

Hospitals & Asylums

Agricultural Growth for the Same Wholesale Price as Error HA-24-6-18

By Anthony J. Sanders

A. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides leadership on issues related to food, agriculture, food safety, rural development, and natural resources. It was founded by President Abraham Lincoln signature of the Act to Establish a Department of Agriculture on May 15, 1962. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is made up of 29 agencies and offices with nearly 100,000 employees who serve the American people at more than 4,500 locations across the country and abroad. The U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census conducted the census of agriculture for 156 years (1840-1996). The 1997 Appropriations Act contained a provision that transferred the responsibility for the census of agriculture to National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The Secretary is assisted by a Deputy Secretary, 10 Offices, a Chief Information Officer, and 7 Undersecretaries that provide from two to four services. The 7 Undersecretaries are – (1) Natural Resources and Environment, (a) Forest Service, (b) Natural Resources Conservation Service, (2) Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, (a) Farm Services Agency, (b) Foreign Agricultural Service, (c) Risk Management Agency (3) Rural Development, (a) Rural Utilities Service, (b) Rural Housing Service, (c) Rural Business Cooperative Service, (4) Food Nutrition and Consumer Services, (a) Food and Nutrition Service, (b) Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion (5) Food Safety, (a) Food Safety and Inspection Service (6) Research, Education and Economics, (a) Agricultural Research Service, (b) National Institute of Food and Agriculture, (c) Economic Research Service, and (d) National Agricultural Statistics Service and (7) Marketing and Regulatory Programs, (a) Agricultural Marketing Service, (b) Animal and Plant Inspection Service, and (c) Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration. The 10 Offices – (1) Chief Economist, (2) National Appeals Division Director, (3) Director of Communications, (4) Inspector General, (5) General Counsel, (6) Office of the Chief Financial Officer, (7) Office of Budget and Program Analysis, (8) Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, (9) Assistant Secretary for Administration, and (10) Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

(a) In 2017, USDA established the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC). Under the newly-organized FPAC mission area, the Farm Service Agency, the Risk Management Agency, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service were realigned to report to the renamed Under Secretary to improve customer service and maximize efficiency. Through this organization, USDA supported an effective safety net to the more than two million agricultural producers who provide food and fiber to over 300 million Americans, and millions more around the globe. USDA also provided extensive assistance for a variety of disasters throughout the country, including hurricanes, drought, wildfires, floods, freezes, tornados, and other storms. (b) As part of the reorganization in 2017, the U.S. Codex Alimentarius Office was transferred from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) to the Under Secretary Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs (TFAA). The Under Secretary for Food Safety will continue to be the U.S. Codex Office Policy Committee Chair and the Office will continue to advocate science based codex policies. (c) There is no budget request for P.L. 480 Title II. The Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust (the Trust) is a commodity and/or monetary reserve, holding approximately \$265 million at year end FY 17, designed to ensure that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Food for Peace Program, can meet its international food assistance commitments under P.L. 480 Title II.

B. Under current law, USDA’s total outlays FY 18 and FY 19 are estimated at \$140 billion, whether or not agencies are studied and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) worksheet on pg. 42 is recalculated using SNAP statistics 1969-2017, 3% spending growth comprised of 2.7% benefit increase, 0.3% population growth, to retabulate the spending total on pg. 80 and ensure USDA agencies normal 2.5% growth FY 19 and FY 20, other than the Forest Service whose arson renders their land, property and last year budget forfeit to local Interior Department offices, tribal governments, and parks. Prices for the Commodity Credit Corporation, Risk Management and Rural Business Cooperative Services have moderated after hyperinflation in revenues ceased to be accounted for by differentiating program level and outlays, and must be protected against overzealous budget cut proposals of the previous year, assured of 2.5% growth to afford 1% employment growth and a 1.5% raise. Forest Service estimates have failed to distinguish \$5.3 billion FY 18 outlays from \$6 billion program level. The Forest Service (FS) is the only USDA agency whose budget and staffing reduction is justified FY 19. It is agreed that 4,650 Forest Service employees are to be terminated by FY 19 for slashing and burning the National Forests, reducing Forest Service employment from 32,427 FY 17 to 27,777 FY 19. Because other agencies have done no wrong USDA employment should increase 1% from 95,933, less 4,650 FS layoffs, for total USDA employment of 92,242 FY 19 and again using the same equation, until the FS is completely seized by the Interior Department, for 88,514 USDA employees FY 20. Adequate staffing is needed to inspect agricultural facilities. There have been a several million egg recalls in 2018 and manure testing for Salmonella is needed to prescribe medicated chicken feed.

USDA Outlays by Agency FY 17 - FY 20
(millions)

	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20
Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services				
Farm Service Agency	1,766	1,635	1,279	1,311
Commodity Credit Corporation	10,854	11,311	8,686	8,903
Risk Management Agency	5,170	8,978	8,751	8,970
Natural Resources Conservation Service	3,387	3,284	3,707	3,800
FPAC – Business Center	0	0	273	280
Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs				
Foreign Agricultural Service	849	869	891	913
P.L. 480	1,433	1,309	1,348	1,388
Rural Development				
Rural Utilities Service	695	690	707	724
Rural Housing Service	2,068	2,055	2,106	2,159

Rural Business – Cooperative Service	167	166	170	174
Salaries and Expenses	226	233	239	245
Food Nutrition and Consumer Services				
Food and Nutrition Services	97,857	98,436	99,487	102,398
Food Safety				
Food Safety and Inspection Service	1,279	1,257	1,272	1,304
Natural Resources and Environment				
Forest Service	5,690	5,327	5,172	0
Marketing and Regulatory Programs				
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	1,320	1,302	1,335	1,368
Agricultural Marketing Service	1,301	1,322	1,355	1,389
Research, Education and Economics				
Agricultural Research Service	1,297	1,286	1,318	1,351
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	1,533	1,525	1,563	1,602
Economic Research Service	87	86	88	90
National Agricultural Statistics Service	171	170	174	178
Departmental Activities				
Office of the Secretary	52	54	55	57
Office of the Chief Economist	19	22	20	21
Office of Hearings and Appeals Division	15	15	15	16
Office of Budget and Program Analysis	10	9	10	10
Office of Chief Information Officer	50	49	53	54
Office of Chief Financial	8	8	8	9

Officer				
Agriculture Buildings and Facilities	84	84	58	59
Hazardous Materials Management	4	4	3	3
Office of the General Counsel	45	44	45	46
Office of Ethics	4	4	4	5
Mandatory Department	14	14	1	
Office of Civil Rights	24	24	25	26
Office of the Inspector General	98	98	101	103
Working Capital Fund	-47	148	44	50
USDA Subtotal	137,530	141,818	140,363	143,207
Offsetting receipts, rescission, net interest, & other adjustments	-9,666	-2,569	-1,152	-1,000
Total USDA Outlays	127,864	139,249	139,211	142,207
SNAP	-68,015	-67,178	-69,159	-71,205
USDA Outlays Less SNAP	59,849	72,071	70,052	71,002
Staffing	94,719	95,933	92,242	88,514

Source: USDA FY 19 pg. 80

C. The Forest Service manages over 193 million acres of public land in 44 States and Puerto Rico, collectively known as the National Forest System (NFS). FS currently manages over 372,000 miles of roads, 157,000 miles of trails, 6,200 bridges, 460 agency owned dams, 39,000 buildings, 27,000 recreation sites, and 9,543 water/wastewater systems. The Forest Service provides public access to national forests for recreation; wildfire fighting and forestry; and infrastructure for businesses and industries. CIM funds construction and maintenance of infrastructure on the NFS, including buildings, recreation sites, facilities, roads, and trails. In the extended 2017 fire-season 1.3% of National Forest System acres while 0.02% of National Park acres burned. 2017 was the most expensive fire season to date. More than 46 million homes, or 40 percent of the Nation’s housing units, are located in fire-prone Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas, and this trend is expected to keep growing. During an average year, more than 73,000 wildfires burn about 7 million acres nationally. The demand for effective wildland fire management grows more critical as the length of fire season grows to be almost year-round in some areas, the WUI continues to expand, and fuel loads are at high levels. The risk of uncharacteristically severe wildfires is rising, but FS is mitigating the risk, and protecting public safety, property, and natural resources, by firing 4,500 arsons FY 18 – FY 19. FS also has strong capacity to be sued for everything they are worth, by internationally recognized experts in managing and suppressing wildfires and Interior Department agencies, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National, State, County and City Parks.

1. FS works to control fires in a safe, efficient, cost-effective, and coordinated manner; and protect our forests and watersheds, which help forests maintain their capacity to deliver benefits such as clean water, wildlife and fish habitat, recreational opportunities, and forest products. The Budget includes \$2.5 billion to mitigate wildfire risk. The Budget supports the Forest Service's activities that protect life, property and natural resources on National Forest System (NFS) lands, other federal lands, and an additional 20 million acres of non-federal lands under agreements. The Budget supports treatment of hazardous fuels within highest priority areas. The Budget also fully funds the 10-year average for Suppression and enables Preparedness to fully cover firefighter base 8 salary hours. The Budget also proposes to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act to establish a separate annual cap adjustment for wildfire suppression operations, similar to how unanticipated funding needs for other natural disasters are addressed. The Budget provides \$228 million to support an aviation fleet that meets wild-land fire response requirements, including up to 18 airtankers and 108 helicopters. In 2017, Forest Service wildfire suppression spending reached a record \$2.4 billion, necessitating transfers of \$527 million from other programs. fire borrowing impedes the missions of land management agencies to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire and restore and maintain healthy functioning ecosystems. With \$390 million for Hazardous Fuels Reduction and \$341 million for Forest Products, among other programs, the agency will accomplish a timber output of 3.7 billion board feet, 2.1 million acres of restoration, and improve 14 watersheds. For 2019, \$182 million is proposed for S&PF programs, including about \$85.9 million to address the greatest emerging threats to forest health on and off NFS land. Through S&PF programs, FS addresses forest health concerns across more than 750 million acres of Federal, State, and private lands, creating a more connected forest landscape. The Budget continues to support the productivity and health of private working lands through the \$19.5 million commitment to the Working Forest Lands program (previously Forest Stewardship). This program assists non- industrial private forest landowners to enhance and sustain their forest resources, and maintain local forest product markets. The Budget proposes to shift the funding of National Fire Capacity (previously State Fire Assistance) (\$65.9 million) and Rural Fire Capacity (previously Volunteer Fire Assistance) (\$11 million) from WFM. These two programs will continue to build state and local fire capacity to protect non-federal forestlands threatened by wildfire.

2. Drop the charges against the winter campfire(s) of the International Court of Justice and order county and city parks to destroy all slash piles within the territorial jurisdiction. This can be rephrased: Drop the charges and destroy all the slash piles under 36CFR§261.5. Slash needs to be chucked to prevent it from creating additional fire hazard by piling. To reduce fire hazard slash piles need to be destroyed. It takes 15 days to dismantle a megaton of slash piles and remove the idiotic plastic sheets obstructing winter burning of several piles in one winter bonfire, ashes should be buried. Slashed thickets take a lot longer to chip or burn in the winter because scattering the sticks about does not stop the wood from piling. 1.3% of National Forest acres and 0.02% of National Park acres burned in 2017. Arson conspiracy under 18USC§81 and Art. 81 Uniform Code of Military Justice 10USC§881 tends to obstruct justice under Rule 96 (Art. 134) of the Manual for Courts-Martial and murder-tampering with victims, witnesses and informants by local law enforcement under 18USC§1512 and the Nuremberg Code. The Forest Service ordered Grayback Forestry wild firefighters to leave the Chetco Bar Fire, the largest fire in the nation in 2017 when it was only 14 acres and could have easily been contained. National Park Service "head-ache lie enforcement" is compromised by unconstitutional mandatory minimum misinterpretation of the 15 days it takes to dismantle a megaton of slash piles under 18USC§1856 and *Blakely v. Washington* (2004). Redwood National and State Park Superintendent is

not guilty for a gate to the Coastal Trail south from Crescent City, and a report of motor vehicle accidents to justify a trail from Organ Donor to California Ranger Memorial Groves under 36CFR§4.4. Pursuant to park grants exclusively for trails, tent sized grade A flat farmland and non-invasive food forests under 54USC§302904 and 24USC§423(b), an 8 mile flagged section is all that obstructs the connection of the Pacific Crest Trail to the Kelsey Trail to the Coastal Trail. Humboldt County supervisors requested Hammond rail-to-trail be extended south from Arcata to San Francisco. Not to delay remission of \$450,000 fines to the Hammonds under 18USC§3573, paid in excess of the lawful \$500 fine and up to 6 months in prison, for violation of rules and regulations under 16USC§551.

3. Following the issuance of a permit to use fire or power-driven machinery, and after slashing has been created in an operation area inside or within one-eighth of one mile of a forest protection district, the forester may make a determination if such slashing and debris exists on the operation area in sufficient quantity and arrangement as to constitute an additional fire hazard that endangers life, forest resources or property, and if such area is in need of additional work or protection to reduce, abate or offset the additional fire hazard. The forester shall so notify the landowner and operator or their representatives in writing of such determination. If the forester determines that an additional fire hazard exists, the forester shall, at the request of the owner or operator, with the approval of the owner, grant a release upon payment by the owner or operator of such sum of money as the forester finds necessary to provide additional protection or means necessary to reduce or offset the additional hazard created by such slashing and other debris. In no event may this sum exceed the least of: (a) \$6 for each 1,000 board feet of timber harvested in an operation; (b) The forester's estimated cost of reducing or providing other means to offset the additional hazard; or (c) \$10 for each acre in a stand improvement operation where no timber is harvested. Any owner of forestland may make written request to the forester to assume all obligations for the disposal or reduction of any additional fire hazard determined to exist thereon. If the forester then determines that the owner can comply with such obligation, the forester shall immediately issue to all other persons involved a written release of such obligations incurred by a determination of additional fire hazard under OR 477.580. Slash needs to be chucked to prevent it from creating additional fire hazard by piling. To reduce fire hazard slash piles need to be destroyed. It takes 15 days to dismantle a megaton of slash piles and remove the idiotic plastic sheets obstructing winter burning of several piles in one winter bonfire, whose ashes should be buried. Slashed thickets take a lot longer to chip or burn in the winter because scattering the sticks, cannot prevent the wood from piling. There are an estimated 10,000 megatons of slash piles left to be fined in the National Forests and Wildland Urban Interface.

4. It is agreed that 4,650 Forest Service arsons are to be fired by FY 19 for slashing and burning the National Forests, reducing Forest Service employment from 32,427 FY 17 and FY 18 to 27,777 FY 19. Layoffs will continue at an accelerated pace until FS has destroyed all the slash piles and satisfactorily restored the forests they slashed and burned. Unable to conceal the burned trees and not having disposed of the slash piles littering the territorial jurisdiction, it is necessary to consider district by district seizure of all the land, campgrounds, headquarters, contracts, vehicles, tools, maps, liability, re-assignable employees and disability-retirement under 5USC§8337. The Forest Service manages over 193 million acres of public land in 44 States and Puerto Rico, collectively known as the National Forest System (NFS). FS currently manages over 372,000 miles of roads, 157,000 miles of trails, 6,200 bridges, 460 agency owned dams, 39,000 buildings, 27,000 recreation sites, and 9,543 water/wastewater systems. FS ranger districts are on trial by Interior Department (ID) not worried about closing a FS ranger district by Wilderness Preservation System under 16USC§1131. Power to

the people. Don't come back without food, electricity and encrypted wifi. Free camping, bring toilet paper for the outhouses, unlock the trashcans so volunteers are not obstructed from packing out the trash. Park grants for trash removal, restoring slashed and burned forests, connecting the National Trail System, tent sized grade A flat farmland and non-invasive food forests under 24USC§423(b) and 54USC§302904.

D. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) serves as the first line of defense against hunger. It enables low-income families to buy nutritious food with Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards. Food stamp recipients spend their benefits to buy eligible food in authorized retail food stores. The Program is the cornerstone of the Federal food assistance programs, and provides crucial support to needy households and to those making the transition from welfare to work. The Food Stamp Act of 1977 codified at 7USC§2011 set forth a program of food stamps to guarantee low income people and families an adequate nutritious diet to eliminate hunger and malnutrition. Participation in the food stamp program is limited to those households whose incomes and other financial resources, held singly or in joint ownership, are determined to be a substantial limiting factor in permitting them to obtain a more nutritious diet, upper limit of household income is 130% of the poverty line. TANF and SSI beneficiaries are automatically eligible under 7USC§2014.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Statistics 1969-2020

Fiscal Year	Average Participation	Average Benefit	Total Benefits		Total Costs
	--Thousands--	--Dollars--	-----Millions of Dollars-----		
1969	2,878	6.63	228.80	21.70	250.50
1970	4,340	10.55	549.70	27.20	576.90
1971	9,368	13.55	1,522.70	53.20	1,575.90
1972	11,109	13.48	1,797.30	69.40	1,866.70
1973	12,166	14.60	2,131.40	76.00	2,207.40
1974	12,862	17.61	2,718.30	119.20	2,837.50
1975	17,064	21.40	4,385.50	233.20	4,618.70
1976	18,549	23.93	5,326.50	359.00	5,685.50
1977	17,077	24.71	5,067.00	394.00	5,461.00
1978	16,001	26.77	5,139.20	380.50	5,519.70
1979	17,653	30.59	6,480.20	459.60	6,939.80
1980	21,082	34.47	8,720.90	485.60	9,206.50
1981	22,430	39.49	10,629.90	595.40	11,225.20
1982	21,717	39.17	10,208.30	628.40	10,836.70
1983	21,625	42.98	11,152.30	694.80	11,847.10
1984	20,854	42.74	10,696.10	882.60	11,578.80
1985	19,899	44.99	10,743.60	959.60	11,703.20
1986	19,429	45.49	10,605.20	1,033.20	11,638.40
1987	19,113	45.78	10,500.30	1,103.90	11,604.20
1988	18,645	49.83	11,149.10	1,167.70	12,316.80
1989	18,806	51.71	11,669.78	1,231.81	12,901.59

1990	20,049	58.78	14,142.79	1,304.47	15,447.26
1991	22,625	63.78	17,315.77	1,431.50	18,747.27
1992	25,407	68.57	20,905.68	1,556.66	22,462.34
1993	26,987	67.95	22,006.03	1,646.94	23,652.97
1994	27,474	69.00	22,748.58	1,744.87	24,493.45
1995	26,619	71.27	22,764.07	1,856.30	24,620.37
1996	25,543	73.21	22,440.11	1,890.88	24,330.99
1997	22,858	71.27	19,548.86	1,958.68	21,507.55
1998	19,791	71.12	16,890.49	2,097.84	18,988.32
1999	18,183	72.27	15,769.40	2,051.52	17,820.92
2000	17,194	72.62	14,983.32	2,070.70	17,054.02
2001	17,318	74.81	15,547.39	2,242.00	17,789.39
2002	19,096	79.67	18,256.20	2,380.82	20,637.02
2003	21,250	83.94	21,404.28	2,412.01	23,816.28
2004	23,811	86.16	24,618.89	2,480.14	27,099.03
2005	25,628	92.89	28,567.88	2,504.24	31,072.11
2006	26,549	94.75	30,187.35	2,715.72	32,903.06
2007	26,316	96.18	30,373.27	2,800.25	33,173.52
2008	28,223	102.19	34,608.40	3,031.25	37,639.64
2009	33,490	125.31	50,359.92	3,260.09	53,620.01
2010	40,302	133.79	64,702.16	3,581.78	68,283.94
2011	44,709	133.85	71,810.92	3,875.62	75,686.54
2012	46,609	133.41	74,619.34	3,791.27	78,410.61
2013	47,636	133.07	76,066.32	3,866.98	79,933.30
2014	46,664	125.01	69,998.84	4,062.54	74,061.37
2015	45,767	126.81	69,645.14	4,302.10	73,947.24
2016	44,219	125.40	66,549.35	4,374.50	70,913.85
2017	42,101	125.89	63,603.60	4,411.60	68,015.20
2018	42,227	123.78	62,722.30	4,455.72	67,178.02
2019	42,480	126.71	64,591.69	4,567.11	69,158.80
2020	42,607	130.13	66,533.39	4,681.29	71,204.68

Source: USDA Food and Nutrition Service 1969-2017

1. Under SNAP rules, the maximum benefit levels for each fiscal year — which are the benefit amounts that go to households with no disposable income after deductions for certain necessities — are set at 100 percent of the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan, USDA’s estimate of the minimum amount that a family needs to afford a bare-bones, nutritionally adequate diet, for the preceding June. The Thrifty Food Plan for the SNAP consumer agriculture subsidy and annual Social Security Administration (SSA) interpretations of Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) are unconstitutionally vague to presume that low income beneficiaries would receive less than consumer inflation that has stabilized at an average rate of about 2.7% since 1980 when a 3% COLA and raise in minimum wage should be afforded the poor every-year pursuant to Sec. 215(i) of the Social Security Act under 42USC§415(i) and 29USC§206(a)(1)(D). To sustain economic growth and control inflation, it is necessary to prioritize income growth for low income beneficiaries and workers be competitive with inflation under

the Iron Law of Wages. Due to 2.7% average annual inflation since the 1980s it is mathematically necessary, that the average food stamp benefit amount be expected to grow at an annual rate of 2.7% to compete with 2.7% average annual consumer price inflation, and feed 0.3% more people annually, with total 3% annual spending growth for consumer agriculture subsidy.

2. The Farm Bill of 2008 changed the name of the Food Stamp Program to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Promising not to cut benefits the average benefit amount increased rapidly from \$96.18 in 2007 to \$102.19 in 2008, to \$125.31 in 2009 to \$133.79 in 2010. Participation increased 53% from 26.3 million in 2007 to 40.3 million in 2010 reaching a high of 47.6 million in 2013. SNAP promised not to cut benefits and between 2008 and 2013 had the longest uninterrupted spurt of food stamp benefit growth the nation has ever enjoyed. The USDA then intentionally, abruptly, and with significant terrorism, cut aggregate SNAP benefits on Halloween 2013 and Thanksgiving 2016, but couldn't do the math right, although they tried twice on October 7 and November 10, 2016, this constitutes two counts of aggregate deprivation of relief benefits under 18USC§246. Average benefits payments went down from \$133.07 in 2013, to \$125.01 in 2014, up to \$126.83 in 2015 and down again to \$125.52 in 2016 this counts as two counts of intentional deprivation of relief benefits under 18USC§246. A strange section pertaining to publicly operated community health centers (from 1985?) needs to be repealed under 7USC§212a before neoplastic Commodity Credit Insurance Program growth completely destroys the USDA, like the Postal Service Retirement Health Insurance Program destroyed the USPS profit margin and the Affordable Care Act destroyed the Treasury budget. Because benefits are low and the USDA dirty, food stamp participation for 2017 is expected to get lower than 2016, because even if there were positive intervention partway through the year many people would be reluctant to participate due to the abuse they suffered as hostages when their benefits were cut, before they stopped appealing and were set free. To secure SNAP program participation growth it is absolutely necessary that they keep their promise not to cut benefits anymore. USDA should assume 2% annual increase in benefits + 1% population growth for a total of 3% SNAP growth.

3. Food Stamp had their best run with the renaming of the program to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) between 2009 to Halloween 2013. Since then benefits have gotten smaller and beneficiaries are poorer. A law is needed to ensure poor Americans receive a full ration of SNAP benefits and the in-kind benefit spending increases 3% annual SNAP growth = % growth in beneficiaries + % growth in benefits. Food stamp statistics date to 1969 when \$250.5 million fed 2.8 million people. The Food Stamp Act of 1977 wrongly reduced benefits from \$5.7 billion for 18.6 million beneficiaries in 1976 to \$5.5 billion for 17 million beneficiaries in 1977. Beneficiaries rose to 21 million in 1981 but fluctuated downward until Public Law 100-435, the Hunger Prevention Act of 1988 was signed into law September 19, 1988. Following this initiative, Public Law 101-624, the Mickey Leland Memorial Domestic Hunger Relief Act of November 28, 1990 established EBT as an issuance alternative and permitted the Department to continue to conduct EBT demonstration projects.

4. After the Farm Bill of 2002 food stamp participation increased from about 17.2 million in fiscal year 2000 to 26 million people in July 2006. The rate of payment accuracy in the FSP improved 34 percent between FY2000 and FY2004 and the 94.12 percent overall payment accuracy rate was the highest achieved since the inception of the program. USDA awarded \$48 million to 24 States for their exemplary administration of the program in fiscal year (FY) 2005. By August 2008, participation had reached an all-time (non-disaster) high of 29 million people per month. The participation increases occurred at a time when eligibility for food stamp benefits expanded as a result of the 2002 Farm Bill.

Moreover, there was a consistent focus on outreach and improved access to FSP benefits. Some of the most recent increase in participation may be caused by the current economic slowdown and the recent rise in unemployment rates. During this time, payment accuracy continued to improve and the program set a new payment error rate record for fiscal year 2007 of 5.64.

5. The 2008 farm bill (H.R. 2419, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008) was enacted May 22, 2008 through an override of the President’s veto. The new law increased the commitment to Federal food assistance programs by more than \$10 billion over the next 10 years. In efforts to fight stigma, the law changed the name of the Federal program to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP as of Oct. 1, 2008, and changed the name of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008. Additional Recovery Act funds were terminated as of October 31, 2013 in accordance with an illegitimate Republican interpretation of section 442 of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-296). The cuts were deep and totalitarian, as has happened so many times before under the Food Stamp Act of 1977. SNAP beneficiaries did not get the tenure promised by Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 H.R. 2419 and the longest uninterrupted growth in food stamp from the Farm Bill of 2002 was brought to end. The Agriculture Secretary must not cut SNAP benefits anymore under penalty of deprivation of relief benefits 18USC§246.

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Outlays FY 17 – FY 20
(millions)

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Discretionary				
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC)	6,350	6,313	6,465	6,620
Commodity Assistance Program				
Commodity Supplemental Food Program	236	238	244	250
The Emergency Food Assistance Program, Soup Kitchens, Food Banks	59	59	61	62
Farmers' Market Nutrition Program	19	19	19	19
Pacific Island Assistance and Disaster Assistance	1	1	1	1
Nutrition Services Incentive Program	3	3	3	3
Total Commodity Assistance Program	318	320	328	335
Nutrition Programs Administration	171	170	174	178

Total, Discretionary Programs	6,839	6,803	6,967	7,133
Mandatory				
WIC Universal Product Database	1	1	1	
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	68,015	67,178	69,159	71,205
Child Nutrition Programs (CNP)	22,794	24,244	23,147	23,841
Permanent Appropriations	187	190	193	198
Farm Bill: Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program	21	21	21	21
Total Mandatory Programs	91,018	91,633	92,520	95,265
Total, Discretionary Programs	6,839	6,803	6,967	7,133
Total Current Law	97,857	98,436	99,487	102,398

Source: USDA FY 19 pg. 42; FNS 1969-2017

E. The Budget includes funding to support estimated participation levels under current law, including \$73.2 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), \$23.1 billion for Child Nutrition Programs, and \$5.8 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). In 2019, participation levels are underestimated: 40.8 million per month for SNAP, 30.7 million per day for the National School Lunch Program, and 6.9 million per month for WIC. The Budget includes a bold new approach to nutrition assistance that combines the use of traditional SNAP Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards with a USDA Foods Box that contains 100 percent American grown products. Specifically, the USDA Foods Box proposal has self-incriminated regarding potential to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse by limiting opportunities for benefits to be misused or trafficked. The USDA has arbitrarily deprived SNAP beneficiaries of the tenure promised by Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 H.R. 2419. It is advised that a Human Services department, take over responsibility of SNAP benefit growth. The way for the United States to avoid totalitarian famine due to attrition of purchasing power under the Iron Law of Wages and Engel's Law, it is advised that food stamp benefits grow at an annual rate of 2.7% to compete with 2.7% average annual consumer price inflation, and feed 0.3% more people annually, with 3% annual spending growth to sustain the consumer agriculture subsidy.

SNAP Estimate Comparison FY 17 – FY 20
(millions)

	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20
SNAP	68,015	67,178	69,159	71,205
SNAP pg. 42	78,481	73,613	75,380	77,189
FNS Total pg. 42	108,323	104,872	102,546	105,007
FNS Total pg. 80	98,763	102,718	99,897	102,394

FNS Current Law	97,857	98,436	99,487	102,398
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Source: USDA FY 19, SNAP 1969-2017

1. After re-estimating the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) on pg. 42 of USDA FY 19, using much lower estimates from FNS 1969-2017, now that they have done the math right, 3% growth in SNAP spending FY 19 – FY 20 can be calculated for less FY 17 – FY 18 and nearly exactly the same FY 19 – FY 20 as requested in the total FNS request on pg. 80 of USDA FY 19. By doing the FNS worksheet right, on pg. 42, SNAP benefit amount determined by the Thrifty Food Plan could begin to grow at exactly the 2.7% annual average rate of consumer price inflation from the year before, and beneficiary population could begin to grow at 0.3% annually FY 19, for the agreed upon price. FNS Administration would grow 2.5% annually. It is a basic principle of due process that an enactment is void for vagueness if its prohibitions are not clearly defined. Vague laws offend several important values. First, famine, because we assume that man is free to steer between lawful and unlawful conduct, we insist that laws give the person of ordinary intelligence a reasonable opportunity to know what is prohibited, recertification hearings of people living less than 150% of the poverty line, so that he may act accordingly, and grow SNAP spending at a stately 3% pace. Vague laws may trap the innocent by not providing fair warning. Second, if arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement, such as the grown in America, Food Box proposal to limit opportunities for waste, fraud and abuse, is to be prevented, laws must provide explicit standards for those who apply them. A vague law impermissibly delegates basic policy matters to policemen, judges and juries for resolution on an ad hoc basis, with the attendant dangers of arbitrary and discriminatory application. A good law doesn't need to be reviewed again, unless economic circumstances change significantly. Third, but related, where a statute abuts upon sensitive First Amendment freedoms, it operates to inhibit the exercise of those freedoms. Uncertain meanings inevitably lead citizens to steer far wider of the unlawful zone than if the boundaries of the forbidden areas were clearly marked *Grayned v. City of Rockford* 408 US 104 (1972). Thrifty Food Plan must redress their totalitarian famine by budgeting for a 2.7% average annual benefit increase and stately 0.3% increase in SNAP population from the year before. Arrears shall be instituted for any SNAP shortfalls beginning FY 19 under Art. 19 of the United Nations Charter.

