

# Technical Documentation for the Fiscal Year 2021 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Quality Control Database and the QC Minimodel

## FINAL REPORT

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## I. Introduction

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest of the domestic nutrition assistance programs administered by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). SNAP provides millions of Americans with the means to purchase food for a nutritious diet. During fiscal year (FY) 2021, SNAP served an average of 41.6 million people monthly and paid out \$108 billion in benefits, including emergency allotments to supplement SNAP benefits during the COVID-19 public health emergency.<sup>1</sup>

The characteristics of SNAP participants and households and the size of the SNAP caseload change over time in response to changes in program rules as well as economic and demographic trends. To quantify these changes or estimate the effect of adjustments to program rules on the current SNAP caseload, FNS relies on data from the SNAP Quality Control (QC) Database. This database is an edited version of the raw data file of monthly case reviews that are conducted by State SNAP agencies to assess the accuracy of eligibility determinations and benefit calculations for their SNAP caseloads.<sup>2</sup>

This document describes how the raw data are cleaned and edited to create the SNAP QC database. Because the COVID-19 public health emergency affected SNAP QC data collection throughout most of FY 2021, the raw FY 2021 SNAP QC data file includes complete data for only three months—July 2021 through September 2021—for most States. Consequently, the edited FY 2021 SNAP QC database is a three-month file, with data for July 2021 through September 2021.

This chapter provides a road map to the report and summarizes key program and database changes since FY 2020.

Chapter II provides an overview of the SNAP QC System, the resulting raw data file, and the creation of the SNAP QC database. The overview is designed to give analysts and new users of the data enough information to be able to analyze and interpret the results of SNAP QC data tabulations.

Chapter III describes the process for developing files for the SNAP QC database. We discuss the file development programs used to transform the raw data into the SNAP QC database, the algorithms used to edit the data for consistency, and the development of sampling weights.

Chapter IV contains the codebook for the FY 2021 SNAP QC database and explains how to use the database. For each variable, the codebook lists the variable name, the variable origin (whether it came from the raw data file or was constructed), and a description (including all valid values of the variable).

Appendix A provides an assessment of the quality of selected variables in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database. Users should read this appendix before using the SNAP QC database. The appendix recommends against the use of some variables and cautions against or provides a disclaimer for the use of others because of apparent miscoding, high prevalence of missing or unknown values, or small sample sizes. Appendix B describes automated edits used to improve the quality of the edited SNAP QC database. Appendix C provides information on new and changed variables in the FY 2021 SNAP QC

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<sup>1</sup> The estimates of 41.6 million participants and \$108 billion in benefits were based on FNS administrative records, available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>. They differ from the other estimates in this documentation, which come from the edited SNAP Quality Control (QC) Database, because the database is adjusted to exclude ineligible households issued benefits in error and households that received disaster assistance (including COVID-19 emergency allotments).

<sup>2</sup> This report refers to the original data file as the raw data file and the edited version as the SNAP QC database.

database. Appendix D shows how the monthly sampling weights were derived. Appendix E lists the State and region identification codes used in the file. Appendix F contains the parameter values used to determine SNAP eligibility in FY 2021, including gross and net income eligibility thresholds, deduction amounts, and maximum benefit amounts. Appendix G presents the QC review schedule—the coding form on which the raw data are originally recorded by the State QC System reviewers.

Typically, this report describes how the QC Minimodel—one of FNS’s SNAP microsimulation models—uses the SNAP QC database to simulate the effects of policy changes to SNAP on current SNAP participants. However, given the small number of sample months in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database, FNS does not have a QC Minimodel for FY 2021. Details on the development of the FY 2022 QC Minimodel can be found in the Technical Documentation for the Fiscal Year 2022 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Quality Control Database and the QC Minimodel (Leftin et al. 2024).

## A. Key program changes since FY 2020

Since the start of the COVID-19 public health emergency in March 2020, several pieces of legislation changed Federal SNAP policies. The SNAP provisions in the legislation are summarized below and discussed in more detail in the report titled *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2022* (Monkovic et al. 2024).<sup>3</sup> Comprehensive detail is also available on FNS’s website.<sup>4</sup> Three changes most directly affected the FY 2021 SNAP QC database:

- **SNAP emergency allotments.** The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) of 2020 authorized emergency supplemental appropriations in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Beginning in April 2020, SNAP households receiving less than the maximum SNAP benefit for their household size were eligible for emergency allotments that brought their benefits up to the maximum. Beginning in April 2021, all SNAP households, regardless of benefit level, were eligible for an emergency allotment of at least \$95 or the difference between the calculated benefit amount and the maximum if this difference was greater than \$95. During FY 2021, eight States—Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota—returned to normal benefit amounts without emergency allotments. All other States provided emergency allotments for the full fiscal year.<sup>5</sup> Section B describes how SNAP emergency allotments are handled in the database.
- **Temporary increases to SNAP benefits.** The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA) temporarily increased maximum SNAP benefits to 115 percent of the June 2020 value of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) and increased standard Supplemental Security Income (SSI)-Combined Application Project (CAP) benefits by \$30 for individuals and \$56 for couples from January 2021 through June 2021. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) extended the increases stipulated in the CAA through September 2021.
- **Time limits on SNAP benefits for adults age 18–49 without disabilities in childless households.** Adults age 18–49 without disabilities who do not live with a household member under age 18 (called ABAWDs) are normally subject to time limits on their participation. The FFCRA temporarily and partially suspended these time limits, beginning on April 1, 2020. This suspension continued through

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<sup>3</sup> Due to the limited data available, FNS will not publish a *Characteristics of SNAP Households* report for FY 2021. The FY 2022 report describes program changes from FY 2020 through FY 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Food and Nutrition Service. “FNS Documents & Resources.” <https://www.fns.usda.gov/resources>.

<sup>5</sup> Detailed information about the end of SNAP emergency allotments is available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/blog/snap-emergency-allotments-are-ending>.

the end of June 2023. Appendix A describes how this change may have affected the distribution of the ABAWD status (ABWDSTi) variable.

In addition to the disbursement of the emergency allotments and the temporary and partial suspension of time limits, some key State policy changes between FY 2020 and FY 2021 included the following:

- Effective July 2021, Virginia implemented a broad-based categorical eligibility (BBCE) policy with no limit on assets and a gross income limit of 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines.
- Effective July 2021, Nebraska increased the gross income limit of its BBCE policy from 130 percent to 165 percent of Federal poverty guidelines.
- Michigan implemented a medical deduction demonstration program on October 7, 2020.

## **B. Key changes to the FY 2021 SNAP QC database**

The contents of the FY 2021 SNAP QC database differ in several important ways from the FY 2020 and earlier SNAP QC databases. The changes are the result of three factors: (1) differences in the QC sample; (2) changes to the raw data file, and (3) policy changes.

### **1. Differences in the QC sample**

The COVID-19 public health emergency resulted in an incomplete sample in the FY 2020 raw data file. Starting in March 2020, FNS granted States temporary waivers on conducting QC reviews. Very few States collected QC data from March 2020 through May 2020. Most States opted to conduct QC reviews from June 2020 through September 2020, although FNS was unable to provide its usual level of oversight of the sampling procedures. Furthermore, monthly State samples for this period were often smaller than usual. Because of these limited and incongruent data, Mathematica developed three separate SNAP QC databases for FY 2020. The first covers the pre-pandemic period of October 2019 through February 2020. The second covers the waiver period of June 2020 through September 2020 for the 47 States and territories that provided sufficient data for at least one of those months. The third combines the pre-pandemic period and the waiver period databases.

Because the COVID-19 public health emergency continued to affect SNAP QC data collection throughout most of the year, the FY 2021 database contains data only from July 2021 through September 2021. Most States and territories contributed data for all three months. The exceptions are Delaware, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Louisiana, all of which have sample data for only two months.

- September data were removed for Delaware due to a small sample size and for Guam due to nonrepresentative data that could not meet weighting targets.
- September data for the District of Columbia and August data for Louisiana were missing from the raw data and thus are not in the edited file.

Because there is a single database for FY 2021, the two period-specific weight variables in the FY 2020 database, FYWGT\_PER1 and FYWGT\_PER2, were removed from the FY 2021 database.

### **2. Changes to the raw data file**

The QC Review codes for three disability or work status variables and the SNAP reporting requirement variable changed in FY 2021:

1. ABAWD status (ABWDSTi)

2. SNAP Employment and Training program status (EMPRGi)
3. Work registration status (WRKREGi)
4. SNAP reporting requirement (REP\_SYS)

The new values are shown in the codebook in Chapter IV. Appendix A contains information about our recommendations for using these variables, and Appendix B includes more information about how the WRKREGi codes are used for defining person-level disability (DISi) in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database.

### **3. Federal and State policy changes affecting the contents of the file**

Because Federal policies concerning the SNAP emergency allotments changed effective April 2021, the two emergency allotment variables that were added to the database in FY 2021 were constructed differently in the FY 2021 database than they were in the FY 2020 database. The first variable, SUPP\_BEN, identifies SNAP households that qualified for an emergency allotment because they were in a State that issued the emergency allotment for the sample month. The second variable, FSBENSUPP, estimates the amount of the emergency allotment that a SNAP household was eligible to receive. These variables were updated to reflect FY 2021 policy and State policies for issuing emergency allotments in each month.

## II. Overview of the SNAP QC Database

The SNAP QC database is an edited version of the raw data file generated by SNAP’s QC System. The FY 2021 SNAP QC database contains detailed demographic, economic, and SNAP eligibility information for a nationally representative sample of 9,832 SNAP units spanning three months—July 2021 through September 2021.<sup>6</sup> The SNAP QC data, produced annually, usually include nationally representative data for all 12 months of the fiscal year, and are well suited for tabulating characteristics of SNAP units and simulating the impact of various program policy changes on SNAP units. Accordingly, the SNAP QC database is the source for FNS’s annual report, Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households, and FNS’s QC Minimodel, a microsimulation model that estimates the effect of proposed changes to SNAP on currently participating units. However, although the quality of the three-month sample for FY 2021 is high enough to use for research if care is taken with small sample sizes, it is too small to be used for the annual Characteristics report or the QC Minimodel. In this chapter, we provide an overview of the raw data file and the processing and edits that convert the data file to the SNAP QC database.

### A. The QC System

The raw data file is generated from the monthly reviews of SNAP cases conducted by State SNAP agencies as part of the QC System (SNAP-QCS). The primary objective of QC reviews is to assess the accuracy of eligibility determinations and benefit calculations in sampled cases. Participating units, or *active cases*, are reviewed to determine whether they are indeed eligible to participate and are receiving the correct benefit amount. Units that had their participation denied or terminated, or *negative cases*, are reviewed to determine whether the denial or termination was correct. The SNAP QC database is normally based on the sample of active cases drawn each month for the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. This was the case for most States and territories in the three-month FY 2021 database. However, four of them—Delaware, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Louisiana—either did not collect data in every month or had one monthly sample that was too small or not representative enough of the actual monthly caseload to include in the database.

State QC reviewers check data for the sampled cases. They gather financial and demographic information from the sampled unit’s case file, visit the household to reinterview participants, and then determine whether the SNAP unit received the correct SNAP benefit amount. Information from the review is either uploaded or entered directly into the SNAP-QCS by State agencies. FNS regional offices conduct a Federal re-review of a subsample of each original State sample. The Federal re-review data are also entered into the SNAP-QCS and are used in conjunction with the State review data to calculate the official payment error rate for each State. States can be sanctioned on the basis of their official payment error rates.

Most of the data in the raw data file are the financial and demographic data collected during the review. The issued benefit amount and eligibility status determined by the caseworker are also on the file, along

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<sup>6</sup> In this technical documentation, “SNAP unit” or simply “unit” refers to individuals who together are certified for and receive SNAP benefits. A household may contain multiple SNAP units, and/or individuals who do not receive SNAP benefits. However, because QC sampling is done at the unit level, each record contains detailed data on only one SNAP unit.

with the error amount and eligibility status determined by the reviewer.<sup>7</sup> The reviewer-determined entries are defined as follows:

- If the SNAP unit was eligible, and the authorized benefit amount determined by the reviewer equaled the issued benefit, the error amount is zero, and the case finding is entered as “amount correct.”
- If the SNAP unit was eligible, and the authorized benefit amount varied from the issued benefit, then the difference between the two amounts is recorded as the error amount, and the case finding is either an “overissuance” or “underissuance.” In FY 2021, error amounts of \$39 or less were not included in the calculation of State error rates.<sup>8</sup>
- If the reviewer determines that the SNAP unit was ineligible, the issued benefit amount is recorded as the error amount, and the case finding is “ineligible.”

State QC reviewers also check the negative cases to decide whether proper procedures were used to deny or terminate a case. Because these cases are not participating in SNAP, they are not included in the SNAP QC database or the QC Minimodel.

### B. The raw data file

Although most participating SNAP units in the active case file are subject to sampling, certain types of units that are not appropriate for review are excluded. Specifically, the active case universe excludes the following types of cases:

- Dropped as a result of oversampling
- Listed in error as active cases, including but not limited to the following:
  - Negative cases incorrectly included in the active case file
  - Cases that did not participate in SNAP for the sample month, including suspended cases and those that were eligible for zero benefits before any recoupments were made
  - Cases receiving restored benefits that were not otherwise participating
  - Cases receiving retroactive benefits for the sample month
- Receiving benefits solely through a Disaster SNAP program authorized by FNS
- Pending a hearing for an adverse action
- Under investigation for SNAP fraud (including those with pending fraud hearings)
- Where all members have died or moved outside the State
- Where no member could be interviewed because of the following:
  - All members had been hospitalized, incarcerated, or placed in a mental institution and were expected to remain there for 95 days after the end of the sample month
  - Members could not be located

The sampling unit within the active case universe is the SNAP unit, as defined in an FNS-approved State manual. State sampling plans must conform to accepted principles of probability sampling. A State may

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<sup>7</sup> The SNAP benefit does not include the emergency allotments authorized as part of the FFCRA.

<sup>8</sup> This error amount, called the tolerance threshold, is adjusted each year to account for inflation. The tolerance threshold increased from \$37 in FY 2020 to \$39 in FY 2021.

use either a simple random sampling plan or a more complex sampling design that better meets its needs. FNS must approve all sampling designs, including simple random sampling.

In most years, the standard minimum annual State sample sizes range from 300 reviews to 2,400 reviews, depending primarily on the size of the monthly participating caseload. For FY 2021, FNS reduced the required minimum sample sizes by 75 percent because reviews were not required for October 2020 through June 2021. States must use the following guidelines when determining their standard annual QC sample sizes:

- If the average monthly caseload is under 10,000, the standard minimum sample size is 300 (75 in FY 2021) cases per year.
- If the average monthly caseload is 60,000 or greater, the standard minimum sample size is 2,400 (600 in FY 2021) cases per year.
- If the average monthly caseload is between 10,000 and 60,000, the standard minimum sample size is derived by the following formula:  
$$\text{Standard minimum} = 300 + 0.042 (N - 10,000) \text{ (multiplied by 0.25 in FY 2021),}$$
where N is the average monthly caseload.

A State may choose an optional minimum sample size if it agrees not to dispute later payment error rate findings and the associated sanctions on the basis of the precision of the estimates. Optional minimum sample sizes are determined as follows:

- If the average monthly caseload is under 12,942, the optional minimum sample size is 300 (75 in FY 2021).
- If the average monthly caseload is 60,000 or greater, the optional minimum sample size is 1,020 (255 in FY 2021).
- If the average monthly caseload is between 12,942 and 60,000, the optional minimum sample size is derived by the following formula:  
$$\text{Optional minimum} = 300 + 0.0153 (N - 12,941) \text{ (multiplied by 0.25 in FY 2021),}$$
where N is the average monthly caseload.

In FY 2021, all States chose to use the optional minimum sample size. FNS applies adjustments to State payment error rates when the State's QC review completion rate falls below a threshold of 98 percent.

### C. Creation of the SNAP QC database

We create the SNAP QC database from the raw data file by following four steps: (1) preliminary processing, (2) data editing, (3) variable construction, and (4) weighting.

#### 1. Preliminary processing

After converting the raw data file into a SAS file, we generate and inspect a series of quality assurance counts and frequency distributions for the values of each variable on the file. We assign missing value codes to data that are illogical or out of range, missing from the file, or coded as unknown in the source file.<sup>9</sup> We remove records from that file for the following reasons:

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<sup>9</sup> See the codebook in Chapter IV for the valid values for each variable.



- Coded as not subject to review (REVDISP = 2), incomplete (REVDISP = 3), or deselected due to oversampling (REVDISP = 4)
- Coded with review findings of ineligible (STATUS = 4)
- Missing all data except error and status information—identified as those coded with 0 case members (CERTHHSZ = 0)—or had unresolved inconsistencies, as detailed in later sections
- Found by the reviewer to be eligible but not qualifying for a positive benefit, or as having a benefit overissuance equal to or exceeding the recorded benefit (STATUS = 2 and RAWBEN <= AMTERR)

Table II.1 shows the number and percentage of cases that were dropped from the FY 2021 edited SNAP QC database.

**Table II.1. Number and percentage of cases sampled, dropped from the edited file, and included in the edited file, FY 2021**

Category	FY 2021 SNAP QC sample	Percentage of cases sampled	Percentage of cases subject to review
Number of cases sampled	24,037	n.a.	n.a.
Number of cases sampled in July through September	12,843	100.0	n.a.
Cases not subject to review	594	4.6	n.a.
Cases deselected to correct for oversampling	0	0.0	n.a.
Cases subject to review	12,249	95.4	100.0
Incomplete cases	2,087	16.3	17.0
Cases completed	10,162	79.1	83.0
Not eligible for SNAP	187	1.5	1.5
Not eligible for a positive benefit	95	0.7	0.8
Eligible for a positive benefit	9,880	76.9	80.7
Dropped due to unresolved inconsistencies	34	0.3	0.3
Dropped due to concerns with State samples <sup>a</sup>	14	0.1	0.1
SNAP units in the final SNAP QC database	9,832	76.6	80.3

Source: FY 2021 SNAP QC sample.

<sup>a</sup> We dropped 3 cases in Delaware and 11 in Guam due to small or non-representative monthly State samples.

n.a. = not applicable.

## 2. Data editing

Consistent measures of SNAP unit size, income, and benefit level are critical to any analysis of SNAP units. However, data for these measures are not always consistent in the raw data file. For instance, the sum of the income of each person in the unit may not equal the reported unit-level gross income. Such inconsistencies may be rooted in the initial case record information or the data entry process. During data editing, we resolve the inconsistencies described below. We drop the small number of SNAP units with unresolved inconsistencies from the edited file.

The overall strategy of the editing process is to ensure that certain relationships hold for all cases. The two most basic relationships are the following:

- Net income must equal gross income minus the total deductions for which the unit is eligible, and it must not be negative.



- The SNAP benefit level must equal the maximum benefit for that unit size minus 30 percent of net income (or be set to the minimum benefit if appropriate), and it must not be negative.

In addition, several important relationships must hold for some final and intermediate variables. For example:

- Gross unit income must equal the sum of all countable person-level income amounts.
- The earned income deduction must equal the specified percentage (rounded down) of countable earned income.
- The excess shelter expense deduction must equal shelter costs above 50 percent of gross income minus all other deductions up to a cap. Units with elderly members or with non-elderly individuals with disabilities are not subject to the cap. Units with a homeless household shelter deduction will not have an excess shelter expense deduction.<sup>10</sup>
- Total deductions must equal the sum of the following:
  - Standard deduction
  - Earned income deduction
  - Dependent care deduction
  - Medical expense deduction
  - Child support payment deduction<sup>11</sup>
  - Excess shelter expense deduction or homeless household shelter deduction

Households participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or an SSI-CAP are subject to different eligibility and benefit determination rules, and their data are edited accordingly.

In Chapter III, we describe the complex process by which we determine whether a case is internally consistent and, if not, perform the needed edits.

### 3. Variable construction

We construct several variables from the reported data once the file is edited. Some of the constructed variables (for example, unit-level gross income, net income, and unit size) are edited versions of raw variables, whereas others (such as non-elderly individuals with disabilities) are created to more easily identify units and individuals with certain characteristics. The major classes of constructed variables are unit-level countable income variables, SNAP eligibility and benefit determination variables, and characteristics flags:

- **Unit-level countable income variables.** The total SNAP unit income variable for each type of income (for example, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families [TANF] or Social Security) is constructed by summing the person-level income of that type over all individuals in the SNAP unit.

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<sup>10</sup> The 2018 Farm Bill made mandatory the existing State option to provide a standard shelter deduction to homeless households that had qualifying shelter expenses and that were not claiming the excess shelter expense deduction. The 2018 Farm Bill also indexed the homeless shelter deduction to inflation. In FY 2021, the value of the mandated homeless shelter deduction was \$156.74.

<sup>11</sup> In some cases, child support payments are excluded from gross income and are not taken as a deduction.

The total SNAP unit gross income, earned income, and unearned income variables are constructed by summing all the appropriate unit income variables.

- **SNAP eligibility and benefit determination variables.** Variables used to determine eligibility and benefits—such as SNAP unit deductions, SNAP unit net countable income, and SNAP unit benefits—are constructed on the basis of SNAP unit countable income and unit demographic characteristics.
- **Characteristics flags.** Characteristics flags identify SNAP units with certain features, such as the presence of an elderly individual or a non-elderly individual with a disability. In addition, we merge data from Census Bureau files to identify whether a SNAP unit resides in a metropolitan, micropolitan, or rural area.<sup>12</sup>

#### 4. Weighting

We weight the observations in the raw SNAP QC data file such that the weighted totals match as closely as possible three adjusted SNAP Program Operations totals: (1) the monthly number of SNAP units by State and sampling stratum, (2) the monthly number of SNAP participants by State, and (3) the monthly total benefits issued by State. SNAP Program Operations totals are generated from FNS’s National Data Bank and reflect actual levels of participation and benefit issuance. We adjust these data as needed to remove households that received benefits issued through the SNAP disaster assistance program as well as those that were ineligible for benefits, because these households are not included in the SNAP QC database. For the FY 2021 data file, we used Form 388 (State Issuance and Participation Estimates) data on SNAP units and individuals and Form 46 (Issuance Reconciliation Report) data on SNAP benefit issuance. We adjusted Form 388 data to remove units and individuals solely receiving disaster benefits. We used benefit issuance data from Form 46 that already excluded disaster benefits, COVID-19 emergency allotments, and replacement benefits. The rates of SNAP units and individuals receiving benefits in error, as well as total benefits received in error, were estimated from the raw QC data file.

We did not use Form 46 data to estimate weighting targets for benefits for Minnesota and Tennessee, as those benefit totals were much higher than would appear plausible based on prior years of data, and too high to match the SNAP QC data. For Minnesota, we instead used Form 388 benefit totals adjusted to remove disaster benefits, COVID-19 emergency allotments, and other non-SNAP benefits. For Tennessee, the Form 388 benefit totals were implausibly high, so we used average monthly household benefits from the raw QC data to develop the weighting targets.

For FY 2021, we further revised the disaster-adjusted benefits when we suspected errors in the program data due to larger than average month-to-month changes in the average per-person benefit. Specifically, we made adjustments to Program Operations data for benefits in seven States—Alabama, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland, and Minnesota—in one or more months. In Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, and Minnesota, benefits appeared to be overestimated in the months we adjusted when we compared them with benefit amounts in adjacent months during the fiscal year. In Alabama, benefits appeared to be underestimated. In Massachusetts and Maryland, benefits in one month appeared to be overestimated, and benefits in another month appeared to be underestimated. We adjusted total benefits in one of four ways, depending on the State’s data: (1) by using the average values for the adjacent months for the State, (2) by using the average values of consecutive months if more than one month required

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<sup>12</sup> A micropolitan statistical area has at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 people but fewer than 50,000 people and includes adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core, as measured by commuting ties.

adjustments, (3) by using the average fiscal year value for the State, or (4) by multiplying the number of households by the fiscal year average household benefit for the State.

The criteria used to determine whether an adjustment was needed for a particular month and State was based on the mean absolute deviation and whether the weighting program could converge so that the sum of weights matched the adjusted Program Operations totals for units, individuals, and benefits.

As a result of these adjustments, the totals used to weight the FY 2021 SNAP QC database do not match FNS administrative records. Table II.2. compares the aggregate program participation data for FY 2021 to the QC System sample-based estimates. Table II.3 compares average unit size, benefit per person, and household size in the Program Operations data to the QC sample estimates. Appendix Tables D.1 through D.3 present the weighted unit, individual, and benefit totals by State and month. Appendix Tables D.4 through D.6 show the corresponding adjustments to the Program Operations data that yielded the target numbers for those weighted totals. In Chapter III, Section C, we describe the derivation of the sampling weights in detail.

**Table II.2. Comparison of program data to edited SNAP QC database, FY 2021**

	Average monthly values		
	Number of households	Number of participants	Value of benefits (dollars)
Program data	32,387,323	54,886,833	14,192,347,803
Adjustments to program data for:			
Disaster assistance <sup>a</sup>	11,022,899	14,039,111	7,999,381,179
Smoothing the data	0	0	223,939,601
Excluded State-months <sup>b</sup>	69,901	150,844	23,973,539
Ineligible SNAP units	521,773	1,232,647	346,045,163
Target numbers for edited SNAP QC database	20,772,750	39,444,231	5,599,274,320
Edited SNAP QC database	20,772,750	39,444,231	5,599,274.320

Source: FY 2021 Program Operations data and three-month SNAP QC database.

<sup>a</sup> In FY 2021, disaster assistance included Pandemic EBT (P-EBT), Disaster SNAP benefits (D-SNAP), disaster supplements including SNAP emergency allotments, and replacement benefits. Adjustments are made for units and individuals who only received disaster assistance and were not already receiving SNAP. Adjustments are made to benefits for disaster benefits issued to SNAP units as well as for disaster and replacement benefits issued to qualifying, ongoing SNAP units.

<sup>b</sup> As discussed in Chapters I and II, September data for Delaware and Guam are not included in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database. As such, September program data in those States are not included in determining the weighting targets. This row shows the aggregate effect on the monthly average program totals in those States when the months not included in the SNAP QC database are removed from the calculation.

**Table II.3. Averages in program data compared to edited SNAP QC database, FY 2021**

	Average monthly value		
	Average SNAP unit size	Average benefit per person (dollars)	Average benefit per household (dollars)
Program data	1.69	258.67	438.21
Target numbers for edited SNAP QC database	1.90	141.95	269.55
Edited SNAP QC database	1.90	141.95	269.55

Sources: FY 2021 Program Operations data and SNAP QC database.

### D. Final SNAP QC database

We create two versions of the final SNAP QC database: (1) a restricted-use version that includes all variables and (2) a public-use version that, for privacy reasons, excludes the QC review number (REVNUM) and four geographic variables: COUNTYCD, LOCALCOD, AK\_AREA, and URBRUR. We provide a more detailed explanation of the variables on the file in Chapter IV.

After we develop the SNAP QC database, we create SAS, Stata, and SPSS versions that may be used to tabulate characteristics of SNAP units.

### III. FY 2021 SNAP QC File Development Process

#### A. Developing the SNAP QC files

In this chapter and in Figure III.1, we describe the programs and data we used to develop the FY 2021 SNAP QC files.<sup>13</sup> The raw data file included samples for nearly all States and territories for July, August, and September, as well as samples for 30 States and the District of Columbia in at least one other month. However, the final SNAP QC database does not include data from before July 2021 because those data are too incomplete to be nationally representative. We retained all months of data through the first eight file development steps described below, including the creation of the qcfy2021\_2 file. We then restricted the data to the July through September data just before weighting the file.

##### Step 1. Obtain data

We received the data from FNS in an ASCII (or text) format.

INPUT CD	File: FY2021	(ASCII file)
	Record length 2,250	
	24,037 records	

##### Step 2. Read in and prepare files

We converted to SAS format the specified fields from the raw FNS file and created the unique record identifier (HHLDNA). We dropped September samples for Delaware and Guam because they were too small or not sufficiently representative of the actual monthly caseload, respectively, to include in the database.

PROGRAM NAME	10_SASIFY.SAS	
INPUT FILE	FY2021	(ASCII; 24,037 records)
OUTPUT FILE	QCFY2021_1.SAS7BDAT	(24,009 records; 721 variables)

##### Step 3. Conduct quality assurance (QA) review of the data

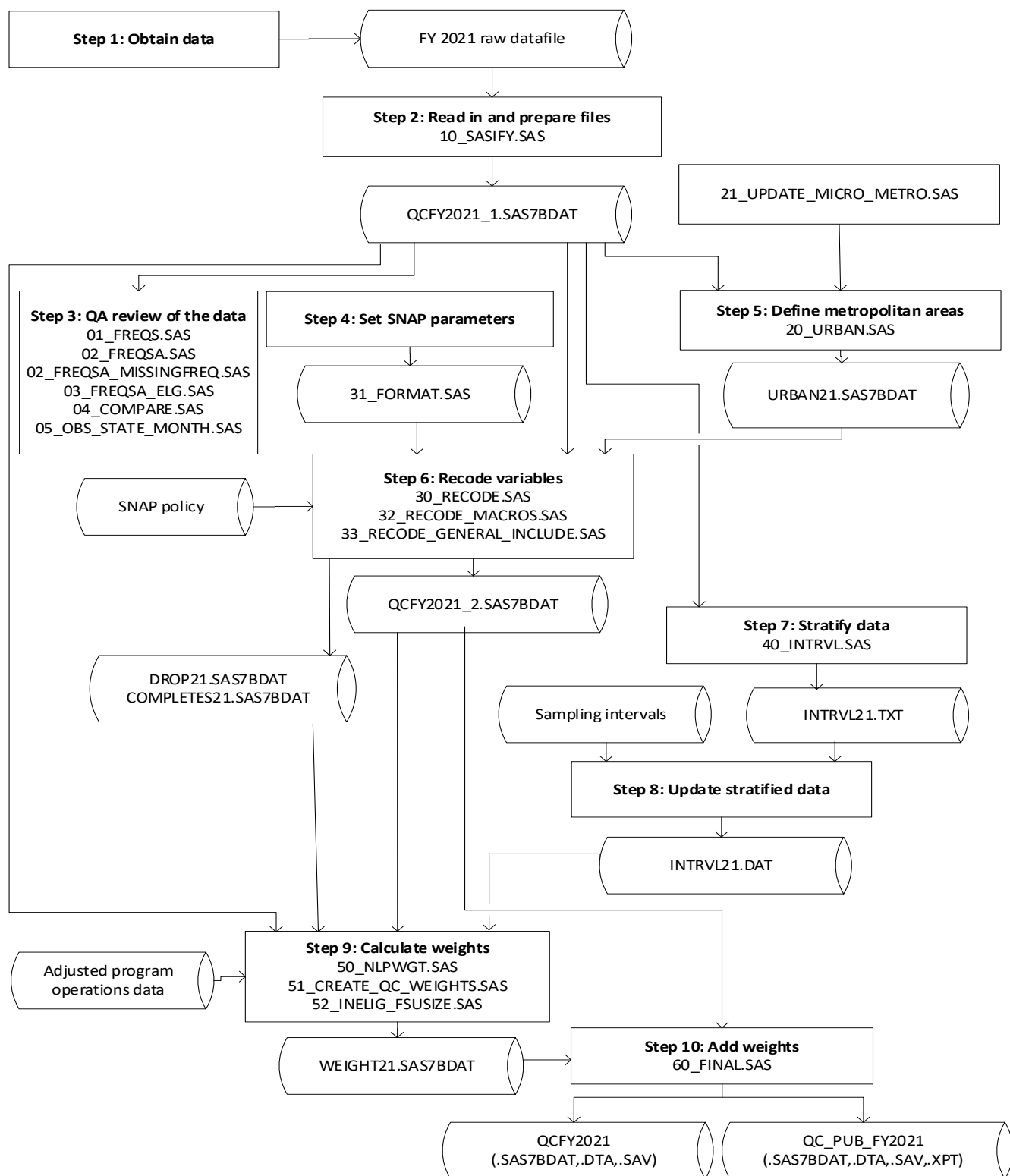
We ran preliminary frequencies on the SAS file and examined them for data corruption, consistency across States and months, and the extent of missing and out-of-range data. In addition, we calculated means and compared them with means for the previous year.

PROGRAM NAMES	01_FREQS.SAS	
	02_FREQSA.SAS	
	03_FREQS_ELG.SAS	
	04_COMPARE.SAS	
	05_OBS_STATE_MONTH.SAS	
INPUT FILE	QCFY2021_1.SAS7BDAT	(24,009 records; 721 variables)

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<sup>13</sup> Copies of the file development programs are available from FNS upon request.

Figure III.1. FY 2021 SNAP QC file development process



#### Step 4. Set SNAP parameters

We obtained relevant SNAP policy parameters, including maximum and minimum benefit amounts, income screens, Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) amounts, and values for the MFIP and SSI-CAPs by State.<sup>14</sup> We entered them into a SAS format library and used the formats for the program in Step 6.

OUTPUT PROGRAM	31_FORMAT.SAS
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#### Step 5. Define metropolitan areas

We added geographic information to the file. Using the local agency code in the raw data file, we assigned a county Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code to each SNAP unit. We flagged unknown local agency codes for correction or addition to a concordance of local agency codes by county and State. We then merged each unit to the 2020 Census Bureau files of metropolitan and micropolitan areas by using State and county codes. We coded units as metropolitan or micropolitan, depending on their match to one of the Census Bureau files. We coded those not found in either file as rural, except for those with State-wide local codes, which we coded as missing metropolitan status. We assigned Alaska units with missing or unknown local agency codes a metropolitan status based on the unit's region (Alaska Urban, Alaska Rural I, or Alaska Rural II). We did not include cases not subject to review or incomplete cases in the output files.

PROGRAM NAME	20_URBAN.SAS	
INPUT FILES	QCFY2021_1.SAS7BDAT	(24,009 records; 721 variables)
	METRO2_20.TXT	(ASCII; 1,251 records; 4 variables) (Census 2020 Metropolitan File)
	MICRO2_20.TXT	(ASCII; 665 records; 4 variables) (Census 2020 Micropolitan File)
	FIPS_LAC.TXT	(ASCII; 5,191 records; 6 variables) (Concordance of local area codes)
OUTPUT FILE	URBAN21.SAS7BDAT	(19,337 records; 5 variables)

#### Step 6. Recode and standardize variables

We edited the file to resolve inconsistencies between variables within a unit and created several unit-level variables pertaining to SNAP affiliation, income deductions, the shelter limit, benefit amounts, assets, poverty status, and types of income. Unknown values (9-filled or 0 where a value should have been entered) were set to missing. The program detected inconsistencies between person-level income totals and reported totals and resolved them by using the procedure we detail below (see Section III.B on obtaining file consistency). Units that met all the following conditions were written to the output file: (1) found eligible by the QC reviewer; (2) received a benefit amount of at least \$1; (3) passed the eligibility tests, flagged as categorically eligible, or identified as participating in MFIP or an SSI-CAP; and (4) were internally consistent after edits.

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<sup>14</sup> SUAs are standard utility allowances that States may use in place of actual utility costs to calculate a household's total shelter expenses. SUAs are mandatory in some States and optional in others.

PROGRAM NAME	30_RECODE.SAS	
INPUT FILES	QCFY2021_1.SAS7BDAT	(24,009 records; 721 variables)
	31_FORMAT.SAS	(Format library)
	URBAN21.SAS7BDAT	(19,337 records; 5 variables)
OUTPUT FILES	QCFY2021_2.SAS7BDAT	(18,749 records; 1,614 variables)
	COMPLETES21.SAS7BDAT	(19,337 records; 1,616 variables)
	DROP21.SAS7BDAT	(61 records; 1,615 variables)

### Step 7. Stratify data

We created a file containing State name, FIPS code, and stratum, with one record per State-stratum combination.

PROGRAM NAME	40_INTRVL.SAS	
INPUT FILE	QCFY2021_1.SAS7BDAT	(24,009 records; 721 variables)
OUTPUT FILE	INTRVL21.TXT	(ASCII; 53 records, 4 variables)

### Step 8. Update stratified data

None of the States had a stratified sample in FY 2021, so it was not necessary to edit the INTRVL21.TXT file. We simply saved it as INTRVL21.DAT.

INPUT FILE	INTRVL21.TXT	(ASCII; 53 records; 4 variables)
OUTPUT FILE	INTRVL21.DAT	(ASCII; 53 records, 4 variables)

### Step 9. Calculate weights

We dropped records for months before July 2021. Then, as described in Section III.C, we calculated a weight for each SNAP unit that had a complete review, except for units that were dropped from the edited file because of unresolved inconsistencies.

PROGRAM NAME	50_NLPWGT.SAS	
INPUT FILES	QCFY2021_1.SAS7BDAT	(24,009 records; 721 variables)
	QCFY2021_2.SAS7BDAT	(18,749 records; 1,614 variables)
	INTRVL21.DAT	(ASCII; 53 records, 4 variables)
	FY2021_ADJUSTED.XLSX	(Excel spreadsheet containing FNS Program Operations data adjusted for disasters)
	COMPLETES21.SAS7BDAT	(19,337 records; 1,616 variables)
OUTPUT FILE	DROP21.SAS7BDAT	(61 records; 1,615 variables)
	WEIGHT21.SAS7BDAT	(10,113 records; 27 variables)

### Step 10. Add weights

We merged the files containing weights with the edited SNAP QC file to produce the final FY 2021 SNAP QC file. The QCFY2021 file is for internal use and includes all variables. The QC\_PUB\_FY2021 file is for public use and excludes REVNUM, COUNTYCD, LOCALCOD, AK\_AREA, and URBRUR for privacy reasons. The public-use file also excludes two intermediate weighting variables.



PROGRAM NAME	60_FINAL.SAS	
INPUT FILES	QCFY2021_2.SAS7BDAT	(18,749 records; 1,614 variables)
	WEIGHT21.SAS7BDAT	(10,113 records; 27 variables)
OUTPUT FILES <sup>15</sup>		
SAS DATA FILES	QCFY2021.SAS7BDAT	(9,832 records; 821 variables)
	QC_PUB_FY2021.SAS7BDAT	(9,832 records; 814 variables)
STATA DATA FILES	QCFY2021.DTA	(9,832 records; 821 variables)
	QC_PUB_FY2021.DTA	(9,832 records; 814 variables)
SPSS DATA FILES	QCFY2021.SAV	(9,832 records; 820 variables)
	QC_PUB_FY2021.SAV	(9,832 records; 813 variables)
SAS TRANSPORT FILES	QC_PUB_FY2021.XPT	(9,832 records; 814 variables)

## B. Obtaining file consistency

As mentioned under Step 6 above, we performed selected editing of the reported data. We followed the procedures below to obtain a high degree of consistency between related variables while maintaining the integrity of the database. Some of the procedures do not apply to SNAP units that are in MFIP or were participating in an SSI-CAP. We present the editing procedures for MFIP and SSI-CAP units after outlining the standard editing procedures. For details on specific data-cleaning procedures, please refer to Appendix B.

### 1. Standard editing procedures

**Step 1. Eliminate case records that are incomplete or are for SNAP units that do not qualify for a benefit, including those:**

- With incomplete reviews (REVDISP not equal to 1)
- With no case members (CERTHHSZ = 0)
- Found ineligible by the QC reviewer (STATUS = 4)
- With an overissuance that is equal to or greater than the reported benefit (STATUS = 2 and RAWBEN <= AMTERR)
- With unknown eligibility (STATUS is missing)

**Step 2. Obtain a preliminary count of the number of people in the SNAP unit**

**Step 3. Recode missing information to SAS missing values**

- Any field coded with an out-of-range value is set to a missing value of .A (for example, a 0 in the SNAP case affiliation code).
- Any field coded as unknown (filled with 9s) is set to a missing value of .B. The one exception is the SNAP case affiliation code (FSAFILi), where the 9s remain to signify a valid person.
- Any constructed field that cannot be determined because of missing input values is set to a missing value of .C (for example, total assets).

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<sup>15</sup> The SPSS version omits the variable “statename” due to inconsistencies in the way SPSS treats such variables.

- For units participating in months for which they are not certified, CERTMTH is set to a missing value of .D.
- For MFIP and SSI-CAP units, variables not relevant in the benefit determination are set to a missing value of .E.

### Step 4. Finalize the unit size

We use the SNAP case affiliation variable to count the number of members in the SNAP unit under review (FSAFILi = 1).

### Step 5. Determine unit totals and indicator variables

Examples of totals include the number of elderly individuals (FSNELDER), children (FSNKID), and non-elderly individuals with disabilities (FSNDIS). Examples of indicators include citizenship status of the unit head (NONCIT\_HEAD) and categorical eligibility status (CAT\_ELIG) of the unit.

### Step 6. Initialize FY 2021 values (for example, the standard deduction, shelter cap, and maximum benefit)

### Step 7. Reconcile duplicated amounts of wages (WAGESi), Social Security income (SOCSECI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and TANF (TANFi)

If a unit contains multiple individuals with equivalent WAGESi and either equivalent SOCSECI amounts or SSI amounts, we check whether the sum of unduplicated income amounts is equal to reported gross income (RAWGROSS). If so, we assume that the QC reviewer incorrectly reported each individual's income for all members of the unit. We try to reconcile the duplicated amounts by using work registration status (WRKREGi) and age. For example, if two non-elderly members have identical WAGESi and SOCSECI, and one is coded as being exempt from work registration due to a disability and the other is not, we assign the SOCSECI income to the former (and set WAGESi to 0) and the WAGESi income to the latter (and set SOCSECI to 0). If a unit includes duplicate TANF amounts (TANFi), a household head (RELi = 1), and at least one child (RELi = 4), and if the benefit calculated from the deduplicated TANF and reported deductions matches the reported benefit amount, we retain the deduplicated TANF amount for the household head and set other duplicated TANF amounts to 0.

### Step 8. Calculate earned and unearned incomes for those inside the unit and others in the household by adding up person-level income amounts

- Earned income variables are wages (WAGESi), self-employment income (SLFEMPi), and other earned income (OTHERNi).
- Unearned income variables include:
  - Contributions (CONTi)
  - Court-ordered child support payments (CSUPRTi)
  - Deemed income (DEEMi)
  - State diversion payments (DIVERi)
  - Educational grants and loans (EDLOANi)
  - Earned income tax credit income (EITCi)

- Energy assistance income (ENERGYi)
- Foster care income (FOSTERi)
- State general assistance (GAi)
- Other government benefits (OTHGOVi)
- Other unearned income (OTHUNi)
- Social Security income (SOCSECI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSIi)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANFi)
- Unemployment compensation (UNEMPi)
- Veterans' benefits (VETi)
- Workers' compensation (WCOMPi)
- Subsidized earned income (WGESUPi)

**Step 9. Reconcile reported person-level income amounts with reported unit-level income and deduction variables**

All household members reported on the file (not just unit members) are initially considered in the process of reconciling person- and unit-level income. Any person-level income amount that is found to not count toward the benefit calculation is set to 0. To reconcile any differences between the person- and unit-level income amounts, we perform the following steps sequentially, and stop when we resolve inconsistencies:

- 9a. **Does the child support income match the child support payment deduction?** For units in which child support income and child support expenses are the same, we determine whether excluding either will allow us to replicate the reported unit-level gross income or net income. We set to 0 any child support income or deductions that are not used. If the child support exclusion amount is greater than the gross income amount, we set gross income to 0.<sup>16</sup>
- 9b. **Does the sum of person-level income match the unit-level gross income?** We compare earned and unearned income for members of the unit and the household to determine whether any combination is equal to the reported unit-level gross income. We check in the following order: (1) all unit income, (2) all unit income plus unearned income from outside the unit, (3) all unit income plus earned income from outside the unit, and (4) all household income.<sup>17</sup> At each stage, we check to see if child support expenses have been excluded from the unit-level gross income. If person-level sums and the unit-level gross income are equal at any stage, we set any income not used to 0.
- 9c. **Does the sum of person-level unearned income and earnings implied by the earned income deduction match the unit-level gross income?** We compare unearned income for members of the unit and the household plus the amount of earnings implied by the reported earned income deduction with the reported unit-level gross income to determine whether any combination is equal. We first

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<sup>16</sup> States may exclude child support expenses from gross income rather than consider them a deduction. For units excluding it from gross income, we verify that gross income minus child support expenses is at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines.

<sup>17</sup> "Unit" income is income associated with participating household members. We allow a \$5 difference to account for potential rounding differences.

check unit unearned income and then household unearned income. At each stage, we check to see if child support expenses have been excluded from the unit-level gross income. If we find a match, we adjust earnings to satisfy the earned income deduction (adjusting existing earnings proportionately or, if there are no person-level earnings, adding to the householder's other earned income). We set all other income to 0.

- 9d. **Is gross income not recorded?** If the reported unit-level gross income is 0 and the benefit is less than the maximum benefit for a unit of this size, we set the unit-level gross income to the sum of the person-level income values for the household.
- 9e. **Is the benefit consistent with having no income?** If the reported unit-level gross income is 0 and the benefit is equal to the maximum benefit for a unit of this size, we set the person-level income values for the household to 0.
- 9f. **Is gross income unreasonably high?** If the reported unit-level gross income is out of range (in this case, greater than three times the net income screen for a unit of this size) and no person-level income value is out of range, we set the unit-level gross income to the sum of the person-level income values for the household.
- 9g. **Is person-level income consistent with deductions and unit-level net income?** We compare combinations of earned and unearned income for members of the unit and the household minus calculated total deductions to the reported unit-level net income. The calculated total deductions vary for each combination because the shelter deduction depends on household income while the earned income deduction depends on total earnings. We check in the following order: (1) all unit income less total deductions, (2) all unit income plus unearned income from outside the unit less total deductions, (3) all unit income plus earned income from outside the unit less total deductions, and (4) all household income less total deductions. If one of these combinations matches reported net income, we set any income types not used to 0 and recalculate unit-level gross income.
- 9h. **Are person-level unearned income and earnings implied by the earned income deduction consistent with deductions and unit-level net income?** We check unearned income for members of the unit and the household plus the amount of earnings implied by the reported earned income deduction to determine whether any combination equals the reported unit-level net income plus calculated total deductions. We check in the following order: (1) unit unearned income and (2) household unearned income. If one of these combinations matches reported net income, we adjust earnings to satisfy the earned income deduction (adjusting existing earnings proportionately or, in the event of no person-level earnings, adding to the householder's other earned income). We set any income types not used to 0.
- 9i. **Do unit-level income values agree with no errors reported?** If no errors are reported (AMTERR = 0) and the unit-level income values agree (gross income = net income + total deductions), we adjust the person-level income to agree with the unit-level values. We first adjust person-level earnings proportionately to agree with the earned income deductions. If any further adjustments are needed, we adjust person-level unearned income values proportionately. However, we adjust SSI values only if SSI is the only unearned income or the amount of other unearned income is not enough to reconcile the unit.
- 9j. **Are earnings consistent with the reported earned income deduction, but exceeding the reported unit-level gross income?** If earnings are consistent with the reported earned income

deduction, but they exceed the unit-level reported gross income, we recalculate the gross income, setting to 0 any person-level income not used. Specifically, if unit earnings are consistent with the reported earned income deduction, we set all income outside the unit to 0. If household earnings are consistent, we set any unearned income outside the unit to 0. If the unit reports no earnings or up to \$1 in earnings per person in the household, has deemed income (FSDEEM), has an earned income deduction equal to 20 percent of FSDEEM (within \$5), and includes an individual outside the unit, we change the deemed income to wages. If someone outside the unit reports the deemed income, then the wages remain with that person. If someone inside the unit reports the deemed income, we move the wages to someone outside the unit. If more than one individual is outside the unit, we assign wages to the first individual outside the unit who satisfies one of the following conditions (in order): individual is (1) reporting \$1 in wages, (2) the household head ( $REL_i = 1$ ), (3) the spouse of the household head ( $REL_i = 2$ ), (4) the first non-elderly adult, or (5) the first individual. If the unit reports \$1 in earnings, has other unearned income (FSOTHUN), has an earned income deduction equal to 20 percent of FSOTHUN (within \$5), and includes an individual outside the unit, we change the other unearned income to wages, allocating the wages to an individual outside the unit using a similar process to the one used for FSDEEM.

- 9k. **Are person- and unit-level income amounts still inconsistent?** If we still have not resolved incomes, we make the person-level incomes equal to the reported unit-level gross income by using the following approach. If the reported earned income deduction indicates zero earnings, we set any person-level earnings to 0. If the reported earned income deduction indicates earnings no greater than the reported gross income, we proportionately adjust all person-level earnings to satisfy the earned income deduction. Otherwise, we proportionately adjust all person-level earnings. If additional adjustments are needed, we proportionately adjust all person-level unearned income values.

Step 10. Calculate final SNAP unit income totals (for example, gross, net, TANF, and SSI)

Step 11. Create remaining flags and variables

If the unit reports an adult age 18–49 without disabilities ( $DIS_i = 0$ ) and includes a nonparticipating child ( $FSAFIL = 19$ ) outside of the unit where  $REL_i = 4$  (daughter, stepdaughter, son, or stepson), we flag the adult as *not* an adult without disabilities in a childless unit (even though the unit does not include participating children) ( $NDISCA_i = 2$ ).

Step 12. Calculate the benefit

Step 13. If the calculated benefit does not match the raw benefit, adjust the dependent care deduction, excess shelter expense deduction, or medical expense deduction if doing so results in a matching benefit

In some SNAP units, we can reconcile initial differences between the calculated benefit and the raw benefit by performing the following steps sequentially and stopping when we resolve inconsistencies:

- 13a. **Does the calculated benefit match the raw benefit?** We define a SNAP unit as having a matching benefit if it meets one of the following conditions:
- i. QC reviewers recorded a payment error and (1) the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit adjusted for the error amount, or (2) the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the

unadjusted raw benefit and the error element is not indicated to be the dependent care deduction, the shelter deduction, or the SUA.

- ii. QC reviewers recorded no payment errors and the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit.

13b. **Does adjusting the dependent care deduction result in a matching benefit?** If a unit has a dependent care deduction that is not consistent with dependent care costs, we set the deduction equal to total dependent care costs if doing so results in meeting one of the following conditions:

- i. QC reviewers recorded a payment error and the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit adjusted for the error amount.
- ii. QC reviewers recorded no payment errors and the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit.

For each condition, we check benefit calculations with and without allotment adjustments.

13c. **Does adjusting the excess shelter expense deduction result in a matching benefit?** We try setting the amount of utility expenses equal to an SUA amount or to 0. We try different utility amounts in the following order: (1) Heating and Cooling SUA (HCSUA), (2) Limited Utility Allowance (LUA), (3) utilities equal 0, (4) telephone allowance, and (5) a single-element SUA.<sup>18</sup> We set the amount of utility expenses equal to an SUA amount or to 0 if doing so results in meeting one of the following conditions:

- i. QC reviewers recorded a payment error and the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit adjusted for the error amount.
- ii. QC reviewers recorded no payment errors and the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit.
- iii. QC reviewers recorded no payment errors and the calculated shelter deduction is within \$5 of the raw shelter deduction.
- iv. For SNAP units in New York, QC reviewers recorded no payment errors, utilities equal the HCSUA, and the unit is coded as using an HCSUA.<sup>19</sup>

For each condition, we check benefit calculations with and without allotment adjustments. FY 2021 SUA values by State are provided in Appendix F, Table F.7.

13d. **Does setting the medical expense deduction to 0 for a standard medical deduction demonstration participant result in a matching benefit?** For participants in standard medical

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<sup>18</sup> Many States employ more than one SUA to accommodate units with different types of utility expenses. The HCSUA generally includes all utilities, including telephone service. The LUA is used for units that do not have heating and cooling expenses separate from rent but have at least two other utility expenses. The LUA generally includes all other utilities, including telephone service. A telephone allowance is used for units with telephone expenses but without any other utility expenses. Some States also use a one-utility standard, for units with a single utility expense such as electricity. In addition, a few States use combinations of individual standards for different utility expenses. Hawaii, for example, employs individual utility standards for electricity, telephones, sewage, trash, and water.

<sup>19</sup> New York's computer system automatically generates an SUA for certain units. Consequently, we do not require a matching net income or a matching shelter deduction for New York SNAP units, as long as the unit is coded as using an HCSUA.

deduction demonstration States,<sup>20</sup> we set the medical expense deduction, medical expenses, and the standard medical deduction demonstration flag to 0 if doing so results in meeting one of the following conditions:

- i. QC reviewers recorded a payment error and the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit adjusted for the error amount.
- ii. QC reviewers recorded no payment errors and the calculated benefit is within \$5 of the raw benefit.

13e. **Redo the income reconciliation, if necessary.** If we modified a deduction to match the computed benefit (Steps 13b, 13c, or 13d) and used deductions in the income reconciliation (Step 9), then we redo the income reconciliation with new deduction values, repeating all steps beginning with Step 9.

#### Step 14. Drop units for which the calculated benefit is less than \$1

#### Step 15. Perform automated edits to reconcile remaining inconsistencies

Appendix B provides details.

#### Step 16. Update categorical eligibility

A unit is categorically eligible for SNAP if any of the following is true:

- The QC reviewer recorded the unit as categorically eligible.
- The unit meets the standards for expanded categorical eligibility in its State. (See Appendix B for information on State-expanded categorical eligibility policies.)
- The unit is pure cash public assistance (PA); that is, either (1) everyone in the unit has person-level income from TANF, General Assistance (GA) benefits, or SSI; (2) the unit has TANF income and every adult has person-level income from TANF, GA, or SSI; or (3) the unit contains only children and at least one has person-level income from TANF. Because TANF income is not reported on the file for most MFIP units, we code all MFIP units as pure PA.

#### Step 17. Determine eligibility

We assess whether units that are not identified as categorically eligible would pass the applicable Federal asset and income tests.

- Units without an elderly member or a non-elderly individual with a disability must have a monthly gross income at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines (Appendix F).<sup>21, 22</sup> If a unit's gross income exceeds the gross income limit by \$1 or less and the net income and benefit amounts

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<sup>20</sup> By the end of FY 2021, standard medical deduction demonstrations were operating in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming.

<sup>21</sup> States may exclude child support expenses from gross income rather than consider them a deduction. For units that exclude it from gross income, we check that gross income minus child support expenses is at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines.

<sup>22</sup> If a household includes an elderly individual or an individual with a disability outside the unit who was found ineligible because of an intentional program violation, a felony drug conviction, fleeing felon status, or noncompliance with a workfare or work requirement (FSAFILi = 8, 9, 11, or 13), the household is excluded from the gross income test.



match the raw net income and benefit amounts, we reduce the unit's gross income by \$1 so it will pass the gross income test.

- Units must have a net monthly income at or below 100 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines (Appendix F).<sup>23</sup>
- Units without an elderly member or an individual with a disability must have total countable assets of \$2,250 or less. Units with an elderly member or an individual with a disability are allowed up to \$3,500 in countable assets. (See the next section for exceptions.)

We retain on the file only units that either are categorically eligible or pass the applicable income and asset tests.

## 2. State variations to editing procedures

Below, we detail the State-specific editing procedures that we use to model State SNAP rules. These rules include higher asset limits (Section 2a), MFIP (Section 2b), SSI-CAP with standard benefits and standard shelter expenses (Section 2c), and standard medical deduction demonstrations (Section 2d).

### a. Asset limits in States with BBCE policies

Most States with a BBCE policy align their policy with a program or service that does not include an asset test. However, BBCE units face asset limits in five States: \$5,000 in Idaho, Indiana, and Texas, \$15,000 in Michigan, and \$25,000 in financial assets in Nebraska.

### b. Minnesota Family Investment Program units

MFIP is Minnesota's TANF program, which is open to low-income families with children.<sup>24</sup> MFIP calculates participants' food assistance and cash assistance benefits together; consequently, the SNAP benefit calculation differs from the Federal formula. Both the maximum food assistance portion and maximum cash assistance portion of the MFIP benefit are based on unit size and are higher for families with earnings (see Appendix F, Table F.8). To calculate the benefits, countable income is subtracted from the combined maximum food portion and cash portion, or the "transitional standard." If a unit has earned income, an earnings deduction is applied, and the remaining countable income is subtracted from the "family wage level," which is 10 percent higher than the transitional standard. If the total benefit amount is less than or equal to the maximum food portion, the unit receives only food assistance (see Step 5, below, for details on the food assistance benefit calculation). If the benefit is greater than the maximum food portion, the unit receives the remainder of the benefit as cash assistance. MFIP units receive no income deductions other than the earnings deduction. The earnings deduction rate for MFIP participants in FY 2021 was 50 percent after the exclusion of \$65 from earned income per wage earner.

Because of the way the SNAP benefit is calculated under MFIP, Minnesota does not often record the full TANF benefit amount on the QC data nor do we attempt to calculate it. For some MFIP units, Minnesota records a \$1 TANF benefit as an indicator that the unit received a cash TANF benefit. We code all MFIP units as pure PA regardless of whether they have a reported cash TANF benefit.

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<sup>23</sup> This test is not performed on SNAP units identified as participating in MFIP or an SSI-CAP demonstration in a State using standard benefits.

<sup>24</sup> More information is available from Minnesota's Department of Human Services website (<http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/>).



Below, we describe the calculation of the food portion of the benefit and differences in the general editing procedures that reconcile unit-level income with person-level income. (See Appendix F for FY 2021 cash and food portion values.)

**Step 1. Flag units that are MFIP participants.** Recognizing that not all MFIP participants receive a cash benefit, we first attempt to identify MFIP-participating units. We flag units in Minnesota as MFIP participants if they have one of the following characteristics:<sup>25</sup>

- The unit has person-level TANF income for SNAP unit members, unless the SNAP benefit in the raw data file is consistent with having been calculated using regular SNAP rules.
- The unit has children and the benefit, adjusted for errors, matches the MFIP table of benefits for this unit size.
- The unit has children, positive person-level earnings, and a positive reported earned income deduction equal to 50 percent of the person-level earnings.

**Step 2. Reconcile reported person-level income amounts with reported unit-level income and deduction variables.** The procedure for reconciling person-level income amounts with unit-level income and deductions is the same as for all other SNAP units except in the following cases:

- We begin reconciling person-level income to unit-level gross income by excluding TANF from unearned income. At each step in reconciling to unit-level gross income described above, if person-level incomes with TANF excluded do not equal the unit-level gross income, we try including TANF income to determine whether adding it allows us to reconcile to unit-level gross income.<sup>26</sup> The final calculated gross income includes any TANF income initially included in the raw data file.
- We do not attempt to reconcile MFIP participants' person-level income with reported unit-level net income, because net income is not used in the same way for the MFIP benefit as it is in the Federal program. We code the calculated net income variable as missing (.E) for all MFIP units.

**Step 3. Calculate the earned income deduction.** For MFIP units, we calculate the earned income deduction as 50 percent of earnings.

**Step 4. Calculate the final deductions.** We code all deductions except the earned income deduction and total deduction as missing (.E) for MFIP participants.

**Step 5. Calculate the food benefit.** We determine the benefit based on unit characteristics:

- If the unit has no income, then the benefit is the food portion for the unit size.
- If the unit has only earned income, the benefit is the lower of the food portion and the difference between the family wage level (the income threshold for units with earnings) and net earnings, but never less than 0.

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<sup>25</sup> MFIP's unit composition rules differ from regular SNAP rules. Specifically, SSI and TANF recipients living in the same household are treated as separate SNAP units. Consequently, if a Minnesota unit of more than one person had both SSI and TANF income, we set the affiliation code of SSI recipients to unknown (99).

<sup>26</sup> With the cash portion of the benefit calculated at the same time as the food portion of the benefit, we do not expect TANF income to be included in a unit's total gross income. However, in some unit records, TANF income is included, and we accept it as confirmation that the recorded gross income is correct.

- If the unit has only unearned income, the benefit is the lower of the food portion and the difference between the transitional standard (the income threshold for units without earnings) and net unearned income, but never less than 0.
- If the unit has both earned and unearned income, we subtract net earned income from the family wage level and compare the difference with the transitional standard. We then subtract unearned income from the smaller of the two (to ensure that the wages were high enough to merit the full increase to the family wage level). The benefit amount is the lower of this difference or the food portion, but never less than 0.
- For one- and two-person SNAP units, we set the benefit amount to the higher of the calculated benefit or the minimum Federal SNAP benefit.

### *c. SSI-Combined Application Project units*

In FY 2021, 17 States—Arizona, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, and Washington—had SSI-CAP demonstrations. These demonstration projects aim to streamline procedures for providing SNAP benefits to certain units eligible for both SNAP and SSI. Most provide participants with a standard benefit, and three provide a standard shelter expense deduction.

Effective January 1, 2021, the CAA temporarily increased SSI-CAP benefits by \$30 in one-person households and by \$56 in two-person households for all States. The increase was extended through September 30, 2021, as part of APRA. We modeled the CAA/ARPA increases for all States in FY 2021.

In the next two sections, we describe the programs in those 17 States and our procedures for identifying and editing SSI-CAP units for the SNAP QC database. Most of the SSI-CAP units we identified have reported data that are consistent with program rules. In some cases, however, we identify units as participating through an SSI-CAP even though some of their reported data are inconsistent with program rules. We flag SSI-CAP units with consistent data as `SSI_CAP = 2` and those with some inconsistent data as `SSI_CAP = 3`. We model State rules that let units with high medical expenses opt out of SSI-CAP by setting `SSI_CAP = 0` for potential SSI-CAP units with reported data that are inconsistent with some SSI-CAP program rules and high reported medical expenses (`FSMEDEXP > $200`).

### *i. SSI-CAP programs with a standard benefit*

The States listed in Table III.1 operate programs that provide participants with a standard “high” or “low” benefit, based on whether participants’ shelter expenses fall above or below a State-determined threshold. Because net income and deductions are not used to calculate benefits for SSI-CAP households, we set the final values of these variables to missing (.E).<sup>27</sup> Specifically, the variables set to missing for SSI-CAP participants in States with standard SSI-CAP benefits include:

- Net income (`FSNETINC`)
- Total deductions (`FSTOTDED`)
- Standard deduction (`FSSTDDED`)
- Medical expense deduction (`FSMEDDED`)
- Earned income deduction (`FSEINDED`)

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<sup>27</sup> The raw variables indicating the actual costs are usually retained.

- Dependent care deduction (FSDEPDED)
- Child support payment deduction (FSCSDED)
- Homeless household shelter deduction (HOMELESS\_DED)
- Excess shelter expense deduction (FSSLTDED)
- Standard Utility Allowance (SUA1 and SUA2)

We use the following general process to identify, recode, and assign benefits to households participating in standard benefit SSI-CAP programs:

- **Identifying units.** We identify as SSI-CAP participants all individuals meeting the eligibility criteria outlined for each State in Table III.1, with a recorded benefit adjusted for errors equal to any of the SSI-CAP standard benefit amounts for that State (see Appendix F, Tables F.9–F.22).
- **Recodes for units.** In addition to setting calculated net income and all calculated deductions to missing, if the sum of individual incomes does not equal the raw gross income, we set the sum of individual incomes equal to the (RAWGROSS) by adjusting individual incomes proportionately, as necessary.
- **Benefit calculations for units.** We set the final calculated benefit equal to the standard SSI-CAP benefit corresponding to the unit's rent or mortgage expenses (RENT) value or total shelter expenses (FSSLTEXP) and unit size.

**Table III.1. SSI-CAP programs with standard benefits**

State	Start date	Unit composition	Age	Allowed income	Shelter amounts	Benefit calculation
Arizona (AZSNAP)	February 2009	Living alone	65 or older	Unearned	\$0 to \$99; \$100 to \$199; \$200 to \$299; \$300 or greater	Table F.9
Kentucky (KYSAFE)	2007	Living alone or married	60 or older	Earned and unearned	Less than \$200; \$200 or greater	Table F.10
Louisiana (LaCAP)	2007	Living alone	60 or older	Earned and unearned	Less than \$425; \$425 to less than \$749; \$749 or greater	Table F.11
Maryland (MSNAP)	July 2010	Living alone	60 or older	Unearned	Less than \$525; \$525 or greater	Table F.12
Michigan (MiCAP)	April 2009	Living alone	18 or older	No income except SSI	Less than \$525, \$525 to less than \$750, \$750 or greater	Table F.13
Mississippi (MSCAP)	October 2001*	Living alone	No age requirement	Unearned	\$335 or less; greater than \$335	Table F.14
New Jersey (NJ SNAS)	May 2009	Living alone	65 or older	Unearned	\$563 or less; greater than \$563	Table F.15
New York (NYSNIP)	March 2003*	Living alone	No age requirement	Earned and unearned	SSI only: Positive utility costs (high/low rent), no utility costs (high/low rent), no shelter costs  SSI and other unearned income: Positive utility costs (high/low rent), no utility costs (high/low rent), no shelter costs	Table F.16
North Carolina (NCSNAP)	August 2005	Living alone	65 or older	Earned and unearned	Less than \$200; \$200 or greater	Table F.17
Pennsylvania (PACAP)	2007	Living alone	18 or older	Unearned	Less than \$196; \$196 or greater	Table F.18

State	Start date	Unit composition	Age	Allowed income	Shelter amounts	Benefit calculation
South Carolina (SCCAP)	October 1995*	Living alone	No age requirement	Unearned	From 10/2020 to 2/2021: \$420 or less; greater than \$420  From 3/2021 to 9/2021: \$410 or less; greater than \$410	Table F.19
South Dakota (SD IN)	January 2010	Living alone or married	18 or older	Earned and unearned	Less than \$690; \$690 to less than \$800; \$800 to less than \$900; \$900 or greater	Table F.20
Texas (SNAP-CAP)	September 2002*	Living alone or married	50 or older	Earned or unearned	\$440 or less; greater than \$440	Table F.21
Virginia (VaCAP)	August 2006	Living alone	65 or older	Unearned	Less than \$500; \$500 or greater	Table F.22

\* We began modeling the SSI-CAP program in FY 2004.

We use additional characteristics for identifying SSI-CAP participants, recoding values, and calculating benefits in some States as shown in Table III.2. We also adjusted the benefits of some units to accurately reflect the \$30 CAA/ARPA increase, as described in Section III.c.ii.

**Table III.2. States with special rules for identifying, recoding, and calculating benefits for SSI-CAP participants**

State	Identifying participants	Recoding values	Calculating benefits	Adjusting for CAA/ARPA benefits
Arizona	X			
Kentucky	X			X
Louisiana	X			
Maryland				X
Michigan				X
Mississippi	X	X	X	
New Jersey	X			
New York	X		X	
Pennsylvania			X	
South Carolina	X	X	X	
South Dakota	X		X	
Texas	X	X		
Virginia	X			X

#### *Identifying units*

In addition to the criteria listed in Table III.1, we identify as SSI-CAP participants units with a certification period of 24 months in New Jersey; 36 months in Arizona, Kentucky, and Virginia; and 36 or 39 months in Louisiana.

In New York, the certification period for NYSNIP is 48 months, with interim contact at 24 months. We identify as NYSNIP participants one-person units that receive SSI benefits and belong to one of the following groups:<sup>28, 29</sup>

- Units with a recorded benefit adjusted for errors that matches an NYSNIP benefit, and the benefit amount is consistent with the presence of unit income other than SSI, adjusting for the New York SSI supplement of \$87.
- Units with a recorded benefit adjusted for errors that matches an NYSNIP benefit and with the medical expense and excess shelter expense deductions both coded as 0.
- Units with a certification period exceeding 48 months.

Married couples in Kentucky and South Dakota may participate in SSI-CAP, but each individual must meet the eligibility criteria and be treated as a member of the same SNAP unit. We identify married couples in which both individuals are SNAP participants and report receiving SSI benefits as SSI-CAP participants.

In Texas, married individuals who are both age 50 or older and receive SSI benefits may participate in SSI-CAP but each is treated as a one-person household. We edit all household members other than the first qualifying SSI-CAP participant to be outside of the unit.

QC reviewers in Kentucky and Texas do not include information on SSI receipt for SSI-CAP units in the raw file. We identify units in these States that appear to be SSI-CAP cases based on their household composition, certification periods, and benefit amounts as SSI-CAP participants, even if they are not coded as receiving SSI.

QC reviewers in Mississippi and South Carolina record income and deductions that are consistent with the standard benefit for MSCAP and SCCAP participants, respectively. Most MSCAP and SCCAP units follow a consistent pattern in terms of income and recorded shelter expenses. (See Appendix F, Table F.14 for MSCAP benefits and income patterns and Appendix F, Table F.19 for SCCAP benefits and income patterns.) If one of the following conditions is true, we flag as MSCAP or SCCAP participants in one-person units that report receiving SSI benefits and have no reported earned income:

- The recorded benefit adjusted for errors equals an MSCAP or SCCAP standard benefit, and the recorded gross income or recorded net income is consistent with that benefit according to the pattern followed in most units (allowing the recorded utility amount for MSCAP or rent/mortgage amount for SCCAP to be inconsistent).<sup>30</sup>
- The recorded benefit adjusted for errors equals a standard benefit, and the recorded utility amount equals the MSCAP SUA or standard rent or mortgage amount for SCCAP (allowing the recorded gross and net income to be inconsistent).
- The recorded utility amount equals the MSCAP SUA, or the recorded rent or mortgage amount equals the standard rent or mortgage amount for SCCAP, and the recorded gross income or recorded net

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<sup>28</sup> New York requires NYSNIP participants to be living alone (not just forming one-person SNAP units) and provides data on the QC data file that are sufficiently detailed for us to identify households consisting of just one person.

<sup>29</sup> Because so few NYSNIP eligible units have allotment adjustments, we do not check for units where the recorded benefit plus or minus the allotment adjustment would equal an NYSNIP standard benefit.

<sup>30</sup> If the recorded benefit equals the minimum benefit, we require both gross income and net income to be consistent with the pattern.

income equals one of the income amounts consistent with the pattern (allowing the benefit to be inconsistent).<sup>31</sup>

#### *Recodes for units*

In Mississippi and South Carolina, we set calculated net income and all calculated deduction variables to missing as described earlier and perform the following recodes for units identified as MSCAP or SCCAP participants:

- **Shelter expenses.** For most MSCAP participants, QC reviewers record the utility expenses as the MSCAP SUA. For units where this is not the case, we recode the utility expense values (UTIL) to the MSCAP SUA. In addition to a utility expense, some QC reviewers record a rent or mortgage value for MSCAP units. We recode this value (RENT) as 0 because the MSCAP SUA reflects combined shelter expenses, including rent/mortgage.

For most SCCAP participants, QC reviewers record the utility expense value as the South Carolina HCSUA value and rent or mortgage as the standard SCCAP rent amount. We recode utilities (UTIL) to the South Carolina HCSUA and rent or mortgage (RENT) to the standard SCCAP rent amount for SCCAP units that do not follow this pattern.

- **Income.** In most MSCAP and SCCAP units, the raw gross income equals either the maximum SSI benefit for eligible individuals or the maximum SSI benefit plus \$20, reflecting the \$20 unearned income disregard for SSI. We recode the raw gross income (RAWGROSS) of MSCAP and SCCAP units that do not follow this pattern to one of these values. We set the sum of individual incomes equal to the raw gross income (RAWGROSS) by adjusting individual incomes proportionately as necessary.

In Texas, after setting calculated net income and all calculated deduction variables to missing as described earlier, we perform the following recode for units identified as SNAP-CAP participants:

- **SNAP participation and unit size.** If a unit consists of a married couple with both partners age 50 or older and coded as SNAP participants, and the unit receives a SNAP-CAP standard benefit, we keep the first person as an eligible member of the SNAP case under review (FSAFILi = 1) and recode the other as “Eligible SNAP participant in another unit, not currently under review” (FSAFILi = 2). We adjust the variable indicating unit size accordingly (FSUSIZE).
- **Income.** In SNAP-CAP units that originally had more than one individual coded as a SNAP participant, we reset raw gross income (RAWGROSS) equal to the sum of the individual incomes assigned to the one individual who remains a SNAP participant (FSAFILi = 1). In other SNAP-CAP units, we reconcile individual incomes with the original gross income.

#### *Benefit calculations for units*

In Mississippi, we set the final calculated benefit equal to the standard SSI-CAP benefit that corresponds to the utility (UTIL) and raw gross (RAWGROSS) values in Appendix F, Table F.14.

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<sup>31</sup>Because so few MSCAP- and SCCAP-eligible units have allotment adjustments, we do not check for units in which the recorded benefit plus or minus the allotment adjustment would equal an MSCAP or SCCAP standard benefit.

In New York, for NYSNIP units with a recorded benefit that matches an NYSNIP benefit, we set the calculated benefit equal to the recorded benefit. For NYSNIP units with a recorded benefit that does not match an NYSNIP benefit, we calculate the benefit based on NYSNIP rules.

In Pennsylvania, we set the final calculated benefit equal to the standard SSI-CAP benefit that corresponds to the unit's rent (RENT) and presence or absence of unearned income other than SSI, as listed in Appendix F, Table F.18.

In South Carolina, we set the final calculated benefit equal to the standard SSI-CAP benefit that corresponds to the rent (RENT) and raw gross (RAWGROSS) value listed in Appendix F, Table F.19.

In South Dakota, we set the final calculated benefit equal to the standard SSI-CAP benefit that is consistent with unit size, shelter expenses (FSSLTEXP), presence or absence of earned income (FSEARN), and presence or absence of medical expenses (FSMEDEXP) as listed in Appendix F, Table F.20.

#### *ii. CAA/ARPA benefit adjustments*

In January 2021, benefits for all SSI-CAP participants increased by \$30 due to CAA/ARPA. In Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, and Virginia, 15 single-person units met all SSI-CAP eligibility criteria but had raw benefits that matched standard SSI-CAP benefits without the \$30 CAA/ARPA increases. For these units, we recoded either the raw benefit (RAWBEN) or the benefit error adjustment (AMTERR) and flagged them as SSI-CAP units. In Kentucky, 1 married-couple unit met all SSI-CAP eligibility criteria but had raw benefits that matched the standard SSI-CAP benefits without the \$56 CAA/ARPA increase. For this unit, we recoded AMTERR and flagged it as an SSI-CAP unit. Edited benefits for these units reflect the CAA/ARPA increase, as listed in Appendix F, Table F.10, F.12, F.13, and F.22.

#### *iii. SSI-CAP programs with a standard shelter expense*

The States listed in Table III.3 operate programs that assign participants a standard “high” or “low” shelter expense, and then calculate the unit benefit on the basis of actual income, the standard deduction, the SUA, and the standard shelter expense. Because net income and a few deductions are used to calculate a benefit for SSI-CAP participants in these States, we retain the variables on the file. However, we do not use other deductions for the benefit calculation and set them to missing (.E). The deductions we set to missing for SSI-CAP participants in these States include:

- Medical expense deduction (FSMEDDED)
- Earned income deduction (FSERNDED)
- Dependent care deduction (FSDEPDDED)
- Child support payment deduction (FSCSDED)
- Homeless household shelter deduction (HOMELESS\_DED)

In addition, we recode the SUAs to differentiate SSI-CAP units from other units that received the same SUA by setting SUA1 to 9 (“Other”). Like SSI-CAP units with a standard benefit, when we set calculated deductions to missing, the raw variables indicating the actual expenses are usually retained.

Units with earnings are not eligible to enroll in SSI-CAP programs in these States. However, after a unit participates, it may have earned income for up to three consecutive months without losing eligibility.



**Table III.3. SSI-CAP programs with standard shelter expenses**

State	Start date	Unit composition	Age	Allowed income	Shelter amounts
Florida (SUNCAP)	April 2005	Living alone	18 or older	Earned and unearned	\$305 or less; greater than \$305
Massachusetts (BAY STATE CAP)	February 2005	Living alone	18 or older	Earned and unearned	Less than \$481; \$481 or greater
Washington (WASHCAP) <sup>a</sup>	December 2001*	Living alone	18 or older	Unearned	Less than \$320; \$320 or greater

\* We began modeling the SSI-CAP program in FY 2004.

<sup>a</sup> QC reviewers use a special local agency code for WASHCAP units whose applications were processed in an SSA office. We identify as WASHCAP participants all units meeting the criteria outlined in the table above and flagged with this special local agency code.

We use the following process to identify, recode, and assign benefits to households participating in SSI-CAP programs with a standard shelter expense:

#### *Identifying units*

We identify as SSI-CAP participants all individuals meeting the eligibility criteria outlined in Table III.3 who have recorded rent or mortgage amounts equal to any of the standard rent or mortgage allowances for that State.

In Massachusetts, if the recorded rent or mortgage amount is not equal to the standard allowance, we calculate the benefit assuming that the standard allowance was used. If this calculated benefit matches the raw benefit, we recode the rent or mortgage amount to be the standard allowance and flag the unit as a BAY STATE CAP participant.

#### *Recodes for units*

In addition to setting the deductions not used in the benefit calculation to missing as described above, we perform the following recode for units identified as participants:

- **Shelter expenses.** When necessary, we recode utilities of units in Massachusetts and Washington to equal the State's HCSUA or LUA for one-person units.
- **Income.** We reconcile individual incomes with gross income in SSI-CAP units by using the same process as in non-CAP units.

#### *Benefit calculation for units*

We use the regular SNAP benefit calculation. Benefits are based on actual income, the standard deduction, the standard shelter amount, and the SUA. The standard shelter amount is determined by the unit's actual monthly shelter expenses, excluding utilities. Appendix F, Table F.23 lists benefit calculations for all States with a standard shelter expense SSI-CAP program.

#### **d. Standard medical deduction demonstration programs**

In FY 2021, twenty-two States have programs to standardize medical expense deduction amounts when units' medical expenses are greater than \$35 but fall below a State-specific threshold (see Appendix F, Table F.4). In these States, if a unit with an elderly member or a non-elderly individual with a disability



incurs medical expenses less than or equal to the State threshold, the unit receives a medical expense deduction equal to the threshold minus \$35. Units with medical expenses greater than the threshold receive a medical expense deduction equal to actual medical expenses, minus \$35. To achieve cost neutrality, as required by FNS to operate a medical deduction demonstration program, most States reduced the HCSUA for the entire caseload. The HCSUA modeled for these States in the SNAP QC database reflects the adjustments. Table III.4 lists the States.

The standard medical deduction demonstration flag (MED\_DED\_DEMO) identifies households in States with standard medical deduction demonstration programs in place during the sample month that have positive countable medical expenses, indicating households eligible for a standard medical deduction.

**Table III.4. States with standard medical deduction demonstrations**

State	Start date (of current waiver)	Cost neutrality adjustment
Alabama	October 2019	HCSUA was reduced by \$8.
Arkansas	September 2016	HCSUA was reduced by \$4.
California	October 2017	HCSUA was reduced by \$3
Colorado	October 2016	HCSUA was reduced by \$7.
Georgia	April 2020	HCSUA was reduced by \$7.
Idaho	November 2018	HCSUA was reduced by \$8.
Illinois	June 2017	The standard deduction was reduced by \$7.
Iowa	October 2017	HCSUA and limited utility allowance were reduced by \$4.
Kansas	January 2016	HCSUA was reduced by \$8.
Massachusetts	April 2018	HCSUA was reduced by \$6.
Michigan	October 2020	HCSUA was reduced by \$10
Missouri	October 2016	HCSUA was reduced by \$10.
New Hampshire	October 2019	HCSUA was reduced by \$6.
North Dakota	April 2018	HCSUA was reduced by \$10.
Oregon	February 2017	HCSUA was reduced by \$7.
Rhode Island	October 2017	HCSUA was reduced by \$9.
South Carolina	October 2019	HCSUA was reduced by \$10.
South Dakota	May 2018	HCSUA was reduced by \$14.
Texas	October 2017	HCSUA and limited utility allowance were reduced by \$4.
Vermont	December 2018	HCSUA was reduced by \$9.
Virginia	April 2017	HCSUA was reduced by \$7.
Wyoming	January 2017	HCSUA was reduced by \$7.

### C. Derivation of sampling weights

The SNAP QC file's sampling weights are derived to reflect State and national caseload totals from SNAP Program Operations data after adjustments for receipt of disaster assistance benefits and benefits issued in error. They are intended to match monthly target levels of SNAP units, individuals, and benefits.

To derive monthly weights, we first calculate preliminary weights that sum to the monthly number of SNAP units by State and stratum, as reflected in the adjusted SNAP Program Operations data. The tables

in Appendix D list the preliminary monthly weights (HWGT) and their derivation for each State and stratum. We create the preliminary weights using these six major steps, presented in Tables D.7–D.9:

1. In States that distributed Disaster SNAP benefits, we lower the Program Operations counts in the months of the disaster by the number of SNAP units receiving benefits because of the disaster (but not already participating SNAP units who receive additional benefits) (Column e).
2. For the States with stratified samples, we apportion the adjusted Program Operations counts across the strata according to the percentage of the sample that is in that stratum in that month (Column f).<sup>32</sup> (No State had a stratified sample in FY 2021.)
3. We calculate the disqualification rate by State and stratum by first identifying all disqualified SNAP units, which are those that the reviewers found ineligible (coded as STATUS = 4) or eligible but not qualifying for a benefit (coded as STATUS = 2 with the error amount at least as large as the full benefit). The number of disqualified SNAP units divided by the number of SNAP units with completed reviews is the disqualification rate<sup>33</sup> (Column i).
4. We lower the Program Operations counts of SNAP units by the disqualification rate calculated in Step 3 to derive the final adjusted Program Operations totals (Column j).
5. We remove from the SNAP QC file any additional SNAP units that do not appear to be eligible for SNAP either because they do not pass the asset or income tests and are not categorically eligible or because they do not qualify for a positive benefit. Removing these units does not affect disqualification rates or the total number of weighted units (Column k).
6. We calculate a preliminary weight for each SNAP unit by State and stratum by dividing the final adjusted Program Operations count by the remaining number of SNAP units on the file (Column m).

After deriving the preliminary weights, we create final weights using a nonlinear programming (NLP) technique that produces estimates that match adjusted Program Operation monthly totals of units, individuals, and benefits as closely as possible. Participant totals are adjusted by the number of individuals in units removed in Steps 1 and 4 above. Benefit totals are adjusted by benefits issued to units that were removed in Steps 1 and 4 and by additional disaster benefits issued to units receiving regular SNAP benefits. The NLP algorithm incrementally changes the original weight until the three adjusted Program Operation monthly totals are matched, with the additional restriction that the final weights will not be less than 10 percent of the preliminary weights. The resulting monthly weights are no longer identical to the preliminary weights or identical among units sampled in the same month, State, and stratum.

To calculate standard errors, we first create 500 sets of replicate weights by drawing 500 random samples from the SNAP QC data and repeating the weighting methodology described above. Because the replicate weights are based on a random sample of raw SNAP QC data, there are occasionally instances when the NLP algorithm cannot find weights that match all three Program Operations totals within a certain State and month. When this happens, the algorithm loops over descending minimum allowed values for the replicate weights as a percentage of the preliminary weight, using thresholds of 10 percent, 5 percent, 2 percent, and 1 percent in that order. For each threshold, the algorithm attempts to match increasingly less restrictive combinations of benefit and household size (for eligible households and all households) constraints. If no solution is found, the algorithm defaults to setting the replicate weight equal to the

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<sup>32</sup> Column omitted from Appendix D tables due to space limitations but available upon request.

<sup>33</sup> The numerator of FNS's error rate includes units that received too much or too little in benefits in addition to the units included in the disqualification rate numerator.

preliminary weight (calculated in Step 6, described above) for that particular State and month. We use the 500 replicate weights to calculate standard errors.

The SNAP QC database contains two weight variables: (1) the monthly weight (HWGT) and (2) the full-year weight (FYWGT). HWGT is used for tabulations in specific months. If a tabulation is for a period longer than one calendar month, the average monthly value for the time period can be obtained by dividing HWGT by the number of months being analyzed. National tabulations of average monthly values for the entire fiscal year can be obtained by using FYWGT, which is typically HWGT divided by 12. However, because the FY 2021 QC database includes only three months of data, FYWGT equals HWGT divided by 3 in most States. For four States or territories (Delaware, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Louisiana), FYWGT equals HWGT divided by 2.

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## IV. Codebook for the FY 2021 SNAP QC Database

In this chapter, we describe the variables on the FY 2021 SNAP QC database. Section A provides an overview of the types of variables on the file. Section B provides the codebook, which includes a list and detailed description of each variable.

### A. Overview of variables on the QC file

For each variable in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database, the codebook provides the name, origin, label, range of values, and a list of values or a description. This section explains how to interpret and use that information.

#### 1. Origin: Reported versus constructed

The Origin column in the codebook indicates the source of each variable as either reported or constructed. Variables coded as “R” are those reported on the QC Review Schedule input form and have been read directly from the raw data file, although some editing may have taken place, as noted in the variable description. Variables coded as “C” are constructed or recoded variables that were derived from reported variables and program parameters, such as the Thrifty Food Plan and the SNAP benefit reduction rate. Constructed variables are the best variables for analytical purposes because inconsistencies have been corrected.

Certain constructed variables, in particular, are widely used in creating the tables that summarize gross and net income, deductions, SNAP benefit amounts, household size, and poverty status in the Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households report series. Data users will be able to obtain results consistent with those in the report by using the following variables:

**Table IV.1. Constructed variables that are frequently used in the Characteristics of SNAP Households report series.**

Variable	Description
FSBEN	Final calculated benefit
FSUSIZE	Constructed certified unit size
FSGRINC	Final gross countable unit income
FSNETINC	Final net countable unit income
FSERNCED	Calculated earned income deduction
TPOV	Gross income/poverty level ratio

#### 2. Missing values

Table IV.2 lists the missing value conventions used in the restricted use version of the SNAP QC database. The public-use version of the SNAP QC database includes only one value (“.”) for all missing data.

**Table IV.2. Codes for missing data in the restricted use SNAP QC database**

ASCII or binary codes	SAS codes	Description
-1	.	Blank on source file
-2	.A	Value out of range
-3	.B	Coded by QC reviewer as unknown (field coded with all 9s)
-4	.C	Variable could not be constructed or calculated due to missing data (pertains to constructed variables only)
-5	.D	For CERTMTH variable, indicates that unit is participating in months not certified
-6	.E	For SSI-CAP and MFIP units, indicates variables that are not relevant in the benefit determination

### 3. Using the SNAP QC database

The FY 2021 SNAP QC database has 9,832 observations for sample months ranging from July 2021 through September 2021 for all States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The file includes data from all three months for most States and the Virgin Islands, but Delaware, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Louisiana are missing sample data for one of the months. See Chapter I for more information.

To conduct analyses for a specific calendar month, the user should select observations sampled in that month by using the year-month (YRMONTH) variable. The year-month variable is a six-digit code with the first four digits indicating the year and the last two digits indicating the month. For example, to conduct an analysis based on observations from July 2021, the user should select all observations with a YRMONTH code equal to 202107.

After selecting the desired observations, the user must assign a weight to each observation so that the sample represents the national SNAP caseload. The weights, stored in the variable HWGT, were computed for each of the independent monthly samples and are based on actual program participation. When analyzing a specific calendar month, the user should use the HWGT variable. However, if the analysis is based on more than one month, and the user wants to calculate an average monthly estimate, the user should divide HWGT by the number of months to be analyzed. The FYWGT variable can be used to tabulate fiscal year averages; it was constructed by averaging HWGT across the number of months for which there are data in the file. Specifically, FYWGT equals HWGT divided by 3, with the exception of the States and territories listed above that have only two months of data. In those States, the FYWGT equals HWGT divided by 2.

The SNAP QC database can be used to obtain person-level information along with unit-level data. An integer from 1 to 16, representing up to 16 people in a household, is attached to each person-level variable. For ease, users often place these variables in arrays and use indices to access the data. One of the key person-level variables is the affiliation code FSAFILi. An FSAFILi value of 1 indicates that the person participated in SNAP.

## B. Codebook

In this codebook, the unit-level variables are listed first, followed by the person-level variables, and then the detailed error findings variables. There are a total of nine categories, which are detailed below.

The unit-level variables are divided into the following six categories:

1. Unit-level QC review administrative data
2. Unit-level demographics and sample weights
3. Unit-level countable income
4. Unit-level countable assets
5. Unit-level expenses and deductions
6. Unit-level benefits

The person-level variables are divided into two categories:

1. Person-level characteristics
2. Person-level income

One category covers variables for detailed error findings:

1. Detailed error findings

The categories appear in the codebook in the order shown above, while the variables in each category are listed alphabetically.

Two codebooks are presented, both sorted in the same order. The first codebook—the quick-reference codebook—lists only the variable name, its origin, and a brief description. The second codebook—the detailed codebook—lists the variable name, its origin, and a description that includes all the valid values of the variable for discrete variables and the range of valid values for continuous variables (such as HWGT). It also includes recommendations for using variables for which there are concerns.

**Note:** Detailed information on each variable in the database can be found starting [here](#).

**Table IV.3. Quick-reference codebook**

Variable	Origin*	Description
<b>Unit QC review administrative data</b>		
<a href="#">ACTNTYPE</a>	R	Type of action
<a href="#">ALLADJ</a>	R	Allotment adjustment
<a href="#">AMTADJ</a>	R	Amount of allotment adjustment
<a href="#">AUTHREP</a>	R	Authorized representative
<a href="#">BENFIX</a>	C	Benefit allotment (SNAP benefit) adjusted for errors
<a href="#">CASE</a>	R	Case classification
<a href="#">CAT_ELIG</a>	C	Indicator of categorical eligibility status
<a href="#">CERTMTH</a>	R	Months in certification period
<a href="#">EXPEDSER</a>	R	Received expedited service
<a href="#">HHLDNO</a>	C	SNAP household identification number
<a href="#">LASTCERT</a>	C	Months since last SNAP certification
<a href="#">LOCALCOD</a>	R	Local agency code (not retained on public-use file)
<a href="#">MED_DED_DEMO</a>	C	Indicator of standard medical deduction demonstration eligibility
<a href="#">MN_FIP</a>	C	Indicator of MFIP participation
<a href="#">PURE_PA</a>	C	Indicator of pure cash public assistance status
<a href="#">RCNTACTN</a>	R	Most recent action on case
<a href="#">REP_SYS</a>	R	Reporting requirement
<a href="#">REVNUM</a>	R	State QC review number (not retained on public-use file)
<a href="#">SSI_CAP</a>	C	Indicator of SSI-CAP participation
<a href="#">STATUS</a>	R	Status of case error findings
<a href="#">YRMONTH</a>	R	Sample year and month
<b>Unit demographics and sample weights</b>		
<a href="#">AK_AREA</a>	C	Alaska region (not retained on public-use file)
<a href="#">CERTHHSZ</a>	R	Certified unit size
<a href="#">COMPOSITION</a>	C	Unit composition
<a href="#">COUNTYCD</a>	C	FIPS code for county (not retained on public-use file)
<a href="#">CTPRHH</a>	C	Number of people in household
<a href="#">FSDIS</a>	C	Indicator of non-elderly individuals with disabilities in unit
<a href="#">FSELDER</a>	C	Indicator of elderly individuals in unit
<a href="#">FSKID</a>	C	Indicator of children in unit
<a href="#">FSNDIS</a>	C	Number of non-elderly individuals with disabilities in unit
<a href="#">FSNDISCA</a>	C	Number of adults age 18–49 without disabilities in childless units
<a href="#">FSNELDER</a>	C	Number of elderly individuals in unit
<a href="#">FSNGMOM</a>	C	Indicator of single-female-headed unit
<a href="#">FSNK0T4</a>	C	Number of preschool-age children in unit
<a href="#">FSNK5T17</a>	C	Number of school-age children in unit
<a href="#">FSNKID</a>	C	Number of children in unit
<a href="#">FSNONCIT</a>	C	Number of noncitizens in unit



Variable	Origin*	Description
<a href="#">FSUSIZE</a>	C	Constructed certified unit size
<a href="#">FYWGT</a>	C	Weight used for full-year calculations
<a href="#">HWGT</a>	C	Monthly sample weight
<a href="#">NONCIT_HEAD</a>	C	Unit head citizenship indicator
<a href="#">RAWHSIZE</a>	R	Reported number of people in household
<a href="#">REGION</a>	C	Constructed census region code
<a href="#">REGIONCD</a>	R	FNS region code
<a href="#">STATE</a>	R	FIPS code for State or territory
<a href="#">STATENAME</a>	C	State or territory
<a href="#">STRATUM</a>	R	Stratum identification
<a href="#">TANF_IND</a>	C	Indicator of TANF receipt for unit
<a href="#">TPOV</a>	C	Gross income/poverty level ratio
<a href="#">URBRUR</a>	C	Urban/rural indicator (not retained on public-use file)
<a href="#">WRK_POOR</a>	C	Indicator of working poor unit
<b>Unit countable income (monthly dollar amounts)</b>		
<a href="#">FSCONT</a>	C	Countable unit income from contributions
<a href="#">FSCSUPRT</a>	C	Countable unit child support payment income
<a href="#">FSDEEM</a>	C	Countable unit deemed income
<a href="#">FSDIVER</a>	C	Countable unit State diversion payments
<a href="#">FSEARN</a>	C	Countable unit earned income
<a href="#">FSEDLOAN</a>	C	Countable unit income from educational grants and loans
<a href="#">FSEITC</a>	C	Countable unit income from earned income tax credit
<a href="#">FSENERGY</a>	C	Countable unit energy assistance income
<a href="#">FSFOSTER</a>	C	Countable unit foster care income
<a href="#">FSGA</a>	C	Countable unit General Assistance benefits
<a href="#">FSGRINC</a>	C	Final gross countable unit income
<a href="#">FSNETINC</a>	C	Final net countable unit income
<a href="#">FSOTHERN</a>	C	Countable unit other earned income
<a href="#">FSOTHGOV</a>	C	Countable unit income from other government benefits
<a href="#">FSOTHUN</a>	C	Countable unit other unearned income
<a href="#">FSSLFEMP</a>	C	Countable unit self-employment income
<a href="#">FSSOCSEC</a>	C	Countable unit Social Security income
<a href="#">FSSSI</a>	C	Countable unit SSI benefits
<a href="#">FSTANF</a>	C	Countable unit TANF payments
<a href="#">FSUNEARN</a>	C	Countable unit unearned income
<a href="#">FSUNEMP</a>	C	Countable unit unemployment compensation benefits
<a href="#">FSVET</a>	C	Countable unit veterans' benefits
<a href="#">FSWAGES</a>	C	Countable unit wages and salaries
<a href="#">FSWCOMP</a>	C	Countable unit workers' compensation benefits
<a href="#">FSWGESUP</a>	C	Countable unit wage supplementation income
<a href="#">RAWGROSS</a>	R	Reported gross countable unit income
<a href="#">RAWNET</a>	R	Reported net countable unit income

Variable	Origin*	Description
<b>Unit countable and reported assets</b>		
<a href="#">FSASSET</a>	C	Total countable assets under State rules
<a href="#">FSVEHAST</a>	C	Countable non-excluded vehicles' value under State rules
<a href="#">LIQRESOR</a>	C	Countable liquid assets under State rules
<a href="#">OTHNLRES</a>	C	Countable other nonliquid assets under State rules
<a href="#">RAWLQRES</a>	R	Reported liquid assets
<a href="#">RAWOTRES</a>	R	Reported other nonliquid assets
<a href="#">RAWRPROP</a>	R	Reported real property
<a href="#">RAWVHAST</a>	R	Reported non-excluded vehicles' value
<a href="#">REALPROP</a>	C	Countable real property under State rules
<a href="#">VEHICLEA</a>	R	Reported category for first vehicle
<a href="#">VEHICLEB</a>	R	Reported category for second vehicle
<b>Unit expenses and deductions</b>		
<a href="#">ERN_INC_DED_PCT</a>	C	Percentage used to calculate earned income deduction
<a href="#">EXCL_FSCSDED</a>	C	Child support excluded from gross income
<a href="#">FSCSDED</a>	C	Child support payment deduction
<a href="#">FSCSEXP</a>	R	Reported child support payment deduction
<a href="#">FSDEPDED</a>	R	Reported dependent care deduction
<a href="#">FSDEPDE2</a>	C	Marginal effectiveness of dependent care deduction
<a href="#">FSERNDED</a>	C	Calculated earned income deduction
<a href="#">FSERNDE2</a>	C	Marginal effectiveness of earned income deduction
<a href="#">FSMEDDED</a>	C	Calculated medical expense deduction
<a href="#">FSMEDDE2</a>	C	Marginal effectiveness of medical expense deduction
<a href="#">FSMEDEXP</a>	R	Reported medical expenses
<a href="#">FSSLTDED</a>	C	Calculated excess shelter expense deduction
<a href="#">FSSLTDE2</a>	C	Marginal effectiveness of excess shelter expense deduction
<a href="#">FSSLTEXP</a>	C	Calculated shelter expenses
<a href="#">FSSTDDDED</a>	C	Standard deduction
<a href="#">FSSTDDDE2</a>	C	Marginal effectiveness of standard deduction
<a href="#">FSTOTDED</a>	C	Total deductions
<a href="#">FSTOTDE2</a>	C	Marginal effectiveness of total deduction
<a href="#">HOMEDED</a>	R	Indicator of homelessness
<a href="#">HOMELESS_DED</a>	C	Amount of homeless household shelter deduction
<a href="#">RAWERND</a>	R	Reported earned income deduction
<a href="#">RENT</a>	R	Rent/mortgage amount
<a href="#">SHELAP</a>	C	Maximum allowable shelter expense deduction
<a href="#">SHELDED</a>	R	Reported shelter deduction
<a href="#">SUA1</a>	R	Standard utility allowance—usage and entitlement
<a href="#">SUA2</a>	R	Standard utility allowance—prorated
<a href="#">UTIL</a>	R	Utility amount
<b>Unit benefits</b>		
<a href="#">AMTERR</a>	R	Amount of benefit in error

Variable	Origin*	Description
<a href="#">ASSLIM</a>	C	Asset limit
<a href="#">BENMAX</a>	C	Maximum benefit amount
<a href="#">FSASTEST</a>	C	Indicator of passing asset test
<a href="#">FSBEN</a>	C	Final calculated benefit
<a href="#">FSBENSUPP</a>	C	Eligible amount of emergency allotment
<a href="#">FSGRTEST</a>	C	Indicator of passing gross income test
<a href="#">FSMINBEN</a>	C	Received minimum benefit
<a href="#">FSNETEST</a>	C	Indicator of passing net income test
<a href="#">GROSSCRN</a>	C	Gross income screen
<a href="#">MINIMUM BEN</a>	C	Minimum benefit amount
<a href="#">NETSCRN</a>	C	Net income screen
<a href="#">RAWBEN</a>	R	Reported SNAP benefit received
<a href="#">SUPP BEN</a>	C	Indicator of eligibility for emergency allotment
<b>Person-level characteristics: i = 1 to 16</b>		
<a href="#">ABWDSTi</a>	R	ABAWD status
<a href="#">AGEi</a>	R	Age
<a href="#">CTZNi</a>	R	Citizenship status
<a href="#">DISi</a>	C	Person-level disability indicator
<a href="#">DPCOSTi</a>	R	Reported dependent care cost
<a href="#">EMPRGi</a>	R	SNAP Employment and Training program status
<a href="#">EMPSTAi</a>	R	Employment status—type
<a href="#">EMPSTBi</a>	R	Employment status—amount
<a href="#">FSAFILI</a>	R	SNAP case affiliation
<a href="#">FSUNi</a>	C	Position of head of SNAP unit
<a href="#">NDISCAi</a>	C	Adult age 18–49 without disabilities in childless unit status
<a href="#">RACETHi</a>	R	Race/ethnicity
<a href="#">RELi</a>	R	Relationship to head of household
<a href="#">SEXi</a>	R	Sex
<a href="#">WORKi</a>	C	Person-level working indicator
<a href="#">WRKREGi</a>	R	Work registration status
<a href="#">YRSEDi</a>	R	Highest educational level completed
<b>Person-level countable income (monthly dollar amounts): i = 1 to 16</b>		
<a href="#">CONTi</a>	R	Countable income from contributions
<a href="#">CSUPRTi</a>	R	Countable child support payment income
<a href="#">DEEMi</a>	R	Countable deemed income
<a href="#">DIVERi</a>	R	Countable State diversion payments
<a href="#">EDLOANi</a>	R	Countable income from educational grants and loans
<a href="#">EITCi</a>	R	Countable income from earned income tax credit
<a href="#">ENERGYi</a>	R	Countable energy assistance income
<a href="#">FOSTERi</a>	R	Countable foster care income
<a href="#">GAi</a>	R	Countable General Assistance benefits
<a href="#">OTHERNi</a>	R	Countable other earned income

Variable	Origin*	Description
<a href="#"><u>OTHGOVi</u></a>	R	Countable income from other government benefits
<a href="#"><u>OTHUNi</u></a>	R	Countable other unearned income
<a href="#"><u>SLFEMPi</u></a>	R	Countable self-employment income
<a href="#"><u>SOCSECi</u></a>	R	Countable Social Security income
<a href="#"><u>SSIi</u></a>	R	Countable SSI benefits
<a href="#"><u>TANFi</u></a>	R	Countable TANF payments
<a href="#"><u>UNEMPi</u></a>	R	Countable unemployment compensation benefits
<a href="#"><u>VETi</u></a>	R	Countable veterans' benefits
<a href="#"><u>WAGESi</u></a>	R	Countable wages and salaries
<a href="#"><u>WCOMPi</u></a>	R	Countable workers' compensation benefits
<a href="#"><u>WGESUPi</u></a>	R	Countable wage supplementation income
<b>Detailed error findings: i = 1 to 9</b>		
<a href="#"><u>AGENCYi</u></a>	R	Agency or client responsibility
<a href="#"><u>AMOUNTi</u></a>	R	Variance dollar amount
<a href="#"><u>DISCOVi</u></a>	R	Variance discovery
<a href="#"><u>E_FINDGi</u></a>	R	Error finding
<a href="#"><u>ELEMENTi</u></a>	R	Variance element
<a href="#"><u>NATUREi</u></a>	R	Nature of variance
<a href="#"><u>OCCDATEi</u></a>	R	Variance occurrence date
<a href="#"><u>TIMEPERi</u></a>	R	Variance time period
<a href="#"><u>VERIFI</u></a>	R	Variance verification

\* R indicates the variable is from the raw data; C indicates the variable was constructed.

## Unit QC review administrative data

Variable	Origin	Description
ACTNTYPE	R	TYPE OF ACTION
		Range = (1, 2)
		1 = Certification
		2 = Recertification
ALLADJ	R	ALLOTMENT ADJUSTMENT
		Range = (1, 3)
		1 = No adjustment
		2 = Prorated benefit
		3 = Other adjustment
AMTADJ	R	AMOUNT OF ALLOTMENT ADJUSTMENT
		Range = (0, 946)
AUTHREP	R	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
		Range = (1, 2)
		1 = Used to make application
		2 = Not used to make application
BENFIX	C	BENEFIT ALLOTMENT ADJUSTED FOR ERRORS
		Range = (0, 3029)
CASE	R	CASE CLASSIFICATION
		Range = (1, 3)
		1 = Included in error rate calculation
		2 = Excluded from error rate calculation—processed by SSA worker
		3 = Excluded from error rate calculation, as designated by FNS (for example, demonstration project, simplified SNAP)
CAT_ELIG	C	INDICATOR OF CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY STATUS
		Range = (0, 2)
		0 = Unit not categorically eligible for benefits
		1 = Unit reported as categorically eligible for benefits and therefore not subject to SNAP income or asset tests (unit subject to State-determined income and/or asset limit on cash Public Assistance [PA] or noncash TANF-funded benefit used to confer categorical eligibility)
		2 = Unit recoded as categorically eligible after being identified as pure cash PA or as meeting State-specified criteria for BBCE and therefore not subject to SNAP income or asset tests
CERTMTH	R	MONTHS IN CERTIFICATION PERIOD
		Range = (1, 65)
		Number of months SNAP unit was certified to participate during current certification or recertification period
EXPDSER	R	RECEIVED EXPEDITED SERVICE
		Range = (1, 3)
		1 = Entitled to expedited service and received benefits within Federal time frame
		2 = Entitled to expedited service but did not receive benefits within Federal time frame
		3 = Not entitled to expedited service
HHDNO	C	SNAP HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
		Range = (93, 24006)
		Position of unit in unedited SNAP QC file (unique unit identifier)
LASTCERT	C	MONTHS SINCE LAST SNAP CERTIFICATION
		Range = (0, 50)

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>LOCALCOD</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>LOCAL AGENCY CODE (not retained on public-use file)</b>
		Range = (1, 930)
		Designates local agency and allows grouping of data by county or county equivalent (may be FIPS code or alternative classification)
<b>MED_DED_DEMO</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF STANDARD MEDICAL DEDUCTION DEMONSTRATION ELIGIBILITY</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
<b>MN_FIP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF MFIP PARTICIPATION</b>
		We recommend using MN_FIP with the understanding that it may slightly underestimate the number of MFIP units. We recommend against using MFIP units' TANF income because it is not included as gross income and is most likely recorded incorrectly, if at all. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
<b>PURE_PA</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF PURE CASH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE STATUS</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		A unit is pure cash public assistance (pure PA) when everyone in the unit receives TANF, GA, or SSI or the unit has TANF income and every adult receives TANF, GA, or SSI.
<b>RCNTACTN</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>MOST RECENT ACTION ON CASE</b>
		Range = (20170601, 20210930)
		Date the case was certified or recertified for participation in sample month under review (in yyyyymmdd format)
<b>REP_SYS</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTING REQUIREMENT</b>
		The REP_SYS value definitions changed between FY 2020 and FY 2021. We recommend using REP_SYS with the understanding that we are limited in our ability to assess adherence to the new codes. See Appendix A for details
		Range = (1, 10)
		1 = Change reporting with \$125 change in earned income
		2 = Change reporting with change of wage rate, salary, or change in employment status
		3 = 5-hour change in hours worked and expected to continue over a month
		4 = Simplified reporting (exceeding 130% of income poverty guidelines)
		5 = Quarterly reporting
		6 = Simplified monthly reporting
		7 = Transitional benefits (no reporting requirement)
		8 = Transitional benefits (reporting requirement)
		9 = Other
		10 = Reserved
<b>REVNUM</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>STATE QC REVIEW NUMBER (not retained on public-use file)</b>
		Range = (832, 900296)
<b>SSI_CAP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF SSI-CAP PARTICIPATION</b>
		We recommend caution when using SSI_CAP, with the understanding that it likely underestimates the actual number of SSI-CAP units. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 3)
		0 = Not in SSI-CAP
		1 = SSI-CAP case with standard shelter expenses

Variable	Origin	Description
		2 = SSI-CAP case with standard benefit, consistent with program rules
		3 = SSI-CAP case with standard benefit, inconsistent with program rules
<b>STATUS</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>STATUS OF CASE ERROR FINDINGS</b>
		Range = (1, 3)
		1 = Amount correct
		2 = Overissuance
		3 = Underissuance
<b>YRMONTH</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>SAMPLE YEAR AND MONTH</b>
		Range = (202107, 202109)
		Allows user to select one or more sample months from three-month file for analyses. The YRMONTH variable is a six-digit code; the first four digits indicate the sample year and the last two indicate the month. To select observations from July 2021, for example, YRMONTH should equal 202107.

## Unit demographics and sample weights

Variable	Origin	Description
AK_AREA	C	<b>ALASKA REGION (not retained on public-use file)</b>
		Range = (1, 3)
		1 = Alaska Rural I
		2 = Alaska Rural II
		3 = Alaska Urban
CERTHSZ	R	<b>CERTIFIED UNIT SIZE</b>
		Range = (1, 11)
COMPOSITION	C	<b>UNIT COMPOSITION</b>
		Range = (0, 5)
		0 = No children
		1 = Child(ren) only
		2 = Child(ren) and one male adult
		3 = Child(ren) and one female adult
		4 = Child(ren) and married unit head (spouse may be nonparticipating; includes married teens)
		5 = Child(ren) with other multiple adults
COUNTYCD	C	<b>FIPS CODE FOR COUNTY (not retained on public-use file)</b>
		Range = (1, 820)
CTPRHH	C	<b>NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD</b>
		Range = (1, 13)
		Number of people in household with nonmissing person-level information
FSDIS	C	<b>INDICATOR OF NON-ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN UNIT</b>
		We recommend using FSDIS with the understanding that it may underestimate the number of SNAP units containing non-elderly individuals with disabilities. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		A SNAP unit with one or more individuals that are defined as disabled (DISi = 1)
FSELDER	C	<b>INDICATOR OF ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS IN UNIT</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		A SNAP unit with one or more elderly individuals
FSKID	C	<b>INDICATOR OF CHILDREN IN UNIT</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		A SNAP unit with one or more children under age 18
FSNDIS	C	<b>NUMBER OF NON-ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN UNIT</b>
		We recommend using FSNDIS with the understanding that it may underestimate the number of non-elderly individuals with disabilities. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 4)
		Number of individuals in the unit that are defined as disabled (DISi = 1)
FSNDISCA	C	<b>NUMBER OF ADULTS AGE 18–49 WITHOUT DISABILITIES IN CHILDLESS UNITS</b>
		We recommend using FSNDISCA with the understanding that it may overestimate the number of adults without disabilities. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 4)
		Number of adults age 18–49 without disabilities in childless SNAP units



Variable	Origin	Description
FSNELDER	C	NUMBER OF ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS IN UNIT
		Range = (0, 2)
		Number of adults age 60 or older in SNAP unit
FSNGMOM	C	INDICATOR OF SINGLE-FEMALE-HEADED UNIT
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		A SNAP unit with one adult and one or more children; the adult is female
FSNK0T4	C	NUMBER OF PRESCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN IN UNIT
		Range = (0, 5)
		Number of children under age 5 in SNAP unit
FSNK5T17	C	NUMBER OF SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN IN UNIT
		Range = (0, 10)
		Number of children age 5–17 in SNAP unit
FSNKID	C	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN UNIT
		Range = (0, 10)
		Number of children under age 18 in SNAP unit
FSNONCIT	C	NUMBER OF NONCITIZENS IN UNIT
		Range = (0, 9)
		Number of people with FSAFILi = 1 and CTZNi >= 3
FSUSIZE	C	CONSTRUCTED CERTIFIED UNIT SIZE
		Range = (1, 11)
		Number of people with FSAFILi = 1
FYWGT	C	WEIGHT USED FOR FULL-YEAR CALCULATIONS
		Range = (29.62, 29621.79)
		Calculated as HWGT/3, with the exception of Delaware, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Louisiana, where it is HWGT/2.
HWGT	C	MONTHLY SAMPLE WEIGHT
		Range = (88.86, 88865.37)
		Allows user to replicate total monthly caseloads as reflected in SNAP Program Operations data. If the reference period for the analysis is longer than one calendar month, the weight field must be divided by the number of months being analyzed to calculate an average monthly value for that reference period.
NONCIT_HEAD	C	UNIT HEAD CITIZENSHIP INDICATOR
		Range = (0, 2)
		0 = Head of unit is a citizen
		1 = Head of unit is a participating noncitizen
		2 = Head of unit is a nonparticipating noncitizen
RAWHSIZE	R	REPORTED NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD
		Range = (1, 13)
REGION	C	CONSTRUCTED CENSUS REGION CODE
		Range = (1, 4)
		1 = Northeast
		2 = Midwest
		3 = South
		4 = West
		See Appendix E (Table E.3) for a list of States in each region.

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>REGIONCD</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>FNS REGION CODE</b>
		Range = (1, 7)
		1 = Northeast
		2 = Mid-Atlantic
		3 = Southeast
		4 = Midwest
		5 = Southwest
		6 = Mountain Plains
		7 = West
		See Appendix E (Table E.2) for a list of States in each region.
<b>STATE</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>FIPS CODE FOR STATE OR TERRITORY</b>
		Range = (1, 78)
		See Appendix E (Table E.1) for FIPS code list.
<b>STATENAME</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>STATE OR TERRITORY</b>
		State or territory name. See Appendix E (Table E.1) for list.
<b>STRATUM</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>STRATUM IDENTIFICATION</b>
		Range = (0, 0)
		Codes for distinct parts of States with stratified samples; codes in States that are not stratified are recoded to 0.
<b>TANF_IND</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF TANF RECEIPT FOR UNIT</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		TANF_IND = 1 if FSTANF > 0 or MN_FIP = 1
<b>TPOV</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>GROSS INCOME/POVERTY LEVEL RATIO</b>
		Range = (0, 577)
		TPOV = FSGRINC/NETSCRN*100, rounded to nearest integer. If FSGRINC = 0, then TPOV = 0. Otherwise if TPOV rounds to 0, TPOV is set to 1.
<b>URBRUR</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>URBAN/RURAL INDICATOR (not retained on public-use file)</b>
		We recommend caution when using URBRUR for any State-level tabulations because of concerns about the representativeness of the sample at the sub-state level. We specifically recommend against using URBRUR for State-level tabulations in Alabama, Arizona, Guam, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, and Washington because of the number of cases with unknown locality. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 3)
		Location of agency at which unit's SNAP application was processed.
		1 = Metropolitan (at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population and adjacent territory with a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties)
		2 = Micropolitan (at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but fewer than 50,000 people and adjacent territory with a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties)
		3 = Rural (not metropolitan or micropolitan)
<b>WRK_POOR</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF WORKING POOR UNIT</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		All SNAP units with countable earnings (FSEARN) or multiple indicators of earnings in the unedited SNAP QC file

**Unit countable income (monthly dollar amounts)**

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>FSCONT</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME FROM CONTRIBUTIONS</b>
		Range = (0, 2625)
		Sum of CONT1 through CONT16
<b>FSCSUPRT</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 2500)
		Sum of CSUPRT1 through CSUPRT16
<b>FSDEEM</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT DEEMED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1321)
		Sum of DEEM1 through DEEM16
<b>FSDIVER</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT STATE DIVERSION PAYMENTS</b>
		Range = (0, 21)
		Sum of DIVER1 through DIVER16
<b>FSEARN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT EARNED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 6139)
		Sum of FSWAGES, FSSLFEMP, and FSOTHERN
<b>FSEDLOAN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME FROM EDUCATIONAL GRANTS AND LOANS</b>
		Range = (0, 794)
		Sum of EDLOAN1 through EDLOAN16
<b>FSEITC</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME FROM EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT</b>
		Range = (0, 0)
		Sum of EITC1 through EITC16
<b>FSENERGY</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT ENERGY ASSISTANCE INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1144)
		Sum of ENERGY1 through ENERGY16
<b>FSFOSTER</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT FOSTER CARE INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1290)
		Sum of FOSTER1 through FOSTER16
<b>FSGA</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT GENERAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 988)
		Sum of GA1 through GA16
<b>FSGRINC</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>FINAL GROSS COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 6192)
		Total monthly gross income of unit (sum of FSEARN and FSUNEARN)
<b>FSNETINC</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>FINAL NET COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 5118)
		Total monthly income of unit after applying deductions. Calculated as FSGRINC-FSTOTDED but not less than 0.
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit
<b>FSOTHERN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT OTHER EARNED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1514)
		Sum of OTHERN1 through OTHERN16
<b>FSOTHGOV</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 2563)
		Sum of OTHGOV1 through OTHGOV16

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>FSOTHUN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT OTHER UNEARNED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 2669)
		Sum of OTHUN1 through OTHUN16
<b>FSSLFEMP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 3000)
		Sum of SLFEMP1 through SLFEMP16
<b>FSSOCSEC</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 3127)
		Sum of SOCSEC1 through SOCSEC16
<b>FSSSI</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT SSI BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 2643)
		Sum of SSI1 through SSI16
<b>FSTANF</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT TANF PAYMENTS</b>
		We recommend against using FSTANF in Minnesota because it is not included as gross income in this State. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 1552)
		Sum of TANF1 through TANF16
<b>FSUNEARN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT UNEARNED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 3609)
		Sum of FSCONT, FSCSUPRT, FSDEEM, FSDIVER, FSEDLOAN, FSEITC, FSENERGY, FSFOSTER, FSGA, FSOTHGOV, FSOTHUN, FSSOCSEC, FSSSI, FSTANF, FSUNEMP, FSVET, FSWCOMP, and FSWGESUP
<b>FSUNEMP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 3182)
		Sum of UNEMP1 through UNEMP16
<b>FSVET</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT VETERANS' BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 3322)
		Sum of VET1 through VET16
<b>FSWAGES</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT WAGES AND SALARIES</b>
		Range = (0, 6139)
		Sum of WAGES1 through WAGES16
<b>FSWCOMP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 2321)
		Sum of WCOMP1 through WCOMP16
<b>FSWGESUP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNIT WAGE SUPPLEMENTATION INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 0)
		Sum of WGESUP1 through WGESUP16
<b>RAWGROSS</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED GROSS COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 12921)
		Reported total monthly countable income of unit before applying deductions (see FSGRINC for final value)
<b>RAWNET</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED NET COUNTABLE UNIT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 5118)
		Reported total monthly countable income of unit after applying deductions (see FSNETINC for final value)

## Unit countable assets

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>FSASSET</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>TOTAL COUNTABLE ASSETS UNDER STATE RULES</b>
		We recommend using FSASSET with the understanding that only 6 percent of SNAP units have countable assets. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 9000)
		Sum of LIQRESOR, FSVEHAST, OTHNLRES, and REALPROP
<b>FSVEHAST</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE NON-EXCLUDED VEHICLES' VALUE UNDER STATE RULES</b>
		We recommend using FSVEHAST with the understanding that very few SNAP units have non-excluded vehicles. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 2825)
<b>LIQRESOR</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE LIQUID ASSETS UNDER STATE RULES</b>
		Range = (0, 9000)
<b>OTHNLRES</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE OTHER NONLIQUID ASSETS UNDER STATE RULES</b>
		Range = (0, 350)
<b>RAWLQRES</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED LIQUID ASSETS</b>
		Range = (0, 43865)
<b>RAWOTRES</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED OTHER NONLIQUID ASSETS</b>
		Range = (0, 350)
<b>RAWRPROP</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED REAL PROPERTY</b>
		Range = (0, 1235)
		Does not include home
<b>RAWVHAST</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED NON-EXCLUDED VEHICLES' VALUE</b>
		Range = (0, 2825)
<b>REALPROP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>COUNTABLE REAL PROPERTY UNDER STATE RULES</b>
		Range = (0, 1235)
		Does not include home
<b>VEHICLEA</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED CATEGORY FOR FIRST VEHICLE</b>
		We recommend against using VEHICLEA because of a history of coding inconsistencies. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 8)
		1 = No vehicle
		2 = Vehicle exempt because used for producing income, as a home, to transport a physically disabled member, for long-distance travel (other than commuting), or to carry fuel or water
		3 = Vehicle exempt because inaccessible resource (equity value \$1,500 or less)
		4 = Vehicle exempt due to categorical eligibility
		5 = Vehicle excluded under State TANF standard (vehicle of non-categorically eligible unit members only)
		6 = Vehicle registered and attributable to an adult unit member or used by a person under age 18 for employment or education (subject to fair market value only)
		7 = Vehicle not registered (equity test only)
		8 = Vehicle not excluded and not included in code 6 (subject to fair market value or equity test, whichever is greater)

Variable	Origin	Description
VEHICLEB	R	REPORTED CATEGORY FOR SECOND VEHICLE
		We recommend against using VEHICLEB because of a history of coding inconsistencies. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 8)
		1 = No vehicle
		2 = Vehicle exempt because used for producing income, as a home, to transport a physically disabled member, for long-distance travel (other than commuting), or to carry fuel or water
		3 = Vehicle exempt because inaccessible resource (equity value \$1,500 or less)
		4 = Vehicle exempt due to categorical eligibility
		5 = Vehicle excluded under State TANF standard (vehicle of non-categorically eligible unit members only)
		6 = Vehicle registered and attributable to an adult unit member or used by a person under age 18 for employment or education (subject to fair market value only)
		7 = Vehicle not registered (equity test only)
		8 = Vehicle not excluded and not included in code 6 (subject to fair market value or equity test, whichever is greater)

## Unit expenses and deductions

Variable	Origin	Description
ERN_INC_DED_PCT	C	<b>PERCENTAGE USED TO CALCULATE EARNINGS DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0.20, 0.50)
		0.50 for MFIP participants; 0.20 for all other SNAP participants
EXCL_FSCSDED	C	<b>CHILD SUPPORT EXCLUDED FROM GROSS INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 75)
		Child support expenses excluded before gross income test rather than before net income test for eligibility
FSCSDED	C	<b>CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 1733)
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit
FSCSEXP	R	<b>REPORTED CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 1733)
		Some States treat child support payments to non-unit members as an income exclusion rather than a deduction. See EXCL_FSCSDED and FSCSDED for final values.
FSDEPDED	R	<b>REPORTED DEPENDENT CARE DEDUCTION</b>
		We recommend against using FSDEPDED for State-level tabulations because of small sample sizes and inconsistencies between DPCOSTi and FSDEPDED. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 1191)
		Some values have been edited to obtain consistency with DPCOST1 to DPCOST16 and to improve the final benefit calculation. See Appendix B for details.
		Coded as missing for all MFIP and SSI-CAP units.
FSDEPDE2	C	<b>MARGINAL EFFECTIVENESS OF DEPENDENT CARE DEDUCTION<sup>34</sup></b>
		Range = (0, 1325)
		Calculated as FSDEPDE2 = NEWNET-FSNETINC, where NEWNET = MAX (0, FSGRINC-FSSLT3-FSERNDED-FSMEDDED-FSSTDDED-FSCSDED-HOMELESS_DED) and where FSSLT3 is the shelter deduction calculated without FSDEPDED
		Coded as missing for all MFIP and SSI-CAP units.
FSENDER	C	<b>CALCULATED EARNED INCOME DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 1350)
		Calculated as FSENDER = ERN_INC_DED_PCT*FSEARN, rounded to nearest integer. The deduction equals 50 percent of total earned income for MFIP participants and 20 percent of total earned income for all others.
		Coded as missing for all SSI-CAP units.
FSENDER2	C	<b>MARGINAL EFFECTIVENESS OF EARNED INCOME DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 1550)
		Calculated as FSENDER2 = NEWNET-FSNETINC, where NEWNET = MAX (0, FSGRINC-FSSLT2-FSDEPDED-FSMEDDED-FSSTDDED-FSCSDED-HOMELESS_DED) and where FSSLT2 is the shelter deduction calculated without FSENDER
		Coded as missing for all MFIP and SSI-CAP units.
FSMEDDED	C	<b>CALCULATED MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 1031)
		The deduction is for units with elderly members or individuals with disabilities only; the entry for medical expenses should include only expenses in excess of \$35. Calculated as FSMEDDED = MAX(0, FSMEDEXP).
		Coded as missing for all MFIP and SSI-CAP units.

<sup>34</sup> The marginal effectiveness variables are calculated as the difference between the actual calculated net income and what the net income would have been without the deduction. Because the combined value of deductions a unit is entitled to sometimes exceeds the gross income received by the unit, the marginal effectiveness variables give a more accurate picture of the impact of the deductions.

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>FSMEDDE2</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>MARGINAL EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 1500)
		Calculated as $FSMEDDE2 = NEWNET - FSNETINC$ , where $NEWNET = \text{MAX}(0, FSGRINC - FSSLT4 - FSDEPDDED - FSRNDED - FSSTDDED - FSCSDED - HOMELESS\_DED)$ and where FSSLT4 is the shelter deduction calculated without FSM EDDDED
		Coded as missing for all MFIP and SSI-CAP units.
<b>FSMEDEXP</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED MEDICAL EXPENSES</b>
		Range = (0, 1031)
		Allowable medical expenses in excess of \$35 for elderly adults or individuals with disabilities
<b>FSSLTDED</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>CALCULATED EXCESS SHELTER EXPENSE DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 2405)
		Set to 0 if HOMEDED = 3; otherwise set to XCOST for units with elderly members or individuals with disabilities and equal to the minimum of XCOST and SHELAP for units without elderly members or individuals with disabilities, where $XCOST = \text{MAX}(0, FSSLTEXP - HALFNET)$ and $HALFNET = \text{MAX}(0, \text{ROUND}(FSGRINC - FSSTDDED - FSRNDED - FSDEPDDED - FSMEDDED - FSCSDED)/2)$ . The final value of FSSLTDED is rounded to nearest integer.
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit.
<b>FSSLTDE2</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>MARGINAL EFFECTIVENESS OF EXCESS SHELTER EXPENSE DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 1721)
		Calculated as $FSSLTDE2 = NEWNET - FSNETINC$ , where $NEWNET = \text{MAX}(0, FSGRINC - FSDEPDDED - FSRNDED - FSMEDDED - FSSTDDED - FSCSDED - HOMELESS\_DED)$ .
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit.
<b>FSSLTEXP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>CALCULATED SHELTER EXPENSES</b>
		Range = (0, 3273)
		Sum of RENT and UTIL
<b>FSSTDDED</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>STANDARD DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (147, 425)
		Varies by region. See Appendix F for values.
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit.
<b>FSSTDDE2</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>MARGINAL EFFECTIVENESS OF STANDARD DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 544)
		Calculated as $FSSTDDE2 = NEWNET - FSNETINC$ , where $NEWNET = \text{MAX}(0, FSGRINC - FSSLT1 - FSDEPDDED - FSRNDED - FSMEDDED - FSCSDED - HOMELESS\_DED)$ and where FSSLT1 is the shelter deduction calculated without FSSTDDED
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit.
<b>FSTOTDED</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>
		Range = (0, 2734)
		Sum of FSSTDDED, FSRNDED, FSDEPDDED, FSSLTDED, FSMEDDED, HOMELESS_DED, and FSCSDED
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit.
<b>FSTOTDE2</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>MARGINAL EFFECTIVENESS OF TOTAL DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 2734)
		Calculated as $FSGRINC - FSNETINC$
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit.
<b>HOMEDDED</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF HOMELESSNESS</b>
		Range = (1, 3)
		1 = Not homeless
		2 = Homeless, not receiving homeless shelter allowance
		3 = Homeless, receiving homeless shelter allowance



Variable	Origin	Description
<b>HOMELESS_DED</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>AMOUNT OF HOMELESS HOUSEHOLD SHELTER DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 157)
		Positive value only for those with HOMEDED = 3
		Coded as missing for all MFIP and SSI-CAP units.
<b>RAWERND</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED EARNED INCOME DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 999)
		See FSERNDED for final earned income deduction value.
<b>RENT</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>RENT/MORTGAGE AMOUNT</b>
		Range = (0, 2725)
		Some values for SSI-CAP units have been edited to apply standard shelter allowances.
<b>SHELCAP</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SHELTER EXPENSE DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (462, 936)
		SHELCAP varies by region. See Appendix F for values.
<b>SHEDED</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED SHELTER DEDUCTION</b>
		Range = (0, 10255)
		See FSSLTDED for the final value.
<b>SUA1</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCE–USAGE AND ENTITLEMENT</b>
		Range = (1, 9)
		1 = No utilities and no LIHEAA assistance
		2 = Uses actual expenses
		3 = Uses higher standard based on LIHEAA assistance
		4 = Uses higher standard and does not receive LIHEAA assistance
		5 = Uses lower, or limited, standard
		6 = Uses telephone-only standard
		7 = Uses individual standards
		8 = Uses higher standard, LIHEAA assistance status unknown
		9 = Other
		Some values have been edited to obtain consistency with UTIL. See Appendix B for details.
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for units participating in an SSI-CAP program in States that use standard SSI-CAP benefits.
		LIHEAA is the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981. Some State programs may have another name, such as Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP).
		Higher standard is an SUA based upon payment of heating or cooling and includes all utilities.
		Lower, or limited, standard is an SUA based on all utilities but is for households that do not incur heating or cooling or receive LIHEAA.
<b>SUA2</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCE–PRORATED</b>
		Range = (1, 2)
		1 = Not prorated
		2 = Prorated
		Some values have been edited to obtain consistency with UTIL. See Appendix B for details.
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for SSI-CAP units receiving a standard SSI-CAP benefit.
<b>UTIL</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>UTILITY AMOUNT</b>
		Range = (0, 954)
		Some values have been edited to improve the final benefit calculation. See Appendix B for details.

### Unit benefits

Variable	Origin	Description
AMTERR	R	<b>AMOUNT OF BENEFIT IN ERROR</b>
		Range = (0, 1008)
		Dollar amount of any identified error, or the difference between the benefits the State authorized and the benefits the State should have authorized. In the FY 2021 file, AMTERR was recoded for seven SSI-CAP units to reflect the \$30 CAA/ARPA benefit increase that was not captured in the raw data. See Chapter III for details.
ASSLIM	C	<b>ASSET LIMIT</b>
		Range = (2250, 3500)
		SNAP asset eligibility limit. Categorically eligible units are not subject to an asset limit. See Appendix F.
BENMAX	C	<b>MAXIMUM BENEFIT AMOUNT</b>
		Range = (234, 3703)
		The maximum possible benefit for a unit, which varies by unit size and region. See Appendix F for schedule.
FSATEST	C	<b>INDICATOR OF PASSING ASSET TEST</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
FSBEN	C	<b>FINAL CALCULATED BENEFIT</b>
		Range = (4, 3029)
		Calculated as $FSBEN = \text{MAX}(\text{minimum benefit}, \text{BENMAX} - \text{ROUND}(.3 * \text{FSNETINC}))$ if FSUSIZE is 2 or less. Otherwise, $FSBEN = \text{MAX}(0, \text{BENMAX} - \text{ROUND}(.3 * \text{FSNETINC}))$ for all units, except for MFIP units and for units participating in an SSI-CAP program in States that use standard SSI-CAP benefits where the benefit is calculated by using a State-specific formula.
FSBENSUPP	C	<b>CALCULATED AMOUNT OF EMERGENCY ALLOTMENT</b>
		We recommend use of FSBENSUPP, with the understanding that FSBENSUPP measures the emergency allotment amount a household was estimated to have been entitled to, not necessarily the amount received.
		Range = (95, 1421)
		Calculated as the larger of \$95 or BENMAX – FSBEN in States that administered emergency allotments in the sample month. Coded as missing in States that had returned to normal benefit amounts by the sample month. See Chapter I and Appendix C for details.
FSGRTEST	C	<b>INDICATOR OF PASSING GROSS INCOME TEST</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
FSMINBEN	C	<b>RECEIVED MINIMUM BENEFIT</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		FSMINBEN = 1 when FSBEN = 8 percent of the maximum one-person benefit for the unit's geographic region and FSUSIZE = 1 or 2. FSMINBEN is always set to 0 for units participating in an SSI-CAP program that uses standard SSI-CAP benefits.

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>FSNETEST</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF PASSING NET INCOME TEST</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		Coded as missing for MFIP units and for units participating in an SSI-CAP program that uses standard SSI-CAP benefits.
<b>GROSSCRN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>GROSS INCOME SCREEN</b>
		Range = (1383, 7796)
		SNAP eligibility limit determined by unit size. Categorically eligible units and those with elderly members or individuals with disabilities are not subject to the gross income screen. See Appendix F for values.
<b>MINIMUM_BEN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>MINIMUM BENEFIT AMOUNT</b>
		Range = (19, 36)
		See Appendix Tables F.6a and F.6b for minimum monthly SNAP benefit amounts.
<b>NETSCRN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>NET INCOME SCREEN</b>
		Range = (1064, 5997)
		SNAP eligibility limit determined by unit size. Categorically eligible units are not subject to the net income screen. See Appendix F for values.
<b>RAWBEN</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED SNAP BENEFIT RECEIVED</b>
		Range = (0, 3029)
		Reported amount of SNAP benefits that the unit was certified to receive during the sample month (see FSBEN for the final edited benefit amount). In the FY 2021 file, RAWBEN was recoded for nine SSI-CAP units to reflect the \$30 CAA/ARPA benefit increase that was not captured in the raw data. See Chapter III for details.
<b>SUPP_BEN</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>INDICATOR OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EMERGENCY ALLOTMENT</b>
		We recommend use of SUPP_BEN, with the understanding that SUPP_BEN is an indicator of eligibility for, not receipt of, the emergency allotment.
		Range = (0, 1)
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		SUPP_BEN = 1 when FSBENSUPP > 0.

## Person-level characteristics: i = 1 to 16

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>ABWDST1 to ABWDST16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ABAWD STATUS</b>
		The ABWDSTi value definitions changed between FY 2020 and FY 2021. We recommend using ABWDSTi for national tabulations with the understanding that our ability to assess adherence to the new codes is limited. See Appendix A for details.
		We recommend against using ABWDSTi for State-level tabulations in all States except Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington due to small ABAWD sample sizes.
		Range = (1, 8)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = Not an able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD)
		2 = Ineligible householder
		3 = ABAWD meeting work requirements at 7 CFR 273.24(a)(1)
		4 = ABAWD meeting work requirements (in 3 months of eligibility)
		5 = ABAWD in a waived area
		6 = Exempt based on discretionary exemption
		8 = Ineligible householder also coded as an eligible member of the SNAP unit (FSAFILI = 1)
<b>AGE1 to AGE16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>AGE</b>
		Range = (0, 98)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		0 = Age less than 1 year
		1 to 97 = Age in years
		98 = Age 98 years or older
<b>CTZN1 to CTZN16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>CITIZENSHIP STATUS</b>
		Range = (1, 10)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = US-born citizen
		2 = Naturalized citizen
		3 = Legal permanent resident with 40 quarters of work, military service, five years legal U.S. residency, disability, or under age 18
		5 = Person admitted as refugee, granted asylum, or given stay of deportation
		6 = Other eligible noncitizen
		7 = Noncitizen legally in U.S. who does not meet one of the above codes and is not receiving SNAP benefits but whose income and resources must be considered in determining benefits
		8 = Other ineligible legal noncitizen (for example, visitor, tourist, student, diplomat)
		9 = Undocumented noncitizen
		10 = Noncitizen, status unknown
<b>DIS1 to DIS16</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>PERSON-LEVEL DISABILITY INDICATOR</b>
		We recommend using DISi with the understanding that it may not identify all non-elderly individuals with disabilities. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 1)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		0 = Not disabled
		1 = Disabled

Variable	Origin	Description
		Non-elderly individuals identified as having a disability using receipt of SSI or a combination of hours worked, work registration status, receipt of Social Security, veterans' benefits, or workers' compensation, and/or unit medical expense deduction. See Appendix B for details.

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>DPCOST1 to DPCOST16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>REPORTED DEPENDENT CARE COST</b>
		We recommend against using DPCOST <sub>i</sub> for State-level tabulations because of small sample sizes and inconsistencies between DPCOST <sub>i</sub> and FSDEPDED. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 1176)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Some values have been edited to obtain consistency with FSDEPDED. See Appendix B for details.
<b>EMPRG1 to EMPRG16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>SNAP EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM STATUS</b>
		The EMPRG <sub>i</sub> value definitions changed between FY 2020 and FY 2021. We recommend using the EMPRG <sub>i</sub> codes with the understanding that we have limited ability to assess whether sizable differences in some States over time or relative to other States are due to the new definitions or if they reflect changes to policy or the composition of the SNAP caseload. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 9)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		0 = Not participating in E&T
		1 = Participating in non-SNAP E&T (such as TANF)
		2 = Participating in SNAP job search/job search training as a mandatory participant
		3 = Participating in SNAP job search/job search training as a voluntary participant
		4 = Participating in a SNAP E&T workfare/work experience as a mandatory participant
		5 = Participating in a SNAP E&T workfare/work experience as a voluntary participant
		6 = Participating in a SNAP E&T education/training (basic education, remedial education, career/technical education, or other post-secondary) as a mandatory participant
		7 = Participating in a SNAP E&T education/training (basic education, remedial education, career/technical education, or other post-secondary) as a voluntary participant
		8 = Participating in other SNAP E&T component as a mandatory participant
		9 = Participating in other SNAP E&T component as a voluntary participant
<b>EMPSTA1 to EMPSTA16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS—TYPE</b>
		We recommend using EMPSTA <sub>i</sub> with the understanding that this variable is best used in conjunction with other work-related variables such as WORK <sub>i</sub> . See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 8)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = Not in labor force and not looking for work
		2 = Unemployed and looking for work
		3 = Active-duty military
		4 = Migrant farm laborer
		5 = Nonmigrant farm laborer
		6 = Self-employed, farming
		7 = Self-employed, nonfarming
		8 = Employed by other
<b>EMPSTB1 to EMPSTB16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS—AMOUNT</b>
		We recommend using EMPSTB <sub>i</sub> with the understanding that this variable is best used in conjunction with other work-related variables such as WORK <sub>i</sub> . See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 5)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = Not employed
		2 = 1–19 hours/week
		3 = 20–29 hours/week
		4 = 30–39 hours/week

Variable	Origin	Description
		5 = Full-time (40 hours or more)
<b>FSAFIL1 to FSAFIL16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>SNAP CASE AFFILIATION</b>
		We recommend against using FSAFILi for State-level tabulations of nonparticipants in Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Tennessee, and West Virginia and advise caution when using FSAFILi for State-level tabulations of nonparticipants in Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 99)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = Eligible member of SNAP case under review and entitled to receive benefits
		2 = Eligible SNAP participant in another unit, not currently under review (code added by Mathematica for use in certain SNAP-CAP units)
		4 = Member is ineligible noncitizen and not participating in State-funded SNAP
		5 = Member not paying/cooperating with child support agency
		6 = Member is ineligible striker
		7 = Member is ineligible student
		8 = Member disqualified for program violation
		9 = Member ineligible to participate due to disqualification or failure to meet work requirements (work registration, E&T, acceptance of employment, employment status/job availability, voluntary quit/reducing work effort, workfare/comparable workfare)
		10 = ABAWD time limit exhausted and ABAWD ineligible to participate due to failure to meet ABAWD work requirements, to work at least 20 hours per week, to participate in at least 20 hours per week in qualifying educational training activities, or to participate in workfare
		11 = Fleeing felon or parole and probation violator
		13 = Convicted drug felon
		14 = Social Security Number disqualified
		15 = SSI recipient in California
		16 = Prisoner in detention center
		17 = Foster care
		18 = Member is ineligible noncitizen and participating in State-funded SNAP
		19 = Individual in the home but not part of SNAP household
		99 = Unknown
<b>FSUN1 to FSUN16</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>POSITION OF HEAD OF SNAP UNIT</b>
		Range = (0, 7)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Identifies the index position of the head of the SNAP unit. The head is defined as the first person in unit with RELi = 1 or, if no one in unit has RELi = 1, as the first adult in unit. If there are no adults in unit, the oldest child is the head. FSUNi is the same for everyone in unit. For example, if unit head is the second person in the household, FSUNi = 2 for everyone in unit. FSUNi = 0 for any individuals in household who are not part of the SNAP unit.
<b>NDISCA1 to NDISCA16</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>ADULT AGE 18–49 WITHOUT DISABILITIES IN CHILDLESS UNIT STATUS</b>
		We recommend using NDISCAi with the understanding that it may overestimate the number of adults without disabilities. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 2)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		0 = Not in universe (AGEi<18 or AGEi>49)
		1 = Adult age 18–49 without disabilities in childless unit
		2 = Age 18–49, but not adult without disabilities in childless unit

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>RACETH1 to RACETH16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>
		We recommend against using RACETHi for national tabulations due to a high prevalence of unreported race/ethnicity data. In addition, we recommend against using RACETHi in 28 States and territories where at least 5 percent of participants have unreported race/ethnicity data. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 22)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = Racial/ethnic data not available because application was not found
		2 = Not recorded on application
		Not Hispanic or Latino
		3 = American Indian or Alaska Native
		4 = Asian
		5 = Black or African American
		6 = Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
		7 = White
		Multiple races reported
		8 = (American Indian or Alaska Native) and White
		9 = Asian and White
		10 = (Black or African American) and White
		11 = (American Indian or Alaska Native) and (Black or African American)
		12 = Respondent reported more than one race and does not fit into above categories (codes 8 through 11)
		Hispanic or Latino
		13 = (Hispanic or Latino) and (American Indian or Alaska Native)
		14 = (Hispanic or Latino) and Asian
		15 = (Hispanic or Latino) and (Black or African American)
		16 = (Hispanic or Latino) and (Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander)
		17 = (Hispanic or Latino) and White
		Multiple races reported
		18 = (Hispanic or Latino) and (American Indian or Alaska Native) and White
		19 = (Hispanic or Latino) and Asian and White
		20 = (Hispanic or Latino) and (Black or African American) and White
		21 = (Hispanic or Latino) and (American Indian or Alaska Native) and (Black or African American)
		22 = (Hispanic or Latino) and respondent reported more than one race and does not fit into above categories (codes 18 through 21)
<b>REL1 to REL16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD</b>
		Range = (1, 7)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = Head of household
		2 = Spouse
		3 = Parent
		4 = Daughter, stepdaughter, son, or stepson
		5 = Other related person (brother, sister, niece, nephew, grandchild, great-grandchild, cousin)
		6 = Foster child
		7 = Unrelated person



Variable	Origin	Description
<b>SEX1 to SEX16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>SEX</b>
		Range = (1, 2)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		1 = Male
		2 = Female
<b>WORK1 to WORK16</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>PERSON-LEVEL WORKING INDICATOR</b>
		Range = (0, 1)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		0 = No
		1 = Yes
		Identifies individuals who are coded as being employed ( $EMPSTAi > 2$ ), having positive earnings ( $WAGESi + OTHERNi + SLFEMPi > 0$ ), and working one or more hours per week ( $EMPSTBi > 1$ ).
<b>WRKREG1 to WRKREG16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>WORK REGISTRATION STATUS</b>
		The WRKREGi value definitions changed between FY 2020 and FY 2021. We recommend using WRKREGi with the understanding that it is best used in conjunction with other work-related variables and with the understanding that we are limited in our ability to assess adherence to the new codes.
		We recommend caution when using WRKREGi to identify work registrants in Maryland and West Virginia, where the States appear to have been using the old FY 2020 value definitions. In these States, we advise users to interpret WRKREGi values according to the old value definitions. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (1, 6)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		<b>FY 2021 values</b>
		1 = Work registrant
		2 = Federal exemption, physically or mentally unfit for employment
		3 = Federal exemption, care of a child under 6 or an incapacitated person
		4 = Federal exemption, working and/or earning the equivalent of 30 hours per week
		5 = Federal exemption, other
		<b>Old FY 2020 values (for Maryland and West Virginia)</b>
		1 = Federal exemption for disability
		2 = Federal exemption for reason other than disability
		3 = Work registrant, not E&T participant
		4 = Work registrant, voluntary E&T participant
		5 = Work registrant, mandatory E&T participant
		6 = Should have been registered but was not registered
<b>YRSED1 to YRSED16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL COMPLETED</b>
		We recommend against using YRSEDi due to a high percentage of missing or unknown values. See Appendix A for details.
		Range = (0, 14)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		0 = None
		1 = Grade 1
		2 = Grade 2
		3 = Grade 3
		4 = Grade 4
		5 = Grade 5

Variable	Origin	Description
		6 = Grade 6
		7 = Grade 7
		8 = Grade 8
		9 = Grade 9
		10 = Grade 10
		11 = Grade 11
		12 = High school graduate or GED
		13 = Postsecondary education (for example, technical education or some college)
		14 = College graduate or postgraduate degree

**Person-level countable income (monthly dollar amounts): i = 1 to 16<sup>35</sup>**

Variable	Origin	Description
<b>CONT1 to CONT16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE INCOME FROM CONTRIBUTIONS</b>
		Range = (0, 2625)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Amount of contributions, charity, and in-kind income
<b>CSUPRT1 to CSUPRT16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 2500)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Court-ordered child support payments received from absent parent or responsible person
<b>DEEM1 to DEEM16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE DEEMED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1321)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Income deemed from sponsor of noncitizen member of unit
<b>DIVER1 to DIVER16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE STATE DIVERSION PAYMENTS</b>
		Range = (0, 21)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>EDLOAN1 to EDLOAN16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE INCOME FROM EDUCATIONAL GRANTS AND LOANS</b>
		Range = (0, 794)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Educational grants, scholarships, and loans
<b>EITC1 to EITC16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE INCOME FROM EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT</b>
		Range = (0, 0)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>ENERGY1 to ENERGY16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE ENERGY ASSISTANCE INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1144)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>FOSTER1 to FOSTER16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE FOSTER CARE INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1290)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>GA1 to GA16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE GENERAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 988)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>OTHERN1 to OTHERN16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE OTHER EARNED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 1032)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>OTHGOV1 to OTHGOV16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE INCOME FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 2438)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Includes but not limited to Black Lung Benefits, Railroad Retirement payments, and payments to farmers by USDA. OTHGOVi amounts were recoded as SSI benefits in units with reported SSI income in cases for which OTHGOVi equaled an applicable State SSI supplement.
<b>OTHUN1 to OTHUN16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE OTHER UNEARNED INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 2669)
		Person 1 through Person 16

<sup>35</sup> Some person-level income amounts have been edited to obtain consistency with final gross income (FSGRINC).

Variable	Origin	Description
		Includes alimony, foster care income, dividends and interest, rental income, pensions, and union benefits. OTHUNi amounts were recoded as SSI benefits in units with reported SSI income in cases for which OTHUNi equaled an applicable State SSI supplement.
<b>SLFEMP1 to SLFEMP16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 2776)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Net income from any self-employment enterprise
<b>SOCSEC1 to SOCSEC16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 2523)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>SSI1 to SSI16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE SSI BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 1588)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Includes recoded countable income reported as OTHGOVi or OTHUNi in units with reported SSI income and where OTHGOVi or OTHUNi equaled an applicable State SSI supplement
<b>TANF1 to TANF16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE TANF PAYMENTS</b>
		Range = (0, 1552)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Assigned to payee or principal person of assistance group
<b>UNEMP1 to UNEMP16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION UNEMP16 BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 3182)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>VET1 to VET16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE VETERANS' BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 3322)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>WAGES1 to WAGES16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE WAGES AND SALARIES</b>
		Range = (0, 6139)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Amount of wages, salaries, tips, and commission
<b>WCOMP1 to WCOMP16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS</b>
		Range = (0, 2321)
		Person 1 through Person 16
<b>WGESUP1 to WGESUP16</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>COUNTABLE WAGE SUPPLEMENTATION INCOME</b>
		Range = (0, 0)
		Person 1 through Person 16
		Earnings above cash assistance and/or SNAP benefit amount

Detailed error findings: i = 1 to 9

Variable	Origin	Description
AGENCY1 to AGENCY9	R	<b>AGENCY OR CLIENT RESPONSIBILITY</b>
		Range = (1, 99)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Primary cause of variance
		1 = Information not reported
		2 = Incomplete or incorrect information provided; agency not required to verify
		3 = Information withheld by client (case referred for Intentional Program Violation [IPV] investigation)
		4 = Incorrect information provided by client (case referred for IPV investigation)
		7 = Inaccurate information reported by collateral contact
		8 = Acted on incorrect Federal computer match information not requiring verification (such variance is excluded from error determination but must be recorded)
		10 = Policy incorrectly applied
		12 = Reported information disregarded or not applied
		14 = Agency failed to follow up on inconsistent or incomplete information
		15 = Agency failed to follow up on impending changes
		16 = Agency failed to verify required information
		17 = Computer programming error
		18 = Data entry and/or coding error
		19 = Mass change (error due to problem with computer- generated mass change)
		20 = Arithmetic computation error
		21 = Computer user error
		99 = Other
AMOUNT1 to AMOUNT9	R	<b>VARIANCE DOLLAR AMOUNT</b>
		Range = (0, 2300)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Dollar amount of variance
DISCOV1 to DISCOV9	R	<b>VARIANCE DISCOVERY</b>
		Range = (1, 9)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		How variance was discovered
		1 = Variance clearly identified from case record (documentation not from an automated match)
		2 = Variance clearly identified from case record (documentation from an automated match)
		3 = Variance discovered from recipient interview
		4 = Employer (present or former)
		5 = Financial institution, insurance company, or other business
		6 = Landlord
		7 = Government agency or public records, not automated match
		8 = Government agency or public records, automated match
		9 = Other

Variable	Origin	Description
E_FINDG1 to E_FINDG9	R	<b>ERROR FINDING</b>
		Range = (2, 4)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Impact of variance
		2 = Overissuance
		3 = Underissuance
		4 = Ineligible
ELEMENT1 to ELEMENT9	R	<b>VARIANCE ELEMENT</b>
		Range = (111, 820)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Element of variance
		111 = Student status
		130 = Citizenship and noncitizen status
		140 = Residency
		150 = Unit composition
		151 = Recipient disqualification
		160 = Employment and training programs
		161 = Time-limited participation
		162 = Work registration requirements
		163 = Voluntary quit/reduced work effort
		164 = Workfare and comparable workfare
		165 = Employment status/job availability
		166 = Acceptance of employment
		170 = Social Security number
		211 = Bank accounts or cash on hand
		212 = Nonrecurring lump-sum payment
		213 = Other liquid assets
		221 = Real property
		222 = Vehicles
		224 = Other nonliquid resources
		225 = Combined resources
		311 = Wages and salaries
		312 = Self-employment
		314 = Other earned income
		321 = Earned income deductions
		323 = Dependent care deduction
		331 = RSDI benefits
		332 = Veterans' benefits
		333 = SSI and/or State SSI supplement
		334 = Unemployment compensation
		335 = Workers' compensation
		336 = Other government benefits
		342 = Contributions
		343 = Deemed income
		344 = TANF, PA, or GA
		345 = Educational grants/scholarships/loans

Variable	Origin	Description
		346 = Other unearned income
		350 = Child support payments received from absent parent
		361 = Standard deduction
		363 = Shelter deduction
		364 = Standard utility allowance
		365 = Medical expense deductions
		366 = Child support payment deduction
		371 = Combined gross income
		372 = Combined net income
		520 = Arithmetic computation
		530 = Transitional benefits
		560 = Reporting systems
		810 = SNAP simplification project
		820 = Demonstration projects
<b>NATURE1 to NATURE9</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>NATURE OF VARIANCE</b>
		Range = (6, 200)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Nature of each variance
		6 = Eligible person(s) excluded
		7 = Ineligible person(s) included
		12 = Eligible person(s) with no income, resources, or deductible expenses excluded
		13 = Eligible person(s) with income excluded
		14 = Eligible person(s) with resources excluded
		15 = Eligible person(s) with deductible expenses excluded
		16 = Newborn improperly excluded
		20 = Incorrect resource limit applied
		24 = Resource should have been excluded
		28 = Incorrect income limit applied
		29 = Exceeds prescribed limit
		30 = Resource should have been included
		32 = Failed to consider or incorrectly considered income of ineligible member
		35 = Unreported source of income (do not use for change in employment status)
		36 = Rounding used/not used or incorrectly applied
		37 = All income from source known but not included
		38 = More income received from this source than budgeted
		39 = Employment status changed from unemployed to employed
		40 = Employment status changed from employed to unemployed
		41 = Change only in amount of earnings
		42 = Conversion to monthly amount not used or incorrectly applied
		43 = Averaging not used or incorrectly applied
		44 = Less income received from this source than budgeted
		45 = Cost of doing business not used or incorrectly applied
		46 = Failed to consider/anticipate month with extra pay date
		52 = Deduction that should have been included was not
		53 = Deduction included that should not have been
		54 = Incorrect standard used (not as a result of change in unit size or move)

Variable	Origin	Description
		64 = Incorrect amount used resulting from change in residence
		65 = Incorrect standard used resulting from change in unit size
		75 = Benefit/allotment/eligibility incorrectly computed
		77 = Unit not entitled to transitional benefits
		79 = Incorrect use of allotment tables
		80 = Improper prorating of initial month's benefits
		97 = Not required to be reported or acted upon based on time frames and reporting requirements for allotment differences below the error threshold
		98 = Transcription or computation errors
		99 = Other
		111 = Child support payment(s) not considered or incorrectly applied for initial month(s) of eligibility
		112 = Retained child support payment(s) not considered or incorrectly applied
		120 = Variance/errors resulting from noncompliance with this means-tested public assistance program
		123 = Incorrectly prorated
		124 = Variances resulting from use of automatic Federal information exchange system
		127 = Pass-through not considered or incorrectly applied
		200 = Eligible noncitizen excluded
		201 = Ineligible noncitizen included
		301 = Unit improperly participating under retrospective budgeting
		302 = Unit improperly participating under prospective budgeting
		303 = Unit improperly participating under monthly reporting
		304 = Unit improperly participating under quarterly reporting
		305 = Unit improperly participating under semiannual reporting
		306 = Unit improperly participating under change reporting
		307 = Unit improperly participating under status reporting
		308 = Unit improperly participating under 5 hour reporting
		309 = Unit improperly participating in transitional benefits
OCCDATE1 to OCCDATE9 R		VARIANCE OCCURRENCE DATE
		Range = (200101, 999999)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Date each variance occurred (year and month)
		999999 = Unknown
TIMEPER1 to TIMEPER9 R		VARIANCE TIME PERIOD
		Range = (1, 9)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Time period during which variance occurred
		1 = Before most recent action
		2 = At time of most recent action by agency
		3 = After most recent action by agency
		9 = Time of occurrence cannot be determined



Variable	Origin	Description
VERIF1 to VERIF9	R	VARIANCE VERIFICATION
		Range = (1, 9)
		Variance 1 through Variance 9
		Indicates how each variance was verified
		1 = From case record (verification not from an automated match)
		2 = From case record (verification from an automated match)
		3 = From information provided by recipient
		4 = Employer (present or former)
		5 = Financial institution, insurance company, or other business
		6 = Landlord
		7 = Government agency or public records, not automated match
		8 = Government agency or public records, automated match
		9 = Other

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## **APPENDIX A**

### **Assessment of the Quality of Selected Variables in the FY 2021 SNAP QC Database**

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We assessed the quality of the data for variables that are new to the FY 2021 SNAP QC database, those that have changed in recent years, or those with a history of coding inconsistencies. Based on our assessment, we recommend against using some variables and advise caution when using others. Our recommendations are listed and described below. The codebook in Chapter IV also summarizes our recommendations regarding the use of each variable if there are any concerns.

More information about our assessment and recommendations is available on request.

## **A. Summary recommendations for the use of certain variables**

Based on our assessment, we recommend against using the following variables:

- VEHICLEA and VEHICLEB
- YRSEDi

We recommend against using the following variables in some instances:

- ABWDSTi for State-level tabulations in all States *except for* Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington
- DPCOSTi and FSDEPDED for State-level tabulations
- FSAFILI for State-level tabulations of nonparticipants in Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Tennessee, and West Virginia
- FSTANF in Minnesota
- RACETHi for national tabulations and for State-level tabulations in the 28 States and territories where at least 5 percent of participants have unknown or unavailable RACETHi values—Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming
- URBRUR for State-level tabulations in Alabama, Arizona, Guam, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, and Washington (this variable is not retained in the public-use file)

We advise caution when using the following variable:

- SSI\_CAP

We advise caution when using the following variables in some instances:

- FSAFILI for State-level tabulations of nonparticipants in Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia
- URBRUR for tabulations in all States other than Alabama, Arizona, Guam, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, and Washington, where we recommend against using the variable (this variable is not retained in the public-use file)
- WRKREGi, where data users are advised to interpret WRKREGi values according to the old value definitions for two States—Maryland and West Virginia

We recommend using the following variables with disclaimers:

- ABWDSTi, with the understanding that we are limited in our ability to assess adherence to the new codes (this is in addition to the recommendation against using the variable in certain States)
- DISi, FSDIS, and FSNDIS, with the understanding that DISi and FSNDIS may underestimate the number of non-elderly individuals with a disability, and that FSDIS may underestimate the number of SNAP units containing non-elderly individuals with a disability
- EMPRGi, with the understanding that we are limited in our ability to assess whether sizable differences in the data on this variable in some States over time or relative to other States are due to the new definitions or if they reflect changes to policy or the composition of the SNAP caseload
- EMPSTAi and EMPSTBi, with the understanding that these variables are best used in conjunction with other work-related variables such as WORKi
- FSASSET and FSVEHAST, with the understanding that only 6 percent of SNAP units have countable assets
- MN\_FIP, with the understanding that the variable may slightly underestimate the number of Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) units
- NDISCAi and FSNDISCA, with the understanding that NDISCAi may overestimate the number of adults without a disability and FSNDISCA may overestimate the number of SNAP units containing adults without a disability
- REP\_SYS, with the understanding that we are limited in our ability to assess adherence to the new codes
- SUPP\_BEN, with the understanding that the variable is an indicator of eligibility for—not receipt of—the emergency allotment
- FSBENSUPP, with the understanding that it is the amount a household was estimated to have been entitled to, not necessarily the amount it received
- WRKREGi, with the understanding that (1) the variable is best used in conjunction with other work-related variables, and (2) our ability to assess adherence to the new codes is limited

We found that the quality of other assessed variables was suitable for all tabulations. Next, we discuss detailed recommendations for specific variables in the SNAP QC database.

## **B. Variables not recommended for all tabulations**

### **1. Vehicles (VEHICLEA and VEHICLEB)**

For more than a decade, we have recommended against using the vehicle variables (VEHICLEA and VEHICLEB) because of coding inconsistencies, and we continue to recommend against using these variables in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database. In addition, because QC reviewers are instructed to record possession of vehicles only if a vehicle's value is counted toward a unit's resources, VEHICLEA and VEHICLEB are often missing, limiting the usefulness of the variables for analyses.

### **2. Highest educational level completed (YRSEDi)**

We recommend against using YRSEDi because 7 percent of adult participants have a missing or unknown value for the variable.



## C. Variables not recommended for specific tabulations

### 1. Non-elderly childless adults without a disability subject to work registration (ABWDSTi)

We recommend against using ABWDSTi for State-level tabulations where fewer than 25 households are coded as ABAWDs. These include all States and territories *except for* Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington. We also note that the ABWDSTi value definitions changed between FY 2020 and FY 2021 (see Section F for details).

### 2. Dependent care cost (DPCOSTi) and deduction (FSDEPDED)

We find inconsistencies between DPCOSTi and FSDEPDED in more than 5 percent of units with positive dependent care expenses or deductions in Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina, Texas, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Furthermore, sample sizes are small in most States. As a result, we recommend against using DPCOSTi and FSDEPDED for State-level tabulations.

### 3. SNAP case affiliation (FSAFILI)

FSAFILI may be used for tabulations of participants. However, five States have at least 20 percent of nonparticipants with unknown FSAFILI values—24 percent in Georgia, 43 percent in Louisiana, 26 percent in Minnesota, 39 percent in Tennessee, and 89 percent in West Virginia. As a result, we recommend against using FSAFILI for State-level tabulations of nonparticipants in those States.

This recommendation is in addition to the recommendation to use caution in eight States where 5 to 11 percent of nonparticipants have missing or unknown values, as described in Section E.

### 4. TANF recipients in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) (FSTANF)

In general, we code units in Minnesota with TANF income (FSTANF) as Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) units. The reported TANF amounts for these units are typically very small, likely because of Federal QC System constraints. Because TANF receipt may not be recorded for some units receiving MFIP cash assistance, we recommend using the MFIP variable (MN\_FIP) with the understanding that it may slightly underestimate the number of MFIP units. We recommend against using MFIP units' TANF income because it is not included as gross income and is most likely recorded incorrectly, if at all.

### 5. Race/ethnicity (RACETHi)

Current values for RACETHi allow reporting of multiple races and ethnicities and include values indicating that race or ethnicity data are not available or not recorded. About 16 percent of participants have unreported race or ethnicity data, although the percentage varies considerably by State. Given the large percentage of participants with unreported race or ethnicity data nationally, we recommend against using the variable for national tabulations. We also recommend against using the variable in States where at least 5 percent of participants have unknown or unavailable RACETHi values. These include 28 States or territories—Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

## **6. Locality (URBRUR)**

Four States (Guam, Nebraska, Utah, and the Virgin Islands) use Local Agency Codes (LACs) that do not align with geographic areas and therefore cannot be used to classify units as located in a metropolitan, micropolitan, or rural area. In addition, mostly because of States's use of LACs that do not align with geographic regions, we could not identify locality for at least 10 percent of units in Alabama, Arizona, Nevada, Vermont, and Washington. For this reason, we recommend against using URBRUR in these States. This recommendation is in addition to our advice to use caution when using URBRUR for State-level tabulations because of concerns about the representativeness of the sample within a State, as described in Section E.

URBRUR is not retained in the public-use file.

## **D. Variables recommended for use with caution in all instances**

### **1. SSI-CAP (SSI\_CAP)**

The raw SNAP QC data do not identify units that enter SNAP through an SSI-CAP, so we use an algorithm to identify, recode, and assign benefits for SSI-CAP units in States with these projects.<sup>36</sup>

Because SSI-CAP units are not directly identified in the raw data, the SNAP QC data file may underestimate the actual number of SSI-CAP units in some States. Therefore, we recommend caution when using SSI\_CAP.

## **E. Variables recommended for use with caution in some instances**

### **1. SNAP case affiliation (FSAFILi)**

In eight States, between 5 and 11 percent of nonparticipants have missing or unknown values. We advise caution when using FSAFILi for State-level tabulations of nonparticipants in these States—Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia. (This is in addition to the recommendation against using the variable in States where at least 20 percent of nonparticipants had missing or unknown values, as described in Section C.)

### **2. Locality (URBRUR)**

Because of concerns about the representativeness of the sample within a State, we recommend caution when using URBRUR for State-level tabulations. (This recommendation is in addition to the recommendation against using the variable in States where locality could not be determined for at least 10 percent of the caseload, as described in Section C.) URBRUR is not retained in the public-use file.

### **3. Work registration (WRKREGi)**

Although the WRKREGi value definitions changed between FY 2020 and FY 2021, two States—Maryland and Virginia—appear to have been using the old FY 2020 definitions. That is, the distribution of work registration statuses using the old definition of WRKREGi more closely mirrors the distributions

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<sup>36</sup> Section III.2 has details on States with SSI-CAP programs in place during FY 2021.

in FY 2020 and FY 2022. In these States, we recommend caution; data users may want to interpret WRKREGi values according to the old value definitions.

## **F. Variables recommended for use, with disclaimers**

### **1. Non-elderly childless adults without a disability subject to work registration (ABWDSTi)**

The value definitions for the ABWDSTi variable changed in the FY 2021 data file. Despite the coding change, the distribution of values looked plausible. Among ABAWDs, the percentage coded as residing in a waived area or exempt increased from about 74 percent in FY 2020 to 87 percent in FY 2021, likely because of the increase in exemptions as part of the FFCRA. We recommend using ABWDSTi for national tabulations with the understanding that our ability to assess adherence to the new codes is limited, particularly at the State level. This is in addition to the recommendation against using the variable in many States due to small sample sizes. (See Section F for details.)

### **2. Person-level and unit disability (DISi, FSDIS, and FSNDIS)**

We use an algorithm to identify individuals with a disability (DISi) based on SSI receipt, medical expenses, age, work registration status (WRKREGi), and other factors. We then use this variable to identify units containing individuals with a disability (FSDIS) and count the number of individuals with a disability in a unit (FSNDIS). We recommend using DISi, FSDIS, and FSNDIS with the understanding that the variables may underestimate the number of individuals with a disability and the number of units with individuals with a disability. For a description of the disability algorithm, see Appendix B.

### **3. SNAP employment and training program status (EMPRGi) and employment status (EMPSTAi and EMPSTBi)**

The value definitions for EMPRGi changed in the FY 2021 data file. The percentage of SNAP participants coded as participating in a SNAP E&T program decreased from 4 percent in FY 2020 to less than 2 percent in FY 2021. Among SNAP E&T participants, the percentage coded as participating in SNAP E&T education and training decreased from 35 percent in FY 2020 to 6 percent in FY 2021. The decrease was accompanied by corresponding increases in the percentage participating in job search or job search training (41 percentage point increase) and workfare or work experience (11 percentage point increase). The percentage coded as participating in other activities decreased by 22 percentage points. These percentages varied widely between States. We recommend using EMPRGi with the understanding that we are limited in our ability to assess whether sizeable differences in some States over time or relative to other States are due to the new definitions or reflect changes in policy or the composition of the SNAP caseload.

As in previous years, we found inconsistencies between the two employment status variables, EMPSTAi and EMPSTBi, and with other variables recording countable earned income. For example, of the 2,411 participants (unweighted) coded as working more than one hour and employed, 78 have no countable earnings. Given these inconsistencies, we recommend using EMPSTAi and EMPSTBi in conjunction with other work-related variables to determine participants' employment status. Specifically, we recommend using the person-level work indicator, WORKi, which incorporates information from person-level earnings variables and employment status variables (EMPSTAi and EMPSTBi).

**4. Assets (FSASSET and FSVEHAST)**

We edit positive values of FSVEHAST, LIQRESOR, OTHNLRES, and REALPROP to \$0 for units not subject to a SNAP asset test because of their State's broad-based categorical eligibility (BBCE) policy. In view of this edit and the large number of States with BBCE policies, many units have no recorded assets. Only 6 percent of SNAP units have recorded assets (FSASSET > 0) in the FY 2021 file, and nearly all units have no vehicle assets (FSVEHAST = 0). We recommend using FSASSET and FSVEHAST for tabulations with the understanding that most units have no recorded countable assets.

**5. Adults age 18–49 without a disability in childless units (NDISCAi and FSNDISCA)**

We recommend using NDISCAi and FSNDISCA with the understanding that because DISi may underestimate the number of non-elderly individuals with a disability (as noted), NDISCAi may overestimate the number of adults without a disability.

We recommend using NDISCAi and FSNDISCA with the understanding that because DISi may underestimate the number of non-elderly individuals with a disability (as noted), NDISCAi may overestimate the number of adults without a disability and FSNDISCA may overestimate SNAP units containing adults without a disability

**6. Reporting requirement (REP\_SYS)**

The value definitions for REP\_SYS changed in the FY 2021 data file. Four of the values of REP\_SYS in FY 2020 map to new values in FY 2021; however, three of the values in FY 2021 had no comparable value in FY 2020. For the four new REP\_SYS values in FY 2021 with comparable values in FY 2020, the distribution of reporting requirement statuses remained similar. However, we recommend using REP\_SYS with the understanding that our ability to assess adherence to the new codes is limited.

**7. Emergency allotment (SUPP\_BEN and FSBENSUPP)**

In FY 2021, we updated the coding of SUPP\_BEN and FSBENSUPP to reflect the rules in place during the fiscal year. Data users should note that we coded the receipt of emergency allotments and their amounts in the month in which the SNAP unit was entitled to an allotment, which may differ from the month in which the unit received it. Specifically, we estimated a SNAP unit's FSBENSUPP based on its benefit for the sample month. However, some States distributed some emergency allotments in the month following the entitlement month. Because SUPP\_BEN and FSBENSUPP refer to the emergency allotment a SNAP unit was entitled to receive in the sample months, we set those variables to 0 in emergency allotment transition months, which followed the last authorized month of emergency allotment distribution. Consequently, users should note that SUPP\_BEN is an indicator of eligibility for, not receipt of, the emergency allotment, and that FSBENSUPP is the amount a household was estimated to have been entitled to.

**8. Work registration status (WRKREGi)**

The value definitions for WRKREGi changed in FY 2021. Although the national distribution of work registration statuses changed only modestly from FY 2020 to FY 2021, the distribution changed more substantially in certain States and territories. For example, the percentage of individuals coded as work registrants increased by more than 5 percentage points in 13 States or territories. Conversely, it decreased

by at least 5 percentage points in four States. The largest increase was a 16-percentage point increase in Oregon; the largest decrease was a 17-percentage point decrease in New York.

Likewise, some States had substantial changes in the percentage coded as exempt from work registration due to a disability, and among non-elderly adults, those changes did not always correlate positively to changes in the percentage coded as receiving SSI, a proxy for disability. In fact, differences in the percentage of non-elderly adult participants coded as exempt from work requirements due to a disability (being physically or mentally unfit for employment) and those receiving SSI were large in some States; 35 States had at least a 10-percentage point difference. For these reasons, even though we recommend using WRKREGi to identify work registrants, we recommend using WRKREGi in conjunction with other work-related variables to identify reasons for exemption from work registration. We recommend using the WRKREGi reason-for-exemption codes at the State level with the understanding that we are limited in our ability to assess whether changes or differences in State patterns are due to the new definitions or reflect changes or differences in policy or changes in the composition of the SNAP caseload.

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## **APPENDIX B**

### **Automated Edits to SNAP Units**

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We were able to resolve some inconsistencies in the raw FY 2021 data file through automated edits involving simple algorithms, as described in this section.

### A. Missing and miscoded SNAP affiliation (FSAFILi) codes

We checked for instances in which the SNAP case affiliation codes in the raw data file were missing. If the individual had nonmissing age and gender, we recoded them as potential SNAP participants. That is, we first recoded FSAFILi as “unknown” (99) and then set it to 1 if certain other conditions, described below, were met.

We also checked for instances in which the SNAP case affiliation codes in the raw data file were inconsistent with other coded variables in the file such as citizenship, ABAWD status, and receipt of SSI and TANF. We were able to recode many of the inconsistencies:

- In the case of differences between unit size (the count of those with an affiliation code of 1) and certified household size, we checked to see which size was consistent with the reported benefit and then edited the affiliation codes accordingly. We also resolved differences by recoding any affiliation codes that were inconsistent with citizenship or ABAWD status.
- If a participating minor child of the household head ( $FSAFIL_i = 1$ ,  $AGE_i < 18$ , and  $REL_i = 4$ ) had a citizenship status ( $CTZNI \geq 7$ ) indicating that the child was not an eligible participant, and there was no one outside the unit ( $FSAFIL_i > 1$ ), we changed the child’s citizenship status to the value for the household head to make the value consistent with the child’s eligibility status.
- MFIP uses unit composition rules that differ from those used in regular SNAP. Specifically, SSI and TANF recipients living in the same household are treated as separate SNAP units. Consequently, if a Minnesota unit of more than one person had both SSI and TANF income, we set the affiliation code of the SSI recipient to unknown (99).

### B. Vehicle assets

The following States consider the value of some vehicles when determining asset eligibility for households that are not categorically eligible: Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, and Washington. For all other States, we reset any reported vehicle assets to \$0 because the States exclude the value of all vehicles when determining asset eligibility.

### C. Child support deduction and child support income

We checked for instances in which the reported child support payment deduction was exactly equal to the reported countable unit child support payment income. Although it is possible for a unit to have both child support expenses and child support income, it is highly unlikely that the two would be exactly equal in value. In these units, we checked to see if either of the amounts should be excluded by using the following procedure:

- If unit income less child support income was within \$5 of reported gross income, we set child support income to \$0.
- If calculated net income for the unit was within \$5 of reported net income, we retained both the child support income and the child support deduction.

- If calculated net income was greater than reported net income, and the difference between the two was greater than or equal to child support income, we set child support income to \$0.
- If calculated net income was less than reported net income, and the difference between the two was less than child support income, we set the child support payment deduction to \$0.

In addition, if a unit was subject to the gross income test (meaning it was not categorically eligible and did not include a member who was elderly or had a disability), and would have passed the gross income test if child support expenses were excluded from gross income, but would not have passed if they were included, we excluded child support expenses from unit gross income and set the child support payment deduction to \$0.

### D. Dependent care expenses

The QC data file includes units for which the QC reviewers recorded dependent care expenses for the parent instead of the dependent. We corrected for this error as follows:

- If dependent care expenses were assigned to adults age 18 to 59 without SSI, and there were children in the unit without dependent care expenses, we set the expenses to \$0 for the adults and distributed them among the children in the following order:
  1. If the unit contained at least one member age 0 to 4, we distributed the expenses evenly to unit members age 0 to 8.
  2. If the unit did not contain a member age 0 to 4, we distributed the expenses evenly to any unit members age 5 to 13.
  3. If the unit did not contain a member age 0 to 13, we distributed the expenses evenly to any unit members age 14 to 17.

In units where the calculated benefit matched the raw benefit, we assumed the recorded dependent care deduction was correct and, if necessary, recoded the expenses to make them consistent with the deduction. We followed these guidelines to reconcile differences between the dependent care deduction and expenses:

- If the dependent care deduction was greater than the total value of dependent care expenses, we set the expenses equal to the deduction by assigning additional dependent care expenses to unit members who originally had positive dependent care expenses.
- If no unit members originally had recorded dependent care expenses, we assigned expenses to unit members in the following order:
  1. If the unit contained at least one member age 0 to 4, we distributed expenses evenly to unit members age 0 to 8.
  2. If the unit did not contain a member age 0 to 4, we distributed expenses evenly to any unit members age 5 to 13.
  3. If the unit did not contain a member age 0 to 13, we distributed expenses evenly to any unit members age 14 to 17.
  4. If the unit did not contain a member age 0 to 17, we distributed expenses evenly to any unit members age 18 or older with SSI.

5. If the unit did not contain a member age 0 to 17 or an adult with SSI, we distributed expenses to elderly unit members without SSI.
  6. If the unit did not contain a member age 0 to 17 or an adult with SSI or an elderly unit member without SSI, we distributed expenses evenly to all unit members.
- In units with positive dependent care expenses, no dependent care deduction, and a calculated benefit that did not match the raw benefit, we set the dependent care deduction equal to the total unit dependent care expenses if doing so resulted in a calculated benefit that matches the raw benefit.

These edits excluded households identified as MFIP or SSI-CAP.

### E. SUA usage and prorating<sup>37</sup>

The SNAP QC data file includes two variables that describe the use of Standard Utility Allowances (SUAs). One variable records the use of and entitlement to SUAs (SUA1); the other records prorating utility allowances in shared housing situations (SUA2). In units where the calculated benefit matched the raw benefit, we assumed the recorded utility amount to be correct. For these units, we recoded the SUA1 and SUA2 variables to make them consistent with the utility amount. For units coded as receiving a type of SUA not used in the State, we recoded SUA1 regardless of the result of the benefit calculation.

In most States, we checked for both full SUA values and half SUA values (Table F.7).<sup>38</sup> If the utility amount equaled a full SUA value, we confirmed that SUA1 indicated the correct SUA type, and that SUA2 was coded as “not prorated.” If the utility amount equaled half of an SUA value, we confirmed that SUA1 indicated the correct SUA type, and that SUA2 was coded as “prorated.” However, in States that use individual standards, we checked half SUA values for the HCSUA and LUA, but only full SUA values for the telephone SUA, electricity SUA, or both (telephone plus electricity). If the utility amount did not equal a full or half SUA value and was not coded as prorated, we coded the unit as using individual standards in States with individual standards and as using actual expenses in other States. However, in States where SUA use was mandatory, and the State did not use individual standards, we did not change the values from the raw data file and were unable to reconcile the value of SUA1 and SUA2.<sup>39</sup>

### F. Pure public assistance (PA) units

We flagged the following types of units as pure PA units:

- Units containing only children where at least one member received TANF income
- Units in which at least one member received TANF income and in which every adult member of the unit received TANF, SSI, or General Assistance (GA) income
- Units in which every adult and every child received SSI or GA income
- All MFIP units

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<sup>37</sup> These edits exclude units identified as MFIP or SSI-CAP participants. SSI-CAP participants in States with a standard benefit had SUA1 and SUA2 set to missing. SSI-CAP participants in States with a standardized shelter expense had SUA1 set to 9 (“Other”) and SUA2 set to 1 (not prorated).

<sup>38</sup> Prorated values are not always equal to half of the full SUA value. However, because of the multitude of possible values, we checked only for values that were half of the full amount.

<sup>39</sup> Throughout FY 2021, 46 States, the District of Columbia, and Guam mandated the use of an SUA rather than actual utility costs. The 46 States include Alaska, which mandates the use of an SUA for the Central geographic region.

## G. Categorical eligibility

Most States have adopted BBCE policies that confer categorical SNAP eligibility on all units authorized to receive a TANF or Maintenance of Effort–funded noncash benefit. In such States, units meeting State-determined eligibility criteria are exempt from the Federal SNAP income and asset tests. In States with BBCE policies, most units were already identified as categorically eligible through the CAT\_ELIG variable, which is set in the raw file to 0 for units that are not categorically eligible and to 1 for units reported as categorically eligible.<sup>40</sup> We set the CAT\_ELIG flag to 2 for units that were not reported to be categorically eligible but that we identified as pure PA or met the following State-specific criteria:

- Alabama. All units with net income at or below 100 percent of Federal poverty guidelines and either (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) only elderly individuals or individuals with disabilities and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Arizona, Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey, Oregon, and Vermont. All units with gross income at or below 185 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- California, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Maryland, Nevada, North Carolina, Virginia (as of July 2021), Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. All units with gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Colorado, Massachusetts, Montana, and North Dakota. All units with net income at or below 100 percent of Federal poverty guidelines and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Georgia. All units with (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) only elderly individuals or individuals with disabilities and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Guam, Minnesota, and New Mexico. All units with gross income at or below 165 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Idaho. All units with countable assets at or below \$5,000, net income at or below 100 percent of Federal poverty guidelines, and either (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability
- Illinois. All units with (1) gross income at or below 165 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Indiana. All units with countable assets at or below \$5,000 and either (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability
- Iowa. All units with gross income at or below 160 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Louisiana. All units with gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Michigan. All units with countable assets at or below \$15,000 and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Nebraska. Through June 2021, all units with countable financial assets at or below \$25,000, net income at or below 100 percent of Federal poverty guidelines, and either (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability; as of July 2021, all units with countable financial assets at or below \$25,000, net income at

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<sup>40</sup> We recode to 0 a small number of cases with a missing value for CAT\_ELIG in the raw file if the cases are in States without BBCE policies, not identified as pure PA, and pass Federal SNAP eligibility tests.

or below 100 percent of Federal poverty guidelines, and either (1) gross income at or below 165 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability

- New Hampshire. All units with children under age 22, a relative of the child present, and gross income at or below 185 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- New York. All units with (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines, (2) earned income and gross income at or below 150 percent of Federal poverty guidelines, (3) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines, or (4) dependent care expenses and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Ohio and South Carolina. All units with (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Oklahoma. All units with net income at or below 100 percent of Federal poverty guidelines and either (1) gross income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability
- Pennsylvania. All units with (1) gross income at or below 160 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Rhode Island. All units with (1) gross income at or below 185 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Texas. All units with countable assets at or below \$5,000 and gross income at or below 165 percent of Federal poverty guidelines
- Virgin Islands. All units with (1) gross income at or below 175 percent of Federal poverty guidelines or (2) at least one elderly individual or individual with a disability and gross income at or below 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines

## H. State SSI supplements

Some States appear to have coded State SSI supplements as other government benefits (FSOTHGOV) or other unearned income (FSOTHUN), rather than SSI. We added these types of income to SSI (and remove them from FSOTHGOV or FSOTHUN) if the total amount of one of the income types was equal to the State's SSI supplement for individuals or couples.

## I. Person-level disability

The QC data file does not directly identify individuals with a disability. We used the following procedure to flag individuals likely to have a disability:

- We identified most individuals under age 60 with SSI as having a disability. We made exceptions if they were the only individual in the unit to have SSI, had a work registration status indicating a

Federal exemption for a reason other than a disability ( $WRKREG_i = 3, 4, \text{ or } 5$ )<sup>41</sup> and met any of the following conditions:

1. Individual was an adult (age 18 to 59) living with at least one person who did not have earned income and had a work registration status indicating disability ( $WRKREG_i = 2$ ).<sup>42</sup> In these cases, we coded the first child in the unit with  $WRKREG_i = 2$  as having a disability; or, if there were no children in the unit, we coded the first adult in the unit with  $WRKREG_i = 2$  as having a disability. We did not code the adult with SSI and  $WRKREG_i = 3, 4, \text{ or } 5$  as having a disability.
  2. Individual was a child (age 0 to 17) living with at least one other child who did not have earned income and had a work registration status indicating disability. In these cases, we coded the first child in the unit with  $WRKREG_i = 2$  as having a disability. We did not code the child with SSI and  $WRKREG_i = 3, 4, \text{ or } 5$  as having a disability.
  3. Individual did not meet conditions (1) or (2) but was in the labor force ( $EMPSTAi > 1$ ); had earned income; had no Social Security, veterans' benefits, or workers' compensation; and was living with at least one child. In these cases, we coded the first child in the unit as having a disability. We did not code the individual described above with SSI as having a disability.
- We identified as having a disability all non-elderly adults who satisfied all three of the following conditions:
    1. Coded as working fewer than 30 hours per week ( $EMPSTBi = 1, 2, \text{ or } 3$ ) and either:
      - a. Had monthly earnings less than the equivalent of the monthly Federal minimum wage for someone working 30 hours a week, or
      - b. Did not have a related dependent (age 17 or under,  $REL_i = 4 \text{ or } 5$ ) receiving Social Security in the unit
    2. Coded as exempt from work registration due to disability ( $WRKREG_i = 2$ )
    3. Received Social Security, veterans' benefits, or workers' compensation
  - We also identified as having a disability all non-elderly adults in single-person units who met either of the following conditions:
    - a. Received Social Security, and there were no individuals outside of the unit
    - b. Coded as  $WRKREG_i = 2$ , had no gross income, and had assets above the limit for units without any elderly individuals or individuals with a disability, but below the limit for units with elderly or individuals or individuals with a disability
  - In units in which no individual was identified as having a disability per the above criteria, but the unit received a medical expense deduction and had no participating elderly individuals or nonparticipating elderly members with  $FSAFIL_i = 8, 9, 11, \text{ or } 13$ , we coded at least one individual as having a disability. We did so by looking for the following types of individuals, among those with  $FSAFIL_i =$

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<sup>41</sup>  $WRKREG_i$  codes of 3, 4, and 5 denote a Federal exemption due to (1) care of a child under age 6 or an incapacitated person, (2) working and/or earning the equivalent of working 30 hours per week, or (3) another reason, respectively. Throughout this algorithm we used the analogous FY 2020  $WRKREG_i$  code ( $WRKREG_i = 2$ : Federal exemption for reason other than disability) for Maryland and West Virginia in place of  $WRKREG_i = 3, 4, 5$  because those States did not appear to transition to the new codes in FY 2021.

<sup>42</sup> A  $WRKREG_i$  code of 2 denotes a Federal exemption due to being physically or mentally unfit for employment. Throughout this algorithm, we used the analogous FY 2020  $WRKREG_i$  code ( $WRKREG_i = 1$ : Federal exemption for a disability) for Maryland and West Virginia in place of  $WRKREG_i = 2$  because those States did not appear to transition to the new codes in FY 2021.



1 and FSAFILi = 8, 9, 11, or 13, stopping when a step coded one or more individuals as having a disability:

1. Individuals with a work registration status indicating disability (we coded all such individuals as having a disability)
2. Individuals receiving Social Security, veterans' benefits, or workers' compensation and coded as working fewer than 30 hours per week (we coded all such individuals as having a disability)
3. Individuals receiving Social Security, veterans' benefits, or workers' compensation (we coded all such individuals as having a disability)
4. Child coded as working fewer than 30 hours per week (we coded the first such child as having a disability)
5. Adult coded as working fewer than 30 hours per week (we coded the first such adult as having a disability)

If the unit did not contain any of the types of individuals listed above, we coded all individuals in the unit as having a disability.

## **J. Homeless household shelter deduction**

The 2018 Farm Bill made mandatory the existing State option to provide a standard shelter deduction to homeless households that had qualifying shelter expenses and were not claiming the excess shelter expense deduction. The 2018 Farm Bill also indexed the homeless shelter deduction to inflation. In FY 2021, the value of the mandated homeless shelter deduction was \$156.74, and States appeared to consistently round up the value. Consequently, we identified households as receiving the homeless shelter deduction if the reported shelter deduction (SHELDDDED) was \$157.

## **K. Illogical relationship (RELi) and age (AGEi) codes**

We checked for instances of illogical values between the relationship (RELi) and age (AGEi) codes. Specifically, we checked for five types of inconsistencies: (1) children age 12 or younger coded as a spouse or parent, (2) children age 14 or younger coded as the head of the SNAP household, with someone older in the SNAP household, (3) adults age 22 or older coded as a foster child, (4) adults age 80 or older coded as a daughter, stepdaughter, son, or stepson, and (5) SNAP households with a parent and child in which the difference between ages of any parent and the oldest child in the SNAP household was either less than 12 years or between 12 and 14 years. Beginning in FY 2020, we recoded many of the inconsistencies:

- If a child age 12 or younger was coded as a spouse (RELi = 2) or parent (RELi = 3), we changed the child's relationship to daughter, stepdaughter, son, or stepson (RELi = 4).
- If a child age 14 or younger was coded as the head of household, with someone older in the SNAP household, we changed the child's relationship to daughter, stepdaughter, son, or stepson (RELi = 4) and changed the adult's relationship to household head (RELi = 1).
- If an adult age 22 or older was coded as a foster child (RELi = 6), we changed the adult's relationship to an unrelated individual (RELi = 7).
- If an individual age 98 was coded as a daughter, stepdaughter, son, or stepson, we changed the individual's age to missing.

- If a SNAP household contained a head of household ( $REL_i = 1$ ) or spouse of the head of household ( $REL_i = 2$ ) and child ( $REL_i = 4$ ) in which the difference between ages of the older of the head or spouse and any child was less than 15 years, then, for those children with an age difference of less than 15 years, we changed the child's relationship to other related person ( $REL_i = 5$ ).
- If a SNAP household contained a parent of the household head ( $REL_i = 3$ ) in which the difference between ages of the oldest parent and the household head was less than 15 years, we changed the relationship of the oldest parent to other related ( $REL_i = 5$ ).

Beginning with the FY 2021 file, for SNAP households that contained more than one parent of the household head ( $REL_i = 3$ ) who was less than 15 years older than the household head, we changed the relationship of all parents less than 15 years older than the household head, not just the oldest parent, to  $REL_i = 5$ .



## **APPENDIX C**

### **New Variables and Variables That Changed in the FY 2021 SNAP QC Database**

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**A. New variables in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database**

None

**B. Variables that changed in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database**

ABWDSTi	We updated the ABWDSTi codes in accordance with the new codes for FY 2021 that were specified in the FNS 310 QC Reviewer's Handbook.
EMPRGi	We updated the EMPRGi codes in accordance with the new codes for FY 2021 that were specified in the FNS 310 QC Reviewer's Handbook.
FSBENSUPP	We updated FSBENSUPP to reflect the policy in place for July 2021 through September 2021. It is now calculated as the larger of \$95 or BENMAX – FSBEN for a State that administered emergency allotments in the sample month. FSBENSUPP is coded as missing for all or some months in eight States that returned to normal benefit amounts during FY 2021—Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.
REP_SYS	We updated the REP_SYS codes in accordance with the new codes for FY 2021 that were specified in the FNS 310 QC Reviewer's Handbook.
SUPP_BEN	As in the FY 2020 SNAP QC waiver period database, SUPP_BEN = 1 when FSBENSUPP is greater than 0. While the variable definition did not change since FY 2020, the values changed in FY 2021 in accordance with FSBENSUPP.
WRKREGi	We updated the WRKREGi codes in accordance with the new codes for FY 2021 that were specified in the FNS 310 QC Reviewer's Handbook.

**C. Variables removed from the FY 2021 SNAP QC database**

FYWGT_PER1	FWYGT_PER1 was a weight included in the FY 2020 SNAP QC database for SNAP households in October 2019 through February 2020 and is not applicable in FY 2021.
FYWGT_PER2	FWYGT_PER2 was a weight included in the FY 2020 SNAP QC database for SNAP households in June 2020 through September 2020 and is not applicable in FY 2021.

Information on variables in the FY 2020 SNAP QC databases appears in Technical Documentation for the Fiscal Year 2020 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Quality Control Database and the QC Minimodel (Cronquist et al. 2022).

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## **APPENDIX D**

### **Derivation of Weights by State and Month**

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Tables D.1 through D.3 present the final calculated weighted counts of SNAP units, individuals, and benefit amounts in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database. Tables D.4 through D.6 present the corresponding adjustments to the Program Operations data that yielded the weighted counts in the FY 2021 SNAP QC database. Tables D.7 through D.9 show the preliminary monthly weights (HWGT) and their derivation for each State and stratum. The preliminary weights (stratum-specific weights) are derived as follows:

Data	Table D.7 through D.18 columns	Derivation
Sampling interval	a	Raw data
Stratum sampling size	b	Raw data
SNAP units in stratum (unedited)	c <sup>^</sup>	a*b
Stratum share of State sample	d <sup>^</sup>	c/(sum c over State)
SNAP units in State	e	Raw data
SNAP units in stratum (edited)	f <sup>^</sup>	d*e
Units with complete reviews	g	Raw data
Ineligible units	h	Raw data
Disqualification rate	i	h/g
Adjusted SNAP units in State	j	(1-i)*f
Failing units	k	Raw data
Stratum sampling size	l	g-h-k
Stratum-specific weight	m	j/l

<sup>^</sup> Column omitted from published tables due to space limitations; calculated values are available on request.

As described in Chapter III, Section C, the preliminary monthly stratum-specific unit weights are the starting point for creating the final weights. After deriving the preliminary weights, we use a nonlinear programming technique to create final weights that match the adjusted monthly Program Operations number of units, participants, and benefits as closely as possible. In Chapter III, Section C, we describe the derivation of sampling weights.

**Table D.1. Calculated weighted unit counts by State, July 2021 to September 2021 and FY average**

State	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	FY average 2021
Alabama	366,308	367,970	366,603	366,961
Alaska	39,453	39,208	39,988	39,550
Arizona	390,620	381,051	367,732	379,801
Arkansas	161,644	155,037	152,566	156,416
California	2,402,196	2,406,829	2,200,863	2,336,629
Colorado	260,335	276,596	263,148	266,693
Connecticut	211,637	204,657	208,858	208,384
Delaware	57,062	56,955	-	57,009
District of Columbia	83,344	83,661	-	83,502
Florida	1,820,666	1,744,099	1,734,490	1,766,418
Georgia	742,139	723,159	739,540	734,946
Hawaii	107,333	107,963	108,687	107,994
Idaho	62,194	61,774	61,270	61,746
Illinois	997,904	945,783	930,155	957,947
Indiana	283,297	291,435	286,654	287,129
Iowa	136,407	138,070	136,573	137,017
Kansas	94,846	90,868	91,947	92,554
Kentucky	255,049	259,456	234,498	249,668
Louisiana	390,471	-	361,911	376,191
Maine	88,921	91,818	87,100	89,280
Maryland	474,006	479,822	457,564	470,464
Massachusetts	543,861	565,724	560,048	556,545
Michigan	678,635	667,041	642,103	662,593
Minnesota	224,385	222,741	219,895	222,341
Mississippi	185,702	199,294	197,933	194,310
Missouri	326,459	323,961	332,700	327,707
Montana	44,299	45,780	45,704	45,261
Nebraska	69,297	73,979	71,018	71,431
Nevada	221,431	220,727	227,018	223,059
New Hampshire	33,585	34,243	36,236	34,688
New Jersey	440,480	451,484	456,526	449,497
New Mexico	246,552	262,811	269,922	259,762
New York	1,522,756	1,517,591	1,482,953	1,507,767
North Carolina	783,926	797,818	768,943	783,562
North Dakota	23,591	24,242	23,569	23,801
Ohio	725,325	742,630	745,926	737,961
Oklahoma	285,759	290,975	296,421	291,052
Oregon	396,577	405,662	383,095	395,111
Pennsylvania	958,633	965,668	976,812	967,038
Rhode Island	82,159	81,862	79,790	81,270
South Carolina	274,976	296,040	298,418	289,811
South Dakota	34,215	33,942	33,914	34,024
Tennessee	414,115	408,373	411,490	411,326
Texas	1,393,979	1,422,906	1,418,110	1,411,665
Utah	69,368	75,541	68,496	71,135
Vermont	37,714	37,476	37,657	37,615
Virginia	344,479	361,100	360,524	355,368
Washington	501,233	505,273	496,625	501,044
West Virginia	160,021	160,172	161,682	160,625
Wisconsin	406,140	395,722	401,073	400,978
Wyoming	12,977	13,061	13,253	13,097
Guam	13,528	12,438	-	12,983
Virgin Islands	12,149	12,122	11,818	12,030
United States	20,894,139	20,534,609	20,359,818	20,772,750

- No sample data.



**Table D.2. Calculated weighted individual counts by State, July 2021 to September 2021 and FY average**

State	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	FY average 2021
Alabama	749,819	742,840	748,633	747,097
Alaska	87,333	87,417	89,718	88,156
Arizona	836,915	810,592	763,080	803,529
Arkansas	331,002	308,350	306,233	315,195
California	4,280,951	4,340,990	3,869,881	4,163,941
Colorado	504,651	553,965	527,698	528,771
Connecticut	363,832	333,005	351,354	349,397
Delaware	114,941	113,932	-	114,437
District of Columbia	132,142	136,204	-	134,173
Florida	3,261,279	3,106,468	3,125,813	3,164,520
Georgia	1,539,533	1,489,384	1,529,619	1,519,512
Hawaii	195,372	189,476	189,956	191,601
Idaho	129,667	128,472	126,843	128,327
Illinois	1,889,345	1,784,350	1,679,024	1,784,239
Indiana	592,728	619,772	609,904	607,468
Iowa	270,832	278,407	272,358	273,866
Kansas	196,863	185,753	180,560	187,725
Kentucky	511,462	556,795	490,389	519,548
Louisiana	806,905	-	743,254	775,080
Maine	153,710	161,526	148,406	154,547
Maryland	818,993	854,592	767,178	813,588
Massachusetts	895,499	939,936	925,384	920,273
Michigan	1,252,952	1,216,290	1,116,163	1,195,135
Minnesota	421,916	438,913	428,389	429,739
Mississippi	364,130	408,022	392,270	388,140
Missouri	658,725	658,272	683,546	666,848
Montana	86,718	84,748	90,178	87,215
Nebraska	141,830	153,402	150,203	148,478
Nevada	426,535	415,124	430,103	423,921
New Hampshire	63,028	63,920	68,920	65,289
New Jersey	858,890	872,699	881,905	871,165
New Mexico	486,568	517,668	525,823	510,020
New York	2,669,472	2,692,518	2,573,520	2,645,170
North Carolina	1,534,115	1,547,240	1,496,002	1,525,785
North Dakota	46,574	49,420	48,618	48,204
Ohio	1,410,574	1,435,494	1,480,609	1,442,226
Oklahoma	614,149	615,938	633,953	621,347
Oregon	655,916	678,916	658,973	664,602
Pennsylvania	1,777,407	1,792,493	1,816,279	1,795,393
Rhode Island	136,410	133,526	132,078	134,005
South Carolina	577,182	611,280	612,828	600,430
South Dakota	73,168	72,331	72,014	72,504
Tennessee	827,296	794,446	801,341	807,694
Texas	3,112,913	3,153,203	3,144,868	3,136,995
Utah	153,000	154,934	154,746	154,227
Vermont	65,368	63,568	64,968	64,635
Virginia	645,810	710,758	706,349	687,639
Washington	850,273	862,820	846,119	853,071
West Virginia	298,481	297,141	300,420	298,681
Wisconsin	736,343	713,814	743,370	731,176
Wyoming	28,225	28,312	28,639	28,392
Guam	38,072	36,316	-	37,194
Virgin Islands	24,359	24,213	23,191	23,921
United States	39,700,175	39,019,967	38,551,666	39,444,231

- No sample data.

**Table D.3. Calculated weighted benefit amounts by State, July 2021 to September 2021 and FY average**

State	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	FY average 2021
Alabama	103,300,301	108,234,609	118,596,982	110,043,964
Alaska	18,293,292	18,969,588	19,361,308	18,874,729
Arizona	118,089,295	112,424,193	107,272,253	112,595,247
Arkansas	42,016,513	43,881,832	44,126,340	43,341,562
California	571,754,113	638,628,878	559,139,398	589,840,796
Colorado	73,785,397	68,966,625	65,470,968	69,407,663
Connecticut	56,090,494	50,687,302	54,038,768	53,605,521
Delaware	14,919,061	14,703,219	-	14,811,140
District of Columbia	18,526,742	17,728,720	-	18,127,731
Florida	430,100,971	419,356,401	371,525,641	406,994,338
Georgia	211,609,450	204,230,132	213,889,795	209,909,792
Hawaii	62,940,213	58,653,908	55,644,073	59,079,398
Idaho	17,711,034	17,356,099	17,434,386	17,500,506
Illinois	267,204,831	224,311,454	235,772,079	242,429,455
Indiana	85,173,691	89,650,565	90,583,787	88,469,348
Iowa	35,399,960	35,899,812	35,179,669	35,493,147
Kansas	25,798,900	25,844,059	26,131,756	25,924,905
Kentucky	73,078,713	74,958,244	71,582,792	73,206,583
Louisiana	126,221,953	-	115,312,588	120,767,270
Maine	17,980,320	21,003,471	19,581,294	19,521,695
Maryland	112,151,402	117,356,164	105,869,929	111,792,498
Massachusetts	122,822,172	137,331,525	136,838,163	132,330,620
Michigan	172,657,036	160,979,741	164,660,041	166,098,939
Minnesota	51,478,600	49,001,938	48,210,812	49,563,783
Mississippi	49,584,235	51,185,549	55,599,576	52,123,120
Missouri	94,408,736	99,460,689	95,597,381	96,488,935
Montana	11,396,085	10,856,227	11,326,548	11,192,953
Nebraska	21,278,632	21,321,067	21,205,050	21,268,250
Nevada	56,100,255	55,108,609	57,068,308	56,092,391
New Hampshire	8,384,706	8,629,964	8,525,484	8,513,384
New Jersey	122,786,507	121,157,806	125,772,694	123,239,003
New Mexico	71,718,019	78,905,832	82,441,146	77,688,332
New York	434,831,822	407,492,814	410,625,430	417,650,022
North Carolina	213,367,449	214,379,363	220,543,848	216,096,887
North Dakota	7,196,745	7,400,994	7,915,385	7,504,375
Ohio	210,861,314	205,605,667	223,476,086	213,314,356
Oklahoma	86,414,472	87,968,890	93,892,676	89,425,346
Oregon	90,475,513	93,730,262	88,210,882	90,805,552
Pennsylvania	248,105,418	252,802,490	254,445,040	251,784,316
Rhode Island	19,135,071	19,132,755	19,374,543	19,214,123
South Carolina	80,929,389	88,329,155	88,310,369	85,856,304
South Dakota	11,461,679	11,366,386	11,158,418	11,328,828
Tennessee	112,896,143	108,175,643	122,086,730	114,386,172
Texas	447,088,591	444,540,114	442,423,590	444,684,098
Utah	22,339,186	23,735,931	21,272,881	22,449,333
Vermont	9,413,337	9,732,542	10,255,064	9,800,314
Virginia	90,088,305	104,730,250	110,131,310	101,649,955
Washington	119,412,025	117,354,067	114,246,116	117,004,069
West Virginia	38,881,074	37,581,273	36,478,617	37,646,988
Wisconsin	91,743,227	95,608,646	97,174,627	94,842,167
Wyoming	4,068,402	4,336,176	4,269,807	4,224,795
Guam	8,548,036	8,297,923	-	8,422,979
Virgin Islands	4,996,817	4,687,599	4,854,605	4,846,340
United States	5,617,015,645	5,503,773,162	5,514,905,034	5,599,274,320

- No sample data.

**Table D.4. Adjustments to weighted unit counts by State and month**

State	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021
Alabama	102,163	390,586	19,828
Alaska	902	2,011	1,777
Arizona	196,554	314,587	287,151
Arkansas	216,879	305,370	181,999
California	996,425	3,195,272	249,063
Colorado	83,531	46,022	74,982
Connecticut	63,263	253,443	134,574
Delaware	70,773	12,378	56,800 <sup>a</sup>
District of Columbia	29,860	52,677	138,398 <sup>a</sup>
Florida	29,709	524,049	456,282
Georgia	0	23,581	8,038
Hawaii	(93,805)	(94,568)	(67,817)
Idaho	92,056	50,687	47,417
Illinois	(931,721)	(883,975)	(868,861)
Indiana	1,842,946	2,007,710	964,318
Iowa	428,838	153,626	155,702
Kansas	43,356	602,976	46,400
Kentucky	(126,900)	(155,379)	(132,471)
Louisiana	(50,253)	837,522 <sup>a</sup>	(113,503)
Maine	715,048	682,398	661,365
Maryland	(328,367)	(355,505)	(365,821)
Massachusetts	207,565	169,518	194,366
Michigan	387,579	416,595	(55,949)
Minnesota	587,255	488,150	1,543,880
Mississippi	416,252	31,901	30,159
Missouri	(119,534)	(113,894)	(119,141)
Montana	404,932	361,504	371,275
Nebraska	70,979	25,514	(24,400)
Nevada	(108,571)	(127,742)	(91,547)
New Hampshire	187,846	192,615	511,043
New Jersey	(370,307)	(415,520)	(396,003)
New Mexico	533,274	504,619	489,270
New York	(1,248,792)	(1,000,575)	(1,202,901)
North Carolina	1,245,333	1,181,641	1,189,475
North Dakota	1,431,962	1,298,648	829,432
Ohio	(701,113)	(710,742)	(721,524)
Oklahoma	2,165,763	828,964	478,029
Oregon	(107,290)	(111,380)	198,079
Pennsylvania	(207,407)	(151,928)	(219,570)
Rhode Island	2,007,276	1,127,611	1,797,435
South Carolina	(121,403)	(142,413)	(212,147)
South Dakota	489,774	781,658	1,270,933
Tennessee	(368,916)	(374,004)	(376,898)
Texas	(244,028)	(241,933)	(874,351)
Utah	1,496,343	1,595,121	1,360,551
Vermont	158,376	70,259	103,081
Virginia	(273,932)	(322,957)	(322,010)
Washington	376,560	(132,024)	(127,192)
West Virginia	(138,365)	(139,998)	(149,426)
Wisconsin	767,488	258,427	119,314
Wyoming	514,268	195,901	175,855
Guam	513,011	413,697	407,794
Virgin Islands	1,347	1,405	1,981 <sup>a</sup>
United States	13,334,781	13,924,107	8,114,515

Notes: For more details on the adjustments made, see Section II.C, Creation of the SNAP QC database.

To calculate State fiscal year average adjustments that are comparable to the national average adjustment in Table II.2, subtract the fiscal year average number of units in the SNAP QC database from the fiscal year average number of units in the Program Operations data. Calculate the fiscal year average number of units in the QC data file by averaging across the number of months of data for the State in the SNAP QC database.

<sup>a</sup> This month was excluded from the SNAP QC database due to small or missing samples or nonrepresentative samples. Because no units were included in the SNAP QC database for this month, the adjustment amount represents the total number of units from the Program Operations data.

**Table D.5. Adjustments to weighted individual counts by State and month**

State	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021
Alabama	107,851	403,179	26,521
Alaska	1,210	2,378	1,136
Arizona	261,523	477,285	399,933
Arkansas	228,841	328,025	194,999
California	1,091,750	3,195,272	539,158
Colorado	92,099	55,649	104,722
Connecticut	75,110	356,588	226,155
Delaware	108,407	16,072	111,183 <sup>a</sup>
District of Columbia	39,918	79,134	220,222 <sup>a</sup>
Florida	34,047	658,598	3,266,505
Georgia	0	61,772	17,451
Hawaii	(157,300)	(150,698)	(125,245)
Idaho	118,909	68,660	63,113
Illinois	(1,754,766)	(1,655,796)	(1,552,123)
Indiana	2,537,154	2,687,341	1,564,404
Iowa	766,569	342,305	350,354
Kansas	82,997	648,428	97,319
Kentucky	(255,651)	(343,101)	(281,376)
Louisiana	(130,784)	1,239,308 <sup>a</sup>	(215,666)
Maine	1,088,736	1,038,656	1,101,758
Maryland	(584,457)	(565,626)	(605,777)
Massachusetts	496,777	425,495	462,121
Michigan	511,877	571,605	(137,956)
Minnesota	1,029,143	844,570	1,914,232
Mississippi	460,545	39,528	48,235
Missouri	(240,409)	(234,958)	(253,538)
Montana	772,326	704,728	677,647
Nebraska	83,221	18,578	(59,141)
Nevada	(210,799)	(231,083)	(176,602)
New Hampshire	363,507	373,951	777,082
New Jersey	(725,624)	(804,492)	(772,888)
New Mexico	835,937	789,805	821,343
New York	(2,133,751)	(1,911,741)	(2,028,076)
North Carolina	1,712,887	1,688,164	1,665,332
North Dakota	2,420,086	2,247,340	1,627,627
Ohio	(1,360,976)	(1,375,813)	(1,430,995)
Oklahoma	2,578,779	1,234,813	875,034
Oregon	(33,579)	(46,597)	264,638
Pennsylvania	(747,998)	(705,499)	(769,952)
Rhode Island	2,771,799	1,902,772	2,584,614
South Carolina	(353,181)	(388,136)	(473,308)
South Dakota	762,499	1,058,631	1,547,583
Tennessee	(734,120)	(721,448)	(728,286)
Texas	(1,539,073)	(661,250)	(2,130,770)
Utah	3,208,396	3,287,703	3,004,827
Vermont	340,869	191,243	207,624
Virginia	(532,411)	(645,521)	(640,490)
Washington	887,233	(129,329)	(121,196)
West Virginia	(262,039)	(259,207)	(275,941)
Wisconsin	804,817	297,882	126,511
Wyoming	683,149	327,838	307,806
Guam	931,106	761,230	766,381 <sup>a</sup>
Virgin Islands	5,130	5,200	6,729
United States	16,538,284	17,599,429	13,190,977

Notes: For more details on the adjustments made, see Section II.C, Creation of the SNAP QC database.

To calculate State fiscal year average adjustments that are comparable to the national average adjustment in Table II.2, subtract the fiscal year average number of individuals in the SNAP QC database from the fiscal year average number of individuals in the Program Operations data. Calculate the fiscal year average number of individuals in the QC data file by averaging across the number of months of data for the State in the SNAP QC database.

<sup>a</sup> This month was excluded from the SNAP QC database due to small or missing samples or nonrepresentative samples. Because no individuals were included in the SNAP QC database for this month, the adjustment amount represents the total number of individuals from the Program Operations data.

**Table D.6. Adjustments to weighted benefit amounts by State and month**

State	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021
Alabama	91,716,678	217,848,280	62,416,438
Alaska	10,117,185	19,660,074	3,754,021
Arizona	135,107,877	246,378,316	207,921,001
Arkansas	36,564,759	141,550,861	66,125,103
California	999,234,776	2,177,249,616	511,343,870
Colorado	119,295,272	51,383,360	116,417,366
Connecticut	60,206,562	156,763,460	112,605,454
Delaware	69,504,372	14,704,945	25,706,716 <sup>a</sup>
District of Columbia	27,932,543	45,581,105	66,654,053 <sup>a</sup>
Florida	313,418,460	179,037,848	347,335,320
Georgia	138,886,760	149,259,678	139,561,275
Hawaii	(51,446,490)	(47,441,980)	(10,291,344)
Idaho	89,901,969	93,773,762	60,606,589
Illinois	(247,107,851)	(206,674,822)	(224,630,046)
Indiana	643,257,133	909,702,039	427,019,014
Iowa	168,949,621	159,161,960	151,419,762
Kansas	32,140,499	144,005,257	37,313,124
Kentucky	(3,320,253)	(24,166,120)	(20,709,270)
Louisiana	37,469,001	482,579,325 <sup>a</sup>	9,038,663
Maine	285,377,530	369,129,731	365,332,302
Maryland	(61,193,112)	(71,878,772)	(68,372,039)
Massachusetts	220,715,267	168,221,311	175,313,245
Michigan	212,212,862	176,909,750	67,975,012
Minnesota	278,896,575	259,932,443	658,100,606
Mississippi	72,922,133	42,181,562	37,229,052
Missouri	1,535,461	(1,659,316)	5,318,333
Montana	250,001,213	194,117,753	145,712,213
Nebraska	11,204,232	16,006,824	(8,900,426)
Nevada	(12,229,810)	(28,466,629)	(2,882,014)
New Hampshire	85,537,825	85,452,623	228,811,905
New Jersey	(93,656,723)	(105,425,776)	(103,022,035)
New Mexico	256,153,387	330,241,557	334,199,323
New York	(309,848,557)	(190,705,980)	(284,800,960)
North Carolina	869,339,882	854,924,828	774,578,114
North Dakota	566,709,661	622,285,169	386,269,477
Ohio	(203,421,638)	(195,275,521)	(215,857,405)
Oklahoma	520,494,683	265,589,140	257,717,477
Oregon	43,384,220	31,370,600	185,816,909
Pennsylvania	47,472,775	76,129,563	123,465,488
Rhode Island	713,701,748	481,044,518	734,363,176
South Carolina	(25,045,646)	(37,388,051)	(54,139,781)
South Dakota	156,062,990	322,073,604	225,235,977
Tennessee	(82,549,467)	(96,872,545)	(110,567,813)
Texas	(96,950,478)	154,850,528	(130,069,615)
Utah	939,003,056	837,020,143	729,499,554
Vermont	42,823,154	53,238,075	85,922,481
Virginia	(51,035,906)	(89,304,378)	(93,978,818)
Washington	166,255,073	74,657,564	78,420,320
West Virginia	(20,206,887)	(25,112,105)	(29,266,409)
Wisconsin	388,284,557	188,397,324	110,100,334
Wyoming	179,765,401	69,484,855	72,218,242
Guam	214,961,655	181,393,566	179,189,060 <sup>a</sup>
Virgin Islands	1,717,845	1,830,540	1,942,392
United States	8,240,223,833	9,924,751,462	6,950,480,785

Notes: For more details on the adjustments made, see Section II.C, Creation of the SNAP QC database.

To calculate State fiscal year average adjustments that are comparable to the national average adjustment in Table II.2, subtract the fiscal year average number of benefits in the SNAP QC database from the fiscal year average number of benefits in the Program Operations data. Calculate the fiscal year average number of benefits in the QC data file by averaging across the number of months of data for the State in the SNAP QC database.

<sup>a</sup> This month was excluded from the SNAP QC database due to small or missing samples or nonrepresentative samples. Because no benefits were included in the SNAP QC database for this month, the adjustment amount represents the total number of benefits from the Program Operations data.

**Table D.7. Stratification and weight calculation by State, July 2021**

State	Unedited SNAP QC data				Edited SNAP QC data						
	Stratum	Sampling interval	Stratum sampling size	SNAP units in State (program ops data)	Units with complete reviews	Ineligible units	Disqualification rate	Adjusted SNAP units in State	Failing units	Stratum sampling size	Stratum-specific units weight
		a	b	e	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
Alabama	0	1	106	370,290	93	1	0.0108	366,308	2	90	4,070
Alaska	0	1	59	40,350	45	1	0.0222	39,453	0	44	897
Arizona	0	1	96	416,234	65	4	0.0615	390,620	0	61	6,404
Arkansas	0	1	93	170,881	74	4	0.0541	161,644	0	70	2,309
California	0	1	111	2,438,593	67	1	0.0149	2,402,196	0	66	36,397
Colorado	0	1	88	264,054	71	1	0.0141	260,335	0	70	3,719
Connecticut	0	1	99	217,064	80	2	0.0250	211,637	2	76	2,785
Delaware	0	1	14	57,062	11	0	0.0000	57,062	0	11	5,187
District of Columbia	0	1	70	84,832	57	1	0.0175	83,344	1	55	1,515
Florida	0	1	93	1,846,309	72	1	0.0139	1,820,666	0	71	25,643
Georgia	0	1	91	742,139	75	0	0.0000	742,139	0	75	9,895
Hawaii	0	1	93	111,900	49	2	0.0408	107,333	0	47	2,284
Idaho	0	1	95	62,194	76	0	0.0000	62,194	0	76	818
Illinois	0	1	87	1,012,160	71	1	0.0141	997,904	1	69	14,462
Indiana	0	1	78	293,789	56	2	0.0357	283,297	0	54	5,246
Iowa	0	1	81	138,202	77	1	0.0130	136,407	1	75	1,819
Kansas	0	1	86	96,241	69	1	0.0145	94,846	0	68	1,395
Kentucky	0	1	88	271,611	82	5	0.0610	255,049	0	77	3,312
Louisiana	0	1	101	405,489	81	3	0.0370	390,471	1	77	5,071
Maine	0	1	89	92,256	83	3	0.0361	88,921	1	79	1,126
Maryland	0	1	103	482,784	55	1	0.0182	474,006	1	53	8,944
Massachusetts	0	1	95	557,458	82	2	0.0244	543,861	1	79	6,884
Michigan	0	1	87	678,635	60	0	0.0000	678,635	0	60	11,311
Minnesota	0	1	95	229,728	86	2	0.0233	224,385	0	84	2,671
Mississippi	0	1	41	206,925	39	4	0.1026	185,702	1	34	5,462
Missouri	0	1	77	337,716	60	2	0.0333	326,459	1	57	5,727
Montana	0	1	69	48,237	49	4	0.0816	44,299	1	44	1,007

Table D.7. (continued)

State	Unedited SNAP QC data				Edited SNAP QC data						
	Stratum	Sampling interval	Stratum sampling size	SNAP units in State (program ops data)	Units with complete reviews	Ineligible units	Disqualification rate	Adjusted SNAP units in State	Failing units	Stratum sampling size	Stratum-specific units weight
		a	b	e	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
Nebraska	0	1	96	74,306	89	6	0.0674	69,297	0	83	835
Nevada	0	1	87	221,431	74	0	0.0000	221,431	0	74	2,992
New Hampshire	0	1	52	35,875	47	3	0.0638	33,585	0	44	763
New Jersey	0	1	99	447,701	62	1	0.0161	440,480	0	61	7,221
New Mexico	0	1	98	273,947	80	8	0.1000	246,552	0	72	3,424
New York	0	1	90	1,608,545	75	4	0.0533	1,522,756	1	70	21,754
North Carolina	0	1	101	809,770	94	3	0.0319	783,926	0	91	8,615
North Dakota	0	1	43	24,212	39	1	0.0256	23,591	0	38	621
Ohio	0	1	90	755,973	74	3	0.0405	725,325	1	70	10,362
Oklahoma	0	1	103	289,287	82	1	0.0122	285,759	0	81	3,528
Oregon	0	1	89	408,241	70	2	0.0286	396,577	0	68	5,832
Pennsylvania	0	1	87	958,633	62	0	0.0000	958,633	1	61	15,715
Rhode Island	0	1	87	86,661	77	4	0.0519	82,159	0	73	1,125
South Carolina	0	1	99	294,617	90	6	0.0667	274,976	0	84	3,274
South Dakota	0	1	54	34,215	52	0	0.0000	34,215	1	51	671
Tennessee	0	1	108	432,120	72	3	0.0417	414,115	0	69	6,002
Texas	0	1	94	1,415,425	66	1	0.0152	1,393,979	0	65	21,446
Utah	0	1	94	71,816	88	3	0.0341	69,368	0	85	816
Vermont	0	1	60	38,387	57	1	0.0175	37,714	0	56	673
Virginia	0	1	87	380,740	63	6	0.0952	344,479	0	57	6,043
Washington	0	1	88	515,761	71	2	0.0282	501,233	0	69	7,264
West Virginia	0	1	92	160,021	77	0	0.0000	160,021	1	76	2,106
Wisconsin	0	1	87	416,970	77	2	0.0260	406,140	0	75	5,415
Wyoming	0	1	31	13,496	26	1	0.0385	12,977	0	25	519
Guam	0	1	48	13,528	16	0	0.0000	13,528	0	16	846
Virgin Islands	0	1	30	12,149	28	0	0.0000	12,149	0	28	434

**Table D.8. Stratification and weight calculation by State, August 2021**

State	Unedited SNAP QC data				Edited SNAP QC data						
	Stratum	Sampling interval	Stratum sampling size	SNAP units in State (program ops data)	Units with complete reviews	Ineligible units	Disqualification rate	Adjusted SNAP units in State	Failing units	Stratum sampling size	Stratum-specific units weight
State	Stratum	a	b	e	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
Alabama	0	1	107	371,885	95	1	0.0105	367,970	0	94	3,915
Alaska	0	1	58	41,219	41	2	0.0488	39,208	1	38	1,032
Arizona	0	1	92	401,464	59	3	0.0508	381,051	0	56	6,804
Arkansas	0	1	88	161,979	70	3	0.0429	155,037	1	66	2,349
California	0	1	114	2,406,829	64	0	0.0000	2,406,829	0	64	37,607
Colorado	0	1	88	280,605	70	1	0.0143	276,596	0	69	4,009
Connecticut	0	1	99	217,290	86	5	0.0581	204,657	0	81	2,527
Delaware	0	1	41	56,955	31	0	0.0000	56,955	0	31	1,837
District of Columbia	0	1	24	83,661	22	0	0.0000	83,661	0	22	3,803
Florida	0	1	91	1,770,525	67	1	0.0149	1,744,099	1	65	26,832
Georgia	0	1	105	746,740	95	3	0.0316	723,159	0	92	7,860
Hawaii	0	1	91	112,461	50	2	0.0400	107,963	0	48	2,249
Idaho	0	1	93	61,774	67	0	0.0000	61,774	0	67	922
Illinois	0	1	85	1,000,611	73	4	0.0548	945,783	0	69	13,707
Indiana	0	1	79	291,435	57	0	0.0000	291,435	1	56	5,204
Iowa	0	1	80	138,070	76	0	0.0000	138,070	0	76	1,817
Kansas	0	1	86	95,780	78	4	0.0513	90,868	0	74	1,228
Kentucky	0	1	84	259,456	78	0	0.0000	259,456	0	78	3,326
Louisiana	0	1	0	397,147	0	0	0.0000	0	0	0	0
Maine	0	1	89	91,818	77	0	0.0000	91,818	0	77	1,192
Maryland	0	1	105	479,822	48	0	0.0000	479,822	0	48	9,996
Massachusetts	0	1	96	573,168	77	1	0.0130	565,724	0	76	7,444
Michigan	0	1	86	677,800	63	1	0.0159	667,041	0	62	10,759
Minnesota	0	1	93	225,301	88	1	0.0114	222,741	0	87	2,560
Mississippi	0	1	42	210,067	39	2	0.0513	199,294	0	37	5,386
Missouri	0	1	77	336,186	55	2	0.0364	323,961	0	53	6,112
Montana	0	1	68	47,575	53	2	0.0377	45,780	2	49	934



Table D.8. (continued)

	Unedited SNAP QC data				Edited SNAP QC data						
		Sampling interval	Stratum sampling size	SNAP units in State (program ops data)	Units with complete reviews	Ineligible units	Disqualification rate	Adjusted SNAP units in State	Failing units	Stratum sampling size	Stratum-specific units weight
State	Stratum	a	b	e	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
Nebraska	0	1	97	74,810	90	1	0.0111	73,979	0	89	831
Nevada	0	1	91	226,858	74	2	0.0270	220,727	0	72	3,066
New Hampshire	0	1	51	35,913	43	2	0.0465	34,243	0	41	835
New Jersey	0	1	99	451,484	54	0	0.0000	451,484	0	54	8,361
New Mexico	0	1	98	276,828	79	4	0.0506	262,811	0	75	3,504
New York	0	1	90	1,598,529	79	4	0.0506	1,517,591	1	74	20,508
North Carolina	0	1	85	819,093	77	2	0.0260	797,818	0	75	10,638
North Dakota	0	1	44	24,242	39	0	0.0000	24,242	0	39	622
Ohio	0	1	89	752,532	76	1	0.0132	742,630	0	75	9,902
Oklahoma	0	1	105	294,282	89	1	0.0112	290,975	0	88	3,307
Oregon	0	1	89	405,662	61	0	0.0000	405,662	0	61	6,650
Pennsylvania	0	1	88	965,668	63	0	0.0000	965,668	0	63	15,328
Rhode Island	0	1	88	85,955	84	4	0.0476	81,862	0	80	1,023
South Carolina	0	1	101	299,258	93	1	0.0108	296,040	1	91	3,253
South Dakota	0	1	53	33,942	51	0	0.0000	33,942	0	51	666
Tennessee	0	1	105	426,128	72	3	0.0417	408,373	0	69	5,918
Texas	0	1	87	1,422,906	63	0	0.0000	1,422,906	0	63	22,586
Utah	0	1	93	76,497	80	1	0.0125	75,541	1	78	968
Vermont	0	1	61	38,133	58	1	0.0172	37,476	0	57	657
Virginia	0	1	88	372,939	63	2	0.0317	361,100	0	61	5,920
Washington	0	1	86	505,273	57	0	0.0000	505,273	0	57	8,864
West Virginia	0	1	92	160,172	66	0	0.0000	160,172	0	66	2,427
Wisconsin	0	1	86	412,210	75	3	0.0400	395,722	0	72	5,496
Wyoming	0	1	31	13,527	29	1	0.0345	13,061	0	28	466
Guam	0	1	23	13,395	14	1	0.0714	12,438	0	13	957
Virgin Islands	0	1	30	12,122	27	0	0.0000	12,122	0	27	449

**Table D.9. Stratification and weight calculation by State, September 2021**

State	Unedited SNAP QC data				Edited SNAP QC data						
	Stratum	Sampling interval	Stratum sampling size	SNAP units in State (program ops data)	Units with complete reviews	Ineligible units	Disqualification rate	Adjusted SNAP units in State	Failing units	Stratum sampling size	Stratum-specific units weight
		a	b	e	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
Alabama	0	1	108	375,031	89	2	0.0225	366,603	0	87	4,214
Alaska	0	1	73	41,765	47	2	0.0426	39,988	0	45	889
Arizona	0	1	88	383,955	71	3	0.0423	367,732	0	68	5,408
Arkansas	0	1	88	157,652	62	2	0.0323	152,566	0	60	2,543
California	0	1	115	2,437,879	72	7	0.0972	2,200,863	1	64	34,388
Colorado	0	1	87	270,667	72	2	0.0278	263,148	0	70	3,759
Connecticut	0	1	98	217,441	76	3	0.0395	208,858	0	73	2,861
Delaware	0	1	0	55,358	0	0	0.0000	0	0	0	0
District of Columbia	0	1	0	87,329	0	0	0.0000	0	0	0	0
Florida	0	1	88	1,734,490	74	0	0.0000	1,734,490	0	74	23,439
Georgia	0	1	105	747,578	93	1	0.0108	739,540	0	92	8,038
Hawaii	0	1	87	108,687	43	0	0.0000	108,687	0	43	2,528
Idaho	0	1	93	61,270	70	0	0.0000	61,270	0	70	875
Illinois	0	1	84	993,216	63	4	0.0635	930,155	0	59	15,765
Indiana	0	1	79	292,275	52	1	0.0192	286,654	0	51	5,621
Iowa	0	1	80	138,347	78	1	0.0128	136,573	0	77	1,774
Kansas	0	1	86	96,003	71	3	0.0423	91,947	1	67	1,372
Kentucky	0	1	79	244,269	75	3	0.0400	234,498	0	72	3,257
Louisiana	0	1	96	384,182	69	4	0.0580	361,911	0	65	5,568
Maine	0	1	89	90,729	75	3	0.0400	87,100	0	72	1,210
Maryland	0	1	109	489,487	46	3	0.0652	457,564	0	43	10,641
Massachusetts	0	1	93	582,155	79	3	0.0380	560,048	0	76	7,369
Michigan	0	1	86	682,234	68	4	0.0588	642,103	0	64	10,033
Minnesota	0	1	91	222,577	83	1	0.0120	219,895	1	81	2,715
Mississippi	0	1	43	213,559	41	3	0.0732	197,933	0	38	5,209
Missouri	0	1	77	332,700	55	0	0.0000	332,700	0	55	6,049
Montana	0	1	66	46,618	51	1	0.0196	45,704	1	49	933

Table D.9. (continued)

State	Unedited SNAP QC data				Edited SNAP QC data						
	Stratum	Sampling interval	Stratum sampling size	SNAP units in State (program ops data)	Units with complete reviews	Ineligible units	Disqualification rate	Adjusted SNAP units in State	Failing units	Stratum sampling size	Stratum-specific units weight
		a	b	e	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
Nebraska	0	1	97	73,524	88	3	0.0341	71,018	0	85	836
Nevada	0	1	92	229,892	80	1	0.0125	227,018	0	79	2,874
New Hampshire	0	1	52	36,236	46	0	0.0000	36,236	0	46	788
New Jersey	0	1	99	456,526	44	0	0.0000	456,526	1	43	10,617
New Mexico	0	1	98	280,044	83	3	0.0361	269,922	0	80	3,374
New York	0	1	90	1,598,508	83	6	0.0723	1,482,953	0	77	19,259
North Carolina	0	1	86	832,144	79	6	0.0759	768,943	0	73	10,533
North Dakota	0	1	43	24,206	38	1	0.0263	23,569	0	37	637
Ohio	0	1	89	756,144	74	1	0.0135	745,926	0	73	10,218
Oklahoma	0	1	107	299,828	88	1	0.0114	296,421	0	87	3,407
Oregon	0	1	93	389,081	65	1	0.0154	383,095	0	64	5,986
Pennsylvania	0	1	89	976,812	65	0	0.0000	976,812	0	65	15,028
Rhode Island	0	1	89	86,007	83	6	0.0723	79,790	0	77	1,036
South Carolina	0	1	102	302,057	83	1	0.0120	298,418	0	82	3,639
South Dakota	0	1	53	33,914	50	0	0.0000	33,914	1	49	692
Tennessee	0	1	106	427,317	81	3	0.0370	411,490	0	78	5,276
Texas	0	1	86	1,418,110	54	0	0.0000	1,418,110	0	54	26,261
Utah	0	1	93	72,673	87	5	0.0575	68,496	0	82	835
Vermont	0	1	60	38,329	57	1	0.0175	37,657	0	56	672
Virginia	0	1	89	366,962	57	1	0.0175	360,524	0	56	6,438
Washington	0	1	85	496,625	61	0	0.0000	496,625	0	61	8,141
West Virginia	0	1	93	161,682	70	0	0.0000	161,682	0	70	2,310
Wisconsin	0	1	85	406,886	70	1	0.0143	401,073	0	69	5,813
Wyoming	0	1	31	13,710	30	1	0.0333	13,253	0	29	457
Guam	0	1	0	13,405	0	0	0.0000	0	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	0	1	30	12,256	28	1	0.0357	11,818	0	27	438

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## **APPENDIX E**

### **State and Region Codes**

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**Table E.1. State FIPS codes (STATE)**

State	FIPS code	State	FIPS code
Alabama	01	Montana	30
Alaska	02	Nebraska	31
Arizona	04	Nevada	32
Arkansas	05	New Hampshire	33
California	06	New Jersey	34
Colorado	08	New Mexico	35
Connecticut	09	New York	36
Delaware	10	North Carolina	37
District of Columbia	11	North Dakota	38
Florida	12	Ohio	39
Georgia	13	Oklahoma	40
Guam	66	Oregon	41
Hawaii	15	Pennsylvania	42
Idaho	16	Rhode Island	44
Illinois	17	South Carolina	45
Indiana	18	South Dakota	46
Iowa	19	Tennessee	47
Kansas	20	Texas	48
Kentucky	21	Utah	49
Louisiana	22	Vermont	50
Maine	23	Virgin Islands	78
Maryland	24	Virginia	51
Massachusetts	25	Washington	53
Michigan	26	West Virginia	54
Minnesota	27	Wisconsin	55
Mississippi	28	Wyoming	56
Missouri	29		

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

**Table E.2. SNAP region codes (REGIONCD)**

<b>REGIONCD = 1 (Northeast)</b>	<b>REGIONCD = 5 (Southwest)</b>
Connecticut	Arizona
Maine	Arkansas
Massachusetts	Louisiana
New Hampshire	New Mexico
New York	Oklahoma
Rhode Island	Texas
Vermont	Utah
Virgin Islands	<b>REGIONCD = 6 (Mountain Plains)</b>
<b>REGIONCD = 2 (Mid-Atlantic)</b>	Colorado
Delaware	Kansas
District of Columbia	Missouri
Maryland	Montana
New Jersey	Nebraska
Pennsylvania	North Dakota
Virginia	South Dakota
West Virginia	Wyoming
<b>REGIONCD = 3 (Southeast)</b>	<b>REGIONCD = 7 (West)</b>
Alabama	Alaska
Florida	California
Georgia	Guam
Kentucky	Hawaii
Mississippi	Idaho
North Carolina	Nevada
South Carolina	Oregon
Tennessee	Washington
<b>REGIONCD = 4 (Midwest)</b>	
Illinois	
Indiana	
Iowa	
Michigan	
Minnesota	
Ohio	
Wisconsin	

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.



**Table E.3. Census region codes (REGION)**

<b>REGION = 1 (Northeast)</b>	<b>REGION = 3 (South)</b>
Connecticut	Alabama
Maine	Arkansas
Massachusetts	Delaware
New Hampshire	District of Columbia
New Jersey	Florida
New York	Georgia
Pennsylvania	Kentucky
Rhode Island	Louisiana
Vermont	Maryland
<b>REGION = 2 (Midwest)</b>	Mississippi
Illinois	North Carolina
Indiana	Oklahoma
Iowa	South Carolina
Kansas	Tennessee
Michigan	Texas
Minnesota	Virginia
Missouri	West Virginia
Nebraska	<b>REGION = 4 (West)</b>
North Dakota	Alaska
Ohio	Arizona
South Dakota	California
Wisconsin	Colorado
	Guam
	Hawaii
	Idaho
	Montana
	Nevada
	New Mexico
	Oregon
	Utah
	Virgin Islands
	Washington
	Wyoming

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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## **APPENDIX F**

### **FY 2021 SNAP Parameters**

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**Table F.1. SNAP gross income screen, FY 2021**

Unit size	Gross income screen (dollars per month)		
	Contiguous United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	1,383	1,728	1,591
2	1,868	2,335	2,149
3	2,353	2,942	2,707
4	2,839	3,548	3,265
5	3,324	4,155	3,822
6	3,809	4,762	4,380
7	4,295	5,368	4,938
8	4,780	5,975	5,496
Each additional person	+486	+607	+558

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: The FY 2021 SNAP gross monthly income limits were based on the 2020 Federal poverty guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. FNS derived the FY 2021 gross income limits by multiplying the 2020 poverty guidelines by 130 percent, dividing the results by 12, and then rounding up to the nearest dollar.

**Table F.2. SNAP net income screen, FY 2021**

Unit size	Net income screen (dollars per month)		
	Contiguous United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	1,064	1,330	1,224
2	1,437	1,796	1,653
3	1,810	2,263	2,082
4	2,184	2,730	2,511
5	2,557	3,196	2,940
6	2,930	3,663	3,370
7	3,304	4,130	3,799
8	3,677	4,596	4,228
Each additional person	+374	+467	+430

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: The FY 2021 SNAP net monthly income limits were based on the 2020 Federal poverty guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. FNS derived the FY 2021 net income limits by dividing the 2020 poverty guidelines by 12 and rounding up to the nearest dollar.

**Table F.3. Deduction amounts, FY 2021**

Deduction	Contiguous United States	Alaska	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
Standard deduction (dollars)					
1 to 2 people	167	286	236	336	147
3 people	167	286	236	336	150
4 people	181	286	236	363	181
5 people	212	286	244	425	212
6 or more people	243	304	280	487	243
Maximum excess shelter expense deduction (dollars)	586	936	790	688	462
Homeless household shelter deduction (dollars) <sup>a</sup>	156.74	156.74	156.74	156.74	156.74
Earned income deduction	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: MFIP relies on a separate SNAP benefit calculation procedure that does not include any deductions except for the earnings deduction, which is 50 percent. As a result, all the other deductions are coded as missing for MFIP participants in the SNAP QC database. Similarly, deductions are not used to calculate benefits for units participating in SSI-CAP in States with standardized benefit amounts. Consequently, all deductions are coded as missing for SSI-CAP participants in these States. SSI-CAP States without standardized benefits (or standard shelter expenses) use some deductions, but not all. The deductions that are not applicable are coded as missing.

<sup>a</sup> In FY 2021, the value of the mandated homeless shelter deduction was \$156.74, and States appeared to consistently round up the value in the SNAP QC data. As such, we identified households as receiving the homeless shelter deduction if the reported shelter deduction (SHELDDDED) was \$157.

**Table F.4. Standard medical deduction demonstration, FY 2021**

State	If medical expenses are less than or equal to (dollars)	Then medical expense deduction is <sup>a</sup> (dollars)
Alabama	175	140
Arkansas	138	103
California	155	120
Colorado	200	165
Georgia	136	101
Idaho	179	144
Illinois <sup>b</sup>	200	165
Iowa	145	110
Kansas	175	140
Massachusetts	190	155
Michigan <sup>c</sup>	200	165
Missouri	170	135
New Hampshire	150	115
North Dakota	175	140
Oregon	205	170
Rhode Island	176	141
South Carolina	210	175
South Dakota	215	180
Texas	137	102
Vermont	151	116
Virginia	235	200
Wyoming	138	103

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> If medical expenses exceed the amount in column 2, the medical expense deduction is equal to the actual medical expenses minus \$35.

<sup>b</sup> In Illinois, the standard medical deduction for residents of group homes or supportive living facilities was \$450.

<sup>c</sup> Michigan implemented its program on October 7, 2020.

**Table F.5a. Maximum monthly SNAP benefit, October 2020 – December 2020**

Unit size	Maximum SNAP benefit (dollars)						
	Contiguous United States	Alaska Urban	Alaska Rural I	Alaska Rural II	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
1	204	251	320	390	375	300	262
2	374	460	587	715	688	551	481
3	535	659	841	1,024	986	789	688
4	680	837	1,068	1,300	1,252	1,002	874
5	807	995	1,268	1,544	1,487	1,190	1,038
6	969	1,194	1,522	1,853	1,784	1,428	1,246
7	1,071	1,319	1,682	2,048	1,972	1,579	1,377
8	1,224	1,508	1,923	2,340	2,254	1,804	1,574
Each additional person	+153	+189	+240	+293	+282	+226	+197

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: These maximum benefit values are based on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in June 2020 for a reference family of four, rounded to the lowest dollar increment.

**Table F.5b. Maximum monthly SNAP benefit, January 2021 – September 2021**

Unit size	Maximum SNAP benefit (dollars)						
	Contiguous United States	Alaska Urban	Alaska Rural I	Alaska Rural II	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
1	234	289	368	448	432	345	301
2	430	530	675	822	792	634	553
3	616	758	967	1,177	1,134	908	792
4	782	963	1,228	1,495	1,440	1,153	1,005
5	929	1,144	1,459	1,776	1,710	1,369	1,194
6	1,114	1,373	1,751	2,131	2,052	1,643	1,433
7	1,232	1,517	1,935	2,355	2,268	1,816	1,584
8	1,408	1,734	2,211	2,692	2,592	2,075	1,810
Each additional person	+176	+217	+276	+337	+324	+259	+226

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: The CAA, effective January 1, 2021, raised maximum benefit values to 115 percent of the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in June 2020 for a reference family of four, rounded to the lowest dollar increment. ARPA extended the increase through September 2021.



**Table F.6a. Minimum monthly SNAP benefit, October 2020 – December 2020**

Unit size	Minimum SNAP benefit (dollars)						
	Contiguous United States	Alaska Urban	Alaska Rural I	Alaska Rural II	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
1 to 2 people	16	20	26	31	30	24	21

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: The minimum benefit, applicable to one- and two-person units, is equal to 8 percent of the maximum benefit for single-person units, rounded (up or down) to the nearest dollar increment.

**Table F.6b. Minimum monthly SNAP benefit, January 2021 – September 2021**

Unit size	Minimum SNAP benefit (dollars)						
	Contiguous United States	Alaska Urban	Alaska Rural I	Alaska Rural II	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
1 to 2 people	19	23	29	36	35	28	24

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: The minimum benefit, applicable to one- and two-person units, is equal to 8 percent of the maximum benefit for single-person units, rounded (up or down) to the nearest dollar increment.

**Table F.7. Standard utility allowances, FY 2021**

State	Standard utility allowances (dollars)							
	HCSUA <sup>a</sup>	LUA <sup>b</sup>	Telephone allowance <sup>c</sup>	Electricity <sup>d</sup>	Water <sup>d</sup>	Sewer <sup>d</sup>	Trash <sup>d</sup>	Other standards <sup>e</sup>
Alabama	393	381	41					
Alaska <sup>f</sup>								
Central	397		34	100	51	53	39	120
Southeast	407		21	88	46	74	27	151
Southcentral	511		23	145	55	71	47	170
Northern	324		24	149	33	39	84	295
Southwest	809		20	218	58	62	13	438
Northwest	850		31	158	68	58	23	512
Arizona								
1 to 3 people	295		41					
4 or more people	399		41					
Arkansas	283		50					
California	438	139	18					
Colorado	486	310	79	58	58	58	58	58
Connecticut	736	324	27					
Delaware	407	282	36	70	70	70	70	70
District of Columbia	310	281	69	71	71	71	71	71
Florida	370	293	48					
Georgia	367	323	47					
Hawaii								
1 person			30	220	46	92		
2 people			30	240	51	92		
3 people			30	276	57	92		
4 to 5 people			30	342	67	92		
6 people			30	402	77	92		
7 or more people			30	455	92	92		
Idaho	352	292	37	128	128	128	128	128
Illinois	496	356	31	81	81	81	81	81
Indiana								
10/2020-4/2021	412	250	31	55	55	55	55	55
5/2021-9/2021	417	259	32	57	57	57	57	57
Iowa	496	316	29					
Kansas	359	246	35					
Kentucky	329	281	45					
Louisiana	350	193	46					
Maine	782	264	45					
Maryland								
10/2020-12/2020	392	240	40					
1/2021-9/2021	388	238	40					
Massachusetts	646	396	45					

State	Standard utility allowances (dollars)							
	HCSUA <sup>a</sup>	LUA <sup>b</sup>	Telephone allowance <sup>c</sup>	Electricity <sup>d</sup>	Water <sup>d</sup>	Sewer <sup>d</sup>	Trash <sup>d</sup>	Other standards <sup>e</sup>
Michigan	537		29	126	97	97	23	36
Minnesota	496		56	154				
Mississippi	277	203	34					
Missouri	404	319	65	131	131	131	131	131
Montana	563	203	32	171	171	171	171	171
Nebraska	491	257	46	52	52	52	52	52
Nevada	275	233	25	52	52	52	52	52
New Hampshire <sup>9</sup>								
10/2020-5/2021	701	256	27	150				
6/2021-9/2021	702	257	27	150				
New Jersey	548	338	29					
New Mexico	348	140	48					
New York								
New York City	801	316	30					
Long Island	744	292	30					
Rest of New York	661	268	30					
North Carolina								
1 person	440	263	31					
2 people	483	289	31					
3 people	531	318	31					
4 people	579	347	31					
5 or more people	631	378	31					
North Dakota <sup>h</sup>	616	236	32	204	204	204	204	204
Ohio	553	362	40	80	80	80	80	80
Oklahoma	341	293	48					
Oregon	442	341	68	55	55	55	55	55
Pennsylvania	594	308	33	59	59	59	59	59
Rhode Island	636		23					
South Carolina	302	215	25					
South Dakota	752	211	48	87	87	87	87	87
Tennessee								
1 person	317	136	28					
2 people	328	136	28					
3 people	341	136	28					
4 people	353	136	28					
5 people	364	136	28					
6 people	376	136	28					
7 people	387	136	28					
8 people	399	136	28					
9 people	413	136	28					
10 or more people	423	136	28					

State	Standard utility allowances (dollars)							Other standards <sup>e</sup>
	HCSUA <sup>a</sup>	LUA <sup>b</sup>	Telephone allowance <sup>c</sup>	Electricity <sup>d</sup>	Water <sup>d</sup>	Sewer <sup>d</sup>	Trash <sup>d</sup>	
Texas	360	331	38					
Utah	386	310	74					
Vermont	822	235	36					
Virginia								
1 to 3 people	302		61					
4 or more people	377		61					
Washington	449	352	59					
West Virginia	428	281	76	76	76	76	76	76
Wisconsin	462	320	29	141	90	90	23	37
Wyoming	399	281	53					
Guam								
1 person			28	133	38	28	30	30
2 to 3 people			28	153	50	28	30	30
4 people			28	183	69	28	30	60
5 people			28	207	85	28	30	60
6 people			28	237	111	28	30	60
7 people			28	269	136	28	30	90
8 people			28	281	150	28	30	90
9 people			28	301	171	28	30	90
10 people			28	301	171	28	30	90
11 or more people			28	309	178	28	30	90
Virgin Islands			36					

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> HCSUA is a Standard Utility Allowance used for units with heating and cooling expenses not included in rent. The HCSUA generally includes all utilities, including telephones.

<sup>b</sup> LUA is a Standard Utility Allowance used for units that do not have heating and cooling expenses separate from rent. The LUA generally includes all utilities, including telephones.

<sup>c</sup> The telephone allowance is a Standard Utility Allowance used for units that have telephone expenses but do not have any other utility expenses.

<sup>d</sup> Single-utility standard.

<sup>e</sup> A single utility is standard for gas/fuel unless otherwise noted.

<sup>f</sup> Alaska has six HCSUAs determined by utility regions.

<sup>g</sup> New Hampshire's correct LUA was \$256 for the entire fiscal year. However, the State used an LUA of \$257 from June 2021 to September 2021.

<sup>h</sup> North Dakota's correct HCSUA was \$606, including a \$10 offset for the standard medical deduction. Generally, SNAP households in the SNAP QC datafile are assigned a utility value that factors in the HCSUA offset. However, the State did not use the value of \$606, and instead used an HCSUA of \$616 (the pre-offset value).

**Table F.8. Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) benefits, FY 2021**

Unit size	Family wage level (1.1 * transitional standard) (dollars)	Transitional standard (cash portion and food portion) (dollars)	Cash portion (dollars)	Food portion (dollars)
1	567	515	350	165
2	925	841	537	304
3	1,175	1,068	632	436
4	1,406	1,278	721	557
5	1,617	1,470	797	673
6	1,859	1,690	873	817
7	2,021	1,837	950	887
8	2,228	2,025	1,016	1,009
9	2,431	2,210	1,080	1,130
10	2,629	2,390	1,135	1,255
Each additional person	+197	+179	+53	+126

Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services (<https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/economic-assistance/income/programs-and-services/mfip.jsp>).

**Table F.9. Arizona SSI-CAP (AZSNAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>	
\$0 to \$99	20
\$100 to \$199	60
\$200 to \$299	95
\$300 or greater	145
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>	
\$0 to \$99	50
\$100 to \$199	90
\$200 to \$299	125
\$300 or greater	175

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.10. Kentucky SSI-CAP (KYSAFE) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Unit size	Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>		
One person	Less than \$200	33
	\$200 or greater	75
Two people	Less than \$200	60
	\$200 or greater	123
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>		
One person	Less than \$200	63
	\$200 or greater	105
Two people	Less than \$200	116
	\$200 or greater	179

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: When necessary, the data for units identified as KYSAFE participants have been edited to follow the pattern presented in this table.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.11. Louisiana SSI-CAP (LaCAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>	
Less than \$425	35
\$425 to less than \$749	82
\$749 or greater	173
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>	
Less than \$425	65
\$425 to less than \$749	112
\$749 or greater	203

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.12. Maryland SSI-CAP (MSNAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>	
Less than \$525	55
\$525 or greater	140
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>	
Less than \$525	85
\$525 or greater	170

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: When necessary, the data for units identified as MSNAP participants have been edited to follow the pattern presented in this table.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.13. Michigan SSI-CAP (MiCAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)	Gross income <sup>a</sup> (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>		
Less than \$525	40	797
\$525 to less than \$750	105	797
\$750 or greater	185	797
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a,b</sup></b>		
Less than \$525	70	808
\$525 to less than \$750	135	808
\$750 or greater	215	808

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: When necessary, the data for units identified as MiCAP participants have been edited to follow the pattern presented in this table.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

<sup>b</sup> In FY 2021, Michigan had an SSI supplement of \$14, making the combined Federal and State SSI amount \$797 for October 2020 through December 2020 and \$808 for January 2021 through September 2021.

**Table F.14. Mississippi SSI-CAP (MSCAP) benefits by income and shelter expense patterns, FY 2021**

Income type and shelter expenses	Benefit level (dollars)	Gross income (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>		
<b>SSI only</b>		
\$335 or less	27	783
Greater than \$335	73	783
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>		
\$335 or less	18	803
Greater than \$335	64	803
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>		
<b>SSI only</b>		
\$335 or less	52	794
Greater than \$335	98	794
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>		
\$335 or less	43	814
Greater than \$335	89	814

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: When necessary, the data for units identified as MSCAP participants have been edited to follow the pattern presented in this table.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase. Mississippi increased benefits by \$25 instead of the expected \$30

**Table F.15. New Jersey SSI-CAP (NJ SNAS) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>	
\$563 or less	30
Greater than \$563	135
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>	
\$563 or less	60
Greater than \$563	165

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.



**Table F.16. New York SSI-CAP (NYSNIP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Income and shelter expenses	Monthly benefit amount (dollars)		
	New York	Long Island	Rest of State
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>			
<b>SSI only</b>			
With positive utility costs			
Rent \$261 or less	204	189	164
Rent greater than \$261	204	204	204
With no utility costs			
Rent \$261 or less	16	16	16
Rent greater than \$261	18	18	18
With no shelter costs	16	16	16
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>			
With positive utility costs			
Rent \$261 or less	197	180	155
Rent greater than \$261	204	204	198
With no utility costs			
Rent \$261 or less	16	16	16
Rent greater than \$261	16	16	16
With no shelter costs	16	16	16
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>			
<b>SSI only</b>			
With positive utility costs			
Rent \$264 or less	232	215	190
Rent greater than \$264	234	234	232
With no utility costs			
Rent \$264 or less	19	19	19
Rent greater than \$264	19	19	19
With no shelter costs	19	19	19
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>			
With positive utility costs			
Rent \$264 or less	223	206	181
Rent greater than \$264	234	234	223
With no utility costs			
Rent \$264 or less	19	19	19
Rent greater than \$264	19	19	19
With no shelter costs	19	19	19

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.17. North Carolina SSI-CAP (NCSNAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses		Benefit (dollars)
October 2020–December 2020		
Less than \$200		60
\$200 or greater		105
January 2021–September 2021 <sup>a</sup>		
Less than \$200		90
\$200 or greater		135

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.18. Pennsylvania SSI-CAP (PACAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Income type and shelter expenses		Benefit (dollars)
October 2020–December 2020		
<b>SSI only</b>		
Shelter expenses less than \$196		92
Shelter expenses \$196 or greater		119
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>		
Shelter expenses less than \$196		86
Shelter expenses \$196 or greater		113
January 2021–September 2021 <sup>a</sup>		
<b>SSI only</b>		
Shelter expenses less than \$196		122
Shelter expenses \$196 or greater		149
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>		
Shelter expenses less than \$196		116
Shelter expenses \$196 or greater		143

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.19. South Carolina SSI-CAP (SCCAP) benefits by income and shelter expense patterns, FY 2021**

Income type and shelter expenses	Benefits (dollars)	Gross income (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>		
<b>SSI only</b>		
Shelter expenses \$420 or less	44	783
Shelter expenses greater than \$420	54	783
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>		
Shelter expenses \$420 or less	35	803
Shelter expenses greater than \$420	45	803
<b>January 2021–February 2021<sup>a</sup></b>		
<b>SSI only</b>		
Shelter expenses \$420 or less	74	794
Shelter expenses greater than \$420	84	794
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>		
Shelter expenses \$420 or less	65	814
Shelter expenses greater than \$420	75	814
<b>March 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>		
<b>SSI only</b>		
Shelter expenses \$410 or less	74	794
Shelter expenses greater than \$410	84	794
<b>SSI and other unearned income</b>		
Shelter expenses \$410 or less	65	814
Shelter expenses greater than \$410	75	814

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service; FY 2021 raw SNAP QC data file.

Note: When necessary, the data for units identified as SCCAP participants have been edited to follow the pattern presented in this table.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.20. South Dakota SSI-CAP (SD IN) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>	
Less than \$690	25
\$690 to less than \$800	140
\$800 to less than \$900	165
\$900 or greater	180
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>	
Less than \$690	55
\$690 to less than \$800	170
\$800 to less than \$900	195
\$900 or greater	210

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.21. Texas SSI-CAP (SNAP-CAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>	
\$440 or less	55
Greater than \$440	122
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>	
\$440 or less	85
Greater than \$440	152

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: When necessary, the data for units identified as SNAP-CAP participants have been edited to follow the pattern presented in this table.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.22. Virginia SSI-CAP (VaCAP) benefit criteria, FY 2021**

Shelter expenses	Benefit (dollars)
<b>October 2020–December 2020</b>	
Less than \$500	60
\$500 or greater	135
<b>January 2021–September 2021<sup>a</sup></b>	
Less than \$500	90
\$500 or greater	165

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: When necessary, the data for units identified as VaCAP participants have been edited to follow the pattern presented in this table.

<sup>a</sup> Starting in January 2021, benefit amounts included the CAA/ARPA increase.

**Table F.23. Florida (SUNCAP), Massachusetts (BAY STATE CAP), and Washington SSI-CAP (WASHCAP) shelter allowances, FY 2021**

Rent/mortgage cutoff for high/low standard rent allowance	Standard rent/mortgage allowance (dollars)
<b>Florida (SUNCAP)</b>	
\$305 or less	130
Greater than \$305	325
<b>Massachusetts (BAY STATE CAP)</b>	
Less than \$481	223
\$481 or greater	481
<b>Washington (WASHCAP)</b>	
Less than \$320	210
\$320 or greater	425

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: We only use the WASHCAP cutoffs for high and low standard rent allowances in our file editing process. The SUNCAP and BAYSTATECAP cutoffs are listed for reference.

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## **APPENDIX G**

### **Quality Control Review Schedule**

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U.S. Department of Agriculture - Food and Nutrition Service

OMB APPROVED NO. 0584-0299  
Expiration Date: 07/31/2023**QUALITY CONTROL REVIEW SCHEDULE**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.056 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. **An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.** Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services, Office of Policy Support, Room 1014, Alexandria, VA 22032 ATTN: PRA (0584-0299). Do not return the completed form to this address. **PRIVACY ACT NOTICE:** This report is required under provisions of 7 CFR 275.24 (SNAP). This information is needed for the review of State performance in determining recipient eligibility.. The information is used to determine State compliance, and failure to report may result in a finding of non-compliance.

**Section 1 - Review Summary**

1. QC Review Number <input type="text"/>	2. Case Number <input type="text"/>	3. State <input type="text"/>	4. Local Agency <input type="text"/>	5. Sample Month and Year <input type="text"/>	6. Stratum <input type="text"/>
7. Disposition <input type="text"/>	8. Findings <input type="text"/>	9. SNAP Allotment Under Review <input type="text"/>	10. Error Amount <input type="text"/>	11. Case Classification <input type="text"/>	

**Section 2 - Detailed Error Findings**

	12. Element	13. Nature	14. Cause	15. Error Finding	16. Error Amount	17. Discovery	18. Verified	19. Occurrence a. Date	b. Time Period
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FORM FNS-380-1 (05-19) Previous Editions Obsolete  
(RIN 0584-AF79)**SBU**Electronic Form Designed in AEM 6.4 Version  
1

Section 3 - Household Characteristics					
20. Most Recent Cert. Action Month, Day, Year <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	21. Type of Action <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	22. Length of Cert. Period #of months <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	23. Allotment Adjustment <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	24. Amount of Allotment Adjustment <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	
25. Number of Household Members <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	26. Receipt of Expedited Service <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	27. Authorized Representative Used at Application <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	28. Categorical Eligibility <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	29. Reporting Requirement <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	
<b>Resources:</b>					
30. Liquid <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	31. Property (excluding home) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	32a. Vehicle <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	32b. Status 2nd Vehicle <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	33. Countable Vehicle Assets <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	34. Other Non-liquid <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
<b>Income:</b>					
35. Gross <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	36. Net <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>				
<b>Deductions:</b>					
37. Earned Income <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	38. Medical <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	39. Dependent Care <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	40. Child Support <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	41. Shelter <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	42. Homeless <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
Additional Information on Shelter Costs: 	43. Rent/Mortgage <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	44. Use of SUA a. Usage    b. Proration <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 40%;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 40%;"></div> </div>	45. Utilities (SUA or Actual) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>		

Section 4 - Information on Each Household Member													
46. Person Number	47. SNAP Participation	48. Relation to Head of HH	49. Age	50. Sex	51. Race	52. Citizen Status	53. Edu. Level	54. Employment Status	Hours	55. SNAP Work Reg.	56. SNAP E & T	57. ABAWD Status	58. Dependent Care Cost

You may record information on up to 16 individuals using additional pages.

Section 5 - Income Identified by Household Member

59. Person Number	Source 1 60. Income Type	61. Amount	Source 2 62. Income Type	63. Amount	Source 3 64. Income Type	65. Amount	Source 4 66. Income Type	67. Amount
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You may record income on up to 10 individuals by using additional pages.

Section 6 - Reserved Coding

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Section 7 - Optional For State Use

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