who were food secure). It is shown separately for respondents who received SNAP at follow-up and those who did not (represented by $_{snap,1}$ and $_{snap,0}$, respectively). β_0 represents the model intercept.

Post is a binary variable that equals 0 in the baseline period and 1 in the follow-up period. *SNAP* is a binary variable that indicates *SNAP* benefit receipt at follow-up. *Post * SNAP* is an interaction term that estimates the effect of receiving SNAP benefits at follow-up on changes in the outcome. β_3 is therefore the coefficient that represents the program effect, and the statistical significance of this coefficient determines whether an effect was statistically significant.

We included an array of control variables, represented by the *Covariates* term in the equation. They include controls for the following characteristics:

- Baseline survey completion date
- Duration between baseline and follow-up surveys

- Reported receipt of SNAP benefits before the baseline survey (using the *eligibility* variable from the baseline survey)
- A binary variable indicating a household size of one (excluded from the subgroup analyses by household size because of collinearity)
- A binary variable indicating receipt of any other food assistance at baseline

We were unable to control for baseline measures of food security based on the structure of the difference-in-differences model because baseline food security was used in calculating the dependent variable. We also could not control for baseline measures of race and ethnicity, given the high level of missing values on those variables. Including them would have substantially reduced our sample size, excluding from the analysis those individuals who chose not to answer those questions and potentially introducing nonresponse bias.

When assessing the effect of receiving food assistance on changes in food security, we used a binary variable indicating receipt of other food assistance at follow-up in place of the *SNAP* variable in the equation above.

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Appendix C:
Supplemental Data Tables

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Table C.1. Baseline sample demographics

Respondent characteristic	Percentage (SE)		
	Full sample	Sample with follow-up data	Sample with no follow-up data
Ethnicity (n = 1,543)			
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin/descent	31.1 (0.01)	28.1 (0.02)	35.0 (0.02)
Race (n = 1,343)			
American Indian or Alaska Native	5.1 (0.01)	4.8 (0.01)	5.6 (0.01)
Asian	4.6 (0.01)	3.0 (0.01)	6.8 (0.01)
Black or African American	33.5 (0.01)	35.5 (0.02)	30.8 (0.02)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.7 (0.00)	0.4 (0.00)	1.2 (0.00)
White or Caucasian	40.4 (0.01)	42.2 (0.02)	37.8 (0.02)
Multiracial	2.3 (0.00)	1.9 (0.00)	2.8 (0.01)
Other	15.0 (0.01)	13.2 (0.01)	17.5 (0.02)
Sample size	1,343	772	571

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

SE = standard error.

Table C.2. Baseline demographics and SNAP participation for respondents with baseline and follow-up responses, by grantee

Characteristic	Mean (SE) or percentage (SE)						
	Alameda County Community Food Bank	Benefits Data Trust	Feeding the Gulf Coast	Los Angeles Regional Food Bank	Mexican American Opportunity Foundation	SC Thrive	Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services
Average age (years)	71.1 (0.87)	69.4 (0.83)	72.7 (0.50)	72.0 (1.06)	73.4 (0.73)	72.8 (0.93)	72.7 (1.29)
Age group							
50–59 years of age ^a	8.9 (0.03)	7.5 (0.03)	0.0 (0.00)	7.0 (0.03)	1.4 (0.01)	1.5 (0.02)	4.7 (0.03)
60–69 years of age	40.7 (0.04)	45.3 (0.05)	40.6 (0.03)	35.2 (0.06)	36.7 (0.04)	34.8 (0.06)	25.6 (0.07)
70–79 years of age	30.1 (0.04)	34.0 (0.05)	37.7 (0.03)	35.2 (0.06)	36.7 (0.04)	40.9 (0.06)	46.5 (0.08)
80–89 years of age	17.9 (0.03)	11.3 (0.03)	18.1 (0.02)	21.1 (0.05)	21.8 (0.03)	22.7 (0.05)	23.3 (0.07)
90+ years of age	2.4 (0.01)	1.9 (0.01)	3.6 (0.01)	1.4 (0.01)	3.4 (0.02)	0.0 (0.00)	0.0 (0.00)
Gender							
Male	29.8 (0.04)	34.3 (0.04)	25.1 (0.03)	25.4 (0.05)	30.9 (0.04)	23.9 (0.05)	20.9 (0.06)
Female	70.2 (0.04)	64.2 (0.04)	74.9 (0.03)	74.6 (0.05)	69.1 (0.04)	76.1 (0.05)	79.1 (0.06)
Race/ethnicity							
Hispanic	29.5 (0.04)	3.3 (0.02)	0.0 (0.00)	74.6 (0.05)	87.8 (0.03)	0.0 (0.00)	25.6 (0.07)
Non-Hispanic White	17.2 (0.03)	51.2 (0.05)	44.8 (0.04)	1.4 (0.01)	6.1 (0.02)	45.2 (0.06)	51.2 (0.08)
Non-Hispanic Black	44.3 (0.05)	39.8 (0.04)	55.2 (0.04)	18.3 (0.05)	0.7 (0.01)	53.2 (0.06)	14.0 (0.05)
Non-Hispanic multiracial/other	9.0 (0.03)	5.7 (0.02)	0.0 (0.00)	5.6 (0.03)	5.4 (0.02)	1.6 (0.02)	9.3 (0.04)
Percentage of households with:							
1 member	81.0 (0.04)	71.9 (0.04)	78.5 (0.02)	76.1 (0.05)	37.6 (0.04)	68.7 (0.06)	76.7 (0.07)
2 or more members	19.0 (0.04)	28.1 (0.04)	21.5 (0.02)	23.9 (0.05)	62.4 (0.04)	31.3 (0.06)	23.3 (0.07)
SNAP participation							
Percentage reporting SNAP benefit receipt at follow-up	68.3 (0.04)	72.3 (0.04)	62.1 (0.03)	69.0 (0.06)	45.9 (0.04)	35.8 (0.06)	79.1 (0.06)
Grantee sample size	126	137	283	71	149	67	43

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Statistics are reported for grantees with at least 30 respondents.

^a Individuals can qualify for ESAP if they are 50–59 years of age with a disability.

SE = standard error.

Table C.3a. Household food security prevalence at baseline and follow-up for SNAP participants, by grantee

Food security status	Percentage (SE)				
	Alameda County Community Food Bank	Benefits Data Trust	Feeding the Gulf Coast	Los Angeles Regional Food Bank	Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
Median SNAP benefit receipt at follow-up	\$88	\$170	\$16	\$106	\$100
Baseline					
High food security	5.8 (0.03)	16.2 (0.04)	12.8 (0.03)	4.1 (0.03)	4.4 (0.03)
Marginal food security	19.8 (0.04)	27.3 (0.04)	14.5 (0.03)	18.4 (0.06)	11.8 (0.04)
Low food security	25.6 (0.05)	30.3 (0.05)	35.5 (0.04)	42.9 (0.07)	32.4 (0.06)
Very low food security	48.8 (0.05)	26.3 (0.04)	37.2 (0.04)	34.7 (0.07)	51.5 (0.06)
Follow-up					
High food security	26.8 (0.05)	42.4 (0.05)	23.6 (0.03)	20.4 (0.06)	26.5 (0.05)
Marginal food security	19.8 (0.04)	22.2 (0.04)	22.4 (0.03)	22.4 (0.06)	25.0 (0.05)
Low food security	23.3 (0.05)	21.2 (0.04)	21.8 (0.03)	24.5 (0.06)	25.0 (0.05)
Very low food security	30.2 (0.05)	14.1 (0.04)	32.2 (0.04)	32.7 (0.07)	23.5 (0.05)
Grantee SNAP participants	86	99	174	49	68

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Statistics are reported for grantees with at least 30 respondents participating in SNAP.

SE = standard error.

Table C.3b. Household food security prevalence at baseline and follow-up for SNAP nonparticipants, by grantee

Food security status	Percentage (SE)				
	Alameda County Community Food Bank	Benefits Data Trust	Feeding the Gulf Coast	Los Angeles Regional Food Bank	Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
Baseline					
High food security	20.0 (0.06)	36.8 (0.08)	11.7 (0.03)	13.6 (0.07)	11.3 (0.04)
Marginal food security	15.0 (0.06)	15.8 (0.06)	9.7 (0.03)	13.6 (0.07)	12.5 (0.04)
Low food security	30.0 (0.07)	29.0 (0.07)	32.0 (0.05)	59.1 (0.11)	31.3 (0.05)
Very low food security	35.0 (0.08)	18.4 (0.06)	46.6 (0.05)	13.6 (0.07)	45.0 (0.06)
Follow-up					
High food security	22.5 (0.07)	50.0 (0.08)	23.6 (0.04)	13.6 (0.07)	28.8 (0.05)
Marginal food security	17.5 (0.06)	23.7 (0.07)	12.3 (0.03)	13.6 (0.07)	16.3 (0.04)
Low food security	27.5 (0.07)	10.5 (0.05)	24.5 (0.04)	45.5 (0.11)	30.0 (0.05)
Very low food security	32.5 (0.08)	15.8 (0.06)	39.6 (0.05)	27.3 (0.10)	25.0 (0.05)
Grantee SNAP nonparticipants	40	38	106	22	80

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Statistics are reported for grantees with at least 30 respondents participating in SNAP.

SE = standard error.

Table C.4. Change in food security category for SNAP recipients, detailed break-out

Percentage of respondents whose food security	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up		Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up	
	Number	Percentage (SE)	Number	Percentage (SE)
Was high at both baseline and follow-up	41	6.8 (0.01)	42	11.2 (0.02)
Improved	262	43.2 (0.02)	128	34.1 (0.02)
One category	144	23.7 (0.02)	77	20.5 (0.02)
Two categories	81	13.3 (0.01)	36	9.6 (0.02)
Three categories	37	6.1 (0.01)	15	4.0 (0.01)
Stayed the same, at marginal or low	112	18.5 (0.02)	62	16.5 (0.02)
Declined	81	13.3 (0.01)	62	16.5 (0.02)
One category	58	9.6 (0.01)	47	12.5 (0.02)
Two categories	18	3.0 (0.01)	12	3.2 (0.01)
Three categories	5	0.8 (0.00)	3	0.8 (0.00)
Was very low at both baseline and follow-up	111	18.3 (0.02)	81	21.6 (0.02)
Total	607		375	

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

SE = standard error.

Table C.5. Change in food security from baseline to follow-up, by SNAP receipt and benefit amount at follow-up

Percentage of respondents whose food security	SNAP benefit level at follow-up									
	Did not receive SNAP benefits		\$16 or less		\$17–\$49		\$50–\$99		\$100 or more	
	Number	Percent- age (SE)	Number	Percent- age (SE)	Number	Percent- age (SE)	Number	Percent- age (SE)	Number	Percent- age (SE)
Was high at both baseline and follow-up	42	11.2 (0.02)	14	8.4 (0.02)	5	6.1 (0.03)	3	4.4 (0.03)	15	7.1 (0.02)
Improved in at least one category	128	34.1 (0.02)	57	34.1 (0.04)	29	35.4 (0.05)	30	44.1 (0.06)	116	55.2 (0.03)
Stayed the same, at marginal or low	62	16.5 (0.02)	29	17.4 (0.03)	24	29.3 (0.05)	15	22.1 (0.05)	29	13.8 (0.02)
Declined in at least one category	62	16.5 (0.02)	31	18.6 (0.03)	12	14.6 (0.04)	6	8.8 (0.03)	23	11.0 (0.02)
Was very low at both baseline and follow-up	81	21.6 (0.02)	36	21.6 (0.03)	12	14.6 (0.04)	14	20.6 (0.05)	27	12.9 (0.02)
Total	375		167		82		68		210	

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Table C.6a. Effect of SNAP benefit receipt on food security, by household size

	Percentage of respondents						
	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up			Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up			Difference
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
One member (n = 631)							
Food secure ^a	33.4	52.1	18.7	28.5	40.0	11.5	7.2
Marginal food security	19.7	21.5	1.8	12.3	12.7	0.4	1.3
Very low food security	35.6	27.1	-8.5	40.8	33.5	-7.3	-1.2
Two or more members (n = 268)							
Food secure ^a	21.2	51.7	30.6	28.6	43.1	14.5	16.1**
Marginal food security	15.2	24.9	9.7	18.7	20.3	1.6	8.0
Very low food security	42.5	24.2	-18.4	37.6	30.2	-7.4	-10.9*

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Household size used to construct subgroups reflects characteristics at baseline.

^a Includes high and marginal food security.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

** Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

Table C.6b. Change in food security, by SNAP benefit receipt and respondent age group

Respondent age at baseline	Percentage of respondents						
	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up			Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up			Difference
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
50–69 years of age ^a (n = 389)							
Food secure ^b	22.5	43.4	20.9	13.9	31.2	17.3	3.6
Marginal food security	15.7	19.4	3.7	6.6	12.4	5.8	-2.0
Very low food security	44.4	34.0	-10.4	48.1	43.9	-4.2	-6.2
70–79 years of age (n = 315)							
Food secure ^b	31.7	53.6	21.9	28.2	38.5	10.2	11.7*
Marginal food security	18.0	23.1	5.1	16.7	17.4	0.7	4.3
Very low food security	38.4	23.9	-14.5	40.7	27.4	-13.3	-1.2
80+ years of age (n = 195)							
Food secure ^b	42.6	66.0	23.4	53.3	64.1	10.9	12.5
Marginal food security	25.6	27.5	2.0	22.5	17.1	-5.4	7.3
Very low food security	22.7	14.8	-7.9	21.4	19.2	-2.1	-5.7

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Respondent age used to construct subgroups reflects characteristics at baseline.

^a Includes 28 respondents who were 50–59 years of age with a disability.

^b Includes high and marginal food security.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

Table C.6c. Change in food security, by SNAP benefit receipt and respondent race/ethnicity

	Percentage of respondents						
	Received SNAP benefits at follow-up			Did not receive SNAP benefits at follow-up			Difference
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
Hispanic (n = 239)							
Food secure ^a	22.8	55.0	32.3	20.6	40.6	20.0	12.2
Marginal food security	18.0	27.0	9.0	12.4	19.9	7.6	1.5
Very low food security	38.9	23.3	-15.6	43.6	28.4	-15.2	-0.4
Non-Hispanic Black (n = 245)							
Food secure ^a	24.9	40.9	16.0	28.0	33.2	5.2	10.8*
Marginal food security	16.2	15.5	-0.7	12.4	7.2	-5.2	4.5
Very low food security	42.6	31.0	-11.6	41.1	42.2	1.1	-12.7*
Non-Hispanic White (n = 260)							
Food secure ^a	43.0	57.6	14.6	42.2	53.6	11.4	3.2
Marginal food security	25.7	22.0	-3.7	21.8	21.8	0.0	-3.7
Very low food security	33.0	25.3	-7.7	28.8	26.6	-2.2	-5.5

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data. Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data.

^a Includes high and marginal food security.

* Difference in outcome between SNAP participants and nonparticipants is statistically significant at the 0.1 level.

Table C.7. Baseline sample demographics for respondents with follow-up survey data, by SNAP benefit receipt at follow-up

Respondent characteristic	Mean (SE) or percentage (SE)		
	Full follow-up sample	Follow-up respondents receiving SNAP	Follow-up respondents not receiving SNAP
Age (years) (n = 944)	72.2 (0.29)	71.1 (0.37)	73.8 (0.44)
Age group (n = 944)			
50–59 years of age ^a	3.7 (0.01)	5.2 (0.01)	1.4 (0.01)
60–69 years of age	39.0 (0.02)	42.8 (0.02)	33.0 (0.02)
70–79 years of age	35.4 (0.02)	33.3 (0.02)	38.7 (0.03)
80–89 years of age	19.0 (0.01)	16.0 (0.02)	23.9 (0.02)
90+ years of age	3.0 (0.01)	2.9 (0.01)	3.0 (0.01)
Gender (n = 982)			
Female	72.2 (0.01)	72.1 (0.02)	72.4 (0.02)
Male	27.5 (0.01)	27.6 (0.02)	27.3 (0.02)
Transgender or self-described	0.3 (0.00)	0.3 (0.00)	0.3 (0.00)
Race/ethnicity^b (n = 850)			
Hispanic	28.8 (0.02)	26.4 (0.02)	32.6 (0.03)
Non-Hispanic White	33.5 (0.02)	34.3 (0.02)	32.3 (0.03)
Non-Hispanic Black	31.9 (0.02)	33.0 (0.02)	30.2 (0.03)
Non-Hispanic multiracial/other	5.8 (0.01)	6.4 (0.01)	4.8 (0.01)
Household size^c (n = 978)			
1 member	69.8 (0.01)	72.9 (0.02)	64.9 (0.02)
2 or more members	30.2 (0.01)	27.1 (0.02)	35.1 (0.02)
Household SNAP application state (n = 987)			
Alabama	13.9 (0.01)	14.8 (0.01)	12.4 (0.02)
California	45.5 (0.02)	44.7 (0.02)	46.8 (0.03)
Florida	3.1 (0.01)	3.9 (0.01)	1.9 (0.01)
Georgia	0.1 (0.00)	0.0 (0.00)	0.3 (0.00)
Maryland	6.4 (0.01)	8.5 (0.01)	2.9 (0.01)
Massachusetts	1.1 (0.00)	1.0 (0.00)	1.3 (0.01)
Mississippi	14.5 (0.01)	13.8 (0.01)	15.6 (0.02)
North Carolina	0.0 (0.00)	0.0 (0.00)	0.0 (0.00)
Pennsylvania	8.6 (0.01)	9.4 (0.01)	7.4 (0.01)
South Carolina	6.8 (0.01)	3.9 (0.01)	11.4 (0.02)
Total sample size	987	609	378

Source: ESAP Data Collection Project, 2019–2020 Baseline (n = 1,717) and Follow-Up (n = 993) Surveys, Waves 1–8.

Note: Percentages exclude missing, don't know, and refusal responses. Sample sizes may vary across tables due to missing data. Percentages exclude respondents without follow-up data.

^a Individuals can qualify for ESAP if they are 50–59 years of age with a disability.

^b Respondents may select one or more race categories. See Appendix Table C.1. for statistics on the separate Hispanicity and race variables.

^c Household size refers to the respondent and number of people financially supported by the household's income.

SE = standard error.

Appendix D.1:

Baseline Survey Instrument

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Baseline Survey Administration Guide and Script

Interviewer: From the drop-down menu, please select your organization or your affiliate organization.

Seleccione del menú desplegable su organización u organización afiliada.

- 2-1-1 San Diego
- Benefits Data Trust
- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- Feeding South Florida
- Feeding the Gulf Coast
- Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
- Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
- Project Bread-The Walk for Hunger
- Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services
- San Diego Hunger Coalition
- San Francisco Marin Food Bank
- SC Thrive

Interviewer: An older adult is eligible to participate in the survey if they are

- (1) eligible to apply for SNAP via the ESAP process AND have never received SNAP benefits.
OR
(2) eligible to apply for SNAP via ESAP process AND have not received SNAP benefits in the past 6 months.

Un adulto mayor es elegible para participar en la encuesta si

(1) es elegible para solicitar el SNAP (Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria) a través del proceso de ESAP (Proyecto de Solicitud Simplificada para Personas Mayores) Y nunca ha recibido beneficios del SNAP.

O

(2) es elegible para solicitar el SNAP (Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria) a través del proceso de ESAP (Proyecto de Solicitud Simplificada para Personas Mayores) Y no ha recibido beneficios del SNAP en los últimos seis meses.

Interviewer: Please select one option to indicate the participant's eligibility to participate in the survey.

- Participant has applied for SNAP via ESAP process AND has never received SNAP benefits.
El participante ha solicitado el SNAP a través del proceso de ESAP Y nunca ha recibido beneficios del SNAP. (1)
- Participant has applied for SNAP via ESAP process AND has not received SNAP benefits in the past 6 months.
El participante ha solicitado el SNAP a través del proceso de ESAP Y no ha recibido beneficios del SNAP en los últimos seis meses. (2)
- Participant is not eligible to participate in the survey, because they currently receive SNAP benefits. Note to Interviewer: Please thank the participant for their time. The survey will end, and a new survey will appear on your screen for the next participant.
El participante no es elegible para participar en la encuesta porque recibe actualmente beneficios del SNAP. Note to Interviewer: Please thank the participant for their time. The survey will end, and a new survey will appear on your screen for the next participant. (3)
- Participant is not eligible to participate in the survey, because they are not eligible to apply for SNAP via the ESAP process. Note to interviewer: Please thank the participant for their time. The survey will end, and a new survey will appear on your screen for the next participant.
El participante no es elegible para participar en la encuesta porque no es elegible para solicitar beneficios del SNAP a través del proceso de ESAP. Note to interviewer: Please thank the participant for their time. The survey will end, and a new survey will appear on your screen for the next participant. (4)
- Participant is not eligible to participate in the survey, because they are monolingual in a language other than English or Spanish.

El participante no es elegible para participar en la encuesta porque es monolingüe en otro idioma que no es inglés o español. Note to interviewer: Please thank the participant for their time. The survey will end, and a new survey will appear on your screen for the next participant. (5)

Interviewer script: I'm going to take a moment to tell you about an opportunity to participate in a brief survey for AARP Foundation. Your responses to the survey, along with responses from other individuals like you, will contribute to a better understanding of food access among older adults and will help inform AARP Foundation programs.

Quisiera hablarle brevemente sobre la oportunidad de participar en una breve encuesta de AARP Foundation. Sus respuestas a la encuesta, junto con las respuestas de otras personas como usted, ayudarán a que comprendamos mejor el acceso a los alimentos entre los adultos mayores y ayudarán a informar a los programas de AARP Foundation.

Note to interviewer: If the participant strongly states that they do not want to hear about the survey, please select NO to Agreement to Participate in a Survey.

AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A SURVEY

You are being asked to volunteer to participate in a two-part survey for AARP Foundation. The purpose of the survey is to help <state name of your organization> and AARP Foundation learn more about the effect that use of SNAP benefits has on food security. *[Interviewer note: If participant asks about the meaning of food security, you can tell them that food security means access by all members of a household at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. This is a definition from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.]*

If you decide to take part in the survey, you will complete the first part of the survey today and the second part in about six months. Each part of the survey should take no more than 10 minutes of your time. To thank you for your time, you will receive a \$10 gift card after completing the second part of the survey.

For the first part of the survey, I will ask you the questions. For the second part of the survey, a survey administrator from Mathematica, an organization collecting survey data on behalf of AARP Foundation, will contact you to ask you the survey questions by phone using the contact information you provide today. You may also receive communication from Mathematica to remind you about your participation in the second part of the survey. After you complete the second part of the survey, Mathematica will mail you a \$10 gift card using the mailing address you provide today.

Please be assured that your contact information and your answers to the survey questions will be accessible only to key staff at AARP Foundation and Mathematica who are working on this project. Your survey responses will not be linked to your name.

There are no costs to you to take part in this survey. Your decision to take part in the survey is completely up to you. Declining to participate will not affect the services you receive today or your eligibility for benefits. If you decide to participate in the survey now and later change your mind when you are contacted in six months, you will not be contacted again or asked for further information.

Please state YES if you volunteer to take part in this two-part survey. By stating YES, you are agreeing that you understand the information that I presented to you and agree to be contacted in about six months by Mathematica to complete the second part of the survey. You acknowledge that you will receive a \$10 gift card in the mail after completing the second part of the survey.

There are no costs to you to take part in this survey. Your decision to take part in the survey is completely up to you. If you decide not to participate, you will not have a loss of benefits to which you might otherwise be entitled. If you decide to participate in the survey now and later change your mind when you are contacted in six months, you will not be contacted again or asked for further information.

Please state YES if you volunteer to take part in this two-part survey. By stating YES, you are agreeing that you understand the information that I presented to you and agree to be contacted in about six months by Mathematica to complete the second part of the survey.

Se le está pidiendo que participe voluntariamente en una encuesta de dos partes para AARP Foundation. El propósito de la encuesta es ayudar a <state name of your organization> y a AARP Foundation a conocer más sobre el efecto que tiene el uso de los beneficios del SNAP sobre la seguridad alimentaria. [Interviewer note: If participant asks about the meaning of food security, you can tell them that “la seguridad alimentaria es el acceso de todos los miembros del hogar en todo momento a suficientes alimentos para llevar una vida activa y saludable”. Esta es una definición del Departamento de Agricultura de EE.UU.]

Si decide participar en la encuesta, completará la primera parte hoy y la segunda parte en unos seis meses. Cada parte de la encuesta tomará no más de diez minutos. En agradecimiento por su tiempo, recibirá una tarjeta de regalo de \$10 después de completar la segunda parte de la encuesta.

Para la primera parte de la encuesta, le haré las preguntas. Para la segunda parte de la encuesta, un encuestador de Mathematica, una organización que recoge datos de encuestas en nombre de AARP Foundation, se pondrá en contacto con usted para hacerle las preguntas de la encuesta por teléfono usando la información de contacto que usted proporcione hoy. Es posible que también reciba comunicación de Mathematica para recordarle sobre su participación en la segunda parte de la encuesta. Después de que complete la segunda parte de la encuesta, Mathematica le enviará una tarjeta de regalo de \$10 a la dirección postal que usted proporcione hoy.

Tenga la seguridad de que su información de contacto y sus respuestas a las preguntas de la encuesta solo serán accesibles para el personal clave de AARP Foundation y Mathematica que esté trabajando en este proyecto. Sus respuestas a la encuesta no estarán vinculadas a su nombre.

No hay ningún costo para usted por participar en esta encuesta. Es totalmente su decisión si desea o no participar en la encuesta. Negarse a participar no afectará los servicios que recibe hoy ni su elegibilidad para obtener beneficios. Si decide participar en la encuesta ahora y luego cambia de opinión cuando alguien se comunice con usted dentro de seis meses, no se le volverá a contactar ni se le pedirá más información.

Indique “Sí” si se ofrece como voluntario para participar en esta encuesta de dos partes. Al contestar “Sí”, usted está de acuerdo en que entiende la información que le presenté y acepta que Mathematica se comunice con usted en unos seis meses para completar la segunda parte de la encuesta. Reconoce que recibirá por correo postal una tarjeta de regalo con \$10 después de completar la segunda parte de la encuesta.

- YES - Participant volunteers to take part in the survey.
Sí - La persona se ofrece como voluntaria para participar en la encuesta.

.....
If YES, survey will begin.
.....

- NO - Participant does not volunteer to take part in the survey.
NO - La persona no se ofrece como voluntaria para participar en la encuesta.

.....
If NO, survey ends. Please thank the participant for taking the time to listen to the information about the survey. A new survey will appear on your screen for the next participant.
.....

Skip To: End of Survey If = NO - La persona no se ofrece como voluntaria para participar en la encuesta. Note to interviewer: Survey will end. Please thank the participant for taking the time to hear about the survey. A new survey will appear on your screen for the next participant.

IC. If YES to informed consent, please enter the information below.

Participant's initials: _____

Interviewer's initials: _____

Today's date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Your organization's name: _____

ID. Please enter the participant's 10-digit phone number with no dashes or spaces.

Note to interviewer: Please ask the participant to provide you with the best phone number to reach them.

End of Block: Informed consent

Start of Block: Participant ID

state. Please select the participant's SNAP application state.

- Alabama
- California
- Georgia
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina

End of Block: Participant ID

Start of Block: Household Stage 1: HH2-HH4

Transition into survey module. Please read the statements below to all participants who have consented to take the survey.

“These next questions are about the food eaten in your household in the last 30 days, since <state current day of last month> and whether you were able to afford the food you need.”

“Now I’m going to read you several statements that people have made about their food situation. For these statements, please tell me whether the statement was often true, sometimes true, or never true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days--that is, since <state current day of last month>.”

“Las siguientes preguntas se refieren a los alimentos consumidos en su hogar en los últimos 30 días, desde el <state current day of last month> y si usted tuvo recursos suficientes para comprar la comida que necesitó.”

“Ahora voy a leerle varias declaraciones que las personas han hecho sobre su situación alimentaria. Para estas declaraciones, dígame si la declaración ocurrió frecuentemente, a veces, o nunca para <usted/su hogar> en los últimos 30 días, es decir, desde el <state current day of last month>.”

Notes to interviewer:

- *If single adult in household, use “I,” “my,” and “you” in parentheses; otherwise, use “we,” “our,” and “your household.”*
- *Please do not read the response options “Prefer not to answer” and “Not sure” aloud. If a participant indicates they do not want to answer a question or are not sure, please select that response option.*
- *At any time throughout the survey, as needed, please feel free to restate any part of the Agreement to Participate in the Survey. For example, If a participant is hesitant about continuing to answer survey questions, you might need to reassure them that their responses will be kept confidential and their names will not be linked to their responses.*
- *If single adult in household, use “yo,” “mi,” and “su” in parentheses; otherwise, use “nosotros,” “nuestro,” and “su hogar”.*
- *Please do not read the response options “Refused” (Prefiero no responder) and “DK” (No estoy seguro) aloud. If a participant indicates they do not want to answer a question or are not sure, please select that response option.*
- *At any time throughout the survey, as needed, please feel free to restate any part of the Agreement to Participate in the Survey. For example, If a participant is hesitant about continuing to answer survey questions, you might need to reassure them that their responses will be kept confidential and their names will not be linked to their responses.*

Food Security Stage 1: HH2-HH4

HH2. The first statement is “<I/We> worried whether <my/our> food would run out before <I/we> got money to buy more.” Was that often true, sometimes true, or never true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days?

La primera declaración es “<Me preocupó/Nos preocupamos> que <mi/nuestra> comida se podía acabar antes de tener dinero para comprar más”. En los últimos 30 días, ¿ocurrió eso frecuentemente, a veces o nunca en su hogar?

- Often true / Ocurrió frecuentemente
- Sometimes true / Ocurrió a veces
- Never true / Nunca ocurrió
- DK or Refused / DK or Refused

HH3. “The food that <I/we> bought just didn’t last, and <I/we> didn’t have money to get more.” Was that often true, sometimes true, or never true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days?

“La comida que <compré/compramos> no rindió lo suficiente y no <tenía/teníamos> dinero para comprar más”. En los últimos 30 días, ¿ocurrió eso frecuentemente, a veces o nunca en su hogar?

- Often true / Ocurrió frecuentemente
- Sometimes true / Ocurrió a veces
- Never true / Nunca ocurrió
- DK or Refused / DK or Refused

HH4. “<l/we> couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.” Was that often true, sometimes true, or never true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days?

“No <tuve/tuvimos> recursos suficientes para comer una alimentación balanceada”. En los últimos 30 días, ¿ocurrió eso frecuentemente, a veces o nunca en su hogar?

[Note to interviewer: If a participant asks about the meaning of balanced meal, you can refer to MyPlate for Older Adults located at <https://hnrca.tufts.edu/myplate/>. Balanced meals consist of fruits & vegetables, grains, protein, dairy, and oils. Drinking plenty of fluid is also important for healthy aging.]

- Often true / *Ocurrió frecuentemente*
- Sometimes true / *Ocurrió a veces*
- Never true / *Nunca ocurrió*
- DK or Refused / *DK or Refused*

If participant responds “Never true” or “DK or Refused” to all questions in Food Security Stage 1 (HH2-HH4), the survey skips to CPS (S1-S3); otherwise, start Food Security Stage 2 (AD1-AD4).

End of Block: Household Stage 1: HH2-HH4

Food Security Stage 2: AD1-AD4

AD1. “In the last 30 days, since <state current day of last month> did <you/you or other adults in your household> ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?”

“En los últimos 30 días, desde el <state current day of last month>, ¿<usted u otros adultos en su hogar> <redujo/redujeron> el tamaño de sus comidas o dejó de desayunar, almorzar o cenar porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

Interviewer: AD1a will display if AD1=Yes

AD1a. “In the last 30 days, how many days did this happen?” Interviewer: Please ask the participant to tell you one number not a range of days. Please enter one number.

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿cuántas veces ocurrió esto?” Interviewer: Please ask the participant to tell you one number not a range of numbers. Please enter one number.

- Enter number of days / Ingrese el número de días
- _____
- DK or Refused

AD2. “In the last 30 days, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿alguna vez comió menos de lo que creía que debía comer porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

AD3. “In the last 30 days, were you ever hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿alguna vez tuvo hambre, pero no comió porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No

DK or Refused

AD4. “In the last 30 days, did you lose weight because there wasn't enough money for food?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿perdió peso porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”

Yes / *Sí*

No / *No*

DK or Refused

If participant responds “No” or “DK or Refused” to all questions in Food Security Stage 2 (AD1-AD4), the survey skips to CPS (S1-S3); otherwise, start Food Security Stage 3 (AD5).

Food Security Stage 3: AD5

AD5. “In the last 30 days, did <you/you or other adults in your household> ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿<usted / usted u otros adultos en su hogar> no <comió/comieron> por un día entero porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”

Yes / *Sí*

No / *No*

DK or Refused

Interviewer: AD5a will display if AD5=Yes.

AD5a “In the last 30 days, how many days did this happen?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿cuántas veces ocurrió esto?”

Interviewer: Please ask the participant to tell you one number not a range of days. Please enter one number.

Enter number of days / *Ingrese el número de días*

DK or Refused

CPS: S1-S3

Start of Block: Supplemental: S1-S3

Transition to next three questions. Please read the statement below.

“These next questions are about services people can use to get food or meals. Now I'm going to read to you several statements, please tell me yes if you/your household have/has used the service or no if you/your household have/has not used the service in the last 30 days--that is, since <state current day of last month>.”

“Las siguientes preguntas se refieren a los servicios que las personas pueden utilizar para obtener alimentos o comidas. Ahora voy a leerle varias declaraciones, dígame “si” si <usted/su hogar> ha usado el servicio o no si <usted/su hogar> no ha usado el servicio en los últimos 30 días; es decir, desde el <state current day of last month>”.

S1. “In the last 30 days, did <you/your household> receive any meals delivered to the home from community programs such as Meals on Wheels or any other program?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿recibió <usted/su hogar> alguna comida entregada a domicilio de programas comunitarios como Meals On Wheels o cualquier otro programa?”

- Yes / Sí (1)
- No / No (2)
- DK or Refused (3)

S2. “In the last 30 days, did <you/your household> go to a community program or senior center to eat prepared meals?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿<usted/su hogar> asistió a un programa comunitario o centro para adultos mayores para comer alimentos preparados?”

- Yes / Sí (1)
- No / No (2)
- DK or Refused (3)

S3. “In the last 30 days, did <you/your household> get food from a food pantry, food bank, soup kitchen, or shelter?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿<usted/su hogar> recibió alimentos de una despensa, banco de alimentos, cocina comunitaria o refugio?”

- Yes / Sí (1)
- No / No (2)

DK or Refused (3)

End of Block: Supplemental: S1-S3

Start of Block: Demographic: D1-D6a-f

Demographics: D1-D6

Transition to demographic questions. Interviewer: Please read the following statement.

“These next questions are about you. Answering these questions is optional, but your responses will help us learn more about the characteristics of people who use SNAP application assistance services. This will help us make improvements to our services. Remember that your responses are confidential and anonymous and will be analyzed with responses from other survey participants.”

“Las siguientes preguntas son sobre usted. Contestar estas preguntas es opcional, pero sus respuestas nos ayudarán a conocer más sobre las características de las personas que usan los servicios de asistencia para aplicar al SNAP. Esto nos ayudará a mejorar nuestros servicios. Recuerde que sus respuestas son confidenciales y anónimas y que se analizarán con las respuestas de otros participantes de la encuesta.”

Note to interviewer: If you already know the participant's demographics, that is age, gender, ethnicity, race, household size, and income, please ask the participant's permission to enter the demographic information on the survey so you do not have to ask select demographic questions again.

D1. “In what year were you born?”

“¿En qué año nació?”

Enter a 4-digit number _____

Refused

D2. “What is your gender?”

“¿Cuál es su género? ¿Se describe como hombre, mujer, transgénero o prefiere autodescribirse? Si es así, autodescribase.”

[Interviewer: Please select all that apply.]

- Male / [Masculino](#)
- Female / [Femenino](#)
- Transgender / [Transgénero](#)
- Prefer to self-describe / [Prefiere autodescribirse \(especificar\):](#)

[Interviewer: Please enter participant’s self-description.]

- Refused

D3. “Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin or descent?”

“¿Es de ascendencia u origen hispano, latino, o español?”

- Yes / [Sí](#)
- No / [No](#)
- DK or Refused

**D4. “Which of the following best describes your race?” [“I am going to read a list of six race categories. Please choose one or more races that you consider yourself to be.”
Interviewer: Please read the list of six categories and select all that apply.]**

“¿Cuál e las siguientes opciones describe mejor su raza? ¿Diría usted que...?”

- American Indian or Alaska Native / [India americana o nativa de Alaska](#)
- Asian / [Asiática](#)
- Black or African American / [Negra o afroamericana](#)
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander / [Nativa de Hawái u otra isla del Pacífico](#)
- White or Caucasian / [Blanca o caucásica](#)
- Multi-racial / [Multirracial](#)
- Other / [Otra opción \(especificar\)](#)

[Interviewer: Please specify.]

- Refused

D5. “How many people, including you, are part of your household?” [Interviewer: Please inform participant that for this question, “your household includes you and the number of other people financially supported by your annual (or monthly) household income.”]

“¿Cuántas personas, incluyéndole a usted, viven en su hogar? Para esta pregunta, su hogar lo incluye a usted y a las personas que usted ayuda económicamente con su ingreso familiar anual (o mensual).”

- 1 (yourself) / 1 (usted)
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 or more / 6 o más
- Refused

End of Block: Demographic: D1-D6a-f

Start of Block: income

Interviewer: D6a will display if D5=1.

D6a. “Was your annual household income more than \$30,000 last year, that is, more than \$2,500 per month?”

“¿Fue su ingreso familiar anual superior a \$30,000 el año pasado, es decir, más de \$2,500 al mes?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

.....
Interviewer: D6b will display if D5=2.
.....

D6b. “Was your annual household income more than \$40,000 last year, that is, more than \$3,334 per month?”

“¿Fue su ingreso familiar anual superior a \$40,000 el año pasado, es decir, más de \$3,334 al mes?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

.....
Interviewer: D6c will display if Q5=3.
.....

D6c. “Was your annual household income more than \$51,000 last year, that is, more than \$4,250 per month?”

“¿Fue su ingreso familiar anual superior a \$51,000 el año pasado, es decir, más de \$4,250 al mes?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

.....
Interviewer: D6d will display if Q5=4.
.....

D6d. “Was your annual household income more than \$61,000 last year, that is, more than \$5,084 per month?”

“¿Fue su ingreso familiar anual superior a \$61,000 el año pasado, es decir, más de \$5,084 al mes?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

.....
Interviewer: D6e will display if Q5=5.
.....

D6e. “Was your annual household income more than \$71,000 last year, that is, more than \$5,917 per month?”

“¿Fue su ingreso familiar anual superior a \$71,000 el año pasado, es decir, más de \$5,917 al mes?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

.....
Interviewer: D6f will display if Q5=6 or more.
.....

D6f. “Was your annual household income more than \$166,000 last year, that is, more than \$13,834 per month?”

“¿Fue su ingreso familiar anual superior a \$166,000 el año pasado, es decir, más de \$13,834 al mes?”

- Yes / Sí
- No / No
- DK or Refused

Start of Block: NPS

Transition to NPS questions. Interviewer: Please read the following statement.

“These next questions are about your satisfaction with the SNAP application assistance services. Answering these questions is optional, but your responses will help us make improvements to our services.”

“[TRANSLATION]”

NPS-1. On a scale from 0-10, how likely are you to recommend SNAP application assistance services to a friend or family member?

En una escala del 0 a 10, ¿cuán probable es que usted recomiende los servicios de asistencia para la aplicación de SNAP a un amigo o familiar? En la escala, 0=nada probable y 10=extremadamente probable.

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

NPS-2. Please explain why you made that selection.

Explique por qué eligió esa respuesta.

Transition to Participant Follow-up Contact Information Form

After the NPS questions, the participant contact information form will appear on your screen.

Please read the following statement to the participant before clicking NEXT.

As I mentioned earlier, this is a two-part survey. You will receive a call in about 6 months to take the second part of the survey by phone. In the meantime, you will receive a call and/or mailing to remind you about the second part of the survey. You will receive this communication from Mathematica which is the organization who will be calling you on behalf of AARP Foundation for the second part of the survey.

Next I am going to confirm your contact information so that Mathematica can contact you for the second part of the survey. Interviewer: The contact information form is required. You may not need re-ask the participant for this information if you already have it from the SNAP application process, but all fields on the form must be completed. Transition to NPS questions.

Como mencioné antes, esta es una encuesta de dos partes. Usted recibirá una llamada en unos seis meses para completar la segunda parte de la encuesta por teléfono. Entre tanto, recibirá una llamada o un correo para recordarle sobre la segunda parte de la encuesta. Recibirá esta comunicación de parte de Mathematica, una organización que lo llamará en nombre de AARP Foundation para la segunda parte de la encuesta.

A continuación, voy a confirmar su información de contacto para que Mathematica pueda comunicarse con usted para la segunda parte de la encuesta.

Interviewer: The contact information form is required. You may not need re-ask the participant for this information if you already have it from the SNAP application process, but all fields on the form must be completed.

Participant Contact Information Form for Follow-up Survey

Q1. Participant Unique ID - Please enter the participant's 10-digit phone number with no dashes or spaces, e.g., XXXXXXXXXX

Q2. Participant alternative phone number - Please enter a 10-digit phone number with no dashes or spaces, e.g., XXXXXXXXXX. Interviewer: Please ask the participant if there is another phone number where they can be reached. Please leave blank if there is not an alternative phone number.

Q3. Please enter participant's title and first and last name.

Title (e.g., Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.) _____

First name _____

Last name _____

Q4. Please enter participant's mailing address.

Street address or P.O. box number _____

City _____

State (enter state abbreviation) _____

Zip code (5 digits + 4 if needed) _____

Q5. Please enter the date that the baseline survey/SNAP application was completed, i.e., today's date. Please enter as mm/dd/yyyy.

Q6. Interviewer: From the drop-down menu, please select your organization or your affiliate organization. ▼

- 2-1-1 San Diego
- Benefits Data Trust
- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- Feeding South Florida
- Feeding the Gulf Coast
- Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
- Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
- Project Bread-The Walk for Hunger
- Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services
- San Diego Hunger Coalition
- San Francisco Marin Food Bank
- SC Thrive

Please thank the participant for taking the time to complete the survey.

Note to interviewer: The baseline survey and contact information form is now complete; participant survey data and contact information data has been transmitted to AARP Foundation. After clicking "done" a new baseline survey will appear on your screen for the next participant.

Appendix D.2:
Follow-up Survey Instrument

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ESAP Project Follow-up Survey

CATI Instrument

November 2020

Frequently Used Fills

Fill	Source / Condition	Values	First Used at Question #:
[SNAP PROGRAM NAME]	Fill based on State from Preload File	AL: Food Assistance/ <i>Asistencia para alimentos</i> CA: CalFresh/ <i>CalFresh</i> FL: Food Assistance/ <i>Asistencia para alimentos</i> GA: Food Stamps/ <i>Cupones para alimentos</i> MA: SNAP/ <i>SNAP</i> MD: the Food Supplement Program/ <i>Programa de Alimentos Suplementarios</i> MS: SNAP/ <i>SNAP</i> NC: SNAP/ <i>SNAP</i> PA: SNAP/ <i>SNAP</i> SC: SNAP/ <i>SNAP</i>	EverSNAP

PROGRAMMER: DON'T KNOW (DK) AND REFUSED (REF) RESPONSE OPTIONS ARE STANDARD FOR ALL QUESTIONS, BUT NOT SHOWN IN SPECS.

.....
ALL

IF REPTYPE = 2, FILL "SampMembFULLNAME was" AND "he or she" AND "Does he or she"; ELSE fill "you were" and "you" And "Do you"

FILL "SNAP PROGRAM NAME" IF THERE IS A SNAP PROGRAM NAME. IF THERE IS NO SNAP PROGRAM NAME THEN FILL WITH "SNAP."
.....

SCRSTATE. Our records show that (you were/SampMembFULLNAME was) living in [STATE] when (you/he or she) applied for [SNAP PROGRAM NAME] about 6 months ago. (Do you/Does he or she) still live in [STATE]?

Nuestros registros muestran que (usted/SampleMembFULLNAME) vivía en [STATE] cuando solicitó [SNAP PROGRAM NAME] hace unos 6 meses. ¿Vive (usted/él o ella) en [STATE] todavía?

PROBE IF NEEDED: SNAP is the program formerly known as 'Food Stamps.'

SNAP es el programa anteriormente conocido como "cupones para alimentos o estampillas."

YES1

NO0

GO TO SCROUT

SCRSTATE = 0

FILL "SNAP PROGRAM NAME" IF THERE IS A SNAP PROGRAM NAME. IF THERE IS NO SNAP PROGRAM NAME THEN FILL WITH "SNAP."

SCROUT. We are only speaking with those who live in the same state where they applied for [SNAP PROGRAM NAME] through the Elderly Simplified Application Process (ESAP). I am sorry you are not eligible for this survey. Thank you for your time.

Solamente estamos hablando con aquellos que viven en el mismo estado donde solicitaron [SNAP PROGRAM NAME] a través del Proceso Simplificado de Solicitud para Personas Mayores (ESAP por sus siglas en inglés). Siento que no sea elegible para esta encuesta. Gracias por su tiempo.

Start of Block: SNAP

ALL

EverSNAP. In the last 6 months, has your household ever been enrolled in [SNAP PROGRAM NAME]?

En los últimos 6 meses, ¿su hogar ha estado inscrito en [SNAP PROGRAM NAME]?

YES 1

NO 0

.....
If EverSNAP = 1
.....

TimeSNAP. In the last 6 months, how long did your household receive [SNAP PROGRAM NAME]? If your household received [FILL STATE SNAP PROGRAM NAME], stopped receiving it, and then started again, please include all of that time.

En los últimos 6 meses, ¿por cuánto tiempo su hogar recibió [SNAP PROGRAM NAME]? Si su hogar recibió [SNAP PROGRAM NAME], dejó de recibirlo y luego comenzó a recibirlo de nuevo, incluya todo ese tiempo.

Enter amount of time [RANGE 1-365] _____

.....
If TimeSNAP = NUM
.....

Time SNAPUnit. Is that days, weeks, or months?

¿Hablamos de días, semanas o meses?

Days 1
Weeks 2
Months..... 3

.....
SOFT CHECK: If TimeSNAP > 240 and TimeSNAPUnit = 1; **You said your household received SNAP for [ANSWER FROM TimeSNAP] [ANSWER FROM Time SNAPUnit] in the last 6 months, is this correct?**

Usted dijo que su hogar recibió el SNAP durante [ANSWER FROM TimeSNAP] [ANSWER FROM Time SNAPUnit] en los últimos 6 meses, ¿es correcto?

SOFT CHECK: If TimeSNAP > 26 and TimeSNAPUnit = 2; **You said your household received SNAP for [ANSWER FROM TimeSNAP] [ANSWER FROM Time SNAPUnit] in the last 6 months, is this correct?**

Usted dijo que su hogar recibió el SNAP durante [ANSWER FROM TimeSNAP] [ANSWER FROM Time SNAPUnit] en los últimos 6 meses, ¿es correcto?

SOFT CHECK: If TimeSNAP > 6 and TimeSNAPUnit = 3; **You said your household received SNAP for [ANSWER FROM TimeSNAP] [ANSWER FROM Time SNAPUnit] in the last 6 months, is this correct?**

Usted dijo que su hogar recibió el SNAP durante [ANSWER FROM TimeSNAP] [ANSWER FROM Time SNAPUnit] en los últimos 6 meses, ¿es correcto?
.....

If EverSNAP = 1

OnSNAP. Are you or others in your household currently receiving [SNAP PROGRAM NAME]?

¿Usted u otra persona en su hogar actualmente recibe [SNAP PROGRAM NAME]?

YES 1

NO 0

If OnSNAP = 1

AmtSNAP. What is the amount of the [SNAP PROGRAM NAME] benefit your household receives per month?

¿Cuál es la cantidad de beneficio de [SNAP PROGRAM NAME] que su hogar recibe al mes?

Enter a dollar amount [RANGE \$1 - \$9999] _____

SOFT CHECK IF AmtSNAP >\$500 or <\$16: INTERVIEWER: CONFIRM DOLLAR AMOUNT

If EverSNAP = 0 Or OnSNAP = 0

NoSNAP. Why are you not receiving [SNAP PROGRAM NAME] benefits?

¿Por qué no recibe beneficios de [SNAP PROGRAM NAME]?

CODE ALL THAT

APPLY

DID NOT COMPLETE REQUIRED INTERVIEW 1

DID NOT SUBMIT REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION 2

OTHER REASON..... 3

If NoSNAP = 3

NoSNAPSpec

SPECIFY _____ [STRING 500]

Start of Block: HH Size

ALL

household. Please tell me how many people, including you, are part of your household. For this question, your household includes you and the number of other people financially supported by your annual (or monthly) household income.

¿Cuántas personas, incluyéndole a usted, viven en su hogar? Para esta pregunta, su hogar lo incluye a usted y a las personas que usted ayuda económicamente con su ingreso familiar anual (o mensual).

- 1 (yourself) 1
- 2 2
- 3..... 3
- 4..... 4
- 5..... 5
- 6 or more 6

End of Block: HH Size

Start of Block: Household Stage 1: HH2-HH4

ALL

These next questions are about the food eaten in your household in the last 30 days, since <state current day of last month> and whether you were able to afford the food you need.

Las siguientes preguntas se refieren a los alimentos consumidos en su hogar en los últimos 30 días, desde <state current day of last month> y si usted tuvo recursos suficientes para comprar la comida que necesitó.

Now I'm going to read you several statements that people have made about their food situation. For these statements, please tell me whether the statement was often true, sometimes true, or never true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days--that is, since <state current day of last month>.

Ahora voy a leerle varias declaraciones que las personas han hecho sobre su situación alimentaria. Para estas declaraciones, dígame si la declaración ocurrió frecuentemente, a veces, o nunca para <usted/su hogar> en los últimos 30 días, es decir, desde <state current day of last month>.

NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: AT ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE SURVEY, AS NEEDED, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REFER TO ANY PART OF THE AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY (SEE SEPARATE DOCUMENT TITLED AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY). FOR EXAMPLE, IF A PARTICIPANT IS HESITANT ABOUT CONTINUING TO ANSWER SURVEY QUESTIONS, YOU MIGHT NEED TO REASSURE THEM THAT THEIR RESPONSES WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AND THEIR NAMES WILL NOT BE LINKED TO THEIR RESPONSES.

[LINK TO AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE]

PROGRAMMER: IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (*HOUSEHOLD* = 1, DK, REF), FILL “I,” “MY,” AND “YOU” IN PARENTHETICALS; OTHERWISE (*HOUSEHOLD* = 2-6), FILL “WE,” “OUR,” AND “YOUR HOUSEHOLD.”

ALL

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (*HOUSEHOLD* = 1, DK, REF), FILL “I” AND “you” IN ENGLISH AND “Me preocupo” AND “mi” IN SPANISH.

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (*HOUSEHOLD* = 2-6), FILL “we” AND “our” IN ENGLISH AND “Nos preocupamos” AND “nuestra” IN SPANISH

HH2. The first statement is “<I/We> worried whether <my/our> food would run out before <I/we> got money to buy more.” Was that often true, sometimes true, or never true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days?

La primera declaración es “<Me preocupó /Nos preocupamos> que <mi/nuestra> comida se podía acabar antes de tener dinero para comprar más”. En los últimos 30 días, ¿ocurrió eso frecuentemente, a veces o nunca en su hogar?

- Often true 1
- Sometimes true 2
- Never true..... 3

.....
ALL

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL "I" IN ENGLISH AND "compre" AND "tenia" IN SPANISH.

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL "we" IN ENGLISH AND "compramos" AND "teniamos" IN SPANISH
.....

HH3. "The food that <l/we> bought just didn't last, and <l/we> didn't have money to get more." Was that often true, sometimes true, or never true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days?

"La comida que <compré/compramos> no rindió lo suficiente y no <tenía/teníamos> dinero para comprar más". En los últimos 30 días, ¿ocurrió eso frecuentemente, a veces o nunca en su hogar?

Often true 1

Sometimes true 2

Never true..... 3

ALL

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL “I” AND “you” IN ENGLISH AND “tuve” IN SPANISH.

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL “we” AND “your household” IN ENGLISH AND “tuvimos” IN SPANISH

HH4. “<I/we> couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.” Was that **often** true, **sometimes** true, or **never** true for <you/your household> in the last 30 days?”

“No <tuve/tuvimos> recursos suficientes para comer una alimentación balanceada”. En los últimos 30 días, ¿ocurrió eso frecuentemente, a veces o nunca en su hogar?”

INTERVIEWER: IF A PARTICIPANT ASKS ABOUT THE MEANING OF BALANCED MEAL, YOU CAN REFER TO MYPLATE FOR OLDER ADULTS LOCATED AT [HTTPS://HNRCA.TUFTS.EDU/MYPLATE/](https://hnrca.tufts.edu/myplate/).

Probe: **Balanced meals consist of fruits & vegetables, grains, protein, dairy, and oils. Drinking plenty of fluid is also important for healthy aging.**

Las comidas balanceadas consisten en frutas y verduras, granos, proteínas, lácteos y aceites. Beber mucho líquido también es importante para un envejecimiento saludable.

- Often true 1
- Sometimes true 2
- Never true..... 3

PROGRAMMER: If participant responds (3) or (DK) or (REF) to HH2, HH3, and HH4, skip to Supplemental: S1-S3 block. Otherwise, continue to Adult Stage 2: AD1-AD4.

End of Block: Household Stage 1: HH2-HH4

Start of Block: Adult Stage 2: AD1-AD4

If HH2 = 1, 2 OR HH3 = 1, 2 OR HH4 = 1, 2

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL “you” IN ENGLISH AND “usted” AND “redujo” IN SPANISH.

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL “you or other adults in your household” IN ENGLISH AND “usted u otros adultos en su hogar” AND “redujeron” IN SPANISH

AD1. “In the last 30 days, since <state current day of last month> did <you/you or other adults in your household> ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?”

“En los últimos 30 días, desde <state current day of last month>, ¿<usted/usted u otros adultos en su hogar> <redujo/redujeron> el tamaño de sus comidas o dejó de desayunar, almorzar o cenar porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”

YES 1

NO 0

If AD1 = 1

AD1a. “In the last 30 days, how many days did this happen?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿cuántas veces ocurrió esto?”

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE ASK THE PARTICIPANT TO TELL YOU ONE NUMBER NOT A RANGE OF NUMBERS. PLEASE ENTER ONE NUMBER.

Enter number of days [RANGE 1-30]_____

.....
If HH2 = 1, 2 OR HH3 = 1, 2 OR HH4 = 1, 2
.....

AD2. “In the last 30 days, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?”
 “En los últimos 30 días, ¿alguna vez comió menos de lo que creía que debía comer porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”
 YES 1
 NO 0

.....
If HH2 = 1, 2 OR HH3 = 1, 2 OR HH4 = 1, 2
.....

AD3. “In the last 30 days, were you ever hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food?”
 “En los últimos 30 días, ¿alguna vez tuvo hambre, pero no comió porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”
 YES 1
 NO 0

.....
If HH2 = 1, 2 OR HH3 = 1, 2 OR HH4 = 1, 2
.....

AD4. “In the last 30 days, did you lose weight because there wasn't enough money for food?”
 “En los últimos 30 días, ¿perdió peso porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”
 YES 1
 NO 0

End of Block: Adult Stage 2: AD1-AD4

.....
If participant responds (0) or (DK) or (REF) to AD1, AD1a, AD2, AD3, and AD4, skip to Supplemental: S1-S3 block. Otherwise, continue to Adult Stage 3: AD5-AD5a.
.....

Start of Block: Adult Stage 3: AD5-AD5a

If AD1 = 1 OR AD2 = 1 OR AD3 = 1 OR AD4 = 1

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL “you” IN ENGLISH AND “usted” AND “comio” IN SPANISH.

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL “you or other adults in your household” IN ENGLISH AND “usted u otros adultos en su hogar” AND “comieron” IN SPANISH

AD5. “In the last 30 days, did <you/you or other adults in your household> ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿<usted / usted u otros adultos en su hogar> no <comió/comieron> por un día entero porque no había suficiente dinero para comprar alimentos?”

YES 1

NO 0

If AD5 = 1

AD5a. “In the last 30 days, how many days did this happen?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿cuántas veces ocurrió esto?”

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE ASK THE PARTICIPANT TO TELL YOU ONE NUMBER NOT A RANGE OF DAYS. PLEASE ENTER ONE NUMBER.

Enter number of days [RANGE 1-30] _____

End of Block: Adult Stage 3: AD5-AD5a

Start of Block: Supplemental: S1-S3

ALL

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL “you have” IN ENGLISH AND “usted” IN SPANISH

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL “your household has” IN ENGLISH AND “su hogar” IN SPANISH

These next questions are about services people can use to get food or meals. Now I'm going to read to you several statements, please tell me yes if (you have/your household has) used the service or no if (you have/your household has) not used the service in the last 30 days--that is, since <state current day of last month>.”

Las siguientes preguntas se refieren a los servicios que las personas pueden utilizar para obtener alimentos o comidas. Ahora voy a leerle varias declaraciones, dígame “sí” si <usted/su hogar> ha usado el servicio o no si <usted/su hogar> no ha usado el servicio en los últimos 30 días; es decir, desde <state current day of last month>.

ALL

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL “you” IN ENGLISH AND “usted” IN SPANISH

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL “your household “ IN ENGLISH AND “su hogar” IN SPANISH

CPS_mealdelivery. “In the last 30 days, did <you/your household> receive any meals delivered to the home from community programs such as Meals on Wheels or any other program?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿recibió <usted/su hogar> alguna comida entregada a domicilio de programas comunitarios como Meals On Wheels o cualquier otro programa?”

YES 1
NO 0

ALL

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL “you” IN ENGLISH AND “usted” IN SPANISH

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL “your household “ IN ENGLISH AND “su hogar” IN SPANISH

CPS_preparedmeals. “In the last 30 days, did <you/your household> go to a community program or senior center to eat prepared meals?”

“En los últimos 30 días, ¿<usted/su hogar> asistió a un programa comunitario o centro para adultos mayores para comer alimentos preparados?”

YES 1
NO 0

ALL

IF SINGLE ADULT IN HOUSEHOLD (HOUSEHOLD = 1, DK, REF), FILL "you" IN ENGLISH AND "usted" IN SPANISH

IF MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD = 2-6), FILL "your household " IN ENGLISH AND "su hogar" IN SPANISH

CPS_foodcharity. "In the last 30 days, did <you/your household> get food from a food pantry, food bank, soup kitchen, or shelter?"

"En los últimos 30 días, ¿<usted/su hogar> recibió alimentos de una despensa, banco de alimentos, cocina comunitaria o refugio?"

YES 1
NO 0

End of Block: Supplemental: S1-S3

Start of Block: Income

ALL

IncomeMnth. What was your household's income last month, during [LAST MONTH] before taxes?

Please include all types of income received by all household members last month, including all earnings, Social Security, pensions, Veteran's Benefits, Unemployment Insurance, worker's compensation benefits, child support, payments from roomers or boarders, and cash welfare benefits such as TANF (*TAH-nif*) and SSI. Do not include the value of SNAP benefits or food stamps, WIC, Medicaid, or public housing.

¿Cuál fue el ingreso de su hogar el mes pasado, durante [LAST MONTH], antes de pagar impuestos? Incluya todos los tipos de ingresos recibidos por todos los miembros del hogar el mes pasado, incluidos todos los ingresos, Seguro Social, pensiones, beneficios de veteranos, seguro de desempleo, beneficios de compensación al trabajador, manutención infantil, pagos de compañeros de cuarto o huéspedes, y beneficios de bienestar social en efectivo, tales como TANF (*Asistencia Temporal para Familias Necesitadas*) y SSI (*Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario*). No incluya el valor de los beneficios de SNAP o cupones para alimentos, WIC (*Programa Especial de Nutrición Suplementaria para Mujeres, Bebés y Niños*), Medicaid o viviendas públicas.

Enter dollar amount [RANGE \$0 - \$99,999] _____

SOFT CHECK: If IncomeMnth = 12,500 - 99,999; **You said your household's total income last month before taxes was \$[amount from IncomeMnth], is this correct?**

Usted dijo que el ingreso total de su hogar el mes pasado antes de pagar impuestos fue de \$[amount from IncomeMnth], ¿es correcto?

.....
If IncomeMnth = DK, REF
.....

IncomeRange. Some people find it easier to select an income range. Please stop me when I reach your household's total income for *last month*. Was it ...

A algunas personas les resulta más fácil seleccionar un rango de ingresos. Deténgame cuando llegue al ingreso total en su hogar para el mes pasado. ¿Fue de...?

- Less than \$500 / **Menos de \$500** 1
- \$500 to less than \$1,000 / **Entre \$500 y \$1,000** 2
- \$1,000 to less than \$1,500 / **Entre \$1,000 y \$1,500** 3
- \$1,500 to less than \$2,000 / **Entre \$1,500 y \$2,000** 4
- \$2,000 to less than \$2,500 / **Entre \$2,000 y \$2,500** 5
- \$2,500 to less than \$3,000, or / **Entre \$2,500 y \$3,000 o** 6
- \$3,000 or more? / **\$3,000 o más** 7

.....
End of Block: Income
.....

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