

Payment Integrity Scorecard

Program or Activity
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Reporting Period
Q1 2025

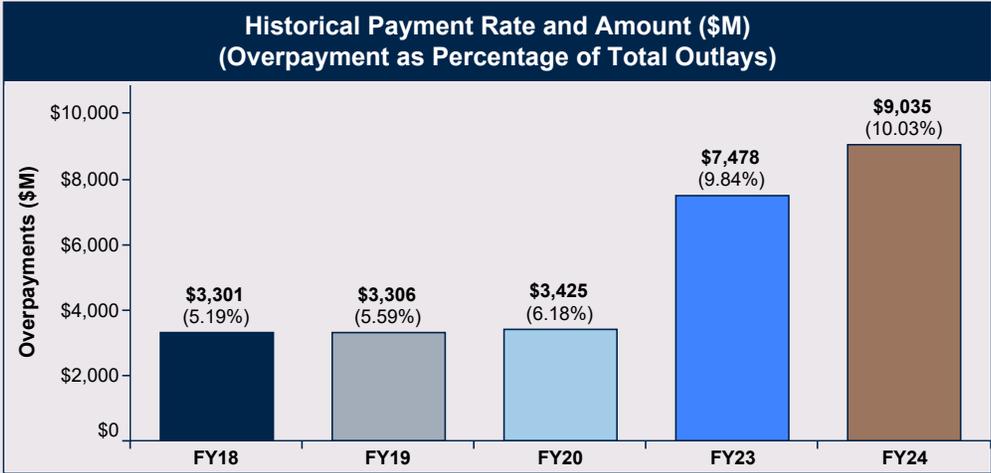
FY 2024 Overpayment Amount (\$M)* **\$9,035**

*Estimate based a sampling time frame starting 10/2022 and ending 9/2023

 **U.S. Department of Agriculture**
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Brief Program Description & summary of overpayment causes and barriers to prevention:

SNAP provides food benefits to low-income families to supplement their grocery budgets. It is the largest domestic nutrition assistance program. SNAP is a Federal program administered by States (All 50 States, D.C., Guam, and the Virgin Islands). States are responsible for determining a SNAP applicant's eligibility and issuing benefits to eligible residents following Federal requirements. Within those requirements, State agencies have flexibility to tailor the program to meet the needs of their residents through various policy options, waivers, and demonstration projects. As a result, corrective actions to address payment errors must originate in and be tailored to each individual State agency's circumstances/particular root cause of error.



Discussion of Actions Taken in the Preceding Quarter and Actions Planned in the Following Quarter to Prevent Overpayments

In FY 2025 Q1, FNS continued developing enhancements to the National Accuracy Clearinghouse (NAC), a system that allows State agencies to prevent issuance of SNAP benefits in more than one State simultaneously and provided ongoing support to nine States expected to launch the NAC in FY25. In January, two new State agencies will launch the NAC, bringing the system to a total of seven live States. FNS will continue to support the other seven States already working toward launch and begin supporting six more States as they begin their implementation projects in March. In FY 2025 Q2, FNS plans to release a guide for state agencies that includes strategies, tips, and tools for helping them balance their responsibilities to ensure both payment accuracy and application processing timeliness in case processing. Finally, FNS has an internal workgroup of region and national office SNAP staff that meet bi-monthly to discuss oversight and compliance issues. In the coming months, FNS plans to use this oversight workgroup to discuss policy and compliance concerns that impact payment accuracy, including verification procedures and conducting management evaluations of State agency operations.

Accomplishments in Reducing Overpayment		Date
1	FNS discussed with States balancing payment accuracy/ timeliness in case processing. FNS provided successful strategies to monitor and measure the impact of interventions on payment accuracy to ensure staff make both correct and timely decisions.	Oct-24
2	FNS provided policy clarifications to five States, answering questions on topic areas that contribute to some of the top error causes, including how to treat certain sources of income, as well as eligibility for use of the Heating and Cooling Standard Utility Allowance.	Dec-24
3	In management evaluations of State operations, FNS identified 12 findings impacting payment accuracy for corrective action, including not notifying clients of requirements to report certain changes in income, failure to conduct data checks, improper calculation of benefits.	Jan-25

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Goals towards Reducing Overpayments	Status	ECD	Recovery Method	Brief Description of Plans to Recover Overpayments	Brief Description of Actions Taken to Recover Overpayments
1 Improve how SNAP State administering agencies collect and utilize data on improper payments to appropriately target corrective action.	On-Track	Sep-26	1 Recovery Audit	States are required to submit a plan to FNS that describes their recovery audit functions, and quarterly reports on recipient claims recoveries. FNS provides oversight and technical assistance to ensure States establish and collect claims as required by law.	FNS doesn't perform recovery activities at the federal level. FNS does provide oversight/technical assistance to Sas regarding referral, management, and recovery of overpayments. States establish claims/maintain an accounting system for monitoring claims/recoveries.
2 Provide more guidance to support State agencies in planning and implementing corrective actions to improve payment accuracy.	On-Track	Sep-26			

Amt(\$)	Root Cause of Overpayment	Root Cause Description	Mitigation Strategy	Brief Description of Mitigation Strategy and Anticipated Impact
\$9,035M	Overpayments outside the agency control that occurred because of a Failure to Access Data/Information Needed.	Improper payments are outside FNS control because SNAP benefits are processed/administered by States. States make decisions about how to administer SNAP amongst various policy options, waivers, and demonstration projects; directly determine eligibility; and provide benefits.	Training teaching a particular skill or type of behavior; refreshing on the proper processing methods.	FNS trains State agencies and provides tools needed to conduct an individualized root cause analysis and develop targeted corrective action plans. This allows each State agency to assess root causes and target corrective actions appropriately.