

Record 20% of Households on Food Stamps in 2013

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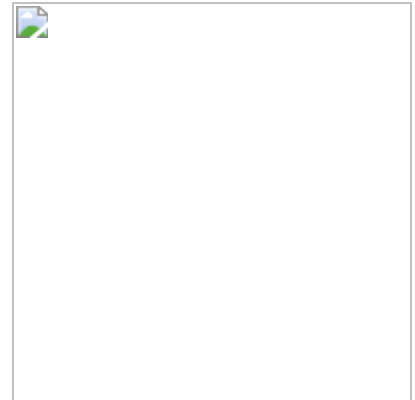
White House says President Trump has signed the coronavirus pandemic relief and government funding package. It says Congress will vote to increase stimulus checks for individuals from \$600 to \$2,000.



(AP Image)

(CNSNews.com) -- A record 20% of American households, one in five, were on food stamps in 2013, according to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The numbers also show there was a record number of individuals on food stamps in 2013 and that the cost of the program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), was at an all-time high.

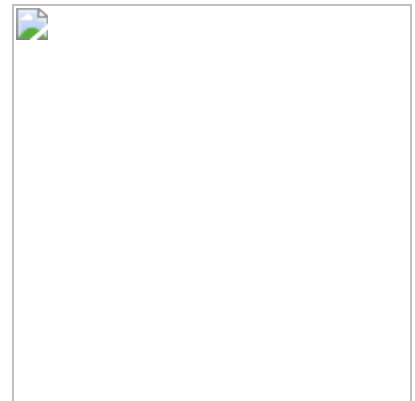


The USDA says that there were 23,052,388 households on food stamps in the average month of fiscal 2013, an increase of 722,675 from fiscal year 2012, when there were 22,329,713 households on food stamps in the average month.

ype="node" title="Households on Food Stamps

Those numbers were compared with the Census Bureau's estimates for the total number of U.S. households in the last month (September) of each fiscal year to determine the percentage of all U.S. households in that fiscal year that were on food stamps.

In 2013, according to the Census Bureau, there were 115,013,000 households, which means the that the households on food stamps--23,052,388 households--equaled 20.0% of all households.



In the past five years alone, the number of households on food stamps has greatly increased. In fiscal year 2009 -- Oct. 1, 2008 through Sept. 30, 2009 -- the number of households on food stamps was 15,232,115. Five years later, in 2013, that amount had increased by 51.3% to reach 23,052,388 households.

ype="node" title="individuals on food stamps

Not only have households seen a major increase in food stamps' participation, but so have individuals.

In 2013, the monthly average for individuals on food stamps hit an all-time-high of 47,636,084, according to the USDA, an increase of 1,027,012 over the 46,609,072 individuals who were participating in the program in 2012.

That number has dramatically increased from five years ago. In fiscal year 2009, the number of individuals participating in the food stamp program was 33,489,975. In 2013, the number was 47,636,084, an increase of 42.2%.

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Furthermore, the cost of food stamps, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), has reached an all-time high.

For fiscal year 2013, the SNAP program cost \$79,641,880,000, which is a 164% increase over the past decade. When adjusted for inflation, the cost of the SNAP program was \$30,153,090,000 in fiscal year 2003.

During the last five years, the SNAP program grew by 36.8%, from \$58,223,790,000 in 2009 to \$79,641,880,000 in 2013.

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