The National Household
Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey
FoodAPS

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What is FoodAPS?

National Household
Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey

Comprehensive data on **household food purchases and acquisitions**.

- Includes foods from **food-at-home** (FAH) retailers, **food-away-from-home** (FAFH) establishments, and **foods obtained for free**

- Reported by **all household members** over a seven-day period

- FoodAPS-1 fielded from April 2012 to January 2013

FoodAPS Sample

Nationally representative of US households with four target populations:

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households** (1,581)
- **Non-SNAP households** with income:
  - < 100% of the federal poverty guideline (346)
  - ≥ 100% and < 185% of the federal poverty guideline (851)
  - ≥ 185% of the federal poverty guideline (2,048)

FoodAPS Survey

Households

- Income
- Food security
- Diet and nutrition knowledge
- Food assistance program participation

Individuals

- Demographics
- Eating occasions
- School attendance
- Dietary restrictions

Events

- Place
- Total paid
- Payment type

Items

- Descriptions
- Quantities
- Expenditures
- Prices

Data collection:
food books, scanned barcodes, receipts,
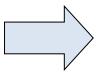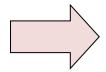in-person interviews, telephone interviews

Food At Home + Food Away From Home

Food At Home (FAH): Foods and drinks that are brought home and used to prepare meals for consumption at home or elsewhere (for example, food used to make a sandwich that you bring to work). Places to get FAH include grocery stores, food pantries, and gardens.

Food Away From Home (FAFH): Foods and drinks that are obtained for consumption away from home *and* prepared foods that are brought home or delivered. Places to get FAFH include cafeterias, restaurants (incl. takeout), parties, schools, church dinners, and senior centers.

FoodAPS by the Numbers

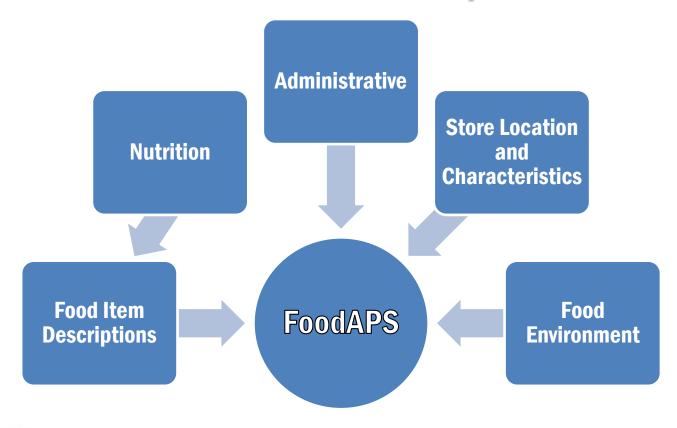|	Full Survey	SNAP Households	Non-SNAP + <100%	Non-SNAP + ≥100% + <185%	Non-SNAP + ≥185%
Households	4,826	1,581	346	851	2,048
Individuals	14,317	5,414	964	2,375	5,564
FAH Events	15,998	5,545	1,134	2,711	6,608
FAH Items	143,050	51,145	8,693	21,878	61,334
FAFH Events	39,120	12,371	2,311	6,329	18,109
FAFH Items	116,074	37,140	6,831	18,480	53,623

Note: These numbers represent unweighted frequencies.

Integrating Extant Data

Extant data were linked to **reduce respondent burden** and **enhance data analysis**.

Data Access

Restricted-use data:

- Protected under the *Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act* (CIPSEA)
- Access requires annual training, project agreement, confidentiality agreement, and a memorandum of understanding (MOU)
- Stored on a secure data enclave: Administrative Data Research Facility (ADRF)

Public-use data:

- Stripped of data that may pose disclosure risk.
- Available online at: **www.ers.usda.gov/foodaps**

Files and Documentation

Main FoodAPS Data Files (SAS, Stata):
- Household File
- Individual File
- FAH Event, Item, and Nutrient Files
- FAFH Event, Item, and Nutrient Files
- ERS Imputed FAH and FAFH Item Quantities
- Meals and Snacks File
- Reporting Status File
- Access File
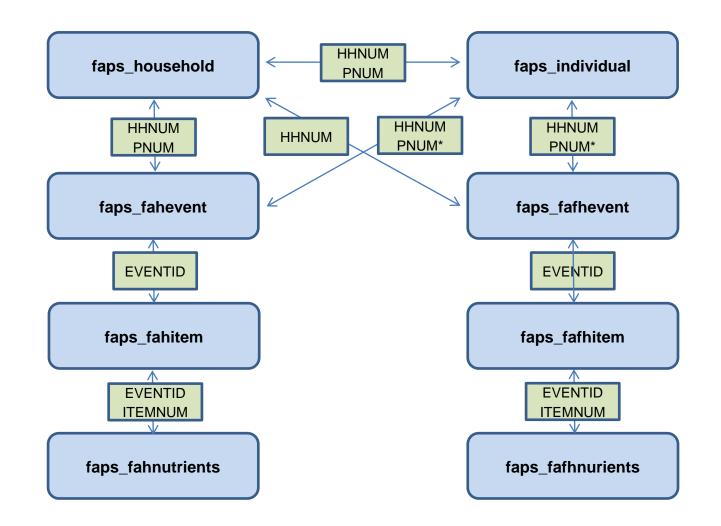- SNAP Eligibility Estimates
- HouseholdWeights

Extras:
- Geography Component
- Household Geocodes
- Places Geocodes
- Detailed Food Item Descriptions
- Store-level Data
- Linked Retail Scanner Data

File Structure

faps_household

faps_individual

HHNUM
PNUM

HHNUM
PNUM

HHNUM

HHNUM
PNUM*

HHNUM
PNUM*

faps_fahevent

faps_fafhevent

EVENTID

EVENTID

faps_fahitem

faps_fafhitem

EVENTID
ITEMNUM

EVENTID
ITEMNUM

faps_fahnutrients

faps_fafhnurients

Documentation

- **User Guide** [Start Here!]
- **Codebooks**
  - One codebook per data file
  - Except for the replicate sample weights, covered in User Guide
- **Nutrient Coding Overview**
- **FAFH Supplementary Documentation**
- **Place Supplementary Documentation**
- **Main Variable List**

Survey Weights

- To the extent possible, analyses should account for the complex sample design.

    - Taylor series (linearization) method using HHWGT along with TSSTRAT and TSPSU

    - Jackknife method using replicate weights from separate file

- Weights can be used for both household- and individual-level analyses.

- Discussed in User's Guide (see Chapter 6)

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