



Proposed SNAP Cuts Would Hurt Texas Families and Weaken the State's Economy

New data shows SNAP's economic impact in counties across the state.

Texas, February 20, 2025 – As Congress considers sweeping cuts to SNAP and other critical nutrition programs, the [North Texas Food Bank](#) (NTFB) joins [Feeding Texas](#) in releasing [county and state level data](#) to show SNAP's economic impact in Texas. In the 2024 calendar year, Texas issued \$6.97 billion in total SNAP payments to Texas families participating in the program. **These SNAP payments generated an estimated \$10.73 billion in economic activity for the state — a 54% return on investment.**

"SNAP is more than a nutrition program, it is a smart investment in our local, state and national economies," said Celia Cole, CEO of Feeding Texas, the state association of food banks. "SNAP has a high return on investment that fuels economic activity across the nation. The program generates more than 10 billion dollars in economic activity for Texas; any significant cuts to SNAP would have far-reaching economic consequences for our state."

According to [USDA's SNAP Multiplier report](#), \$1 billion in SNAP benefits generates around \$1.54 billion in gross domestic product (GDP), which supports 13,560 new jobs—including \$32 million in added income going to agricultural industries that support 480 agricultural jobs. Using this USDA report, the Texas Health and Human Service Commission's [SNAP enrollment data](#), and [average meal cost estimates](#), Feeding Texas calculated the economic impact of SNAP payments in Texas and the number of jobs and meals supported. In addition to **\$10.73 billion in economic activity** that Texas can attribute to SNAP, the program is responsible for supporting more than **94,000 jobs** and more than **2 billion meals** for Texas families in need in 2024.

In the 12 counties served by the North Texas Food Bank, **\$899 million** in SNAP payments generated **\$1.4 billion** in economic activity, supported **12,188 jobs**, and provided more than **260 million** meals for North Texas families in 2024.

SNAP Impact by County

| County | Total 2024 SNAP Payments | Economic Impact (1.54 Multiplier) | Jobs Supported | Meals |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Collin | \$ 88,432,139 | \$ 136,185,494.06 | 1,199 | 25,632,504 |
| Dallas | \$ 639,860,162 | \$ 985,384,649.48 | 8,677 | 185,466,714 |
| Delta | \$ 1,289,911 | \$ 1,986,462.94 | 17 | 373,887 |
| Ellis | \$ 31,243,808 | \$ 48,115,464.32 | 424 | 9,056,176 |
| Fannin | \$ 6,584,539 | \$ 10,140,190.06 | 89 | 1,908,562 |
| Grayson | \$ 23,862,916 | \$ 36,748,890.64 | 324 | 6,916,787 |
| Hopkins | \$ 6,901,512 | \$ 10,628,328.48 | 94 | 2,000,438 |
| Hunt | \$ 22,550,840 | \$ 34,728,293.60 | 306 | 6,536,475 |
| Kaufman | \$ 38,850,209 | \$ 59,829,321.86 | 527 | 11,260,930 |
| Lamar | \$ 13,726,268 | \$ 21,138,452.72 | 186 | 3,978,628 |
| Navarro | \$ 14,365,743 | \$ 22,123,244.22 | 195 | 4,163,983 |
| Rockwall | \$ 11,130,755 | \$ 17,141,362.70 | 151 | 3,226,306 |
| Total | \$ 898,798,802 | \$ 1,384,150,155.08 | 12,188 | 260,521,392 |

*Using data from the [USDA's SNAP Multiplier report](#), the Texas Health and Human Service Commission's [SNAP enrollment data](#), and [average meal cost estimates](#), Feeding Texas calculated the economic impact of SNAP payments in Texas and the number of jobs and meals supported.

“Families who participate in SNAP to put food on the table would not be the only Texans harmed by the steep cuts that are being proposed,” Cole said. “Retailers, farmers, workers, and communities across our state all participate in a highly interconnected economic ecosystem and would feel the impact of SNAP cuts. If current proposals move forward, hungry families will suffer, food businesses will suffer, and our overall economy will be weaker.”

Texas economist Dr. Ray Perryman [estimated](#) the "cost of hunger" in Texas as part of a national analysis conducted in 2014. The Perryman Group quantified the total annual burden on the Texas economy from hunger-related health and educational expenses (and associated lost earnings due to health and educational deficiencies). They estimated these annual costs to equal \$44.2 billion in expenditures, \$21.3 billion in gross product and almost 239,500 jobs. In a separate [2019 study](#), the CDC estimated that food insecurity costs the U.S. healthcare system an additional \$53 billion annually by triggering or exacerbating chronic diseases and fueling emergency room visits, hospitalizations and readmissions.

“SNAP is our nation’s first line of defense against hunger,” Cole said. “If we hinder the program’s ability to do what it was designed to do, hunger will not simply disappear. Instead, hunger will persist and grow, becoming an even more costly problem to be addressed in the future. Our state and nation cannot afford massive cuts to SNAP — and we *cannot* afford to ignore hunger.”

Beyond the economic impact, any cuts to nutrition programs in the budget reconciliation process could pose a threat to passing a strong, bipartisan Farm Bill later this year. Reauthorization of a Farm Bill is critical to ensure our nation’s growers and producers can continue to provide

abundant, affordable food to nourish our nation and nutrition programs can continue to provide for families in need.

Trisha Cunningham, President and CEO of the North Texas Food Bank, expanded on the growing need for food assistance, saying, "Over the past year, the North Texas Food Bank has experienced an unprecedented rise in demand for food assistance, reaching levels not seen since the peak of the pandemic. Last year NTFB and our feeding network of about 500 partner food pantries and community organizations provided access to more than 106 million physical meals. That was the most ever physical meals distributed in our history and a nearly 10 percent increase from the previous year. Ensuring SNAP is fully funded and benefits remain sufficient is beneficial for all. It offers vital nutrition support to families, strengthens local economies, creates jobs, and delivers a proven long-term return on investment - for every meal NTFB can provide, SNAP can provide nine due to the existing retail supply chain. Hunger is a nonpartisan issue – no one wants to see neighbors go without nutritious food."

The Feeding Texas network strongly urges both the U.S. House and Senate to refrain from cutting SNAP or other critical nutrition programs.

VIEW DATA: [SNAP's Economic Impact in Texas](#)

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About Feeding Texas

Feeding Texas is a network of 20 food banks and leads a unified effort for a hunger-free Texas. Learn more and find your local food bank at feedingtexas.org.

About the North Texas Food Bank

The North Texas Food Bank (NTFB) is a leading nonprofit organization that fights hunger and provides children, seniors and families in North Texas access to nutritious food. For over 40 years, we have been at the forefront of hunger relief, committed to ensuring that no one in our community lacks access to healthy food. Our extensive network of 500 food pantries and organizations, volunteers, and donors enables us to deliver more than 100 million nutritious meals annually to those in need. Beyond just addressing hunger, we focus on nourishing lives by offering nutrition education, investing in our network partners, innovating solutions to eliminate hunger and advocating for policies that tackle the root causes of food insecurity.

Our dedication to excellence is reflected in our 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, highlighting our strong governance, integrity, and financial stability. As a proud member of Feeding America, the nation's largest hunger relief network, we are committed to ensuring everyone in North Texas has the nourishment needed to lead a healthy and fulfilling life. For more information, visit www.ntfb.org or connect with us on social media @NorthTexasFoodBank.

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