

You are being asked to take part in a research project studying attitudes and beliefs about the U.S. welfare system. The study consists of a survey which should take approximately 5 minutes. It is very important for the success of our research project that you complete the entire survey, once you have started. In the survey, we will ask you various factual and opinion-based questions about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as food stamps. We will also be giving you some information during this survey; the precise information you receive will be randomized, which will help us understand how people develop their understanding of welfare programs. Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. We don't believe there are any risks from participating in this research. It is very important for the success of our research that you answer honestly and read the questions very carefully before answering. Anytime you don't know an answer, just give your best guess. However, please be sure to spend enough time reading and understanding the question. To ensure the quality of survey data, your responses will be subject to sophisticated statistical control methods. Responding without adequate effort may result in your responses being flagged for low quality.

Some of the information or question presented in this survey might make you uncomfortable. You have the right not to answer any questions and to stop the survey at any time or for any reason. Your participation in this study is purely voluntary. You may decline to answer any or all questions and may decline further participation, at any time, without adverse consequences. Your responses to this survey are entirely confidential and anonymous.

This survey is only for adults 18 and over. Please do not participate if you are under 18.

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, you may contact the principal investigator at [janders@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:janders@fas.harvard.edu).

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Harvard University Area Institutional Review Board ("IRB") and MIT IRB. You may talk to the Harvard IRB at (617) 496-2847 or [cuhs@harvard.edu](mailto:cuhs@harvard.edu) if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team
- You cannot reach the research team
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team
- You have questions about your rights as a research subject
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

You may also contact the MIT Chairman of the Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects at 1-617-253-6787.

- I have read and agree to the above.
- I do not agree to the above.

In this survey, we will ask you about your beliefs and attitudes about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), also known as food stamps.

The survey includes at least one factual question about SNAP. We ask that you answer with your best guess. In one of these questions, the person with the closest answer will get to authorize a \$50 donation to the charity of their choice. (This money comes out of the researchers' grants and does not affect any payment survey-takers receive.) If multiple survey-takers give the exactly correct answer, we will choose one survey-taker at random.

If you give the most correct answer and are the respondent whose donation choice is implemented, to which charity would you like us to donate \$50?

- United States Fund for UNICEF
- American National Red Cross
- Boys & Girls Club of America
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

What does SNAP stand for?

- Sufficiently Noisy Animal Parties
- Supplementary Names Artful Program
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Salty Noodles And Pasta

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First, we would like to know a little about you.

What is your age? Please do not take this survey if you are under 18.

What state do you live in?

Which of the following best describes your marital status?

- Single (never married)
- Married
- Separated
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Other

How many children do you have (if any)?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4+

Roughly what was your annual **household** income last year?

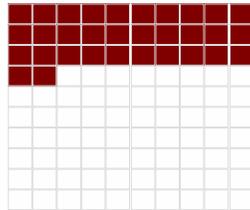
Have you ever been, or are you currently, enrolled in SNAP and received benefits?

- Yes, I have received SNAP benefits (food stamps) in the past, but I do not currently.
- Yes, I am enrolled in SNAP now and currently receive benefits.
- No, I have never received SNAP benefits.

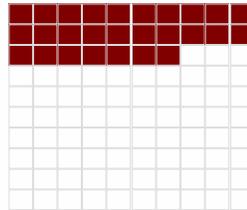


You said that you thought 32 out of 100 Americans have low enough income that they could qualify for SNAP. Actually, according to calculations using administrative data from the USDA, in 2016, roughly **27 of every 100 Americans** had income below the eligibility threshold.

Your answer



The true answer



Please read each statement carefully and select the number below that indicates the degree of your agreement or disagreement with each statement.

Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 Neither agree nor disagree 5 6 7 8 Strongly agree 9

I would prefer not to use food stamps because I would rather be self-reliant and not accept help from the government.

\_\_\_\_\_

I believe that people should do what they can to avoid being on food stamps; it is better to make it on your own.

\_\_\_\_\_

Most people believe that someone who uses food stamps is just as hard-working as the average citizen.

\_\_\_\_\_

If I used food stamps, I would be concerned that people would treat me disrespectfully at stores.

\_\_\_\_\_

Please read each statement carefully and select the number below that indicates the degree of your agreement or disagreement with each statement.

Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 Neither agree nor disagree 5 6 7 8 Strongly agree 9

Most people believe that someone who uses food stamps does so because of circumstances outside their control.

\_\_\_\_\_

Most people think less of a person who uses food stamps.

\_\_\_\_\_

Most people who use food stamps would go out of their way to prevent others knowing about their food stamp receipt.

\_\_\_\_\_

If I used food stamps, I would avoid telling other people about it.

\_\_\_\_\_