

Voters Widely Support SNAP, Oppose Cuts

IN SURVEY, SNAP HAS BROAD, BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

Overview

New poll results show voters overwhelmingly support the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP).

In the recent bipartisan survey conducted for No Kid Hungry by the Democratic polling firm Global Strategy Group and Republican polling firm Public Opinion Strategies, this support crosses party lines, with Democrats, Republicans and Independents all voicing support for the program.

Voters from rural, small town, suburban and urban geographies all say the program helps areas like theirs.

Finally, voters are deeply apprehensive about funding cuts, believing cuts to the program would increase poverty and hunger, leading to particularly stark consequences for children in America.

“We are supposed to be the greatest country in the world, yet many children go to bed hungry. That makes me angry. Our children are our future.”

-- Survey Response, Republican

Topline Poll Findings

- **Bipartisan Support:** Nearly 4 out of 5 voters (79%) support SNAP, including clear majorities of Democrats (94%), Independents (82%) and Republicans (64%).
- **Geographic Support:** Seven out of 10 voters (69%) say SNAP helps “communities like mine,” including voters from rural areas (68%), small towns (72%), suburbs (59%) and urban areas (79%).
- **Support for Funding:** Seven out of 10 voters (72%) want to maintain SNAP funding at current levels or increase the amount of monthly benefits.
- **Concern About Cuts:** Voters are concerned that cuts to SNAP would result in more children going hungry (86%) or an increase in childhood poverty (79%)



10 months

The average amount of time a family spends on SNAP.

\$1.40

The average SNAP benefit per person, per meal.

20 million

Total number of children in the United States who rely on SNAP

78%

Percent of SNAP households that either are working or have worked in the past year.

2 million

Number of American families that SNAP keeps out of poverty each year.

72%

of Americans want to maintain or increase SNAP funding.



DEMOCRATS



INDEPENDENTS



REPUBLICANS

86%

of Americans say SNAP cuts would lead to more children going hungry



DEMOCRATS



INDEPENDENTS



REPUBLICANS

79%

of Americans say SNAP cuts would lead to increased childhood poverty



DEMOCRATS



INDEPENDENTS



REPUBLICANS

77%

of Americans say cuts to SNAP will cause children to do worse in school



DEMOCRATS



INDEPENDENTS



REPUBLICANS

BOTTOM LINE

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helps low-income families afford food. It is one of the most powerful tools we have to end childhood hunger.

SNAP feed children. For kids in need, the program ends hunger, promotes stronger learning and leads to better physical health.

When children get the food they need each day, they feel better, learn more and grow up stronger. This is good for the nation; healthier, smarter kids are **more likely break the cycle of poverty** and build a **stronger, more competitive economy**.

“My wife is a retired teacher and has seen the impact of hunger on her students. Hungry students are at a disadvantage.”
– *Survey Respondent, Democrat*

METHODOLOGY

Global Strategy Group and Public Opinion Strategies conducted an online survey among a base sample of 1,000 likely 2018 voters nationwide in August 2017.

SOURCES

- USDA, [Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2015](#).
- USDA, [2016 SNAP Retailer Management Year End Summary](#).
- U.S. Census Bureau, [American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2011-2015](#).
- USDA Economic Research Service, [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\) Data System Documentation](#).

ABOUT NO KID HUNGRY

No child should go hungry in America, but 1 in 6 kids will face hunger this year. Using proven, practical solutions, No Kid Hungry is working to end childhood hunger nationwide. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of national anti-hunger organization Share Our Strength. Together, we can close the gap between the kids who have enough to eat and those who don't. Join us at NoKidHungry.org.